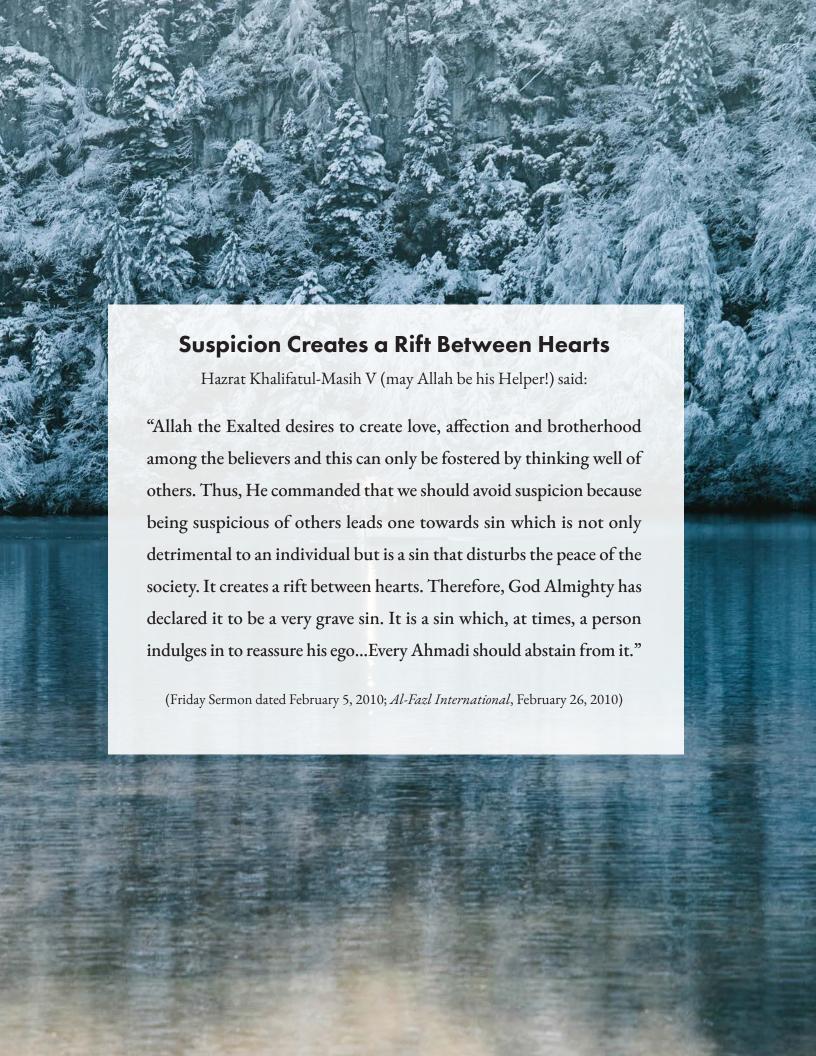


**AVOID MUCH SUSPICION** 

(49:13)



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#### **AHMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA**

An Educational and Spiritual Publication

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#### ABBREVIATIONS OF SALUTATIONS

KIDS ZONE

- Sallallahu alaihi wa Sallam Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!

  USAGE: Salutation written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad
- Alaihis Salam / Alaihas Salam Peace be upon him/her!

  USAGE: Salutation written after names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>1α</sup> and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>1α</sup>
- ra Radhiallahu anhu / anha / anhum May Allah be pleased with him/her/them!

  USAGE: Salutation written after names of Companions of the Holy Prophet⁵ and Companions of the Promised Messiahas
- rh Rahimahullah / Rahimahallah May Allah have mercy upon him/her!

  USAGE: Salutation written after the names of deceased, pious Muslims who are not Companions<sup>ra</sup>
- aa Ayyadahullahu Ta'ala bi Nasrihil Aziz May Allah be his Helper!

  USAGE: Salutation written after the name of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V



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Canada

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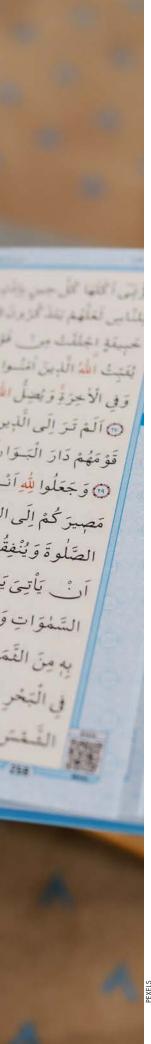
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# PFARIS

### THE HOLY QUR'AN

بشمراللوالرحمن الرحيم In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

O ye who believe! avoid much suspicion; for suspicion in some cases is a sin. And spy not, neither backbite one another. Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his brother who is dead? Certainly you would loathe it. And fear Allah, surely, Allah is Oft-Returning with compassion and is Merciful. (49:13)

يَّا يُّهَا الَّذِينَ امَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوْا كَثِيْدًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ وَاكَّبَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثُمُّ وَّلَا تَجَسَّسُوْا وَلَا يَغْتَبُ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا ۚ أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَنُ يَّأَكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيْدِ مَيْتًا فَكَم هُتُبُوهُ ۚ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ

### **HADITH**

ٱللُّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَّبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ إِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ تَجِيْدُ

O Allah! Bless Muhammadsa and the people of Muhammadsa, and bestow grace and salutations, for verily You are the Praiseworthy, the Majestic.

Hazrat Abu Hurairahra reported that Allah's Messenger<sup>sa</sup> said:

"Avoid suspicion, for suspicion is the gravest lie in talk and do not be inquisitive about one another and do not spy upon one another and do not feel envy with the other, and nurse no malice, and nurse no aversion and hostility against one another. And be fellow-brothers and servants of Allah." (SAHIH MUSLIM)

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللهِ ﷺ قَالَ إِيَّاكُمْ وَالظَّنَّ فَإِنَّ الظِّلَّ أَكْذَبُ الْحُدِيثِ وَلَا تَحَسَّسُوا وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا وَلَا تَنَافَسُوا وَلَا تَحَاسَدُوا وَلَا تَبَاغَضُوا وَلَا تَدَابَرُوا وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ الله إِخْوَانًا.

(صَحِيح مُسْلِم، كِتَابُ الْبِرِّ وَالصِّلَةِ، باب تَحْريمِ الظِّنِّ)

# WISDOM

## SO SAID THE PROMISED MESSIAHAS

"Bear well in mind that all misery and evil stem from ill-thinking...I truthfully declare that ill-thinking is a most evil affliction. It destroys a person's faith and throws them far away from sincerity and truth. It turns friends into enemies. In order to attain the excellence of the Truthful (*Siddiqin*), it is necessary to strictly refrain from ill-thinking. If one begins to think unfavourably about a certain person, one ought to seek forgiveness from God profusely and make supplications before God Almighty, so that one may be saved from this sin and the evil consequences which follow through from ill-thinking. One must not deem this a light matter, for it is a terrible illness, which will cause a man to perish in the swiftest of ways...

"Bear in mind, therefore, that the ultimate end of ill-thinking is hell, so do not consider this to be a minor illness; for ill-thinking results in despair, despair results in transgression, and transgression results in hell. It is a thing that cuts at the root of truth and sincerity (*sidq*). Therefore, abstain from this vice and offer supplications to attain the excellences of one who is Truthful (*Siddiq*)."

(Malfuzat - Volume II, English translation, pp. 86-87)



# PICTURE CREDIT: MAKHZAN-E-TASAWEER

## GEMS OF GUIDANCE

from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!)

**NOTE**: Given below are brief, selected points from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>. Readers are encouraged to benefit directly from the complete Friday Sermons of Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>, available on alislam.org.



September 1, 2023

### JALSA SALANA GERMANY: HOW TO CELEBRATE THE CENTENARY

On the occasion of the Centenary of Ahmadiyyat in Germany, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> outlined how Ahmadis should truly celebrate this event. He explained that giving precedence to faith over the world does not mean completely abandoning the world.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> stated that he did not want his Community to become lazy. They should certainly dedicate time to their businesses, but it should not be the case that they do not even find time for prayer. They must not forget God. When it's time to work, they should work, and when it's time to pray, they should pray. Look at the example of the Companions<sup>ra</sup>: they never forsook God and His worship in any circumstance. Even in the most challenging times, including during periods of war, they never forgot God and His worship.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> also elaborated that it is our duty to convey the message of Ahmadiyyat to the world, including the West, where a man has been taken as God. One should not be intimidated or impressed by the perceived advancements in Europe or the West. Instead, one should always remember that we have not accepted Ahmadiyyat to attain the world; rather, we have done so to establish a living connection with God.

2

September 8, 2023

### **REVIEW OF JALSA SALANA GERMANY**

After the successful conclusion of Jalsa Salana Germany last week, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> mentioned that in such a large-scale event and venue, there may have been some shortcomings, and some guests may have faced difficulties. However, because everyone attended for a greater spiritual purpose, people, in general, did not complain. The workers carried out their duties with great effort. If there were any shortcomings in their work or department, it was often due to the wrong guidance given by their officers. Therefore, if there were any shortcomings, it is the responsibility of the officers. To prevent these issues in the future, they should be documented in a Redbook and addressed.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>a</sup> then shared the experiences of notable guests who attended the Jalsa, including teachers, professors, and scholars from various countries across the globe.

He mentioned a PhD doctor from Bulgaria who commented that she found everyone to be sincere and ready to help. She said that this Jalsa spiritually revived her and she learned a great deal about the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. All members of the Community, including men, women, and children, displayed great discipline. She was deeply impressed by the fact that the Berlin mosque was built with funds from donations made by women. She said she has attended other events, but this was a truly unique experience. She found Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>'s speeches to be profoundly impactful.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> also mentioned a teacher from Slovakia who described how she witnessed examples of hospitality that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Especially during the *bai'at* (initiation) ceremony and the prayers, she was unable to hold back her emotions and cried throughout the ceremony. She said she will never forget her meeting with Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> and expressed her desire to meet Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> again and learn more about the Ahmadiyya Community.



#### A TRUE SERVANT OF ALLAH

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> spoke about the life of the late Syeda Amatul Qudoos Begum Sahiba, the daughter of Hazrat Dr. Mir Muhammad Ismail<sup>ra</sup> and the wife of the late Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad Sahib, thus making her the daughter-in-law of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> mentioned that when she was sent to Qadian by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, her mission was to unite the women of Qadian. She served in various roles, including as the President of the Ahmadiyya Women's Auxiliary Organization. She worked diligently to organize the various chapters that needed to come together, especially after the partition. She would correspond with them through letters and also made visits to various regions.

He also highlighted that she taught the Holy Qur'an to over two hundred people and encouraged them to love Khilafat by sharing various incidents related to this divine institution. Additionally, she was known for her exceptional hospitality. The children of Qadian affectionately called her 'grandmother.' When her grandson, who is studying to become a missionary, sought her guidance, she responded by saying that all the guidance he needed had been imparted through the words of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih  $V^{a}$ .



September 22, 2023

### THE BATTLE OF BADR & FULFILLED QUR'ANIC PROPHECIES

After a gap of a few weeks, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> said that he would continue to highlight the blessed character of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, focusing on the events that unfolded after the Battle of Badr.

It is recorded that during the Battle of Badr, 70 disbelieving Makkans were killed by the Muslims, while 70 others became captives. In accordance with the commandments of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, the Companions<sup>ra</sup> treated these prisoners with great kindness. As a result of this kindness, along with the blessed teachings of Islam, many of the captives from Badr eventually accepted Islam.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> also mentioned another incident related to the Battle of Badr, which was the victory of the Roman Empire, foretold in the Holy Qur'an. In 5 AH, Surah ar-Rum was revealed, mentioning the victory of Rome. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> quoted various historical references detailing the Roman victory, emphasizing that despite appearing weaker, the Romans emerged victorious in accordance with the Qur'anic prophecy. He also cited Edward Gibbon, a prominent historian who, when detailing the Roman victory, expressed astonishment and amazement at the pinpoint accuracy of this prophecy in the Holy Qur'an.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> further commented that many young people write to him, asking how they can be sure that Islam is the true religion in comparison to others, as the society around them has raised doubts. He advised that they should consider the historical expressions of non-Muslims regarding these prophecies and reflect on the prophecies made about the present times. Parents should also understand these prophecies to educate their children on this matter.



September 29, 2023

#### THE BATTLE OF BADR

After the Battle of Badr, the plans of the disbelievers to harm the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> became even more dangerous. Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> recounted a discussion between two disbelievers, Safwan and Umair bin Wahb, the latter intending (God forbid) to assassinate the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. Despite elaborate plans, including an attempt to poison a sword, Allah the Almighty changed Umair's heart and protected the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. Eventually, Umair<sup>ra</sup> embraced Islam. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> was pleased with Umair's<sup>ra</sup> acceptance and told the Companions<sup>ra</sup>, "Now he is your brother. Instruct him in the teachings of Islam and release his prisoner."

After accepting Islam, Hazrat Umair bin Wahb<sup>72</sup> rapidly progressed in his faith and sincerity. He became so enthralled by the truth that he asked the Holy Prophet<sup>52</sup> for permission to go to Makkah to preach to the people. The Holy Prophet<sup>53</sup> granted him permission, and once in Makkah, Hazrat Umair<sup>73</sup> secretly converted many people through his fervent preaching. Safwan, on the other hand, anxiously awaited news of the Holy Prophet's<sup>53</sup> assassination and kept the Quraish prepared for such news. However, when he witnessed this transformation, he was left astounded.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> also mentioned that the first Eid al-Fitr was celebrated at the conclusion of Ramadan in 2 AH. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> stated that the days of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha were better than the two days that the Makkans celebrated during the era of ignorance. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> instructed that no one should fast on these days but should instead eat and celebrate.

# Raysflight

The Enlightening Words of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!)



On October 1, 2023, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> delivered a faith-in-spiring address to conclude the National *Ijtema* (Annual Gathering) of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya UK. Some vital points are reproduced below.

### A REMARKABLE PROPHECY

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> narrated a vision of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> in which he saw a long line of monarchs from around the world mounted on horses, all bearing witness to the truth of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

Referring to this vision, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> said:

"In this vision lay a remarkable prophecy, whereby Allah the Almighty gave the glad tidings to the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> that a day was destined to come when heads of state, be they monarchs, presidents or otherwise, in countries such as the United States, United Kingdom, Russia and Germany would come to accept the truth of Ahmadiyyat. Indeed, according to the promises of Allah, a time will come when Ahmadiyyat will be accepted in such vast numbers that all other religions will be rendered insignificant in comparison."

#### He further explained:

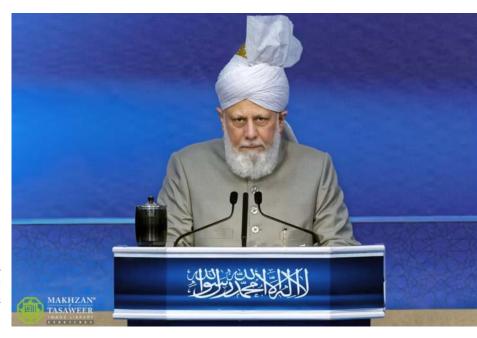
"Unquestionably, in this era, every sincere Khadim must endeavour to fulfil the grand mission of bringing mankind towards belief in the Promised Messiahas... Allah the Almighty has given us, as Ahmadi Muslims, the duty to keep the flag of Islam Ahmadiyyat aloft until there remains life on earth. He has bestowed upon us the solemn duty and challenge to save mankind and to relentlessly strive towards that day when Islam's message of love and peace penetrates the hearts of all mankind."

### JOIN THE RACE TOWARDS ALLAH

Shedding light on shifting our focus away from materialism, Huzoore-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> beautifully stated:

"The biggest obstacle blocking the path to victory of any nation or community is if its members gain a lust for money and wealth. Such material cravings can easily corrupt people and weaken their resolve to offer sacrifices for their faith and to fulfil their religious objectives. So, all of you living here in Western countries should never be consumed by a desire to earn money or become affluent. Instead, always place your trust in Allah that He will provide for you. Insha'Allah, He will support you and fulfil your needs in ways beyond your comprehension. And He will remove all your difficulties if you are sincere with Him. So, do not enter the race to earn money or unnecessary luxuries. Instead, your race should be the one that leads to God Almighty."

[SOURCE: https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2023/10/muslim-youth-take-historic-pledge-to-serve-islam-as-the-national-ijtema-of-majlis-khuddamul-ahmadiyya-concludes-with-faith-inspiring-address/]



On October 8, 2023, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> delivered a faith inspiring address to conclude the National *Ijtema* of Majlis Ansarullah UK. Some of the salient quotes from his address are presented below.

### WISDOM OF THE TITLE 'ANSARULLAH'

Explaining the significance of the title 'Ansarullah', Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> said:

"The name Ansarullah has been given to you after much thought and reflection. The age of a person from 15 to 40 is one of youth and hope and so the organization for that age group is named 'Khuddamul Ahmadiyya' (Servants of Ahmadiyyat) so that they may spend as much time as possible in the service of humanity. The organization for those aged 40 and above has been titled 'Ansarullah'. At this age, a person has the benefit of experience, is well established in his works and attains a level of seniority at his work and reaches a stage where he is able to spend his wealth in the service of Allah more than before."

#### He further stated:

"You have been named Ansarullah so that you may pay as much attention as possible towards the service of the faith. This service can be in the form of financial sacrifice and also in the form of religious service; it is your obligation to spend as much time as possible in the worship of Allah. You must promote your faith as much as possible by firstly setting your moral example and by also preaching about your faith so that by seeing your example your progeny may also develop righteousness. Every member of Ansarullah must remember that he must increase the standards of his worship and safeguard his daily prayers and must focus especially on offering congregational prayers."

Mentioning the objective we must aim for, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> eloquently explained:

"We should develop a real concern as we have been assigned an immense task by Allah the Almighty. The task is that we must not only reform ourselves and our children and we must not merely establish ourselves and our children upon the Unity of God and follow the example of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), rather we must bring the entire world under the flag of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) through peaceful means and thus we must establish the Unity of God in the entire world."

Emphasizing the importance of developing righteousness, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> said:

"Today, every member of Ansarullah ought to make the pledge that he shall raise his standards of righteousness in order to establish the unity of Allah and to manifest the might of Allah. Make the pledge to show kindness to the world and whilst doing so, take those people of the world out of filth who are enveloped in the materialistic dirt of this world. At a time when we are making the pledge that we shall endeavour with all our efforts to fulfil the mission of the Promised Messiahas and to establish the Unity of God, and take the message of Islam to every individual in the world, we must truly consider how much of an effort we must make to firstly reform ourselves and develop righteousness within us."

[SOURCE: https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2023/10/head-of-the-ahmadiyya-muslim-community-addresses-the-concluding-session-of-the-national-ijtema-of-majlis-ansarullah-uk/]

# The Relationship Between the Desire for Wealth and Mental Well-Being

Lal Khan Malik, Amir Jama'at Canada

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the transcript of the concluding address of the 45<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana Canada, delivered by Lal Khan Malik Sahih, Amir Jama'at Canada, on July 16, 2023, at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario.

وَمَا هٰذِةِ الْحَيْوةُ الدُّنْيَآ اِلَّا لَهُوَّ وَّلَعِبَ وَاتَّ الدَّارَ الْأَخِرَةَ لَهِي الْحَيَوَاتُ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿

"And this life of the world is nothing but a pastime and a sport, and the Home of the Hereafter – that indeed is Life, if they but knew!" (29:65)

Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmatullah!

For my concluding remarks, I would address a topic that is often misunderstood and overlooked—the relationship between the desire for wealth and mental well-being.

We live in a world where the pursuit of wealth is seen as the ultimate goal, the key to happiness, and the solution to all our problems.

This is a fallacy.

While important for our survival and comfort, money does not solve mental health issues. In fact, it can be the cause of them.

### GUIDANCE OF HAZRAT KHALIFATUL-MASIH VAA

In December 2022, in a *mulaqat* [meeting] with Syedna Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, I mentioned the prevalence of mental ailments in Canada.

Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> said: "It is the result of frustration caused by unfulfilled worldly desires. We should remind the members of the Jama'at about the futility of the pursuit of worldly objects and about the love of the Hereafter."

### FINANCIAL STRESS AND ECONOMIC ANXIETY

As guided by Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup>, financial stress and economic anxiety has profound effects on mental health. They can lead to a scarcity mindset, characterized by a heightened focus on what one lacks, resulting in negative feelings.

This mindset reduces the enjoyment derived from the blessings that a person already has.

However, engaging in acts of generosity, regardless of their size, can enhance personal and collective well-being, in-still hope in a person, and foster a sense of abundance.

This shift in perspective can help alleviate stress, and facilitate connections with the community, which are crucial for maintaining mental health, particularly during challenging times.

There is a way of dealing with these challenging times.

The Holy Qur'an states:

"...And he who fears Allah—He will make for him a way out, And will provide for him from where he expects not..." (65:2-3)

Dear members, mental health is a complex issue that is influenced by a variety of individual, social, and spiritual factors. It is a state of well-being that allows individuals to handle life's difficulties, fulfill their potential, and contribute to the community.

It's a dynamic state that varies from person to person. Nevertheless, it is part of being human.

As the Holy Qur'an states:

"And We will try you with something of fear and hunger, and loss of wealth and lives, and fruits; but give glad tidings to the patient" (2:156)

We have all heard the saying, "Money can't buy happiness," yet we continue to chase it, believing that the next big purchase will bring us the peace and satisfaction we crave.

But the truth is, money can never be enough. It's a mirage that keeps us running but never quenches our thirst.

Many members arrive in Canada from countries where they are denied basic religious and civic rights.

They come here seeking freedom, peace, and a chance to live according to their beliefs.

But if your focus is solely on financial well-being; on trying to get ahead of your neighbours, then you cannot truly succeed in life.

I am sure you know families that suffer from mental health issues due to financial concerns or lack of wealth at their desired level. We also know of delays in marriages due to waiting for a match with suitable socio-economic status.

Not to mention post marriage disputes and separation that occurs due to an ever-increasing desire for higher financial status.

How often do you come across people who have mental health issues due to worrying about their personal spiritual fitness? *Not very often!* 

Dear brothers and sisters. Peace comes from the satisfaction of the heart. As Allah has told us time and time again:



"Only in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort." (13:29)

This remembrance can take many shapes and forms. It could be the gratitude you feel for living in a society where you are free not only to practice your faith but also preach it, where you are free to pray, recite the Holy Qur'an, teach good moral values to your children, or do simple things such as giving charity.

#### COST TO SOCIETY OF MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS

Mental health disorders, particularly depression and anxiety, impose a substantial economic burden, costing trillions annually around the world.

However, investing in the treatment of these disorders yields a fourfold return in terms of work capacity and economic contribution.

Understanding the relationship between mental health and economic wealth is crucial, suggesting that mental well-being is not a luxury but a fundamental aspect of human development and economic progress.

Nevertheless, our pursuit of financial success should not overshadow our concern for others. It is imperative to acknowledge the rights of the less fortunate in society and consider their well-being as well.

As the Holy Qur'an states:

"And spend for the cause of Allah, and cast not yourselves into ruin with your own hands, and do good; surely, Allah loves those who do good." (2:196)

A society that values financial status over other attributes creates risks for the believers.

The pursuit of wealth can blind us to these blessings. It can make us forget the peace that comes from gratitude, from prayer, and from living a life aligned with our religious values and beliefs. The pursuit of money can lead us down a path of stress, anxiety, and dissatisfaction - the very mental health issues we thought money would solve.

Recall the teaching of the Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, who told us:

"Wealth is not in having many possessions, but rather (true) wealth is feeling sufficiency in the soul." (*Sahih al-Bukhari*, 6446)

This true richness of the soul comes from fulfilling our responsibilities, from caring for our families and from living a life in accordance with our beliefs.

After all, how much money is enough?

We find a golden rule:

"Contentment is a treasure that is never depleted."

When you lose sight of basic contentment and try to achieve financial

goals beyond your immediate needs, you are losing valuable time that you could spend with your family and improve your personal spiritual well-being.

Time that you could use to help your family become better Ahmadi Muslims. Time that you could use to help them understand the lay of the land and navigate the new reality of Canada.

Your children are like young saplings, they need your care and attention to grow into strong trees. Without your *personal example*, they may become like lifeless leaves, falling off come autumn.

What would all the wealth be worth if you lose your children in the process of acquiring worldly treasures?

Remember, lip service or empty prayers are not sufficient. It is your personal example that will help your family plant their feet firmly on the ground and grow into strong trees.

This is a responsibility that cannot be outsourced and is a task that no amount of money can accomplish.

In your pursuit of wealth, you risk losing your peace of mind to the marital issues that arise when you are not around at home to support your spouse. Moving to a new country is already a challenging experience, and your spouse needs your help to navigate these unfamiliar waters. A healthy family needs your support to stand firm in faith and start a new life in Canada.

Your presence, your understanding, your support—these are things that a healthy mind needs. These are essential for the health and happiness of your family, and they are things that you risk losing when you prioritize wealth over your loved ones.

We should try our level best not to let the allure of wealth distract us from what truly matters. Do not let it become your sole focus, your measure of success.

Wealth, within reason, can provide comfort and peace. But uncontrolled pursuit will cause dissatisfaction, unhappiness, and a feeling of loss. As guided by Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> it is the primary cause of mental health issues.

A decline in mental health due to our shortcomings is a reality. However, we should not lose hope. The Holy Qur'an is our guide.

Allah states:

"Never despair of the Mercy of Allah; Surely, He forgives all sins."

We must keep faith in our Creator. As the Holy Qur'an states:

"Allah is the Friend of the believers, He brings them out of every

darkness into the light." (2:257)

Khilafat is a source for promoting mental health.

Our affiliation with the Institution of Khilafat is a profound spring of tranquillity. It invokes a sense of mental and spiritual calmness. Following guidance from Khalifatul-Masih is pivotal in improving our mental well-being.

Peace comes from within, but our worldly desires extract that peace from our lives.

While you are new to Canada, new to a life that has been bestowed upon you as a favour from Allah, you must understand that financial stability will come with time.

When you look around and see people who have achieved the success that you desire, you must take into consideration that they have had years, perhaps decades, to reach that goal. With time and prayers, you will get there, Insha'Allah.

Unrealistic worldly desires will result in undue stress and family issues, leading your mental health to suffer.

Remember, the key to prosperity is given to us in the Holy Qur'an:

"The response of the believers, when they are called to Allah and His Messenger in order that he may judge between them, is only that they say: 'We hear and we obey.' And it is they who will prosper." (24:52)

My dear brothers and sisters: The institution of Khilafat is a divine system of guidance granted by Allah to a community of believers for their spiritual development.

This Divine bounty has been described as the 'rope of Allah,' like a guidewire that keeps the intrepid seeker of God on track.

What is important is that you have a personal relationship with Allah and His Khalifa.

Therefore, listening and obeying every guidance from Khilafat should be our daily priority.

May Allah enable us to be true servants of Khilafat!

### WHAT IS OUR DUTY AND MISSION?

My dear brothers and sisters, we have read the commandments from the Holy Qur'an. We have heard the call of our beloved Imam to improve our mental health and how to do so.

Now it's time for us to ponder upon what actions we must take.

We are blessed and fortunate to have accepted the Imam of time, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. Through this acceptance, we have become one nation, one Ummah, under the banner of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>.

We are indeed, privileged. As the Holy Qur'an states:

"You are the best people raised for the good of mankind; you enjoin what is good and forbid evil and believe in Allah..." (3:111)

This blessing of unity comes with a profound responsibility. Being Ahmadi Muslims, we should do our best to convey the message that brings peace to the entire world.

Guidance from Khilafat, on achieving mental health, is an invaluable tressure in our lives. This places a huge responsibility on us.

After all, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> has admonished us that:

"None of you is a true believer unless he likes for others that which

he likes for himself." (Sahih al-Bukhari, 13)

As Ahmadi Muslims,

- (I) It's our duty to share this message of Islam to the farthest corners of the earth.
- (II) We are tasked with the noble endeavour of spreading peace to every soul, every heart, and every land.
- (III) Every living being has the innate right to peace, and it is upon us to guide them toward it.

Let the serenity of Islam bring peace to our minds and homes. Then, make it your mission to share this message of peace with our brothers and sisters, and through them, to every human in this world.

May Allah enable us to fulfill this task! Amen!

### **DEAR GOD**

By: Moodi Rafiq

Dear Allah the Almighty Dear God,

The world is in shambles

Yet the seeds of reformation have grown And have kept me under it's shade

The sun you created shines bright on me And I follow him with no hesitation And the moon you sent after him Guides me away from misconceptions

Dear Allah,

The people are in shambles
The things they're indulged in scare me
Their agendas and motives are terrifying

But the stars you created prayed for me And The North Star calls me to righteousness And the stars before him

Have created this safe haven we know as Ahmadiyyat today

Dear master,

I am not in shambles

For you have sent the sun and the moon

Star after star

And You have even given me a map to follow

All I ask of you dear Allah, Is to guide me Send me down the path That leads me straight To you For a man without you,

Is nothing



### Jihad of the Pen

### Safwan Choudhry

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the transcript of a speech delivered by Safwan Choudhry Sahib at the occasion of the 45th Jalsa Salana Canada, on July 15, 2023, at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario.

Today, I would like to draw your attention to a significant aspect of human history—one that has been a cause of great bloodshed and anguish: holy war.

Some would argue that religious fanaticism, intolerance, and a rigid attitude towards faith have frequently led people of opposing religions to take up the sword and wage war upon one another.

Ever since the Byzantines yielded Jerusalem to the Rashidun Caliphate in the  $7^{\rm th}$  century, the advance of Islamic forces into Christendom has evoked profound unease among the European powers. However, the Crusades also presented an enticing prospect for knights, nobles, and commoners alike, offering them the chance to amass wealth, wield power, and acquire prestige. Those who embraced the call to arms in the name of the Crusades were assured by the Pope that their sins would be absolved and everlasting glory awaited them.

In recent decades, a misconstrued concept of jihad has emerged, which is a subject of great controversy. Why is this?

The Holy Qur'an itself explains both, in the first-ever injunction that granted permission to take up arms in self-defense:

"Permission to fight is given to those against whom war is made, because they have been wronged- and Allah indeed has power to help them." (22:40)

According to the prophecies of Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, the Muslims were going to deviate further and further away from their faith until they were to reach a point:

"Nothing will remain of Islam except its name. And nothing will remain of the Qur'an except its inscription. Their mosques will be full of worshippers but devoid of guidance. The Scholars will be the worst people under heaven. Fitna (discord) will come from them and return to them."

It was further prophesied that when such will be the condition of Islam, God will send a Promised Messiah who would bring the people back to the true teachings of Islam.

In the *ahadith* [traditions of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>], it is also mentioned that the prophesied era of the Promised Messiah would be such that religious fighting would come to an end with his appearance. He would not use the sword or any earthly weapon for his cause.

As religious fanaticism, intolerance, and a rigid attitude towards faith reached their apex, God sent the awaited Promised Messiah, as was prophesied in the personage of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>.

### He states:

"The Promised Messiah has come in the world to refute the notion of using the sword [or fighting] in the name of religion, and to prove, with arguments and reasoning, that Islam is such a religion which does not need the support of the sword for its propagation. Rather, the inherent excellences of its teachings, its truth, enlightenment, reasoning, and arguments."

### He further stated:

"It should be remembered that today's Islamic scholars completely misunderstand Jihad and misrepresent it to the general public. The public's violent instincts are inflamed as a result and they are stripped of all noble human virtues."

Some argue that the spread of Islam happened through violent jihad.

Explaining the reasons for the spread of Islam, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> stated:

"Islam is such a religion that does not need the support of the sword for its propagation. Rather, the inherent excellences of its teachings, its truth, enlightenment, reasoning, arguments, and the active assistance of God the Exalted, the signs, and His personal attention are such matters that always drive its progress and propagation... The message of Islam does not need any compulsion for its propagation."

Thus, the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, has waged a holy war, with the pen as his weapon and penned over 80 books and tens of thousands of letters.

Indeed this jihad, the JIHAD OF THE PEN has continued till today through his Successors or the Khalifatul-Masih. The current Successor of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad<sup>aa</sup>, who has continued this jihad of the pen, has written to leaders the world over including to the Pope, Head of the Worldwide Catholic Church, President of the United States of America, Prime Minister of Israel, King of of Saudi Arabia, the President of the Russian Federation and many other.

This powerful practice of using pen, intellect, and wisdom to display the beauty of Islam is the hallmark of Islam Ahmadiyya.

With tens of millions of followers in over 200 nations, not a single example can be given of a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community ever taking part in violent jihad or terrorism to kill innocent people. By staying true to the core teachings, this Community has shown a great commitment and passion in their defense of Islam but also for their sympathy for mankind. Instead of striking down others, the members of this Community devote their lives to serving God's creation and showing love toward them. This requires true selflessness and love for others. This is our jihad, the jihad of the pen.

May Allah enable us to continue this struggle with all of our ability, *Insha'Allah*.



### Why Segregation? What is the Role of Men and Women in Society?

Aizaz Ahmad Khan, Missionary, Peace Village

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the transcript of a speech delivered by Murabbi Aizaz Ahmad Khan Sahib at the occasion of the 45th Jalsa Salana Canada, on July 15, 2023, at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario.

istinguished guests and my dear brothers and sisters, one of the best ways to describe Islam in one sentence is that it is the religion of human nature. It is a religion that recognizes the natural dispositions and inclinations of both men and women and creates the means and environment that allow for them to prosper in a social, moral and spiritual context.

The separation of Muslim men and women at religious gatherings can be perplexing, misunderstood and sometimes difficult to accept for some people in Western society. It's usually assumed that this is done to seclude and exclude women, which is not at all the case.

This annual convention, the Jalsa Salana, that you are attending is a convention the purpose of which is to enable every sincere individual to personally experience religious benefits, to pray in congregation, to enhance their knowledge and to advance in their perception of Allah the Almighty.

In order to fulfill this objective, and to maintain the highest standards of good behaviour, dignity, self-restraint, modesty and purity, men and women are separated and provided their own spaces where they can be comfortable, more relaxed and at ease and reap the benefits of attending religious gatherings.

It is for this reason that men and women are separated in religious settings such as mosques and religious gatherings such as this—to keep the sanctity of the gathering intact and to keep all attendees focused on their higher purpose. The Caliph of our Community, His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad<sup>aa</sup> was once asked about segregation at our Community events and he said that this is a matter of, "Separate venue, not value. There are separate halls for women and for men, but the values are the same and the separate place has nothing to do with their teaching, their skills or their potential."

The fact that we practice segregation doesn't mean that interaction between men and women is entirely prohibited in Islam. It is of course permissible so long as the nature of the interaction is professional and not merely for social purposes. There's a beautiful story in the Holy Qur'an that teaches men how to conduct themselves when interacting with women. The Holy Qur'an describes the story of Prophet Moses<sup>as</sup> when he fled from Egypt. He came to a place where a group of men were watering their flocks and beside them, he found two women who were keeping their flocks back. He approached them and asked what the matter was. They said we can't water our flocks until the men take away their animals, so he watered their flocks for them and then he went towards some shade and began praying. Notice how in this inter-

action, Prophet Moses<sup>as</sup> simply asked them what the matter was and then helped them and went on his way. He didn't stop and say, "Oh, look how beautiful the weather is!" He didn't try to engage them in a conversation or try to get to know them. So, the Holy Qur'an does not prohibit men and women from interacting when necessary. That is to say, Islam takes preventive measures and wishes to separate men and women to the extent that they do not become an obsession for one another, which leads to the moral and social degradation of society and defeats the purpose for which men and women must work towards.

Indeed, the purpose of both men and women as taught in Islam is one and the same; and that is to work towards the betterment and progress of society:

"And the believers, men and women, are friends one of another. They enjoin good and forbid evil and observe Prayer and give charity and obey Allah and His Messenger. It is these on whom Allah will have mercy. Surely, Allah is Mighty, Wise." (9:71)

And in order to achieve this objective of bettering the society, God Almighty in His Divine wisdom and in accordance with the natural and biological abilities of men and women has placed the primary responsibility of providing financially for the family on men whereas women are primarily responsible for nurturing and raising their children. This doesn't mean that women are inferior to men.

In fact, the greatest contribution Islam made to women's rights is recognizing the full humanity and spiritual and social equality of a woman. This was revolutionary and unheard of in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The Holy Qur'an declared more than 1,400 years ago that men and women were created from a single soul—this discarded the notion found in previous religious scriptures that women were created for men and to be ruled by men. The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> declared to people in his time that women are the co-equals or twin halves of men; they were no less than them. The Holy Qur'an announced that every man and woman is equal in their humanity and dignity before God:

"Verily, the most honourable among you, in the sight of Allah, are those who are the most righteous among you." (49:14)

In light of the Holy Qur'an, women are:

- Equally human (49:14)
- Equally eligible for salvation (9:72, 57:13, 48:6)
- Equally eligible for reward (4:125, 16:98, 40:41, 3:196)
- Equally inviolable (81:9-10, 6:152, 24:5)



"Verily, the most honourable among you, in the sight of Allah, are those who are the most righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware." (49:14)

- Equally recognized as a promoter of good (9:71)
- A sign of God's mercy (30:22, 7:190)

Everything in Islam is viewed within this spirit of equality. Men at that time used to say that, "We used to have no regard or respect whatsoever for women until we witnessed that Allah was mentioning them in divine revelation and giving them rights and responsibilities revealed about them what He revealed, and portioned for them what He portioned."

In fact, it can be argued that the modern woman, who enjoys all freedoms and rights granted to her today in the West was first born 1,400 years ago in the era of Islam and the revelation of the Holy Qur'an. Only within the last 100 years were women in the West allowed to vote or seek divorce or own and inherit property. Even then, such rights were not inherent; rather, they were granted to women after many years of struggle by women's rights movements. But Islam not only acknowledged the rights of women, it established those rights and freedoms as an inherent part of their existence granted by God that no man nor law could take away.

Islam in no way confines women to their homes or makes them prisoners. Islam doesn't suggest that women are not permitted to work or have jobs or pursue higher education—in fact, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> once said that seeking knowledge is compulsory for every Muslim, whether man or woman.

And the truth is that in Islam and Islamic history, we find that examples of women have been given for men to emulate. A whole chapter of the Holy Qur'an, chapter 19, is named after Mary, the mother of Prophet Jesus<sup>as</sup>; then there's also mention of Asiya, the wife of Pharaoh, in the Holy Qur'an. The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> said that you can learn half the faith from his wife Hazrat Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her). Hazrat Rabiah Basri (may Allah have mercy on her), was a female saint and mystic whose anecdotes and wisdom inspired generations of saints after her. It's said that she once exited her house and she had a flaming torch in one hand and a bucket of water in the other. People asked her where she was going and she said, "I'm going to extinguish the flames of Hell and set Paradise on fire." When they asked why, she said, "Because people should worship God out of love for God, not for hope of reward or fear of punishment." Such inspiring women!

So, Islam doesn't imprison or entrap women. In fact, Islamic law states that if a woman wishes to work and earns an income, her husband does not have any right over what she earns nor is she responsible for spending her wealth on her family, for that is the primary responsibility of men. But in saying that, Islam also doesn't suggest that a woman's role in the private sphere as a mother or wife is inferior to any role she could

otherwise perform in public—this is a notion that Islam actually wishes to correct and reform. Islam praises the virtues of the role of women and calls upon society as a whole to honor the women who carry out their primary responsibilities. The Holy Prophet<sup>5a</sup> once said that "Paradise lies under the feet of mothers." (*Sunan an-Nasa'i*, Kitabul Jihad)

In conclusion, men and women are both equal when they stand before God, despite having different God-given abilities and strengths. And Islam desires to unite men and women in the pursuit of bettering the society that we live in.

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### **Bashir Ahmad Nasir Sahib**

On September 29, 2023, Respected Bashir Ahmad Nasir Sahib received a lifetime achievement award from the Canada-Pakistan Business Council, for 45 years of service.

The editors of the Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada congratulate Respected Bashir Ahmad Nasir Sahib upon this commendable achievement.

It is worthy to note that Respected Bashir Nasir Sahib has been serving the Ahmadiyya Gazette for more than 30 years.

Readers are requested to pray for his continued success and achievements in his field.





# FROM COAST

TOCOAST



Reports from Jama'ats Across Canada (August - October 2023)

August 2023

### Family Barbecue Picnic Held in Markham

Naseer Malik, General Secretary, Markham Jama'at





Attendees of the picnic with Respected Amir Sahib Canada

During an Amila meeting of Markham Jama'at, Respected Amir Sahib Canada advised Amila members to reconnect with the general membership of the Jama'at after facing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. A committee of six members visited the general membership and extended Respected Amir Sahib's invitation to join a barbecue picnic scheduled for Sunday, August 13, 2023, at Greenwood Conservation Park in Ajax. This event marked the first of its kind in many years.

On a sunny Sunday morning, volunteers prepared the picnic site with benches, balloons, barbecue grills, and food marquees. The site was decorated and ready to welcome guests well before the scheduled start





Informal sessions with attendees of the picnic

of the picnic.

Members began arriving at 11 AM, and the picnic area gradually filled with guests. Among the attendees were several families attending their first program since relocating to Markham Jama'at. Respected Amir Sahib, accompanied by National General Secretary Sahib and a few other members, including Dr. Kokub Awan Sahib, a professor at the University of London, also arrived.

Members enjoyed various sports, including badminton, carrom board, chess, Ludo, and soccer. It was heartwarming to see Ansar, Khuddam, Atfal, and even young children enjoying the activities. On the other side, the Lajna section was full of members engaged in various activities. A delicious barbecue lunch was served from multiple serving stations run by volunteers. Respected Amir Sahib spent some time with Atfal. The Zuhr and Asr prayers were led by Respected Amir Sahib, followed by a Q & A session with Dr. Kokub Awan Sahib.

The picnic was a resounding success, with more than 100 members in attendance. After the challenges of the pandemic, this event served as a reminder of the importance of connection, empathy, and togetherness. It was a day filled with fun that helped strengthen the bonds among the members.

### September 2023

### York Regional Police Superintendent Visits Baitul Islam Mosque

Mohammad Dawood Ajmal, Zaeem-e-Ala Muqami (Peace Village)



YRP Officers with members of the Peace Village Jama'at

By the grace of Allah the Exalted, Majlis Ansarullah Peace Village organized a tour of Baitul Islam mosque for the Superintendent of York Regional Police (YRP) on September 13, 2023. Alongside YRP's Superintendent and new Inspector, the lead chaplain of YRP and the regional director of the Canadian Police Chaplain Association attended. The guests toured the mosque, participated in a Q & A session, and had lunch at the Ansarullah office. Plans for future collaborative programs were also discussed.





TOP: Respected Murabbi Imtiaz Sra Sahib giving a tour of Baitul Islam Mosque to officers BOTTOM: At the Majlis Ansarullah Canada office in Peace Village

### Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association Hosts First-Ever Run for Innisfil

Hassaan Shahid, Acting Secretary Isha'at, Innisfil

By the Grace of Allah, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association hosted the first ever *Run for Innisfil*. The event took place on September 24, 2023 at Innisfil Beach Park.



Group photo of organizers and attendees of the Run for Innisfil

More than 150 people attended the *Run for Innisfil*, including The Honourable Andrea Khanjin MPP (Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks), Her Worship Lynn Dollin (Mayor of Innisfil), and various other dignitaries. The event was well-received by the community and they appreciated the efforts of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada (MKAC) to organize this charity run. Several local news articles were published about the Run for Innisfil, including on innisfiltoday.ca and simcoe.com.

Proceeds from the *Run for Innisfil* will be donated to the Royal Victoria Hospital Foundation.

The *Run for Innisfil* is part of a nationwide initiative by Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada which includes dozens of charity runs in various cities and towns across Canada.



Attendees of the Run for Innisfil

### October 2023

### Successful Second Annual Run For Newmarket

Arif F. Khan, Secretary Isha'at, Newmarket Jama'at

By the grace of Allah and through the blessings of the prayers of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada Newmarket Jama'at proudly hosted the second annual *Run For Newmarket*. This community-building event, held on October 1, 2023, at Fairy Lake Park in Newmarket, Ontario, drew a turnout of over 300 participants.

The main goal of this charity run was to support two deserving causes: CHATS (Community Home and Assistance to Seniors) and the York Region Food Network. Impressively, over 80% of the attendees were individuals from outside the Jama'at, underscoring the event's success in bringing the community together.

Distinguished guests who attended the event included: Honourable MP Tony Van Bynen; MPP Dawn Murphy; Mayor of Newmarket, His Worship John Taylor; Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor Tom Vegh; Four Councillors, namely Trevor Morrison, Bob Kwapis, Kelly Broome, and Christina Bisanz; and representatives from York Regional Police, St. John Ambulance and Central York Fire Services. Jameel Ahmed Sahib, Regional Amir Northern Ontario, represented National Amir Sahib Canada, while Touseef Ahmed Sahib, Muhtamim Atfalul Ahmadiyya Canada, represented National Sadar Sahib Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada. Muhammad Asif Siddiqui Sahib, local President AMJ Newmarket and Zeeshan Iqbal Sahib, Regional Qa'id AMYA Northern Ontario, also attended.

The event featured nine external booths, each offering a unique experience. These included GoodLife, Fire Services, York Regional Police, Humanity First, a Photo Booth, CHATS, York Regional Food Network, CBG, Osmows, and FarmBoy Cookies.



Some dignitaries with organizers of the Run for Newmarket

Highlights of the event included:

- Exciting prizes awarded to the top three runners in both the 5 K and 10 K races, with separate categories for male and female participants
- Distribution of over 150 "Thank you for your support" medals to the dedicated runners who participated
- More than 300 Osmows "chicken on the rocks" boxes, much to the delight of the participants' taste buds
- Engaging activities that kept the children entertained throughout the day
- Complimentary keychains and thoughtful gifts provided by the event booths
- A free photo printing service, capturing unforgettable memories for attendees

The event received well-deserved media attention, with coverage by *Newmarket Today*, the local newspaper.

The event was made possible thanks to the tireless efforts of dedicated volunteers. May Allah the Almighty reward the entire team for their months of dedication and hard work in bringing the community together through the successful execution of the *Run for Newmarket*.



A scene from the Run for Newmarket

### World Religions Conference Held in Vernon, BC

Umran ul-Haq Bhatti, Missionary, Vancouver BC

On October 16, 2023, after offering Fajr prayer in Baitur Rahman Mosque, Delta, eight volunteers including Regional Amir Rizwan Peerzada Sahib and Regional Missionary Umran ul-Haq Bhatti travelled to Vernon, BC to host the 5<sup>th</sup> World Religions Conference on the topic, "Life after death, myth or reality?"

Vernon is a small town in the Okanagan region with around 40,000 people and is approximately 440 km from Vancouver, BC. The BC region of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has been hosting similar events in surrounding areas to promote interfaith harmony and to build bridges among members of the community.

Speakers from the following faith groups spoke at this year's event: Bahai, Christianity (First Baptist, LDS and Presbyterian), Islam (represented by Missionary Umran ul-Haq Bhatti), Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism, and Spirituality. Each speaker was allotted 8 minutes to shed light on the topic from their respective religion. This event comes at a time when innocent lives are been targeted in the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas. Civilians are being targeted on both sides which goes against the true and beautiful teachings of Islam regarding war.

By the grace of Allah, over 350 people attended the event, including the mayor of the city and two city councillors. In the end, a silent prayer was conducted to formally conclude the session which was later followed by dinner.



Audience at the World Religions Conference, Vernon, BC

Global News media attended the event and interviewed Missionary Umran ul-Haq Bhatti on the ongoing situation in the Middle East. Missionary Umran Bhatti stated in the interview "Even in a state of war, we're not supposed to touch innocent people, so we are praying for the betterment of society, and we are working peacefully, and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's leader ... made a statement as well regarding [the need] to de-escalate the situation and bring world peace. Peace must prevail."

During dinner, many attendees expressed positive feedback and thanked the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at for hosting such events to bring people under one roof to promote peace, harmony and friendship.

### Historic First Run for Markham

Luqman Chattha, Secretary Umur-e-Kharijia, Markham Jama'at

Markham Jama'at marked a historic milestone by hosting its very first *Run for Markham* for the benefit of Markham Stouffville Hospital, in collaboration with Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada. The event took place on October 22, 2023, at Milne Dam Conservation Park.

Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada (MKAC) presented a proposal to Markham Jama'at, as part of their campaign to organize city runs across Canada. The proposal was warmly embraced by Markham Jama'at, leading to a thorough discussion within the Amila. Follow-

ing a unanimous decision in favour of this initiative, a committee was formed. The Secretary of Umur-e-Kharijia (External Affairs) was assigned the crucial role of working directly with the MKAC team to finalize roles, responsibilities, and task alignment to ensure the success of the event.



Organizers and attendees of the first Run for Markham

The planning process commenced with humble prayers and a directive to all members to individually write letters to Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup>, seeking prayers and blessings for the event. The members of the committee were:

- Rafiq Ahmad Qamar Sahib Sadr, Markham Jama'at
- Amjad Ahmad Sahib Na'ib Sadr, Markham Jama'at
- Naseer Uddin Malik Sahib General Secretary, Markham Jama'at
- Zohaib Ahmad Malhi Sahib Muhtamim Khidmat-e-Khalq, MKAC
- Saad Ahmed Salaam Sahib Regional Qa'id, GTA East
- Usman Mansoor Sahib Zaeem Mailis Markham
- Faseeh Uddin Malik Sahib Secretary Mal, Markham Jama'at
- Muhammad Ahmad Malik Sahib Qa'id Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Markham
- Roshawn Ahmad Malik Sahib Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya
- Mashhood Ahmad Sahib Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya
- Luqman Chattha Secretary Umur-e-Kharijia, Markham Jama'at

The committee members worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the event. This included the printing and distribution of 5,000 event flyers within the local community and approaching major local and regional businesses for funding. The program planning officially commenced on September 13, 2023, in collaboration with the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation, one of the beneficiaries of this charitable run.

The event garnered media attention, with local news network OMNI TV covering the proceedings. Extensive preparations were undertaken, including site visits and the setup of track markings, start and finish lines, all of which were completed a day before the event.

On the day of the event, setup teams arrived early, ensuring that all preparations were finalized before the scheduled start time of 9 AM. Despite unseasonably cold temperatures and windy conditions, the event drew around 200 participants, with a significant number hailing from outside of the Jama'at. The program was attended by city officials, federal and provincial members of parliament for the Markham-Stouffville region, and representatives from the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation, in addition to local community members.



### "EVERY CHILD MATTERS" EVENTS HELD THROUGHOUT CANADA

Report of events organized by the Indigenous Desk of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Luqman Chattha, In-Charge Indigenous Desk Canada

The Indigenous Desk Canada hosted "Every Child Matters" events on September 29, 2023, across the country. The events aimed to commemorate the residential school experience, honour the healing journey of survivors and their families, and commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation.

The annual Orange Shirt Day serves as a platform for a global conversation on all aspects of residential schools. It provides an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions about the effects of residential schools and the legacy they have left behind. This discussion is open to all Canadians, fostering bridges for reconciliation. It is a day to commemmorate survivors and to reaffirm that they matter, along with those who have been affected.

Major cities hosting the program included:

- 1. Baitul Islam Mosque (Maple, ON)
- 2. Mubarak Mosque (Brampton, ON)
- 3. Mahmood Mosque (Regina, SK)
- 4. Baitun Nur Mosque (Calgary, AB)
- 5. Baitur Rahmat Mosque (Saskatoon, SK)
- 6. Old Yale School (Chilliwack, BC)
- 7. Jean Pigott Place, City Hall (Ottawa, ON)

Details of these events held in mosques around the country are briefly given below.

### Baitul Islam Mosque (Maple, ON)

The program held at Baitul Islam Mosque on September 29, 2023, was attended by more than 200 people. Elder Jimmy Dick from the First Nation of Canada offered prayers and rituals, while the Chief of York Regional Police sent a delegate of three officers under the command of Deputy Chief Officer. Respected Amir Sahib Canada delivered closing remarks, followed by silent prayers. An extract from Amir Sahib's comments is as follows:

"The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by indigenous children over generations. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of residential schools and the legacy they have left behind. A discus-



sion all Canadians can tune into and create bridges with each other for reconciliation. Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at believes strongly in service to humanity and it becomes more vital when we see increasing restlessness in societies across the globe. Like the First Nations, we Ahmadi Muslims believe in family life, where elders are revered, and youth are taken care of. We believe that a family unit is the building block of a healthy society. We need to come together and create a positive change and promote public awareness by lending our support to each other."



### Mubarak Mosque (Brampton, ON)

Another event within the Greater Toronto Area on September 29 was held at Mubarak Mosque in Brampton, drawing more than 150 attendees. Indigenous speaker Carolyn King, the former Chief of the "Mississauga of Credit Valley First Nations," expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at. She acknowledged their contributions in commemorating the lives of young children lost during the times of residential schools. Young children participated by wearing orange shirts in observance of Orange Shirt Day, displaying the message "Every Child Matters" alongside the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at motto, "Love For All, Hatred For None."



### Mahmood Mosque (Regina, SK)

With the grace of Allah, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in Regina organized an event on September 29, 2023, centered on "Every Child Matters" and truth and reconciliation. A dry run of the program took place on Wednesday, September 27. Multiple meetings were held in preparation for the event, and invitations were distributed physically, online, and through various social media platforms.

*Al-hamdu lillah*, 22 guests and 55 Jama'at members attend the program, including speakers. We were honored to host 4 guest speakers:

- 1. Chief Erica from Cowessess First Nation
- 2. Elder Lorna StandingReady from Luther College, Elder in Residence
- 3. Residential School Survivor Michael Kaisowatum
- 4. Our esteemed friend and former Chief of Piapot, Claudy Friday

They addressed the audience about the residential school experience. As a gesture of appreciation, we presented our speakers with tobacco and honey as gifts. Respected Amir Sahib Prairie Region, Dr. Habib ur Rehman, delivered closing remarks. The program concluded with a silent prayer led by Respected Murabbi Sahib, followed by the serving of refreshments.



### Baitul Amaan Mosque (Lloydminster, AB)

By the grace of Allah, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in Lloydminster organized an event on September 29, 2023, focusing on the theme of "Every Child Matters," marking a day for truth and reconciliation.

Al-hamdu lillah, through a partnership with the Native Friendship Center, we successfully arranged the event in two sessions. Over 200 people attended, including Indigenous leadership. Electronic media coverage was present, conducting interviews with Murabbi Saqib Zafar Sahib.

The event at the mosque was incredibly successful. During the gathering, our First Nations brothers presented us with a highly esteemed gift, a Medallion significant in the First Nations community. Counselor Leonard Sapp expressed his gratitude, stating how fortunate they feel to have such a supportive community as friends. One of our guests expressed excitement, highlighting the significance of having a community that stands by them, supports them, and thinks about their needs.



### Baitun Nur Mosque (Calgary, AB)

Over 200 guests attended the program on September 29, 2023, which took place in the gym hall of Baitun Nur Mosque. Elder Alvin Manitopyes offered prayers and shared views on behalf of the First Nations of Canada.



### Baitur Rahmat Mosque (Saskatoon, SK)

On September 30, the Saskatoon Jama'at organized a Truth and Reconciliation event at Baitur Rahmat Mosque. Over 20 Indigenous friends, including Elders, teachers, principals, and police officials, attended the event. The event also received coverage from APTN (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network), a national television network.



### Old Yale School (Chilliwack, BC)

Members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at attended gathering of around 2,500 people from Chilliwack First Nations at Old Yale School, Chilliwack. The event *Every Child Matters: A Day for Truth & Reconciliation* was organized by Métis First Nation. Regional Amir Sahib BC and Regional Coordinator Indigenous Desk, BC, introduced the gathering to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at and the importance of every life to us.



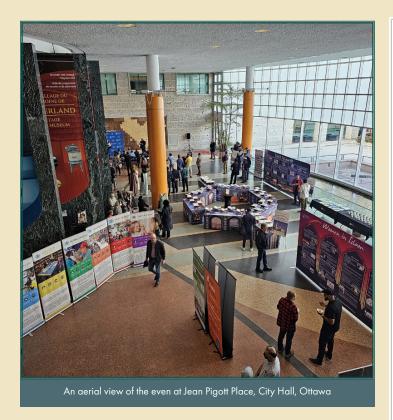


### Jean Pigott Place, City Hall (Ottawa, ON)

In Ottawa, the Reconciliation Day recognition event was combined with the Islamic Heritage Month exhibition, and took place on October 6, 2023.

More than 200 guests and 25 dignitaries had the opportunity to view the exhibition. Among them were two Ottawa Police diversity team members who are also part of the Indigenous community, along with three local youth members from First Nations who attended the exhibition. We received numerous commendations, including from MPs and members of the Indigenous community, praising our commitment to supporting our Indigenous friends.





In addition to hosting the aforementioned events, members of the Jama'at participated in events organized by indigenous communities across Canada. Some examples include:

- I. NATHAN PHILLIPS SQUARE (TORONTO): An event organized by the Toronto Fire Council, spanning two days in downtown Toronto, with over 10,000 attendees. Indigenous Desk Canada, a member of the Religions Working Group in the Toronto Fire Council, later met with the Executive Director, Andrea Chrisjohn, and former Chief of the Six Nations Reserve, Ava Hill, to discuss the success of the event and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at's commitment to the cause.
- 2. SASKTEL CENTRE (SASKATOON): Jama'at members attended this event on the invitation of Aly Bear, the third Vice Chief of the Federation of Indigenous Sovereign Nations (FSIN) in the province of Saskatchewan. Vice Chief Aly Bear acknowledged the efforts of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in building bridges between First Nations and Muslim communities in Canada. Vice Chief Aly Bear also visited Jalsa Salana UK 2023 and met Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih Vaa.
- 3. CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND Pow Wow: Jama'at members attended this event on September 24, extending invitations for the upcoming "Every Child Matters" event on September 29 at Baitul Islam Mosque. They invited Lauri Hoeg, the "Policy and By-Law Standing Committee Chair Indigenous Trustee" at York Region School Board, and Elder Shelley Charles.
- 4. FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA (REGINA): Jama'at members attended an event organized by the First Nations University of Saskatchewan. A walk and gathering were arranged in remembrance of residential school children. Jama'at members participated, shared invitations to the "Every Child Matters" event at Mahmood Mosque, and placed flyers on the university notice board.

### Birth Announcement ZAVIYAR TANVIR

Allah the Almighty has blessed Farhan Tanvir Sahib, and Mehvish Tahir Bani Sahiba of Hamilton Mountain Jama'at with a baby boy on Sunday, October 29, 2023. The newborn has been named Zaviyar Tanvir and is also part of the Waqf-e-Nau Scheme. He is the paternal grandson of Iqbal Tanvir Sahib and Tabassum Tanvir Sahiba and is the maternal grandson of Tahir Ahmed Bani Sahib and Farzana Kausar Sahiba of Pakistan.

The Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada offers its heartiest congratulations to the family at this happy occasion. May Allah the Almighty grant the newborn Zaviyar a long, healthy and righteous life, and make him the delight of the eyes for his family. Amen!

### Marriage Announcement AYESHA & SAQIB

Respected Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, announced the Nikah of Ayesha Rasheed Sahiba, daughter of Mahmood Ahmad Rasheed Sahib and Saeeda Mahmood Sahiba of Vaughan South, with Saqib Umar Sahib, son of Umar Farooq Sahib and Nasira Umar Sahiba of Winnipeg, on Friday September 8, 2023, in Baitul Islam Mosque, Maple, with the dowry money of \$20,000 CAD.

Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary Sahib introduced both families, who have the distinction of being from the progeny of Companions<sup>ra</sup> of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. By the grace of Allah, both families are closely connected with the Jama'at and have deep love for Khilafat.

Mahmood Ahmad Rasheed Sahib, who is a dedicated volunteer in the Baitul Islam mission house, and his wife Saeeda Mahmood Sahiba, arranged the wedding reception at Chandni Convention Center in Brampton, Ontario, on September 10, 2023. Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary led the guests in silent prayers, which was followed by lunch.

On Tuesday, September 12, 2023, Umar Farooq Sahib, who is serving as Muntazim Tajnid Ansarullah (Winnipeg), and Nasira Umar Sahiba arranged the Walima at Punjab Culture Center. Dr. Mahmood Ahmad Nasir Sahib, Sadr of Winnipeg Jama'at, led the silent prayer. Afterwards, dinner was served to the guests.

Prayers are requested for the success of this marriage and for the blessings of Allah on this couple. The Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada offers heartfelt congratulations to the newlyweds and their families.



### JAMIA AHMADIYYA CANADA Extracurricular Activity Report

### **SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2023**

Raiyan Ahmad Pal (Thaniyah), Mirza Ghulam Haseeb (Thalithah), Sarmad Ahmad (Rabi'ah), Asad Malik (Ula) & Haris Ahmad (Sadisah)

### **START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024**

By the grace of Allah and with the guidance and prayers of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, every year, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada continues to excel. Currently, there are 123 students studying in Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada from various countries across the globe, including Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, Palestine, Mauritius and Trinidad & Tobago.

Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada's academic year of 2023-2024 commenced on September 18, 2023.

#### Majlis-e-Ilmi for 2023-2024

In Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, extracurricular activities are conducted under the administrative body of the *Majlis-e-Ilmi* (educational committee). Each department of the *Majlis-e-Ilmi* is headed by a teacher and a student secretary. Every academic year, a new secretary is elected by the student body for each respective department.

A brief breakdown of Majlis-e-Ilmi for the academic year 2023-2024 is as follows:

In-Charge of Majlis-e-Ilmi: Prof. Sohail Ahmed Saqib Sahib

Assistant In-Charge of Majlis-e-Ilmi: Rastagar Chohan (Khamisah)

In-Charge of Educational Competitions: Prof. Muhammad Musa Sahib

Secretary, Educational Competitions: Mohammad Mufleh (Khamisah)

In-Charge of Majlis-e-Irshad: Prof. Abdul Noor Abid Sahib

Secretary, Majlis-e-Irshad: Talha Ahmed Malik (Rabi'ah)

In-Charge of Seminars: Prof. Tariq Ahmed Muhsin Sahib

Secretary, Seminars: Mahid Nasir (Khamisah)

In-Charge of Isha'at: Prof. Furhan Ahmad Hamza Qureshi Sahib

Secretary, Isha'at: Hisham Malik (Thalithah)

### **Tutorial Groups**

There are four tutorial groups in Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada. Students are assigned to a tutorial group in the first year of Jamia. They then compete on behalf of their tutorial groups in educational and sports competitions to earn points towards the Educational Competitions Cup and the Sports Cup, awarded annually.

The names of the tutorial groups, along with their head teachers, are as follows:

Amanat: Prof. Tariq Ahmed Muhsin Sahib Shuja'at: Prof. Hafiz Hibba tur Rehman Sahib

DIYANAT: Prof. Abdul Noor Abid Sahib

RAFAQAT: Prof. Furhan Hamza Qureshi Sahib

A report of the extracurricular activities that took place in September and October 2023 is given below.

#### **EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

### **Tilawat Competition**

On the blessed day of Friday, September 29, 2023, Jamia students gathered in the auditorium after Isha prayer for the annual Tilawat Competition, the first of the educational competitions for the 2023-2024 academic year.

This competition was presided by three judges, Respected Hafiz Mujeeb Ahmad Sahib, Respected Hafiz Ali Murtaza Sahib, and Respected Hafiz Rahat Cheema Sahib.

The session began with opening remarks by Mohammad Mufleh (Khamisah) and recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Haseeb Mirza (Khamisah). Then, a total of 12 students—three from each group—partook in the competition, all of them reciting from Surah al-Furqan, verses 64 to 68.

After all of the participants completed the recitation, the judges

deliberated over the top three positions, and the results were as follows:

1ST PLACE: Talha Afzaal Bajwa (Rabi'ah) of Amanat Group

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Muran Khattab (Ula) of Diyanat Group

3RD PLACE: Amar Cerimovic (Rabi'ah) of Shuja'at Group

### **Nazm Competition**

The annual Nazm Competition was held on Friday, October 6, 2023. The judges presiding over this competition were Respected Khalid Minhas Sahib, Respected Mohammad Abdullah Sahib, and Respected Farrukh Tahir Sahib.

Following opening remarks by Muhammad Mufleh (Khamisah) and recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Hafiz Talha Bajwa, the participants went up to the podium and recited the allotted couplets from one of the three Urdu poems assigned.

After all 12 participants finished reciting, the judges came to a consensus for the top three winners of the competition:

IST PLACE: Fezaan Masroor Haq (Ula) of Diyanat Group

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Anas Mahmood (Rabi'ah) of Rafaqat Group

3RD PLACE: Humza Abaidullah (Khamisah) of Amanat Group

### Impromptu Urdu Speech Competition

The annual Impromptu Urdu Speech Competition took place on October 20, 2023. The names of the judges who presided over this competition were Respected Abdul Sami Khan Sahib, Respected Shahid Mansoor Sahib, and Respected Aneeq Ahmad Sahib.

After recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Muran Khattab (Ula) and opening remarks by Muhammad Mufleh (Khamisah), the competition began as participants went up one by one to deliver their speech, being given 3 minutes to prepare.

After the final participant delivered his speech, the judges deliberated for a few minutes and came to a consensus regarding the top three positions for the competition:

1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Abdul Muqtadir (Khamisah) of Shuja'at Group

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Mudassar Irfan (Rabi'ah) of Shuja'at Group

3RD PLACE: Hisham Malik (Thalithah) of Amanat Group

The competition concluded with silent prayers led by Respected

Abdul Sami Khan Sahib.

### **Impromptu Arabic Speech Competition**

The annual Impromptu Arabic Speech Competition was held on October 27, 2023. The judges presiding over the competition were: Respected Professor Musleh Shanboor Sahib, Respected Al-Hajj Muhammad Abdullah Sahib, and Respected Professor Ali Al-Buraqee Sahib.

After recitation of the Holy Quran by Hasoor Ahmad Eqan (Thaniyah) and opening remarks by Mohammad Mufleh, the 12 contestants went up to receive their topics and deliver their speeches.

After the completion of the speeches, the top three winners were announced:

IST PLACE: Hasan Abdeen Agha (Thalithah) of Rafaqat Group

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Munassar Eyman Alam (Thaniyah) of Amanat Group

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Faaran Muhammad (Thaniyah) of Shuja'at Group

The session concluded with silent prayers.

### **JALSA SEERATUN NABI**

On the morning of Saturday, October 7, 2023, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada held a blessed Jalsa Seeratun Nabi (session on the life and character of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>) in the auditorium.

The event, which was presided by Respected Professor Abdul Sami Khan Sahib, began with recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Muddabir Rafi Ullah (Ula). Afterwards, an extract from Hadith was presented by Aroof Bajwah (Rabi'ah), followed by an Urdu poem by Merghob Siddiqui (Khamisah).

The first speech was in Urdu on the topic, 'The Companions' Love for the Holy Prophetsa,' delivered by Abdul Muqtadir (Khamisah). The speaker presented examples of sincere love shown to the Holy Prophetsa by Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Zaidra, and other devout Companions.

The second speech was on the subject of 'The Holy Prophet'a as the Ultimate Benefactor', delivered in English by Mashood Ahmad (Khamisah). The speaker shed light on how the teachings and character of the Holy Prophet'a are a source of guidance for us in this day and age.

Following the two speeches, an Arabic Qaseedah was presented by Fezaan Haq (Ula), and an extract from the Urdu writings of the



A view of the Impromptu Arabic Speech Competition

Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was read out by Mahid Nasir (Khamisah).

The concluding speech was delivered by Respected Professor Abdul Sami Khan Sahib, in which he expounded on the deep love that the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> had for God Almighty and the love and mercy that God Almighty showed to the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. The session concluded with silent prayers.

#### **GUEST LECTURES**

The Department of Majlis-e-Irshad regularly arranges guest lectures to introduce students to a variety of subjects and to learn from the experiences of missionaries and devotees who have been fortunate to serve in different capacities for the cause of Islam Ahmadiyyat. The following guest lectures were arranged by Majlis-e-Irshad in the months of September and October:

Date	Name of Guest	Торіс							
September 26, 2023	Maulana Shafiq Ur Rahman Sahib, Missionary In-Charge, New Zealand	History of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in New Zealand							
October 17, 2023	Abdul Rashid Sahib (Architect), UK	Services towards the construction of mosques and Jama'at buildings around							
		the world, under the guidance of Khulafa-e- Ahmadiyyat							
October 18, 2023	Maulana Syed Saeed-ul-Hasan Shah Sahib	Faith-Inspiring Incidents from Serving in Africa							

#### **SPORTS & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **Annual Endurance Run**

By the Grace of Allah, Jamia was able to hold its annual 25 km Endurance Run on Saturday, September 30, 2023. This year's run took place after a hiatus of 3 years due to COVID-19, and students were looking forward to participating in the race.

Students gathered in front of the main hostel at approximately 7 AM to prepare for the run. To start off the run, groups of about ten students were made. During the run, various checkpoints were set up to provide the students with water and snacks.

Students began to finish the race after a couple of hours, and the top 3 positions were as follows:

1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Usman Ali (Mumahhidah) of Diyanat Group

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Asad Ali Malik (Ula) of Shuja'at Group

3RD PLACE: Wajeehullah Khan (Thaniyah) of Diyanat Group

After the last participants made their way through the finish line, everyone gathered in front of the main hostel again to enjoy a barbecue. *Al-hamdu lillah*, this year's run was a success.



Jalsa Seeratun Nabi in the Jamia auditorium



Abdul Rashid Architect Sahib addressing the students



Judges and attendees of the annual Nazm Competition



Students participating in the annual Endurance Run



Group photo of students, faculty and staff at the annual picnic on October 5, 2023



1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE ENDURANCE RUN **Usman Ali (Mumahhidah)** *Diyanat Group* 



2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE ENDURANCE RUN **Asad Ali Malik (Ula)** Shuja'at Group



3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE ENDURANCE RUN **Wajeehullah Khan (Thaniyah)** *Diyanat Group* 

#### **Annual Picnic**

On October 5, 2023, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada had the blessed opportunity to hold its annual picnic for the year 2023.

Following breakfast at 9:30 AM, students boarded their respective buses. After silent prayers led by Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif Sahib, Principal Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, students departed from the Jamia grounds at 10:30 AM.

The location for this year's picnic was Scarborough Bluffs Park beach. Upon arriving, students engaged in various activities including swimming, volleyball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, and American football. Some students were appointed to work on the grill and prepare the barbecue for the midday session.

Following Zuhr and Asr prayers and the picnic lunch, an informal session occurred between the students and faculty where poetry and amusing jokes were exchanged.

After a full day's worth of activities, students and faculty departed at 6:30 PM to head back to the Jamia campus, thus concluding a successful annual picnic.

### **ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH**

Every year, in the month of October, Canada celebrates Islamic Heritage Month to reflect, celebrate, learn, and appreciate the diversity within Canada's Muslim communities.

By the grace of Allah the Almighty, the annual Islamic Heritage Month Exhibition was held from October 29 to 30, 2023, in Aiwan-e-Tahir, Peace Village, where the students of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada played a pivotal role in its success.

Students actively participated in organizing the event, engaging in meticulous planning weeks ahead. They collaborated with representatives from the National Tabligh Department, preparing floor plans, duty charts, and booths covering a diverse array of topics. A dedicated team of 30 students contributed to setting up the exhibition, spending six hours to prepare the venue the day before the event.

During the exhibition, students were divided into two groups: guides and presenters. Guides escorted visitors and guests, providing tours of Baitul Islam Mosque, while presenters delivered presentations at assigned booths. Some students assisted with registration, media coverage, and interviews. The event began with a women's session followed by a formal opening ceremony, including a tableau depicting early Muslim scientists and addresses by dignitaries and Jama'at members.

The second day welcomed school visits, with around 250-300 students from grades 4-8 attending. Jamia students acted as guides, ensuring an informative and engaging visit for the school groups. The students' active involvement and dedication contributed significantly to the event's success, recognized by the National Tabligh Department through a letter of appreciation to the Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada.

Participating in the exhibition served as a valuable learning experience for the students, allowing them to expand their knowledge and skills. Their commitment demonstrated their enthusiasm for learning and dedication to serving the Jama'at. The students of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada aspire to continue contributing to such programs in the future, aiming to serve the community in the best possible manner.

### Islamic Heritage Month Activities Report

Mubashir Khalid, Vice-Chair Islamic Heritage Month 2023

ctober represents Islamic Heritage Month recognized by the Canadian Parliament since 2007. This month is more than just a celebration; it's a vibrant tapestry that showcases the profound contributions of Muslim heritage to global progress. From ground-breaking advances in sciences and medicine to leaps in humanities and astronomy, the Muslim world has richly contributed to humanity's shared legacy.

The Islamic Heritage Month Celebration, organized by Vaughan Jama'at, unfolded over three days, each offering a unique and enriching experience.

The virtual event, held on Tuesday, October 24, saw a remarkable turnout with over 1,500 attendees joining virtually. The focal point of this day was an engaging presentation that spotlighted the significant achievements of Muslims in the field of medicine. This virtual journey celebrated the rich contributions of the Muslim community, providing participants with an immersive experience.

The Public Exhibition, scheduled for Sunday, October 29, was inaugurated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by Respected Kaleem Malik Sahib, Na'ib Amir, Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada.

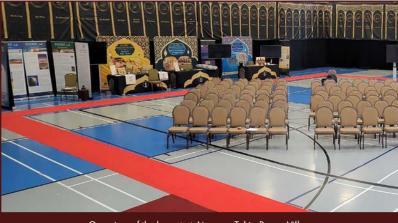
This year's highlight of the exhibition was the display of the 99 names of Allah beautifully displayed in Arabic calligraphy in the Islamic architecture arches, which covered all the walls of the exhibition, giving a unique pleasant feeling shared by many guests.

The exhibition welcomed over 500 attendees from various communities and neighborhoods to explore and engage with the exhibits. The exhibition continued to showcase the accomplishments of Muslims, fostering open dialogue and interaction among the public. It served as a bridge for cultural exchange and mutual understanding, emphasizing the positive impact of Islamic heritage.

The formal segment of the stage program added a prestigious touch to the Islamic Heritage Month Celebration, taking place from 2:30 to 4:30 PM. Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada, graced the event, along-













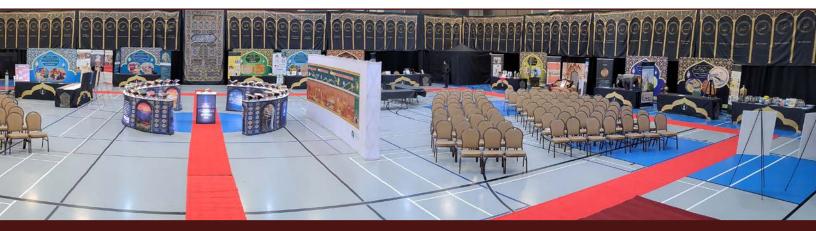
Mayor of Vaughan (second from left) with Amir Sahib (middle) and organizers of the event

side esteemed guests, including His Worship Steven Del Duca, Mayor of Vaughan; the Honorable Stephen Lecce, Ontario Minister of Education; the Honorable Francesco Sorbara, Member of Parliament; and the Honorable Anna Roberts, Member of Parliament; and many other guests. Their presence added a significant layer of distinction to the occasion, reinforcing the importance of cultural understanding and collaboration between communities. The formal program provided a platform for insightful speeches, fostering a deeper connection between Islamic teaching and distinguished leaders who recognize the value of celebrating Islamic diversity and heritage.

The dedicated Islamic Heritage Day Exhibition on Monday, October 30, welcomed over 500 students and staff from various schools, catering specifically to groups from different schools. This tailored exhibition aimed to educate and inspire the younger generation, shedding light on the positive contributions of Muslims in different spheres. The interactive nature of the exhibition facilitated a dynamic learning experience for the students, encouraging a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity.

The success of the Islamic Heritage Month Celebration was greatly attributed to the dedicated efforts of over 150 volunteers. Notably, over 120 volunteers from Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Vaughan, Lajna Ima'illah Vaughan, and volunteers from Vaughan actively participated in organizing and supporting the event. Their commitment and hard work played a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth execution of the exhibitions and associated activities.

In conclusion, the event not only celebrated the cultural richness of the Muslim community but also provided an educational platform through impactful exhibitions. The emphasis on achievements in various fields, coupled with the active involvement of volunteers, contributed to its overall success in promoting understanding and appreciation of Islamic heritage.





### TAHRIK-E-JADID

### A Blessed Achievement for Canada

uring the Friday Sermon of November 3, 2023, at Mubarak Mosque, Islamabad, Tilford, UK, our Beloved Imam Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) announced the new year of Tahrikee-Jadid.

In the beginning of his Sermon, Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> recited the following verse of Surah Al-e-Imran:

كَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ كَتَّى تُنْفِقُوْا مِمَّا تُحِبُّوْنَ ﴿ وَمَا تُنْفِقُوْا مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَإِنَّ اللهَ بِم عَلِيْمُ ﴿

"Never shall you attain righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love; and whatever you spend, Allah surely knows it well." (3:93)

Huzoor-e-Anwaraa said:

"In this verse, Allah has clearly stated that the highest standard of righteousness is attained when you spend in the way of Allah out of that which is dear to you in order to earn His pleasure...

"The worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community offered a sacrifice of £17.20 million, an increase of over £700,000 compared to last year. This is despite the difficult financial situation in the world. Aside from Pakistan, the positions of countries according to their contributions are as follows, I<sup>ST</sup>: Germany; 2<sup>ND</sup>: Britain; 3<sup>RD</sup>: Canada; 4<sup>TH</sup>: USA..."

Beloved Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> position of Canada Jama'at worldwide with an improved ranking from previous years. By the grace of Allah and with the blessed prayers of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, Canada Jama'at has raised over \$4.1 million CAD this year. *Al-hamdu lillah!* 

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلُ مِنَّا النَّاكَ اَنْتَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ Our Lord, accept this from us; for Thou art All-Hearing, All-Knowing. (2:128) By the grace of Allah, compared to last year (2022), \$523,772 CAD more was donated this year. To show his pleasure, Beloved Huzoor (may Allah be his Helper) has very graciously gifted \$100,000 to Canada Jama'at, to spend on local projects.

A list of standings within Canada Jama'at is as follows:

	Top Local Imarat	Тор Јама'атѕ				
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	Vaughan Calgary Peace Village Vancouver Mississauga Toronto	4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	Hamilton Mountain Ottawa West Bradford East Hamilton Milton West Montreal West Winnipeg Regina Lloydminster Abbotsford			

In my humble role as serving as the National Secretary of Tahrik-e-Jadid Canada, I extend my congratulations to over 31,000 participants in the auspicious and blessed scheme of Tahrik-e-Jadid. May Allah accept their humble sacrifices and bless them abundantly, Amen!

May Allah always enable Canada Jama'at to become the delight of the eyes of our Beloved Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>! Amen! Amen!

#### RIZWAN MIAN

Humbly serving as National Secretary Tahrik-e-Jadid

### 

### قحريك جديد جماعت احمديه كينيرا كا ايك بابركت اعزاز



سیّدنا حضرت خلیفة المسیّ الخامس ایده الله تعالی بنصره العزیز نے اپنے خطبہ جمعہ فرموده مؤرخه کر انومبر 2023ء میں تحریک ِ جدید کے نئے سال کے آغاز کا اعلان فرمایا۔ حضورِ انورایدہ الله تعالی بنصرہ العزیز نے سورۃ آلِ عمران کی مندرجہ ذیل آیت کی تلاوت کی:

كَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تُحِبُّونَ ،

"تم ہر گز نیکی کو پا نہیں سکو کے یہاں تک کہ تم اُن چیزوں میں سے خرج کرو جن سے تم محبت کرتے ہو۔" (سورة آلِ عمران: 93)

اس آیت کی تشریح کرتے ہوئے حضورِ انورایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ بنصرہ العزیز نے فرمایا کہ اس آیت میں اللہ تعالیٰ نے واضح فرمادیا کہ نیکی کے اعلیٰ معیار اس وقت ہی حاصل ہوتے ہیں جب تم خدا تعالیٰ کی رضا حاصل کرنے کے لیے اللہ تعالیٰ کی راہ میں وہ خرچ کرو جس سے تم محبت کرتے ہو۔

نیز فرمایا کہ جماعت احمد یہ عالمگیر نے تحریکِ جدید میں اس سال 17.20 ملین پاؤنڈز کی مالی قربانی پیش کرنے کی توفیق پائی ہے۔ یہ وصولی گزشتہ سال کے مقابلے میں 7 لاکھ 49 ہزار پاؤنڈز زیادہ ہے ۔ پاکستان کو شامل کیے بغیر مجموعی وصولی کے لحاظ سے مختلف ممالک کی درجہ بندی درج ذیل ہے۔

(1) جرمنی (2) برطانیه (3) کینیڈا (4) امریکہ

حضورِ انورایدہ اللہ تعالی بنصرہ العزیز نے اس عالمی درجہ بندی میں کینیڈا کی تیسری پوزیش کا اعلان فرمایا ۔عالمی درجہ بندی میں کینیڈا کی پوزیش پچھلے سال کی نسبت بہتر ہوئی ہے ۔اللہ تعالی کے فضل اور حضورِ انور کی دعاؤں کی برکت سے جماعت احمدیہ کینیڈا نے اس سال 4.1 ملین کینیڈین ڈالرکی قربانی پیش کرنے کی توفیق پائی ہے۔الْکے تُدُیلہ ثُمَّ الْحَمْدُ بِلله!

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلُ مِنَّا اللَّهِ مِنْ الْسَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ الْسَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ الْسَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ "اے ہماری طرف سے قبول کر لے۔ یقینا تو ہی بہت سنے والا (اور) دائمی علم رکھنے والا ہے۔" (حورة البقرة: 128)

اللہ تعالیٰ کے فضل سے پچھلے سال یعنی 2022ء کے مقابلے میں اس سال ہم نے 523,772 کینیڈین ڈالر کی اضافی قربانی پیش کرنے کی توفیق پائی۔ ہمارے پیارے امام حضرت خلیفۃ المسے الخامس ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ بنصرہ العزیز نے از راہِ نوازش اظہار خوشنودی کے طور پر ایک لاکھ کینیڈین ڈالر جماعت احمد یہ کینیڈا کو مقامی اخراجات کے لیے عطا فرمائے ہیں۔

تحریک جدید میں مالی قربانی کے اعتبار سے کینیڈا کی مختلف جماعتوں کی درجہ بندی درج ذیل ہے:

### پہلی چھ امارات

(1) وان (2) کیگری (3) پیس ویلی (4) وینکوور (5) مسس ساگا (6) ٹرانٹو

### پہلی دس جماعتیں

(1) ہمکٹن ماؤنٹین (2) آٹواہ ویٹ (3) بریڈ فورڈ ایسٹ (4) ہمکٹن (5) ملٹن ویسٹ (6) مانٹریال ویسٹ (7) ونی پیگ (8) ریجائنا (9) لائڈ منسٹر (10) ایبٹس فورڈ

میں نیشنل سیکرٹری تحریک ِ جدید کینیڈا کے طور پر عاجزانہ خدمت کی توفیق
پا رہا ہوں ۔اس حیثیت سے میں تحریکِ جدید کی بابرکت تحریک میں قربانی
پیش کرنے والے 31 ہزار احباب کی خدمت میں مبارک باد پیش کرتا ہوں۔
اللہ تعالی ان عاجزانہ قربانیوں کو قبول فرمائے اور قربانیاں پیش کرنے والوں
کو زیادہ سے زیادہ برکات و ثمرات سے نوازے ۔آمین!

ہوا میں تیرے فضلوں کا منادی
فکسٹہ تحان الَّذِی اَخْنَی الْاَعَادِی

ر ضوان میاں نیشنل سکرٹری تحریک جدید کینیڈا

# BIDS ZONE

### **FILL IN THE BLANKS**

١.	The advent of the Promised Messiahas is mentioned in a chapter of the Holy
	Qur'an named:
2.	The name of a famous Persian Companion of the Holy Prophet <sup>sa</sup> was:
3.	The Holy Prophet <sup>sa</sup> prophesied that the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> would be "hakam" which means
4.	is the name given to the collection of the books
	written by the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> .
5.	The Urdu poetry of the Promised Messiahas is compiled in a book named

### MEMORIZE THIS!

اَکیْسَ اللهُ بِکَافِ عَبْرَهُ "Is not Allah sufficient for His servant?" (The Holy Qur'an, 39:37)

### . Durr-e-Sameen ('Precious Pearls')

- 3. Arbiter (i.e., one who settles a dispute or has ultimate authority in a matter) L. Ruhani Khaza'in ('Spiritual Treasures')
  - August Jahren 1 Farisi
     August J. Augus
    - ho'umut-lΑ .

**ANSWERS** 

### TRIVIA

- 1. What is the name of the Mughal clan to which the Promised Messiah's as family belonged?
- 2. In his early adulthood, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was employed in this city for a few years. (Hint: It is located in current-day Pakistan)
- 3. What is the name of the first book written by the Promised Messiahas?
- 4. How many daughters were born to the Promised Messiahas?
- 5. When was the first Bai'at taken by the Promised Messiahas?

- 2. March 23, 1889
- 9
- 2. Sialkot 3. Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya
  - J. Barlas
- **ANSWERS**

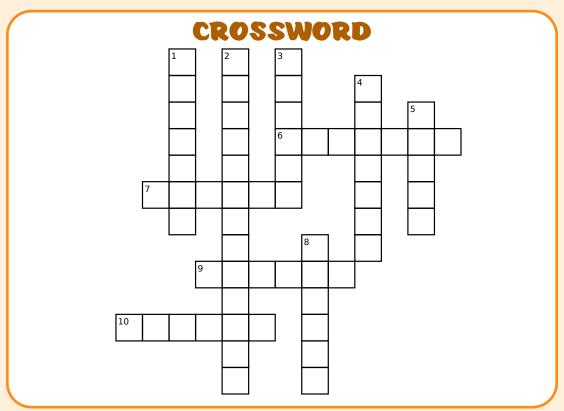
### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was of Persian descent, as prophesied by the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>.

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#### DOWN:

- 1. The Latter-Day Reformer prophesied by the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>
- Collection of the Promised Messiah's<sup>as</sup> books
- 3. Persian Companion of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>
- 4. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> worked in this city during his youth
- 5. Title of the Promised Messiahas, means "judge" in Arabic
- 8. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> passed away in this city

### **ACROSS:**

- 6. Name of the mosque in Islamabad, UK
- 7. Town of the Promised Messighas
- Name of the ancestral tribe of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>
- 10. City in Pakistan founded by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>

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بیارے مہدی علیہ الصلوۃ والسلام کا بیارا کلام حضرت اقدی موعود علیہ الصلوۃ والسلام اپنے پاکیزہ منظوم کلام میں فرماتے ہیں: جو لوگ بدگمانی کو شیوہ بناتے ہیں

تقویٰ کی راہ سے وہ بہت دُور جاتے ہیں تم دیکھ کر بھی بدکو بچو بدگمان سے دُرتے رہو عقابِ خدائے جہان سے شاید تمہاری آنکھ ہی کر جائے بچھ خطا

ساید مہاری آتھ ہی تر جاتے چھ تھا

شاید وہ بدینہ ہو۔جو تمہیں ہے وہ بدنما

شاید تههاری فنهم کا ہی کیچھ قصور ہو

شايد وه آزمائش رب غفور هو

(برامين احمديد حصه پنجم، روحاني خزائن، جلد 21، صفحه 18، 19)

(مشکل الفاظ کے معنی برگمانی: بد ظنی، کسی کے بارے میں بُرا سوچنا۔ شیوہ: عادت، طور طریق۔ عقاب: سزا، عذاب۔ خطا: غلطی، قصور۔ بد نما: جو دیکھنے میں اچھا نہ لگے۔ فہم: سمجھ۔ آزمائش: امتحان۔ غفور:اللہ تعالیٰ کی صفت ہے بہت بخشنے والا)

### کو تز:

- 1. بہت سے ظن کیا ہوتے ہیں؟
- 2. حدیث میں حسن ظن کو کیا کہا گیا ہے؟
- 3. بزرگ اہل اللہ نے اپنے آپ سے کیا وعدہ کیا تھا؟
  - 4. آیاز کون تھا؟
  - 5. قرآن کریم کی ان سورتوں کے نام بتائیں جو انبیاء کے نامول پر ہیں۔

### قرآن کریم کی سور توں کے نام تلاش کریں جو انبیاء کے ناموں پر مشتمل ہیں:

بونس عليه اللام، هود عليه اللام، بوسف عليه اللام، الموسف عليه اللام، محمد مثالية م

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## 306 05.

الله ميال كا خط يَايُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ امَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوْا كَثِيْرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ اِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ اِثَمَّ ﴿ سُورَةُ الْعُجُرَاتُ، آيت ٤٤﴾ ﴿ سُورَةُ الْعُجُرَاتُ، آيت ٤٤﴾ ﴿ سُورَةُ الْعُجُرَاتُ، آيت ٤٤﴾

﴿ سُنَن ٱبِي دَاؤُد ،كِتَابُ الْآدَبِ، بَابٌ فِي حُسْنِ الطَّقِ، حديث نه بر ٢٠٩٣﴾

حسن ظن تو حسن عبادت ہے۔

اے لو گو جو ایمان لائے ہو! ظن سے بکثرت اجتناب کیا کرو۔ یقیناً بعض ظن گناہ ہوتے ہیں۔

### محمود غزنوی کا واقعہ

ہارے پیارے امام حضرت خلیفة المسے الخامس اَتَّكَاهُ اللهُ تَعَالَىٰ بِنَصْرِةِ الْعَزِيْزِ بيان فرماتے ہيں:

"ایک واقعہ آتا ہے کہ ایک بادشاہ محمود غرنوی کا ایک خاص جرنیل تھا۔ بڑا قربی آدمی تھا۔ اس کا نام ایاز تھا۔ انتہائی وفادار تھا اور اپنی او قات بھی یاد رکھنے والا تھا۔ اس کو پیتہ تھا کہ ممیں کہاں سے اٹھ کر کہاں پہنچا ہوں۔ اور اللہ تعالیٰ ک فضلوں کو یاد کرنے والا تھا اور بادشاہ کے احسانوں کو بھی یاد رکھنے والا تھا۔ ایک دفعہ ایک معرکے سے واپئی پر جب بادشاہ اپنی لینکر کے ساتھ عائب ہے۔ تو اس نے باقی جہنوں سے پوچھا کہ وہ کہاں گیا ہے تو ارد گرد کے جود وسرے لوگ خوشامد پند تھے اور ہر وقت اس کوشش میں باتی جہنوں سے پوچھا کہ وہ کہاں گیا ہے تو ارد گرد کے جود وسرے لوگ خوشامد پند تھے اور ہر وقت اس کوشش میں اس موقع کو غنیمت سمجھا کہ بادشاہ کی نظروں سے بر ظن کریں۔ اپنی بد ظنی کے گناہ میں بادشاہ کو بھی شامل کرنا چاہتے تھے۔ انہوں نے نوراً ایکی باتیں کرنا شروع کر دیں جس سے بادشاہ کے دل میں بد ظنی پیدا ہو۔ بادشاہ کو بہر حال اپنے وفادار خادم انہوں نے نوراً ایک باتیں ہوا۔ اس نے کہا ٹھیک ہے تھوڑی دیر دیکھتے ہیں۔ آجائے گا تو پھر پوچھ لیں گے کہ کہاں گیا تھا۔ اس خوش کہاں گیا تھا۔ بد ظنی نہیں ہوا۔ اس نے کہا ٹھیک ہے تھوڑی دیر دیکھتے ہیں۔ آجائے گا تو پھر پوچھ لیں گے کہ کہاں گیا تھا۔ اس نے بیاز کی طرف اٹھ رہی تھی تو بر شاہ نے نیو کہا کہ میں نے دیکھا کہ آپ کی نظر بار بار سامنے والے پہاڑ کی طرف اٹھ رہی تھی تو جس بابق سر ایل بار بار سامنے والے پہاڑ کی طرف اٹھ رہی تھی تو جس کو میں قیدی بنا کر لایا ہوں ایک پھر کی اور آپ پر چلائے۔ تو جو سب باتی سردار وہاں پیٹھے تھے جو بدظنیاں کر رہے تھے اور بادشاہ کا کے دل میں بدظنی پیدا کرنے کی کوشش کر رہے تھے وہ سب باتی سردار وہاں پیٹھے تھے جو بدظنیاں کر رہے تھے اور بادشاہ کا کے دل میں بدظنی پیدا کرنے کی کوشش کر رہے تھے وہ سب باتی سردار وہاں بیٹھے تھے جو بدظنیاں کر رہے تھے اور بات بات پو شرور کی کوشش کر رہے تھے اور بات بات پر شرمندہ ہوئے۔"

(خطبه جمعه فرموده 26/مئ 2006ء مطبوعه هفت روزه الفضل انثر نيشنل 16/ جون 2006ء)

(مشکل الفاظ کے معنی معرکہ: جنگ)









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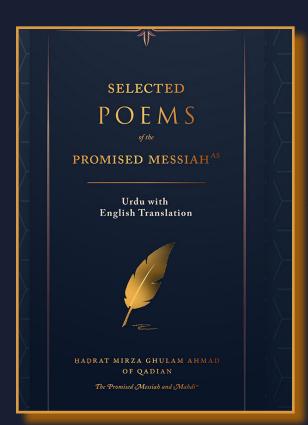


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Urdu with English translation
by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmadas, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi

The Promised Messiah, peace be upon him, was raised in the Latter Days to bring about the victory of Islam over all faiths, to defeat the *Dajjal* [Antichrist], and to cultivate true piety and understanding among the Muslims. As he had repeatedly pointed out, his struggle is not of the sword, but of the pen.

To achieve his objectives, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> engaged in many debates and wrote more than ninety books and published numerous proclamations. Although poetry, in and of itself, was not the objective of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, it was one of many potent avenues through which he conveyed the message.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> penned poetic compositions in Arabic, Urdu, and Persian to voice his passionate and persistent desire to please the Lord and to glorify His blessed name at a time when disbelief was running rampant throughout the world. His poems stand as a remarkable testimony of his Divinely inspired eloquence and his burning desire to guide humanity to the One True God.

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