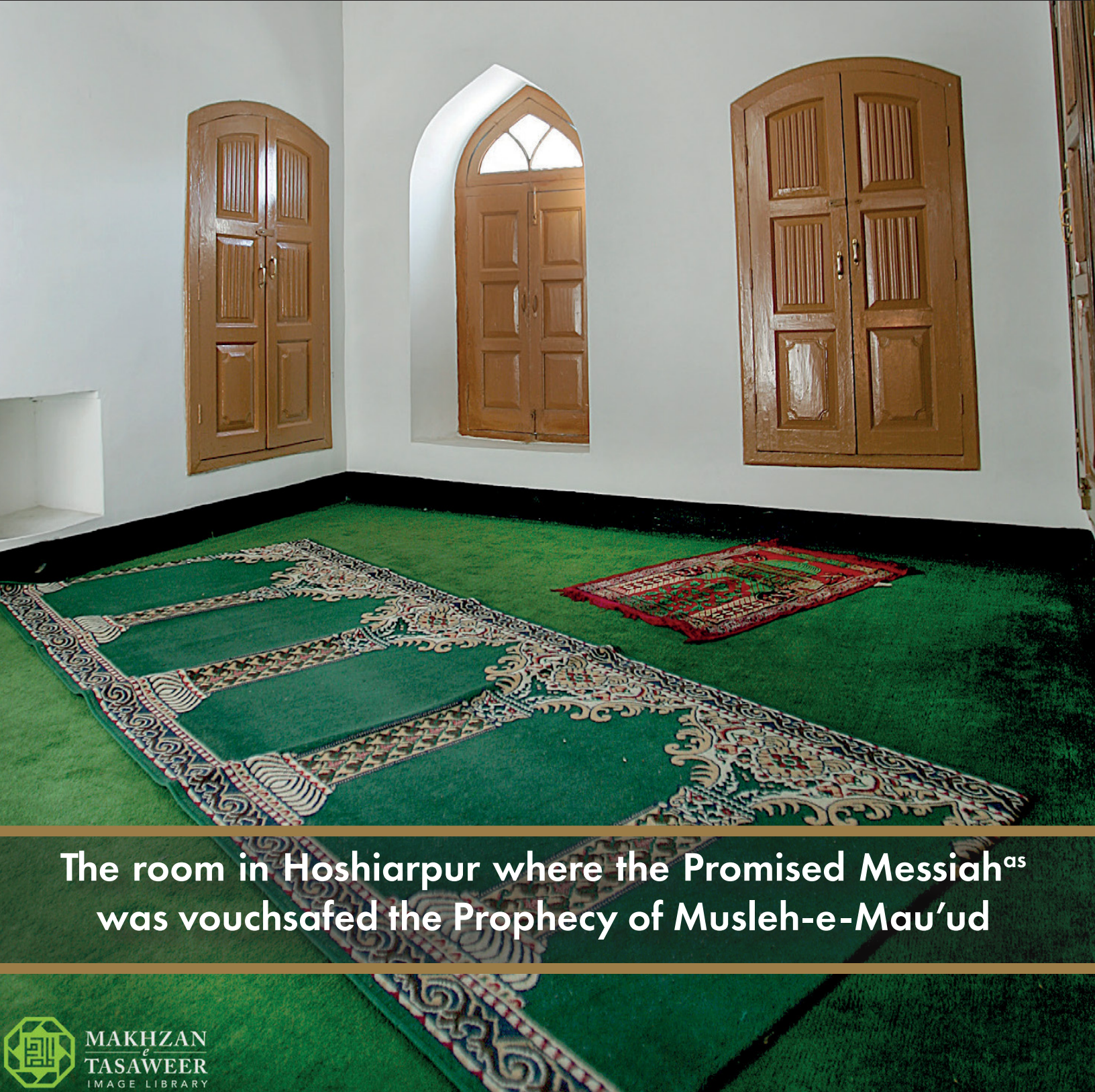


AHMADIYYA Gazette

Volume 53 - No. 02 - FEBRUARY 2024

CANADA 



**The room in Hoshiarpur where the Promised Messiah^{as}
was vouchsafed the Prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud**



A Precious Treasure

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) said:

“The words that the Promised Messiah^{as} mentioned in the prophecy, or rather, which Allah the Almighty revealed to the Promised Messiah^{as}, have all been fulfilled through Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Deen Mahmood Ahmad^{ra}, the Musleh-e-Mau’ud [Promised Reformer]. No scholar, no matter how great they were, could challenge him in the knowledge and spiritual insight that Allah the Almighty had granted him. His literature is a precious treasure of the Jama’at. Many of his sermons, addresses and lectures have been published and some are currently in the process of being published. We should read them ... May Allah the Almighty enable us to benefit from this knowledge and insight.”

(Friday Sermon dated February 17, 2023; *Al Hakam*, March 17, 2023)



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ABBREVIATIONS OF SALUTATIONS

- sa** *Sallallahu alaihi wa Sallam* — Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!
USAGE: Salutation written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad
- as** *Alaihis Salam / Alaihas Salam* — Peace be upon him/her!
USAGE: Salutation written after names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa} and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa}
- ra** *Radhiallahu anhu / anha / anhum* — May Allah be pleased with him/her/them!
USAGE: Salutation written after names of Companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and Companions of the Promised Messiah^{as}
- rh** *Rahimahullahu / Rahimahallah* — May Allah have mercy upon him/her!
USAGE: Salutation written after the names of deceased, pious Muslims who are not Companions^{sa}
- 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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MUSLIM JAMA'AT**
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Lal Khan Malik

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Muhammad Akram Yousuf

ASSISTANT
Ghulam Ahmad Abid

PHOTOGRAPHY
Assad Saeed, Bashir Nasir, et al.

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Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada Inc.
10610 Jane Street, Maple, ON L6A 3A2, Canada
Tel: 905-303-4000 Fax: 905-832-3220
editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca

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PEARLS OF

THE HOLY QUR'AN

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

He is the Knower of the unseen; and He reveals not His secrets to anyone, except to him whom He chooses from among His Messengers. Then He appoints an escort of angels to go before him and behind him, that He may know that the Messenger has delivered the Messages of his Lord. He encompasses all that is with them and He keeps count of all things. (72:27-29)

عَلِمَ الْغَيْبِ فَلَا يُظْهِرُ عَلَى غَيْبِهِ أَحَدًا ۚ إِلَّا مَنِ ارْتَضَىٰ مِنْ رَسُولٍ فَإِنَّهُ يَسْلُكُ مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ رَصَدًا ۚ لِيَعْلَمَ أَنْ قَدْ أَبْلَغُوا رَسُولَهُ رِسَالَتِ رَبِّهِمْ وَأَحَاطَ بِمَا لَدَيْهِمْ وَأَحْصَىٰ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ عَدَدًا ۚ

HADITH

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

O Allah! Bless Muhammad^{sa} and the people of Muhammad^{sa}, and bestow grace and salutations, for verily You are the Praiseworthy, the Majestic.

Hazrat Abdullah bin Amr^{ra} reported that Allah's Messenger^{sa} said:

“Jesus, son of Mary, will descend upon the Earth; then he will marry and have children. He will live for 45 years; and when he dies, he will be buried with me in my grave. Then, Jesus, son of Mary, and I shall be raised from one grave, between Abu Bakr and Umar.”

(Mishkat al-Masabih)

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ ابْنِ عَمْرِو رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ يَنْزِلُ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْزِلُ وَيُؤَلِّدُ لَهُ وَيَمَكْتُ خَمْسًا وَأَرْبَعِينَ سَنَةً ثُمَّ يَمُوتُ فَيُدفَنُ مَعِيَ فِي قَبْرِي فَأَقُومُ أَنَا وَعِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ فِي قَبْرِ وَاحِدٍ بَيْنَ أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرَ

(مشكاة المصابيح)

WISDOM

SO SAID THE PROMISED MESSIAH^{AS}

In an announcement published on February 20, 1886, the Promised Messiah^{as} stated:

“God the Merciful, the Noble, the High, the Exalted, Who has power to do all that He wills (glory be to Him and exalted be His name) has vouchsafed to me the following revelation:

‘I confer upon thee a Sign of My mercy according to thy supplications. I have heard thy entreaties and have honoured thy prayers with My acceptance through My mercy, and have blessed this thy journey. A Sign of power, mercy, nearness to Me is bestowed on thee. A Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to thee and thou art granted the key of success and victory. Peace on thee, O victorious one.

‘Thus does God speak so that those who desire life may be rescued from the grip of death and those who are buried in the graves may emerge therefrom and so that the superiority of Islam and the dignity of God’s word may become manifest unto the people and so that the truth may arrive with all its blessings and falsehood may depart with all its ills, and so that people may understand that I am the Lord of Power, I do whatever I will, and so that they may believe that I am with thee, and so that those who do not believe in God and deny and reject His religion and His Book and His Holy Messenger Muhhammad, the Chosen One (on whom be peace) may be confronted with a clear Sign and the way of the guilty ones may become manifest.

‘Rejoice, therefore, that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed on thee, thou wilt receive a bright youth who will be of thy seed and will be of thy progeny. A handsome and pure boy will come as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and Bashir. He has been invested with a holy spirit, and he will be free from all impurity. He is the light of Allah. Blessed is he who comes from heaven.

‘He will be accompanied by grace which shall arrive with him. He will be characterized with grandeur, greatness, and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their disorders through his Messianic qualities and through the blessings of the Holy Spirit. He is the Word of Allah for Allah’s mercy and honour have equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and understanding and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He will convert three into four (of this the meaning is not clear). It is Monday a blessed Monday. Son, delight of the heart, high ranking, noble; a manifestation of the First and the Last, a manifestation of the True and the High; as if Allah has descended from heaven. His advent will be greatly blessed and will be a source of manifestation of Divine Majesty. Behold a light cometh, a light anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. We shall pour Our spirit into him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and people will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to his spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed.”

(*Tadbkirah*, English translation, pp. 85–86, 1st ed.)



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^{aa}. Readers are encouraged to benefit directly from the complete Friday Sermons of Huzoor^{aa}, available on alislam.org.



MAKHZAN-E-TASAWWEER

1.

November 3, 2023

ESSENCE OF TAHRIK-E-JADID

After reciting verse 93 from the third chapter of the Holy Qur'an, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V^{aa}, elaborated how Allah has made it clear that the highest standards of virtue are achieved when a person spends out of that which they love.

Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} then explained the significance of financial sacrifices in light of the writings of the Promised Messiah^{as} and Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}. He mentioned how the pleasure of Allah, which is the source of true happiness, cannot be attained unless temporary suffering is endured. Blessed are those who endure pain for the sake of Allah's pleasure, because the light of eternal joy and eternal rest shines upon the believer after that temporary hardship.

Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} then went on to narrate faith-inspiring incidents of financial sacrifices offered by Ahmadis across the globe, including in Guinea-Bissau, Fiji, Tanzania, and Malawi, to name a few. All of these people experienced the fruitful rewards which resulted from their sincere offerings made solely for the sake of Allah.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V^{aa} spoke of the historical background of the Tahrik-e-Jadid scheme and urged members of the Jama'at to continue offering these sacrifices, as well as instilling the spirit of sacrifice in children. He then announced the commencement of Daftar VI and the 90th year of the Tahrik-e-Jadid Scheme. Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} also read out the list of countries ranked highest in contributions of Tahrik-e-Jadid. By the mere grace of Allah the Almighty, Canada Jama'at ranked 3rd internationally for the year ending in October 2023.

Lastly, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} urged members to continue offering prayers for the Palestinian people.

2.

November 10, 2023

LIFE OF THE HOLY PROPHET^{sa} & GUIDANCE FOR THE ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT

In this Friday Sermon, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} explained, in context of the events following the Battle of Badr, that the cemetery named *Jannatul Baqi* was established in 2nd Hijri in Madinah.

Huzoor-e-Anwar^{as} then mentioned a few expeditions from the life of the Holy Prophet^{sa}, including the Expedition of Bani Ghatfan. It was on this occasion that the following well-known event took place: The Holy Prophet^{sa} was resting in the shade of a tree, while the Companions^{ra} were occupied with their chores, when a man came up surreptitiously and, withdrawing his sword, said: "O Muhammad! Who will save you now?" The Holy Prophet^{sa} calmly responded, "Allah". The offender was instantly awe-struck and the sword slipped from his grasp, granting safety to the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

In the second part of his sermon, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} once again made an appeal for prayers for the people of Palestine. He stated that many governments and politicians are not paying heed to the losses suffered by the Palestinians and are prioritizing their own interests. They should remember that Allah gives respite only for a limited time. Then, accountability awaits not only in this world but also in the Hereafter. In any case, we should constantly pray for the oppressed Palestinians. May Allah grant them relief from these atrocities. Amen!

Lastly, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} mentioned two deceased members and announced that he would lead their funeral prayers. Firstly, he mentioned about Mansoor Basmah Sahiba, wife of Hamidur Rahman Khan Sahib. She was the paternal granddaughter of Hazrat Syeda Amatul Hafeez Begum^{ra}, and the maternal granddaughter of Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad^{ra}. The second member was Chaudhry Rashid Ahmad Sahib of the United States. He had a deep connection with Khilafat, and was regular in offering financial sacrifices.

3.

November 17, 2023 LIFE OF THE HOLY PROPHET^{SA} & PRAYERS FOR PALESTINE

His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad^{AA}, began this Friday Sermon by mentioning a successful expedition led by Hazrat Zaid bin Haritha^{RA} in 3rd Hijri. Then, he mentioned the historical details of an incident regarding the assassination of a prominent Jewish opposition leader in Madinah, named Ka'ab bin Ashraf. Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} addressed the allegation that this was an unjustifiable killing. He explained, thoroughly, how the various crimes of Ka'ab warranted the actions taken by Muslims against him. Also, historical records indicate how even the Jews of that time acknowledged his punishment, and refrained from raising objections.

Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} then eloquently narrated how Hazrat Umar^{SA}'s distress at the demise of his son-in-law, Hazrat Khunais bin Hudhafa^{RA} was positively transformed by the Holy Prophet^{SA} when he resolved to marry Hazrat Hafsa^{RA} himself. One of the reasons for this blessed union was the proficiency of Hazrat Hafsa^{SA}'s literacy, which would allow her to effectively elaborate the teachings of the Holy Prophet^{SA}. Hence, in the month of Sha'ban, 3rd Hijri, the Holy Prophet^{SA} married Hazrat Hafsa^{RA}.

Concluding his sermon, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} said: "I have been drawing attention towards prayers for Palestine. Everyone should continue offering prayers. The cruelties are now exceeding all bounds. In the name of fighting against Hamas, innocent children, women and elders are being killed. May Allah develop courage and wisdom among the Muslim nations, and enable them to act in a manner to attain peace. Amen!"

4.

November 24, 2023

THE NEED FOR THE PROMISED MESSIAH & MAHDI

In this Friday Sermon, His Holiness, may Allah be his Helper, expounded upon the fact that the Promised Messiah^{AS} has extensively written about the pressing need for the Imam of the time, and that Allah sent him with many proofs, which irrefutably affirm his truthfulness.

Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} said, even in the present time, the advancement of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at, the multitude of individuals embracing it, and the increased sacrifices being offered serve as evidence of the truthfulness of the Promised Messiah^{AS}. His message has reached every corner of the globe, drawing sincere souls towards Islam. There are incidents that clearly demonstrate how Allah Himself guided people to join the Jama'at. Despite facing opposition, Allah the Almighty continues to strengthen the faith of Jama'at members. The signs we witness today strengthen the faith of Ahmadis ever so regularly. Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} then narrated various faith-inspiring incidents from across the world, which reaffirm how sincere individuals are being drawn towards this peaceful Jama'at.

His Holiness^{AA} explained how, whether or not Muslims accept the Promised Messiah^{AS}, in reality they are desperate for an Imam and leader, and acknowledge his requirement in today's time. Yet they unfortunately fail to see the one who came in accordance with the prophecies of the Holy Prophet^{SA}, who was aided by manifold heavenly signs.

In the latter part of his sermon, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{AA} reemphasized the need for consistently offering prayers for the people of Palestine. He said that Muslim governments have begun to raise their concerns in this regard. However, they must act in a unified manner for any meaningful result. May Allah grant them the wisdom and ability to act in such a manner. Amen!

Nearing the conclusion of his sermon, Huzoor^{AA} mentioned details of the demise of six individuals, along with their noble characteristics. He said that he would lead the funeral prayers of the following individuals:

Abdul Salam Arif Sahib, a missionary who passed away at the age of 54; Muhammad Qasim Khan Sahib, former Na'ib Nazir Baitul Mal Kharch, who passed at the age of 84 in Canada; a renowned poet of the Jama'at, Abdul Karim Qudsi Sahib; Mian Rafiq Ahmad Sahib, who endured many hardships for the sake of the Jama'at; and Nasima Laiq Sahiba of USA, who was the wife of Syed Laiq Ahmad Sahib, a martyr at Model Town, Lahore.

Rays of Light

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



INSURANCE POLICY

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V^{na} was asked about the Islamic ruling on taking out an insurance policy to benefit from various perks and to cover the cost of any accidental loss in a business. In his letter dated April 11, 2016, Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} said:

Only that kind of insurance is permissible where the sum is based on the condition of sharing profit and loss and does not contain any aspect of gambling. If it is only based on profit, it is impermissible as it would be interest-driven.

Similarly, if a policyholder makes an agreement with a company that he will only receive the savings and will not take any interest on them, then there is no harm in buying such an insurance.”

On the issue of insurance, the Promised Messiah^{as} said:

‘With the exclusion of interest and gambling, the Shariah has permitted other agreements and responsibilities. There is no responsibility in gambling. Responsibility is, however, necessary in worldly trades.’ (*Badr*, no. 10, vol. 2, March 27, 1903, p. 76)

... In a reply to a letter, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} dictated:

‘It is not correct that we declare insurance impermissible because it involves interest. At least I do not declare it impermissible on that basis. There are many reasons for its impermissibility.

1. One of these is that the insurance business is based on interest. There is a huge difference between something having interest as its foundation and something that involves interest. According to the law of the land, no insurance company is allowed to operate in the country until it purchases securities worth 100,000 from the government. Hence this is not a question of involvement but a question of legal obligation.
2. Secondly, insurance is based on the theory of interest. According to the Islamic Shariah, the Islamic theory is that whoever gives a sum to another, it is either through a donation, a trust, a partnership or a loan. [Insurance payments] are not a donation. They are also not a trust because there cannot be any increase or decrease in a trust. They are not based on a partnership because the policy holders are neither responsible for the gains and

losses of the company nor do they share any authority in its operation. We can only class it as a loan and it is in fact a loan. This is because insurance companies use these contributions as they wish with complete control over it and they do not hold the policyholders responsible in case of any losses associated with the insurance business. Hence, this is a loan. A loan which results in any profits due to an advance agreement is called interest according to the Islamic Shariah. Therefore, insurance is based on a theory and a principle of interest.

3. Thirdly, the principle of insurance nullifies all principles on which Islam aspires to build a society. By fully implementing [the principles of] insurance, the essence of mutual cooperation, empathy and brotherliness disappear from the world.' (*Al-Fazl*, Qadian, September 18, 1934, p. 5)

According to the laws of some countries, it is compulsory to have insurance. It is permissible to buy such an insurance policy. 'On 25 June 1942, someone asked Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} the following question:

'The Uttar Pradesh (UP) government has legislated that anyone with a car must insure it. Would such insurance be permissible?'

'Huzoor^{ra} replied:

'It must be noted that this enforcement is not only from the UP government but the Punjab government has ordered it too. Since this insurance policy is bought in accordance with the law and the government has declared it as compulsory, it is permissible, not for one's personal benefits but rather as obedience to the government.'

(*Al-Fazl*, November 4, 1961, quote from June 25, 1942)"

THE ROLE OF WAQIFAT-E-NAU GIRLS AFTER MARRIAGE

During a Gulshan-e-Waqf-e-Nau class with Lajna and Nasirat in Melbourne, Australia on October 12, 2013, a member of Lajna Ima'illah asked Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} how they could perform their roles effectively as Waqif-e-Nau after marriage and assume responsibilities for their household, family and children. Huzoor-e-Anwar^{aa} gave the following answer:

To fulfil your role of *Waqf-e-Nau* properly, you should firstly offer the five obligatory prayers in a proper manner. If you can offer *tahajjud* prayer, then do so. Study the Holy Qur'an with its translation. If you have been assigned any work from *Lajna*, then do it to the best of your ability. Moreover, your greatest responsibility is that you raise your children in a way that they form a bond with Allah the Exalted. Make your husband realize, 'You are *waqf* and that it is your duty to undertake your own *tarbiyat* as well as that of your family and your children and that you need support for this from him.' This is so because if the father is not playing his role, then the *tarbiyat* of the children suffers.

The most important responsibility is the home. This indeed is the source of the greatest reward for you.

According to a *hadith*, once a woman came to the Holy Prophet^{sa} and said, 'Our men go to perform *jihad*, they earn a living and they give charity. Men perform many such tasks outside that we as women cannot perform within our houses. So will we also get all the reward of *jihad* and giving charity?' The Holy Prophet^{sa} said, 'Yes, because you look after their homes, you raise their children and take care of the homes while they are away. You will get just as many blessings, especially considering the virtuous generation that is being raised. Moreover, you also bear it with patience that you send off your husbands so that they can serve the faith.'

Even if your husband is performing a worldly service and not serving his faith, according to the *hadith*, those women should still look after their homes. Therefore, the responsibility of *Waqf-e-Nau* girls is to make the new generation steadfast upon Ahmadiyyat and to guide them to have a bond with Allah the Exalted.

[SOURCE: <https://www.alhakam.org/answers-to-everyday-issues-part-iii/>]





MAKHZAN-ETASAWIEER

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}: A Beacon for the Muslim Ummah

Fazal Masood Malik, PEI

“He will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage ... Nations will be blessed through him.”

The Promised Messiah^{as} was divinely promised a helper who would carry the mantle of Islam and facilitate the freedom of oppressed peoples, just as Hazrat Sulaiman^{as} helped Hazrat Dawood^{as} and Hazrat Yahya^{as} aided Hazrat Zakariyya^{as}. This long-awaited helper was his son, the Musleh-e-Mau'ud, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, the Second Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} emerged as an influential advocate for Muslim unity and rights during an era of global conflicts and anti-colonial movements ranging from the 1920s to the 1960s. His extensive contributions spanned protecting Muslim interests in British India, guiding the Middle East through war and geopolitical turmoil, and championing independence struggles abroad.

In British India, he was involved in safeguarding Muslim rights amid growing Hindu-Muslim tensions during the Indian independence movement. He worked alongside the likes of leaders like Jinnah and Gandhi while maintaining a focus on Muslim interests. This balanced approach later proved invaluable during Partition in 1947, with Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} helping mitigate violence through prayers and meticulous planning.

Across the Middle East, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} provided prescient analysis on issues like the discovery of oil, the rise of Arab nationalism, the Palestinian struggle, and the Arab-Israeli wars. He warned of Western imperial interests while advocating for self-determination. His foresight was evidenced by subsequent regional developments.

Beyond India, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} provided profound guidance to Middle Eastern countries facing upheavals. As Arab nationalism grew in influence after the fall of the Ottoman Empire, he warned Muslim nations of imperial powers seeking control over newly discovered oil resources in the region. His foresight was evidenced in subsequent Western interferences.

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} likewise advocated self-determination for Muslim communities still under colonial rule. Through speeches, writings and direct communication with Arab leaders, he drew attention to these “sovereign” nations while also providing moral support.

As a true visionary, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} leveraged his astute political insights to offer wise guidance at critical junctures when the future was uncertain. Time and again, his analysis and advice proved remarkably accurate. For those who heeded his counsel, beneficial outcomes followed.

Advice on Contracts of Oil Fields



TOP: Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} at the occasion of his silver jubilee, 1939
 OPPOSITE: Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} (centre) in the Jalsa Gah of Jalsa Salana Qadian, Khilafat Silver Jubilee, 1939

Following World War I, the world was plunged into a complex period, particularly in global politics. The era was heavily influenced by the economic depression, a challenge that significantly tested the Western powers. These nations, already burdened with the maintenance of their vast empires, faced heightened uncertainty about their own future.

Compounding these difficulties was the looming crisis in energy supply. The rapid pace of industrialization had escalated the demand for coal, which was the predominant fuel for machines and engines at that time. However, coal reserves were dwindling, prompting a desperate search for alternative energy sources. This quest led Western countries to the oil fields of the Middle East, a region that promised a new and abundant source of energy.

In response to this opportunity, prominent entities such as the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Anglo-Persian Company made significant investments. These companies invested heavily in the Middle East, utilizing their substantial financial resources and advanced petroleum engineering expertise. Despite the seemingly barren landscapes, these regions were believed to harbour vast and untapped oil reserves beneath their surfaces.

In 1922, a landmark contract was signed between Abdul Aziz ibn Saud and Frank Holmes, who represented the London-based Eastern and General Syndicate. This agreement, signed for a period of 60 years, marked the beginning of a major drilling operation aimed at accessing the rich oil reserves in the region.

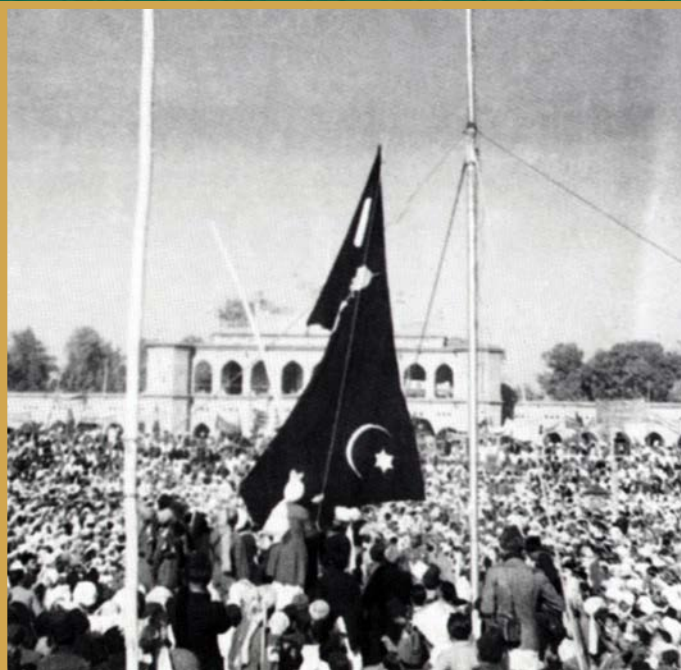
The oil that was extracted from these efforts was purchased by the company, then exported this valuable resource and sold it to other nations. As part of this arrangement, a predetermined amount was agreed upon to be paid to ibn Saud, acknowledging his ownership of the land from which the oil was being extracted.

Following this initial venture, further oil drilling activities commenced in the Al-Hassa (current-day Al-Ahsa) province of Arabia. These operations were conducted against a fixed sum of money. The revenue generated from these ventures began to serve as a regular source of income for ibn Saud. Consequently, the stipend that ibn Saud had been receiving from the British government was discontinued. This change effectively released ibn Saud from the treaty obligations he had with the British government, granting him a form of political autonomy.

It is significant to note that at that time, the world's financial situation was volatile, and oil prices were low. Over time, however, the demand for and price of oil steadily increased. Given these circumstances, the royalty rates established for oil extraction were at risk of becoming inadequate over time, which eventually proved to be the case.

This situation was not fully grasped by many. Even within the Arabian kingdom, those involved in these agreements needed to be more aware of the potential future impact on national interests. Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}, however, recognized these implications and voiced his concerns. He had previously advised caution during the negotiation between Saudi ruler Abdul Aziz ibn Saud and the Italian government. He pointed out that European nations tend to use seemingly mild language in agreements, which often carry more stringent implications. After reviewing the finalized oil agreements, he stressed the importance of not basing agreements solely on trust but on thorough and careful consideration. He noted that even if the company entering into the agreement had no initial intention of deceit, the wording of the agreement could create difficulties for Sultan Abdul Aziz if the company's intentions changed.

At the time when Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} addressed this issue in a Friday Sermon, significant oil discoveries in Saudi Arabia had not yet occurred. However, the situation rapidly changed as substantial oil reserves were discovered, yielding enormous profits for oil



Raising the *Liwa-e-Ahmadiyyat* for the first time, 1939

companies, but only a small portion for the Saudi government. Sultan Abdul Aziz eventually realized the agreement was not in his or his country's best interest. In 1950, he threatened to nationalize the oil company, which led to a negotiation and an agreement that fifty percent of the profits would be allocated to the Saudi-Arabian government.

Recognizing Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} foresight is essential in understanding the historical context of oil agreements in the Middle East. He was a visionary who first identified and articulated the potential negative impacts of complex contractual terms on Muslim nations. His keen analysis shed light on the nuances and potential pitfalls in the agreements between Muslim countries and foreign companies, particularly in the oil sector.

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} proactive approach went beyond mere observation. He took the initiative to advise the concerned Muslim country, emphasizing the need for heightened vigilance and careful consideration in dealing with contractual matters involving European nations. His insights highlighted the tendency of European nations to use language in contracts that appeared mild but contained stringent demands.

This foresight proved to be incredibly prescient, as subsequent developments in oil exploration and extraction agreements underscored the complexities and challenges that these nations faced. Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} early warnings and advice on the importance of meticulous contract review and negotiation reflected a deep understanding of international affairs and the long-term implications of economic agreements. His contribution in this regard serves as a notable example of visionary

leadership and strategic thinking in international relations and economic diplomacy.

Iraq's Turmoil from Its Ill-Advised Alliance with Nazi Germany

The seeds of this conflict were sown after World War I when Britain broke its promises to the Muslim world made in exchange for alliances during the war. In response, the Grand Mufti of Palestine took refuge in Iraq and issued an anti-British edict. However, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} demonstrated extraordinary foresight and wisdom at this precarious time.

In a radio address amidst Iraq's deepening ties with Nazi Germany in 1941, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} highlighted the dangerous implications for the broader Muslim world. He stated: "This turmoil has resulted in Turkey being engulfed in conflict, Iran facing the imminent threat of war, Syria becoming a conduit for warfare, and Iraq turning into a battleground." With remarkable prescience, he warned that "The most significant danger is the encroachment of war upon the holy cities of Makkah and Madinah."

Urging restraint, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} advised that "it is incumbent upon every Muslim to endeavour to suppress this unrest from its inception." At this early stage, the window remained open to avoid unnecessary conflict and damage. However, the Iraqi leadership disastrously ignored his counsel and confronted the British militarily without adequate preparation or support.

The consequences soon materialized as Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} had warned. The war expanded into Syria and escalated towards the holy sites, fueling instability across the region. Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} had rightly declared: "Should large contingents of troops enter, managing the situation will become increasingly complex. The conflagration of war threatens to engulf the Arabian Desert swiftly."

In contrast to the emotional fervour of the Mufti, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} provided sage guidance anchored in reality. Allying with Nazi Germany in opposition to British imperialism would only replace one oppressor with another while bringing further violence to Arab lands. Tragically, the Iraqi leadership failed to heed this wisdom. Their actions to undercut Britain only strengthened its regional occupation after military intervention in Iraq and Syria.

This painful episode holds essential lessons even today. As unrest emerges in Muslim nations, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} principles stand as invaluable guideposts. Recklessness and emotion must be tempered with reason and foresight before decisions are made with far-reaching, often unintended consequences.



Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} leading Salat during his tour of Europe, 1955

MAKHZAN-E-TASAWWEER

Guidance on the Palestinian Issue from Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}

As the Palestine crisis escalated in late 1947, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}, provided remarkably farsighted analysis and counsel to Arab leadership. His guidance and warnings on the ground situation tragically went unheeded.

In November 1947, the UN approved a divisive plan to partition Palestine, provoking unrest even before the May 1948 end of British rule. A December 1947 meeting of Arab leaders in Syria with Sir Zafrulla Khan^{ra} highlights Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} perceptive advice at this tense juncture. Asked if Arabs should wage war post-withdrawal, Huzoor^{ra} deftly analyzed relative strengths. He noted that Jewish forces likely had more significant foreign funds, arms supply and coastal access. By contrast, Arab military readiness was unclear.

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} scrutinized the acceleration of the crisis, flagging the staggered British departure from critical areas, which would allow WWII-trained Jewish forces to dock and consolidate power before Arabs mobilized counteractions.

Indeed, his predictions immediately materialized. In December 1947 alone, two ships brought 15,000 Jewish immigrants into Palestine. Yet the Arabs remained disorganized. Once Britain withdrew well ahead of the schedule, in May 1948, the Zionists unilaterally declared an Israeli state, gaining rapid international backing. Outgunned Arab armies belatedly entered the war in response, lacking coordination.

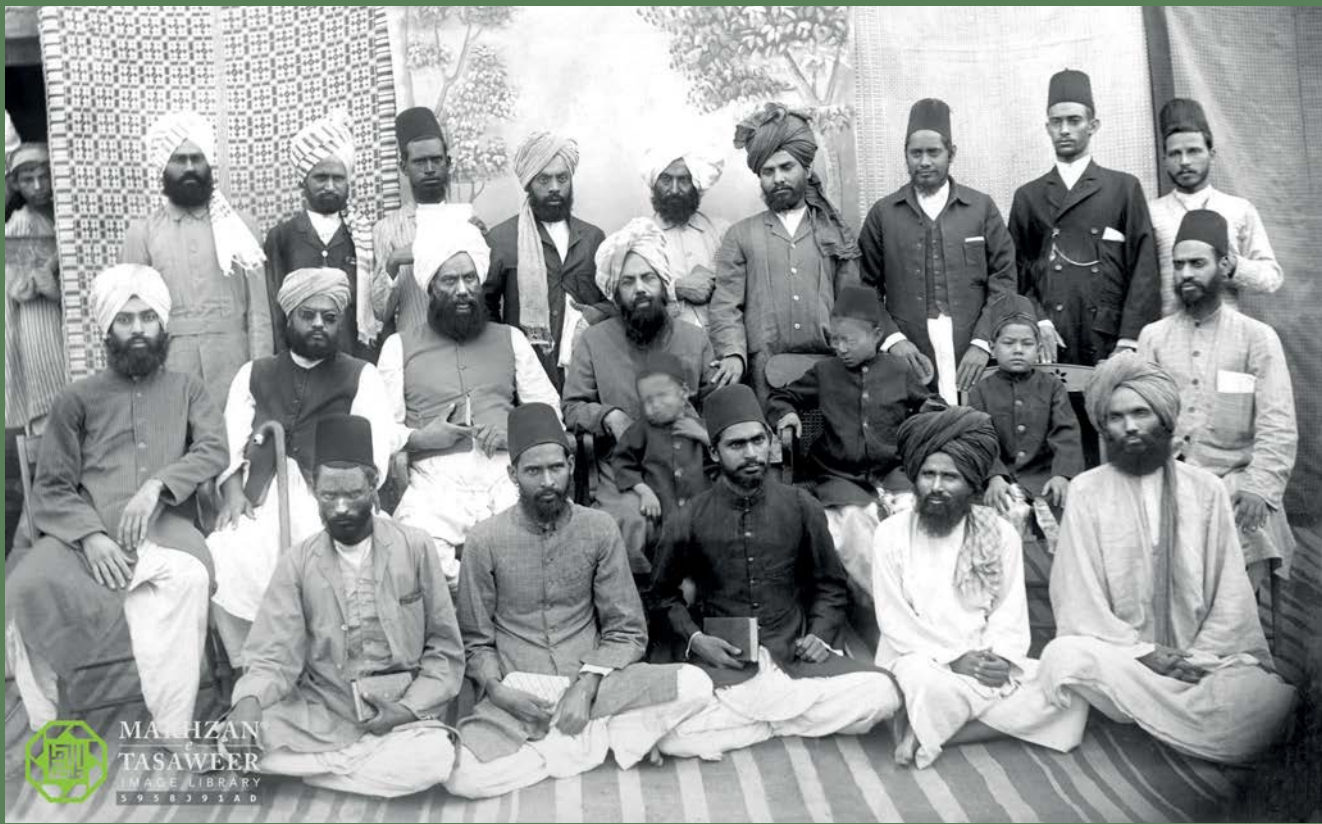
Tragically, Arabs failed to follow the advice of Hazrat Musleh-

e-Mau'ud^{ra}, which was stressed back in December 1947, given the mounting Jewish strengths. As the 1948 war progressed amid strategic disarray, his warnings stood out in retrospect: to retain territory and ports and block reinforcements. Instead, the Arabs lost on all fronts. By 1949, the designated Palestinian Arab areas were overrun, creating lasting refugee displacement.

The accuracy of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} assessments on the shifting balance of power and strategic missteps is apparent in hindsight. The lessons learned were quickly forgotten, with the same mistakes occurring over 77 years later. Had Arab leaders fully heeded Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's^{ra} advice, their losses may have been reduced. His principles, a reflection of the Holy Qur'an, still resonate today.

In an era defined by global tensions and transformations, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} was a unifying force who played an invaluable role in shaping unified Muslim responses. His extraordinary diplomatic wisdom and selfless championship of Muslim rights cement his legacy as a luminous figure in Islamic history.

Navigating through the complexities of British colonial rule in India, analyzing critical issues such as Middle East oil agreements, or providing direction during crises like the Palestinian conflict, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} employed his keen political and strategic acumen to foster unity and justice among Muslims. Often overlooked in his time, his prudent counsel remains a beacon of ethical and steadfast leadership through turbulent periods. His enduring legacy as a resolute advocate for international justice and his consistent guidance in both war and peace have cemented his status as an exemplary figure in history.



IN THE BLESSED COMPANY OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH^{as}
 Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} is seated beside the Promised Messiah^{as}, on the third chair from the right

THE MORAL UPBRINGING OF Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}

Tariq Mahmood, Missionary serving in *The Review of Religions*

All of humanity shares a collective experience; we are born, and we grow, we suffer and enjoy, we make mistakes, and we learn from them. But we always remember our youth.

Ask a 90-year-old woman, and she'll remember her childhood fondly. Ask a 26-year-old man like myself, and I, too, will reminisce. This is in our nature. Hear then, of another story; a child of prophecy who suffered from weak vision but was destined to give others sight; who was visited by frequent headaches, but distributed intellect as if charity to the poor.

The month of February reminds us of a grand prophecy. It marks a victory of Ahmadiyyat across the globe: the prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud. It is this prophecy that was given to the Promised Messiah^{as} in such grandiose fashion, that he announced it for all to hear and witness.

Other articles detail the fulfillment of this prophecy, whether it is the genius of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} or his spiritual power. But today, we'll explore the reason this prophesied child became who he was, as we explore the moral upbringing of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}, and how Allah the Almighty sculpted such a man.

Although this son, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, was destined to be great, it would not come about without the excellent upbringing of the Promised Messiah^{as} and Hazrat Amma Jaan^{ra}.

The Promised Messiah^{as} would constantly and carefully focus on the moral refinement of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}. When patience was necessary, he would exercise it, and when something needed to be explained, the Promised Messiah^{as} would always adopt a light tone, never yelling or hitting. Many parents are prone to yelling or striking their children, but the Promised Messiah^{as}, on many occasions, displayed the correct course of action.

The Cries of a Child

Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim^{ra} of Sialkot, a great companion of the Promised Messiah^{as}, relates an incident:

"When Mahmud was about three years of age, the Promised Messiah^{as} once happened to be in Ludhiana and I too, was with him. It was summer and the weather was very hot. I happened to wake up once in the middle of the night to hear Mahmud crying and the Promised Messiah^{as} talking to him gently to divert his mind. The Promised Messiah^{as} seemed to be carrying

him in his arms, and pacing about to soothe him, but the child continued to cry. After some time, the Promised Messiah^{as} said: 'Look how brightly that star shines Mahmud!' This diverted the child's attention, and he quietened down for a moment but started crying again with a new basis. He cried: 'I wish to go to that star!' But the Promised Messiah^{as} was in no way irritated by this impossible demand. Instead, he was rather amused by it, and I heard him saying softly to himself, 'I had tried to divert his attention, but he has discovered in that a new reason to continue crying.' The child fell asleep only when he was too tired to cry any more, however, throughout the whole episode there never was a harsh tone in the voice of the Promised Messiah." (*Fazl-e-Umar* by Mujeebur Rahman, pp. 17-18)

Now observe the patience of the Promised Messiah^{as} as he dealt with his child. Often, it is easy to forget that children do not have the knowledge or wisdom to make the right decisions. Frustration builds up and exhaustion itself may lead to mistakes, but this example demonstrates the ocean of patience that a parent should have. At such times, everyone is human and anger is a part of this experience, but we forget that patience is also part of what it means to be human.

The Burnt Pages

The Promised Messiah^{as} once himself reported that when Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} was only 4 or 5 years old, he and his friends walked into the room of the Promised Messiah^{as}. Due to boredom and a surplus of matches, they decided to light some pages on fire for fun. They didn't realize they were burning pages of a book the Promised Messiah^{as} was writing.

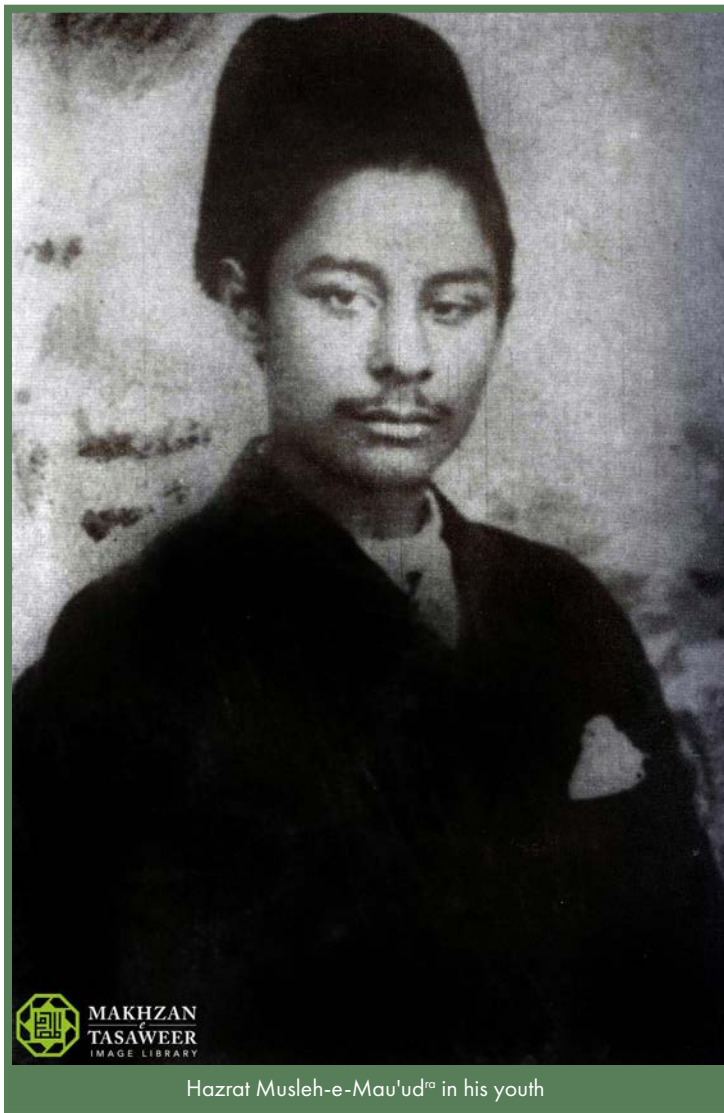
The Promised Messiah^{as} was so absorbed in writing that he hadn't even noticed this, but later when he needed to go back and look at the previous pages, he found ashes flying away in the wind slowly. When the Promised Messiah^{as} came to know of what happened, he smiled and said:

"That's all right. It does not matter. The Almighty God, it seems, intends to give me the power to write to much better

effect than I had done previously so by this means he has destroyed what I had written." (*Fazl-e-Umar*, pp. 18-19)

Look at the grievous mistake committed by the child. If the Promised Messiah^{as} had decided to get mad at his child, no one would declare it out of the ordinary; but the Promised Messiah^{as} was intent on doing what was right: treating a child as a child ought to be treated.

How Would the Promised Messiah^{as} Reprimand His Children?



Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} in his youth

Now, this isn't to say that the Promised Messiah^{as} would spoil his kids; rather, where discipline was needed, the Promised Messiah^{as} had a beautiful approach. Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} narrates a story of this and states:

"Once, a dog came to our door as I stood there. Huzoor^{as} was in the room alone. I beckoned the dog calling, 'Tipu! Tipu!'. Huzoor^{as} came out in a distress and said, 'Aren't you ashamed? Out of animosity, the English have named their dogs after the name of a sincere Muslim and you are copying them by calling the dog Tipu. Beware! Never repeat [this mistake] again!' I was only eight or nine at the time and it was the first day when the love of Tipu Sultan was established in my heart." (*Fazl-e-Umar*, p. 19)

This demonstrates that although the Promised Messiah^{as} expressed his disappointment, he explained the rationale behind the lesson. This way, the Promised Messiah^{as} encouraged him to instill love in his

heart for Tipu Sultan and refine his actions. Children will only learn to respect those people whose respect is enforced by their parents.

Power of Positive Reformation

This loving upbringing of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} is also shown through another incident, which demonstrates the power of positive reformation. Hazrat Syed Fazal Shah^{ra}, a sincere disciple of the Promised Messiah^{as}, states:

"One day, the Promised Messiah^{as} sat in the upper storey courtyard with almonds in front of him. I was shelling the almonds

when Hazrat Mian Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, who was 4 or 5 years of age at the time, came and took all the almonds and put them into his lap. Observing this, Huzoor^{as} said, ‘Mian is very good; he will not take too many. He will only take one or two. He will put all the rest back.’ When Huzoor^{as} said this, Mian Sahib quickly put all the almonds in front of me and only took one or two for himself.” (*Fazl-e-Umar*, p. 23)

Now observe how the Promised Messiah^{as} would use expectation as a method of moral training. It would build love, respect, and obedience all at once. If we set positive goals for our children and become happy when they meet those expectations, it encourages the child to do well. Some parents are prone to becoming disappointed in their children if they didn’t meet an incredibly high bar. If a child brings home marks in the 80s, the parents will say “why not 90s?” This approach does not work, and only fosters disappointment and resentment. This small example shows that expectations should be slowly and lovingly built. Positive expectations are far superior to negative expectations.

Such narrations demonstrate the approach of the Promised Messiah^{as} in the moral upbringing of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} and highlights the path that should be taken to educate Ahmadi children.

The Importance of Pious Friendship

The friends of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} were also of great benefit to him. Once, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} developed the habit of saying “tum” (informal manner of saying “you” in Urdu) and addressed the Promised Messiah^{as} by using this word. His friend, Muhammad Ayyub, took him to the side, and told him never to repeat this action again, and to instead always refer to the Promised Messiah^{as} in a respectful manner, as befitting his status. (*Fazl-e-Umar*, p. 32)

Love for the Promised Messiah^{as}

It is commonly seen that in some households, when fathers come home, the children are scared to stand in front of their fathers. Their parents are so strict that the children feel distanced and disconnected from their parents. Then, when these children grow older, the parents wonder what has happened and why their relationship has soured. However, behold the Promised Messiah’s^{as} effect on Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra}.

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} narrated:

“It was summertime and rain clouds suddenly appeared in the night sky, accompanied by roaring thunder. During this, lightning fell somewhere close to Qadian. However, its blast was so loud that every household in Qadian thought this lightning might have struck their house...

Due to the blast and heavy rainfall, everyone went into their rooms. When the lightning struck, those of us sleeping in the courtyard also got up and went inside. I remember that scene to this day. When the Promised Messiah^{as} was about to go inside, I covered his head with both my hands so that if lightning struck,



Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} is seen here seated in the center, holding Hazrat Mirza Mubarak Ahmad^{ra}. Beside him are his brothers, Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad^{ra} (right) and Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad^{ra} (left). Hazrat Mir Muhammad Ishaq^{ra} is standing behind, on the left, and Hazrat Nawab Mubaraqa Begum^{ra} is being held by a maid (far right, back).

it would strike me, not him.

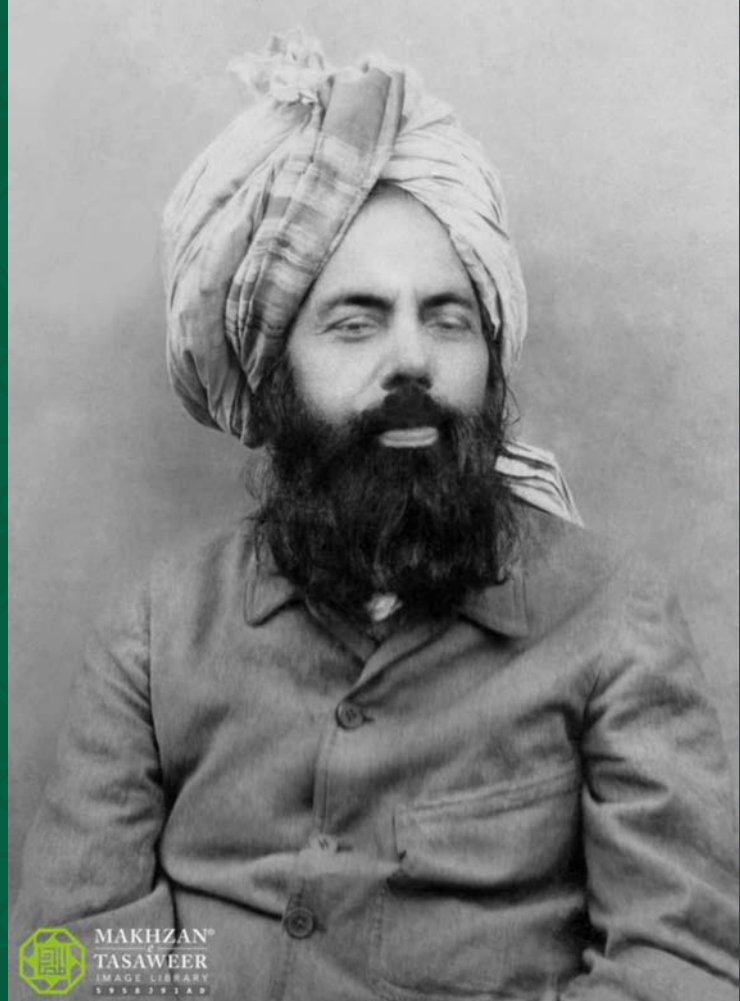
Later when I returned to my senses, I laughed at my actions. It was because of *him* that we were to be saved from the lightning not that he could be protected by *us*! I think that action of mine was no less than the act of a madman. However, I am always happy because this action made manifest to me my love for the Promised Messiah^{as}. Sometimes, a person is unaware of how much he loves someone. When this type of incident occurs, he can estimate how deep and profound his love is. So, when the feelings of extreme love are roused, the intellect fails. Love tosses wisdom aside; love rejects all fear. And it comes to the fore by itself.” (*Fazl-e-Umar*, p. 83)

Dear Ahmadi parents, it is up to us to foster the next generation, who will take up the flag of Islam Ahmadiyyat and drive it into the soil of every nation. The moral upbringing of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau’ud^{ra} is a model for us to emulate. We are tasked to raise such generations as will bring about a pious revolution within the world. Therefore, beseech Allah’s help, do your research, and nurture your children to achieve greatness. If you do not, then you invest in the mediocrity of the next generation.

All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds!

The Prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud: A Lesson About Patience and Prayer

Munassar Alam, student of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada



Many people across the world, theists and atheists alike, claim they have prayed long and hard but heard no response. They say that if God was truly listening, He should have answered their prayers and not subjected them to hardship. Unfortunately, these people depict the reality exemplified by the Qur'anic verse, “Man is made of haste. I will certainly show you My Signs but ask Me not to hasten.” (21:38) They pray with the expectation that God will immediately answer their prayers, and, once tired, they give up; and instead of blaming themselves, they blame God.

On the contrary, the righteous do not become wary or discouraged when praying to God but they remain persistent and continue praying until God accepts their prayer. Though one might expect that prophets, those who are the closest to God, may only need to pray once for God to respond to them (and many times this is indeed the case), they are also the ones who pray the most before He answers their prayers. This practice is common to all prophets, including the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^{as} of Qadian.

Whilst debating the Hindus of Qadian, especially the Arya Samaj, the Promised Messiah^{as} desired that he be granted a magnificent sign with which he could show the people the manifest

truth of Islam, and for this, he endeavored to spend 40 days alone in meditation and prayer. In January of 1886, God revealed to him that he would find what he sought in Hoshiarpur. Hence, towards the end of the month, the Promised Messiah^{as} set out for Hoshiarpur with a few of his companions.

God is All-Powerful—if He willed, He could have spared the time of the Promised Messiah^{as} and could have granted him a manifest sign right then and there. After all, the Promised Messiah^{as} was a righteous prophet of God, and he was beseeching something which was solely for His sake. However, God guided the Promised Messiah^{as} to Hoshiarpur so he could pray to Him in solitude for 40 days, following the tradition of many holy men before him.

In Hoshiarpur, the Promised Messiah^{as} stayed in the upper storey of Sheikh Hamid Ali's^{ra} *taveila*, a quaint two-storey building at the edge of town. Here, he instructed his companions that no one should visit him and that they should leave food for him at appointed times and then take the dishes later. On Fridays, they would pray Jumu'ah separately at an abandoned mosque at the edge of town. Otherwise, the Promised Messiah^{as} was alone upstairs with his Lord for 40 continuous days.

People cry after a short while and say that their prayers aren't accepted—yet how many are willing to pray to God in solitude for 40 whole days?

On February 20, 1886, the Promised Messiah^{as} published a leaflet announcing to the world the acceptance of his prayer: a prophecy regarding the birth of an incredible boy to be gifted with many unique qualities.

Finally, the world would bow down to the truth of Islam, one might assume. However, as is the practice of God the Almighty, He puts His beloved ones in trials to demonstrate their pristine character and firm resolve; therefore, as soon as this prophecy was published, his opponents indulged in their routine abuse and mockery. Immediately, people began to spread rumors that the Promised Messiah^{as} already had a son and was hiding him to conjure a sign in his favour. The Promised Messiah^{as} refuted this notion in another leaflet published on March 22 and clarified that this prophecy would be fulfilled within nine years.

Regardless, his opponents did not desist and made fun of him every chance they could.

In response to the mockery, the Promised Messiah^{as} published another leaflet on April 8, 1886, in which he said that it wasn't necessary that the prophecy be fulfilled towards the end of the nine-year term but God can fulfill it earlier to silence the opponents. Moreover, he announced that the boy would be born very soon and that his wife was then pregnant. Nevertheless, the Promised Messiah^{as} also admitted that he didn't know for certain whether this child would be the promised one; but he made clear that either this pregnancy or the next one would be a son.

On April 15, 1886, Hazrat Amma Jaan^{ra} gave birth to a girl, which resulted in intense ridicule from all sides. The Promised

Messiah^{as} remained patient, certain that this prophecy would soon be fulfilled. Then finally, on August 7, 1887, a boy was born to the Promised Messiah^{as} who was named Bashir Ahmad. He published a leaflet that same day announcing the glad tidings of the fulfillment of the prophecy made on April 8, 1886. However, when people would ask him if this boy was a fulfillment of the prophecy published on February 20, he would answer that he had received no confirmation from God the Almighty.

On November 4, 1888, Bashir Ahmad passed away, and the opposition stirred up a storm of abuse and tried deceiving the public into believing that the prophecy was false. In response, the Promised Messiah^{as} published a leaflet on green paper (commonly known as the *Green Announcement*) explaining that he never claimed that this son was the promised son in fulfillment of the prophecy published on February 20, 1886, but was the fulfillment of the prophecy published on April 8, and that either the current or next pregnancy would be a boy. He reiterated that the original prophecy remained valid and would most certainly be fulfilled.

Then, a little over a year later, on January 12, 1889, a son was born whom the Promised Messiah^{as} named Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, who later grew up to be the Promised Reformer, Musleh-e-Mau'ud, and Khalifatul-Masih II^{ra}. What a magnificent fulfillment of the original prophecy of February 20, 1886!

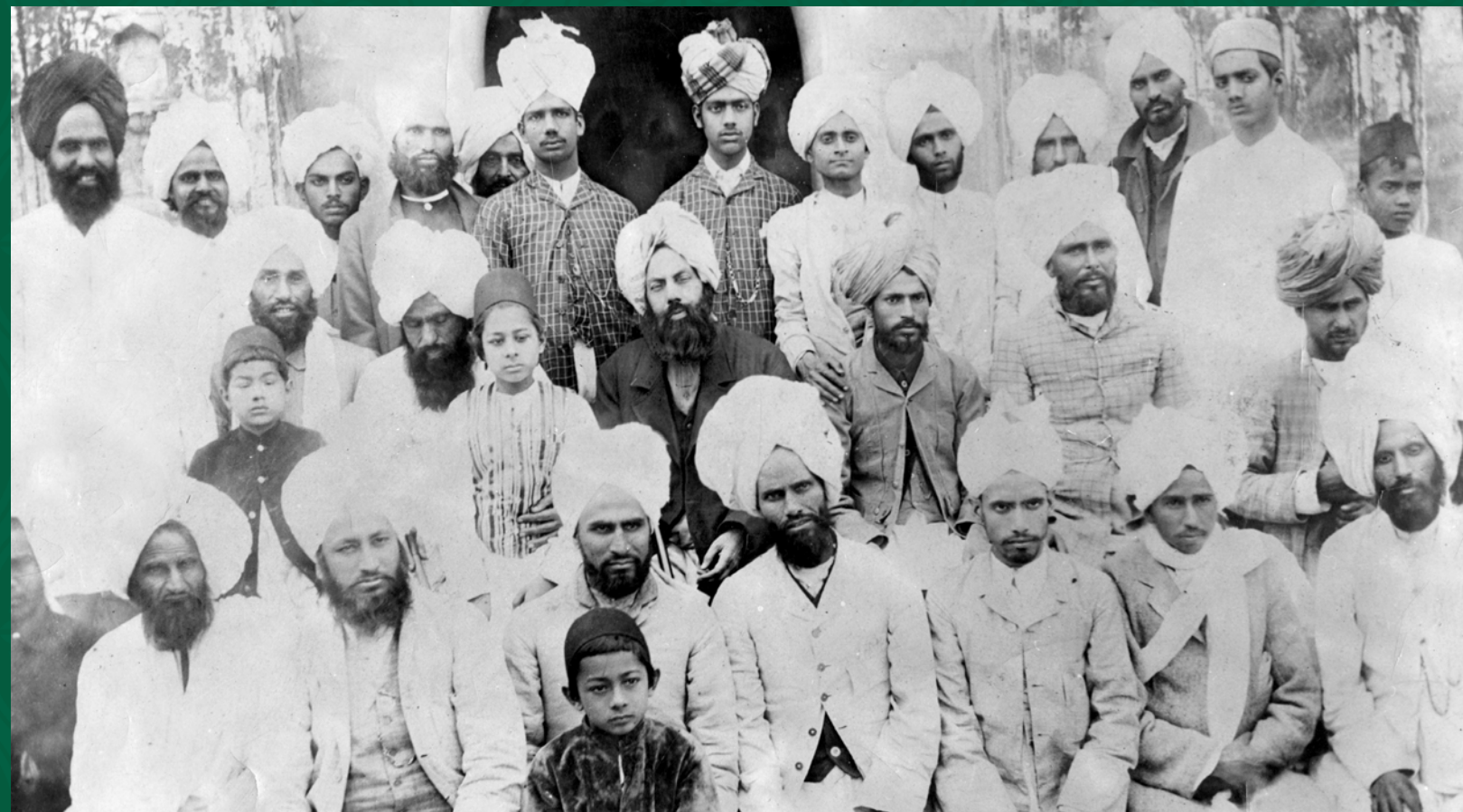
From taking a glance at this entire saga, from the publication of the initial prophecy until the birth of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}, one sees a clear picture of how the Promised Messiah^{as} exemplified the Qur'anic instruction of "and seek help with patience and prayer" (2:46) and did not become weary of seeking help from his Lord.

First of all, the Promised Messiah^{as} journeyed to Hoshiarpur to spend 40 continuous days praying to God in solitude. From this incredible effort, the Promised Messiah^{as} was not granted an apparent miraculous sign which would immediately move the masses towards Islam, but was instead granted a (no less miraculous) prophecy which, unfortunately, in the eyes of his opponents, had no value. However, the Promised Messiah^{as} remained unfazed and gave the Qur'anic reply, "And wait ye, we too are waiting" (11:123). As is apparent from the repeated leaflets mentioning this prophecy, the Promised Messiah^{as} was incredibly eager to see its fulfillment to silence his opponents. Hence, one can only speculate as to how much the Promised Messiah^{as} prayed for God to swiftly fulfill this prophecy.

God the Almighty instead waited to fulfill the prophecy and put the Promised Messiah^{as} into trial—first with the birth of a daughter (who passed away shortly after in 1891), and second with the death of his son. To the untrained eye, both of these events would seem as though God had abandoned the Promised Messiah^{as} and had not heard his prayers. However, as the Promised Messiah^{as} would later elaborate in a number of his books, it was necessary for both of these events to happen as



Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} (centre) leading Salat at Hoshiarpur, 1944



IN THE BLESSED COMPANY OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH^{AS}

Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} is seated to the immediate right of the Promised Messiah^{as}, on the second chair from the left, in the lap of Hazrat Hakim Husam-ud-Din^{ra} of Sialkot

they were in fulfillment of other prophecies as well as a means for God to separate the hypocrites from the sincere believers prior to the establishment of the Jama'at. Therefore, God had never rejected the heartfelt prayers of the Promised Messiah^{as}, but instead fulfilled the prophecy in such a manner as would result in true success of his mission and the cause of Islam.

Now, over 130 years since the prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud, we can see as clear as day how God fulfilled the prayers of the Promised Messiah^{as} and granted him a prophecy which was fulfilled in an incredible manner. Despite the ill health of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} in his childhood, he lived a long life of 76 years and became the Second Khalifa of the Promised Messiah^{as}. He was granted deep insight into both religious and secular matters which was acknowledged by friend and foe alike. In his tenure as Khalifa, the Jama'at saw incredible progress and its branches began to spread in all corners of the world. Every aspect of the prophecy saw its fulfillment in his person. Even now, over 50 years since his passing, Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} has left a legacy which continues to demonstrate the truth of Islam and the Promised Messiah^{as} to true believers.

As members of the Community of the Promised Messiah^{as}, it should be very clear to us how important it is to remain consistent in our prayers and to not get discouraged. Most certainly, God listens to our prayers, as He Himself promises in the Qur'an, "I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he prays to

Me" (2:187). Hence, it is on us to fight against our hasty nature and persevere with patience and prayer, just as the Promised Messiah^{as} set a pristine example before us. Then, we too can also see the fulfillment of our prayers and know with certainty that God was always there, listening to us.

O Pride of Messengers!

On January 12, 1889, the day that Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Deen Mahmood Ahmad^{ra} was born, the Promised Messiah^{as} published an announcement in which he wrote:

"In a dream I had uttered this verse concerning the Promised Reformer:

اے فخرِ رسلِ قُربِ تُو معلوم شد
دیر آمدہ زِ راہِ دُور آمدہ

O Pride of Messengers, I have realized the degree of your nearness to God.

Your coming has been delayed and you have come from a long distance.

Thus—if according to divine will—by delay was meant only the period which has elapsed before the birth of this son who has been named Bashir-ud-Deen Mahmood by way of good omen, then it would be no wonder if he should prove to be the Promised Son."

(*Tadhkirah*, English translation, p. 212, 2018 ed.)

Count your Blessings

Hazame Ahmed, student of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada

In our fast-paced world, it is very easy to lose sight of the immense blessings we are bestowed. It seems easier to dwell on what we don't have or weren't able to achieve, but upon contemplation one truly realizes that we have been immensely blessed. All we need to do is count our blessings.

Someone asked Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khali-fatul-Masih V, may Allah be his Helper, "how can we truly express our gratefulness to God Almighty?" He responded:

"The best way to be grateful to Allah the Almighty is that when you say 'All praise belongs to Allah,' you should do so whilst keeping in mind all the favours of God that He has bestowed upon you. Even if a person has to face some trials and tribulations, they should bear them with patience and remember that Allah has conferred upon them countless other bounties and blessings. Those favours should always be borne in mind and never forgotten." ([Virtual meeting, Waqf-e-Nau girls and women from Bangladesh, January 31, 2021](#))

It is said that there was once a king who was presented with some melon-like fruits. He cut the fruit and gave it to one of his courtiers. The courtier ate it happily and praised it greatly, but in reality it was very sour. Upon seeing the courtier praise it so much, the king also ate it to see how it tasted. When the king ate one slice, he realized it was sour and asked the courtier why he had praised it so much when it was extremely bitter and unpleasant. The courtier replied, "You have always granted me an abundance of the most excellent things and have bestowed favours upon me. Therefore, just because I was given something bitter to eat today, I did not wish to be ungrateful for all the other times and spit it out due to its bitterness. You have bestowed many favours upon me in the past, and so if you haven't given me something sour to eat without realizing, I have no right to refuse it or raise any objections."

Throughout life, we are naturally attracted towards those who are more financially well-off than us; those who might have better cars and bigger houses than us, as the American Dream is portrayed in the media. This leads us to becoming ungrateful and causes us to continuously look towards the wealth of others and never allows us to be grateful for what Allah has granted us.



"If you are grateful, I will, surely, bestow more favours on you" (14:8)

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The Holy Qur'an states:

And remember also the time when your Lord declared, 'If you are grateful, I will, surely, bestow more favours on you; but if you are ungrateful, then know that My punishment is severe indeed.'
(14:8)

The Holy Prophet^{sa} was the embodiment of what it meant to be grateful to Allah the Almighty. It is stated in a *hadith* that the Holy Prophet^{sa} used to pray so much that his feet used to become swollen, and when he was asked why he prayed so much, he would say, "Shall I not be a thankful servant [to Allah]?" (*Sahih al-Bukhari*, no. 6471)

The Holy Prophet^{sa} taught us that being grateful should not be like a fleeting emotion that comes and goes based on our situation, rather it ought to be a state of mind. In a *hadith* related by Hazrat Abu Hurairah^{ra}, the Holy Prophet^{sa} said, "Look at those who stand at a lower level than you but don't look at those who stand at a higher level than you, for that is better-suited that you do not disparage Allah's favours." (*Sahih Muslim*, 2963c)

We should try to foster a profound sense of gratitude to Allah within ourselves. By acknowledging the boundless favours Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon us, we can attract Divine pleasure and lead more fulfilling lives.

May Allah the Almighty enable all of us to be thankful for everything that comes our way, in adversity and prosperity, so we too may become His thankful servants, like our master the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

Welcoming the New Year

Fateh Alam, student of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada

New Year's celebrations happen all over the world, full of excitement for the possibilities of the year ahead. These celebrations have unique styles that show the various traditions of religions, and what they believe in.

Individuals celebrate in their own ways by engaging in singing, dancing, drinking, and other activities. However, as Ahmadi Muslims, how do we commemorate this occasion? We celebrate by turning to God, expressing gratitude, and praying for our spiritual growth in the coming year. Sadly, the purpose of our very existence has been forgotten by many. The sole purpose of our existence in this world is to worship God, to seek His nearness, and to strive for righteousness. It's crucial not to lose sight of this purpose in our lives.

During his Friday Sermon on January 1, 2010, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V^{ra} stated:

“Today, God has given us an opportunity to adorn the very first day of the year with prayers. Pray for yourself, for your family, for Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. Pray for the environment, for society and your country. A true believer prays for the country of which one is a citizen. These are the obligations that Ahmadis are entrusted with. Now, the permanence of the world, of mankind is with the prayers of an Ahmadi and it leads to Paradise. However, if we are not treading these paths ourselves, how can we show the way to the world?” ([Friday Sermon, January 1, 2010](#))

Starting the year off correctly is crucial, and prayer plays an essential role in achieving that. Without prayer, we are nothing.

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IVth, relates an incident from his life in which he states:

‘Once, in the UK, it was New Year’s Eve and the next day was about to begin. During the night, at 12:00 AM, thousands of people had gathered at Trafalgar Square. On this night, people start getting drunk and are busy by crossing all the limits of human decency, and when 12:00 AM hits, then they think there are no limits on anything, no religious obligations, complete freedom. By chance that night, I happened to be at Euston Station. I had a thought, like all Ahmadis do, this was nothing special on my part; by the grace of Allah the Almighty, the majority of Ahmadis begin the New Year in the same manner: they pray at 12:00 AM. So I also had that chance and I stood at the station and laid out a newspaper on the ground and offered my *nawafil* (voluntary prayer) there. After some time, I felt as if someone was standing beside

me and I had not yet completed my prayers when I heard someone weeping. A person was weeping. After completing my prayers, I saw an elderly Englishman in tears crying like a child. I became concerned and thought that perhaps he was sympathizing with me, and is crying because he thinks I am crazy. So I asked him what happened? He replied: “Nothing has happened to me, something has happened to my nation. The entire nation is busy in New Year’s, involved in all sorts of immoral acts and there is only one person who is remembering their Lord at this time. This incident left such a profound effect on my heart that I was unable to hold back my tears.” And he kept on saying, “God bless you, God bless you, God bless you, God bless you.” So, the reality is that even if the entire world laughs and makes fun of us, even then, an Ahmadi youth should not care one bit, for he has every right to exercise his freedom and is answerable to God Almighty alone.’ (Friday Sermon, August 20, 1982)

On New Year’s, it’s customary for individuals to set resolutions, which are personal promises made at the beginning of the year to better themselves. The Promised Messiah’s^{as} timeless advice should be our resolution:

“The members of my Jama’at, whether they are present here or whether they are in their own places, should listen carefully to this admonition. The purpose of their joining the Movement and establishing with me a relationship like that of a disciple is that they should achieve a high degree of piety and righteousness. No wrongdoing or mischief should ever come near them. They should offer the five daily Prayers regularly and with congregation, and should not lie nor hurt anyone by their tongues. They should not be guilty of any kind of vice and should not let even a thought of mischief, wrongdoing or transgression pass through their minds. They should shun every type of sin, offence, undesirable speech and action, as well as all egoistic passions and unruly behaviour. They should become pure-hearted, harmless and meek servants of God Almighty, and no poisonous germ should flourish in their beings.” (*The Essence of Islam*, vol. 4, pp. 249-250)

Thus, it is important to follow the guidance provided by the Promised Messiah^{as} to better ourselves and elevate our spirituality.

As the New Year has already dawned upon us, may Allah bless this year and may He give us the strength to reap the blessings of His favours.

In Memory of My Dear Father: Nasir Ahmed Soofi Sahib

Tahir Ahmed Soofi, USA



My name is Tahir Ahmed Soofi. I was raised in Toronto, Mississauga and Vaughan, Canada. I moved from Canada to the USA in 1995. On February 8, 2023, my dear father, Nasir Ahmed Soofi Sahib, passed away in his sleep at the age of 88. *Indeed, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return!*

My father was the son of Hazrat Soofi Fazl Ellahi^{ra} and the grandson of Hazrat Soofi Karam Elahi^{ra}. By the grace of Allah, both were among 313 Companions of the Promised Messiah^{as}. He is survived by his two sons, one daughter and four grandchildren. *Al-Hamdu lillah*, all his children are involved and serving the Jama'at in various capacities. I, his eldest son, am currently serving the Jama'at as Sadr Zion Jama'at, USA. His second son, Anwar Soofi, manages a successful trucking business and serves on the Jalsa Salana guest relations team and resides in Mississauga. His daughter, Jabeen Lone, is married to JT Lone Sahib, and works in the financial sector in UAE. Mash'Allah, my father had 4 grandchildren, Suneed Rashad Ahmed (USA), Haaris Ahmed (USA), Filza Lone (Canada) and Haanya Lone (Canada). This was his dream that we all be attached to the Jama'at and Khilafat.

My father told us a story that as they were immigrating from Meerut, India, to Qadian, that he took a longer than expected bathroom break and the caravan started to leave. My father, an explorer at heart, was wandering around and there were verbal calls for my father from my Phupho (father's sister) that 'the bus is leaving—where are you? Come now.' My father shared that when he heard these calls, he ran fast and realized that he was almost left behind.

At one point, my father's nephew, Naseer, was kidnapped in Pakistan. There was so much worry and anxiety that my grandmother told my father to go and find him and to not come home until he did. *Al-hamdu lillah*, within a day, he was able to find him held by a gang and somehow secured him and brought

him safely home! Another missing nephew, Manzoor, strolled off the home property with someone and there was anxiousness and worry. Once again, my father was asked to find him. My father searched and *did* find him and was able to bring him back home safely. To his family, he was a hero for finding my young cousins. He could find something out of nothing.

My father was Sadr of Mississauga Jama'at in the 80s, when it was one Jama'at. He hosted the first "welcome to Canada dinners" at our home for former Amirs, Munir-ud-Din Shams Sahib and Naseem Mahdi Sahib. Our house became a guest house for international dignitaries from Pakistan, UK and other parts of the world. I met so many that I would need a full page just to list them. My father also invited the former Mayor of Mississauga, Hazel McCallion, and she accepted the invitation to come to our home in Mississauga. Amazingly, somehow my father convinced her to come.

My father was instrumental in Canada Jama'at's first offsite Tarbiyyati Camp at Crystal Beach with our first Missionary, Maulana Syed Mansur Bashir Sahib. My father rented a cargo van and laid a foam mattress and stuffed about 20 kids in there for a 2 to 3-hour journey. Nowadays, it is not possible to do that, but we lived to tell that tale. I am sure there is a picture or two around, but I do not have it.

My father instilled in all of us the service to Khilafat and Jama'at. He loved to cook for the masses and started the Langar system of Canada Jama'at at our home. He would cook using portable ovens. We used to shift the large pots in both personal cars to the Jalsa sites in the mid 80s.

My father took us to Rabwah and Qadian, and we are so grateful for that. We attended both Jalsa Salanas in the same year of 1981. He grew up in Qadian and showed us his house and other areas of Qadian. He introduced us to a very simple man in Rab-

wah who was riding a bike to his work. This simple man, with dust-covered shoes, affectionately brought us in to his office. That gentleman, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadth, later became the Fourth Khalifa! It is so heart-warming to recall that time.

My father took us on a European trip and made sure we visited the Jama'at mosques and missionaries in UK, France, Switzerland, and Germany. We met my brother-in-law JT Lone's uncle, Maulana Masud Jehlumi Sahib in Switzerland. We met many other missionaries and my father made sure we attended Friday prayers there.

My dear father was able to visit Spain for the Basharat mosque inauguration and was blessed to take some suitcases belonging to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IVth by car from London to Pakistan. He told us, "Now that I have Huzoor'sth blessing, I will arrive safely by road to Pakistan." It is truly amazing that he got to go to Spain and then drive by road from UK to Pakistan!

My father would make sure that we attended the Friday prayer service during our junior and high school years. Every Friday, he would drive an hour to the Wilson Avenue mission house, and he would then feed us *McDonald's* after Friday prayers. Perhaps that is why I have a liking to *McDonald's*!

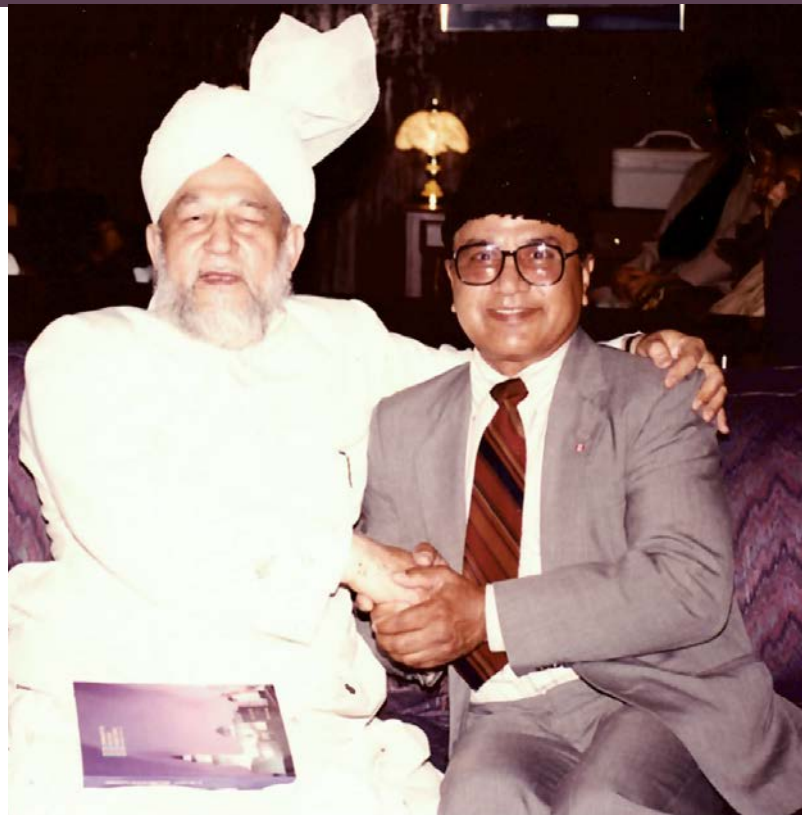
Al-Hamdu lillah, my father took our whole family to Montreal for the 1976 Olympics, and we could not find a hotel room, so we made it a first-ever cool camping trip. Then, my dear father took my sister and my mother to the Olympics in Atlanta in 1996, and they drove from Toronto to Atlanta. This time, they stayed with family. I am sure they enjoyed their stay, but the Montreal stay will forever be in their hearts.

In my eyes, he was a pioneer and pioneers are heroes coming to a foreign land, to a frozen tundra area compared to Pakistan. When I asked my father why he moved to Canada, he said, "I did it for you, so you can be better than us and have a better life!" Although my father and mother did not have a college/university degree, they are loved, praised and respected by all of us. They forced us to get an education.

Once, my father fell from a ladder while cutting a branch from a tree. He could not move his left arm. He was our sole provider and would drive a truck. He could move his right arm and thus could shift while driving, with one arm. My mother was worried about managing the expenses. I told my father that I could quit school and help out. He straightened up and got mad at me. He told me to NEVER quit school and said, "even if I cannot crawl, you will not quit school." He said he would manage it and he did.

Choudhary Naseer Ahmad Sahib, one of the early pioneers of Canada Jama'at, wrote a personal email to me in which he shared some of his fond memories regarding my father. He wrote:

"I remember your father was a very dedicated and helpful per-



TOP: Nasir Soofi Sahib in the company of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IVth

OPPOSITE: Nasir Soofi Sahib greeting Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IIIth

son and very good at heart. He used to volunteer as our Ziafat person, looking after all logistics of food for monthly meetings. I think in early 1980s he once became president of our Mississauga Jama'at and we used to have our monthly meetings and prayers at his house. He welcomed and entertained all of us with open heart.

"When we grew a bit larger group then our meeting were held in a community center near Dundas and Mavis and your father again looked after all the dinner arrangements for the whole community without ever complaining of anything.

"When I started Baitul Islam Mosque construction project in late 1980s, at time your father was driving a truck. I needed some people in logistics to pick up some materials for construction at short notices. There were some people in the trucking business who had asked me to call them for any such needs. Your father was also one of them and wanted me to give him the first opportunity to pick up or drop off anything I wanted. This made my job as project manager a lot easier. Whenever I called your father, he would drop any other work and give priority to mosque work. This was his way to contribute to the mosque construction."

The last thing I would like to say is that my father loved wearing a suit and a tie. He loved to be dressed, suited and booted! He was well-known in the Jama'at for looking and dressing sharp. We pray that Allah may forgive my dear father, raise his status in Paradise and grant patience and forbearance to his survivors. Amen!

FROM COAST TO COAST

Reports from Jama'ats Across Canada
(June - December 2023)

June 2023

Majlis Ansarullah Vaughan's Regional Ijtima

*Waheed Ahmad Cheema, Nazim-e-Ala, Vaughan
Region*

By the grace of Allah the Almighty, Majlis Ansarullah Vaughan held its Annual Regional Ijtima on June 11, 2023, at Baitul Islam Mosque.

The Ijtima began with breakfast and registration at 9:00 AM. The opening session, which started at 10:15 AM, was presided by Respected Abdul Hameed Warraich Sahib, National Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Canada.

More than 100 Ansar participated in the educational and sports competitions. Lunch was served at 1:00 PM, followed by Zuhri Salat.

The concluding session was presided by Respected Muhammad Ahmed Sahib, Mu'awin Sadr and prizes were awarded to winners of the competitions.

The total attendance for the regional Ijtima was 290, *al-hamdu lillah!* May Allah Almighty bless all the participants and volunteers for this blessed Ijtima. Amen!



A view of the attendees of the Ijtima



National Sadr Sahib Majlis Ansarullah Canada addressing the Ijtima

September 2023

Majlis Ansarullah Vaughan's Community Cleanup

Waheed Ahmad Cheema, Nazim-e-Ala, Vaughan Region



Volunteers of the Community Cleanup program arranged by Majlis Ansarullah Vaughan Region

By the grace of Allah Almighty, Majlis Ansarullah Vaughan Region organized a community cleanup around Baitul Islam Mosque and Aiwan-e-Tahir Complex on Sunday, September 24, 2023 after Fajr Salat and Tabligh Class. *Al-hamdu lillah*, more than 30 Ansar participated.

Respected Sadiq Ahmed Sahib, Missionary Vaughan Jama'at, led the Ansar in silent prayers. Ansar brothers spent more than one hour cleaning the Baitul Islam Mosque and Aiwan-e-Tahir vicinity. All in all, 20 bags of trash were collected. The cleanup ended at 8:00 AM with light refreshments.

May Allah the Almighty bless all the participants. Amen!

Interfaith Symposium in Newmarket

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

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Newmarket held an interfaith symposium on September 28, 2023, at the Royal Legion Hall in Aurora, Ontario. The topic of the symposium was "World Peace: What Religion Can Achieve." The attendance was over 75, with most attendees being non-Ahmadi guests.

Preparations of the event started a couple of months in advance. Efforts included visiting multiple churches in the town, a visit to the synagogue and calling temples and other religious organizations to request their representation at the event. Speakers



Respected Amir Sahib (middle) with organizers and guests at the Interfaith Symposium in Newmarket

from Christianity, Sikhism and Islam agreed to present their religious point of views at the symposium.

Various media outlets were contacted about the symposium and *Newmarket Today* published an article about it as well.

Multiple meetings were conducted with the members of the interfaith symposium committee to finalize all the details, ranging from the venue to the food and other arrangements. Flyers were distributed at doorsteps and on main streets. Khuddam and Ansar held posters advertising the interfaith symposium at major roads in Newmarket and Aurora.

Respected National Amir Sahib Jama'at Canada graced the symposium with his presence and commented, "Masha'Allah, it has been a successful event for a small Jama'at – Alhamdulillah."

The event was moderated by Jeremy Inglis, the Deputy Fire Chief of Newmarket-Aurora, and the MP, MPP, a Councillor and representatives of York Regional Police were in attendance. The event started at 6:00 PM sharp and concluded at 7:45 PM. It started with a recitation of the Holy Qur'an and its translation, followed by introductions of the moderators and speakers. The speakers presented their beliefs, followed by a question and answer session and the event concluded with silent prayers led by Amir Sahib.

Refreshments were served to all the attendees, which included sandwiches, fruits, donuts, and coffee. There was also a table setup with free literature. Quite a few attendees took the literature home to benefit from. Shields were given to all the speakers and the moderator as a token of appreciation.



Attendees of the Interfaith Symposium in Newmarket, Ontario

November 2023

Interfaith Symposium on Peace and Harmony

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



Organizers and guests at the Interfaith Symposium, Aiwan-e-Tahir, Peace Village

On November 5, 2023, an interfaith symposium was organized by Majlis Ansarullah Peace Village (Muqami). Representatives from five religions participated, delivering speeches on the theme of "Peace and Harmony". The program, presided by Respected Abdul Hameed Warraich Sahib, National Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Canada, was organized by Zaeem-e-Ala of Peace Village and his team. Safi Rajput Sahib moderated the event, providing brief introductions to the speakers, and Sadr Sahib Majlis Ansarullah Canada presented the introduction to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

The program commenced at 2:30 PM with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an. Each speaker, representing different religions, shared their perspectives on peace and harmony. Dr. Jagmohan Sangha (Sikhism), Mr. Surinder Rathee (Hinduism), Pastor Richard Gardner (Christianity), Rabbi Cory Weiss (Judaism), and Imam Imtiaz Ahmed Sra (Islam) spoke eloquently on the teachings of their respective faiths.

Following the speeches, a question and answer session took place, where the panel addressed a few questions. Chaudhry Riaz Ahmed Bajwa expressed gratitude to the audience and speakers, presenting tokens of recognition. The Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Canada extended thanks, giving gifts to the speakers. A book stall featuring copies of the Holy Qur'an and Jama'at literature was organized, drawing significant interest.

After lunch, a mosque tour was given to the participants. Many guests stayed in the mosque during Maghrib Salat and observed the observance of Salat. At the end of Salat, they asked Maulana Imtiaz Ahmed Sra Sahib many questions about Salat and the way it is performed.

"Muhammad^{sa}: The Truth Unveiled" Event at York University

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

Majlis Ansarullah Muqami, with the support of Peace Village Jama'at, organized a special program at York University on the topic of "Muhammad^{sa}: The Truth Unveiled." Over 100 attendees, including 30 non-Ahmadi guests, participated, and a question and answer session concluded the event.

Tour of Baitul Islam Mosque for High School Students

Riaz Ahmed Bajwa, Nazim Tabligh, Peace Village (Muqami)



Murabbi Imtiaz Sra Sahib (middle) with high school students, Baitul Islam Mosque

Majlis Ansarullah Muqami hosted 53 students and 2 staff members from a high school for a mosque tour on November 24, 2023. Maulana Imtiaz Ahmed Sra Sahib provided a detailed introduction to Islam and the Jama'at, and explained various beliefs. A question and answer session was held at the end of the tour. Teachers and students appreciated the knowledge shared and expressed gratitude.



High school students visiting Baitul Islam Mosque

December 2023

“Voices for Peace” Event in Regina

Nauman Ahmad, Secretary Tabligh, Regina Jama'at

In the wake of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Regina held a peace event in accordance with the global “Voices for Peace” campaign.

On December 9, 2023, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Regina, opened its door to people of various faith groups including Jews, Christians, Hindus, the Indigenous, Sikhs and Muslims. Elder Lorna Standing Ready spoke about peace on behalf of the Indigenous faith. President Daniel Ross of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints spoke on behalf of Christianity, while President Biplos Das spoke on behalf of the Hindu faith.

Mr. Gagan Deep Singh represented the Sikh faith. He stated, “It is my honour and privilege to be part of this event. It is always a great pleasure to meet you and your community. All of you are so hospitable and welcoming. All the best for your future endeavours and I will be glad to work with your community on creating awareness on faith issues.”

Maulana Khalil Ahmad Tanvir Sahib, President Fazal Kamal Sahib and Secretary Tabligh Nauman Ahmad visited Rabbi Jeremy Parnes on December 3, 2023, and invited him to join the community at the “Voices for Peace” event and speak on behalf of the Jewish faith. Rabbi Jeremy Parnes joined the event with four other members from his community. He later remarked, “I was honoured to participate. I know there is much work to be done but it can only happen if we continue to talk and seek deeper understanding.”

Al-Hamdu lillah, Asif Khan Sahib, National Director of Public & Government Relations, Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada, graced the event with this presence. He spoke on behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Regina Chapter. He was also the media spokesman for the event.



Asif Khan Sahib, National Sec. Umur-e-Kharijia, addressing the event in Regina



Guests visiting the bookstall at the Voices for Peace event, Regina

Opposition leader Carla Beck, MLA Muhammad Fiaz, MLA Nichole Sarauer, MLA Meara Conway, MLA Jared Clarke and MLA Noor Burki were also present at the event. Moose Imran from Global News Regina was also there to cover the event.

There were more than 50 guests, about 50 Jama'at members and 20 Lajna members at the event. To accommodate the dietary needs of all guests, pakora curry with rice, and chicken korma with naan and rice was served for dinner. Food was also packed to go for those who could not stay for dinner. Some guests were also given a mosque tour. Asif Khan Sahib and other members of the community had many one-on-one conversations with the guests.

Mr. Vishal from the Regina Multifaith Forum said, “Today’s program was very well- and professionally-organized. Hats off to the whole organizing team on a job very well done. I am sure it will help us spread the message of peace in whatever little way we can.”



Organizers and guests at the Voices for Peace event, Regina

Jalsa Seeratun Nabi^{sa} Held in Peace Village

Riaz Ahmed Bajwa, Nazim Tabligh, Peace Village
(Muqami)

On Sunday, December 17, 2023 the Peace Village Jama'at hosted its annual Jalsa Seeratun Nabi^{sa}. Majlis Ansarullah Muqami actively participated with complete cooperation, ensuring the message reached all individuals in each *halqa*. This year's program featured exciting additions, including an exhibition, a Q/A session, mosque tours, Kahoot quiz, and refreshments.

Five non-Ahmadi friends were invited to join us on this occasion. To begin, they were given a tour of the Baitul Islam Mosque. Their positive experience was evident as they participated in the program and raised questions during the visit.

National Da'iyah Refresher Course

Riaz Ahmed Bajwa, Nazim Tabligh, Peace Village
(Muqami)

On Friday, December 29, 2023, the National Da'iyah Refresher Course took place at Baitul Islam Mosque. A comprehensive message was disseminated to all *muntazimeen*, emphasizing the importance of attending the course in person, along with the *da'iyah* (preachers) in their respective *halqa*, to derive maximum benefit from this learning opportunity. Attendees were urged to make a concerted effort to ensure the highest possible attendance from the Peace Village Jama'at. Additionally, members of the Jama'at interested in *tabligh* (preaching) were encouraged to participate in person and complete the registration process, which was mandatory for all attendees.

The program was meticulously prepared and expertly delivered, eliciting gratitude and praise, *Al-Hamdu lillab!* The successful execution of this refresher course not only enhanced the knowledge and skills of the participants but also reinforced the commitment to effective preaching efforts within the community.



A view of the Da'iyah Refresher Course in Baitul Islam Mosque

A Dedicated Life

By Mahir Mahmood

I saw two options
I saw water
I saw fire
I walked into the blazing flames

The beginning of a dedicated life

The flaws of myself started to burn away
I could not sleep
I could not breathe
I did everything to survive these flames

The struggle of a dedicated life

I fell upon my knees, once
I got up to only fall again
The voices from the water told me
"You are not meant to stand there, so please jump in"

A test for a dedicated life

I stood up
My eyes shedding tears
I want to find ease and comfort
Because in flames you will only burn

The pain of a dedicated life

Yet I looked and I saw
People drowning from afar
Completely unaware
That the water is drowning them

A realization of a dedicated life

My body is turning
My flaws are being removed
I am developing
Into a powerful tool

The purpose of a dedicated life

Soon I will jump into the water
To throw them into the blazing flames
I will show them the true purpose
Of what we must truly obtain

Living, a dedicated life

The fire has become my home
The water is a dangerous place
I stand here ready and able
To show you the righteous way

This is, a dedicated life

BLESS THEM WITH GOOD FORTUNE

When Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Deen Mahmood Ahmad^{ra} completed his first recitation of the Holy Qur'an in 1897, the Promised Messiah^{as} arranged an Ameen ceremony and penned a famous Urdu poem entitled *Mahmood Ki Ameen* ('Mahmood's Ameen').

Selected stanzas from that poem are reproduced here, with their English translation.



BLESSED CHILDREN OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH^{AS}

FROM RIGHT TO LEFT: Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Deen Mahmood Ahmad^{ra}, Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad^{ra}, Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad^{ra}, Hazrat Nawab Mubarak Begum^{ra} and Hazrat Mirza Mubarak Ahmad^{ra}

MAKHZAN-E-TASAWWEER

Bless them with good fortune;
Endow them with Faith; grant them wealth.
You Yourself protect them and envelop them in Your Mercy.
Grant them righteousness and guide them in the right path;
Bless them with a long life and honour.
Make blessed this day;

Holy is He Who watches over me.

Let not Satan come near them;
Let them be ever in Your Presence.
Let their lives be permeated with Light.
Let their hearts be saturated with joy.
May my life be sacrificed to You; do have Mercy on them.
Make blessed this day;

Holy is He Who watches over me.

O, the Beloved of my heart and soul;
O, the Lord of both the worlds;
Do me such a favour that none should be their peer.
Bless them with everlasting good fortune;
Bestow on them the heavenly grace.
Make blessed this day;

Holy is He Who watches over me.

Let them be dignified, honoured;
Let them be the source of pride for the country.
Let them be totally committed to the Truth.
Let them be the friends of the Lord.
Let their progeny flourish.
Let each one of them become a thousand.
Make blessed this day;

Holy is He Who watches over me.

(*Mahmud's Aameen*, English translation, pp. 6, 7, 11)

کر ان کو نیک قسمت دے ان کو دین و دولت
کر ان کی خود حفاظت ہو ان پر تیری رحمت
دے رشد اور ہدایت اور غم اور عزت
یہ روز کر مبارک سُبْحَانَ مَنْ یَّرِانی

شیطان سے دور رکھو اپنے حضور رکھو
جاں پُر ز نور رکھو دل پُر سُور رکھو
ان پر میں تیرے قرباں رحمت ضرور رکھو
یہ روز کر مبارک سُبْحَانَ مَنْ یَّرِانی

اے میری جاں کے جانی اے شاہِ دو جہانی
کر ایسی مہربانی ان کا نہ ہووے ثانی
دے بختِ جاودانی اور فیضِ آسمانی
یہ روز کر مبارک سُبْحَانَ مَنْ یَّرِانی

اہل وقار ہوویں فخر دیار ہوویں
حق پر نثار ہوویں مولیٰ کے یار ہوویں
بابرگ و بار ہوویں اک سے ہزار ہوویں
یہ روز کر مبارک سُبْحَانَ مَنْ یَّرِانی

KIDS ZONE

FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. A saying of the Holy Prophet^{sa} is called a _____.
2. The plural of *hadith* is _____.
3. Six authentic books of *hadith* are known as _____.
4. Two of the most important *hadith* books are _____ & _____.
5. The Holy Prophet^{sa} mentioned a great reward for anyone who memorized at least _____ *ahadith*.

ANSWERS

1. Hadith
2. Ahadith
3. Sihah Sitta
4. Sahih al-Bukhari & Sahih Muslim
5. 40

TRIVIA

1. What was the name of the famous Companion who narrated the most *ahadith*?
2. Name 2 other famous books of *hadith* other than Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.
3. What is the name of the book which has recorded the famous *hadith* about an eclipse in the time of the Promised Messiah^{as}?
4. What is one famous *hadith* about smiling?
5. Can you recite 3 of your favourite *ahadith*?

ANSWERS

1. Hazrat Abu Hurairah^{ra}
2. Sunan Abu Dawood, Sunan Ibn Majah, etc.
3. Sunan Dar Qutni
4. "Smiling is an act of charity"

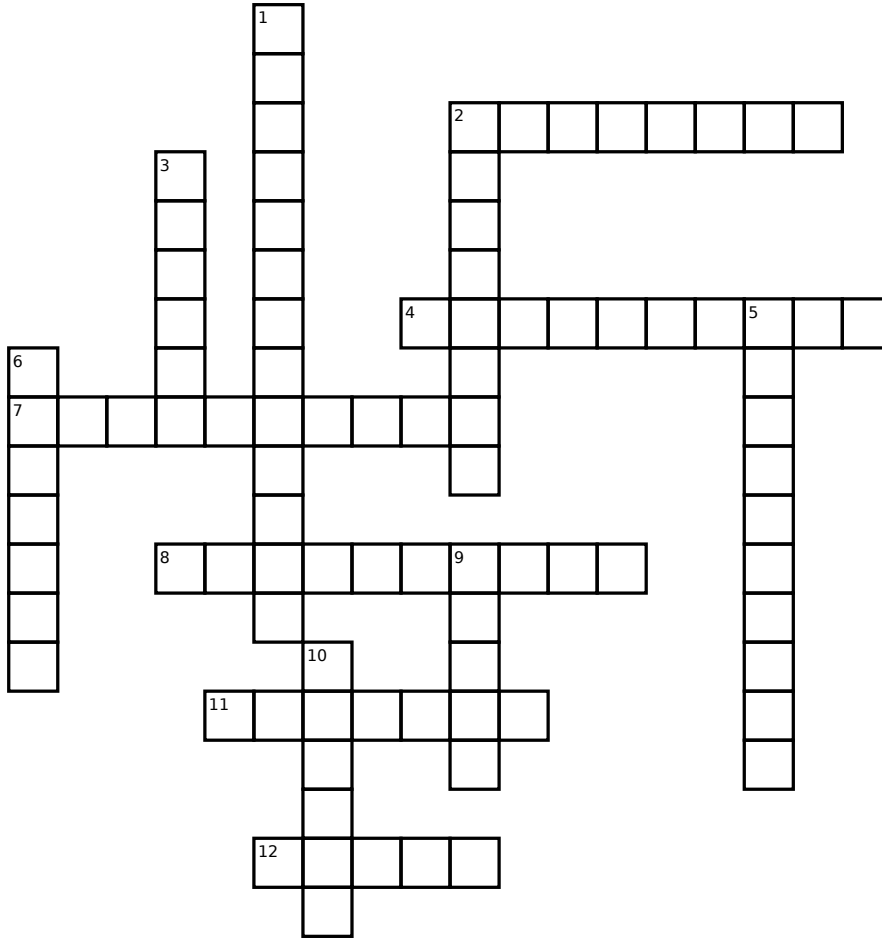
CROSSWORD

DOWN:

1. The lengthy commentary of the Holy Qur'an written by Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra}
2. Prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud was first published in this month
3. A saying of the Holy Prophet^{sa}
5. Auxiliary for men over 40 years
6. Auxiliary for men 15-39 years old
9. Number of *ahadith* one should try to memorize
10. The city established by Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} in Pakistan

ACROSS:

2. Number of qualities mentioned in the Prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud
4. Title of the Promised Son of the Promised Messiah^{as}
7. The Promised Messiah^{as} received the Prophecy of Musleh-e-Mau'ud in this city
8. Age of Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{ra} when he became Khalifa
11. Sayings of the Holy Prophet^{sa}
12. Auxiliary for women 15 years old and above



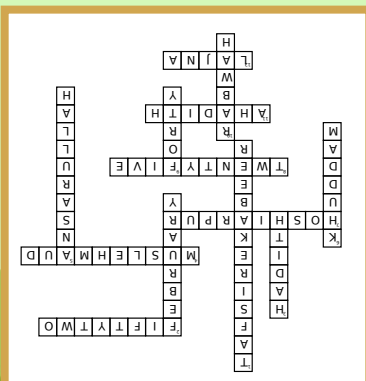
MEMORIZE THIS!

طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ وَ مُسْلِمَةٍ
 "Seeking knowledge is mandatory for every
 Muslim man and woman."

(Hadith of the Holy Prophet^{sa})

SEND US YOUR WORK!

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جواب دیجئے

1. آنحضرت ﷺ کے کن صحابی نے سب سے زیادہ حدیثیں روایت کی ہیں؟
2. ”صحاح ستہ“ کیا ہے؟
3. مسیح موعودؑ کے زمانے میں رمضان میں سورج اور چاند گرہن کے بارہ میں حدیث کس کتاب میں درج ہے؟
4. عربی لفظ ”حدیث“ کا جمع کیا ہے؟
5. حدیث کی کونسی کتاب سب سے زیادہ مستند ہے؟

حدیث کی کتب کے نام تلاش کریں:

بخاری، مسلم، ترمذی، ابو داؤد، ابن ماجہ، نسائی

س	ل	د	ف	ج	پ	ی	ت
ز	ک	ث	ص	ظ	ح	ے	ر
ش	ن	س	ا	ئ	ی	ق	م
چ	ع	ت	ب	ط	ظ	ر	ذ
ط	ر	ے	خ	ث	ڑ	و	ی
ب	ا	ئ	ا	و	ٹ	اَ	ؤ
ن	ب	ی	ر	ب	ض	ھ	گ
م	ن	ڈ	ی	ن	ہ	د	و
ق	م	غ	ة	م	خ	م	ع
و	ا	ح	ق	ض	پ	س	ر
ث	ج	غ	ض	ؤ	ع	ل	ش
ض	ہ	ج	ل	اَ	ؤ	م	ل
ا	ب	و	د	ا	ؤ	د	ھ

پیارے مہدی علیہ الصلوٰۃ والسلام کا
پیارا کلام

حضرت اقدس مسیح موعود علیہ الصلوٰۃ والسلام اپنے
پاکیزہ منظوم کلام میں فرماتے ہیں:

زندگی بخش جام احمدؑ ہے
کیا ہی پیارا یہ نام احمدؑ ہے
لاکھ ہوں انبیاء مگر بخدا
سب سے بڑھ کر مقام احمدؑ ہے
باغ احمدؑ سے ہم نے پھل کھایا
میرا بُستیاں کلام احمدؑ ہے
ابن مریم کے ذکر کو چھوڑو
اس سے بہتر غلام احمدؑ ہے

(دُرِّ شمین، صفحہ 66)

(مشکل الفاظ کے معنی) زندگی بخش: زندگی دینے والا۔
جام: پیالہ۔ بخدا: خدا کی قسم۔ ابن مریم: حضرت عیسیٰؑ

بچوں کا صفحہ

اللہ میاں کا خط

وَمَا آتَاكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَخُذُوهُ
وَمَا نَهَاكُمُ عَنْهُ فَانْتَهُوا

﴿سُورَةُ الْحَشْرِ، آیت 8﴾

اور رسول جو تمہیں عطا کرے تو اسے لے لو اور جس سے
تمہیں روکے اُس سے رُک جاؤ

پیارے نبی ﷺ کی پیاری باتیں

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خدا نے قائم کیا ہے اس کی ترقی میں کوشاں رہنا اور تبلیغ میں رسول کی امداد
کرنا اور مخلوق پر شفقت کرنا۔

﴿اربعین اطفال، مرتبہ حضرت میر محمد اسلمیل رضی اللہ عنہ، صفحہ 3﴾

(مشکل الفاظ کے معنی کوشاں رہنا: کوشش کرتے رہنا۔ امداد کرنا: مدد کرنا)

اپنے جوابات ہمیں

editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca

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والدین کی مدد لے لیں۔



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