



In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

..... **The HOPE Bulletin**

Hhealth, Ongoing Projects, Education



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AAIIL Worldwide Edition

Editor: Akbar Abdullah

CALIFORNIA JAMA'AT PROJECT: APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL ANJUMAN, LAHORE

INTRODUCTION

In retrospect!

This year marks the fifth anniversary since we first reached great heights in our effort to establish a global "Prayer Circle" within our worldwide *Jama'ats*. You will recall that in the year 2003 we launched a worldwide appeal seeking *shifa* prayers on the request of Dr. Khaliel Ghafoerkhan for his brother-in-law, Noer Sardar of Holland, who had heart problems and subsequently underwent open-heart surgery.

The response from the global *Jama'ats* was so overwhelming and the great enthusiasm with which the members participated in prayer surprised us a bit. Not only did they send in their prayers but they wanted to know more about the person they were praying for. Members from different countries corresponded with one another to maintain a chain of prayer vigil. Later in the same year, Br Chaudary Akthar Masud also fell ill and underwent G.I surgery. In his case, too, the global members of our now established "Prayer Circle" prayed fervently for his recovery. *Alhamdollillah!* In response to our intense prayers, Allah (*swt*) granted complete *shifa* to both Brs Noer Sardar and Chaudary Akthar Masud. We now reproduce two letters that were sent to us by Dr. Khaliel Ghafoerkhan:

"We cannot thank you enough for the wonderful work you have done helping us to reach so many of our brothers and sisters to request prayers for my brother-in-law, Noer Sardar. Once again the power of *dua* has been proven, *Alhamdullillah!* May Allah bless you always, *Ameen!*

Noerbhai has received 6 by-passes and is recovering very well ... We are all overjoyed and grateful. Thank you once again.

We will keep praying for Br Masud. Do keep us posted about him."

“We are very happy to inform you that Noerbhai is moved from IC to SP, *Alhamdulillah!* Thank you for your care and support. After surgery, when he regained consciousness, he asked his son to thank all brothers and sisters who prayed for him. And you are definitely one of them, so thank you once again!

We are very sorry to hear about Br. Masud's condition and are praying for him. We wish him and his family all the best.”

JAMA 'AT NEWS

Report from the General Secretary, Central Anjuman, Lahore

I would like to inform you that Central Anjuman has achieved the following unprecedented projects:

1. Twelve volumes of Maulana Muhammad Ali's *Khutbat* (Friday Sermons) have been published and are available for readers.
2. Two Arabic books – *Tuhf -e- Bughdad* and *Lujat un Noor* – of Hazrat Mirza Sahib have been translated by Amir Aziz with the help of Qazi Abdul Ahad Sahib and are available on the 'Net as well.
3. Speeches and essays of Maulana Muhammad Ali have been compiled and would be ready by the convention.
4. LASER is running very well we have eight students and they are being trained for *Tabligh*.
5. Hazrat Mirza Sahib's book *Muwaib ur Rehman* has been translated from Arabic into Urdu by Amir Aziz and would be available at the convention.

Keep on praying for us and keep up the good work.

Report reproduced from <http://www.ahmadiyya blog>

[Click on <http://www.ahmadiyya.org/> to locate the Lahore Ahmadiyya blog.]

INDONESIA REPORT:

QADIANIS PUBLICLY UPHOLD FINALITY OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAS)

Qadianis in Indonesia DROP belief in Hazrat Mirza as prophet

News is being received that the Qadiani Jamaat in Indonesia, when presenting their beliefs to government officials, have issued a statement **omitting their belief that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was a prophet.** Their statement acknowledges that the Holy Prophet Muhammad was the last Prophet and that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is their teacher or *murshad*.

Please read the following link:

<http://www.indonesiamatters.com/1539/ahmadiyya/>

If this is fully confirmed then once again the founders of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement have been vindicated. **Perhaps in the 100th anniversary year of his death Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad has been exonerated and cleared of the stigma and false charge of claiming to be a prophet.**

Since the Split occurred in 1914 the Qadiani Jamaat has been forced, over the years, **to retract its following false beliefs:**

- That the ‘Ahmad’ mentioned in the prophecy of Jesus, recorded in the Quran, is not the Holy Prophet Muhammad but Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.
- That all other Muslims, except those who take the Pledge of the Promised Messiah, are *kafir* and excluded from Islam.
- That for Ahmadis to hold *janaza* prayers for any other Muslim, whomsoever it may be, is prohibited.
- And now, that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was a prophet.

Indonesia: Another earlier news from *Jakarta Post*

Before this news (see item above), there was an earlier item of news from Indonesia actually quoted on the Qadiani website www.thepersecution.org itself.

See: <http://www.thepersecution.org/world/indonesia/08/01/jp04.html>

This is quoted from the *Jakarta Post*, Jakarta, 4th January 2008. It is stated within it:

“Junior Attorney General for Intelligence Affairs Wisnu Subroto said the AGO would treat the letter from the forum [*i.e.* the anti-Ahmadiyya organisations] as a recommendation in the body’s meeting, along with the recommendation from the Indonesian *Ulemas* Council submitted previously.

The government needs to hear all the information from all parties, including from Ahmadiyah members. During the last meeting with the AGO, **Ahmadiyah leaders explained they did not recognize Mirza Gulam Ahmad as a prophet, but merely as a pious leader.**

‘Many groups, including the forum’s members, believed the clarification was just a game being played by the Ahmadiyah leaders to escape being banned (at that time),’ Wisnu told *The Jakarta Post* by phone.”

This is a statement from a government official appearing in a newspaper in Indonesia, and then reproduced on a Qadiani website. If it is not correct, the Qadiani website could have added their own comment to clarify that they did *not* say that “they did not recognize Mirza Gulam Ahmad as a prophet, but merely as a pious leader.”

[*Note:* This is a developing story. For the latest position, [please go to the blog mentioned above.](#)]

Message from Shaukat A. Ali, Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Region

I hope and pray that you are in excellent health and high spirits by the grace of Compassionate and Merciful Allah.

You may have seen and heard the "Rebuttal of a Pompous, Arrogant and Factually Incorrect Friday Sermon delivered by the Qadiani Kalifa, Mirza Masroor Ahmad, on 08 February 2008." It was uploaded on our website: www.aaail.org on 17 February. This Friday *Khutba* by Brother Amir Aziz, General Secretary, AAIL (Lahore), should be publicized very widely. Please include this in your next issue of the *HOPE Bulletin* and request all your readers to listen to it and to advise their relatives and friends as well as all their Qadiani contacts to listen to this.

May Allah *SWT* continue to shower His choicest blessings on you and your loved ones, and continue to grant you excellent health so that you can continue to provide us this invaluable service.

[Please click on the link <http://aaail.org/text/snd/pakistan/2008/soundislamahmadiyyapk2008.shtml> to access Br. Amir Aziz's rebuttal *Khutba* of February 17, 2008.]

PRAYER & HEALTH NEWS

Prayer Request from the Centre

Assalamu Alaikum.

Here is good news for all Ahmadi brothers and sisters: Sahibzada Muzzaffar Ahmad Sahib of Bannu has returned to his home safely after being abducted by some unidentified people. He is in good spirits and his morale is very high.

Please continue to pray for Saqib Bari, that Allah may keep him safe.

Sad news is that our very dear Ms. Safia Saeed, Principal LASER, injured her arm. She is recovering but still needs prayers of all Ahmadi brothers and sisters. We pray that may Allah bless her with a perfect health and help her to carry the great work of establishing LASER on firm footing.

Yours truly,

Amir Aziz, General Secretary

[*Alhamdollillah!* We are thankful to Allah for the safe return of Sahibzada Muzaffar Ahmad Sahib of Bannu Province. Our readers are now requested to please pray for Br. Saqib Bari who is still detained by his kidnappers and to seek in fervent prayers complete *shifa* and speedy recovery of our dear sister, Begum Safia Saeed Sahiba, Principal of LASER, who is now recovering in Lahore. May Allah have mercy on both of them. *Aameen.*]

Salat-e-Janaza Ghaibana at Central Mosque, Lahore

Assalam Alaikum.

On Friday Hazrat Ameer led the *Janaza* Prayer of Mrs. Noer Sardar Sahiba and Mrs. Fakhr-ud-Din Sahiba. He gave a brief introduction of both the personalities and commended their services for the *Jammat*. Later on, he conducted a fervent prayer for them.

Yours truly,

Amir Aziz

General Secretary

[*Salat-e-Janaza Ghaibana* was also conducted in Fiji, New Zealand, California and other parts of the world.]

Prayer for Editor, Akbar Abdullah

Hazrat Ameer and the *Jama'at* and members of the Fiji *Jama'at* at Masjid Noor, Suva, prayed for the *shifa* of our Editor, Br Akbar Abdullah, while he was hospitalized last month with a severe attack of viral and bacterial infection, for which the latter is indeed grateful.

Condolence messages from Shaukat A. Ali, Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Region

Dear brother Azhar-ud-Din Ahmad,
Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuh.

We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of your mother. *Inna-lillahe wa Inna Ilaihi rajioon.* She was a devout Ahmadi and we know her passing away is a very sad loss to all those who knew her. May Allah *swt* grant her soul eternal peace and abode in the highest pedestal of *Jannat-ul Firdous - aameen.*

Please convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the other members of your extended family. May Compassionate and Merciful Allah give you all the strength and *sabr* to bear this sad loss - *Aameen.*

...

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuh.

We are deeply saddened to learn that Begum Abdul Karim Sahiba has left this world to meet our Maker. *Inna-lillahe wa Inna Ilaihi Rajioon.*

May Allah *SWT* grant the departed soul peace and abode in the highest pedestal of *Jannat-ul Firdous - aameen.*

May Compassionate and Merciful Allah grant strength, solace and *sabr* to the members of the bereaved family and to all those of who were in any way related to her during this hour of great anguish.

Please convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the surviving members of the bereaved family and to the members of the *Jamaat.*

PUBLICATIONS

[Reproduced from the January, 2008 issue of *The Light*, UK Edition.]

Publication of *Islam, Peace and Tolerance*

The book *Islam, Peace and Tolerance*, written by your Editor (Zahid Aziz), has been printed in the U.K. at the end of November. It is published by 'Ahmadiyya Anjuman Lahore Publications, U.K.', which was earlier registered as a publisher with its own set of ISBNs, after consultation with the Central Ahmadiyya Anjuman Lahore. This 94-page book is now being presented by the U.K. *Jama'at* to public figures who have interest in or some involvement with Islamic matters, including relevant Government ministers, Members of Parliament, leaders of different religions, newspaper columnists and media writers and commentators. On 9th December, I (Zahid Aziz) presented two copies of the book to **Dr Nick Palmer**,

Member of the U.K. Parliament for Broxtowe (Nottinghamshire), the constituency where I reside. Mr. Ross Mahmud was also present at the occasion. I, along with Mr. Ross Mahmud and my wife Mrs. Fauqia Aziz, also held an informal discussion with Dr Palmer for almost one and a half hours on matters relating to Islam, Muslims and Pakistan.

[*JazakAllah!* This book is now available for sale in the UK. According to the author, “In the U.K. the retail price has been set at £5 (five pounds). To booksellers we are charging £3.50 for single copies.” Members who are desirous of purchasing this book for sale and free distribution in their countries may contact UK *Jama‘at* for price quotation and delivery terms.]

ALL ABOUT US

Chaudary Akthar Masud, Secretary AAAIL, Hayward, California, USA, began translating into English biographies of the founding members of Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam established in Lahore, Punjab (British India) now Pakistan, which we have been publishing in *The HOPE Bulletin*. In this issue, we would have published the biographical sketch of Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah Sahib (1878-1939), but since this biography runs in to some eight pages we decided to publish, instead of instalments, the whole article (as is the desire of the translator) in the April issue of *The HOPE Bulletin*.

FEATURE ARTICLE

[This is a second instalment of our Feature Article on the Promised Messiah by Captain Abdus Salam Khan. In this segment, we will read some excerpts from *The Will* of the Promised Messiah (*as*) that clearly show what he expected from us.]

He will promote and advance this Community to the full. A part of it will happen at my hands, and some after me. This is the way of God. And ever since He created man on earth He has always been demonstrating this Divine practice. He helps His Prophets (*as*) and Messengers (*as*) and grants them success and predominance. By predominance is meant that as Messengers (*as*) and Prophets (*as*) desire that God’s writ is established in the world and no one is able to oppose it, so, in turn, does God demonstrate with powerful signs their truthfulness as well as the truth they wish to spread in the world. He lets them sow the seed of it, but He does not let it come to full fruition at their hands. Rather, He causes them to die at such time as apparently forebodes a kind of failure and thereby provides an opportunity for the opponents to laugh at, ridicule, taunt, and reproach the Prophets (*as*). After they have had their fill of ridicule and reproach, He reveals yet another dimension of His Might and creates such means by which the objectives which had to some extent remained incomplete are fully realized.

Thus, He manifests two kinds of Power. Firstly, He shows the Hand of His Power at the hands of His Prophets (*as*) themselves. Secondly, when, with the death of a Prophet (*as*) difficulties and problems arise and the enemy feels stronger and thinks that things are in disarray and is convinced that now this Community will become extinct and even members of the Community are in a quandary and their backs are broken, and some of the unfortunate ones choose paths that lead to apostasy, then it is that God, for the second time, shows His Mighty Power and supports and takes care of the shaken Community.

Thus, one who remains steadfast till the end witnesses this miracle of God. This is what happened at the time of Hadrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (*ra*), when the demise of the Holy Prophet (*sas*) was considered untimely and many an ignorant Bedouin turned apostate. The companions (*ra*) of the Holy Prophet (*sas*), too,

stricken with grief, became like those who lose their senses. Then Allah raised Abu Bakr Siddiq (*ra*) and showed for the second time the manifestation of His Power and saved Islam, just when it was about to fall, and fulfilled the promise.

That is also what happened at the time of Moses (*as*), when he died on his way from Egypt to Kin'an before taking the Israelites to the intended destination in accordance with the promise. At his [Moses'] death Israelites were plunged into deep mourning. It is written in the Torah that with the grief at this untimely death and sudden departure of Moses (*as*), the Israelites wept for forty days.

The same happened with Christ (*as*). At the time of the incident of the Crucifixion, all his disciples scattered and even one of them apostatized.

So dear friends, since it is the *Sunnatullah*, from time immemorial, that God Almighty shows two manifestations so that the two false joys of the opponents be put to an end, it is not possible now that God should relinquish His *Sunnah* of old. So do not grieve over what I have said to you; nor should your hearts be distressed, for it is essential for you to witness the second manifestation also, and its coming is better for you because it is everlasting, the continuity of which will not end till the Day of Judgement. That second manifestation cannot come unless I depart. But when I depart, God will send that second manifestation for you which shall always stay with you just as promised by God in *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya*.

This promise is not for my person. Rather, the promise is with reference to you, as God [addressing me] says: I shall make this Community, who are your followers, prevail over others till the Day of Judgment. Thus it is inevitable that you see the day of my departure, so that after that day the day comes which is the day of ever-lasting promise. Our God is He Who keeps His promise and is Faithful. He shall show you all that He has promised. Though these days are the last days of this world and there are many a disaster waiting to happen, yet it is necessary that this world continues to exist until all those things about which God has prophesied come to pass. I came from God as a manifestation of Divine Providence and I am a personification of His Power. After I am gone there will be some other persons who will be the manifestation of the second Power [of God]. So, while waiting for the second manifestation of His Power, you all together keep yourselves busy praying. And let a group of righteous people, one and all, in every country, keep themselves busy in prayers so that the second manifestation may descend.

Let the righteous persons* of the Community who have pure souls accept *bai'at* [pledge of fealty] in my name. God Almighty desires to draw all those who live in various parts of the world, be it Europe or Asia, and who have virtuous nature, to the Unity of God and unite His servants under one Faith. This indeed is the purpose of God for which I have been sent to the world. You, too, therefore should pursue this end, but with kindness, moral probity and fervent prayers. And till that time when someone inspired by God with the Holy Spirit is raised by Him, all of you should work jointly and in harmony with one another.

*[Such persons will be selected by consensus of the believers. Hence if forty believers agree that a person is competent to accept *bai'at* in my name, he will be entitled to accept *bai'at*. Such a person ought to make himself an example for others. God has informed me: "I shall raise for thy Community one from thy progeny and shall honour him with My revelation and nearness. Truth will flourish through him and a large number of people shall accept him." So wait for those days. And you should remember that one is recognized only when one's time comes. – Author]

You, too, should partake of the Holy Spirit by compassion and by purifying your souls, because without the Holy Spirit true *taqwa* cannot be attained. Totally shedding all base desires of the self, choose for the sake of winning the pleasure of God that path compared to which no path can be narrower and straighter. Do not fall in love with the pleasures of the world, for they take you away from God. Choose a life of

austerity for the sake of God. The pain which pleases God is better than the pleasure which makes Him angry. And the defeat which pleases God is better than the victory which invites the wrath of Allah. Renounce the love which brings you nearer to the wrath of Allah. If by purifying your hearts you come to Him, He will help you whichever path you tread and no enemy shall ever be able to harm you. You can never ever win the pleasure of Allah unless you, relinquishing your desires, abandoning your pleasures, sacrificing your honour, disowning your wealth, discarding your life, bear such hardships in His way as make you suffer the pangs of death. But once you suffer such hardship, you will sit in the lap of God like a beloved child and you will be made heirs of the truthful who have preceded you. The door of every blessing will be opened to you.

But there are few who belong to this category. God addressed me and said that *taqwa* is a tree that should be planted in the heart. The very water which nourishes *taqwa* irrigates the whole garden. *Taqwa* is a root without which everything is meaningless, and if it remains intact then nothing is lost. What benefit is there for a man in indulging himself in the useless activity of claiming with his tongue that he seeks God while he has no sure footing with his Lord. Look, I say to you truly and sincerely that ruined is he whose faith is tainted by even a hint of worldliness. Hell is very close to that soul all of whose intentions are not for God—rather some of them are for God and others are for the world.

Thus if you have an iota of worldly adulteration in your intentions, all your worship is in vain. In such a case you do not follow God. Rather you follow Satan. Never ever expect that when you are in such a condition God will help you. Rather in this condition you are a worm of the earth and soon you will perish just as worms of the earth do. And God shall not be in you. Rather He will be happy to destroy you. But if you, in reality, die by killing your baser selves, then you shall appear in God and God shall be with you, and the house in which you live will be blessed and God's mercy will descend on the walls which are the walls of your house, and that city shall be blessed where such a person lives. If your life and your death, your every action and movement, and your kindness, and your anger are for God only and if, in any trouble or difficulty you do not put God to the test nor sever your relationship with Him—rather, under these trials, you step forward towards God—then I truly say to you that you will become a chosen people of God. You, too, are human as I am human and that very God Who is mine is yours. So do not lay waste your noble capacities. Look! If you fully incline towards God, then be reminded—and I say it in accordance with the will and pleasure of God—that, you shall become His chosen people. Let the Greatness of God take root in your hearts; and acknowledge His Unity not just with your tongues but also with your actions, so that God, too, practically shows His mercy and kindness to you. Refrain from malice and treat human beings with true compassion. Adopt each and every path of righteousness, for who knows from which of these paths you will be accepted.

Rejoice and be happy that the field of achieving nearness to God is vacant. Every nation is in love with the world and to what pleases God the world pays no attention. Now is the time for those who wish to enter this door that they, mustering all their strength, show their mettle and win the much coveted prize from God. Do not think that God will let you go to waste.

You are the seed which the Hand of God has sown in the earth. God says that this seed will grow and flower and its branches will spread in all directions and it will become a huge tree. So, blessed is one who believes in what God says and does not fear the trials which he suffers in His path, for, the coming of trials is essential so that God may try you to see who is true in his declaration of *bai'at* and who is false. Whoever falters in the face of a trial would do no harm to God whatsoever and ill-luck would only land him in hell. Were he not born, it would have been better for him. But all those who remain steadfast till the end—they will be shaken with quakes of calamities, and battered with storms of misfortune, ridiculed and mocked by people, and hated and reviled by the world—shall at be thrown open for them. God addressed me and said that I should inform my *Jama'at* that those who believe and their belief is not

adulterated with worldly considerations and is free from hypocrisy and cowardice and is not found wanting at any stage of obedience, such people are the favourites of God. And God says that indeed these are the ones whose station is that of Truth.

Listen, O you who can: What is it that God desires from you? All He desires is only that you become solely His and do not associate any partners with Him, neither in the heavens nor on the earth. Our God is that God Who is alive even now as He was alive before. He speaks even now as He used to speak before. And even now He hears as He heard before. It is a false notion that in these times He only hears but does not speak. On the contrary, He hears and also speaks. All His Attributes are eternal and everlasting.

[Let us pray that God Almighty, in His Compassion and Mercy, will grant us the privilege of coming up to the Founder's expectations. – *Editor*]

EDUCATION

Obligatory Alms (*Zakat*)

“The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Allah has enjoined upon rich Muslims a due to be taken from their properties corresponding to the needs of the poor among them. The poor will never suffer from starvation or lack of clothes unless the rich neglect their due. If they do, Allah will surely hold them accountable and punish them severely" (related by At-Tabarani in Al-'Aswat and as-Saghir). Remember that *Zakat* is an obligation for Muslims and is owed to the poor and needy for their welfare.”

The above paragraph is taken from an appeal letter of the Hidayah Foundation, incorporated in the State of California. We believe that *Zakat* funds could also be used to educate children of poor families within our *Jama'at*. In the scholarship programme administered by the Education Committee of the Central Anjuman there are scholarship awards given to the deserving children of poor families of our *Jama'at* in Pakistan who cannot afford to educate their offspring. Some of your *Zakat* funds could appropriately be donated for this cause.

Similarly, we believe that *Zakat* funds could be spent on the burial of our poor members who could not purchase a burial plot in their lifetime. The cost of burial in the West could run in to the range of ten to fifteen thousand dollars per grave. Out of concern for members' need, the President, Abid Raza, and the New Zealand AAIIIL *Jama'at* bought some forty grave plots (one lot strip of twenty plots in possession and second lot strip of twenty plots on reserve) for the community from a local municipality in Auckland (see Photographic Presentation section). The NZ *Jama'at* has incurred a hefty debt as a result of this purchase and to ease their burden the *Jama'at* officials have written an appeal letter to individuals within our worldwide Ahmadiyya community for their generous contribution. Members who are in receipt of these letters may kindly contribute their *zakat/sadka jaariyya* donations by sending their cheques to Shabir Buksh, Secretary of AAIIIL, New Zealand, P.O. Box 13923 Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand, or deposit by wire transfer to the AAII NZ *Jama'at's* bank account, number 01-0210-0233507-50.

May Allah reward you immensely. *Aameen*.

POEM

By Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Holy Founder
(Translated by Capt. Abdus Salam Khan)

*Jo Khak May Milaay,
Usay Milta Hai Ashana
Eeh Azemanay Waley,
Ye Nuskha Bhi Azamaa*

Humbleness and humility are
The key to His Mansion
You've tried all else, O Seeker,
Now try also this prescription.

*Unkay leya To Bas Hai Khuda
Ka Yehee Neshaan
Yanee Vo Fazlay Uskay,
Jo Mujpar Hai Har Zamaa*

Sufficient for these seekers
Is the heavenly sign,
That a rain of His Grace
Covers me all the time.

*Dekho Khuda Nay,
Eek Jahain Ko Jokhadiya
Gumnaam Pa-Kay
Shoriahya Alam Banadiya*

See how He made
Multitudes to turn to my claim;
Finding me unknown,
Gave me renown and fame.

*Jo Kuch Meree Muraad Thee,
Saab Kuch Dekhadiya
Mein Eek Ghareeb Thaa,
Mujhey Bay Entaha-diya*

Whatever was my wish
He filled it for me.
I was just a poor man
He filled me like the sea.

*Kuch Asa Fazlay Hazratay
Rabulvara Houwaa
Saab dushmano kay dehkay,
Owsan Howae Kkaata*

From the One behind the Beyond
Came down such grace on me
That it entirely deflated
The morale of the enemy.

*Ek Katro say Fazel ney
Deriya Banadiya
Mein Khak Thaa Useeney,
Surriya Banadiya*

From an insignificant drop
He made me a river of love.
From a handful of insignificant dust
Made me like the Pleiades above.

*Mein Thay Gareeb Bay Kusoor,
Gumnaam Bay Honor
Kowee na janataaq Thaa,
Hai Qadian Kdhar*

I was an innocent, poor,
Unknown, unaccomplished man.
Nobody knew whither
Was Qadian.

*Ab dekhtayho kaisa
rajoo-e-jahaan houwa
Ik marja-e khawaas
yehee Qadian houwa*

Now see how the multitudes
Made it their destination
How the same unknown Qadian became
The focus of the elite of the nation.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Greetings from Shaukat A. Ali, Coordinator, Asia & Pacific Region

May Allah SWT shower His choicest blessings on you and your loved ones. You are continuing to provide excellent service to the *Jamaat* and are able to keep us all informed of the activities of the *Jamaat* as well as seeking prayers for the sick and needy and for departed souls. We pray the Allah *Ta'ala* grant you excellent health and keep you in high spirits to continue with this invaluable service.

All the best for 2008.

Message from Nizam-ud-Dean, Masjid Noor, Suva, Fiji

Thank you for the New Year's greeting. May Allah Almighty bring happy fulfilment of all your hopes and wishes too.

In this year of the centennial anniversary of the Holy Founder's passing away, let us pray that the resplendent light of Islam (Holy Quran 24:35) will shine forth over the whole world and remove with it the darkness of ignorance and prejudice.

Our prayers are with you.

Encouragement from Nasir Ahmad, United Kingdom

Thank you so much for displaying glimpses of the *Salaana Du'aiyya* in Lahore. It is really beautiful and inspiring. ...

Once again thanking you very much for the effort you are putting in. May Allah bless you.

QUESTION & ANSWER

[When Dr. Zahid Aziz presented two copies of his book, *Islam, Peace and Tolerance*, to Dr. Nick Palmer, Member of the UK Parliament, the latter posed the following question to which Dr. Zahid Aziz appropriately answered.]

Question:

A question had been raised prior to our meeting, that as our organization is not considered as being among mainstream Muslims, how could our views and teachings on tolerance in Islam possibly influence other Muslims?

Answer:

In response I presented the following four points to Dr Palmer in our discussion.

Firstly, the literature of our Jama'at has already been influencing Muslims for the past ninety years. As we were the first Muslim organization to produce literature on Islam in English, our books influenced the English literature subsequently produced by other Muslims, many of our ideas penetrating into it.

Secondly, in the U.K. we have been in the position of leadership of Muslims because the Woking Muslim Mission was recognized as the main centre of Islam in this country, supported by Muslims of various sects. To illustrate the work of the Woking Mission I showed Dr Palmer two copies of *The Islamic Review*, one from the first World War and one from the second World War. I also played before him one of the newsreel film clips made at Woking by the British Pathe company, this one covering the *Id-ul-Fitr* of 1954.

The above two points relate to the past. The other two points relate to the present and future. My third point was that those Muslims today who are seeking to find a peaceful, rational, non-fanatical picture of Islam need exactly the kind of material that we have produced, as in this book. They are unable to accept extremist interpretations and are searching for a picture of Islam that is both sensible and can be derived and justified from the original sources of their religion. The arguments and evidences that they need are none other than those which we have produced.

Fourthly and lastly, our literature helps to improve the image of Islam in the eyes of non-Muslims. If non-Muslims have before them only the image of Islam presented by the advocates of intolerance and violence, naturally they will feel revulsion against Islam. If our perspective is also made known to them, they will at the least realize that the opposite kind of interpretations also exist. [Courtesy Dr. Zahid Aziz, Editor of *The Light*, UK Edition, as published in January 2008 issue.]

LESSON OF THE DAY

Holes in a fence

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His Father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence.

The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.

The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there."

HOPE Member Service

Recipe of the Month

Vegetable Salad

Ingredients

- 1 clove garlic
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 small hot pepper, optional
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- A few stems of fresh parsley and mint, coarsely chopped
- 1 small dry onion, finely chopped
- 1 small green pepper
- 4 leaves lettuce
- 2 green onions, coarsely chopped
- 1 medium cucumber
- 1 medium tomato
- 1/4 cup olive oil

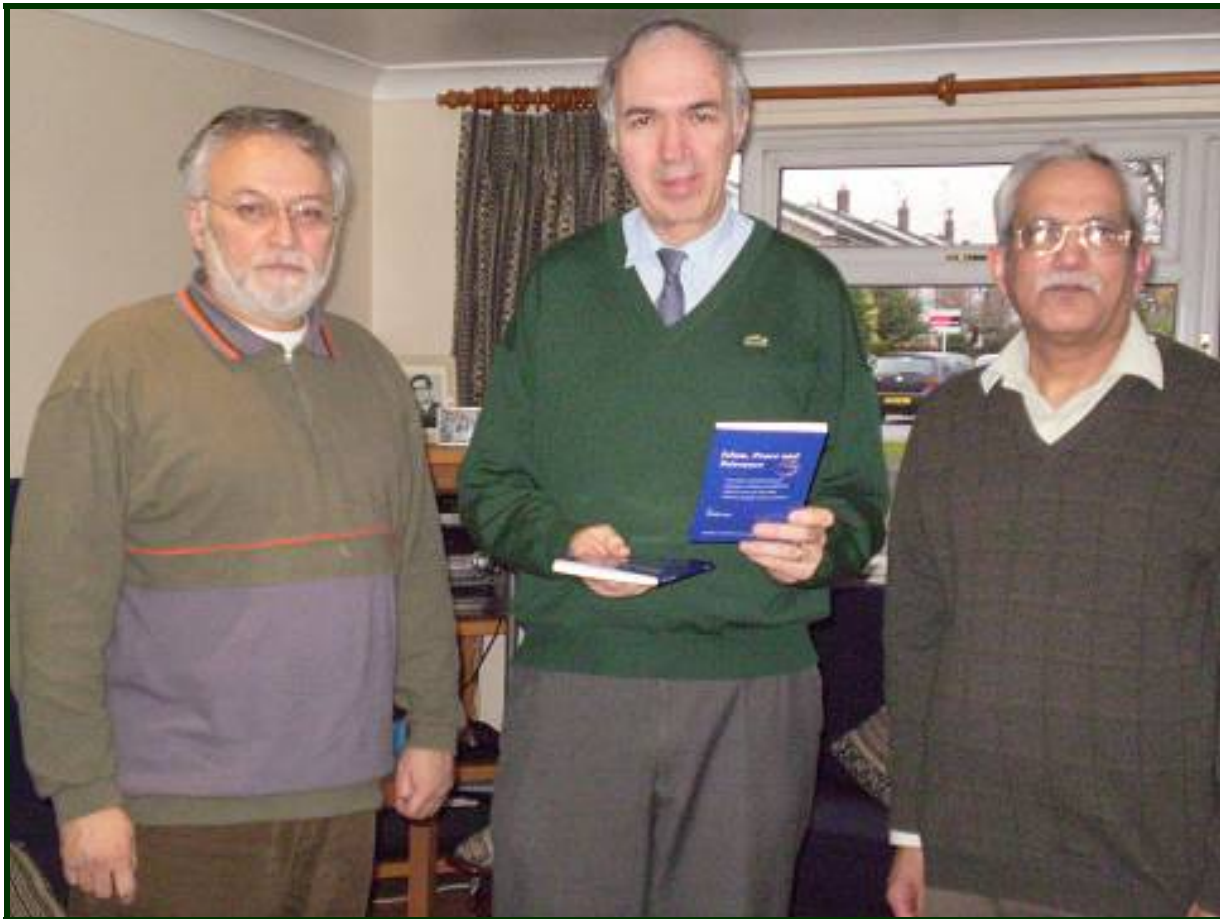
Method of Preparation

- Mash garlic, salt and hot pepper, if used.
- Add lemon juice, mixing well.
- Cut all vegetables in chunks, add to garlic mixture.
- Add oil and toss thoroughly.

Variation: Any combination of vegetables may be used.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

Posing after the Presentation of Book



L to R: Ross Mahmud, Dr. Nick Palmer, Member of the UK Parliament, Dr. Zahid Aziz

Graveyard of AAAIL *Jama'at* in New Zealand

This is a marked strip of 20 graves on which contract has been signed. Another unmarked strip of 20 graves is reserved for the AAAIL NZ *Jama'at*.



L to R: Abid Raza, President; Akbar Abdullah, Editor; Br. Adil, Board Member



L to R: Abid Raza; President AAAIL NZ, Br. Adil, Board Member

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