



In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

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

Health, Ongoing Projects, Education



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AAIIL Worldwide Edition

Editor: Akbar Abdullah

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

INTRODUCTION

Editor's Note

From time to time we receive letters of appreciation from members of our world wide *Jama'ats* on what a useful service we are rendering in informing them of activities of the Centre and the global *Jama'ats* through the timely publication of our monthly *HOPE Bulletin* and special issues. Many of our readers have expressed great satisfaction on how we have handled requests for prayers of *shifa*, obituary news and production of memorial/*Eid/Jalsa* supplements.

As Editor of *The HOPE Bulletin*, I appreciate your encouraging mail, much of which is reproduced in "What Our Readers Say" for the information of our members at large and especially to energise the members of our *HOPE Bulletin* Team.

While I appreciate Br Nasir Ahmad's letter (reproduced below in "What Our Readers Say"), I can only take partial credit on his conclusion, "...you are the only one doing this single-handedly." The fact remains that from the inception of this project I have totally depended on the full support of Hazrat Ameer, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha Sahib, the Central *Jama'at*, and the worldwide *Jama'ats* for regular submission of messages, announcements, reports on publications/*Jama'at* activities with photographs and letters of encouragement. Besides this, we have a cadre of writers whose names appear in each issue and who regularly submit articles for publication.

Our Team members are spread out in several countries and assist us in formatting, design and photo layouts, pdf conversion/compression of magazine material, and with any technical advice necessary for the timely and smooth production of the *Bulletin's* monthly and special edition, photo/ special occasion supplements etc. *Alhamdulillah!* The support and the contribution of information which we receive from Hazrat Ameer, the Centre and the members of the worldwide *Jama'ats* are the great blessings of Allah (*swt*), and we are thankful to Him for giving us the strength and hope to carry on this yeomen service for the *Jama'at*. *Aameen*.

JAMA 'AT NEWS

News from the Centre from Amir Aziz, General Secretary, AAIIIL,

Central Mosque air-conditioning installed

The Central Mosque, the newly constructed hall, and the ladies section have been centrally air-conditioned for the May 2008 Convention. A total of twelve cooling units have been installed. Most of the donation for this project was sent by the family of the late Dr. Habib Sahu Khan Sahib of Australia. May Allah bless his soul in heaven for this great generosity.

Central Anjuman's dispensary in Lahore renovated

The Maulana Muhammad Ali Memorial Free Dispensary has been renovated. Presently, thousand of needy and poor people are taking advantage of it. Under the guidance of Hazrat Ameer, two doctors, one male and one female, are working eight hours a day. Our very much respected sister, Dr. Haleema Asad, is also offering her voluntary services and treats patients one day a week.

Renovation of historical sites in Lahore

The room where Hazrat Mirza Sahib died has been renovated and given a 100-year old look. It would be a great site for visitors.

The project to renovate the Mian Sahib graveyard, resting place of our great stalwarts, is underway, and it would be completed, *Insha Allah*, by the May 2008 Convention. We are grateful to Ch. Mansoor Sahib and the family who generously contributed to this project.

Delegation from Central Anjuman visits India *Jama'at*

A Central Anjuman delegation comprising of Professor (Ret d.) Aziz Ahmad (former General Secretary), Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Saqib, Mr. Riaz Ahmad Ch. and Mr. Faiz ur Rehman, has visited the India Delhi *Jammat*. The Central Anjuman is trying to establish a strong mission in India.

Islamic Education and Awards of Excellence

Quran class for 44 students is being conducted by Qari Arshad Sahib on a daily basis.

Two students being trained in our Mosque won laurels for us and for the whole *Jammat*. Salman Shakeel, son of Shakeel Hamanyyun, won first prize, and Harissa Aziz, daughter of Amir Aziz, won second prize in Declamation contests held by Beacon House School System – one of the largest and best school systems in Pakistan. Hazrat Ameer called the students, appreciated their performance and awarded them their prizes. He advised the parents of the whole *Jammat* to encourage their children to take part in such activities as these bring name and fame for the *Jammat* as well.

Appeal to attend May 2008 Convention in Lahore by Ejaz Sayal of Lahore, Pakistan

May Allah bless you. It's a nice edition (referring to the March 2008 edition). As you know, our Centennial Convention is to be held in May 2008 (to be convened in Darus Salam, Lahore, from May 23rd to May 27th, 2008). Please pray for its success and persuade members to attend this important event and please do pray for me.

Change of residence

Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed recently informed us that he and his family have changed residence in abcdefgh. The members of *The HOPE Bulletin* Team wish him and his family all the joy, happiness and comfort in their new place of residence, which they can call "Home Sweet Home." May Allah (*swt*) bless their new home. *Aameen*.

Report from Nizam ud Dean, Board Member, Masjid Noor, Suva, Fiji

Maro, Sigatoka

A busload of Suva members travelled to Maro on Sunday, 16th March, 2008 to attend the *Milad-un-Nabi jalsa* which was held at the Maro Maulana Muhammad Ali Mosque at 10.00 am. The main topic was "Finality of Prophecy", on which Br Abid Aziz gave a stirring *khutba*, and mentioned the recanting by the Qadianis in Indonesia of their claim of Mirza Sahib's prophethood.

Other speakers who gave interesting talks on the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (*sas*) were Maulvi Fazal Haq, Br Mehboob Raza and Br Abdul Naseem. There were two stirring *nazams* from Maro children.

Following the *Zuhr* prayers there was a hearty lunch provided before the Suva delegation travelled back.

Nausori

On Monday, March 17th, 2008, Suva members travelled to attend a *Milad-un-Nabi jalsa* hosted by the Nausori members at the Nausori Mosque at 10.00 am. This mosque is on the same site as that founded by the late Master Muhammad Abdullah, father of Br Akbar Abdullah, at the Vunimono Islamia Primary School, also founded by Master Abdullah.

Br Mehboob Raza spoke on the arrival of *Ahmadiyyat* in Fiji and on the death of Jesus as proven from the Holy Quran. Br Abdul Naseem spoke on the Holy Prophet's life and achievements and there were some *nazams* rendered, praising the Holy Prophet (*sas*).

Following the *Zuhr* prayers, a delicious lunch was provided for all.

PRAYER & HEALTH NEWS

Prayer activity at AAJIL, UK as reported by Shahid Aziz, Secretary UK Jama'at

The UK *jamaat* said the *janaaza* prayers of Kamran Karim's mother, Haji Hassan Mahomed, and Nur Sardar's wife last Friday. May Allah give them all a high place in heavens.

Dr M A Hamid, our honorary *imam* of the UK *jamaat*, has left for Pakistan. Dr Sahib suffered a stroke about three weeks ago. He was already suffering with eye sight problems and therefore decided to return to Pakistan to live with his sister and her family. It is a tribute to his dedication that as soon as he returned home, although very weak, he came to *jummah* prayers. Although he could not lead the prayers but he joined in and stayed to the end of proceedings. He has asked everyone to pray for him so that he can return to the UK and take up his duties as *imam* again.

[Members of our Prayer Circle are please requested to pray for the complete *shifa* and full recovery of our ailing brother. May Allah (*swt*) have mercy on him and bless him soon with good health.]

Prayer blessings from Shabir Buksh, Secretary, AAII, New Zealand

May you have:

The wisdom of Luqmaan,

The *sabr* of Bilaal,

The generosity of Uthmaan,

The beauty of Yusuf,

The riches of Sulaiman, and

The character of Muhammad (*sallahu allahi wasallam*).

May the *Noor* of the Almighty flow from your home.

May Allah's mercy and special blessings be on you and your beloved family today and always.

Allahumma-inni-ala-Zikr-ika-wa Shuk-rika wa husni-ibad-atika.

[O our Lord! Verily I am steadfast in remembering, giving thanks and serving Thee handsomely.]

Condolence from Riaz Ahmad Choudry, Jammu, India Jama'at

I have just received the sad news of the passing away of Hadjie Hassenmahomed, one of the most revered Ahmadi stalwarts in the Surinam/Netherlands's Ahmadiyya organisation. *Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Ilehi Rajeoon.*

At this time we, all the members of AAII Jammu India, pray for the departed soul and may Allah Almighty grant enough courage to all the family members and members of the Holland *Jamaat* to bear this great loss. *Ameen.*

POEM

[Composed by Capt Abdus Salam Khan of California, USA in memory of Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Promised Messiah, Mahdi and *Mujjadad* of the fourteenth century (*Hijrah*).]

A hundred years have gone
Since you left us, O *Imaam*.

We miss you and
Your blessed time.

Your smiling face,
Your presence sublime.

We miss you so,
O Ahmad's *Ghulam*.

Alaikul salaam wa
Alaikul salaam!

ALL ABOUT US

Life Sketch of Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah Sahib (1878-1939)

[Researched and written by Choudry Akthar Masud, Secretary, AAIIIL, Hayward, California, USA.]



Dr. Muhammad Hussain Shah

[Photograph courtesy www.aaiil.org]

Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah was born in 1878 in Lakki Marwat in District Bannu, North West Frontier Province of India (now Pakistan), where his father, Khan Bahadur Syed Alim Shah, was posted as Assistant Settlement Officer in the Civil Service of the British Government in India. The family actually hailed from the village Kala Chichi in Tehsil Shakargarh, District Gurdaspur in Punjab Province. Having passed his early years in Lakki Marwat, he could understand Pushto, the *lingua franca* of that area. He went to school in Scotch Mission High School, Sialkot where, amongst others, Allama Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal was his classmate with whom he had a very friendly relationship which lasted for a whole lifetime. After completion of his education at Sialkot he joined Medical College at Lahore and obtained his L.M.S Degree in 1899. Unfortunately, his father passed away the same day on which the result of the Medical Degree Examination was announced. After graduation, he was employed in the Department of Health Services of the Government of Punjab.

Coming to the fold of *Ahmadiyyat*

In 1901-02, when Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah was posted in Gurdaspur on special duty for the treatment of plague patients, Syed Amir Shah, a cousin of his, who was an Assistant *Tehsildar* and already an Ahmadi, took him to Qadian to see the Promised Messiah. Shah Sahib, as Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah was commonly known amongst his colleagues, friends and family members, narrates the events of his taking *bai'at* at the hands of the Promised Messiah in these words:

“Before my visit to Qadian for the first time I was thinking of it as a *gaddi*, like the *gaddies* of other *pirs*, but when I arrived there I had a problem in recognizing Hadhrat Sahib as he was sitting amidst other people, so I had to enquire as to who amongst them was the Promised Messiah. This unassuming behaviour of the Promised Messiah registered a deep impression on my mind. A person amongst the gathering asked the Promised Messiah to request his followers to grow beards as most of his followers were clean-shaven. In reply, Hadhrat Mirza Sahib said that he was more concerned about the hearts of the people, and once those are reformed the beards will automatically follow. After returning from Qadian, I kept thinking that such a person cannot be a fake and I decided that I should join his *Jama'at*. So I again went to Qadian and took *bai'at* at the hands of the Promised Messiah.”

Some time later after that Shah Sahib was permanently posted at Lahore. In those days, he, along with Khwaja Kamaluddin Sahib, Dr. Mirza Yaqub Beg Sahib and Sheikh Rahmatullah Sahib, used to go to Qadian every weekend to spend time in the company of the Promised Messiah.

Shah Sahib was a devout and pious Muslim and a sincere devotee of the Promised Messiah. From the day he joined *Ahmadiyyat* he used to give 1/3 of his income to the Ahmadiyya causes and spent money generously in the cause of religion and other good causes. As a regard of his sincere devotion and sacrifices in the cause of Islam, the Promised Messiah held him in great esteem, and whenever he visited him, the Promised Messiah would stand up in respect to receive him. When the Sadr Ahmadiyya Anjuman was formed in 1905, the Promised Messiah nominated him as a member of the *Motamadeen*, the position which he held until the split in 1914. Thereafter, he became one of the five founding members of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam Lahore.

A renowned but God-fearing physician of his time

Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah was a renowned physician of his time. Doctors in the employment of Government were allowed to carry on their private practice after their duty hours and during weekends. During the remaining lifetime of Promised Messiah, both Dr. Mirza Yaqub Beg Sahib and Shah Sahib used to visit Qadian every weekend at a great monetary sacrifice just to be in the company of Promised Messiah. Even then Allah amply rewarded them and both of them had a lucrative private practice earning them thousands of rupees, a large sum in those days. How renowned a physician Shah Sahib was, is evident from the fact that Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal, in his letters to Bilgrami (a well-known poet), invited him to come to Lahore so that he could take him to Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah for treatment. As a physician, Shah Sahib did not insist upon receiving fees from his patients. Whatever someone chose to pay would be quietly put in his pocket. Many of his patients were poor, and he would see them without any fees and also give them money from his own pocket to purchase medicines and food. He was a saintly person, never hungry for money; instead, he used to spend generously for multifarious humanitarian causes.

A compassionate person

Dr. Muhammad Hussain Shah was a very compassionate human being who cared not only about the needs of others but also helped them in the matters of their welfare. When he purchased a big chunk of land on Ferozepur Road, which he later developed and named Muslim Town, he built his house on it and also built homes for his near needy relatives who could not afford to build a house for themselves. He built a house for his dispenser, Shukar Deen, and for his other personal servants. He also built a house for Pandit Qadir Baksh, a Brahmin convert to Islam. He transferred the ownership of these buildings in their names. He not only brought them to live near him but also paid for their education, arranged and bore the expenses for their marriages and even purchased agricultural lands for them in Khanpur District and Bhopal. Amongst others, the parents of Begum Zeenat Fida Hussain and Colonel Amjad Hussain, father of Syed Mushahid Hussain and Syed Mutahir Hussain, are examples of such beneficiaries. This was not limited to his near relatives. He helped many other Muslim students, without any distinction of being an Ahmadi or not, in obtaining higher education. The late Hameed Nizami, who after independence became the Publisher-Editor

of Pakistan's well-known daily newspaper *Nawa-i-Waqt*, was an example of one such beneficiary. Mr. Nizami was treated like a family member and he kept this relationship with Shah Sahib's offspring until his death.

Dr. Muhammad Hussain Shah was also a big supporter and benefactor of the Anjuman Himayt-ul-Islam and was a member of its Board of Directors for a long time. This *Anjuman* was created for the promotion of education of Muslims of the Punjab Province, and established and ran the Islamia College, Lahore and many other high schools for Muslim boys and girls.

In 1918, the Government approached the Central Anjuman (AAIIL) with the offer that it was willing to release some revolutionary Muslim youths who were detained for their enthusiastic anti-Government activities provided the *Anjuman* agreed to reform them and channel their energies towards the propagation of Islam work. As a result of this move, Muhammad Iqbal Shadai and Syed Mustafa Kamil were handed over to the AAI, Lahore. Shah Sahib took Iqbal Shadai into his personal care and he lived in his house in Ahmadiyya Buildings for a couple of years. Thereafter, in 1920, when the Hijrat Movement started, he migrated from India and after obtaining a doctorate degree from a European University became well known in the Muslim world as Dr. Iqbal Shadai. Dr. Shadai held Shah Sahib in high respect and always remembered him respectfully as one remembers his own father.

Murree Hills was the summer capital of the Government of Punjab. In those days, non-government civilians were not allowed to visit Murree. When Shah Sahib first came to Murree in the summer of 1924 he learnt about the poverty of the common man residing in villages and *gali jats* surrounding Murree. These people were living in a constant state of starvation, and tuberculosis (TB) was rampant in the area. Most of the land, being hilly or with thick forests, was not cultivatable, hence these people had no proper means of income. The population of the area was predominantly Muslim. Shah Sahib not only rendered them free medical treatment but also paid for the cost of medicines in addition to giving them money for nutritious food to help them recover. He was so moved by the miserable economic conditions of those people that he hosted a meeting of land owners of the area along with the officials of the Agriculture Department, the Revenue Department and the Department of Cooperative Societies and urged upon them the need of advancing money to these poor landowners to purchase seedlings and plant fruit trees on the slopes of their land to bring them some income. Many of the fruit gardens of that area are the remnants of Shah Sahib's efforts in that regard.

Furthermore, many of Shah Sahib's patients were suffering from TB. During the summer months he used to send them to an infirmary in Simla. Many of them would return to him in Murree complaining that the doctors in Simla, the majority of whom were Hindus, did not pay proper attention to the treatment of Muslim patients till payment of gratification. Since many patients in the area surrounding Murree too were also suffering from TB, therefore Shah Sahib felt the need to building a clinic in that area. He talked to government officials as well as landlords of the area but to no avail. Ultimately, he decided to go it alone. In 1928, he purchased 25 acres of land in Samli near Murree to build a clinic. When the transfer documents for the land were yet to be signed, his son, B.H. Syed, who was a final year medical student, advised him to rethink the decision. B.H. Syed (who later became Colonel Dr. B.H. Syed and retired as Director of Health Services, Government of West Pakistan) asked his father to consider that since he was about to retire from service in two years and he, B.H. Syed, was still in medical school, where the money will come from to finance such an expensive project. He went on to say that people establish non-profit corporations or trusts for such undertakings and his father was planning to go into this project alone and finally he pleaded that his father rethink rationally as there was still time to walk out of the deal. In reply, Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah said, "My son, I too have a 'trust,' a very reliable 'trust.' When the son enquired as to which and where was that trust, Shah Sahib responded, "Muhammad Hussain has a trust with Allah, and whenever I decide to undertake a project for the betterment of mankind I just do it with my best intention, then Allah Himself provides the means because betterment of mankind is Allah's Own job which He takes care of." So the deed was signed. A clinic was established with Shah Sahib's own income from his medical practice and after independence it was handed over to the Government of Pakistan by Shah Sahib's descendants and today it is the largest hospital in Pakistan where more than 350 beds are available for the treatment of TB patients. Shah Sahib was right. Allah is taking care of it.

He excelled in hospitality

Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah was a very hospitable person. During his last visit to Lahore in 1908, the Promised Messiah, along with his family, was staying in Shah Sahib's house in Ahmadiyya Buildings. A large number of people were coming to visit him and everyone was served food and refreshments. During this period Shah Sahib's wife kept busy the whole day in getting food prepared for guests and visitors so much so that the Promised Messiah said, "Our stay has caused much inconvenience to our daughter" (referring to Shah Sahib's wife).

After the split in 1914 when AAII Lahore was formed, Maulana Muhammad Ali was staying in a room in the house of Shah Sahib until a house was built for him adjacent to the Ahmadiyya Buildings *Masjid*. Maulana Muhammad Ali moved into this house and brought his family there.

Maulana Abdul Haque Vidyarthi, along with his family, was living in another room on the ground floor of Shah Sahib's house. Another room on the ground floor was being used as the Anjumani's office as there was no office building yet. Another large room on the ground floor was being used as guest house where beds for 25-30 persons were provided and Shah Sahib had detailed a personal servant whose duty it was to look after the needs of guests. The food for guests was supplied and prepared from Shah Sahib's home.

In the beginning there used to be 50-60 persons for *Maghrib* prayer who all dined together in the *Masjid* afterwards. This food too was prepared in Shah Sahib's home, after which *Isha* prayers were offered and then people would disperse to their homes. Later, food would be prepared in turn in the homes of Maulana Muhammad Ali, Dr. Mirza Yaqub Beg and Khwaja Kamaluddin.

Even when Dr. Muhammad Hussain Shah had moved to his new home in Muslim Town there still used to be 40-50 persons joining him in partaking food at dinner time. Taking dinner in the company of his friends, family members and his other relatives or even those whom he was helping financially or otherwise had become second nature with him. This was a real sense of community based on the teachings of Islam.

Shah Sahib's great passion for *tableegh*

Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah had a deep passion for *tableegh* of Islam. While visiting a patient, if some religious matter was asked by the patient or his family, Shah Sahib used to spend hours disseminating the true teachings of Islam, quite forgetting that he still had to visit and see other patients. During his service he used to preach Islam to his European bosses and he was much respected by them for his high moral character and knowledge in the field of religion. Many of his near relatives became members of the *Jama'at* as a result of his *tableegh*.

When the decision was taken in 1910 during Maulana Nuruddin's time to open a mission in England, Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah offered his services for the mission and got approval for an extended period of leave from his job in spite of the fact that his family and close relatives were opposed to the idea. However, on other grounds, Khwaja Kamaluddin was allowed to go to England where he established a mission in London, which was later moved to Woking.

When Dr Ambedkar, a political leader of the Untouchables (low caste Hindus) announced that due to the inhuman treatment of the untouchables at the hands of Hindus, the untouchables had no option but to embrace other religions where they may be treated more humanly, Christian missionaries gained a lot of converts. Shah Sahib got a month's leave from his job and, taking Maulana Sadruddin along, went to Bombay for *tableegh-e-Islam* amongst the untouchables.

Some pagan tribes in the Punjab Province who were descendents of the original population of India and who had taken refuge in thick forests at the time of the arrival of the Aryans in India were living in various districts of the Punjab after these forests had been cleared for the making of irrigation canals during British Rule. They were called *Sansi* and were not allowed to live in settled areas. Many of them lived in Montgomery District (now Sahiwal

District). Shah Sahib initiated a *tableegh-e-Islam* mission in that area and simultaneously he took up the matter with the District and Provincial Administration for recognition of their fundamental human rights, especially their right to live in settled areas rather than moving around as nomads. His efforts bore fruit and a large number of them converted to Islam. Maulvi Shafiqat Rasul, who was later a missionary of Islam in Fiji, was a son of the headman of this tribe who had embraced Islam.

His services for the cause of *Ahmadiyyat*

Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah regularly sent one third of his monthly income to Qadian until 1914, and thereafter to AAIILahore. In addition to that, he generously donated funds on appeals for various projects of the Anjuman:

- (a) In 1908, at considerable cost, he completed the expansion of Masjid-e-Nur. He also purchased a plot of land on which he built a house in Qadian, which he later gave to the Promised Messiah's family as a gift.
- (b) In 1910, he purchased land in the Ahmadiyya Buildings compound and got the *Masjid* built on it. Further, he paid the cost of building a gallery attached to the *Masjid* for the ladies on land which was donated by Khwaja Kamal-ud-din.
- (c) In 1914, when Maulana Muhammad Ali came from Qadian, he lived for a few months in a room on the first floor of Dr. Sahib's home. This was the same room in which the Promised Messiah had stayed during his last visit to Lahore in May 1908 and in which he breathed his last. Shah Sahib built a house adjacent to the *Masjid* for the *Ameer's* residence and Hadhrat Ameer Maulana Muhammad Ali moved into it and brought his family to live with him. He resided in that home for twenty years until he moved to his own home, which he built in Muslim Town. Thereafter Maulana Sadruddin resided in that house until he passed away. Shah Sahib transferred ownership of the house to AAIILahore as a gift in 1921.
- (d) In 1914, the AAIILahore was founded and Shah Sahib was made its Financial Secretary. There were not many members at that stage and it meant starting from scratch. Expenses for all the projects of the Anjuman at that time were mostly borne through the financial sacrifices of Shah Sahib, Dr. Mirza Yaqub Beg and Sheikh Rahmatullah.
- (e) Shah Sahib obtained a large parcel of land for *abadkari* (making cultivable) in Khanpur District in Bahawalpur State. When, after clearing the forest it was made cultivable, the State granted rights of permanent ownership. At that stage Shah Sahib not only got share of ownership for his near relatives but also created a *Waqf* (Trust) of 25 acres in favour of AAIILahore, wherefrom the income was received annually by the Central Anjuman.
- (f) When Shah Sahib purchased quite a large section of land by the Canal Bank on Ferozpur Road, Lahore to be developed into a Muslim town, he reserved 10 acres in it to be called *Ahmadiyya Basti*, wherein land was offered to the members of *the Jama'at* at a nominal price. Only Maulana Muhammad Ali, Maulana Abdul Haque Vidyarthi, Maulvi Murtaza Khan, Master Faqurullah, Deputy Muhammad Sadiq and Ch. Rahmat Khan Bahadur built their homes there, while many others sold out the land at a higher price.
- (g) Shah Sahib also built a *masjid* in Muslim Town, which was known as *Masjid-e-Aisha*, in memory of his mother. He also built a well for water supply, *wudu* etc., and a house for the *muezzin*, and also created a *waqf* of an acre of land in favour of the AAIILahore wherein the Anjuman later built the Darul Qur'an School for Missionary Training.
- (h) Shah Sahib donated a house and three acres of land to the AAIILahore in Samli Sanatorium as a gift which the Central Anjuman, after Independence, gave as a gift to the Government for expansion of the sanatorium.

- (i) In 1938, Shah Sahib transferred the ownership of his two houses in Ahmadiyya Buildings to the AAIL Lahore as a gift. On one of these the Anjuman later built the Promised Messiah Memorial Hall while the other was being used by Maulana Ahmad Yar as his residence.
- (j) Shah Sahib made a *waqf* of one and a quarter acres of land in favour of the Anjuman in the Shah Jamal area, Lahore in the name of his wife, Daulat Bibi. This lot was later sold for 48 thousand rupees and the money was used in the construction of the Promised Messiah Memorial Hall.
- (k) Shah Sahib donated sizeable amounts towards the construction of the building of the Muslim High School in Ahmadiyya Buildings, the construction of the Berlin Mosque, and for the purchase of 1000 acres of agricultural land in Chak No. 6 near Okara (most of this land was taken away by the Government under Land Reforms in 1966). His wife had donated her 40- *tola* golden bangles towards the construction of the minarets of the Berlin Mosque.
- (l) In 1937, Shah Sahib obtained 15000 acres of land in Bhopal State under the *Abadkari* Scheme. Out of this he got 1000 acres for himself and his near relatives and 500 acres for AAIL Lahore. This required clearing of forest trees. Some work was started on it but neither the Anjuman nor Shah Sahib's descendents pursued it after his death in 1939. This land was taken over by the Government of India in 1961.

From the above it is evident that Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah most probably was one of the main donors of the Anjuman. Allah gave him lots of money and he spent it in the way of Allah quite generously, never saving for the future. Out of his large income he used to give a few hundred rupees to his mother for household expenses. After the passing away of his mother he gave this money to his wife and after her passing away, to his daughter. He never asked them for accounts when they told him that the money was finished; instead he would give them more. The rest of the money he used to give to Pandit Qadir Baksh, who served as his banker. Pandit Sahib used to spend money according to the instruction of Shah Sahib and when he ran out he would inform Shah Sahib who would give him more. Shah Sahib had so much trust in Pandit Qadir Baksh that he never asked for accounts from him. Shah Sahib did not keep more than five rupees in his own pocket.

Ahmadiyya brotherhood

A few days before his death on an *Eid* occasion, when all his family members and near relatives had assembled for celebrating *Eid*, Shah Sahib addressed them in these words:

“When someone passes away he leaves wealth and property for his descendents, but I am leaving another form of wealth for you and that is our brotherhood which the Promised Messiah made for us.”

He went on to say:

“You may have noticed that whenever I felt sick the members of the Ahmadiyya brotherhood came from far and near to enquire about my health. This religious brotherhood is far superior to other kinds of brotherhood. Such sincere, loving and caring brotherhood you will not find elsewhere. Keep this brotherhood intact. This is a very useful thing.”

Shah Sahib himself was an embodiment of the tradition of this brotherhood. He would always walk an extra mile to fulfil the calls of this brotherhood. Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan recalled an instance to illustrate this character of Shah Sahib, and thus he wrote:

“I was posted at Peshawar in July of 1929. While treating a rabies patient, her sputum fell in my eyes. It necessitated that I receive preventive inoculation. Such preventive injections were administered at Murree. I sent a telegram to Shah Sahib and left for Murree. When I arrived at the Murree bus stop I was surprised to see

that Shah Sahib, along with some family members, was waiting for me there. His house was at a distance of about three to four miles from the bus stop. It was located on a hilltop and the whole distance had to be walked up the slope. I was the age of his children and could not believe that he would be so caring as to undertake all the trouble of coming personally to receive me. This left a deep impression of his high moral character on my mind. I stayed in his home for fourteen days and had a chance to see in person Shah Sahib's virtuous family life, his high moral character, his observances of religious duties, his hospitality and his emotions of brotherhood and sympathy. In fact, Shah Sahib was a very great human being and his pious life was a model for others. Those fourteen days which I passed in the company of that pious person, I will never forget in my life. This is a great and invaluable experience of my life."

His interest in other movements for the betterment and rights of Muslims

Shah Sahib used to take an interest in the political and social movements of Muslims in India. He was a supporter of the Freedom Movement. When the movement for using locally produced goods was launched by Mr. Gandhi, Shah Sahib became its quiet advocate by wearing locally manufactured clothes and also having his family do the same. He was actively engaged in the Anjuman-e-Himayat-e-Islam and was one of its major donors. His view about the Freedom Movement was that Ahmadis had to be sympathetic to it but should not actively participate in it. Our job was *tableegh-e-Islam*, and we should let other Muslims actively participate in politics.

After 1930, when the Muslim League emerged as an active political party, all of Shah Sahib's sympathies were with that party. Shah Sahib financed Mr. Ha meed Nizami and Colonel Amjad Hussain Syed (who were students in those days) for publishing a two-page daily newspaper entitled *Hurriyat*. In this newspaper, and through Mr. Ha meed Nizami and Colonel Amjad Hussain Syed, Shah Sahib disseminated the Muslim League political viewpoint.

Return to Allah

Shah Sahib had been suffering from high blood pressure for some years. On 26 April, 1939, during *Tahajjud* prayers when Shah Sahib was in the state of prostration, he became unconscious. When he did not rise from prostration after a long time, his wife checked on him, and finding him unconscious, sent for Dr. Basharat Ahmad who was living in Muslim Town. He tried his best but Shah Sahib did not regain consciousness and ultimately at quarter past eight on the same evening he breathed his last. *Inna lillah-e- wa inna ilaih-i-raji'on*.

The next day a very large number of people, both Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis, joined in his funeral prayer, which was led by Maulana Muhammad Ali.

PUBLICATION

Publication report filed by Amir Aziz, General Secretary, AAIIIL, Pakistan

AAIIIL History in Europe

The Central Anjuman has decided to publish *AAIIIL History in Europe*. Br Yaha is working on this project. This book is in German and it gives details of our unprecedented services for the propagation of Islam in Europe and in Germany in particular.

Islam and Civilization

Khawaja Kamal-ud-din's book, *Islam and Civilization*, has been reprinted by the Centre and will soon be available for circulation. We are thankful to our very respected sister, S hirmeen Jam il, for her generous donation towards this project.

Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement

The book, *Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement* by Maulana Muhammad Ali, is also in the process of being printed and will be available by the May 2008 Convention at Lahore. We are grateful to Dr. Zahid Aziz for his services in formatting and editing this book. He expanded the book by including material from another booklet written by the same author.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Comments from Abid Raza, President, AAHL, New Zealand

Shukria, may Allah be pleased with you and reward you for your untiring efforts to keep us all informed of *Jamaat's* activities globally via your regular emails and news bulletin...

Well wishes from Nizam-ud-Dean, Board Member, Masjid Noor, Fiji

May Allah Almighty bring happy fulfillment 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 Abdul Santoe Sahib, Representative, European Region

It is always a reassuring fact for me to have a brother like you, ever stimulating and motivating on the path to our goal. May the Almighty God bless you and grant you and all your loved ones much *barkaats* for all time to come. *Aameen*.

Comments from Nasir Ahmad, United Kingdom

I hope and pray that you are back home from the hospital. Every time I go through your *HOPE Bulletin* I pray for you. By publishing it regularly with very up-to-date news and details, you are doing a noble work of bringing all the brothers and sisters in various parts of the world closer in bonds of love and affection and also keep them informed about what an individual or *Jamaat* is doing for the cause of Islam. Our *Jamaat* very much needs such close collaboration and intimate relationship and you are the only one doing this single-handedly. May Allah keep you in health with strength. *Ameen*.

HOPE Member Service

Recipe of the Month

Garlic Sauce

Ingredients

- 3 medium potatoes
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup lemon juice (or to taste)
- 1 1/2 tsp salt (or to taste)
- 1 clove garlic (you can add more to your taste)
- 2 tbsp olive oil

Method of Preparation

- Boil the potatoes until well done, place it in a bowl, remove the skin and chop fine.
- Mash garlic with salt.
- With a potato masher or large wooden mallet pound, mash and blend all the ingredients.

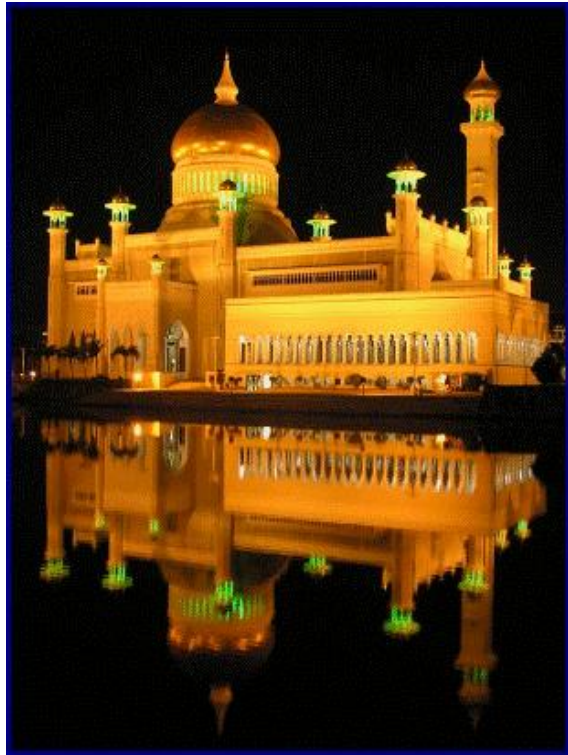
PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

[Courtesy Muhammad Ameen Sahu Khan, who taught English language for several years in the Royal University of Brunei Darussalam.]

Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin Mosque

Amazing in appearance, but too beautiful to be true, the Omar Ali Saifuddin Mosque is Brunei's proudest architectural achievement. It sits on an artificial lagoon near the Brunei River in Kampong Ayer, which is, appropriately enough, known as a "water village." A structure in the water that resembles a ship was at one time used for official state ceremonies. The mosque is the largest in the Far East, and considered among the most beautiful in the world. It reaches a height of 52 meters and is topped with a gold dome supported by walls of Italian marble, which also forms the mosque's columns, arches, and towers. The stained glass was handmade in England and the carpets are Saudi Arabian.





Sheikh Zayad Mosque Abu Dhabi

Nur Jahan Alam brought this beautiful mosque to our attention with her comments below:

“I thought you and others might like to see another mosque - this one was finished not so long ago in Abu Dhabi - the Sheikh Zayed Mosque. The mosque was the Sheikh's last project on earth. A week before his death, five years from the commencement date, Sheikh Zayed went to the mosque to oversee its progress. He told the workers that he would not be able to see it finished in his lifetime but told his people where to bury him on his demise. He was buried outside the front door of the mosque and is entombed in white seamless and veinless marble. It is really a sight to behold. I have been there!”

She acknowledged our appreciation of this beautiful mosque, as follows:

“I am glad that you liked it - it is absolutely beautiful. I know that Allah is everywhere, but when you enter places like these, you cannot fail to appreciate the magnificence of God and of course be grateful to Him for creating beauty in this world and for creating us and giving us the ability to appreciate Him and His works. People may say that we should be thankful to the architects, but who is a greater architect than Allah? He just gives us the inspiration to make places like these. Can you imagine how much more beautiful heaven must be - it defies my imagination!”

[Due to the bulk size of the material, photograph and information on this Mosque will be sent separately]

CONTACT INFORMATION

Akbar Abdullah

Editor, *The HOPE Bulletin*

Mailing Address: P.O. Box A2127

211 South Clark Street

Chicago, IL 60690, U.S.A.

E-mail Address: akbar_786us@yahoo.com

Telephone Number: (773) 539-6892

Facsimile Number: (773) 539-9975

