



*In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful*

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

**Hhealth, Ongoing Projects, Education**



*Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i Islam Lahore*

***Salana Duaiyya***

**2008**

## INTRODUCTION

**Akbar Abdullah, Editor**

On behalf of *The HOPE Bulletin* team, I extend our sincere gratitude to Brother Shahid Aziz, Secretary, AAII UK *Jama'at*, and Hazrat Ameer-i-Qaum, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha Sahib, for submitting this inspiring report and memorable set of photographs that have enabled us to put together this special *Salana Duaiyya 2008* supplement.

## SHAHID AZIZ'S IMPRESSIONS

I arrived a few days before the *jalsa* so that Hazrat Amir and other members could discuss important matters with me, such as the Convention in the UK and the Centre's printing requirements etc. It was a pleasure to see that Hazrat Amir's office had been modernised and the whole of the Centre's office uses wireless internet. Another useful addition to the Centre's resources is the translation, both in the corner of the mosque. In previous years non-Urdu speaking members from overseas became bored because they could not understand the text of the speeches being delivered. The arrangement where a member translated the speech into English while sitting in the mosque meant that others were disturbed. The sound-proof booth provides good facilities which enable the non-Urdu speakers to follow proceedings.

Load-shedding has been a consistent problem over the last few years. The fact that it is unpredictable makes matters worse as electricity supply would be disconnected without warning, leaving the audience unable to hear the speakers. The Centre has now installed a generator in the mosque which generates electricity during load-shedding so that *jalsa* is not disturbed. An audio-visual studio is being constructed to produce multi-media resources for propagation of Islam. A project to enhance the Centre's printing resources is in hand because of the difficulties faced in getting printing matter produced externally.

Over the last year the Centre has produced some new literature, such as the Urdu translation of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad sahib's Arabic books. This work was carried by the energetic General Secretary, Aamir, and overseen by Qazi Ahad sahib. Old journals have been scanned to the PC for preservation. These are an important source of our history as well as being full of great articles on Islam and other religions. Printed copies of these journals were produced. These journals had been put on micro-film many years ago but the micro-film or its copies were never made available to others so that they could benefit from them. In *Fathe Islam* the Promised Messiah criticised the practise of printing books and locking them in boxes waiting to sell them. This criticism seems to apply here. The UK *jamaat*, on the Centre's instructions, has started having some Urdu books retype-set. *Mujaddid-i-Azam* has been completed. The material is now with the Centre for proof reading. *Bayan ul Quran* is near completion. Completed parts have been sent to the Centre for proof reading. Once *Bayan ul Quran* is completed, work on the long out of print *Fazlul Bari* will start. This will be a momentous task because the whole work of many thousands of pages needs to be reformatted as well as retype-set. Work on reformatting the work has started. However, a number of books, including *Mujaddid-i Azam*, have been printed by off-set litho using previous editions. *Khutbat* given by Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali at Ahmadiyya Buildings have been compiled and printed in 24 volumes.

The Centre has also devoted considerable resources to security and preservation of Ahmadiyya Buildings where the Promised Messiah left this world to meet his Maker.

A very pleasing aspect of the *jalsa* was the participation of younger and younger members of the *jamaat* in its activities. Our next generation of leaders made speeches of a very high calibre giving a lie those who are forever predicting the end of this *jamaat*. From the children's programme to the speeches during the core time the contributions were of a high standard, which bodes well for our future. Hazrat Amir has devoted much energy to bringing forward younger members to take responsibility for the Centre's activities, which includes making speeches, giving *khutbas* and leading prayers. Brother Aamir, Secretary General, played a clip from a discussion, anchored by Dr Shahid Masud, between Justice Javed Iqbal, son of Allama Iqbal, Prof Pervaiz Mehdi and Dr Israr Ahmad, a critic of the *jamaat*, where the participants acknowledged the Promised Messiah's contribution to the defence of Islam. I also played a clip in which Javed Ghamdi clearly said that the Holy Quran and early *ahadith* do not speak of physical ascension of Jesus or his return in the last age. These videos greatly motivated members present.

Another pleasing aspect of the *jalsa* was Hazrat Amir's announcement that he was not going to make an appeal for contributions at the *jalsa* but instead ask members to ensure that their monthly contributions are increased and paid regularly, as required by the Promised Messiah. Similarly, a member re-launched the Promised Messiah's instructions to the *jamaat* to set up endowments with the Centre by leaving as much as possible in their wills for the Centre. A lady who is disposing of her assets in Pakistan promised 25% of the proceeds to the Centre, which will approximately amount to Pakistani Rupees one Crore (10 million). Another member announced that he was leaving the house he lived in, which may be worth approximately \$600,000 to the *jamaat*.

These are all signs of rapidly increasing progress that the *jamaat* is making. May Allah bless everyone involved and give them the strength and knowledge and other resources to continue to serve this *jamaat*.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

Shaban launch calendar 2009



Audience:





**Overseas speakers**



**Hazrat Ameer with the new young speakers:**



**The oldest speaker,  
Malik Saeed Ahmad,  
age 102 years**



**The youngest attendee**



**Stage secretary: Chaudry Riaz Ahmad**



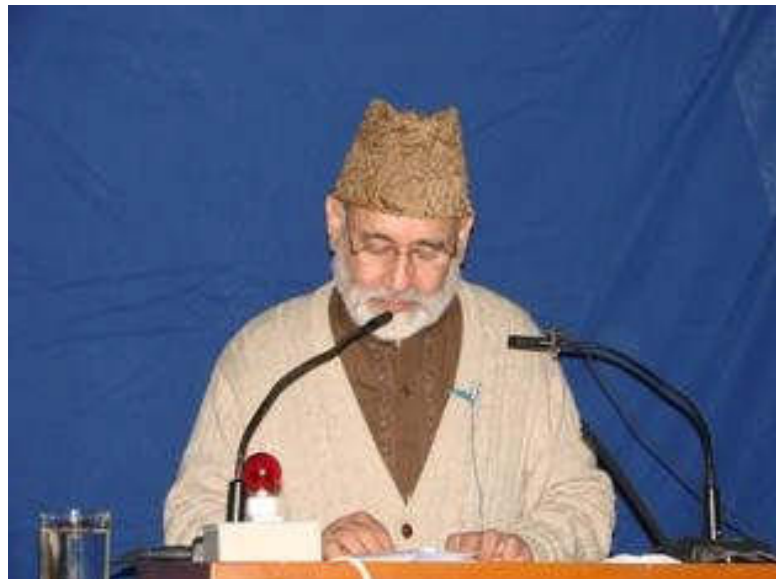
**In-Charge Jalsa: Zahoor ur Rahman**



Farewell prayer by Hazrat Ameer



*Dars-e-Qur'an*



## Plays presented by the youngsters of the *Jama'at*.

The theme presented by the seniors was the peaceful spread of Islam versus the aggressive approach and its consequences and unnecessary the loss of life.





The juniors presented the Martyrdom of Sahebzada Abdul Latif Shaheed in the light of a poem written on the subject by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.







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