



*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**

*Alhamdollillah!* Our team effort has not gone in vain. This international recognition as reported by our learned brother, Capt. Abdus Salam Khan, is a great honour for our *Jama'at*. Let us all pray that as a team we can endeavour to carry on this noble work. Kindly read the letter sent to us by Capt. Abdus Salam Khan, which is given below:

Dear Akbar Sahib  
*Assalamo Alaikoum.*

I must compliment you on the wonderful place occupied by the *HOPE Bulletin* in the virtual world. I typed in the words "HOPE Bulletin" in Google and, lo and behold! I got about a million hits, with your publication occupying the top spot.

Next I typed in Razia Madad Ali to access the memorial booklet you had published about her. I got the entire booklet in a few seconds.

What a wonderful fulfilment of the Promised Messiah's claim that all these fantastic means of communication are being provided for helping the spread of the Truth!

Yours fraternally

Capt. Abdus Salam Khan

*JazakAllah!*



## JAMA 'AT NEWS

**Puzzle posed by Dr. Zahid Aziz to our readers in the September edition of *The HOPE Bulletin* (taken from Councillor Jones' reply to Hazrat Ameer's Qur'an Burning message)**

Dr. Zahid Aziz wrote:

On page 2, the letter from Councillor Bob Jones states: "however, verse 3:85 rather contradicts both of these conciliatory verses and my concern is that this gives credence to those who have a less than generous view of those of us of different faiths."

The HOPE article then quotes 3:85.

I believe that the 3:85 quoted in the article is NOT the 3:85 that Mr Jones is referring to.

The puzzle I pose to readers is as follows:

1. What is the text of the verse that Councillor Jones is referring to? If you can find that, you will immediately realise what his objection is.
2. Why is his 3:85 different from the 3:85 quoted in the article?

### **First response from Shaukat A. Ali, Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Region**

Dear Brother Akbar Abdullah sahib

*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuh.*

I pray that you and your loved ones are in best of health and high spirits by the grace of Compassionate and Merciful Allah.

I am delighted to receive the September issue of the *HOPE Bulletin*, which I have just seen. Your efforts in keeping the members informed on the global activities and the news is commendable. May the blessings of Allah be always with you and your loved ones – *aameen*.

With regard to the "puzzle" presented by our esteemed Brother Dr. Zahid Aziz, I think the confusion has arisen as a result of the re-numbering of the verses in the latest English Translation of the Holy Quran. You have quoted verse 3:85 from the pre-2002 editions of the English Translation by Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali whereas Councillor Bob Jones was referring to the current (2002) edition which states:

"And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the loser" (3:85).

(What you referred to as verse 3:85 in the *HOPE Bulletin* is actually verse 3:86 in the current edition.)

It appears the Councillor either did not read verse 3:84 and the footnote to verse 3:85, which would have clarified the matter, or did not want to understand the actual intent of the above quoted verse 3:85. Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali has gone to great lengths to explain in the footnotes to the two verses quoted by him, i.e., 2:62 and 5:69, as well as making reference to verse 22:17.

One of the problems we are always facing is people either unintentionally or intentionally quote verses out of context or interpret them incorrectly in order to raise objections. Unfortunately, we cannot do much about it apart from quoting verses 4:82 and 39:23 as well as 39:27-29 and explaining the true significance of a particular verse and reiterate that there are no contradictions, discrepancies or inconsistencies in the Holy Quran. Please also see 3:7 as well as the footnote. I quote verses 4:82 and 39:23 as well as verse 3:7 for ease of reference:

“Will they not then meditate on the Quran? And if it were from any other than Allah, they would have found in it many a discrepancy” (4:82).

“Allah has revealed the best announcement, a Book consistent, repeating (its injunctions), whereat do shudder the skins of those who fear their Lord, then their skins and their hearts soften to Allah’s remembrance. This is Allah’s guidance — He guides with it whom He pleases. And he whom Allah leaves in error, there is no guide for him” (39:23).

“He it is Who has revealed the Book to you; some of its verses are decisive — they are the basis of the Book — and others are allegorical. Then those in whose hearts is perversity follow the part of it which is allegorical, seeking to mislead, and seeking to give it (their own) interpretation. And none knows its interpretation except Allah, and those firmly rooted in knowledge. They say: We believe in it, it is all from our Lord. And none are mindful except those who have understanding” (3:7).

I hope my humble effort above will throw some light on the solution to the puzzle.

Please convey my *Salaams* to all the members and their loved ones as well.

*Allah hafiz*, Shaukat

#### **Dr. Zahid Aziz’s comments**

Congratulations to brother Shaukat Ali for the solution. My only objective was to make our members apply their thinking. That is why I presented it as a puzzle.

Please note that the slight re-numbering of verses in chapter 3 (and in a part of chapter 6, and at the end of chapter 4), by changing them by 1, was done in the year 2002 edition in order to make our numbering consistent with almost all other Qurans. In fact, the Arabic text in the editions of our own *Bayan-ul-Quran* published from the 1960s onwards already conformed to this change.

The verse referred to by the Councillor as 3:85 is 3:85 in almost all Qurans (including our own year 2002 edition of the English, and including our *Bayan-ul-Quran*). So he could have been reading almost any English translation of the Quran and be seeing this verse as 3:85.

But in our pre-2002 English Qurans the verse 3:85 is what others number as 3:86.

His actual objection is that while 2:62 and 5:69 say:

“Surely those who believe, and those who are Jews, and the Christians, and the Sabians, whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day and does good, they have their reward with their Lord, and there is no fear for them, nor shall they grieve.” (2:62, and 5:69 is similar to it),

but 3:85 contradicts this by saying:

“And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.”

It is this question which requires an answer.

My answer is that in verse 3:85 by “Islam” is not meant the label of “Islam” but the reality and substance of Islam. This reality and substance is expressed in 2:62 and 5:69 in the words “whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day and does good”.

2:62 and 5:69 say that whatever label you apply to yourself (“believer” which means Muslim, or Jew or Christian, etc.), what determines your salvation is your actual belief in God, fear of the Last Day, and doing good.

Also 3:84 sheds light on 3:85. “Say: We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us, and that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes, and that which was given to Moses and Jesus and to the prophets from their Lord; we make no distinction between any of them, and to Him we submit.” (3:84)

It says clearly that “Islam” is not just belief in Allah and in “that which is revealed to us”, but also belief in what was revealed to all previous prophets. Whoever doesn’t accept this broad principle, of revelation having come to all nations, and believes only in prophets of his own nations, is holding an “unacceptable” belief and will be a loser.

If 3:84 had ONLY said: “We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us, and to Him we submit”, then Councillor Jones’ objection would be valid.

#### **Additional comments by Dr. Zahid Aziz**

Councillor Jones seems to be very well informed about the Quran. Referring to verse 2:62 as quoted by Hazrat Ameer, Mr Jones wrote:

“This verse is endorsed by verse 5:69; however, verse 3:85 rather contradicts both of these conciliatory verses.”

He must have a lot of knowledge of the Quran to know that 5:69 says the same as 2:62 (verse 5:69 was not in Hazrat Ameer’s message).

Again, for him to know what 3:85 says indicates that he knows the Quran.

Even though he has raised an objection, yet we must appreciate that he seems to have studied the Quran.

#### **Shaukat Ali’s letter to Dr. Zahid Aziz**

As soon as I saw what Councillor Jones had written, I went through Hazrat Ameer’s message and noted that Hazrat Ameer had mentioned only verse 2:62. Obviously, he has either studied the Holy Quran or looked up verse 2:62 (in translations with footnotes) where reference is made to verse 5:69. However, his reference to verse 3:85 made me think that he appeared to have either good knowledge of the Holy Book or some advisor who has been critical of the teachings of the Quran. My point was that if they had gone through verse 3:84 (when looking at 3:85), even in Pickthall or other translations, they would have realized that verse 3:84 was even stronger in support of revelations granted to all prophets than 2:62. Hence my comment that some people want to raise objections for the sake of it.

I don't want this to become a controversial issue and feel that the fact that he has responded makes me feel that he is prepared to engage in healthy and meaningful discussions.

It may therefore be advisable for someone to respond to him along the lines you (Dr. Zahid Aziz) mentioned in the earlier message to explain the deeper meaning and intent of verse 3:85.

*Allah hafiz*, Shaukat

### **Response to the puzzle from Shahid Aziz, Secretary, AAII UK**

Dear Akbar Abdullah

*Assalamu alaikum.*

I refer to the discussion about different verses of the Holy Quran particularly where it is said that no other religion except Islam will be acceptable to Allah on the Day of Judgement. The first point to remember is that this does not give a human being the right to force others to follow a particular religion, even Islam. Take the example of the courts of this world; lower courts have a limited authority and cannot decide on serious cases. However, the higher courts have greater authority and can hand down more severe punishment. This does not mean that a lower court can say just because the Supreme Court has the authority to decide something it is also going to do it. So just because Allah says that nothing other than Islam is acceptable to Him it does not mean that we force people to follow Islam. If a man wants to disobey Allah that is entirely his choice.

The second point to remember is that words carry many different meanings and one has to use a mean which is appropriate to the context and to the general teachings of the religion. The Quran says that all the prophets were Muslims. This does not mean that they followed the rituals of Islam that we follow. I know of at least two Muslims who left Islam and embraced Christianity because of this so called "lie" that Muslims propagate. Interestingly, the local *imams* and *maulvis* could not explain to these people the fact that all prophets were Muslims because they followed Allah's Commandments without question, and not because they practised Islam as we know it. So when Allah says that He will not accept any religion other than Islam, He means that He will accept nothing less than total obedience to His Commandments. It does not necessarily mean that all good people among Christians and Jews will be punished simply because they are not Muslims. Their actions, deeds and beliefs which are in accordance with what Allah Commanded will be rewarded. In this context we must remember that many Muslims raise temporal authority such as kings, presidents and even their bosses to the status of Allah in that they do not disagree with even the wrong instructions given by these people. So they too fall under this verse in that in practice they elevate these people to Divine level and on the day of Judgement this will not be acceptable to Allah.

So we must keep the context of the use of these words in mind. Of course, working from translations, however good, makes this difficult; as do the intemperate actions of our own brothers.

### **Response by Akthar Masud Choudry**

Brother Akthar Masud Choudry has also responded to Dr. Zahid's puzzle, but it is quite lengthy so we will carry his response in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

Dr. Zahid Aziz has summarized this dialogue in his Ahmadiyya blog, which we reproduce below.

October 7th, 2010

***Divine reward for non-Muslims: Is there a contradiction in the Quran?***

An objection has been raised that whereas in one or two places the Holy Quran says:

“Surely those who believe, and those who are Jews, and the Christians, and the Sabians, whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day and does good, they have their reward with their Lord, and there is no fear for them, nor shall they grieve.” — 2:62

but in another verse it says:

“And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.” — 3:85.

The first verse says that people of other religions will get reward from their Lord, but the second one says that they will be losers in the hereafter.

What 3:85 means is clear from the verse preceding it. Let me first quote only a part of it:

“Say: We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us, ... and to Him we submit.” — 3:84

If this was all that 3:84 had said, i.e. that belief in Allah and belief in *the revelation that came to Muslims* is what constitutes Islam, then indeed one could justifiably claim that 3:85 means that whoever is simply a non-Muslim, and does not believe in “that which is revealed to us”, will be a loser in the hereafter.

But 3:84 does not only say “We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us,”, even though these words are *quite sufficient* to describe and identify Islam. In full it says:

“Say: We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us, *and that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes, and that which was given to Moses and Jesus and to the prophets from their Lord; we make no distinction between any of them,* and to Him we submit.”

The words which I omitted earlier, and which I have placed in italics above, point out a particular aspect of Islam. Islam, as such, is adequately covered by the words “We believe in Allah and that which is revealed to us”. Therefore what 3:85 means by “whoever seeks a religion other than Islam” are those who go against the particular teaching mentioned here, i.e. they do not accept the teaching that revelation came to all prophets, and that no distinction should be made between prophets. An example of making a distinction is to regard only Jesus as sinless and regard other prophets as having committed sins.

The teaching of Islam that revelation from God came to all nations through their prophets establishes the equality of all nations, and belief in all such prophets is the basis of peace and mutual respect between followers of different religions. The notion that revelation from God came only to one’s own nation, because it is the favourite and chosen one of God, leads to concepts of national superiority over others, and hatred and prejudice against people of other religions and nations. Such are the doctrines or religions that will not be accepted by God and lead to their adherents being losers in the end. “Not accepted by God” means they do not lead to human development but debasement.

According to 2:62, by believing in God and the Hereafter and doing good, any person gains. According to 3:85, by being narrow-minded and looking down on other nations as deprived of Divine revelation, while believing one’s own nation to be the chosen one of God, a person loses.

Posted in **Holy Quran study**

This entry was posted on Thursday, October 7th, 2010 at 9:28 pm and is filed under Holy Quran study. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

## Conversion of new Muslim

We shall relate on how Mr. David Salyers (Muslim name Dawud Salim Salyers) of Tehachapi, California accepted Islam and *Ahmadiyyat*. Mr. David Salyers was first referred to Dr. Hamid Rahman by Dr. Zahid Aziz. The former had several conversations with Mr. David Salyers, and, *JazakAllah*, with his effort Brother Dawud Salim Salyers consequently signed the electronic pledge form. In this regard, Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed had several e-mail exchanges with Brother Salyers.

We strongly urge our readers to communicate with Brother Dawud Salim Salyers and give him a sense of fellowship within our community. Kindly obtain his e-mail address by writing to us. Brother Dawud is also interested in taking part in chat groups. Some time ago young Ahmadi members of Lahore started such a chat group. If this chat group is still active I strongly suggest Brother Dawud may be invited to become a new member of this group.

Please read below a copy of letter written by Brother Dawud Salim Salyers to the Webmaster, aaiil.org:

*Assalamu alaykum all!*

I am from Tehachapi, California (between Bakersfield and the Antelope Valley) and I am a new revert to Islam. I am of mixed heritage - Caucasian and Native American (Cherokee). I am married with two children.

I was raised as a Mormon as a child but left while in my teens as I could not agree with the theology which is even more polytheistic than mainstream Christianity. I became involved with Unitarian Universalism which is currently a noncreedal fellowship for spiritual minorities. It was there that I became exposed to classical Christian Unitarian (the belief in strict monotheism and that Jesus, pbuh, was a great prophet and Messiah, but not divine) and Universalist thought (the belief that hell is ultimately reformatory and not eternal as that would be inconsistent with a merciful God). Classical unitarian and universalist is barely existent in modern Unitarian Universalism but my studies were a short hop to a fuller investigation of Islam.

I had first read the Qur'an at the age of 8. I had the understanding that Islam should be a religion of peace and tolerance when viewed properly with the Qur'an as the primary source and *Hadiths* accepted by their consistency with Qur'anic standards. So by following this standard (as well as a desire to avoid cults of personality – as a former Mormon I was well aware of those), I was quickly lead to the website and printed resources of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement (AAIIL).

My own view is that Islam properly understood should start first with the Qur'an and then the *Hadiths* (in light of the example of the character and example of the Prophet Muhammad, pbuh) and then *fiqh* (interpreted in a way that does not abrogate or is inconsistent with the first two sources in order). I suspect some of these more contentious issues may arise from misunderstandings that could develop if one inverts what sources are considered first.

I have been taking the approach that while the Qur'an is the authentic word of God, a lot of alleged *hadiths* were obviously falsified and that Muslims should trust only that part of the *Sunna* (prophetic

tradition) which doesn't contradict the Qur'an or reason. I am also skeptical of interpretations and approaches which add restrictions to the lives of Muslims above and beyond the Qur'anic prohibitions, or are inconsistent with the example of the character and morals of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) or the attributes of Allah (*Bismillah ar-Rahman ar-Raheem* - In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful). While some *Hadith* are valuable in that they show us to how actually enact the Five Pillars of Faith or high Qur'anically consistent moral standards and should be retained, I believe that other *Hadiths* were invented by fallible human beings claiming authority to justify cultural attitudes, bias, and discrimination that are oppositional to the high standards of the Qur'an.

Of course this approach brings answers consistent to *Ahmadiyyat*. I have been able to get much assistance from Dr. Hamid Rahman in my studies.

*Salam,*

David Lee Salyers (my Muslim name is Dawud Salim Salyers)

### **Report by Ahamed Hosein, President, OAAIIL (Toronto, Canada) on Toronto Interfaith Forum**

Br. Ahamed Hosein, President, AAAIL, Ontario, Canada, submitted the following report after the conclusion of the interfaith conference held in Toronto, Canada:

*Assalaam O Alaikum* Br Akbar

The Interfaith Meeting at the Toryork Islamis Centre hosted by the OAAIIL Jamaat on 7th November 2010 was a huge success.

Pundit Ramash Maharaj gave an inspiration speech on the impact of Hinduism for world peace.

Father Terry Gallagher, a Roman Catholic Clergy, displayed the tremendous knowledge on Comparative Religion. The Pastor's lecture was excellent and his presentation touched on how we all can work together to bring peace to all mankind.

Maulana Kemal Hydal was at his best and his lecture displayed the impact that the Ahmadiyya Anjuman could have to bring about world peace.

The tremendous impact of this Forum has set the stage for other functions of this nature.

#### ***Programme:***

***Toryork Islamic Centre  
Interfaith programme – Sunday 7th November, 2010  
Chairman: Mr. Zahid Sattaur***

1. Opening Prayer - Mr. Yazid Ali
2. Introducing the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement - Mr. Adil Ali
3. Introducing the Ontario Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore - Mr. Omar Sattaur
4. Reading from the Hindu Scripture
5. First Keynote Speech - Pundit Ramesh Maharaj
6. Reading from the Christian Scripture

7. Second Keynote Speech - Father Terry Gallagher
8. Reading from the Qur'an
9. Third Keynote Speech - Maulaana M.K. Hydal
10. Presentation to the Speakers - Mr. Abbas Khan, *Imaam*
11. Question Time
12. Closing Remarks - Mr. Ahamed Hosein, President

Submitted by Ahamed Hosein, President, OAAIIL (Toronto, Canada)



## **PRAYERS & HEALTH NEWS**

### **Health update**

All praise is due to Allah for us to learn from Hazrat Ameer, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha Sahib, that our brother, Arshad Alvi, has sufficiently recovered from his complicated open heart surgery to allow him to visit with relatives and be ready to resume his publishing and printing assignments at the Centre in Lahore.

On *Eid* day Parveen and I spoke to Br. Mehboob Raza and his sister who are now visiting relatives in Australia. Br. Mehboob Raza was in good spirits and plans to return to Fiji on Monday, November 22, 2010 with his sister.

*Alhamdollillah*, we are also very delighted to learn that our brother, Ebrahim Mohamed, President, AAAIL, South Africa, who had undergone open heart surgery in South Africa, has been released from hospital and is now recuperating at home.

We request all the members of our global "Prayer Circle" to continue to pray for the complete *shifa* of the above-mentioned brothers, as well as the well-being of all the other ailing members of our worldwide *Jama'ats*.

### **Update from Hazrat Ameer, Lahore**

Dear Akbar,

*As-salamu alaikum wa-rahmat-Ullah wa-barakato.*

It's been quite a while since we had news about Arshad Alvi's health. Like usually it would be true to assume that 'no news is good news'. The news is great. Arshad is out of Lahore for the last 2 weeks visiting relatives in Gujranwala where he stayed back to celebrate *Eid* with his loved ones.

I spoke to him on *Eid* and he was in high spirits looking forward to being back performing his 'publication secretary duties' soon. I must say we have greatly missed his work as the load had fallen on our shoulders to continue with *Peghame Sullah* on monthly basis in his absence.

I personally feel every person plays a role in running of the *Jamaat* and absence of each is felt when they fall ill. We continue to pray for his good health and positive and useful contribution for many years ahead.

Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha

## **Volcanic eruptions in Indonesia**

### **Concern from the Centre**

Hazrat Ameer, on behalf of the Center and himself, expressed deep concern on the safety of our brethren in Indonesia in the aftermath of the deadly volcanic eruptions in Indonesia, which is communicated in the following letter:

Dear Ahmadi Saheb and Iwan and all over Indonesian family of Ahmadis,  
*As-salamu alaikum wa-rahmat-Ullah wa-barakato.*

On behalf of the Center I share our concern in the present natural trials the *Jamaat* is facing. We pray that Allah will protect all our brothers and sisters in Indonesia from the triple calamity of Earthquake, the volcanic eruption, and the Tsunami.

I pray for good news from Indonesia and also pray that Allah will always protect our *Jamaats* and their members all over the world. *Aameen.*

I keenly await the news from you so I may share it with our *Jamaat* here; I pray I get good news. *Aameen.*

Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha

### **Response from Iwan Yusuf, Secretary, Indonesia Jama'at**

*Assalamu 'alaikum w.w.*

On behalf of Indonesian *jamaat* we really appreciate and please convey our sincere gratitude to what you have done to us, your pray and sympathy *insha Allah* will strengthen us in facing all of His trial. There must be something good behind all of this that happened to us.

With this I also want to inform you that *alhamdulillah* none of our members live in those areas, and we are all safe. In fact the eruption of Merapi volcano is located about 25 km (approximately 16 miles) north from Yogyakarta. *Alhamdulillah* the eruption did not reach our place.

At the end we only have to say as what the Quran says in *Surat Al Baqarah:156: Inna lillahi wa ina ilaihi roji'un*, Surely we are from Him and unto Him we will return.

Please convey our *salaam* to all the brothers and sisters and again thank you for your sincere pray and sympathy. May His Blessing keep our faith and *taqwa* toward Him. *Ameen.*

On behalf of the Indonesian *Jamaat*,

Iwan Yusuf

### **Prayer from Shaukat A. Ali, Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Region**

Dear brother Iwan Yusuf

*Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuhu.*

*JazakAllahu Khaira* for your response and information. Hazrat Ameer and the members throughout the world will be relieved to see your report.

We are pleased to note that all our dear brothers and sisters are safe. However we are saddened to note the death and destruction caused by the recent natural disasters and are praying for the people affected by them. We are praying that Compassionate and Merciful Allah grant strength, comfort and patience to the general population and may the blessings of Allah be on Indonesia – *aameen*.

Please convey our *Salaams* to all the members and their loved ones.

*Wassalam*, Shaukat



## **PUBLICATION**

### **Web link to *The HOPE Bulletin* on Central Anjuman's official website**

The aaiil.org Webmaster will place online, at <http://aaiil.org/text/articles/hope/hopebulletin.shtml>, some selected issues of *The HOPE Bulletin* and some articles and special photographic supplements which do not carry any sensitive or confidential matters of our worldwide *Jama'at*.

### ***The Light* – UK Edition**

To access current and previous issues, kindly click on the following weblink: <http://www.ahmadiyya.org/>

Under the head of “Topical Material” we strongly recommend you read, “Islam, Peace and Tolerance” by Dr. Zahid Aziz.

### **Preserving publication archives in *Jama'at's* history**

We know that aaiil.org has been a great labour of love for the webmaster. He spends many hours to keep the Centre's website updated. Thanks to Allah that many members have searched through their libraries and research sources to support this much desirable cause. *JazakAllah!* May Allah bless the webmaster for his dedication and love for this noble work.

The webmaster decided to place on the website all the issues of *The Islamic Review* that were edited by Masud Akthar Choudry. He was able to collect about half the total number of issues that were published.

Through his untiring effort he was able to collect most of the missing issues which were provided by Br. Zafar Abdullah and me.

However, he still needs June 1985 and August-September 1988 to complete the sequence. If any member has these two issues in his/her library, please let us know.

Remarkably, the webmaster has arranged the published issues in such a methodical order for easy accessibility that by clicking on the following link you can view them all in one page:

<http://aaiil.org/text/articles/islamicreview/islamicreview.shtml>

The webmaster has also pointed out that, “One of them, on page 19 (page 21 of 24 of the pdf file), has an interesting find”, which may be accessed by clicking on the following link:

[http://aaiil.org/text/articles/islamicreview/1984/08\\_09\\_augsep/islamicreview\\_augsep1984.pdf](http://aaiil.org/text/articles/islamicreview/1984/08_09_augsep/islamicreview_augsep1984.pdf)

This issue also contains an article by the late Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan (of the blessed memory).

## **Newspaper rejoinder – Captain Abdus Salam Khan’s communication with the *Los Angeles Times***

Dear Sir,

Kaplan’s “Eastern Islam and the ‘clash of civilizations’ ” (24<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2010/Opinion)

The Time has come, the Walrus said,  
to talk of many things;  
Of shoes and strings and sealing wax,  
Of cabbages and kings.

(Rudyard Kipling)

Kipling also said East is East and the West is West and the twain shall never meet.

He was dead wrong on the latter point, for globalization has now made the world a small village; there is no longer a sharp division between the East and the West. We are all members of a globalized community that is becoming more and more homogenized due to the fast speed of the cyber communication and jet travel. It is now a vast arena for competing forces competing for not only pelf and power but also for the hearts and minds of people. Japan’s Toyotas are overtaking Fords, Buddhism and Yoga overtaking Christian tradition, and Islam now poised to become the majority religion in Europe in another forty years. Even here in the U.S.A. one new mosque is being built every week, and most thinking people are rooting for Imam Rauf who wants to build an Inter-Faith Islamic Center in Manhattan.

In such times of such startling change it is not meet for the *Times* to publish such derogatory and divisive articles about Islam. Kaplan’s above-captioned article opens with assertions that are false and derogatory. That Islam was spread by the sword is a notion that has not only been refuted by history but also by common sense.

Islam is the fastest growing faith, not only here in the U.S.A. but in the whole world; its growth rate is four times higher than the next faith, Christianity. Is it being spread by force? Nay, it is doing so well because of its intrinsic worth to the consumer, just like the Japanese Toyotas.

Again, Kaplan calls the Western Islam as a Desert Faith. He is dead wrong again, for the founding father of this faith, Abraham, came from Iraq and lived most of his life in the Fertile Crescent. It grew, developed, and prospered in the lush green valleys of Spain, Egypt, India, Iran and a dozen other countries of the Middle East and Africa. It ruled India for nearly a thousand years, and left behind nearly a billion Hindus freely practicing their faith. Is this coercion?

The real clash, Mr. Kaplan, is not one of civilization; rather, it is of the interpretation of Islam. We should be rooting of Imam Rauf, for he stands for the non-*Jihadi* moderate interpretation of Islam.



## WHAT OUR READERS SAY

### **Shahid Aziz, Secretary, AAIIIL, UK**

Dear brother Akbar Abdullah  
*Assalamu Alaikum.*

A very well put together *Eid* supplement. May Allah reward you for all your efforts.

It is good to point out that life is transient – as if a traveller has stopped awhile to rest before continuing his journey. I hope members reflect on their lives and work out how time they spend every day on propagation of Islam.

Kind regards and salaams to *bhabhi*

Shahid

### **Najeeb Sadiq, Islamabad, Pakistan**

Wishing a very happy *Eid Mubarik* to you and your loved ones. May this *Eid* bring happiness, health and prosperity to you and your family.

Best wishes.

Najeeb Sadiq and Family

### **Conversion to Islam – Letter forwarded by Mohammad Haroun, Florida, USA**

*As Salaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakaatuhu.*

The following links attached give light to a whole new side of events we rarely, or never hear in our side of the pond. Inspirational, motivational, and assuring, that is my way of summing it all! Enjoy!

The great Irish and English playwright, Sir George Bernard Shaw, once said in *The Genuine Islam*, Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936: “If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe, within the next hundred years, it could be Islam...”

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1323278/Tony-Blairs-sister-law-Lauren-Booth-converts-Islam-holy-experience-Iran.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/8091798/Mohammed-the-nations-secret-favourite-name.html>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1324039/Like-Lauren-Booth-ARE-modern-British-career-women-converting-Islam.html>

*JazaakAllah Khairan.*  
*Salaam Alaikum!*

## HEALTH INFORMATION

### BANANAS

Never, put your banana in the refrigerator.

Bananas contain three natural sugars – sucrose, fructose and glucose – combined with fibre. A banana gives an instant, sustained and substantial boost of energy. Research has proven that just two bananas provide enough energy for a strenuous 90-minute workout. No wonder the banana is the number one fruit with the world's leading athletes.

But energy isn't the only way a banana can help us keep fit. It can also help overcome or prevent a substantial number of illnesses and conditions, making it a must to add to our daily diet.

**Depression:** According to a recent survey undertaken by MIND amongst people suffering from depression, many felt much better after eating a banana. This is because bananas contain tryptophan, a type of protein that the body converts into serotonin, known to make you relax, improve your mood and generally make you feel happier.

**PMS:** Forget the pills – eat a banana. The vitamin B6 it contains regulates blood glucose levels, which can affect your mood.

**Anaemia:** High in iron, bananas can stimulate the production of haemoglobin in the blood and so helps in cases of anaemia.

**Blood Pressure:** This unique tropical fruit is extremely high in potassium yet low in salt, making it perfect to beat blood pressure. So much so, the US Food and Drug Administration has just allowed the banana industry to make official claims for the fruit's ability to reduce the risk of blood pressure and stroke.

**Brain Power:** 200 students at a Twickenham (Middlesex) school (England) were helped through their exams this year by eating bananas at breakfast, break, and lunch in a bid to boost their brain power. Research has shown that the potassium-packed fruit can assist learning by making pupils more alert.

**Constipation:** High in fibre, including bananas in the diet can help restore normal bowel action, helping to overcome the problem without resorting to laxatives.

**Heartburn:** Bananas have a natural antacid effect in the body, so if you suffer from heartburn, try eating a banana for soothing relief.

**Morning sickness:** Snacking on bananas between meals helps to keep blood sugar levels up and avoid morning sickness.

**Mosquito bites:** Before reaching for the insect bite cream, try rubbing the affected area with the inside of a banana skin. Many people find it amazingly successful at reducing swelling and irritation.

**Nerves:** Bananas are high in B vitamins that help calm the nervous system.

**Overweight and at work?** Studies at the Institute of Psychology in Austria found pressure at work leads to gorging on comfort food like chocolate and chips. Looking at 5,000 hospital patients, researchers found the

most obese were more likely to be in high-pressure jobs. The report concluded that, to avoid panic-induced food cravings, we need to control our blood sugar levels by snacking on high carbohydrate foods every two hours to keep levels steady.

**Ulcers:** The banana is used as the dietary food against intestinal disorders because of its soft texture and smoothness. It is the only raw fruit that can be eaten without distress in over-chronicler cases. It also neutralizes over-acidity and reduces irritation by coating the lining of the stomach.

**Temperature control:** Many other cultures see bananas as a “cooling” fruit that can lower both the physical and emotional temperature of expectant mothers. In Thailand, for example, pregnant women eat bananas to ensure their baby is born with a cool temperature.

**Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD):** Bananas can help SAD sufferers because they contain the natural mood enhancer tryptophan.

**Smoking & Tobacco Use:** Bananas can also help people trying to give up smoking. The B6, B12 they contain, as well as the potassium and magnesium found in them, help the body recover from the effects of nicotine withdrawal.

**Stress:** Potassium is a vital mineral, which helps normalize the heartbeat, sends oxygen to the brain and regulates your body's water balance. When we are stressed, our metabolic rate rises, thereby reducing our potassium levels. These can be rebalanced with the help of a high-potassium banana snack.

**Strokes:** According to research in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, eating bananas as part of a regular diet can cut the risk of death by strokes by as much as 40%!

**Warts:** Those keen on natural alternatives swear that if you want to kill off a wart, take a piece of banana skin and place it on the wart, with the yellow side out. Carefully hold the skin in place with a plaster or surgical tape!



## **HOPE MEMBER SERVICE**

### **Recipe of the Month**

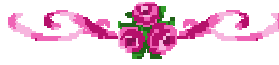
#### **Thai fried rice**

##### **Ingredients**

- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 200g green beans, trimmed and cut in about 3cm lengths
- 2 large onions chopped
- 2 garlic cloves chopped
- 1 tablespoon red curry paste
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 4-5 cups cold cooked rice
- 1 cup chopped coriander leaves
- 2 tablespoons fish sauce

### Method of Preparation

- Heat oil in a large wok on high.
- Stir fry beans, onion and garlic for about 2 minutes until garlic starts to colour.
- Add red curry paste and stir well.
- Make a well in the centre of the mixture and add the egg.
- Stir for 2 minutes until it starts to set.
- Add rice and stir fry for another 2 minutes to heat through.
- Add coriander leaves and fish sauce and cook for another minute.



## PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

### *Hajj 2010*





## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Akbar Abdullah**  
**Editor, *The HOPE Bulletin***  
**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 232811**  
**Sacramento, California 95823-0430, U.S.A.**  
**E-mail Address: [akbar\\_786us@yahoo.com](mailto:akbar_786us@yahoo.com)**  
**Telephone Number: (773) 539-6892**



**“ISLAM” stands for “I SHALL LOVE ALL MANKIND”**