# GOZZETE Z

VOL. 53 NO. 08 September 2024

CANADA



#### The Expression of Gratitude

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

"Gratitude can be expressed in many ways ... When a person praises Allah the Exalted or expresses gratitude to someone else, it is gratitude through words. Additionally, gratitude is expressed through one's actions, movements, and stillness. In other words, when a person wishes to express gratitude, all of their faculties should also reflect this gratitude, or the entire body should manifest this gratitude. ... Every favor that a person receives should be understood as coming from Allah the Exalted. One should have the knowledge that every blessing they have received is due to Allah's favours. This realization should develop. This, too, is gratitude towards Allah."

(Friday Sermon, July 13, 2012; Al-Fazl International, August 3, 2012)

as



#### **AHMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA**

An Educational and Spiritual Publication

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#### ABBREVIATIONS OF SALUTATIONS

Sallallahu alaihi wa Sallam — peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

usage: Salutation written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Alaihis Salam / Alaihas Salam — peace be upon him/her

USAGE: Salutation written after names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>100</sup> and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>100</sup>

ra Radhiallahu anhu / anha / anhum — may Allah be pleased with him/her/them

USAGE: Salutation written after names of Companions of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> and Companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>

rh Rahimahullah / Rahimahallah — may Allah have mercy upon him/her

USAGE: Salutation written after the names of deceased, pious Muslims who are not Companions<sup>ra</sup>

Ayyadahullahu Ta'ala bi Nasrihil Aziz — may Allah be his Helper!

USAGE: Salutation written after the name of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V



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# PEARLS OF

### THE HOLY QUR'AN

بِسْمِاللهِالرَّحْمٰنِالرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

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

وَإِذْ تَاذَّى رَبُّكُمْ لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَآزِيْرَثَّكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَوْرُدُ ثَكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَفُرْتُمْ لَآزِيْرَثَّكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَفُرْتُمْ النَّالِيْرَةُ ﴿

### **HADITH**

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَّبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ إِنَّكَ حَمِيْدٌ مَّجِيْدُ

O Allah! Bless Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and the people of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, and bestow grace and salutations, for verily You are the Praiseworthy, the Majestic.

Hazrat Mu'adh bin Jabal (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) took hold of his hand and said, "By Allah, I love you, Mu'adh! I advise you to never cease reciting this supplication after every Salat: "O Allah, help me in remembering You, in expressing gratitude to You, and worshipping You in the best manner."

(Sunan Abi Dawud, no. 1522)

عَنْ مُعَاذِ بْنِ جَبَلٍ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم أَخَذَ بِيدِهِ وَقَالَ: يَا مُعَادُ وَاللهِ إِنِّي لَأُحِبُّكَ وَاللهِ إِنِّي لَأُحِبُّكَ وَاللهِ إِنِّي لَأُحِبُّكَ وَاللهِ إِنِّي لَأُحِبُّكَ . فَقَالَ: أُوصِيكَ يَا مُعَادُ لَا تَدَعَنَّ فِي دُبُرِ كُلِّ صَلاَةٍ تَقُولُ اَللهُمَّ أَعِنِي عَلَى ذِكْرِكَ وَشُكْرِكَ وَحُسْنِ عَلَى ذِكْرِكَ وَشُكْرِكَ وَحُسْنِ عِبَادَتِكَ .

(سُنَن أَبِيْ دَاوود، كِتَابُ الْوِتْرِ، بَابِ فِي الْإِسْتِغْفَارِ)

# WISDOM

## SO SAID THE PROMISED MESSIAH

(PEACE BE UPON HIM)

"God Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an:

"If you render thanks to Me, I will, surely, bestow even more favours on you, but if you are ungrateful, then know that My punishment is severe indeed; meaning that when a man is blessed with the favours of God Almighty, he should render thanks to Allah for them and think of how to be of benefit to the people, and if someone does not do this and instead starts to behave tyrannically, then God Almighty takes those favours away and sends down His wrath ...

"One should not allow high office to make him forget God and to become arrogant. On the contrary, one should work with kindness and compassion. Anyone who has an office of authority should be gentle and courteous in his dealings with all people, whether they be rich or poor. It will not only bode well for others but for himself as well."

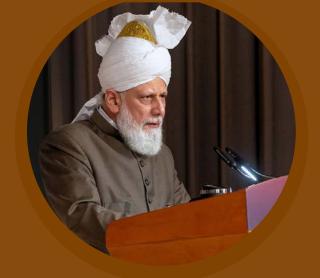
(Malfuzat [English translation, 2022], vol. 10, p. 299)



## GEMS OF GUIDANCE

from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!)

**NOTE**: Given below are brief, selected points from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>. Readers are encouraged to benefit directly from the complete Friday Sermons of Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>, available on alislam.org.



AMJ GERMANY

July 5, 2024

#### THE EXPEDITIONS OF BADRUL MAW'ID & DUMATUL JANDAL

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) spoke about two expeditions: the Expedition of Badrul Maw'id, which took place in the fourth year of Hijra; and the Expedition of Dumatul Jandal, which took place in the fifth year of Hijra.

The cause of the Expedition of Badrul Maw'id dates back to when Abu Sufyan bin Harb, upon turning back from the Battle of Uhud, declared that his people would meet the Muslims in battle at Badrus Safra the following year. The Quraish accepted Abu Sufyan's plan and set out with a two-thousand-strong army. However, after covering only twenty-two kilometres, their courage failed. Abu Sufyan then announced their return, claiming it was not the right year for battle. The enemy could not muster the courage to confront them, which boosted the Muslims' morale.

Seeing the growing influence of the Muslims, tribes near Dumatul Jandal started gathering a large force to challenge the Muslims. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) decided to disperse them to prevent any attack on Madinah and ensure safe passage for trade caravans to Syria. After a long journey of fifteen to sixteen days, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his army reached Dumatul Jandal, only to find that the tribes had scattered upon hearing of their approach.



July 12, 2024

#### **EXPEDITION OF BANU MUSTALIQ**

His Holiness Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) discussed the Battle of Banu Mustaliq, also known as the Battle of Muraiysi. The Banu Mustaliq were allies of the Quraish and participated in the Battle of Uhud with them. They controlled the main route to Makkah and posed a significant obstacle to Muslims traveling there. The Quraish were inciting many Arab tribes against Islam, and the Banu MuSṭaliq took the lead in preparing to attack Madinah.

When the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) learned of the Banu Mustaliq's preparations, he assembled an army of 700 men and set out to confront the enemy. The Muslim army, led by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), launched a unified assault, which overwhelmed the disbelievers. The battle resulted in the death of ten disbelievers, the capture of the remaining enemy, and minimal casualties on the Muslim side.

Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) also spoke about the services and good deeds of the martyr Bonja Mahmud Sahib of Togo and other recently deceased members, including Rashid Ahmed Sahib, Chaudhry Mati'ur Rahman Sahib, Manzur Begum Sahiba, and Master Sa'adat Ashraf Sahib.



PEXELS

## July 19, 2024 EXPEDITION OF BANU MUSTALIQ

In this Friday Sermon, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) continued discussing the Battle of Banu Mustaliq. The battle, which caught the Banu Mustaliq offguard, is documented in Sahih Bukhari and other historical sources. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) led the Muslims to victory, and the spoils of war included camels, goats, and captives, among whom was Barrah, daughter of the tribe's chief. She later accepted Islam, was renamed Jawairiya, and married the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), leading to the release of many captives.

The sermon also highlighted the hypocrisy of Abdullah Bin Ubai Bin Salul, whose actions and words were condemned. Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) concluded by offering prayers for the recently deceased members of the Jama'at, including Salima Bano Sahiba, Noor-ul-Haq Mazhar Sahib, and Amatul Hafiz Nighat Sahiba, and leading their funeral prayers in absentia.

## 4.

#### July 26, 2024

### GUIDANCE FOR ATTENDEES OF JALSA SALANA UK

In the Friday Sermon delivered at Hadiqatul Mahdi, Hampshire, UK, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) emphasized the spiritual significance of the Jalsa Salana UK, which had just begun. He reminded the attendees that the true purpose of attending the Jalsa is to enhance their religious, spiritual, and moral conditions, rather than focusing on the physical comforts or challenges of the event. He urged the volunteers to serve the guests of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) with the utmost care, patience, and hospitality, even if the guests appear to be unreasonable at times.

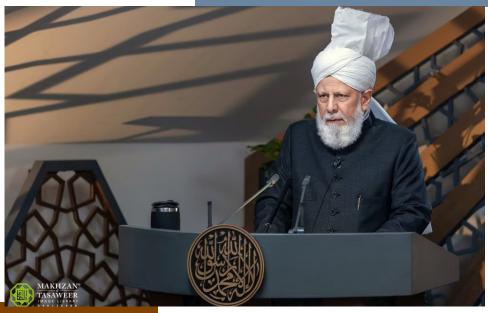
Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) also advised the guests to overlook minor inconveniences and to focus on the spiritual benefits of the Jalsa. He emphasized the importance of maintaining a positive atmosphere filled with love, peace, and patience, especially since non-Ahmadis and non-Muslims also attend the event, and the behavior of the attendees could serve as silent Tabligh (preaching).

He also highlighted the various exhibitions arranged at the Jalsa, particularly the one commemorating the centenary of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud's (may be pleased with him) visit to Europe. He encouraged guests to visit these exhibitions. He also addressed the rising number of Covid-19 cases in some parts of the world and advised attendees to take necessary precautions, including using homoeopathic medicine available at the Jalsa entrances.

In conclusion, Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) reminded everyone of the importance of prayer for Allah's protection and security during the Jalsa days.

# RaySfLight

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



## ENSURE THE PROPER MORAL TRAINING OF CHILDREN

On May 25, 2024, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) addressed the concluding session of the UK National Waqifat-e-Nau Ijtima, an annual gathering held for female members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in the UK who have pledged their lives for the peaceful service of Islam.

Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) said that while Waqf-e-Nau members had pledged to dedicate their lives in the service of the faith in line with the wishes of their parents, many such Waqf-e-Nau women had now become mothers themselves and so they carried an additional responsibility.

#### He said:

"The responsibilities placed on the shoulders of such [Waqf-e-Nau] mothers is two-fold. Not only must they strive to fulfil the demands of their pledge, but they must also endeavour to instil within their children those moral values and exceptional qualities that should be the hallmark of a Waqf-e-Nau. Indeed, the primary responsibility of such women is to ensure the proper moral training of their children so that Islamic teachings and values are instilled

within them from a young age and they grow to become devoted servants of their faith. ...

"Furthermore, such women should impress upon their husbands the fundamental importance of acting righteously at all times. Only then will you lay the foundation for your children to develop the highest morals, the best manners and inspire them to establish a firm bond with Allah the Almighty. Hence, it is paramount that your homes are filled with virtue, piety and, above all, the worship of Allah the Almighty. ...

"Ensure you offer every Namaz on time and with humility, sincerity and deep concentration so that you may develop an unbreakable bond of love and loyalty with Allah the Almighty. Likewise, in each prayer, bow down before Allah and pray that your children grow to be pious, truthful and firmly attached to their religion."

[SOURCE: https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2024/05/be-confident-and-proud-in-who-you-are-and-what-you-represent-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community-addresses-female-muslim-youth-event-waqfat-e-nau-ijtema-in-london/]

## GUARD YOURSELF AGAINST DANGEROUS INFLUENCES

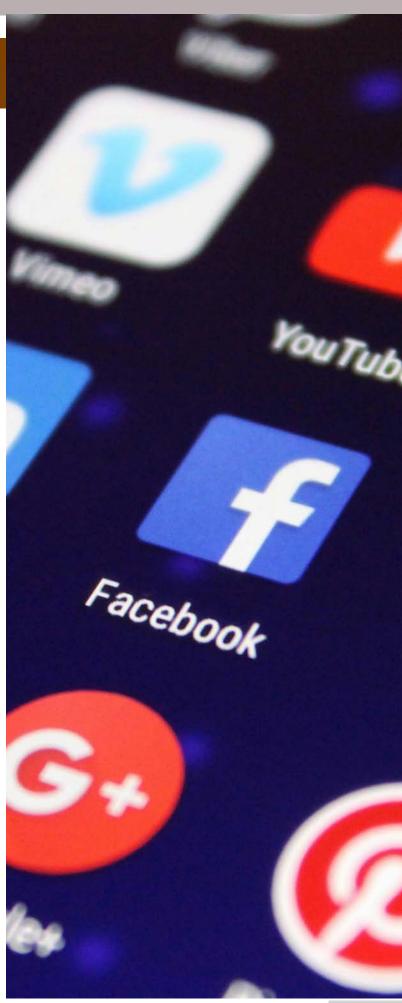
On May 26, 2024, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) addressed the concluding session of the UK National Waqfe-e-Nau Ijtema, an annual gathering held for male members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the UK who have pledged their lives for the peaceful service of Islam. His Holiness (may Allah be his Helper!) graced the event from the MTA Studios in Islamabad while more than 1,640 members of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme gathered at the Baitul Futuh Mosque in London.

Speaking of the dangers of the internet and social media, Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) said:

"Extremely harmful, indecent and violent content proliferates the internet and social media. Similarly, incredibly immoral and toxic content is also widespread on streaming services, online gaming and television. As a result, we see distressing stories in the news of children or young people whose lives have been destroyed due to their online activity and exposure to horrific content. So, every Ahmadi Muslim, and especially the Waqifeen-e-Nau, must be aware of the risks. You must exhibit moral courage and fortitude and guard yourselves from such dangerous and destructive influences. ...

"Only view programmes that are educational or which have a positive impact on your mind. Stay far away from all immoral, indecent and illicit programmes. Otherwise, be in no doubt that consuming vile content will profoundly damage you and your personality. It will drive you away from right-eousness. It will push you away from your faith. And it will prevent you from fulfilling your pledge as a Waqf-e-Nau. So, take time each day to self-reflect and analyze your conduct."

[SOURCE: https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2024/05/now-is-the-time-to-stand-up-and-discharge-the-sacred-vow-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community-addresses-muslim-youth-event-waqf-e-nau-ijtema/]



## Report of the Proceedings of JALSA SALANA CANADA 2024



AERIAL SHOT OF THE JALSA SITE AT HADIQA AHMAD, BRADFORD

The 46th Jalsa Salana Canada was held at Hadiqa Ahmad, Bradford, Ontario, from Friday, July 5 to Sunday, July 7, 2024. A brief report of the Jalsa proceedings is given below. This report has been adapted from original daily reports by Muhammad Sultan Zafar Sahib, published in the Daily Al-Fazl International London.

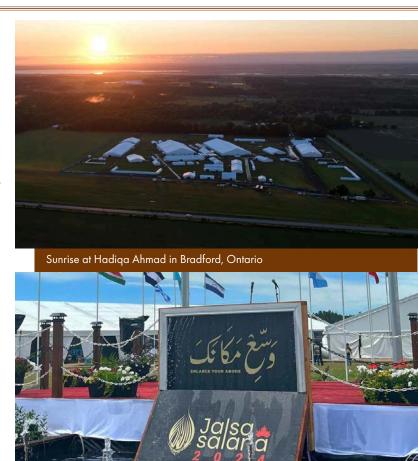
#### **DAY 1: FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Friday, July 5, 2024, marked the first day of the 46<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana Canada, which began—like every subsequent day of the Jalsa—at 4:00 AM with Tahajjud and Fajr prayers in the mosques of the Greater Toronto Area. This year, Jalsa Salana Canada was held at Hadiqa Ahmad in Bradford, Ontario—the Jama'at-owned land located 37 kilometers north of the central mission house, Baitul Islam Mosque. For several years, the annual gatherings of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Majlis Ansarullah Canada have been held at Hadiqa Ahmad, and the Jalsa Salana 2022 was also held here, albeit with strict restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, limiting attendance to just 3,000 people.

This year marked the first time that the Jalsa Salana Canada was being held in full scale at Hadiqa Ahmad. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada purchased these 200 acres of land in 2007, followed by an additional 47 acres in 2008, with the future needs of the Jama'at, especially for Jalsa Salana, in mind. The area now includes orchards, ponds, and sports fields, which are in use as required.

After months of continuous effort, a portion of the land at Hadiqa Ahmad was specially prepared for the Jalsa Salana. Volunteers of all ages tirelessly worked day and night over the past several weeks to set up marquees for the men's and women's sections, langar (kitchen), dining areas, translation, registration, MTA International, press, exhibitions, and various other departments.



This is essentially a rural area with typically limited traffic. Most roads are single-lane. The traffic and parking Nizamats had made special plans to accommodate thousands of vehicles simultaneously, assigning different routes to people coming from different regions to avoid traffic jams and prevent a gridlock situation. Golf carts were also arranged to transport those in need from the parking lots to the Jalsa site.

The central theme of the 46<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana was the revelation of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), "All goodness lies in the Qur'an."

#### **FRIDAY PRAYERS**

The Friday Sermon of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!), which he delivered earlier in the day was replayed at the Jalsa Gah at 12:30 PM. Thereafter, at 1:30 PM, the Friday and Asr prayers were offered. In the Friday Sermon, Maulana Sohail Mubarak Sharma Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, highlighted the rights and duties of the participants of Jalsa Salana in light of the teachings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and his Khulafa. After the prayers, Jama'at members went to the dining marquee for lunch.

#### PRESS CONFERENCE

At 3:00 PM, a press conference was held, attended by local and national media. Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada; Murabbi Muslehuddin Ahmad Shamboor Sahib, Incharge Arabic Desk Jama'at Canada; and Respected Asif Khan Sahib, Secretary Umur-e-Kharijia, answered the questions posed.

#### FLAG HOISTING CEREMONY

At 5:00 PM, the flag-hoisting ceremony took place. The central representative hoisted the Flag of Ahmadiyyat while Respected Amir Sahib Canada hoisted the Canadian flag. The central representative then led a prayer.

#### **OPENING SESSION**

Immediately afterward, the formal opening of the first session of Jalsa Salana began under the chairmanship of Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif Sahib, Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, with the recitation of verses 79-85 from Surah Bani Isra'il of the Holy Qur'an by Murabbi Basil Raza Butt Sahib (National Secretary Waqf-e-Nau), with the English translation presented by Murabbi Adam Alexander Sahib, and the Urdu translation by Murabbi Aneeq Ahmad Sahib.

Mirza Anjam Basit Sahib recited couplets from a poem of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), "Noor-e-Furqan" (The Light of the Qur'an). The English translation of the poem was presented by Arif Muhammad Sahib.

After this, Respected Amir Sahib made an important announcement that, by the special grace of Allah Almighty, permission has been granted to build an Ahmadiyya cemetery, including a dedicated section for Moosian at Hadiqa Ahmad,



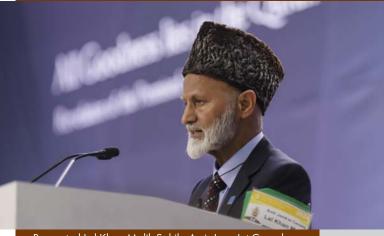
Maulana Sohail Sharma Sahib delivering the Friday Sermon



A scene of the press conference held during the Jalsa



Flag hoisting ceremony



Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada



Maulana Imtiaz Ahmed Sra Sahib, Missionary Peace Village



Respected Malik Kaleem Ahmad Sahib, Na'ib Amir Canada





Bradford. Respected Amir Sahib mentioned that approval for this cemetery had been received from the Bradford City Council and Simcoe County, but a nearby resident filed an appeal against it with the Ontario Land Tribunal. The case was pursued, and now, by the grace of Allah, the Ontario Land Tribunal has ruled in favour of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at , granting approval for the cemetery. The next stage of mapping the cemetery will begin soon, Insha'Allah.

After this announcement, Maulana Imtiaz Ahmed Sra Sahib, missionary of Peace Village Jama'at, delivered a speech in English on "The Impact of the Holy Qur'an on Our Daily Lives." Subsequently, Sameer Ahmad Sahib recited a naat—an Urdu poem in praise of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)—written by Hazrat Dr. Mir Muhammad Ismail Sahib (may Allah be pleased with him). The English translation of this naat was presented by Usman Suleman Sahib.

The last speech of the first session was delivered in English by Respected Malik Kaleem Ahmad Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, on "The Expectations of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) from his Jama'at."

After this speech, the first session concluded with a silent prayer, led by the chairman of the session, Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif Sahib, Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada.

This officially concluded the first day of Jalsa Salana Canada 2024.

#### DAY 2: SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2024

#### SECOND SESSION

The second session of Jalsa began under the chairmanship of Maulana Abdul Rashid Anwar Sahib, Missionary Incharge Canada. Hafiz Raza Dard Sahib recited verses 103 to 110 of Surah Al-e-Imran from the Holy Qur'an, followed by its English translation by Hassan Ahmad Qureshi Sahib and the Urdu translation by Kamran Manhas Sahib.

Respected Usman Ahmad Sahib recited a beautiful poem by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), beginning with the words "Ab Issi Gulshan Mein Logo ..." (Now, in this garden alone, O people, there is comfort). The English translation was presented by Taha Ahmed Sahib.

The first speech of the day was delivered by Respected Asif Khan Sahib, National Secretary Umur Kharijiyya Jama'at Canada, on the topic "Ahmadiyyat in Service of the Muslim Ummah" in English.

The next speech was delivered by Maulana Abdul Rashid Anwar Sahib, Missionary Incharge Canada, in Urdu, titled "What is the pleasure of life if He is not found?", which is a famous line by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

This year, in accordance with the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!), a special question and answer session was organized this year. Several weeks before the Jalsa, members of the Jama'at were requested to submit their

questions online. They were also asked to read through the questions submitted by others and vote on the most important ones. More than 200 members submitted their questions. The questions were arranged so that those receiving the most votes were addressed first.

Respected Farhan Khokhar Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, posed the questions to the panel which consisted of the following members: Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada; Maulana Abdul Rashid Anwar Sahib, Missionary Incharge Canada; Maulana Sohail Mubarak Sharma Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada; Maulana Farhan Iqbal Sahib, Missionary Ottawa; Respected Shahid Mansoor Sahib, National Secretary Tarbiyat Jama'at Canada.

The questions covered an array of topics, including purdah, marriage, social media, and moral and spiritual training.

It was a highly informative and interesting program which the attendees of Jalsa listened to with great attention. This marked the end of the second session of the Jalsa. Afterward, there was a break for lunch and prayers.

#### **JUSTICE CAFÉ**

A special effort was made this year to raise awareness about the oppression in Gaza, especially among the local community. The Department of Umur-e-Kharijia organized a special marquee called the "Justice Café". This marquee hosted an exhibition, and guests were informed about global injustices, particularly the situation in Gaza, in small groups across three different sections.

A special panel discussion was held at the Justice Café on Saturday, moderated by Respected Farhan Khokhar Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada. The panel included Murabbi Muslehuddin Ahmad Shamboor Sahib, Incharge Arabic Desk Jama'at Canada, Sidra Al-Kurdi Sahiba, and Naila Mahmood Sahiba. The panelists shared their experiences regarding the oppression in Gaza, after which local community guests asked questions.

#### THIRD SESSION

At 3:45 PM, the Zuhr and Asr prayers were offered, followed by the third session, presided over by Respected Amir Sahib. Maulana Ghulam Misbah Baloch Sahib, Professor Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, recited the first six verses of Surah Al-Jumu'ah. These verses were then translated into English, French, and Urdu by Murabbi Zeeshan Goraya Sahib, Faraz Ahmad Rajput Sahib, and Aamir Mahmood Rana Sahib, respectively.

Aqil Butt Sahib recited a beautiful poem by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), beginning with the couplet "Kyoon Ajab Kartey Ho ..." (Why do you marvel if I have come as the Messiah?). The English translation was presented by Umar Abdullah Chaudhry Sahib, and the French translation by Khalid Mahmood Butt Sahib.

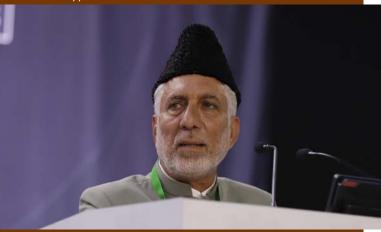
The first speech of this session was delivered in English by Respected Farhan Khokhar Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, on the topic "Navigating Life as an Ahmadi Muslim in Canada."







Maulana Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema Sahib, Vice Principal Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada



Maulana Abdul Samee Khan Sahib, Professor Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada



In accordance with the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!), political leaders and government ministers were not invited to this year's convention to keep the focus on the core objectives of the convention. However, with special permission, the Mayor of the City of Bradford, where the Jalsa was being held, Mr. James Leduc, along with his Deputy Mayor Mr. Raj Sandhu and City Council members, were invited on stage, and they addressed the members of the Jama'at. The Mayor expressed his happiness that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at had chosen their city as the permanent home for their annual convention. He assured that they will continue to support the Jama'at.

After this, Maulana Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema Sahib, Vice Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, delivered an English speech on "The Universal Quest for a Saviour: Exploring Messianic Expectations in World Religions."

Following this, Maulana Abdul Samee Khan Sahib, Professor at Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, delivered a speech in Urdu on the topic "Power of Prayer in Our Age."

After this speech, Attaul Karim Sahib recited a beautiful poem by Hazrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) with the refrain "La ilaha illallah" (There is no god but Allah).

Immediately afterward, Maulana Hafiz Attaul Wahab Sahib delivered a speech in English on the topic "The Khalifa is Appointed by God".

The final speech of the session was delivered by Respected Amir Sahib Jama'at Canada in both English and Urdu, titled "Attaining Excellence: Identity of Ahmadi Muslims". In his speech, Respected Amir Sahib mentioned that we should not take pride in our increasing numbers but should instead focus on our morals and character, ensuring they are so exemplary that they become enviable for our fellow Canadians. He further stated that until there is peace in our homes, we cannot influence the world with our words. Amir Sahib emphasized paying special attention to three fundamental aspects. First, examine our individual behavior: How are our personal morals and character? Then, focus on our household: Is the moral state of our family in accordance with Islamic standards? Finally, consider how we can improve the moral state of our Jama'at. Respected Amir Sahib specifically advised office bearers to see themselves as servants of the nation and fulfill their religious duties with dedication. In conclusion, he reminded everyone that only the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at is under the guidance of Khilafat today. We all should strive continuously and tirelessly to achieve high moral standards, and fulfill the pledge we made to Allah during the centenary of Khilafat. Ameen!

After Respected Amir Sahib's address, a few announcements were made, and thus concluded the second day of the 46<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana Canada.

#### **LAJNA SESSION**

It is noteworthy that Lajna Imai'llah had a special third session of Jalsa Salana which took place exclusively in the Lajna marquee.



It began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an and poem with translations, followed by the distribution of academic achievement awards and speeches on the following topics:

- "Looking for the One True God in a World of Many Idols" (English) by Nadia Mahmood Sahiba, National Sadr Lajna Ima'illah Canada
- "Taqwa: Abstaining from Un-Islamic Customs and Traditions" (Urdu) by Abida Mansoor Malik Sahiba, Sadr Peace Village South West
- "The Holy Qur'an: A Cure for Modern Day Ailments" (English) by Mansoora Rauf Sahiba, National General Secretary Lajna Ima'illah Canada
- "The Role of Women in the Progress of the Jama'at" (Urdu) by Dr. Maryam Sheikh Sahiba, Local Mu'avina Sadr Melville

#### **DAY 3: SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2024**

#### **CONCLUDING SESSION**

The concluding session of the 46<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana Canada began at II:00 AM under the chairmanship of Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada. The session commenced with the recitation of verses 19 to 25 from Surah Al-Hashr of the Holy Qur'an by Afolabi Ismail Sahib. The English translation of these verses was presented by Murabbi Tahir Chaudhry Sahib, while the Urdu translation was done by Luqman Rabbani Sahib.

Mudassir Shamim Sahib recited the beautiful poetic composition of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him): "Hamd o Sana Ussi Ko" (Praise and glory be to Him alone). The English translation of this poem was presented by Amar Cerimovic Sahib.

The first speech of the concluding session was delivered in English by Dr. Tauseef Khan Sahib, National Secretary Ta'lim, on the topic "Exploring Gender Identity through an Islamic Lens."

Following this, Murabbi Aizaz Ahmad Khan Sahib, Missionary of Peace Village Jama'at, delivered an English speech on "Qur'an's Blueprint for a Fulfilling Life."

#### PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY & ALAM-E-IN'AMI

Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada, then



Respected Dr. Tauseef Khan Sahib, National Secretary Ta'lim



Murabbi Aizaz Khan Sahib, Missionary Peace Village



Alam-e-In'ami recipients backstage



A view of the Jalsa stage



Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary Sahib, Na'ib Amir Canada



Attendees of Jalsa Salana



distributed prizes among the auxiliary organizations of the Jama'at based on their performance over the past year and awarded the best majalis with the Alam-e-In'ami [Award Flag]. He also distributed educational medals and certificates.

#### Majlis Ansarullah Canada

In 2023, Majlis Peace Village Center West was awarded the Alam-e-In'ami of Majlis Ansarullah Canada for outstanding performance, while Majlis Emery Village secured second place and Majlis Peace Village South East stood third. In the regional competition, Peace Village Muqami Region, Toronto West Region, and Hamilton-Niagara Region achieved first, second, and third places, respectively.

#### Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada

For 2022-2023, the Majlis Brampton Mubarak Mosque of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya received the Alam-e-In'ami, with Majlis Muqami coming second and Majlis Weston Northwest third. In the regional competition, Eastern Brampton Region, GTA Centre Region, and Halton Niagara Region were awarded first, second, and third positions, respectively.

#### Majlis Atfalul Ahmadiyya Canada

In 2022-2023, Majlis Weston Northwest of Majlis Atfalul Ahmadiyya earned the Alam-e-In'ami for best performance, with Majlis Surrey North in second place and the Majlis Brampton Flowertown in third. In the regional competition, Northern Ontario Region, Prairie Region, and Western Brampton Region secured first, second, and third positions, respectively.

#### Hifzul Qur'an School Canada

This year, the following four individuals graduated from Hifzul Qur'an School Canada and were awarded certificates:

- Hafiz Arslan Sajid Sahib (duration: 2 years)
- Hafiz Imran Chaudhry Sahib (duration: 2 years, 2 months)
- Hafiz Masroor Ahmad Maghfoor Sahib (duration: 2 years, 6 months)
- Hafiz Samar Ahmad Awan Sahib (duration: 2 years, 6 months)

#### Academic Achievement Awards

Under the Department of Ta'lim, 81 students were honoured with medals and certificates for their outstanding academic achievements last year. Sixty female students received their medals and certificates on the second day of the Jalsa in the ladies' Jalsa Gah, while 21 male students received their medals and certificates during the concluding session.



After the prize distribution ceremony, Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada, delivered an Urdu speech titled "The Leader of World Peace: The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)."

Thereafter, the central representative delivered the concluding address in which he highlighted the purpose and objectives of Tahrik-e-Jadid initiated by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him). He presented a comparative overview of how the scheme that began with a few rupees has now spread to 213 countries. At the end, an excerpt from a faith-inspiring and historic speech of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him), delivered on December 28, 1953, was played in the original audio. The powerful and blessed voice of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) and slogans of "Allah is the Greatest" reverberated throughout the Jalsa Gah, making all attendees very emotional.

At the end, Respected Amir Sahib Canada conveyed the greetings "Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuh" from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) to the attendees of the Jalsa. He expressed gratitude to all the participants of the Jalsa for their cooperation in maintaining excellent discipline and cleanliness. He also requested prayers for the volunteers who had worked tirelessly over the past several months to organize the first full-scale Jalsa at Hadiqa Ahmad. In particular, a great deal of effort and work was put in over the past few weeks. Overall, 9,612 volunteers were able to serve at different times. Respected Amir Sahib mentioned that members from 41 countries participated in this Jalsa, with a total attendance of 25,211.

At 2:25 PM, the concluding prayer took place, formally bringing the 46<sup>th</sup> Jalsa Salana Canada to a close. This was followed by the combined Zuhr and Asr prayers, after which lunch was served.

#### NOTEWORTHY ASPECTS OF JALSA SALANA CANADA 2024

By the grace of Allah, this Jalsa turned out to be a truly memorable event in every aspect.

Jama'at members were mentally prepared for challenges related to traffic and parking at the new Jalsa site. However, due to excellent planning and the hard work of the volunteers, with the grace of Allah, there were no traffic disruptions. In fact, it only took a few minutes to arrive at the Jalsa, and even when all the attendees were leaving at the same time, they reached the main street in about 15



A scene from the Jalsa Gah



Attendees of Jalsa Salana



A view of the Jalsa stage



Cleanliness volunteers performing their duty



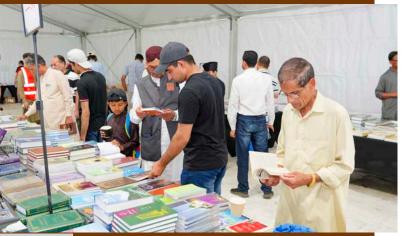
A scene from the Jalsa site



Volunteers at the Langar Khana



Volunteers at the Langar Khana



to 20 minutes. It is important to note that this is a rural area with single-lane roads and no traffic signals, making the management of thousands of vehicles a significant challenge. Thanks to the special duty of the police on the surrounding roads and particularly at the entry points, traffic flow remained smooth. Buses were also arranged from Toronto and nearby cities, benefiting thousands of members.

As usual, this year a special marquee was arranged for children with special needs, where programs were tailored to their interests and requirements.

A cycling team of Ahmadi members from the USA arrived at the Jalsa after traveling by bicycle.

The standard of cleanliness at this Jalsa was also high, with both the volunteers and the attendees making great efforts. There were concerns that the temporary restrooms might not meet the cleanliness standards seen at the International Center over the past 20 years, but by Allah's grace, the majority of attendees agreed that the cleanliness of the restrooms was much better than in the past.

The floors of all the marquees were made of special perforated plastic tiles that could be easily joined and separated. Rainwater could not settle on them, and the floors remained level.

The Langar Khana was set up about one kilometer from the Jalsa site at Hadiqa Ahmad, where hundreds of volunteers worked tirelessly day and night to prepare food for the guests. The food preparation adhered strictly to health regulations.

In addition to a large marquee for meals, separate dining marquees were set up for the elderly, volunteers, and guests. There was also a separate area arranged for tea.

An exhibition featuring translations of the Holy Qur'an in various languages was organized, and the Tabligh Departmenthad arranged a special area to introduce Islam to guests. In addition to stalls set up by various departments of the Jama'at, the Humanity First Canada stall and the Bookstall were also attractions for the attendees. The bazaar remained bustling throughout.

By Allah's grace, the weather remained mild on all three days of the Jalsa. While clouds occasionally gathered and there was light rain, it never caused any discomfort or hindered any activities. By the end of the Jalsa, the temperature started to rise again.

The Jalsa received extensive coverage in the local and national media, including TV, radio, newspapers, online platforms, and social media. The proceedings of the Jalsa Salana were broadcast live via MTA 8. MTA International Canada Studios also aired interesting programs and interviews before and between sessions. Social media platforms like YouTube and X (formerly known as Twitter) were continuously updated with content. Jalsa Radio broadcasts could be heard within a 30-kilometer radius, featuring live traffic updates, weather forecasts, interviews, impressions from guests, listener calls, and other engaging programs.

May Allah accept all the prayers made by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) for the attendees of this Jalsa. Ameen!



Parking area



Volunteers offloading supplies



Atfal on water duty



Volunteers transporting elders to the Jalsa site



Some guests of Jalsa Salana



The Jalsa reception desk



Amir Sahib with volunteers of the hospitality department



Security checking



LANGAR KHANA AT JALSA SALANA CANADA 2024

#### **LANGAR KHANA**

## The Epitome of Hospitality

(PART 2)

Fazal Masood Malik, PEI

#### Langar of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> at Hadiqa Ahmad, Bradford, Ontario

Under the blessed guidance and leadership of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!), a momentous event unfolded this year. Since 1986, the Langar of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has been situated at the Baitul Islam Mosque complex, steadily expanding to meet the needs of a growing community. In 2024, this Langar, as part of the Jalsa Salana, was relocated to Hadiqa Ahmad in Bradford, marking a significant milestone in the journey of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada.

Spread across three acres of land, with an additional two acres wisely reserved for future expansion, the Langar Khana stood as a beacon of service, embodying the essence of Islamic hospitality as taught by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

This monumental undertaking, led by a team of 200 selfless volunteers, was more than just food preparation. It was a tes-

tament to their unwavering dedication, meticulous planning, and tireless service. For two months, these volunteers worked day and night, transforming raw land into a sanctuary of sustenance. They laid six inches of gravel to combat the elements, installed drainage systems and septic tanks, and erected propane systems to fuel cooking for the guests of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

The magnitude of this operation was immense. Five cooking tents and a tea preparation station were set up, ready to serve seven meals over three days to an estimated 20,000 guests per day. This meant that the Langar Khana was prepared to provide sustenance for a staggering number of meals—more than 60,000—over the course of the event. In a new approach, food was even transported to the Baitul Islam area, extending the reach of this blessed service to about 5,000 guests staying in the area for the event.



Central to this massive undertaking were the storage facilities that housed industrial-sized freezers, refrigerators, and pantries, capable of holding the immense quantities of ingredients required to feed thousands. These stores were the lifeblood of the operation, ensuring a steady supply of fresh ingredients for the duration of the event. One can only imagine the logistics required to set up and dismantle such an immense inventory.

Innovation shone through the creation of a new department dedicated solely to cleaning cooking pots and utensils, freeing the cooking staff to focus on their culinary duties. This attention to detail and efficiency was mirrored in the thoughtful organization of dining areas. Nine marquees, divided between men's and women's sections, catered to diverse needs; from

general dining to special needs, seniors, and even a dedicated space for children.

The Langar Khana was more than a food preparation and serving section; it was a self-contained community of service. With its own storage facilities, sleeping quarters, prayer areas, and a 24/7 food serving section for volunteers who cook day and night, it stood as a testament to the power of faith in action.

The last Jalsa Salana this author attended in Rabwah was in 1980. The scale of operations at Hadiqa Ahmad brought back many memories, and my heart bowed in prostration to Almighty Allah for a period beyond my capacity at the sight of this blessed event.

As Jalsa Salana 2024 unfolded, this Langar Khana of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in Bradford, Ontario, served not just food but unity and the enduring message of Islamic hospitality. The seamless coordination of this massive opera-

tion, from food preparation to serving and cleaning, was a testament to the organizational skills and dedication of the volunteers. It was a living embodiment of the Qur'anic injunction of feeding the guests, manifested through service on an awe-inspiring scale. This remarkable feat of hospitality and service not only nourished bodies but also strengthened the spiritual and community bonds, leaving a glow on all who participated and witnessed it.

#### Travelling Langar of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> at Jalsa Salana Western Canada

Jalsa Salana Western Canada, which began in 1978 in Calgary with 80 attendees, has grown into a significant event that attracted nearly 4,000 participants from across the four western provinces in 2023.

Until 2019, the event rotated annually between the Ahmadiyya Muslim Communities in Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, and Saskatoon. This rotation required the transportation of the entire Langar setup, including heavy industrial cooking pots and gas stoves, over hundreds of miles to each new location. Coordinating this mobile Langar was a logistical challenge, with numerous volunteers involved in loading and unloading equipment. Initially, home garages served as cooking spaces before the meals were transported to the event site using cars and taxis. The annual costs of renting trucks and equipment amounted to tens of thousands of dollars.

From 1978 to 1985, the convention was held over the Victoria Day holiday in May. From 1988 onwards, the date was moved

to the Labour Day weekend in September. This change was necessary to accommodate for the holy month of Ramadan. It is important to note that Jalsa Salana Western Canada was not held in 1986, 1987, 1991, 1997, and 2012, due to the blessed visits of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih. A significant moment occurred in 2008 when His Holiness Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) inaugurated the Baitun Nur Mosque in Calgary. To commemorate this historic event, that year's Jalsa Salana was combined with the mosque's inauguration.

In the early 21st century, erecting tents at the convention grounds for Langar became a common practice, reducing transportation needs but requiring more manpower. Recognizing the challenges posed by the rotating schedule, a special meeting of Western Canada delegates was convened at 2019's Jalsa Salana Canada in Mississauga, Ontario. After careful deliberation, it was decided to permanently anchor the Jalsa Salana Western Canada in Calgary. While the rotation allowed the Jalsa to connect with communities across the region, the fixed Calgary location has brought greater efficiency.

Today, the streamlined Langar operation at Baitun Nur involves a core team of approximately 22 volunteers who prepare over 4,000 meals during the two-day event. Since 2008, the Langar has been set up in the mosque's parking lot during Jalsa, while the main event takes place at the nearby Genesis Centre.

#### Langar at Jalsa Salana Francophone

The Jalsa Salana Francophone, a spiritual convention for French-speaking Ahmadi Muslims in Canada, had its inaugural event in November 2018 at the An-Nusrat Mosque in Montreal, Quebec. It was a particularly memorable event, marked by the heavy snowfall that day. Additionally, it was the first Jalsa of its kind held in Canada. Since then, it has become an annual gathering that brings together members of the Francophone Ahmadi Muslims in Canada. While the An-Nusrat Mosque has been the primary venue for the Jalsa Salana Francophone, there was an exception in 2023, when it took place at a banquet hall.

The Langar setup for the Jalsa Salana Francophone has evolved since its inception. Typically, two marquees are set up—one for food preparation and another for the kitchen. The number of stoves used has increased over the years, starting from three in the early years (2018–2019 and 2022) and reaching six in 2023, when the event was held at a banquet hall with a commercial kitchen.

For the 2024 Francophone Jalsa, the organzers were plannning to use eight gas stoves. The team sizes for the kitchen and food distribution have remained relatively consistent. In 2018, 2019 and 2022, the kitchen team consisted of eight people, while the distribution team had 15 members. In 2023, when the event took place at the banquet hall, the kitchen team was reduced to five people as the banquet hall staff handled the serving. However, for the 2024 Jalsa, the kitchen team will have eight members, and the distribution team will be increased to 20 people.



Attendance at the Jalsa Salana Francophone has fluctuated over the years, starting from 812 attendees in 2018 and expected to reach 1,100 in 2024, Insha'Allah.

Although the Jalsa Salana Francophone is a relatively new addition to the annual spiritual gatherings of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in Canada, it has quickly become an important event for French-speaking Ahmadi Muslims. Attendees not only come from Quebec but also from various parts of Canada and international audiences, including Algeria, Benin, Ivory Coast, Niger, and France.

#### A parting thought

This astounding growth is a living testimony to the fulfilment of the prophecies of Hazrat Ahmad (peace be upon him). In one of his Arabic couplets, he remarked:

The leftovers from the tables were my food; And today, I feed nations!

(Ai'na-e-Kamalat-e-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 5, p. 596)

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) has expressed his thankfulness for the expansion of Jalsa Salana and the Langar to the corners of the world. In his Friday sermon of August 4, 2006, Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) brilliantly explained that the Jalsa Salana is a bright chapter of divine support and the Jama'at's progress.

This convention began in the obscure town of Qadian, where the Messiah of the Age (peace be upon him) said: "This is that



matter which is based purely on divine support and the elevation of the word of Islam." Soon after, the convention took on a global nature.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said: "The foundation stone of this [Jalsa] has been laid by God Almighty with His own hand, and He has prepared nations for it who will soon join in." He emphatically stated: "Do not consider these matters impossible because they are the acts of the One for whom nothing is impossible."

Thus, the word of God Almighty was fulfilled, and the caravan of Ahmadiyyat, upon which the sun never sets, continued to spread across the horizons with every rising sun. The words of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) began to come true that every nation would drink from this fountain and the Qur'anic promise that during the time of the Messiah in the latter days, people would be joined together.

Thus, the word spoken by God Almighty was fulfilled, and that caravan of Ahmadiyyat, upon which the sun never set, continued to spread across the corners of the world with each rising sun and continues to do so.

## HIS GRACES THAT ARE UPON ME EVERY MOMENT

English translation of selected Urdu couplets of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

For them should suffice this very Sign from God; Namely, His graces that are upon me every moment.

Look, God has inclined the multitude [towards me]; Finding me unknown, [He] made me renowned throughout the world.

I was a poor man, and He gave me beyond measure. Whatsoever I wished for, He bestowed it all.

There is absolutely nothing from among the blessings of this world

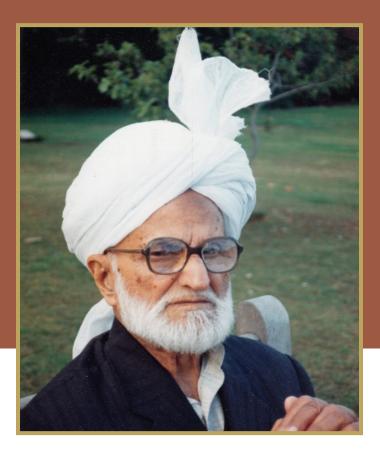
That He did not grant me through His favours.

That He should treat 'evil' people in this way, Is this not something outside the practice and miracles [of God]?

Why this alliance with an 'impostor'?

Can anyone recall a precedence of this kind of favour?

(Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya: Part V [English, 2018], pp. 29-30)



#### Beautiful Memories of Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib

Safdar Ali Warraich

oday, I write some memories of Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib, a very dear and beloved personality. Although there are countless incidents, each of which strengthens belief in Allah, I humbly share only my personal experiences. As I hold my pen to write, tears flow from my eyes, in his memory.

My native village is Raju'a, Tehsil Phalia, District Mandi Bahauddin, home to nearly 30 companions of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). One of them was my great-grandfather, Hazrat Chaudhry Budhe Khan Sahib (may Allah be pleased with him).

In May 1986, I moved to Sargodha for work. Dr. Zaheeruddin Mansoor Ahmad Sahib and Maulana Mahmood Ahmad Bengali Sahib (Sadr, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Markaziyya, Rabwah) introduced me to Chaudhry Khadim Hussain Warraich Sahib, the Qa'id Zilla (district) of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sargodha at the time. He included me in the district's Majlis-e-Amila, which led to my introduction to Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib. Thus began a series of meetings with him that continued until his passing.

Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib encouraged me to grow a beard, even if it was short, saying that it would enable me to participate in important Jama'at meetings. He gave me this advice in the presence of Chaudhry Khadim Hussain Warraich Sahib. I thought deeply about his suggestion, and since such a great person had encouraged me, I decided to give it a try. Three days later, we met again. During that time, I had not shaved. When we visited Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib together, Khadim Sahib told him, "Safdar Warraich has started growing a beard

on your suggestion." Hazrat Mirza Sahib lovingly placed his hand on my shoulder and said, "Congratulations, Masha'Allah, it looks beautiful." After that, I had no hesitation in keeping a beard. Al-Hamdu lillah!

In 1987-88, Mukarram Mahmood Ahmad Bengali Sahib appointed me as Qa'id Zilla Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sargodha. It was a time of intense opposition to Ahmadis. Chaudhry Khadim Hussain Sahib, while explaining my duties, advised me to visit Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib daily at the district courts, as well as to meet Qureshi Mahmood-ul-Hassan Sahib and Chaudhry Nasrullah Khan Bhalli Sahib (the District Na'ib Amir of Sargodha) for further guidance. From the start, I remained in daily contact with Hazrat Mirza Sahib. Whenever I visited, he would come out of the lawyer's hall, meet me in the veranda, listen to my concerns, and offer detailed guidance. He would always bid farewell with immense love and affection.

Once, I submitted a report on Da'wat Ilallah (Tabligh), but I hadn't included the report from Lajna Sargodha City. Hazrat Mirza Sahib called his daughter, Baji Mansoora Sahiba, the president of Lajna Sargodha, and told her that if she didn't submit her report on time, the entire Sargodha Jama'at's report would be delayed. He said, "Now, submit the report first, then do anything else." His instruction exemplified prioritizing faith over worldly matters. After this guidance, Baji Mansoora Sahiba ensured that the Da'wat Ilallah report was always on time.

Seven years into my marriage, I had no children. Whenever I requested Hazrat Mirza Sahib for prayers, he would advise me to request prayers from Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (rh), and he would also pray for me. In 1987, I had a dream in which I saw

that I was part of a Majlis-e-Amila meeting where Hazrat Mirza Sahib was seated to my left and Chaudhry Nasrullah Bhalli Sahib (Qa'id Zilla Sargodha) was to his right. In the dream, Bhalli Sahib raised his index finger and announced that Allah would bless me with children. He then lifted Hazrat Mirza Sahib's hand and repeated three times, "Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib, be a witness to this." When I woke up, I immediately prayed Tahajjud, thanking Allah for the dream. I shared it with my wife and then Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib, who gave me something sweet to eat and said, "The interpretation of this dream is also very sweet! May Allah bless you." Al-Hamdu lillah, I was later blessed with a son.

In March 1987, I was appointed President of the Supervising Committee for the Jama'at's 100-year celebrations. On March 23, while monitoring Jama'at programs with my dear friend Altaf Ahmad Sahib, we were attacked and taken into custody. My right hand was seriously injured. A fellow prisoner kissed my hand and said, "I don't know if your religion is right or not, but your blood, shed for your faith, is blessed." Non-Ahmadi clerics would come to the police station in large numbers, demanding that we be hanged. Hazrat Mirza Sahib called me at the station, boosting my morale and praying for us. As a result of his prayers, we were released by midnight, Al-Hamdu lillah.

On October 14, 1992, I was attacked again. I was taken to the hospital, where I lay between life and death. In this critical state, I prayed, "O my Lord, I am weak and insignificant. I have no children. Moreover, after the death of my father, I am the only one who is taking care of my younger brothers and sisters. Also, I have responsibilities as Qa'id Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, and the Secretary of Da'wat Ilallah at the District level. I wasn not able to fulfil these responsibilities as they should have been fulfilled. Forgive me and cleanse me as a washerman cleans clothes." I slept in this condition and dreamt that Hazrat Mirza Sahib kissed my forehead and reassured me that I would recover and continue serving the Jama'at. The next day, when Hazrat Mirza Sahib visited me in the hospital, I told him about my dream, and he said, "If I had known about your condition, I would have come earlier."

After 15 days in the hospital, I moved to Faisalabad for further treatment. Upon returning home, Hazrat Mirza Sahib visited me and prayed for my recovery. Shortly after, he sent me a letter suggesting I forgive my attacker. In my pain, I wrote back, questioning whether he would be so quick to forgive if it had been his son. The next day, Hazrat Sahib visited me, saying, "How do you know I value my sons more than you? You are more dear to me than my own son Nisar." His love for his Jama'at colleagues was greater than for his own children.

His guidance was a constant in my life. Whether it was weekly Majlis-e-Amila meetings or personal advice, his words were cherished. Even during my recovery from the attack, he ensured I attended meetings by sending a car for me. His love, affection, and leadership left a profound impact on all of us.

In 1997, Allah blessed me with a son from my second marriage.

Hazrat Mirza Sahib called several times that day to check on us and was overjoyed when I informed him of the birth. He later visited us, holding my son and praying for him. Despite our humble living conditions, he comforted us with stories of his own struggles after migrating from India.

Hazrat Mirza Abdul Haq Sahib's departure left a deep void in our hearts. His love for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), and Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya was unwavering. His life was a glowing lamp, and we pray that Allah grants him a high place in Jannat-ul-Firdous at the feet of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Ameen.

#### **Special Appeal for Prayers**

In his Friday Sermon of August 23, 2024, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) instructed us to recite the following prayers to remain within the fortress of Divine protection, safe from Satanic onslaughts:

#### PRAYER 1

سُبْحَانَ اللهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ سُبْحَانَ اللهِ الْعَظِيْمِ اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَّآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

TRANSLATION: Holy is Allah with His praise, Holy is Allah the Great; O Allah, bless Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and the people of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>.

200 TIMES DAILY (age 25+)
100 TIMES DAILY (ages 15–25)
33 TIMES DAILY (children)
3 – 4 TIMES DAILY (small children)

#### **PRAYER 2**

اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَّاتُوْبُ اِلَيْهِ

TRANSLATION: I seek forgiveness from Allah, my Lord, for all my sins, and turn to Him.

100 TIMES DAILY

#### PRAYER 3

رَبِّ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ خَادِمُكَ رَبِّ فَاحْفَظْنِيْ وَانْصُرْنِيْ وَارْحَمْنِيْ

TRANSLATION: O my Lord, everything is Your servant. O my Lord, so protect me, help me and have mercy upon me!

100 TIMES DAILY





# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ABDUS SALAM QURAN, EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE



Mahwish Mahwish Scholarships coordinator at National Department of Ta'lim



Association of Ahmadi Muslims Scientists (AAMS), Canada holds its second Abdus Salam Quran, Education, Science & Technology (QuEST) Conference in Brampton, Ontario.

he second annual Canadian Abdus Salam QuEST Conference, took place at Masjid Mubarak, Brampton on May 25th, 2024. The inaugural QuEST Conference was held at the same location on August 12, 2023. This conference, an expansion of the previously held "Qur'an and Science Conference" and "Abdus Salam Science Fair", was designed to unite Ahmadi researchers and young scholars from diverse disciplines, promoting the exchange of research work and a shared passion for science. The event was hosted by the Association of Ahmadi Muslim Scientists (AAMS).

#### **Opening Session**

The event started with tilawat by Mubarak Ahmad Sahib, and English translation by Nabigh Ahmad Sahib. The attendees were then welcomed by Dr. Tauseef Khan Sahib, National Secretary Ta'lim, and was followed by an introduction to the QuEST Conference by Dr. Naveed Aziz Sahib, President of AAMS Canada. The two set the stage for the event, letting the audience know what to expect and how this con-



Attendees of the Abdus Salam QuEST Conference

ference sets itself from others, particularly its intersectional approach to Academia by incorporating the Holy Quran and religion as well. Thus began the first session, chaired by Fasih Rehman Sahib (Chair, AAMS Men Wing and PhD Candidate at University of Waterloo).

The first two presentations of the day similarly set the tone of the Conference. Dr. Ali Al-Buraki Sahib spoke about "The insect species mentioned in the Holy Qur'an: Scientific reflection and clarifications." Similarly, Nuzhat Khurshid Sahiba presented about "Analyzing the Secular Binary." One must keep in mind that the way this event sets itself apart

people across the country who are losing access to necessary healthcare services.

This was followed by Alisha Basit Sahiba's talk discussing "How Multilingualism Affects Cognition." Having always heard about the benefits of being bilingual as an immigrant



Attendees of the Abdus Salam QuEST Conference

from its academic counterparts by bringing religion into academia. The use of a text like the Holy Quran which would not be seen as acceptable in a traditional academic setting. Hence, the above presentations were necessary for both the general audience and the scholars present. They also provided the essential context for what lens is needed to navigate the conference.

The first academic speaker of the day was Dr. Altaf Qadeer Sahib speaking about "The Effects of Multidimensional Environments and Creative Frames to Empower our Multiple Accomplishments with Insights from The Holy Quran." This presentation did a good job incorporating both academic research and bringing in the Quranic context. It embodied the essence of the QuEST Conference and set the tone for the presentations to come.

The next presentation was about "The Contemporary Implications of Social Determinants of Health and Health Inequality" by Fatima Ahmad Sahiba (first-year health sciences student at the University of Western Ontario). This talk felt very relevant given the growing strain that is being put on our healthcare system and the increasing number of

and in the context of Canada being a bilingual country this was an interesting presentation to listen to and renewed my interest in learning more languages.

The last presentation of the first session was by Haanye Lone speaking about The end-to-end UNHCR Refugee Resettlement Journey: The Case of Ahmadi Muslim Refugees from Pakistan to Canada. Given the demographic of the audience, for many of them this was a topic that was close to home. The research revealed that there is a lot that UNHCR officers

can do to facilitate a better experience for refugees but don't.

The first session came to a close, and AAMS members participated in elections while the rest got ready for prayer. The prayers were followed by lunch.

Aside from the presenters, students were also given the opportunity to have posters of their research and present them to attendees during lunch or dinner. For younger scholars, it was easier to speak to smaller groups or even one on one to present their findings. It helped them build their confidence, building the foundation for them to speak to larger groups in the future.

#### Second Session

The second session was chaired by Dr. Uzma Urooj Sahiba (Chair, AAMS Women Wing and Deputy Director, Natural Resources, Canada), and continued with a series of presentations. The first of which was by Tashifa Imtiaz Sahiba, a first year MD PhD student at Queen's University. Her research involves studying microRNA for Cancer Diagnosis. She also spoke about the impacts of machine learning and AI in medicine and how it can be used to study biomarkers which



Abdus Salam QuEST Conference head table

can help diagnose cancer in earlier stages. She also touched on the unique challenges of working with AI and how their lab deals with them. Having had the opportunity to speak to her after the presentation, I asked her if there were any challenges she experienced in preparing for an event such as the Abdus Salam QuEST Conference. She shared that the uniqueness of the conference was in the diversity of attendees from a range of fields. She expressed having to break down the information in a way that was easy to understand for everyone regardless of age or academic background as the conferences she is used to attending are filled with speakers and audiences of the same field. Having listened to many presentations, I would say that all the speakers did a magnificent job in breaking down complex subjects to be more digestible for a general audience.

The next presentation was by Dr. Zeeshan Bhatti Sahib (Senior Advisor Hydrogeologist with the Government of PEI) who presented "Change Impact Assessment and Mitigation Strategies for Sustainable Agricultural Management in Prince Edward Island." His presentation highlighted the link between Quran and Science as he incorporated many quotes from the Holy Quran and holy personages like Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV (rh). His presentation and research also revealed that over time, potatoes in PEI will require less water to grow—a rare positive impact of climate change. I think such hopeful news was a breath of fresh air in a time when climate change is linked with thoughts of doom and the end of the world as we know it.

The third presentation was by Hadia Mustansir Sahiba, a second year Master of Science student in Psychology at Trent University. Her presentation was on "The Effect of Chronic Stress on Hippocampal Plasticity and Behavioural Learning."

The fourth presentation was by Maryam Khalil Sahiba, a PhD Candidate at the University of Toronto, in the Faculty of Arts and Science. She presented her ongoing research in immunology, "Weaponizing the Patient's Immune System for Cancer Treatment." Her research specifically focuses on what interventions and treatments can be used to create an ideal candidate for immunotherapy.

The final presentation was by Ihtisham Ahmed, an undergraduate student at Guelph Humber in Kinesiology. His research is concentrated on Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, the presentation was called "Muscle Scarring and Calcification in Muscle Wasting Disease." The research concluded that fibrosis and calcification in the muscles happened in the same area, his conclusion supported previous studies that suggest fibrosis occurs first and leads to calcification. However, this theory is not proven and further research is required for conclusive results.

The conference also allotted time for Q&A sessions with the speakers. It provided a good opportunity for the students to consider their research from an intersectional perspective. It also gave them new perspectives to take back to their research as it further develops.

#### **Closing Session**

Then the program moved on to the closing session after a short tea break. It commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Ata-ul Haye Sahib, and translation by Usama Mansoor Sahib. It was followed by a report of the conference. There were a total of 150 attendees, men comprising the majority of them with 90 members and women with 79. There were a total of 10 travel bursaries awarded to students to aid them financially in making it to the conference. All 6 student speakers were also awarded for their presentations.



Attendees of the Abdus Salam QuEST Conference partaking a meal

There was also one conference volunteer award, given to Baria Khan Sahiba to recognize her extraordinary efforts in the organization of the event. There was no telecast this year, however, the program was recorded and will be uploaded to the AAMS Canada Youtube channel.

This was followed by a closing speech by Maulana Sohail Mubarak Sharma Sahib, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada. He spoke about Dr. Abdus Salam's early life and character traits. Traits and habits that he encouraged everyone to emulate for a successful life and career. One that stood out was his notetaking habit, he would supposedly write so much that "no object that could hold ink was safe from him" he took notes because he got ideas very suddenly and they left just as quickly. As someone who has experienced the loss of what I was sure was a brilliant idea, this is one trait that I will definitely try to embody moving forward.

Next there was a report on the activities of the Ta'lim Department by the National Ta'lim Secretary, Dr. Tauseef Khan Sahib. He spoke of the guidelines which must be followed by the Talim Department, how AAMS fits into it and new initiatives like the Urdu Desk. Lastly, he announced the winners of the 2023 Talim Scholarships. There were a total of 26 scholarships, sponsored by different families. Of the 26 scholarships, 20 of them were awarded to women.

Having spoken to one of the scholarship students Baria Khan Sahiba, who was also given the volunteer award. I asked her how she felt about winning a scholarship. She said she was honoured and expressed her gratitude to the sponsors and award selection committee. She also saw it as a source of great encouragement as she pursued her graduate studies.

Dr. Uzma Urooj mentioned being very proud of the women during this conference, even out of the 6 student presenters, 5 were women. She hopes to continue seeing women thrive in all fields.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Abdus Salam QuEST Conference came to a close with silent prayers and dinner. The organizers hope to see more attendees and speakers in the coming years. Insha'Allah.

## During the Blessed Gathering of Jalsa Salana 1973

Amatus Salam Riffat Hameed, Hamilton Mountain Jama'at



How blessed was that sacred scene When the sky was devoid of a beam. In thick mist, all of Rabwah was cloaked, The weather was chilly, the coldness evoked. In dense fog, everything was enwrapped, Yet those true followers in Divine Light were trapped. Like real kin, they gathered here, To celebrate this meeting with fervent cheer. Among them were Ahmadis from distant lands, Americans, Germans, Africans, and British bands. Our Caliph spoke with eloquence rare, A new sun rose, as heavens declared. He touched that heavenly chord so rare, Angels descended to share that precious fare. He awakened drooping and drowsy souls, His speech, a spiritual and revolutionary toll. He illuminated the path toward that Goal, For which our prayers to heaven soar. I greet those blessed guests of the Messiah, Who came here to this sacred lee, Sacrificing time and luxury with glee. I salute, pray, and pay homage to those, Who hold the warmth of divine love close. Though the weather was chilly and cold, Their love and sincerity cannot be sold, For they are more precious than pearls and gold.

## DR. MOHAMMAD YOUSUF KHAN An Honourary Missionary of the Earlier Days

Ghulam Misbah, Professor, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada

r. Mohammad Yousuf (also spelled Yusuf) Khan was one of the pioneer Ahmadis to reach America and had the privilege of leading the Ahmadiyya mission in the United States. A brief introduction to his life and contributions follows.

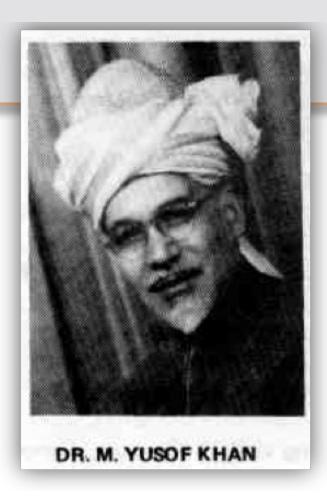
Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Khan was born in 1900 in Jehlum, current-day Pakistan. His father, Hazrat Dr. Yaqoob Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), a veterinary physician who died in 1931, accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1901 and was a companion of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Dr. Yousuf Khan received his early education in Qadian.

After the arrival of Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him) in the USA in 1920, Dr. Yousuf Khan traveled to America independently as a student. While pursuing his studies, he dedicated significant time to missionary work. In *The Moslem Sunrise*, Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him) wrote the following alongside a photograph of Dr. Yousuf Khan:

"Our young friend in America, who works hard for his living and then evangelizes for Islam in his spare time." (*The Moslem Sunrise*, April & July 1923, p. 193, edited by Dr. Mufti Mohammad Sadiq, 4448 Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL)

On page 190 of the same issue, it is noted: "Brother M. Yusuf Khan delivered three lectures on Islam in Rockford, Michigan."

After Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq (may Allah be pleased with him), Dr. Yousuf Khan continued serving the Ahmadiyya mission alongside Hazrat Maulvi Mohammad Din (may Allah be pleased with him) (who passed away on March 7, 1983, and is buried in Bahashti Maqbara, Rabwah). When Hazrat Mohammad Din's (may Allah be pleased with him) tenure was coming to an end, there were plans for Hazrat Malik Ghulam Farid (who passed away on January 7, 1977),



a missionary in the UK, to replace him in America. However, this did not materialize, and Hazrat Mohammad Din (may Allah be pleased with him) returned to Qadian, arriving there on December 30, 1925. (*Al-Fazl Qadian*, July 16, 1925, p. 1, and *Al-Fazl Qadian*, January 1, 1926, p. 1).

Dr. Yousuf Khan reflected on his early days in America, stating:

"I know these facts, since I came as a student in January 1921 and spent most of my time with this Godly man... Hazrat Mufti Sahib was succeeded by Hazrat M. Muhammad Din in April 1923. These two holy men had a great influence on my spiritual and moral life. I gained practical missionary ex-

perience from Dr. Sadiq and Maulvi M. Din. After the departure of Maulvi Sahib, I was made temporarily in charge of missionary work and began traveling to Indiana, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. I established a mission in Cincinnati and later moved to Pittsburgh in March 1930. Branches were also established in Braddock, Homestead (PA), and in Youngstown, Akron, Columbus, and Dayton (OH)." (*The Muslim Sunrise*, Vol. XLII, No. 4, December 1975, pp. 14-15).

Some of his missionary reports were published in Al-Fazl, Qadian. Relevant links from the archives are listed below:

- February 19, 1926 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19260219.pdf)
- April 23, 1926 (<u>alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/</u> A19260423.pdf)
- August 17, 1926 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19260817.pdf)
- October 19, 1926 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19261019.pdf)
- December 3, 1926 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19261203.pdf)
- May 20, 1927 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19270520.pdf)
- April 29, 1927 (alislam.org/alfazl/rabwah/ A19270429.pdf)

In late 1927, Dr. Yousuf Khan returned to India. At that time, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) appointed Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee (who passed away on October 30, 1955) as the missionary in charge of the Ahmadiyya mission in the USA. Dr. Yousuf Khan was appointed as his assistant. A farewell party for both missionaries took place on May 20, 1928. (*Al-Fazl Rabwah*, May 29, 1928)

At this time, Dr. Yousuf Khan also brought his younger brother, Ahmad Hayyat Khan, to the USA. Sufi Bengalee took charge of the mission in Chicago, while Dr. Yousuf Khan was stationed in Pittsburgh, PA, and his brother served as an honorary missionary in Cincinnati, OH. The addresses of both are recorded in the Moslem Sunrise issues from the 1930s:

Dr. M. Y. Khan: 2040 Rose St., Pittsburgh, PA Mr. A. H. Khan: 928 W. 7th St., Cincinnati, OH (*The Moslem Sunrise*, December 1930)

Dr. Yousuf Khan's address at 2222 Webster Ave., Pittsburgh, is also mentioned in *The Moslem Sunrise*, Vol. IV, No. 1 (April–July 1931).

#### Chants Echo in City's Only Moslem Mosque



This cutting from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on August 1, 1932 (p. 13) shows Dr. M. Y. Khan leading prayers and teaching the Holy Qur'an

In 1933, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) delegated Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee and Dr. Yousuf Khan to attend the World Fellowship of Faiths conference in Chicago.

(Al-Fazl Qadian, August 27, 1933, pp. 1-2).

Hazrat Chaudhry Mohammad Zafrulla Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) was also in the USA for a short tour, and all three addressed the conference. Dr. Khan's topic was "Islam Overcoming Racial and Religious Prejudice" (World Fellowship, edited by Charles Frederick Weller, Liveright Publishing Corporation, New York, 1935).

Some of Dr. Yousuf Khan's reports from this period were published in Al-Fazl Qadian, including:

- *Al-Fazl*, April 9, 1933, p. 2
- Al-Fazl, October 29, 1933, p. 2

When new missionaries arrived from Qadian in the late 1930s, Dr. Yousuf Khan discontinued his formal missionary work but remained a dedicated member of the USA Jama'at.

After the passing of his father in 1931, his brother A. H. Khan returned to India, though the exact date of his return to the USA is unknown.

Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Khan passed away on January 19, 1979, in Detroit, MI, at the age of 79. As a Musi (Wasiyyat No. 18845), he was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah, Rabwah, Pakistan.

#### Ahmadiyya Conference of Entrepreneurs (ACE) 2024

Azmat Bhatti, Milton East

silicon Valley Jama'at in USA held an Ahmadiyya Conference of Entrepreneurs (ACE) from May 31 to June 2, 2024. The conference's attendees were from the United States and Canada Jama'ats.

The Canadian delegation, led by Azmat Bhatti (Milton East), included Umar Ahmed Sahib (Vaughan), Usman Muhammad Sahib (AIMS Coordinator), Faraz Ahmed Sahib (Montreal) and other members of the Canadian Jama'at. There were approximately 110 people attending the conference virtually via Zoom, including Lajna members.

The conference was chaired by Mujeeb Ijaz Sahib (ONE Energy), National Secretary Sanat-o-Tijarat USA. The theme of the conference was Artificial Intelligence (AI). Some of the session' highlights were as follows:

- Knowledge sharing about AI, deep learning, generative AI, etc.
- Multiple data pitches from Ahmadi entrepreneurs
- 4 pitches from various members, sharing their business idea/opportunity and seeking funding
- Lajna members shared stories from their journeys, from Stanford, Apple and Biotech industries, etc; how they started by moving to the US and studying and struggles with family/student loans, then getting into their passion fields with family and Jama'at support.

Mujeeb Sahib also gave an example of how the Promised Messiah (as), in 1901, saw the phonograph as a piece of technology that would deliver the message of Islam. Today, we are embracing technology for this very purpose.

Qamar Suleiman Sahib from Montreal also showcased the new Beta version of the Alislam website.

#### **SOME IMAGES FROM ACE 2024**









#### A Prophetic Dream and Warning

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said:

"A long time ago, I saw in a dream that I was riding a horse and went towards my garden all alone. In front of me appeared an army bent upon destroying my garden. I felt no fear of them and was certain in my own mind that though alone, I was more than adequate for them. They entered the garden and I entered after them. When I arrived inside, I saw that they were all lying dead, with their hands, heads and feet all cut off and their skins stripped off. Observing this spectacle of divine power, I was overcome and wept thinking who else would have the power to do all this?

"...The army is in reference to the people who desire to turn the members of my Community into apostates and to distort their beliefs. They desire to cut off the trees of the garden of my Community. God Almighty will demonstrate His power and will defeat their purpose and will render all their efforts vain.

"...By their heads being cut off is meant that their pride will be broken and their arrogance and disdain will be trampled underfoot. A person's hand is a weapon with which he fights the enemy. The cutting off of their hands means that they would be deprived of all means of fighting. A person can run away after a defeat with the help of his feet; their feet being cut off means that they would have no means of escape left. By the stripping off of skin is meant that their secrets will be disclosed and all their faults and defects will be exposed." (Tadhkirah [2009], English trans., pp. 292–293)

#### **OBEDIENCE TO THE HOLY PROPHET**

(PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON HIM)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said:

"It is my personal experience that to obey the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) with a sincere heart and to love him, ultimately makes a person beloved of God. God creates in his heart a burning for His Own love and such a one, withdrawing his heart from everything else, leans towards God and his affection and desire remain only for God Almighty. Thereupon a special manifestation of Divine love falls upon him and, bestowing upon him the full colour of love and devotion, pulls him towards itself with great force. He then overcomes his passions and from every direction extraordinary works of God Almighty appear as signs in his support and to help him."

(The Essence of Islam [2007], vol. 1, p. 210)





Reports from Jama'ats Across Canada

**June 2024** 

Rishta Nata Meet & Greet – Vaughan Jama'at Ghulam Ahmad Abid

By the grace of Almighty Allah, the Rishta Nata Department of Vaughan Amarat successfully held its first Meet and Greet meeting on Sunday, June 23, at Baitul Islam.

The meeting was attended by 19 male and 49 female candidates. Respected Hafeezullah Hydrani Sahib, National Secretary of Rishta Nata Canada, presided over the event, which began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an (Tilawat), followed by translations in both English and Urdu.

Almost all registered families attended this important meeting, with some traveling from as far as Vancouver and the United States. The department had carefully matched families based on the best possible pairings.

Sixteen families had one-on-one meetings in the classrooms of Jamia Ahmadiyya. Local office bearers, including Mohammad Zubair Mangla Sahib (Local Amir), Sadiq Ahmad Sahib (Murabbi Silsila), Ehsan Malik Sahib (Coordinator), Secretaries of Halqajat, and Waheeda Mirza Sahiba (Lajna Coordinator) along with her team, contributed to the success of this event.

In his concluding remarks, Respected Hafeezullah Hydrani Sahib thanked the organizers and participants, and led a silent prayer. Dinner was then served to all attendees.



Some attendees of the Meet & Greet event at Baitul Islam Mosque

## Cheque Presentation & Kickoff of 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Run for Markham

Luqman Chattha, Secretary Umur Kharijiyya, Markham Jama'at

On June 24, 2024, Markham Jama'at held a cheque presentation ceremony for Markham Stouffville Hospital and the kick-off event for the second annual Run for Markham, in collaboration with Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada, at the Aaniin Community Centre.

The program began at 10:15 AM, with Luqman Chattha, serving as the MC, providing a brief background, a short history of the event, and an introduction to the dignitaries and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at (AMJ).

Respected Rafiq Qamar Sahib, Sadr Jama'at Markham, delivered the opening remarks and a brief history of AMJ. Following this, the Mayor of Markham, Frank Scarpitti, commended the efforts of AMJ, highlighting the importance of such initiatives, particularly in supporting the growing needs of Markham Stouffville Hospital. He also spoke on the importance of community harmony, addressing Islamophobia and its impact on society.



The Cheque Presentation

Next, Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship, Paul Chiang, expressed his appreciation for the work of the AMJ and pledged his support for the scheduled event on October 22, 2024. This was followed by remarks from Logan Kanapathi, MPP and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, as well as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, who shared his appreciation for the initiative.



Run for Markham kickoff event

Zohaib Malhi Sahib, National Director of Humanitarian Services for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association, then provided a brief history of the "Mercy for Mankind" initiative and the humanitarian efforts of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association in Canada.

Courtney Sorger, Chief of Community Engagement, Executive Lead, and Corporate Strategy at Oak Valley Health, expressed her gratitude to the AMJ for selecting Markham Stouffville Hospital as the beneficiary of this charity initiative.

Honorary Chair for 2024, Councillor Amanda Collucci, along with Markham's Fire and Police Chiefs, also shared their support and appreciation for the initiative.

A cheque for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) was then presented to Markham Stouffville Hospital. In recognition of AMJ's charitable efforts, the hospital committed to installing a plaque to commemorate this contribution.

The event concluded with remarks from Maulana Tahir Goraya Sahib, Murabbi Silsila of Markham Jama'at, followed by silent prayer and refreshments.



Firefighters at the event

#### **July 2024**

#### Report of Jalsa Salana Canada 2024 Duties – Peace Village South East

Fazal Ahmad Shahid, Na'ib Zaeem Majlis Ansarullah, Peace Village South East



Performing discipline duty at Jalsa Salana Canada 2024

Al-hamdu lillah! Majlis Ansarullah Peace Village South East (PVSE) performed various duties and services during Jalsa Salana in the following areas:

#### 1. Reception of the US Cyclists Group:

Two Ansar, Asif Malik and Usman Khan, from our Majlis PVSE, traveled to Niagara Falls to welcome and receive the cyclist guests on Thursday, July 4, 2024. They then accompanied them to Baitul Hamd Mosque in Mississauga, where overnight accommodations were arranged. These Ansar also cycled along-side the US group.

On the US group's request, one Nasir from PVSE went to Baitul Hamd Mosque on July 5, 2024, to drive their van to Baitul Islam Mosque, Peace Village. Upon arrival, the group required another driver, so Zaeem Majlis, Maqsood Ahmad Sajid Sahib, drove their second van and led the group to Baitul Islam on the morning of Friday, July 5. The cyclists were warmly welcomed, and refreshments were served at the mosque.

Afterward, two Ansar led the cyclists to Hadiqa Ahmad, Bradford.

#### 2. Reception & Phone Duties:

Three Ansar—Hanif Rana Sahib, Munawar Cheema Sahib, and Munawar Ahmad Sahib—from our Halqa PVSE served the Jama'at in reception and phone duties from July 4–7, 2024,



Discipline duty volunteers at Jalsa Salana Canada 2024

at the front reception desk in Aiwan Tahir.

#### 3. Discipline Duty at the Jalsa Gah:

Ten Ansar from Majlis PVSE actively served in discipline duties at the Jalsa Gah throughout the three days of the Jalsa.

#### 4. Security Duty at Baitul Islam Mosque:

Three Ansar from our Halqa performed security duties during the Tahajjud, Fajr, and Isha prayers at Baitul Islam Mosque for all three days.

#### 5. Ziafat & Food Services:

Five Ansar from Majlis PVSE served in the Ziafat department. Nadeem Aslam Sahib, Arshad Butt Sahib, and two others served in the food marquee near Baitul Islam complex for all three days. Fahim Farooq Sahib served in the VIP marquee at Jalsa Gah Bradford.

#### 6. Set-Up & Wind-Up Duties:

Two Ansar from our Halqa participated in the set-up and windup duties at the Jalsa Gah in Bradford.

#### 7. Accommodation Duties:

Amanullah Ghumman Sahib, along with four other Ansar from Majlis PVSE, served for two weeks in various roles within the accommodation department.

#### 8. Finance Department:

Maqsood Ahmad Sajid, Zaeem Majlis PVSE, served as Na'ib Nazim Finance in the Finance Department at Jalsa Gah.

#### 9. Plumbing and Electrical Work:

Mr. Zia Uddin Asif, along with his team, provided plumbing and electrical services, including lay-down and wind-up tasks.

There were many additional contributions made during Jalsa Salana, which have not yet been reported. May Allah the Almighty accept the sacrifices of our Ansar brothers and reward them abundantly. Ameen!

## Fresh Fruit Delivery at Cornerstone Homeless Shelter, Toronto

Fazal Ahmad Shahid, Na'ib Zaeem Majlis Ansarullah, Peace Village South East



Delivering fruit to the homeless shelter

On July 25, 2024, Majlis Ansarullah Peace Village South East had the opportunity to deliver fresh fruits to the Cornerstone Homeless Shelter in Toronto.

Respected Zaeem Majlis, Maqsood Ahmad Sajid Sahib, coordinated the visit to the shelter and arranged the delivery of fruits as requested by the shelter's manager.

After Zuhr prayer, Zaeem Sahib and Fazal Shahid, Na'ib Zaeem, traveled 30 km to the shelter, arriving at 3:00 pm. They met with the manager, Mr. Ahmad, unloaded the fruit (oranges, apples, and bananas), and took photos with him. The manager and residents were pleased and grateful for the generous donation.

After delivering the fruits, the team sat with the manager to discuss the work of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at, Humanity First, and other various humanitarian projects. They answered questions and spent quality time with the manager before departing at 4:00 PM.

*Al-hamdu lillah*, the visit was successful and we pray that Allah accepts our humble efforts and continues to bless this initiative. Ameen!

#### Volunteer Duties Performed by Peace Village South East at Aiwan Tahir – Jalsa Salana UK 2024

Fazal Ahmad Shahid, Na'ib Zaeem Majlis Ansarullah, Peace Village South East



Volunteers at Aiwan Tahir for duties during Jalsa UK

By the grace of Allah, Majlis Ansarullah Peace Village South East (PVSE) was blessed with the opportunity to perform various volunteer duties during Jalsa Salana UK 2024 at Aiwan Tahir, Peace Village, Canada, from July 26 to July 28, 2024.

Under the guidance of respected Nazim Khalid Sahib from Ansarullah Peace Village Muqami, a team of six Ansar brothers successfully managed discipline duties during all three days of Jalsa. Their service ensured smooth operations during the sessions held at Aiwan Tahir. Alhamdulillah.

A dedicated team of three Ansar from Majlis Ansarullah PVSE also served breakfast and lunch at Aiwan Tahir across all three days of Jalsa. Their efforts contributed significantly to the hospitality provided to attendees.

May Allah accept and bless the services of all volunteers during this blessed event. Ameen!

# BDS ZONE

#### THE HOSPITALITY OF A BIRD

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) once related the following story:

There is a story about the hospitality of a bird. A traveller came to rest under a tree at night in the wilderness of the forest during winter. There was a nest of a bird in the tree. Both male and female birds started conversing with each other.

'This man away from home is our guest tonight. He is in the cold. What can we do for him?'

After some thought, they agreed to break and throw down their nest so that he could make fire from it and warm himself. Then they thought that he was hungry and wondered how to provide him with food. Nothing was available at that time. Both birds dropped themselves into the fire so that their guest could have dinner with their roasted meat.

Thus, they set an example of hospitality [by sacrificing their home and then their lives to help a stranger].

(Pleasant Stories and Anecdotes [2021], p. 21)

#### **TEST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

- 1. How many teeth does an adult human have?
- 2. How many elements are in the periodic table?
- 3. What is the world's largest ocean?
- 4. What is the powerhouse of the cell called?
- 5. What is the process called when a caterpillar turns into a butterfly?

ANSWERS

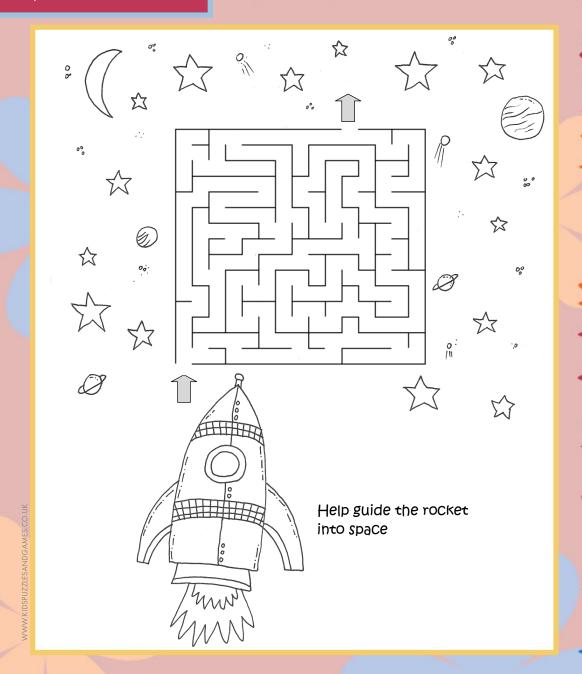
1. 32
2. 118
4. Mitochondria
5. Metamorphosis

#### **MEMORIZE THIS PRAYER**

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرِّحِمِيْنَ

"My Lord, forgive and have mercy, and You are the Best of those who show mercy."

(Prayer of the Holy Qur'an, 23:119)



#### SEND US YOUR WORK!

Submit your answers, feedback, writings and artwork to the Ahmadiyya Gazette: editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca

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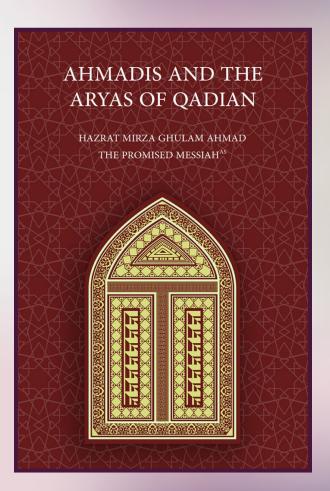
## منظوم كلام حضرت مسيح موعو دعليه الصلوة والسلام

تری نعمت کی کچھ قلت نہیں ہے ہیں اس سے کوئی ساعت نہیں ہے شہر وضل اور رحمت نہیں ہے شہر فضل اور رحمت نہیں ہے مجھے اب شکر کی طاقت نہیں ہے میرے ہادی میے کیا احسال ہیں تیرے میرے ہادی فشہ نیکائ الّذِی اُخْرَی الْاَعَادِیُ فَسُنْہُ کَانَ الّذِی اُخْرَی الْاَعَادِیُ (درشین، صفی)

(مشکل الفاظ کے معنی قِلَّت: کمی۔ تہی: خالی۔ ساعت: گھڑی، وقت۔ فَسُبْحَانَ الَّذِي اَخْنَى الْاَعَادِئَ: پس پاک ہے وہ ذات جس نے میرے دشمنوں کو رُسواکیا۔)

عزیزہ نورین عقبل نے ہمیں اپنے جو ابات بھجو ائے ہیں۔ جزاک اللّداحسن الجزاء!





**AHMADIS AND THE ARYAS OF QADIAN** is the English translation of *Qadian kei Arya aur Hum* — written by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and published in 1907.

When a Hindu of Qadian publicly uttered vile obscenities to the almost 2,000 guests who were attending Jalsa Salana in December, 1906, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) comforted his followers by saying a few words. He highlighted that the Hindus of Qadian were the foremost witnesses of the signs which had been manifested at his hand, as they were the first people to witness them. He further explained which signs had been manifested that caused thousands of people to enter the fold of his Community, many of which were directly related to the Hindu faith.

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