

An educational and spiritual monthly publication

Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada

Toronto, Ontario

Volume 34 No.8

August 2005

In this Issue ...

- **Friday Sermon by Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aa}**
- **Jalsa Salana Cambodia**
- **The Valiant Fight for Gurdaspur**
- **Twelve Sons of Hadrat Ismaeel^{as}**
- **Manji Another Pawn Advanced**
- **Pope Sets Sight on Gaining Converts**

.... and some others

An educational and spiritual monthly publication

Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada

Toronto, Ontario

Volume 34 No. 8

August 2005



OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM, CANADA

Amir & Missionary Incharge **Naseem Mahdi**
Chief Editor **Hassan Muhammad Khan**
Editor **S. H. Hadi**
Designed by **Mansoor Muzaffar**
Cover and Graphics **Nabeel Ahmad Rana**
Manager **Abdul Wakil Khalifa**
Press **Fazi-i-Umar Press & Brothers Printing**

Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada

Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam (Ont.) Inc.
10610 Jane Street, Maple, ON L6A 3A2, Canada
Tel: 905-303-4000 ext 241 Fax: 905-832-3220
Email: gazette@ahmadiyya.ca
www.ahmadiyya.ca www.alislam.org

Acronyms for salutations used in this publication

- sa: "Sall-Allaho alaihi wa sallam"
- Peace and Blessing of Allah be upon him
as: "Alaiha-Salam"
- Peace be upon him
ra: "Razi Allah ho tallah"
- May Allah be pleased with him/her
rh: "Rahimahu-Allaho Ta'ala"
- May Allah shower mercy on him
aa: "Ayyadullah Bin Asriiaziz"
- May Allah strengthen him with His mighty help.

Canadian Cataloguing-in-Publication Data
Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada. -- Vol. 1, no.1 (June 1972)-
Maple, Ont.:Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Canada, 1972-
v.iii., Ports.; 28 cm.
Monthly,
Text in English, Urdu and French
Title varies: June 1972-Apr. 1975, The News bulletin;
May 1975 - June 1975, The Muslim outlook.
Continued by Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada, July 1975-
Official gazette of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Canada.

ISSN 0229 5644

1. Ahmadiyya -- Periodicals. I. Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam Canada.
BP195.A34 1972 297.8605-20dc

CANADA POST
SECOND CLASS MAIL
Mail Registration No: 40026877

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

The Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada (ISSN 0229 5644) is published monthly by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Canada, at the local address: 31 Sycamore St. P.O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719, U.S.A. Second Class Postage paid at Chauncey, OH Postmaster, please send address changes to AHMADIYYAGAZETTE CANADA, P.O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719, U.S.A.

Holy and Sacred

- 2 Al-Qur'an and Hadith
- 3 Sacred Sayings of the Promised Messiah"

Friday Sermon

- 4 Friday Sermon of Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V"

Jalsa Salana 2005

- 5 Jalsa Salana Canada 2005-A Brief Report
- 7 Second Jalsa Salana Cambodia 2005

Other

- 9 The Valiant Fight for Gurdaspur
- 10 Twelve Sons of Hadrat Isma'eel
- 12 Arshad Manji-Another Pawn Advanced
- 15 Persecutions of Ahmadi in Pakistan
- 24 Pope Sets Sight on Gaining Converts

Al-Qur'an



O ye who believe! Spend of the good things that you have earned, and of what We produce for you from the earth; and seek not what is bad to spend out of it when you would not take it yourselves except that you connive at it. And know that Allah is Self Sufficient, Praiseworthy.

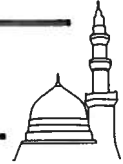
Satan threatens you with poverty and enjoins upon you what is foul, whereas Allah promises you forgiveness from Himself and bounty. And Allah is Bountiful, All-Knowing. He grants wisdom to whom He pleases, and whoever is granted wisdom has been granted abundant good; and none would be reminded except those endowed with understanding.

(2:268-270)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْفِقُوا مِنْ طَيِّبَاتِ مَا كَسَبْتُمْ
وَمِمَّا أَخْرَجْنَا لَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا تَيَسَّمُوا الْخَبِيثَاتِ
مِنْهُ تُنْفِقُونَ وَلَسْتُمْ بِأَخِيذِيهِ إِلَّا أَنْ تُغِصِرُوا فِيهِ
وَاعْمَلُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفِيرٌ حَمِيدٌ ﴿٢٦٨﴾

الشَّيْطَانُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَأْمُرُكُمْ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَاللَّهُ
يَعِدُكُمْ مَغْفِرَةً مِنْهُ وَفَضْلًا وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٦٩﴾
يُؤْتِي الْحِكْمَةَ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُؤْتَ الْحِكْمَةَ فَقَدْ
أُوتِيَ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا وَمَا يَذَّكَّرُ إِلَّا أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ ﴿٢٧٠﴾

Al-Hadith



It is related by Hadrat Abdallah Ibn-I-Abbas^{ra} that the Holy Prophet^{saw} told us something about his Creator and said that Allah has recorded the virtues and vices and has made them very clear. Therefore, if someone intends to do some virtue and is somehow prevented from doing it, Allah rewards him for one full virtue. But if he resolves for some virtue and is able to act upon it also, Allah records its reward from ten to seven hundred times, even more. But if some one resolves to do some vice, and is unable to commit it, Allah records one full virtue in his name. But if some one intentionally commits a vice, Allah records only one vice in his name.

(Muslim Kitab al eeman iza hummal `abda bihasanati)

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عَبَّاسٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا عَنِ رَسُولِ
اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِيمَا يَرَوِي عَنْ رَبِّهِ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى قَالَ:
إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَتَبَ الْصَّالِحَاتِ وَالسَّيِّئَاتِ تَمَرِينَ ذَاتِكِ، فَمَنْ هَمَّ بِحَسَنَةٍ
فَلَمْ يَفْعَلْهَا كَتَبَهَا اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى عِنْدَهُ حَسَنَةً كَامِلَةً، وَإِنْ هَمَّ
بِهَا فَعَمِلَهَا كَتَبَهَا اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ عِنْدَهُ عَشْرَ حَسَنَاتٍ إِلَى سَبْعِمِائَةٍ
ضَعْفٍ إِلَى أَضْعَافٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَإِنْ هَمَّ بِسَيِّئَةٍ فَلَمْ يَعْمَلْهَا كَتَبَهَا اللَّهُ
تَعَالَى عِنْدَهُ حَسَنَةً كَامِلَةً، وَإِنْ هَمَّ بِهَا فَعَمِلَهَا كَتَبَهَا اللَّهُ سَيِّئَةً
وَاحِدَةً. (مسلم كتاب الايمان باب اذا هم العبد بحسنة)

Sacred Sayings of the Promised Messiah Peace be upon him



No false gods shall come to your rescue.

“Remember, God has informed me of many earthquakes. Rest assured, therefore, that as earthquakes have shaken America and Europe, so will they shake Asia. Some of them will resemble the Day of Doom. Such a large number of people will die that rivulets of blood shall flow. Even the birds and the beasts will not be immune against this death. A havoc shall sweep the surface of the earth, which shall be the greatest since the birth of man. Habitations shall be demolished as if no one had ever lived in them. This will be accompanied by many other terrible calamities, which the earth and the heavens will send forth, till their extraordinary nature will become evident to every reasonable man. All the literature of science and philosophy shall fail to show their like. Then mankind will be sore distressed and wonder what is going to happen. Many shall escape and many will perish. The days are near, in fact, I can see them close at hand, when the world shall witness a terrible sight. Not only earthquakes but also many fearsome calamities shall overtake man, some from the skies and some from the earth. This will happen because mankind has become lost in the affairs of the world with all their heart and their effort and their intent. If I had not come, these afflictions would perhaps have been delayed a little. But with my coming the secret purposes of an affronted God which were hidden so far, became manifest.

Says God: *“We never punish unless We send a Messenger”*

Those who repent shall find security and those who fear before calamity overtakes them shall be shown mercy. Do you think you will be immune from these calamities? Or can you save yourselves through artifice or design? Indeed not. That day all human schemes shall fail. Think not that earthquakes visited America and other continents but that your own country shall remain secure. Indeed, you may experience a great hardship. O Europe, you are not safe and O Asia, you too, are not immune. And O dwellers of Islands, no false gods shall come to your rescue. I see cities falling and settlements lay waste. The One and the Only God kept silent for long. Heinous deeds were done before His eyes and He said nothing. But now, He shall reveal His face in majesty and awe. Let him who has ears hear that the time is not far. I have done my best to bring all under the protection of God, but it was destined that what was written should come to pass. Truly do I say that the turn of this land, too is approaching fast. The times of Noah shall come back before your eyes and your own eyes will be witnesses to the calamity that overtook the cities of Lot. But God is slow in His wrath. Repent that you may be shown mercy! He who does not fear Him is dead, not alive.”

(Haqiqatul Wah,i Roohani Khazain,
Vol. 22, p. 258-69)

Syedna Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V^{aa}

The Holy Prophet^{saw} set the highest standard of *Tawakkul*. *Tawakkul* means that one should first make use of all the means at his disposal and then put his trust in Allah through prayers.

The following summary of the Friday sermon of Syedna Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V dated 8th April 2005 delivered at Baitul Futuh Mosque, Morden, London, UK has been kindly sent to us by Professor Chaudhry Hameedulah, Wakil-i-A`ala, Tahrik-i-Jadid, Rabwah, Pakistan.

After reciting *tashahhud*, *ta`awwuz* and *Surah Fatihah* Hudur recited the following verse:

And put thy trust in Allah and Allah is sufficient as a Guardian.

(33:4)

Hudur said:

This divine injunction was meant to comfort the Holy Prophet^{saw} that he should never feel apprehensive and should also give heart to his companions and tell them that no matter what the odds were, the enemy shall never succeed in destroying them and that they should always have faith in Allah. This solace was not due to any fear on the part of the Holy Prophet^{saw}. Rather it was meant to hearten the companions and to make it clear to the enemy that we shall never give in to you; all our trust lies in our Lord, and He shall always be our Succour and the enemy shall surely be frustrated.

Not only did the Holy Prophet^{saw} himself put all his faith in Allah, but he taught his followers to do the same. *Tawakkul* does not mean that one should just sit idle and wait for Allah's help; what it means is that one should make use of all the means at his disposal and then put his trust in Allah through earnest prayers. In times of difficulty, the Holy Prophet^{saw} would always make use of all the means available to him and would then pray to Allah earnestly and leave the matter in His hands.

He^{saw} showed perfect example of *Tawakkul* at the time of his migration from Mecca to

Medina. He was not perturbed in the least and had full faith in Allah when he had been surrounded by the enemy in the cave of *Thaur*. Thereafter, when Suraqa pursued him and was about to get him, we see a great manifestation of the Holy Prophet's^{saw} *Tawakkul*.

After the migration, the Holy Prophet^{saw} had to defend himself against whole armies with only a handful of ill-equipped followers by his side, but he continued to show full faith in Allah. During the battle of Badr, the Holy Prophet^{saw} organized his troops in their ranks and then went back to his tent and fell down in fervent supplications. This was not due to any fear of the enemy, but was meant to absorb more and more blessings from his Lord. Thus he did everything that he could possibly do and then put all his trust in Allah through prayers. At the battle of Ahzab, in which all the Arab tribes had alighted themselves against the Muslims, the Holy Prophet^{saw} did not feel at all apprehensive and such was his faith and confidence that his companions were heartened just to look at him.

The Holy Prophet's^{saw} prayers were also full of faith in the Almighty. He^{saw} taught his followers that if they put their utmost faith in Allah, He will provide for them just as He provides for the birds which go hungry in the morning and return contented in the evening.

Hudur said that the members of the Jama`at should keep away from all kinds of superstition and the use of charms etc. and should put their trust in Allah. The Holy Prophet^{saw} considered all kinds of superstitions and false beliefs to be *Shirk* (polytheism). Allah does not care about people who do not have faith in Him and are more afraid of worldly objects.

Closing the sermon, Hudur prayed: May Allah help us to follow the excellent example of the Holy Prophet^{saw}; may we always submit to the will of Allah and have full faith in Him. Amin.

Brief Report

29th Jalsa Salana, Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada

HIDAYATULLAH HADI, EDITOR, AHMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA

It is with great pleasure and satisfaction, we announce that by the grace of Almighty Allah, the 29th *Jalsa Salana* of Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada was held on 24th-26th June 2005 at International Centre in Mississauga and ended with all its blessed traditions. Brothers and sisters from all over Canada thronged to this blessed gathering and we welcomed guests from about 31 countries including Pakistan, England, Japan, USA and several others.

It was a matter of great joy and happiness for every Ahmadi that Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V graced our Jalsa for the second year in a row for which every one of us was extremely grateful to our Imam. We are happy to say that his visit made this Jalsa a historic event of the Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada. We rightly presume that his visit attracted large number of guests to this Jalsa.

During this Jalsa, Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V, our Imam toured the Western Provinces and the Jama'ats of Canada in that region and stayed in our country for about a full month. His tour started on 4th June from Vancouver, the western most city of Canada. From this City, he went to Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Lloyd Minster, Ottawa, Montreal, Cornwall, Toronto, Brampton etc.

It was a highlight of his blessed tour that he laid the foundation stones of three beautiful mosques in big cities of the country which we hope to complete in due time. During this visit he very kindly granted interviews to thousands of families and individuals. This blessed tour ended on 6th July 2005 when he left for London along with members of his entourage. We were fortunate to listen to his addresses during the Jalsa. There were other speeches delivered by our scholars on various religious, historic, and other heartwarming subjects enjoyed by the audience attending the Jalsa. These scholars included, Maulana Naseem Mahdi, Amir and Missionary In Charge, Jama'at Ahmadiyya Canada, Maulana Mubarak Ahmad Nazir, Principal, Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Brother Mostafa Sabet, our Egyptian scholar, Mr. Hadi Ali Chaudhry, Professor Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada,

Dr. Saleem-ur-Rahman, our research scholar from Ottawa, Chaudhry Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema, Professor Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Maulana Mirza Muhammad Afzal, our missionary in Western Canada, Mr. Ansar Raza, Professor Jamia Ahmadiyya, Canada, and Mr. Kaleem Ahmad Malik.

On the ladies side, there were Ms Amatur Rafiq Zafar, President Lajna Imaillah, Canada, Ms. Amatur Rafiq Tahirah, ex. President, Lajna Imaillah Canada, Ms Attiyya Sharif, Ms Naheed Khokhar, Attiyya Noor Tahir, Ms Fateehah Majeed who spoke on different religious and other scholarly subjects.

During Jalsa days the whole area comprising of mosque, mission house and surrounding land was full of lush green lawns, and beautiful flower beds. The whole Peace Village, situated in the north of Baitul Islam Mosque was glittering with small and big lights. Throughout the stay of Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V, all the five daily prayers were led by him personally, attended by a large number of brothers and sisters which was a source of joy for everyone who attended them. The whole time was spent in spiritual atmosphere deeply influencing everyone attending these sessions.

All the speeches of the scholars were attended by brothers and sisters in their areas and full benefits were drawn from them.

The Jalsa, especially the final day was attended by Federal and Provincial ministers, members of federal and provincial parliaments, mayors of some cities, and several members of Diplomatic Corps. Some notables also spoke and expressed their good wishes and prayed for the success of the Convention. They spoke highly of the service Jama'at is rendering for the humanity, their love for peace, brotherhood, sacrifices, and mutual cooperation. This session was attended by more than 1500 non-Muslim and non-Ahmadi guests. Overall more than twenty thousand delegates attended this Convention.

Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V addressed the workers of the Jalsa on 23rd June and advised them

the humanity, their love for peace, brotherhood, sacrifices, and mutual co-operation. This session was attended by more than 1500 non-Muslim and non-Ahmadi guests. Overall more than twenty thousand delegates attended this Convention.

Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V addressed the workers of the Jalsa on 23rd June and advised them in his short address regarding the blessings of Jalsa and how to perform their duty in the best possible manner. During his stay in our country, Hudur delivered Friday sermons, especially while his inaugural address was his Friday sermon just before the start of the other program. He addressed the ladies on the second day and also in the men's Jalsagah on the final day and led the audience in final *dua* in which global Ahmadiis also participated via the MTA. This is worth mentioning that all his Friday sermons and the final day program were broadcast on MTA and viewed by the people all over the world.

Translation service from English to Urdu and Urdu to English was available throughout the Jalsa. Canadian Media flashed the interviews and speeches of the dignitaries and full coverage was given by the Canadian Television.

Thus ended this blessed 29th Jalsa Salana of Jama`at Ahmadiyya Canada after which more than 1500 dignitaries, non-Muslim and non-Ahmadi guests were entertained to a sumptuous lunch along with Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V. Brothers and sisters returned to their homes gathering the blessings of this Jalsa.

May Allah grant us all, the blessings of this Jalsa. Ameen.

CORRIGENDUM

1. On the cover of the English Section of Ahmadiyya Gazette March-April, the year has been wrongly published as 2004. It may please be read as 2005.
2. On page 17 of the same issue in heading 7, the names of the roads and streets of Peace Village, Vaughan, Canada are given. In this list, **Bashir Street** is missing and may please be added.

Both mistakes are very sincerely regretted.

Dr. Laeeq Ahmad Tahir - Congratulations

Dr. Laeeq Ahmad Tahir is the son of Raja Naeem Ahmad Zafar (*Waqif-i-Zindagi*) a dedicated worker in the Baitul Islam Mission House, our Canadian Headquarters.

His son, Dr. Laeeq Ahmad Tahir is serving as Assistant Professor at University of Ontario, London (Ont.) and this announcement is regarding him. Recently he has been assigned a higher prestigious post of Director of Continuing Medical Education in his University. This is in addition to his clinical and teaching assignment. Our hearty congratulations to him and his family and we pray that he may get many more laurels in his future career.

Dr. Laeeq completed his specialist education program in Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, University of Medicine & Dentistry New Jersey (USA) with honours. During his four years' stay there, he was honoured with seven awards including :

- Three awards as The best teacher of the year
- Two awards of Excellence in Clinical Skills
- One Award as Outstanding Resident
- The prestigious overall Resident of the Year Award

He then moved to Canada, and worked in New Brunswick as Director of Post Graduate Education under Dalhousie University. Last year he accepted the position of Assistant Professor, Consultant, and Physician Leader for Out patient Services in the University of Western Ontario and London Health Sciences Centre.

As a member of Jama`at Ahmadiyya, he was elected as President of Jama`at Ahmadiyya London (Ont.) in April 2005. May Allah grant him strength and opportunity to serve Ahmadiyyat and Islam in his future life. *Ameen.*

Second Jalsa Salana Jama`at Ahmadiyya, Cambodia

MAULANA EHSAN SALIM SOBARI, MISSIONARY CAMBODIA

We have received the following report of second Jalsa Salana of Jama`at Ahmadiyya Cambodia. This is quite a new Jama`at established in this country and we take pleasure in publishing their report. The language of the report may not be as scholarly, but the zeal and enthusiasm is very appreciative. We hope our readers will enjoy the report of this new Jama`at bubbling with zeal and enthusiasm. Editor

The members of this Jama`at awaited anxiously the *Jalsa Salana* of this year after the first *Jalsa* held in the month of March last year. By the grace of Allah and tireless work and hard labour, Jama`at Ahmadiyya Cambodia successfully held their second *Jalsa* on March 26-27-2005. We are giving its report as follows.

First Session and opening ceremony

The two-day *Jalsa* was held in Jama`at Khnai Koko which is 66 kilometers from Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. The weather was hot but the warmth of brotherhood made it very pleasant. The program started under the Presidentship of Brother Hak Arifin, the General Secretary of National Jama`at Cambodia at 1-30 p.m. on 26th March 2005. Mr. Shafei Husein, a local Muallim recited the Holy Qur`an and its translation in Khmer language was read by Brother Soleh Zahri. *Nazm* was read by Brother Shafei Husen in his melodious voice.

This was followed by welcome address by Brother Jafar Ahmad, the National President. In his speech he informed the audience that now, our Jama`at has been established in twelve provinces of the country. We have donated to the Government for the welfare and development of our countrymen.

Next speaker was Maulana Hasan Basri Shahid, the Missionary In Charge of Cambodia Jama`at. He spoke in Cham language, normally spoken by Cambodian Muslims and a running

translation in khmer language was presented by Brother Shafei Husein. He explained the purpose of *Jalsa Salana* as mentioned by the Promised Messiah^{as} in his writings. He especially mentioned that the main aim of following the Imam Zaman is to earn the pleasure of God Almighty. We should act according to the injunctions of the Holy Qur`an and *Ahadith* of the Holy Prophet^{sw}. After the speech, Maulana Hasan Basri led the audience in silent prayer.

There were three speakers in this session. The first speaker was Maulana Ahmad S. Hidayat, a regional missionary for Kampot Province. The subject of his speech was "The Importance of Prayer in Islam". Although Maulana Sahib is an Indonesian but he spoke fluently in Khmer language and was easily understood by the audience. He spoke about the *tarbiyyat* of the children and he advised that it should start in their early life. The speech lasted for 45 minutes.

The next speaker was by Maulana Ehsan Salim Sobari, missionary for Khnai Koko District. He spoke on "Importance of Khilafat in Islam". He spoke in Indonesian language and his speech was very scholarly. He said that Khilafat is a great blessing of God Almighty and this will continue as long as people remain righteous and virtuous and are worthy of Khilafat. At the end of his address, he showed some pictures of the Promised Messiah and his *Khulafa*. The running translation of the speech was given by Mr. Shafei Husein.

The third speech was delivered by a Khadim, Yakub Usman. He is a local resident and spoke in Khmer language on the subject of "Kindness of the Holy Prophet^{sw}". He quoted some heart warming incidents of his holy life taken from *Ahadith*. The session ended at 4.00 p.m.

We had arranged an exhibition in a tent. In this exhibition, there were some pictures of activities of Jama`at Ahmadiyya Cambodia, some mosques built by Jama`at Ahmadiyya in

different countries of the world, pictures of the Promised Messiah^{as} and his Khulafa. There were some videos also with Khmer translation, one of them was *Da`wah Islam in Germany*. Participants watched the video and were quite pleased to see it.

Second Session

The session started at 7 p.m. after the *Maghrib* and *Isha* prayers combined. There were two speakers followed by Question/Answer Session. First speaker was Maulana Ehsan Salim and he spoke on the subject of *Existence of God Almighty – Some arguments*. In his speech, he mentioned three arguments mentioned by the Holy Qur`an. The speech was scholarly and interesting. Second speech was by Maulana Mujib Ahmad, our regional *muballigh* of Kampong Chhnang province. His subject was "Answers to objections against Ahmadiyyat in Cambodia". In his speech he mentioned that while preaching the word of God, a true believer will face some obstacles presented by other people.

Here, in Cambodia, there are Muslims of other sects also who oppose us and try to stop the spread of the message of Ahmadiyyat. They use all means at their disposal but the message of the Promised Messiah^{as} is gradually spreading every day. People listened to this speech with interest including non-Ahmadi Muslims who had come to listen to the speeches of our *Jalsa*.

Next program was Question/Answer Session presided by Maulana Ahmad S. Hidayat. Maulana Ehsan Salim and Maulana Mujib Ahmad sat as members of the panel. Questions were asked by non-Ahmadi Muslims about the beliefs of Ahmadi Muslims. The panel gave quite satisfactory answers to the questioners. This program ended at 9.00 p.m. and the session ended.

Next day started with congregational *tahajjud* prayer at 4.15 a.m led by Maulana Hasan Basri. This was followed by *Fajr* prayer and then *Dars*. In this *Dars*, a young *Khadim*, Ahmad Soleh spoke about "The importance of *Dua*" as mentioned in the Holy Qur`an and Hadith. After him spoke Maulana Hasan Basri in Indonesian language about the "Importance of *Zikr*" (*remembrance of Allah*) and he quoted the Holy Qur`an and Hadith explaining its im-

portance. He illustrated the subject in simple easy to understand Indonesian language. Its translation was presented by Brother Shafei Husein. The *Dars* lasted till 6.00 a.m.

Third Session and Closing Program

The session started at 8 a.m. with the recitation of the Holy Qur`an presented by a non-Ahmadi Muslim, Brother Sulaiman from Kampot Province and its translation was presented by Brother Zahri Soleh. After the recitation the speeches started.

The first speech was delivered by Maulana Ahmad Hidayat on the topic of "*The importance of financial sacrifices in Islam*". The speech was delivered in Khmer language. Maulana Sahib illustrated his speech with the examples of *Sahaba* and encouraged the people to offer financial sacrifices for the sake of Islam and Ahmadiyyat.

The last speech was by Maulana Hasan Basri Shahid, Missionary In Charge, Jama`at Ahmadiyya Cambodia. He spoke on the subject of "*Importance of Nabuwwat in Islam and its blessings*". He said that being the followers of the Promised Messiah^{as} it was a way to get closer to Allah and to attain this stage, it was important to be His true and humble believer.

The Mayor of Talach District was the representative of the local Government who attended our last session. He also spoke for a short time and said that he was thankful for the invitation to the *Jalsa* by Jama`at Ahmadiyya. He was happy to say that Jama`at had held the *Jalsa* in his region. He had relations with the Jama`at for a long time and was very much impressed by the services the Jama`at is rendering. The Mayor is a Buddhist and he expressed his sentiments of unity and brotherhood between Islam and Buddhism as these two religions have a close link for a long time. He expressed his good wishes for the success of the *Jalsa*. He especially expressed his desire to attend the *Jalsa* although he had undergone surgery of his ear and was convalescing at that time.

The other gentleman who spoke on the occasion was Mr. Ahmad, a Village Chief who

(Continued on page 11)

The Valiant Fight for Gurdaspur

BAARAKZAI

Qadian, the international headquarter of Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, is a small village in India. This is the birth place of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and many sacred relics of this Jama`at are in Qadian. This small village is situated in the District of Gurdaspur, India. At the time of the partition of Indian sub-continent in 1947, this District was justly or unjustly awarded to India despite the fact that according to the rules of award, this district should have been awarded to Pakistan.

The case was presented before a commission comprising of three members, a Muslim, a Hindu and a Sikh gentleman. The Muslim member was Justice Muhammad Munir who later became Chief Justice of Pakistan also. Qaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan and its first Governor General nominated Hadrat Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrullah Khan to plead the case of Pakistan before the Commission. But Mr. Radcliffe, the adjudicator nominated by the British Government independently awarded the District of Gurdaspur to India.

In 1953, there were bloody riots in Pakistan against Ahmadis and there was lot of Ahmadi blood spilled and property destroyed. One of the demands of mullahs was that Hadrat Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan be fired because due to his dishonesty and wrong representation, the District of Gurdaspur was not awarded to Pakistan and given to India.

After the riots, the Government of the Punjab instituted a high level Commission comprising of two senior judges of the Punjab High Court to probe into the causes of the disturbances and to report to the Government. The President of this Commission was Justice Muhammad Munir who later became the Chief Justice of Pakistan also. In the following lines we would like to reproduce his appreciative and laudatory remarks for the valiant fight put up

by Hadrat Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrullah Khan for the District of Gurdaspur. He says:

Vile and unfounded charges have been leveled against the Ahmadis that the District of Gurdaspur was assigned to India by the award of the Boundary Commission because of the arguments addressed by Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan who had been selected by the Qaid-i-Azam to present the case of the Muslim League before the Commission. But the President of this Court, who was a member of that Commission considers it his duty to record his gratitude to Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan for the valiant fight he put up for Gurdaspur. This is apparent from the record of the Boundary Commission which any one who is interested may see. For the selfless services rendered by him to the Muslim Community, it is shameless ingratitude for anyone to refer to Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan in the manner in which he has been referred to by certain parties before the Court of Inquiry.

(Report of the Court of Inquiry p. 197)

A letter from Germany

Maulana Fazal Ilahi Anweri ex. Amir & Missionary Incharge Jama't Ahmadiyya Nigeria and Germany has written the following to Mr. S.H. Hadi, Editor regarding Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada:

Today, I am in receipt of your Magazine, "The Ahmadiyya Gazette", of February 2005. It is beautiful and full of sweet memories of the past, especially those related to the glorious period of Khilafat of Hadrat Al-Musleh al-Mau`ood (peace be upon him). May Allah the Gracious God accept your efforts and reward you and your colleagues best for this meritorious service. Aameen.

The Twelve Sons of Hadrat Isma'eel (*Ishmael*)

BAARAKZAI

Which was the place where Hadrat Hajirah^{as} (*Hagar*) stopped after she left the home of her husband Hadrat Ibraheem^{as} is something debatable. But Hadrat Maulana Nooruddeen^{ra} Khalifatul Masih I, authoritatively says that it was the plains of Faraan (*Paran*), where Baitullah (*Ka'bah*) is built in Mecca, a holy city in Arabia. In support of his proof he has given the following arguments:

1. Continuity. This is the argument and if it is not accepted, there remains no method of believing the past and ancient historical facts. We believe Torah with continuity, we believed in Jesus Christ, Son of David due to continuity etc.

2. National Traditions, tales of the past and famous fables which are mentioned in chronicles and told and retold by the people. With this argument it is important to accept it. It is wrong not to accept a historical event if it is not against reason or nature.

Now, when it is established by both famous stories and old chronicles, then why one should not believe that Hadrat Hajirah^{as} sojourned in the Valley of Mecca. The Plains of Hijaz are the fields of Faraan. There is no law of nature which prescribes it as not possible and reason does not reject it.

Hadrat Ismaeel^{as} had twelve sons. Two archeologists have marked this place in 30° – 38° longitude and 36° – 38° in latitude where his first son Ibn Yarth settled in the north west of Arabia. Rev. Foster says that his descendants scattered from Arabia Petra till Arabia Deserta in the east till al-Amtak Bay and Hejaz in the south. Strabber goes on further and says that the children of bin Yarth had occupied even more land than this and settled till Bandar Horaa and Bandar Nebu on the banks of Qulzam Sea (Red Sea). It is situated in the south west of Medina. Rev. Foster expresses his opinion that it shows that the Children of bin Yarth were not content to abide only in rocky areas and had also spread into the vast plains of Hejaz

and Najd. It is just possible that they had spread in greater parts of Arabia. But it is established that they did settle in Arabia.

Hadrat Ismaeel's^{as} second son was Qaidaar (which means master of camels – *Muqaddamah Ibn Khaldoon vol. II p. 331*). He was the real descendant of Hadrat Ismaeel^{as}. Even his name is closely related with Arabia and its singularity. He settled near bin Yarth in the south. Rev. Foster has expressed his opinion that the Book of Isaiah establishes that Qaidaar settled in Hejaz which includes Mecca and Medina. In the days of Uranus, Ptolemy and Pliny, these peoples were the inhabitants of Hijaz. Cedri that is Qaidar or Dri, abbreviation of Duri. All this proves that Qaidaar settled in Arabia.

The third son is Obeil and according to Josephus, he also settled in these two brothers' neighbourhood.

Fourth son is Mesaam, but the place of his settlement remains unknown.

Fifth son is Mishma'a. About him, the opinion of Rev. Foster is correct that he is mentioned as Mishma'a in Hebrew. In Greek translation, Septuagint, he is mentioned as Misma. Josephus has called him Mismas and Ptolemy has mentioned him as Mismees. His descendants in Arabia are called Bani Mismaa. Therefore there is no doubt that this son initially settled near Nejd.

Sixth son was Domah. Eastern as well as western geographers admit that he settled in Tihama. It is written in *Mo'jam al Buldaan* that the name of *Domatul Jandal* is mentioned as *Domah al-Jandal* in Waqidi's Hadith. Ibn-i-Thaqeefah has mentioned it in *A'mal-i-Medina*. His name has been mentioned as *Daom ibn Ismaeel ibn Ibraheem*.

About this, *Zujajee* says that the name of Isma'eel's son is *Domaan*. But some say that his name was *Dummah*. Again, *Ibn-i-Kalbee* says that *Domah* was the son of Ismaeel. When the

number of children of Ismaeel increased in Ti-hama, Domah moved from there and settled at a place called *Domah*. There he built a fort which he named Domah on his own name.

Abu Ubaidah Skooni has written that the village Domah al-Jandal and its fort are situated in the middle of Medina and Shaam (Syria). It is near the Mount of Tai and Domah is a village in the Valley of Quraa`. Mr. Foster admits it and it is still a well-known place in Arabia.

Massaa is the seventh son. After moving from Hejaz he settled in Yemen. His name is still found in the ruins of Yemen. Katri Picari has placed it between 13° and 30° latitude and 30° and 43° longitude. Ismaeel and his children were settled in Hejaz. But when their numbers increased, they scattered and settled in other parts of Arabia. This is worth mentioning that all these places are within Arabia in the vicinity of Hejaz or nearby.

Hadrat Ismaeel's^{as} eighth son is Hudud. He is mentioned as *Haddaad* in Old Testament. Hadeedah, is a town in Yemen and reminds us of this person. A tribe by the name *Hadeedah* refers to this Haddad. Zuhair, the historian has also written about it and Mr. Foster too admits it.

Teemaa was the ninth son. He settled in Nejd which spread till the Gulf of Faris.

Tenth son was Yatoor. According to Mr. Foster, his residence was in Jadoor which is in the south of Mount Kisyooni and east of Mount of el-Shaikh.

Nafeesh was the eleventh son of Hadrat Ismaeel^{as}. Mr. Foster and Josephus quote him on the authority of The Old Testament that he settled in Arabia Deserta.

Hadrat Ismaeel's^{as} twelfth son was Qadi-mah and he also settled in Yemen. The historian Masoodi has written that the People of Russ were his descendants. They were two tribes; one was called Qidmaan and the other Yameen and some say them as Da`weel. They also lived in Yemen.

The above information can be studied in Haqaiq al-Furqan vol. IV pp. 414-416.

Second Jalsa Salana Jama`at Ahmadiyya, Cambodia

(Continued from page 8)

had embraced Ahmadiyyat. He said that he had benefited a lot in the *Jalsa* by listening to the learned speeches of the scholars. His knowledge of Islam and Ahmadiyyat has increased very much due to the addresses made during the *Jalsa*.

The closing speech was by Maulana Hasan Basri Shahid which was very emotional. He thanked all the participants who had joined in this blessed gathering and spent their time in listening to these programs. He also thanked all the *Jalsa* workers and the Committee who had worked very hard in making all the arrangements of this event. May Allah grant all the workers and members of the committee with His best reward. He informed the audience that this *Jalsa* will be his last *Jalsa* as he was proceeding shortly to Singapore as a missionary. In the end he led the audience into silent prayer. After that, there was a photo session with all the participants. The President, Missionary In Charge, other missionaries, Mayor of Tralach District had another picture separately.

More than eight hundred people attended the *Jalsa*. Among them there were about one hundred non-Ahmadis. As there was limited accommodation, therefore, the attendance was not large. It is not so easy to arrange a big gathering with a team of a small number of workers i.e. the four missionaries. For the main *Jalsa*, 24X15 m² tent was arranged and another tent 4X6 m² was arranged for the exhibition.

Our *Jalsa* has passed away but its spirit will continue in the hearts of those who attended enlightening their life with new spiritual light and desires until the coming *Jalsa* in the coming year.

Arshad Manji – Another Pawn Advanced

ANSAR RAZA, PROFESSOR, JAMIA AHMADIYYA CANADA

It has been a constant endeavour of the orientalist to prove that the Holy Qur`an is a product of human mind and hand. This attitude on the part of non-Muslims is as old as the Holy Qur`an itself. Ever since the time of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) unbelievers and critics have merely rehearsed the Meccan unbelievers' view about the Holy Qur`an.

The tactics employed by the earlier opponents of Islam were concealing the true prophecies and facts in their scriptures about the advent of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) quoting the verses of Holy Scriptures cut out of context; and intermingling truth with falsehood rendering the truth indiscernible and vague. The modern adversaries of Islam are walking on the footprints of their predecessors and have adopted the same strategy to combat Islam.

As compared to the early attacks including crusades, modern attacks i.e. literary attacks by pen, are more fierce and hostile. Allah has foretold *and you shall surely hear many hurtful things from those who were given the Book before you and from those who set up equals to God (3:187)* about these profane literary attacks and guided us how to retaliate. The Holy Qur`an also mentions *By the inkstand and by the pen and by that which they write, thou art not, by the grace of thy Lord, a mad man. And for thee most surely, there is an unending reward (68:2-3)* that a time will come when the Muslims shall encounter tormenting and scathing literal criticism produced through the pen against the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and shall be rebutted with pen. This prophecy of the Holy Qur`an has been fulfilled by the grace of Allah through the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) who used his pen as a sword and defeated all the adversaries of Islam. The Muslims are advised not to retaliate in a harsh manner, but to respond to such profanity with dignity and

honour, without resorting to frenzy and violence.

The latest machination being added to the vicious endeavours of the opponents of Islam is to forward some pawns, Irshad Manji being one of them, from within the ranks of Muslims. Apparently frustrated and upset with the unbridled carnal desires they wish to mould the basic tenets of Islam in a befitting manner.

As customary by the orientalist, the relentless deeds of Muslims in general and the tyrant and despot Muslim rulers in particular, have been attributed to Islam. The political maneuverings and intrigues by these Muslim rulers are declared to be the direct consequences of Islamic teachings notwithstanding the fact that the Holy Qur`an warns the Muslims of their double standards and contradictions between their lofty claims and debased deeds.

In this renewed literary attack on Islam titled as *Trouble with Islam*, by Irshad Manji in the guise of reformation and change, Islam is accused of being contradictory, ambiguous, anti-Semitic, aimed to create Arab-Imperialism, out casting gays and lesbians, requiring the Muslims to imitate the Holy Qur`an without thinking independently, oppressing and denying the rights of women, slaves and non-Muslim minorities, and held responsible for all primitive, naïve and uncivilized traits of behaviour of Muslims. All these accusations have been leveled without providing any proof from the Holy Qur`an, Sunnah and Hadith. The Islamic sources have been distortedly quoted and misrepresented.

Many Muslims have reacted to the title of the book by saying that it is the Muslims who are responsible for their political, economical, moral, scientific, religious and social downfall and decline. They suggest that this title should be "Trouble with Muslims". Even a non-Muslim journalist, Patrick Lejtenyi, news editor of "The Mirror" from Montreal observed this

fact and expressed the same view.

The trouble with the Muslims is that they are obsessed with the idea that a Muslim is a born ruler and if presently being ruled, eventually has to be a ruler. They are not ready to offer to their non-Muslim minorities what they demand as subjects from Western nations. Whenever they talk about implementation of Islamic values and ideologies, the only vision that emerges in their minds is of a punitive and retributive system all out to oppress the minorities and punish the criminals. The Muslims have demanded more freedom of religion in the West and many other countries including India, but they deny this basic human right to the minorities living in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and many other Islamic countries.

The contents and style of this book reveals that Irshad Manji is not reforming the Muslims but enraging and demeaning them. Nobody mends his behaviour, rather aggravates in fury, if he or she is taunted. Apparently, Irshad Manji doesn't know this rudimentary lesson of psychology, and still calls herself a reformer.

Ironically, censuring Islam and the Holy Qur'an with the harshest vilification and falsely accusing it of being the brain-child of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) Irshad Manji insists on calling herself a "Muslim".

It is unimaginable that a person claims to believe in the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as a true prophet of God and at the same time accuses him of bringing contradictory, savage and discriminatory teachings used for political and racial domination and plagiarizing from earlier scriptures.

The study of Irshad Manji's book further revealed how scanty, distorted, biased and perilously flawed is her knowledge about Islam. Her real trouble is that she is not at all a scholar of Islam and has never studied the original sources of Islamic faith, and relied upon or used secondary sources mostly written by the opponents of Islam.

For example, she revealed the falsity of her claim that she studied the Holy Qur'an, objecting upon the veil, saying, *While the Koran requires the Prophet's wives to veil, it never decrees such a practice for all women.*" (P. 154)

As a matter of fact, the referred to verse of the Holy Qur'an *O Prophet! Tell thy wives and thy daughters and the women of the believers that they should draw close to them portions of their loose outer coverings.* (33:60) ostensibly shows that the wives of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), his daughters and all the women of the believers are required to observe veil.

Her statement, *If Islam is the "straight path," then why are there detours in practice?* (p. 147) On one side, she demands free thinking for Muslims to interpret the Holy Qur'an and Islamic teachings by themselves and on the other, she condemns the diversity in Islamic practices. This criticism loses its ground and backfired to her when she praises the diversity of opinion and "plethora of interpretations" in Judaism and Christianity but condemns the same in Islam.

Ms Manji's research is bent upon seeking excuses to reprimand Islam one way or the other. By doing so, she forgets the normal social behaviour and the prevalent norms of the civilized western society which she is praising so much. In this context she states that Islam has a popular teaching against "excessive laughter" (p. 25). True. Islam is against all kinds of excesses including laughter. But this unpopular teaching is not only popular amongst Muslims but also accepted as a standard norm in non-Muslim circles. Health experts say that excessive laughter can lead to hysteria and it is also not recommended and prescribed by other religions as well.

Another folly exhibited by this imprudent reformer, enemy in the guise of a friend, is demanding Qur'anic sanction for homosexuality. This is nothing but sheer provocation and incitement. God didn't create homosexuals, He created human beings and they were given this "Free Will" to choose whatever way they wish to. So, some of us choose to become perverts

some murderers, some exploiters, some George Bush and some Osama Bin Laden. If according to Irshad Manji, God created everything "excellent" then by that standard, we have to declare all the fanatics, terrorists, pedophiles and *the Muslims*, whom she wishes to reform, as excellent.

Another deceptive and malignant effort on her part to impugn Islam is the distorted depiction of "Pact of Umar" and then raising hue and cry over this distorted version. After mentioning few of the clauses of this "discriminatory" document called "Pact of Umar" on p. 70 of her book, she claimed that Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina, a Professor of University of Virginia, admitted these discriminatory clauses to be part of Pact of Umar. I contacted Dr. Sachedina and he explicitly denied having presented this idea altogether.

It is quite obvious that she has not only committed a heinous crime of distortion of Islamic history, but also inflicted a great damage to the repute of a great scholar, Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina by attributing to him what he never even thinks of, let alone presenting in his book.

The hostility towards Islam has coloured her eyes, rather blinded her and bereft her of any positive objectivity in her endeavour of so-called wake-up call. Recklessly following the non-Muslim fault-finders of Islam, she has twisted the term "dhimmitude" by presenting it as a stigma on the face of Islam. She has portrayed dhimmitude as the systematic repression of Jews and Christians and gross discrimination against them in Muslim lands. As a matter of fact, dhimmitude provides protection and safety not only for the non-Muslims but also for the Muslim population.

As obvious from every page of Irshad Manji's book, she is very much concerned and sympathetic to the Jews and continuously frowns over the Muslims for their committed as well as uncommitted crimes. In her Muslim-bashing enraged over Jew-bashing, she "questioned" the massacre of the Jews in Medina and demanded the proof of Jewish conspiracy against the nascent Islamic state of Medina. Don't ask me why she didn't demand the proof

of Jewish conspiracy against Romans and censured demolition of Temple by Titus, the Roman general.

I don't see any job done as claimed in the title of the book as "*a wake-up call for honesty and change*". She claims that she is following "moral clarity, common decency and civilization" (p. 1). It can be easily observed how much she has used these sublime principles in her writing. She admits herself that the French writer was inciting hate when he called Islam "the most stupid religion". Isn't she walking on his footsteps while calling the Holy Qur'an "bundle of contradictions, inconsistent, ambiguous, imperfect" and much more. The pricking, insulting and humiliating writings cannot do any good but infuriate and enrage already devastated people.

The biggest challenge staring in our face in this modern world is to root out the causes which help the thorny bushes grow and inflict scars on the otherwise pure and spotless face of Islam. A major part of this task starts from within the community which is reformation of the Muslims and not of Islam. The message of Islam is perfectly suitable at all times and situations. It has intrinsic characteristics of adaptation to any situation and circumstances without any change in its fundamentals.

Our task now is to liberate our fellow Muslims from the medieval thinking, pseudo-intellectualism and scholastic bondage of mullah and unite them under the banner of the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah. This apparently insurmountable goal cannot be achieved unless all of us join hands on the hands of the divinely guided Imam Mahdi, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and his Khalifa of the time appointed by Allah in this age for our salvation. Only a united effort can effectively fight back the attacks on Islam and prove the supremacy of Islam over all other creeds and philosophies.

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

NEWS REPORT MARCH 2005

Government's Retreat on the Issue of Religion Column in Machine-Readable Passport

'Enlightened Moderation' is dumped when challenged by Mullah from Anti-Ahmadi Platform

Extremist Forces were out to take the country back to the dark ages which needed to be checked with the support of all moderate political parties and forces of the country. President Musharraf.

The daily Dawn, March 5, 2005

Time and again, Musharraf has shown us that he is more than capable of talking the talk, he is careful where he treads.

Winds of Change? By Irfan Hussain in The Dawn of March 5, 2005.

The (Anti-Ahmadi) Ordinance promulgated by the president on April 26, 1984 goes a long way in accepting the most extreme anti-Ahmadi demands and transforms much of the daily life of the Community into a criminal offence

Yohanan Friedmann in his book, "Prophecy Continuous"

THE CABINET finally approved the restoration of the religion column in Pakistani machine readable passport (MRP) on March 24, 2005. Thus came to an end the controversy that was going on for months; the government decided to concede victory to the mullah and accept humiliating defeat for itself at an occasion when the tables could be conveniently turned and major gains were within grasp in favour of 'enlightened moderation'.

The scarlet thread in the whole controversy was the Ahmadiyya issue. The mullah said so openly, but the government was shy to specify it, while every body knew it. The end result proved once again that Ahmadis' human rights had no value with the policy-makers, and the state was ever willing to yield to anti-Ahmadi demands of obscurants and extremists, even

when these were against the country's interests and militated against declared and rational policy.

Here, to draw lessons and make comments, it is intended to mention the flow of events as reported in the print media, vernacular as well as English. Detailed references have been avoided in the interest of easy reading. The English and Urdu press covered the entire episode and adequately almost daily, and the column-writers wrote their opinions candidly often.

The religion-column in passport was originally a non-issue. There was no religion column in Pakistani passport till the time of General Zia. It was his innovation. Among the much harm that the General did to Pakistan, this also was one. Twenty-five years later, when the poppy crop of his policies matured and the harvest came home in the form of unbridled sectarianism and red-clawed terrorism, saner elements of the society became more aware of the danger of Zia's islamisation of Pakistan. The present regime openly criticized the prevalent extremism, but took only some guarded and half-hearted measures to curb it. One of these attempted measures was the exclusion of religion column from the new machine readable passports.

The mullah knows that the introduction of this column initially in 1980 was based on anti-Ahmadiyya consideration. In order to implement this discrimination, all the Muslim applicants for passports were made to give the following certificate to substantiate their Islam (the new Pakistani version); it reminds one of the 17th century Europe:

1. I am Muslim and believe in the absolute and unqualified finality of the Prophethood of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) the last of the prophets.

2. I do not recognize any person who claims to be a prophet in any sense of the word or of any description whatsoever after Muhammad (peace

and blessings of Allah be upon him) or recognize such a claimant as prophet or a religious reformer as a Muslim.

3. I consider Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani to be an imposter Nabi and also consider his followers whether belonging to Lahori or Qadiani group to be Non-Muslim.

(Signature & thumb impression (with name in block letters of applicant in indelible ink)

This certificate had a purpose. It was a tool to alienate the entire Muslim population of Pakistan from the Ahmadiyya doctrine. Although the same certificate is required for the national identity card, the mullah does not like even one step back from his over-kill gains on the anti-Ahmadiyya front. The government of Pakistan has always co-operated with the mullah in the past in this sphere; now that it seeks some space to implement even a mild form of 'enlightened moderation', the mullah holds the government by the throat and knows that the weak-legged self-serving men of politics will yield readily. Almost always, the mullah's assessment is right.

When the mullahs of the anti-Ahmadiyya *Khatme Nabuwwat* (the end of Prophethood) breed came to know of the government's intention to do away with the religion column, they protested. A *Khatme Nabuwwat* Conference at Quaidabad, Karachi declared that they will not allow the country to become a secular state. *The World Pasban Khatme Nabuwwat* issued a program at Lahore to agitate the people on the issue of the religion column. *The Alami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat* declared at Qasur that they 'will hold a demonstration outside the Parliament House at Islamabad on March 9 *Qadianis are being given key positions according to a plan*'. The erstwhile discredited Ahrar-e-Islam also threw in their support to the agitation and declared protest demonstrations against alleged support to Qadianis. *All Parties Khatme Nabuwwat* declared at Kassowal: 'Exclusion of the religion column was a conspiracy of Qadianis that would be foiled'. *The Khatme Nabuwwat Organization* at Chiniot (adjacent to Rabwah) called the passport move a ruse of the President and declared that they will

chop the hands of those who would dare remove the religion column; these mullahs also alleged that the General was making all efforts to water the plant of Qadianism planted by the Jews and Christians. The mullah is rarely bothered about the veracity of his allegations; he has a tunnel vision and is strictly goal-oriented. The MMA opposition, comprising the Jama'at Islami and the JUI etc., welcomed this development and adopted it as a part of their agenda in their drive to remove the President and install themselves at the capital. The Qazi told the JI's youth wing, *Shabab Milli*, at Islamabad on March 4, "The American president Bush is an enemy of mankind; the entire Pakistani nation will stand united against American invasion of Iran; it is essential to remove General Pervez Musharraf from power; religion column has been erased in support of secularism ... " *The Daily Pakistan Lahore; March 5, 2005*. At the time, the MMA's train marches were undertaken and a program of so-called 'million marches' was announced. At Islamabad, leaders of the *Alami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat* held a press conference on March 8, and declared to hold a demonstration at the Parliament House.

So, these fake men of piety decided to arouse confessional passions to achieve their political goals. *Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat* (Organization for safeguarding the End of Prophethood) ostensibly operates as a religious body, and the authorities grant it the license to go about its anti-Ahmadiyya business freely, but only a half-wit will not notice their intimate collaboration with national and international extremist elements. This time also, the MMA and the *Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat* bullies and bigots, joined hands in mutual support. The demand for restoration of religion column in passport was included in the long list of demands on which the clerics of the MMA started arousing public sentiment against the government.

As planned, the MMA and the mullahs held a protest rally on March 9 in Islamabad against exclusion of religion column from passports. The rally was professedly organized by the anti-Ahmadiyya *Alami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat*, and was attended by the MMA President Qazi Hussain Ahmad, Liaquat

Baloch of JI, Hafiz Hussain Ahmad of JUI and Allama Naqvi of a Shia faction etc. Maulana Fazlur Rahman, the MMA Secretary General spoke to the rally on phone and alleged that the military leadership was working for the fulfillment of the US, West and Qadiani (Ahmadi) lobby's designs "as Jihad was being termed terrorism as part of the American agenda".

The Dawn, Lahore; March 10, 2005)

The government's reaction to the occasion was strange. The next day Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, declared on behalf of the federal cabinet, "There will be no amendment to the law on End of Prophethood (*referring to Ahmadi-specific laws*) ... religion column will be included subsequent to the Committee's report." Once again, the politicians at the apex were trying to avoid the major issues and were offering Ahmadi as sacrificial offering to save their political careers. Throughout the history of Pakistan, politicians have attempted that gimmick and have always failed.

The handling of this issue in the past few months by various luminaries is an interesting study in Pakistan's politics. The mullah took the line, and the MMA in opposition parroted it that if there is no religion column, Qadianis will get access to the Islamic holy sites in Saudi Arabia. They were told by the liberals that Qadianis already were free to visit the sites from 177 other countries of the world, and the Saudi government was not objecting to that, and no harm had been done to Islam. But the mullah does not like to listen to a conflicting opinion, and stuck to his position. Ms Benazir Bhutto stated that 'religion column is a non-issue and one should not mix religion and nationality'. But in her two terms as prime minister, she had retained the column and mixed religion with nationality. Mr. Kabeer Wasti, a senior Muslim Leaguer denounced the column as against the vision of the Founder of Pakistan who had stated in unambiguous words that Pakistan would not be a theocratic state and "you may belong to any religion or caste or creed, that has nothing to do with the business of the State." Ch. Shujaat Hussain, the President of PML (Q), however, has apparently disowned his political

ancestor and declared on February 18, 2005 that 'Religion column will soon be restored in passport'. Indeed, he is the leader of a majority with a minority's mind set. Ijazul Haq, an erstwhile head of his own little Muslim League, and son of General Zia, declared without proof or authority, '99% of the people are in favour of restoration of the religion column in passport'. This political light-weight failed to realize that more than 50% of Pakistani people have never even seen a passport. Mr. Nawaz Sharif, the author of the still-born Shariat Bill, spoke in favour of the restoration of the column; he thought his statement will help in his own restoration. A few ministers like Sherpao, Khurshid Qasuri, Liaquat Jatoi and others saw no reason for Pakistan to be the only Muslim country in the world to have the religion column, and opposed its inclusion. The president predictably kept quiet, but did make again wishful statements like: Mullahs will have to be rejected to save the country; we shall not yield to the demands of a few ignorant who have hijacked Islam. Less than two weeks later, he readily yielded to them on the issue of religion column. As for the Prime Minister, in a calculated move, he formed a ministerial committee to examine and make recommendations. It is a one-legged democracy in Pakistan; institutions and committees are supposed to deliver what is expected of them. As for the liberal and educated class, most of them are like salon socialists. The entire exercise was leading to an outcome that could be foretold. An Ahmadi Community official at Rabwah predicted unequivocally: they will restore the column, surely.

Before the final decision came through, there were news that deserve a mention here. Mr. Rafiq Tarar, ex-President urged the people to rise against the rulers. He urged the Muslims to launch (anti-Ahmadiyya) movements like those of 1953, 1974 and 1984. On March 22, 2005, the five-member Ministerial committee of the federal cabinet unanimously recommended that, i) The religion of the passport holder may be stamped at a suitable place in the new passport and ii) the words 'Islamic Republic of Pakistan' should be inscribed on the cover of the passport. Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, a member of

the Committee said on the same day that NADRA had already been given instructions to make arrangements to implement the Committee's recommendations. The Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz at the occasion expressed his appreciation of the Committee's work and stated, 'If the majority of the Pakistani people want the religion column, the government will go by their wish'. Two days later, the cabinet approved the Committee's recommendation despite the fact that nine ministries and ministers of state reportedly opposed the recommendations. Ms Shirin Rehman of PPP stated that they had supported the government in removing the religion column. From these developments, a few observations can be made without risk of being off the mark. The Committee's unanimity, despite the fact that ministers like Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Javed Ashraf and Rao Iqbal of PPP were its members, shows that its recommendations were directed from above. The fact that Sheikh Rashid Ahmad issued instructions to NADRA for implementing the details of the recommendations before their approval by the cabinet supports the theory of directed recommendations. The Prime Minister, in his remarks of yielding to the majority, unwittingly and incorrectly endorsed the claim of the MMA that they, and not the government, were representing the majority opinion. Contrary to expectations of these decision-makers, as per press, apart from a mullah Abdul Ghafoor Zahid of Chiniot, a Syed Bokhari of the discredited Aharar, and a passing mention of thanks in a seminar at a Republic Day seminar organized by Muslim League minions at Lahore, no body else gave unconditional applause to the government on its decision. The Minorities Alliance demanded that the decision should not be implemented, and threatened that religious minorities will launch a country-wide movement if their demand was not met. This threat may be flimsy, but the reaction of the mullah and the MMA to the government's effort for appeasement is most interesting and deserves to be mentioned below from the print media.

Dr. Kausar of the MMA said, "The restoration of the religion column is a great success of the MMA ." Liaquat Baloch, the Deputy

Secretary General of the MMA remarked that its Karachi gathering had got the Musharraf regime in a state of hysteria (*totay ur gae*). He also forecast that: "General Musharraf will retreat on all fronts, as on the religion-column issue".

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt, the leader of right-wing press demanded that the government should apologize to the people for the delay in its decision. The *Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat* declared that the government decision to stamp the (already issued) MRPs with religion was dubious, and 'the agitation will continue until all the 250,000 passports already issued are cancelled.' *The Jang, Lahore; March 24, 2005*. According to a headline in the daily Jang, Lahore of March 26, 2005, the clerics declared: 'Restoration of religion column is a victory for the Muslims of Pakistan; the religion column should now be introduced in the national identity cards also. Abdul Qadir Hasan, a senior columnist of the Jang wrote: *Immediate reaction of the Ulema is that they are not impressed by such petty decisions (of the government); their demands now exceed well beyond that*'. So this was the response of the religious lobby to the government's plea made by its spokes minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, "Restoration of the religion column is the enlightened reaction of the government; now the Ulema should also respond positively." *The daily Din, March 26, 2005*. While the government decision to yield to the mediocrity of an intimidating minority, the mullah, brought it no acclaim, there were plenty of voices that strongly criticized it. Mr. Iqbal Haider, a former attorney general wrote: *It appears that enlightened moderation is nothing more than a hollow slogan. In practice the ruling junta is only serving the agenda of reaction and conveying the image of Pakistan as a country of bigots, ruled by and for bigots*. The Daily Times wrote an editorial on the decision and titled it: A 'small' retreat for Shaukat or a 'great' leap for Qazi? It wrote: *They (the top leaders) are still being guided by the PML-Q wallahs and intelligence advisors with beards in their stomachs instead of on their faces. This is another sad day for Musharraf's Pakistan*'. The daily DAWN of March 24, editorialized the de-

cision as 'Retreat again' and its opening sentence was "It was a sad day for 'enlightened moderation' on Wednesday. It came up against conservative reaction and beat a retreat ... If the idea is to remove a minor prop for agitation from the MMA hands, and pursue other major social reforms, then we have seen over and over again how giving away on religious issues that are raised for political mileage only strengthens retrogressive trends in society." Nazir Naji, the renowned columnist of the daily Jang opined, "... At such time, accepting the basic demand of the agitators is an open defeat of the government. As a result, the political clerics will get encouraged and the common man will get impressed by their achievement and might support them.... Political parties that are genuinely moderate and liberal will find it (now) difficult to have faith in Pervez Musharraf's callings ... What will be the state of the American administration that is banking upon president Musharraf in its fight against terrorism, after this decision? How will be liberal section of the society, who initially supported the government, have faith in the government after its manifest retreat? This is no longer the issue of the religion column; it is the issue of the clash of enlightened moderation and religious extremism." The daily Jang, Lahore; March 25, 2005.

In short, the Mullah-Military Alliance has made Pakistan 'a Sahara of the spirit' as assessed by Ayaz Amir. Riddance from the clutches of obscurants has become a pipe dream. 'Enlightened moderation' is just hot air, so long as it flirts with fundamentalists and serves mainly personal ends. Nothing substantial will be achieved so long as the establishment within and the international community without tolerate blatant discrimination and persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan. The Holy Qur'an mentions a great principle that whoever killed a person *wrongfully* shall be as if he had killed all mankind; and whoso saved a life, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind. (5:33) Pakistani leadership, by allowing itself wrongdoing against the Ahmadiyya Community, commits wrong against the entire people of Pakistan. A timid and self-serving administration that cannot see far beyond its nose cannot de-

liver on major issues and rid Pakistan of the evils of extremism and obscurantism. As and when, this government or the next takes a principled stand on the human rights of Ahmadis and corrects the wrongs of the past, this country will stand poised to jump into the 21st century from its medieval age disposition.

P.S. If by retreating on an Ahmadi-related issue, the government aimed at sparing itself the inconvenience of confronting political clerics, it was in for major disappointment. Within 10 days, it was frontally challenged by the encouraged mullah, this time on the issue of 'Women participation in marathon race', and blood was spilled on both sides of Gujranwala.

Confirmation by the Government of the State's Anti-Ahmadiyya policy

Islamabad; March 9, 2005: The daily Pakistan, Lahore in its issue of March 10, 2005 quoted in a banner headline the Federal Minister of Information, "No amendment will be made to the law concerning Qadianis The religion column will be restored subsequent to the Committee's report." According to the special correspondent of the daily, the Minister of Information made the statement in a press conference held after the meeting of the federal cabinet. "Let the MMA say what it likes, but as for the issue of End of Prophethood, it is settled that those who do not believe in Prophet Muhammad to be the last prophet are outside the pale of Islam. The Government is neither bringing up an amendment, nor such an amendment can be brought up." Explained the minister.

Arrest of the District President of Ahmadi Community Bhakkar

Haiderabad Thal, District Bhakkar: Dr. Dilband Ali, the President of Ahmadiyya Community, District Bhakkar and his two sons were arrested in a fabricated case, by the police on March 15, 2005. An FIR No. 61/05 was registered against them under PPC 436 at police station Haiderabad Thal. The victims face 5 years' imprisonment under this law. Although the law invoked is not a religious law, the accusation and the follow-up were manifestly based on anti-Ahmadiyya prejudice.

Opinion of Human Rights Leader

Dhaka, Bangladesh: Ms Asma Jehangir, a former UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief, was recently on a personal visit to Dhaka. There she was interviewed by two journalists of the *Daily Star*. Excerpts of the interview were published in the newspaper of January 18, 2005. To some questions on the Ahmadiyya issue and situation in Pakistan, Ms Jehangir made *inter alia* the following observations:

• *In Pakistan, the (Ahmadiyya) issue was used by religious parties to flare the emotions of the people to enrage them and build new constituencies. It became the foothold for the religious parties to gain entry into parliament and government Institutions.*

• *..... When such high officials (like Shaukat Aziz, the PM) go out in public and denounce Ahmadiyya, it is quite derogatory for the members of the Ahmadiyya Community. Such an attitude extended itself to institutions and hostility grew there (in Pakistan), they became untouchable and still are.*

• *Well as I said (they Ahmadis) are still treated as untouchables, people do not marry their children into Ahmadiyya families, there are widespread discriminations against them in the workplace. They are boxed in to their own isolated communities, in their own ghettos.*

'Probing With a Bayonet'

Mr. Irfan Hussain wrote the above titled article in the daily Dawn, Lahore on March 19, 2005. Mr. Hussain is a columnist of repute who has a style, sees the issues clearly and states his opinion candidly for the general good. His article is reproduced at the Annex for perusal and record.

Ahmadis behind Bars

1. Mr. Muhammad Iqbal was awarded life imprisonment in a fabricated case of blasphemy. He was arrested in March 2004, and is now incarcerated in the Central Jail, Faisalabad. An appeal now lies with the Lahore High Court against the decision of the lower court. The case was registered against Mr. Iqbal under FIR 73/04 on March 23, 2004 at Police Station Tarkhani, District Faisalabad, Punjab.

2. Eight Ahmadis namely, Messrs Ejaz, Munir, Basharat, Abdur Rehman, Nasir, Bashir, Akmal and Idrees were arrested in September 2003 on false charge of murder of a mullah at the complaint of

Ahmadi-bashers. The police, after due inquiry found nothing against these accused. Still the innocent remain in prison and are facing trial for a crime they did not commit. It is now one year and 7 months that they are in prison. They were booked under FIR 455/03 dated September 4, 2003 at police Station Kharian Sadar, District Gujrat.

3. Three Ahmadis namely Mr. Shaukat Khan, Mansur Ahmad and Hafizur Rehman were arrested in December last year on false charge of defiling the Holy Qur'an by burning its pages. They were arrested under PPC 295B for which the penalty is life imprisonment. Mr. Hafizur Rehman was not even present in the village on the day of the incident. FIR 280/04 was registered against the accused at Police Station Kassoki; District Hafizabad on December 18, 2004. The three are now incarcerated in prison at Gujranwala.

4. Three Ahmadis namely Mr. Ejaz Ahmad, Muhammad Yasin and Abdul Latif of District Vehari were arrested recently under Ahmadi-specific law. Two more are also nominated in the case; they also face arrest. The case was registered against them under FIR 45/05 under 298C on February 22, 2005 at Police Station Machiwal, District Vehari.

5. Dr. Dilband Ali, President of Ahmadiyya Community of District Bhakkar and his two sons were arrested and charged at the report of an anti-Ahmadi activist. A week later they were released on bail by the court.

To be remembered:

• Extremism, biggest challenge Musharraf.
The daily Dawn, Lahore April 3, 2005

• There is need in the world of inter-faith understanding. Shaukat Aziz's opening address at Gandhara Week. *(The daily Jang, Lahore)*

• No revision shall be undertaken of the Protection of End of Prophethood Law (the anti-Ahmadiyya Law) Federal Cabinet. *(The daily Awaz, Lahore; March 10, 2005)*

• Cabinet restores religion column in passports *(The daily Nation, Lahore; March 25, 2005)*

• Court hearing of 27 cases at Chiniot for violation of the anti-Qadiani Ordinance. *(The daily Jang, Lahore; March 1, 2005)*

- We shall spare no sacrifice to safeguard the Blasphemy laws, the Hudood Ordinance, Islamic Ideology of Pakistan and the county's defense. Qazi Hussain Ahmad (*The daily Awaz, Lahore; March 10, 2005*)

- Enlightened moderation is threat to county: The Qazi (of JI). *The daily Dawn, Lahore, March 23, 2005.*

- Rulers who compromise on Islamic identity will not be tolerated. Qadianis holding official key posts should be fired. Hafiz Idrees of JI (*The daily Jang, Lahore, March 1, 2005*)

- Muslims will pull out the tongues of those who oppose the End of Prophethood. Maulana Hashim of JUP *The daily Jang, Lahore; March 1, 2005*

- Force will be used to stop (women's) marathon: Fazl of MMA & JUI *The daily Dawn, Lahore; April 7, 2005*

- The clash is between the Islamic civilization and the American civilization. The rulers uphold the American civilization while we the Mustafavi (the Muhammadan). The roots of Islamic civilization are being cut in the name of enlightened moderation. We shall make the people confront this effort. To form a government is a function of Prophecy. Some people want to restrict the religious parties to only mosques. Qazi Hussain Ahmad (*The daily Pakistan, Lahore; March 17, 2005*)

- Implement the Sharia law (of death) to uproot the Qadiani mischief. The (Qadianis) bring the country to disrepute by dissemination of imaginary tales of tyranny on Internet. Maulvi Faqir Muhammad. (*The daily Nawa-i-Waqt, Lahore, March 15, 2005*)

- Agha Khanis will meet the same doom (*Hashar*) as Qadianis. The Qazi (of JI) *The daily Jang, Lahore, March 10, 2005*

- Islamic Ideology Council has lost its usefulness – should be disbanded. The country is moving steadily to collapse. Dr. Asrar Ahmad *The daily Aman, Faisalabad; March 8, 2005*

Note: For news concerning the religion column in MR passports, please refer to the lead story of this monthly report.

Necessary Advice

The following incident is related by Shaikh Abdul Lateef Batalvi:

“There used to be a Sikh student in Talimul Islam High School. One night he came to Qadian with the motive of murdering Huzur and reached his house while he was offering *Tahajjud* prayers. When Huzur finished his prayer, he asked him his motive of coming at that odd hour. But the people outside the house had seen him with dagger and had gathered there. Shaikh Hakim Ali *Havaldar* was on duty and he apprehended him and after taking him in custody, took him to Batala to report to the police. (Qadian was a small hamlet and there was no police station in the village). From there, Mian Ghulam Rasool, a Deputy Superintendent of Police came to Qadian for investigation. He got the statement of Hazrat Khali-fatul Masih I and the case was registered and presented in the court.

The Sikh young man was sentenced to three years imprisonment. He served the sentence and was released after completing the term. After about six months I (Shaikh Abdul Lateef) went to Qadian and saw the same Sikh boy sitting in front of Hazrat Maulana Nuruddin discussing about the opportunities of getting a job and Huzur was giving him necessary advice in a loving sympathetic manner. When I saw this, I got mad and wrote to Huzur that it was the same boy who had come to murder him three years ago and Huzur was treating him so kindly.

Huzur smiled and said that he trusted me, so why should I not give him sincere advice?

Hearing this, I felt so sorry about my behaviour.”

(Hayaat-I-Noor p. 625)

POPE sets sights on gaining converts

BAARAKZAI

Please read carefully the heading given above this small note.

This news was flashed with the above head line by the daily METRO, of April 26, 2005 distributed gratis in Greater Toronto and now read the full news below.

Pope Benedict XVI pledged the Roman Catholic Church to a new push for converts yesterday on his first papal visit outside the Vatican to the shrine of Christianity's first missionary.

Fresh from a jubilant audience with German pilgrims, the Pope, 78, journeyed to the southern suburbs of Rome to pray at the 4th century Basilica of St. Paul outside the Walls. The church, the largest in Rome after St. Peter's Basilica, has associations with the theme of Christian unity. The Pope used his visit to the reputed burial place of St. Paul, the co-founder of the church with St. Peter and its first evangelizer, to make clear he saw a pressing need to revitalize the quest to spread the Catholic message.

"The Church is by its very nature missionary, its first task is evangelization," the Pope, the former cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, said in his homily.

Earlier in the day, Benedict joked at an audience with German pilgrims when he apologized for arriving late. "Germans are known for being punctual – it seems I've become a bit of an Italian," he joked. Here ends the news flash of *The Metro*.

It is a well known and confirmed fact acknowledged by the world media and others that today Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world. But around the world which is the organized community, doing this blessed job of dissemination of the religion of peace – Islam. Believe it or not, it is the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam and none else.

Hadrat Khalifatul Masih IV^{ra}, our fourth

Khalifa who passed away merely two years ago, made gigantic efforts in this field. He wanted every Ahmadi to become a missionary of Islam. He would ask every Ahmadi as to what are his efforts in this field. The result is just evident that during his *KHILAFAT* lasting merely two decades, a revolution came around the globe and it is admitted openly that Islam has become a dynamic force in the spiritual domain.

Our present Khalifa, Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih V, earnestly wants every Ahmadi to raise the banner of Islam and do his utmost in disseminating the sublime and beautiful message of peace of the Religion of Islam around him. We know that physically, and financially we are weak and not the commanding force. But every one of us knows that Almighty God is at our back and He is strong and has all the powers. He has always blessed our efforts. It is only because our message is the message of truth. It is a message of peace. Let every Ahmadi take up the challenge.

Official Website of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada

Visit www.ahmadiyya.ca for the latest news, updates, current events and activity reports of the Jama`at Ahmadiyya Canada.

Moreover, numerous services for the members of the Canadian Jama`at including registration of New Births, Change of address etc are also available at the website.

www.ahmadiyya.ca