

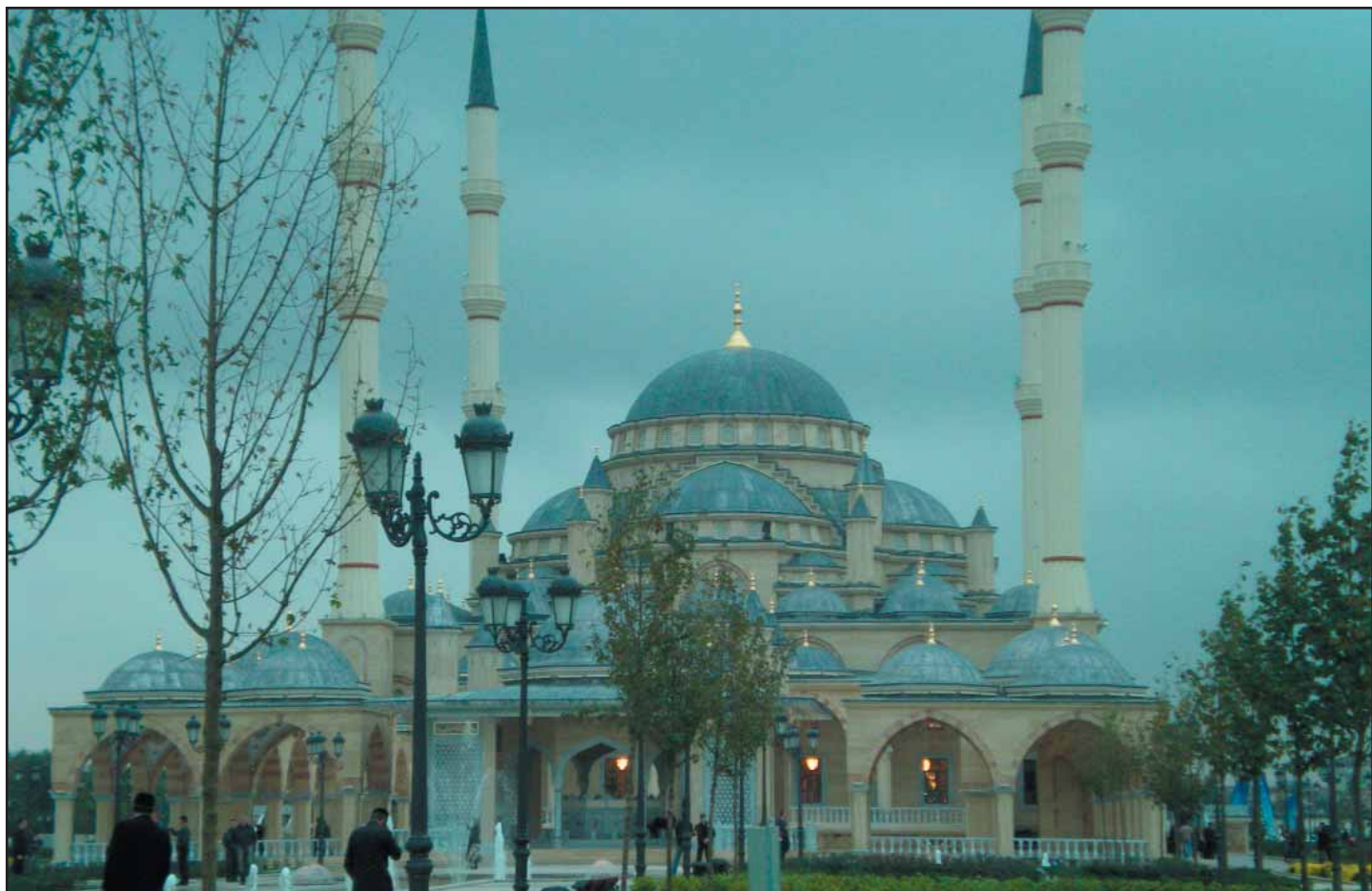
Basharaat-E-Ahmadiyya

International Newsletter of Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam, (Lahore) USA

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The new Mosque in Grozny Chechenya, the largest in Europe.

Ahamdolillah, A Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat was registered in the Philippines on December 5 2008. Please pray that this jamaat, by the Grace of Almighty Allah becomes a spiritual beacon spreading the right peaceful teachings of Islam.

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Editorial

by Noman Malik

Another year has passed, and thanks to Almighty Allah the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement continues to make remarkable progress. Many years ago a group of Filipinos wrote to Maulana Muhammad Ali expressing their intention of forming a Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat in the Philippines. We do not know what happened to that jamaat, but by the Grace of Almighty Allah, a Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat was formed and registered in the Philippines in November of this year.

Alhamdulillah! The jamaat is headquartered in a center named the Maulana Muhammad Ali Research Center in Cagayan de Oro city.

Likewise, the Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat was registered in Albania and a center was purchased in Tirana, its capital. This reestablishes links between Albania and the Lahore Ahmadiyya movement which existed during Maulana Muhammad Ali's time when Albanian students came to study Islam at the Ahmadiyya Buildings, Lahore. Both the Philippines and Albanian Jamaats were established due largely to the efforts of Mrs. Samina Malik. May Almighty Allah Reward and Bless her.

By the Grace of Almighty Allah our translation, book printing and book distribution projects are

forging ahead. Translations of our Holy Quran and other literature into Vietnamese, Bisaya and Thai languages have been started and will serve the needs of the people in South East Asia.

A shipment of the Turkish Holy Quran is being sent to Azerbaijan at the request of the University of Baku. Following the conference in Chechnya, the need for distributing additional Russian Holy Quran in Russia has become quite apparent and a project for printing the Holy Quran in Russia to fulfill this need will, inshallah, be undertaken next year. Most religious scholars and leaders in different countries know the Arabic Language well and supplying them with the Arabic Religion of Islam to foster an enlightened interpretation of Islam among them is imperative. The foreword in the book by the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Sheikh Tantawi, and the approval certificate by Al-Azhar, assures its acceptance and legitimacy among the scholars and religious leaders. May Almighty Allah bless and reward Mrs. Samina Malik for obtaining both these valuable certificates.

An important breakthrough occurred when we participated in the book fair held at The Islamic Society of North America convention in Columbus, Ohio

this year. This event is attended by tens of thousands of Muslims. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward our Board of Directors member Fazeel S. Khan who through his involvement in the convention's organization committees obtained a booth for us at the book fair. By the display of our books and interaction with customers, we were able to remove misconceptions about our movement, make important contacts and present an enlightened interpretation of Islam. We were also able to project our jamaat in the Islamic Peace Conference in Chechnya, Russia. Valuable contacts were made with the almost two hundreds delegates present at the conference. We will, inshallah, utilize these contacts to promote our literature and remove the misconceptions about the Ahmadiyya Movement.

There is a great dearth of personnel and funds to achieve our goals. We appeal to the jamaat members to donate their time, expertise and money in the way of Allah to achieve these objectives.

“O Allah help those who help the religion of Muhammad and make us of them ...”

Wassalaam

Noman Malik

Editor Basharaat-e-Ahmadiyya

Some Reminiscences of a Man of God: 12th Death Anniversary of Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib (1900–1996)

by Samina Malik

Every year at this time I write about our dear late Hazrat Ameer Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib, (also known as our dear Janji).

The first time I met this noble and pious man was in Vancouver in 1981. He was a guest in my house for four days. I spent most of my time with him discussing about Islam and the jamaat activities. I can still picture his shining eyes, and his smile still brings back those memories.

The second time, we met in 1984 at the inauguration of the mosque in Suriname. It was very nice to pray behind him as he used to recite the Holy Quran in a very moving and melodious voice. His lectures were very inspiring and motivating.

The third time I met him was at the California Convention in 1984 where he gave a very inspiring speech.

The fourth time I met him was after the South Africa case in 1985 at the annual jalsa in Pakistan.

Ever since then, I have been travelling to Pakistan every year for the Salana Jalsa, and used to see Janji every year till his death in 1996. I also occasionally visited him at other times of year.

For the last twenty years I have

been working on the translation and publication project. It is this pious man who inspired me to undertake this work. His love and support for translation and publication work has been a source of great strength for me. He had a strong love for the Quran and the Ahmadiyya Movement.

I still remember that Safia Aapa, daughter of Janji, once collected money from her sisters and brothers to buy Janji a personal fax machine for the Anjuman's work in his room. Janji was so happy to inform me that the first fax he received was from me, giving him the blessed news of the sale of one thousand copies of the Holy Quran in the USA.

I used to consult closely with him about jamaat projects. He never asked me even once to get his approval for any work being done on the Holy Quran and other publications. He said that it made him very happy to see that I travelled and did work on the Quran project.

The First Holy Quran translation with which I was involved in with the USA Jamaat, was the French Holy Quran. I pasted the Arabic in the Holy Quran with my own hands. I was not experienced in this field, but

thanks to Almighty Allah, the Arabic was pasted correctly. I used to phone Janji late at night or very early in the morning for advice about pasting the Arabic. He never told me that he was resting, and that I should not disturb him. As the deadline for printing was very close, and I needed his help, I used to phone him frequently, and sometimes I used to think that I might be disturbing him. When I told him this, he reassured me that the work of the Quran would never disturb him, and I should not worry about him. He also said that he was a servant of Allah, and he was always happy when we took him as our adviser on this project.

This work is the work of Hazrat Mirza Sahib and Maulana Muhammad Ali; they have done such a great service to Islam. Without Hazrat Mirza Sahib's works and the Holy Quran translation and other works by Maulana Muhammad Ali, people would not have known about the right teachings of Islam. May Almighty Allah Bless them and Reward them for their sacrifice. I have not seen Hazrat Mirza Sahib or Maulana Muhammad Ali, but I have seen Janji who valued the work of

Hazrat Mirza Sahib and Maulana Muhamamd Ali very much, and who wanted their work translated into other languages.

The first translation to be undertaken was the Spanish Holy Quran. General Abdullah Saeed, who was in charge of this project, got this translation done in Mexico. Towards the end, he was a cancer patient and was working with the translator while receiving chemotherapy. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward General Abdullah Saeed for his untiring work under such difficult circumstances.

On one of our visits Janji told Noman and me that once when he was very sick he asked Maulana Muhamamd Ali to pray for him, and as Maulana Muhammad Ali was praying to Almighty Allah for Janji's health, he got an Ilham from Allah "My dear son Saeed". So Janji was the spiritual son of Maulana Muhamamd Ali.

Noman and I used to visit Janji daily on our trips to Pakistan. We used to have morning coffee with him. Our conversation was mainly about the translation of the Quran and other books. He used to give us very good and valuable advice, and never tried to pressure us or control us in any way. We used to listen to his advice and work accordingly.

After the anti-ahmadiyya problems in Pakistan in 1974 and 1984 some people abroad were very upset with the pressure from the public, and wanted to change the name of the jamaat from Ahamadiyya Anjuman to some other Muslim name. Through Janji's efforts these jamaats were persuaded to retain

the Ahamadiyya name. Janji told them that how could they change the name of the jamaat as it was named after the Holy Prophet Muhammad.

Janji at the age of 84 years old used to travel from country to country alone and in the economy class just to save this jamaat. How can we deny the fact that he is the man responsible for saving the Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat when it was under attack.

Once I was in Europe and thought that it would be a good idea to visit the Berlin Mosque and see if I could get some funds from the Government for the renovation of the Berlin Mosque which was damaged in the second World War. I phoned him and asked his permission. He was very happy and said that if I managed to get the funds for the mosque it would be a great help to our Berlin Mission. He said that our dear Maulana Sadar ud Din sacrificed his time and effort to get this Mission built in Berlin and our dear Maulana Muhamamd Ali raised donations for the mosque among which the contribution of our sisters who gave their jewelery for building this mosque will always be remembered.

The first Grant Commitment meeting I had with the Monument Department was in February of 1996 which was during Janji's lifetime. The Grant was approved on the day of Eid ul Fitr that year. It was with Janji's prayers and Allah Taala's Blessing that I could manage to persuade the Monument Department to grant us three hundred and fifty thousand marks of their share for the first

renovation phase. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward Janji for his prayers for the renovation project. Up till now almost seventy percent of the renovation costs have been contributed by the Monumnet Department.

Janji cared greatly for the two missions in London and Berlin. He made a tour of USA and collected most of the funds from the members of the jamaat for the down payment of the London Mission. There was one USA member who made a very big sacrifice to purchase this center in London. Also Janji, while on his USA tour, took pledges from Lahore Ahmadi to give monthly donation to the London and Berlin Missions. The people who kept their pledge and contributed the funds were few. But the USA Jamaat followed up by taking care of most of the expenses of the Berlin and London Mission. Thanks to Almighty Allah, it was due to the sincerity and spiritual stature of this pious man that members contributed freely when he appealed for funds.

Once I was asked by Janji to go to South Africa as there were problems with the attorney in South Africa case. I had to face very difficult circumstances, and one day I was very discouraged and asked Mian Fazal Ahmad Sahib to ask Janji to phone me. When he phoned me, I told Janji that I was facing a lot of problems and felt very lonely. His reply was that when Almighty Allah is with you, you are never alone. This reply gave me great solace and peace of mind. So from that day onwards whenever I face

difficulties in jamaat work, I gain strength by remembering this advice of my dear Janji.

He once wrote to me and told me how proud he was of the work I was doing, and that I should always keep up this work. He told me that nothing would make me happier than doing this work of Almighty Allah. Also he said in the letter that in doing this work one would have to face many difficulties, but one should always give priority to serving the jamaat and this is what would please Almighty Allah.

He was a man of principle and never took any stand for temporary advantages. He always stood

by what was true and was not influenced by any one to change his mind in these matters. He was my spiritual father and I miss him so much. His words were a binding contract for me and I always tried to be obedient to him and never tried to hurt him in any way.

I pray to Almighty Allah that May He Grant our dear Janji a place in paradise. May Almighty Allah show us the way to serve to islam and the quran as he did this great man who took the bait at the hands of Hazrat Mirza Sahib.

We have made an eight hour video recording in which Janji personally relates his life history.

In the video he describes how he took the bait of Hazrat Mirza Sahib and his contact with Maulana Nuruddin, Maulana Muhammad Ali and Assadullah Shah Sahib. He also talks about his Grandfather, and his father and uncle's acceptance of Ahmadiyyat.

Anyone who wishes to know about the life of this pious man may contact the USA Jamaat at aaiil@aol.com to obtain these tapes.

*Wassalaam
Samina Malik*

Great Success of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in the Philippines

by Samina Malik

Alhamdulillah, the work in Philippines is progressing very well. Noman and I arrived in Cagayan de Oro on October 9th after a one day stop in Manila. We were received at the airport by Dr. Mendoza. We checked into an apartment and left directly for the Maulana Muhammad Ali Center. Noman was very happy to see the center and all the work being done there. There were twenty people gathered for the maghrib prayers.

After prayers they had a study and discussion session using the Holy Quran translation by Maulana Muhammad Ali.

We used to visit the Center daily at Maghrib time and have



Discussion about the Ahmadiyya Movement with the members of jamaat at the Maulana Muhammad Ali Center.

discussions on Religion with the people who came to the Center. In one of these sessions, Noman gave a one hour lecture on the Ahmadiyya Movement explaining the claims of Hazrat Mirza Sahib. He especially emphasized that Hazrat Mirza Sahib never claimed prophethood.

On 16th of October we left for the international Islamic Conference "Islam the Religion of Peace and Creation" in Chechnya and were back in Cagayan de Oro on 20th October. The report on Chechnya is included in this issue of Basharaat Ahmadiyya.

KI Volunteer Graduation Session

On October 12th Noman and I participated in the graduating session of the KI Volunteer Organization. This organization works for the advancement of Muslims in Mindanao and promotes peaceful intercommunal relations and conflict resolution in the region. Noman gave a lecture titled *Presenting Islam to Non Muslims* after the graduation ceremony, and I spoke to the students about the Ahmadiyya Movement and our work in the propagation of Islam.

We distributed free literature and Quran to the students. They were very pleased to receive the books and the Holy Quran.

Literature printed in the Philippines

We have printed the booklets on Islam and the Ahmadiyya

Movement in Cagayan de Oro for free distribution in the Philippines.

These include the Prophet of Islam, Islam the Religion of Humanity, Introduction to Islam by Dr. Zahid Aziz, Islam and Christianity and Muslim Prayer Book.

The following booklets on the Ahmadiyya Movement have been prepared from the book *The Ahmadiyya Movement* by Maulana Muhammad Ali:

- A brief Survey of the Ahmadiyya Movement
- The Claim of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as Mujaddid of the 14th Century Hijrah.
- The Claim of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as the Promised Messiah
- The Claim of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as Mahdi
- The True Conception of the Ahmadiyya Movement
- Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and his denials of Prophethood
- Ahmadiyyat Vs Qadianiyat, by Naseer Ahmad Faruqi Sahib

We feel that these booklets are extremely important for explaining the Ahmadiyya Movement to people and clearing Hazrat Mirza Sahib of the charge that he claimed to be a prophet. Nobody



Dr. Malik 3rd and brother Daud Kabir 2nd from right with journalists in Surigao.

can do this task as well as Maulana Muhammad Ali.

Visit to Surigao

On October 29th Noman and Dr. Mendoza visited Surigao in Northern Mindanao which is about a six hour drive from Cagayan de Oro. In Surigao, Noman and Dr. Mendoza met our French Ahmadi Brother Daoud Kabir who was staying in the city with his Filipino wife, sister Amina. Brother Kabir had arranged for an interview with journalists from a leading newspaper and a reporter from a local radio station. In the interview Noman talked about the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement's work and Hazrat Mirza Sahib and his claims. Dr. Mendoza and Noman also met the President of the Muslim Community in Surigao. We thank our French brother Mr. Daoud Kabir for his efforts in arranging these interviews and meetings.



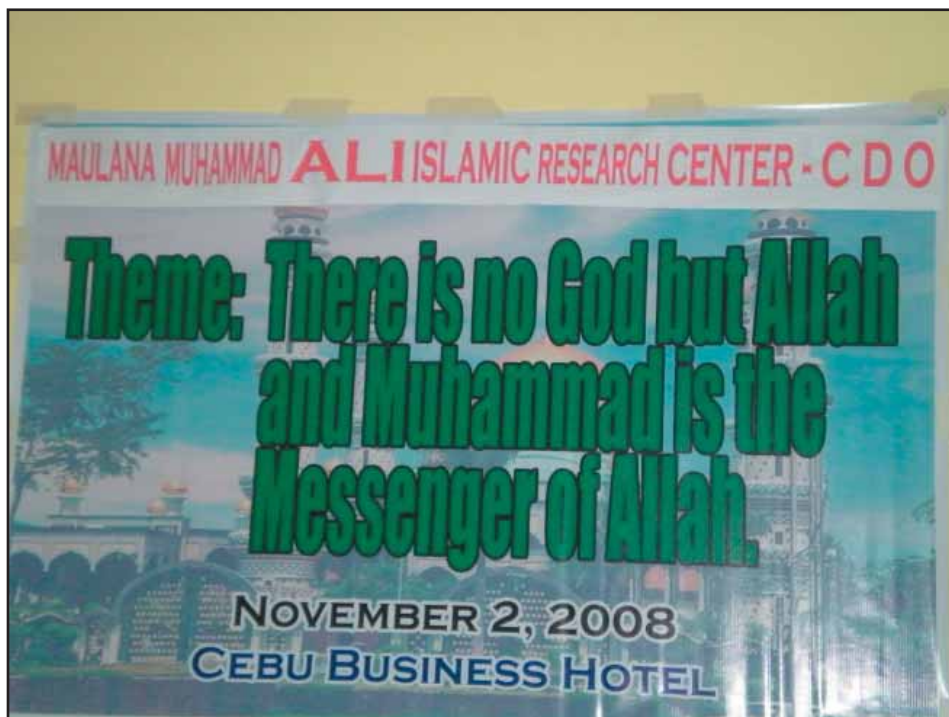
Chairman of the local Islamic Society (red shirt), Dr. Medoza (white turban) and And Daud Kabir with journalists.

well known in Cebu City for his dynamic Dawah work. Brother Najeeb is totally blind following a bomb assassination attempt in 2001. He has also lost use of his right hand which is markedly deformed and contracted. But this tragedy has not dampened his spirit to propagate Islam. His seven years old daughter Rehana acts as his guide and care taker. May Almighty Allah Bless her.

Brother Najeeb has a daily half an hour radio program which reaches an audience of about one million listeners in the central Philippines. For one week before our arrival, he had been announcing our upcoming symposium on his radio program. He invited us to come and be

Visit to Cebu City

On 31st of October Dr. Mendoza, Noman and I visited Cebu City Philippines from Cagayan de Oro. Cebu City, is the second largest City in the Philippines after Manila. It is situated in Cebu Island which is centrally located in the Philippines archipelago. As soon as we checked into the Hotel, we went for the jummah prayers at the largest mosque in Cebu City. The muslim brothers were very nice to us and tried to help us in every way. They made an announcement after the prayers about the symposium which we were going to hold on Sunday, November 2nd. After the Jummah we were introduced to Brother Najeeb Fernandez who is



Symposium in Cebu City.

his guests on the Friday evening program that day. Dr Mendoza, Noman and I were interviewed by him for about thirty five minutes. We answered questions on Islam and dawah work being by the Lahore Ahamdiyya Movement.

We also made an announcement of the symposium to be held on Sunday, November 2nd. Thanks to Almighty Allah, the interview went very well. Dr. Mendoza also told the audience that he was translating Maulana Muhammad Ali's English translation of the Holy Quran into the Bisaya language.

On Saturday the next day Noman and I went to the Cebu Business Hotel and finalized the arrangements for the symposium.

Symposium in Cebu Business Hotel

Alhamdulillah! The symposium

held on November 2nd in the Cebu Business Hotel was a great success. Almost two hundred people attended the symposium.



Brother Rasheed, moderater at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.



Left brother Rasheed. Right Brother Najeeb at Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.

The theme of the symposium was "There is no God but Allah and Mohammad is His Messenger."

The Moderator of the symposium was brother Rasheed of Cagayan de Oro. He is a young man studying for his Bachelor's degree in education. He is well versed in Arabic and he is very interested in spreading Islam in Philippines. When he introduced Noman and me, he gave a short talk about the Ahamdiyya Movement and distinguished us from the Qadiani Ahmadis.

Then he called upon Mr. Najeeb Fernandez to deliver the opening dua for the symposium. Brother Najeeb gave a very moving dua and appealed for unity among Muslims and the need to propagate Islam among non Muslims. He also welcomed both of us to the Philippines.

Dr. Mendoza who was the first speaker talked about the Unity of God. In his lecture he proved the Unity of God in the physical universe and discussed the proofs of the Unity of God in the Holy Quran as compared to those present in the Bible.

The Topic of Noman's lecture was "There is no God but Allah". In his speech he explained how the knowledge of the unity and attributes of God was essential for the spiritual development of man and how the various forms of *shirk* (association of things with God) impeded this spiritual development.

My lecture topic was "Muhammad the Last Prophet and Ideal Model for Mankind." I discussed the universality of the institution of Prophethood and showed how The Holy Prophet Mohammad (May Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) was the final messenger whose life was recorded in the Hadith in the minutest detail for our spiritual

guidance and benefit.

After my lecture I gave a short talk about the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in which I emphasized that we believed strongly in the finality of the prophethood of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, and distinguished our Movement from the Qadiani Movement. I also laid stress on the fact that no Prophet, whether old or new, would appear after the Holy Prophet Muhammad. I told the audience about the work of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in publishing books and literature for the propagation of Islam. I informed them about the excellence of Maulana Muhammad Ali's translation of the Holy Quran and his great work the Religion of Islam, and how we are having



Dr. Abd Nasser Nathaniel Mendoza, at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.

these books translated into various languages of the World for the benefit of the Muslims and the non Muslims.

The speeches were followed by lunch during which I made a slide presentation of our participation in the Islamic Conference in Chechnya to demonstrate our dawah activities.

Lunch was followed by a lively two hour question and answer session in which Noman gave



Dr. Noman Malik, at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.



Mrs. Samina Malik at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.

very satisfactory answers to the questions posed by the audience.

We had brought many booklets such as *Islam the Religion of Humanity, Islam and Christianity, Ahmadiyyat Vs Qadianiyat, Introduction to Islam*, and paper back copies of the English holy Quran and the Religion of Islam for free distribution.

All the booklets were quickly taken by symposium attendees and we distributed the holy Quran and the Religion of Islam to selected members in the audience. We promised the Islamic Center that we would send them about 1000 copies of the above mentioned titles. We also will be sending them eight booklets on the Ahmadiyya Movement prepared from the book *The Ahmadiyya Movement* by Maulana Muhamamd Ali.

The Audience greatly appreciated the speeches and



L to R: Dr. Mendoza, Brother Najeeb Rasul. Dr. Malik and Mrs. Samina Malik with audience members at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.

listened very attentively to the speakers. The Majority of the audience consisted of new

converts to Islam who were very enthusiastic about propagating Islam among Christians.

We have not experienced such an encouraging response to our symposiums before. The love and affection shown to us was unbelievable. Members of the audience were very friendly and congratulated us for hosting a superb symposium.

Noman and I would like to thank the USA Jamaat for their support, encouragement and prayers for this project.

We also would like to thank Dr. Mendoza, brother Rasheed for their valuable help in setting up the symposium.

Last but not least I would like to thank all the members of the ahmadiyya jamaat for their support and prayers in the work in Philippines.



Audience at the Cebu Business Hotel Symposium.

Meeting with the Regional Director of Education in Cagayan de Oro

Dr. Ahmad and sister Lubna arrived in the Philippines On November 3rd for ten days. We all greatly appreciate their sacrifice of time and money to work for the benefit of the people of Philippines.

On 4th November Dr. Ahmad, Dr. Noman and I met with the Regional Director of Education in Cagayan de Oro. She is a Muslim and very interested in promoting Islam in the Region. We presented her with a set of our books. She was very impressed by the English translation of the Holy Quran and the Religion of Islam. She wanted to distribute these books among the various directors working under her. She requested fifty sets of these books from us. We delivered these sets to her the very next day. She also expressed her desire to hold a symposium about Islam. Following the meeting, we met Dr. Shambaeh Abantas Usman who also works in the Department of Education. She also was very impressed by books we presented to her. Dr. Usman has a PhD in Islamic Shariah and is also a lecturer in Islamic studies at Illigan University. She expressed her intention to utilize our books in her courses.

The second trip to Cebu Island

On 6th of November Noman, Dr. Mohammad Ahmad, Sister

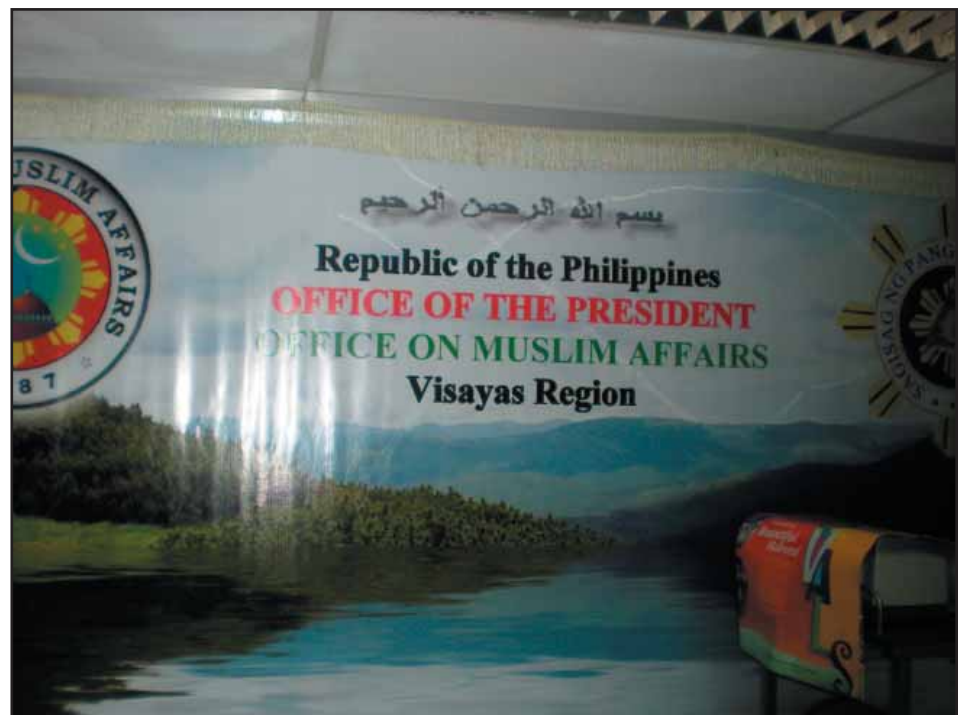


*Sister Shambaeh Abantas-USman
Education Program Specialist and Sister
Samina Malik.*

Lubna and I visited Cebu. Noman and I had been in Cebu the weekend before for the symposium "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his Messenger".

We attended the Jummah Prayers at the Mosque in Cebu City where, by the Grace of Almighty Allah, we were fortunate to meet

the Director of the Office of Muslim Affairs of the Visayas Region (Central Philippines). He invited us to visit him in his Office at 5 p.m. that afternoon. We took six each of the Holy Quran, Religion of Islam and some small booklets along with us. He was very glad to receive the books. He told us how the Office of Muslim Affairs was helping Muslims, especially children and students, by instituting various educational programs among them. We volunteered to help by providing them our literature. He was very happy to hear that we would be sending them the much needed books. He said that the people in Marawi, Mindanao, had some reservations about Ahmadiyya Movement, and inshallah, he would like to arrange a large symposium in January 2009 where we would



Office of Muslim affairs, Cebu, Philippines.

have the opportunity to clarify the position of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat. We thank Almighty Allah for this opportunity to clear the name of Hazrat Mirza Sahib and the Ahmadiyya Movement.

The next day we had a meeting with Ustad Najeeb Rasul. May Almighty Allah Bless this man and reward him for his sacrifice for doing dawah work inspite of his disabilities. He invited us to come again on his live radio program. This time Dr. Mohammad Ahmad and I answered most of his questions. Mainly, he wanted us to advertise our literature and tell the audience why the books of Maulana Muhammad Ali were so important. He encouraged the audience to read our books and gave them our website address to correspond with us.

Several encouraging and



Seated: Sakiran A. Hajran, Regional Director, Office of Muslim Affairs, Visayas Region; Standing: L to R: Dr. Muhammad Ahmad, Dr. Noman Malik, Mrs. Samina Malik and Mrs. Lubna Ahmad.

important developments resulted from our meeting with Brother

Najeeb Rasool. We would utilize Brother Najeeb's services for



Regional director Sakiran A. Hajran with Drs. Muhammad Ahmad and Noman Malik.

printing our literature in the Philippines and he would advertise our books on his radio program. Also Dr. Mendoza's weekly radio program of broadcasting readings from Maulana Muhammad's translation in the Bisayan language from Cagayan would also be rebroadcast twice a week on Brother Najeeb's Cebu radio program.

Radio broadcasting of the Holy Quran in Bisayan

Starting from this Saturday the USA Jamaat will be on Radio for thirty minutes in Cagayan de Oro. Dr. Mendoza who is translating Maulana Muhammad Ali's English Holy Quran from English into Bisaya will be reading the portions of the Bisaya translation on radio. We will start from the beginning to the end, including the introduction and the footnotes. This way we will relay the message of the Quran to Muslims and non-Muslims. I do not know how to thank Almighty Allah for His great help to our Jamaat by giving us the opportunity to broadcast our Quran live on the radio. This Radio program reaches the central Philippines and parts of Mindanao.

We have starting to print all of our major books on Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement in the Philippines. For some years we will be distributing the books and the Quran free. Inshallah, we are

going to start printing the Light and Islamic Review and other free literature as well.

Muslims taking the bait and joining the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement

The 8th of November was a memorable and historic day for us in Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines. Eight Muslims joined the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement by taking the bait on Dr. Ahmad's hand. They were all very enthusiastic about accepting the right teachings of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. Before taking their bait Dr. Ahmad, gave a brief talk explaining why it was important for them to join the Ahmadiyya Movement. It was a soul stirring sight to see eight muslims, hand upon hand, on Dr. Ahmad's hand reciting the ten conditions of the bait in unison.

Three other Muslims have also taken bait and joined our Movement in Surigao, Philippines

due to the efforts of our Ahmadi brother, Daoud Kabir.

After the bait ceremony, Noman, Dr. Mendoza, Sister Lubna and I went to the Radio Station for a live recording initiating a weekly half hour Quran Dars program in the Bisayan Language. Noman introduced the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement and discussed the special importance of Maulana Muhammad Ali's translation. His talk was followed by Dr. Mendoza's who highlighted the role of the Holy Quran in the spiritual progress of man. He gave a short talk on how he was translating Maulana Muhammad Ali's English Quran into Bisayan and how he intended to read this Bisayan translation of Holy Quran together with the footnotes in the radio program. Thanks to Almighty Allah we now have a slot from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. every Saturday to broadcast the Holy Quran in the native Bisayan language to tens of thousands of people in the Cagayan de Oro region.



Dr. Noman Malik at the Radio Station in Cagayan de Oro.



Dr. Ahmad addressing members before taking their bait.



Dr. Ahmad taking the bait of members



Mrs Samina Malik addressing jamaat members after the bait.

Symposium: “There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger” in Cagayan de Oro, 9th of November 2008

On November 9th we held a symposium in Cagayan de Oro city with the same theme as the one held before in Cebu “There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his Messenger”. The chairperson of the symposium was Dr. Mendoza. After the Holy Quran recitation Sister Lubna was the first speaker with the lecture topic “Spirituality in Islam”. The second speaker was Dr. Noman Malik who elaborated on theme “There is no God but Allah.” He was followed by Dr. Mohammad Ahmad who spoke on “Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah”. I was the last speaker



Symposium, Cagayan de Oro City.

and showed slides pertaining to the dawah work of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. Also I

asked the audience to give their names if they wished to have a meeting with us about just



Dr. Mendoza, Cagayan de Oro symposium.



Mrs. Lubna Ahmad, Cagayan de Oro Symposium.



Mrs. Samina Malik, Cagayan de Oro symposium.



Dr. Malik, Cagayan de Oro symposium.



Dr. Ahmad, Cagayan de Oro symposium.



Christian Filipinos taking the "shahada" to accept Islam at symposium.



Christian Filipinos taking the "shahada" to accept Islam at symposium.



Sister Lubna answering a question at the symposium in Cagayan de Oro.



A University Student asking a question at the Symposium.

the Ahmadiyya Movement the following day at the center. After I spoke, there was a question

and answer session in which Noman and Dr. Ahmad answered all questions to the audience's

satisfaction. Free literature was given to attendees which they were very happy to receive.



Samina and Noman Malik with some of the jamaat members at the Cagayan de Oro symposium.

Meeting about the Ahmadiyya Movement

On November 10th the next day, we all gathered at the Maulana Muhammad Ali Center for the meeting on the Ahmadiyya Movement. The audience included some university students who were very interested to know about the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement and the difference between the Lahore and Qadiani groups. Some Christian students who were curious about the second coming of the Messiah were also present. The meeting started with a brief talk about the death of Jesus by Sister Lubna. This was followed by a long and fruitful question and answer session which lasted for

more than two hours. Noman and Dr. Ahmad gave satisfactory and detailed answers to questions about various topics which included the death of Jesus, his crucifixion and exaltation, the theory of the atonement of sins, Jesus' journey to Kashmir, the finality of prophethood and the differences between the beliefs of the Lahore and the Qadian sections of the Ahmadiyya Movement.

The last day of our visit to the center was on the 11th of November and it was a very special day for all of us. This was the day on which Dr. Mendoza formally joined the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement.

It was very sad to say good bye to all the members of the Lahore

Ahmadiyya Movement and the visitors. Their hospitality and kindness made us feel completely at home. Our dear sister Hanifa Mendoza also was a great help to all of us.

I personally would like to thank Dr. Ahmad and sister Lubna for their great help in the Philippines. Sister Lubna's mother is not well. She was on her way to Pakistan to take care of her, but she took ten days off for the service to Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward their sacrifice.

I also would like to thank Mr. Reza and Zareen Baqir for their kind and gracious hospitality when Noman and I were their guests several times in their house in Manila on transit to Cagayan de Oro.

The person I would like to thank the most is Dr. Mendoza who has been helping us in the propagation of Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement for the last five months. In all my visits to Philippines he tried to help me in every way he could. May Almighty Allah Bless him and his good wife sister Hanifa for their sacrifice.

We need everybody's help on this project. I have been in Philippines four times in the last seven months. The best thing we did was to set up a Maulana Muhammad Ali Islamic Center in Cagayan de Oro. Every evening several Muslims gather for Magrib and Isha prayers. After the prayers they all sit and discuss the Quran. Inshallah, I will be back in Cebu

again in January. We need funds for the Radio Program and also for printing of all our books for free distribution in the Philippines. We need over one hundred thousand dollars for this project. If all the members contribute generously, we will, inshallah, get this work done.

To implement this project, so that it has a good chance of success, we urgently need to have a center in Cebu from where we can organize literature distribution and propagation. We have the people to work for us. They have read our literature and would like to help us in the propagation of Islam. The USA Jamaat would like to either buy or rent a place in Cebu. All this will need funds. I have been traveling since August 4th from country to country for the propagation of Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement. **In this**



Dr. and Mrs. Mendoza at the discussion session about the Ahmadiyya Movement.

trip my only brother had a heart attack and had angioplasty done.

My mother who has Parkinson's disease fell down and hurt her head and got three stitches, but I could not leave this important work to be with them. Please do try to help, as without your help, we cannot proceed with this large project.

*Wassalaam
Samina Malik*



A Christian girl taking the shahada at the Maulana Muhammad Ali Center.

Second International Peace Forum in Grozny, Chechnya

by Samina Malik

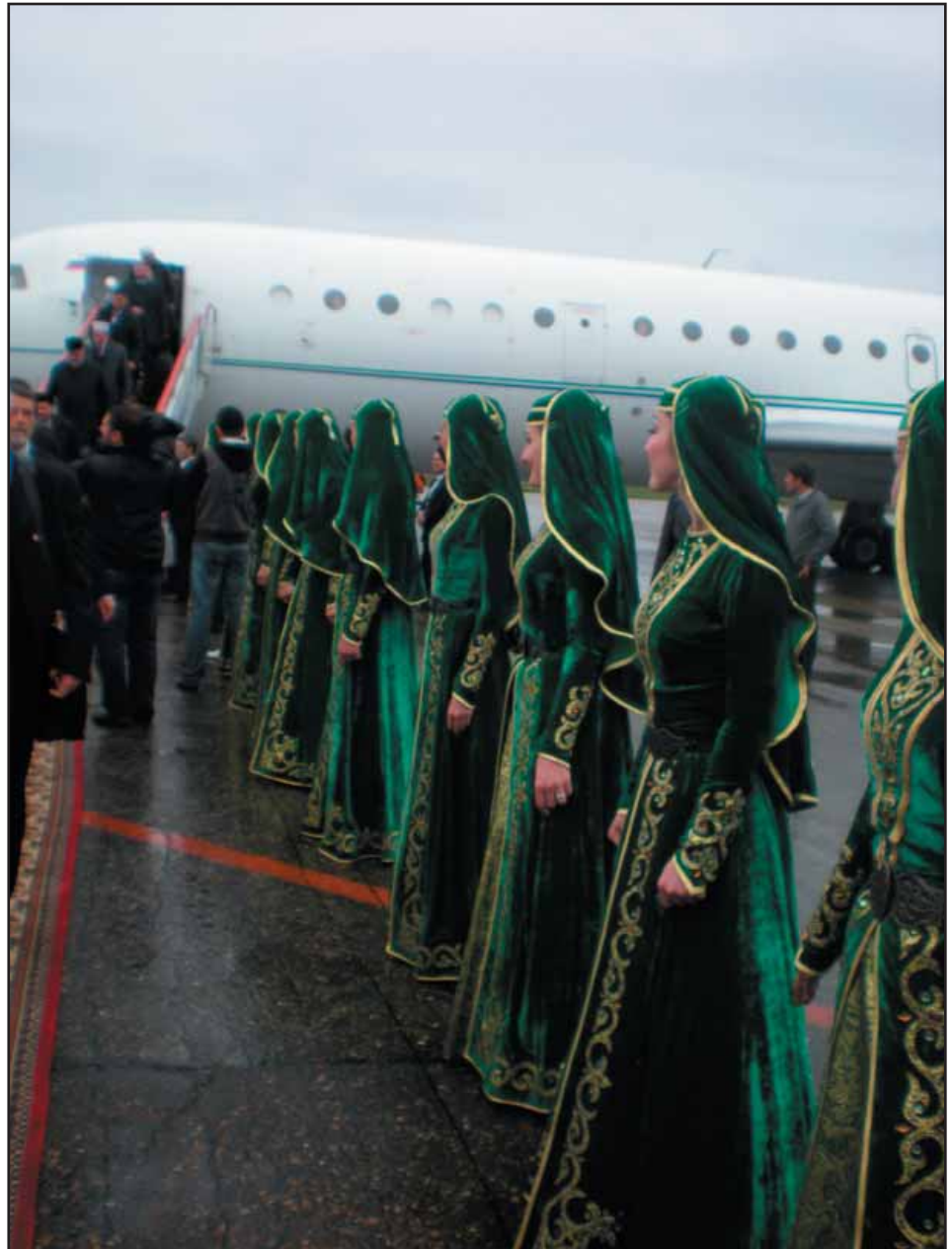
(Presented by the President of Chechnya and the office of Muftiat)

Noman and I attended the second international conference held in Chechnya with the Theme of “*Islam the Religion of Peace and Creation*” sponsored by the President of Chechnya Ramadan H. Kaderov and the Government of Chechnya.

The main reason for holding this conference is to promote a tolerant and enlightened interpretation of Islam in the Caucasus and Russia and to combat fanaticism and extremism.

International scholars and Religious leaders known for their tolerant and enlightened views are invited from all over the World to attend the Conference. I had been invited to attend the first conference from the USA for the work I had been doing in distributing the Russian Holy Quran in Russia. I was invited again this year, and Noman was issued an invitation as well.

At the time of the conference, Noman and I were in the Philippines working at the Maulana Muhammad Ali center in Cagayan de Oro city for six weeks. We left Cagayan de Oro for Manila few days before the conference date to pick up our visas from the



Foreign delegates being welcomed at the Grozny airport.



Foreign delegates being welcomed at the Grozny airport.

Russian Embassy there and flew to Moscow on the 16th of October. We arrived Moscow on 16th of October. We were received by the organizers of the convention and taken to a hotel where about 200 delegates were staying. The next day, which was a Friday, the entire group was flown to Grozny, Chechnya in two planes one of which was the Chechen Presidents' private jet. At Grozny airport the delegation were received by the President Mr. Ramdan Kaderov, the Mufti of Chechnya and other Government officials.

A traditional welcoming ceremony took place in which Islamic songs were sung by fifteen men in a semicircle with almost twenty Chechen girls dressed in red long dresses making a line behind them to greet the delegates.

The delegation consisted mostly of mufti's, Sheikhs, Government

Officials and several international peace groups. At the airport, I was



TV journalist interviewing Mrs. Samina Malik on her arrival at the Grozny Airport.

interviewed by television reporters as a delegate from the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic society of USA.

The delegates were taken directly from the airport to the new Grozny mosque which was being inaugurated that day at the occasion of the Jummah prayers. The foundation stone of the mosque had been laid by the late President A.H. Kaderov, who was the father of the current President Ramadan Kadyrov. A.H. Kadyrov had been assassinated soon afterwards in a terrorist bombing attack.

The Mosque had been completed by his son. The mosque which is the largest mosque of the whole of Europe is centrally located in a park like setting. It is a beautiful mosque patterned after the Sulaimaniyah mosque in



Friday prayers at opening of new Grozny Mosque.



Mosque Interior.



Front Court Yard of Grozny Mosque.



Dr. Noman Malik and Mrs. Samina Malik in front of Grozny Mosque.

Istanbul, Turkey. The interior is covered with intricate gold designs and a huge Swarovski crystal chandelier is suspended from ceiling of the main dome.

A large crowd was present at the mosque to welcome the president and the delegates. The ribbon was cut jointly by the President and a Chechen Sheikh from Jordan, who had migrated there almost sixty years ago. The President had

invited him to attend the opening of the mosque and the Conference.

The president personally greeted some of the delegation members among whom I was included. He asked me if my family and I were well and he said that he remembered me from last year's conference. It was very nice to meet him once again.

After the ribbon cutting, the delegates and a large crowd of

local people entered the mosque for the jumah prayers. There were almost ten thousand people inside the mosque and more than five thousand people outside in the courtyards. Short speeches were given by the President, Russian officials and some of the sheikhs in the delegation. When people were talking about the his father, the past president who had been assassinated, President Kaderov



Muftiat Guest House in Grozny.



Foreign delegates in front of Grozny Mosque.



Conference building opening.



Mosque in the conference for the President and Government Officials.

was crying with his head bowed. He had been very close to his father. The Azan was given by President Kaderov's six year old nephew.

After jumah prayers and lunch we checked into the muftiat guest house next to the mosque.

The next day there was the opening of the six story high cultural center and the conference hall where the meeting was to be held. President Kaderov performed

the opening and everyone took their assigned places at the large circular conference table. The conference hall was equipped for simultaneous translation into English Russian and several other languages.

The opening speech was delivered by the President, and then each delegate spoke approximately for eight to ten minutes. I spoke on peace and tolerance and the practical demonstration of these by the

holy prophet Muhammad (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). The conference continued into the next day until most of the delegations had spoken. We all turned in our speeches which were going to be printed as proceedings and recommendations of the conference in a book form.

The proceedings of last year's conference were distributed among the delegates. It contained my

speech on “the status of women in Islam” and several photographs of me with the President.

At the conclusion of the conference, the mufti of Chechnya spoke of the necessity for tolerance and peace and the need for good literature on Islam to be translated into Russian. The opportunities for our jamaat are self evident.

The Chechnian Sheikh from Jordan spoke and ended the convention with a prayer.

I requested an appointment with the mufti to meet with him after the conference. He was very glad to meet with Noman and me. I told him that we would donate one thousand copies of deen ul islam (arabic translation of The Religion of Islam in Arabic) and other books of Maulana Muhamamd Ali which have been translated into Arabic for their Islamic University. We also said we would send him one thousand copies of the Russian translation of the Holy Quran. He was very appreciative and said that the office of Mufti would be very happy to receive them. I began to



President Kaderov welcoming the foreign delegates.

tell him about myself and the work we were doing, but he stopped me saying that they had a whole file on me and the work I was doing. I am so glad that the USA Jamaat has taken this task of distributing the Russian Quran to whole of

Russia. The mufti appreciates my travelling alone to Russia several times and getting the Quran cleared from the customs to bring it to the people of Russia. It is for this reason the invitation was been given to me to attend Conference.



Dr. Malik with the Chief Organizer of the Conference.



Dr. Malik and Mrs Samina with the foreign delegates.



President Kaderov welcome address at the Conference.

Noman and I was so glad to participate in this conference. As the conference was an eye opener to all the delegates. As the these

was the Islam the Relgiion of Peace and Creation. They really would like to bring peace to the world and we all should unite and work

together. May Almighty Allah help the people of Chechnya and also The President and the Mufti of Chechnya and May Almighty Allah reward them for their sacrifice.

We are very grateful to the Organizers of the forum and the Mufti for all the hospitability they have shown to the delegates.

Our Airline tickets and room and board were paid by the government of Chechen and we are very grateful for this also.

Noman and I were very glad to participate in this conference. All the delegates were united in their hope and aspiration that Islam indeed was the religion of and Creation. They all agreed that muslims should unite and work together for this objective. May Almighty Allah help the people of Chechnya and also The President and the Mufti of Chechnya and May Almighty Allah reward them for their sacrifice.



Dr. Malik with the head Mufti of Russia.



Dr. Malik with Mufti of Khazakistan.



Chechen Ladies in traditional costume welcoming the delegates.



Mrs Samina Malik and Dr. Noman Malik with Presidents uncle Mr. Kaderov



Dr. Malik and Mrs. Samina Malik with the Mufti of Chechnya.



Mrs. Samina Malik addressing the Conference.



Mrs. Samina Malik addressing the Conference.



Dr. Noman Malik with the Chechen staff members at the airport.

Dr. N. Mendoza joins the Lahore Ahamdiyya Movement

by Samina Malik

Alhamdulillah! Prof. Dr. Mendoza took the bait today and joined the Lahore Ahamdiyya Islamic Society USA. Dr. Mendoza is a retired Oceanography Science Professor in Mindanao University, who obtained his PhD from Australia. He accepted Islam fifteen years ago. He got an early retirement at the age of 55 year and has been doing dawa work since then. He is a very devoted and religious person. Dr. Mendoza is translating Maulana Muhammad Ali's English translation of the Quran into Bisayan language.

I first met Dr. Mendoza when I visited Cagayan de Oro city in Mindanao in January this year. He

has arranged three symposiums since I first visited Cagayan. In May of 2008, Dr. Mendoza and I established an Islamic Center named Maulana Muhammad Ali Islamic Research Center. Dr. Mendoza is in charge of the Center. He makes sure that regular prayers from Zuhr till Isha are said daily at the center. He gathers a lot of students and adults in the center for the dawa work and works very hard to spread Islam in the Philippines. His wife Sister Hanifa is a very devoted Muslim. She accepted Islam five years ago and is a great help to Dr. Mendoza in his dawa activities.

This is my first fourth trip to Philippines. I greatly enjoy

visiting the people in Cagayan. We are very fortunate to have Dr. Mendoza and sister Hanifa working for our movement in Cagayan.

I thank our dear Ahmadi brother Daoud Kabir from France who influenced me to visit the Philippines and establish a jamaat there.

We thank Almighty Allah that we have a jamaat in Philippines now, and we welcome each and every member here in Philippines.

May Almighty Allah bless Dr. Mendoza and the rest of the members who have joined our Movement.

Inshallah, I will be in Philippines in January next year again for setting up the center.

Visit to Azerbaijan

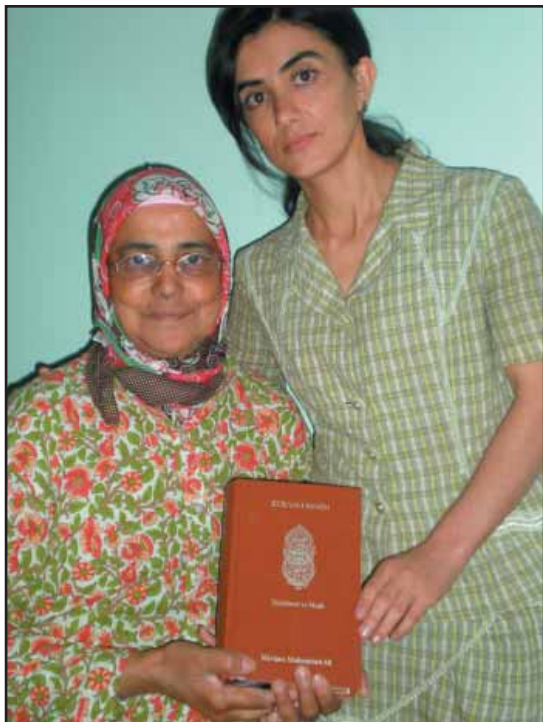
by Samina Malik

I visited Azerbaijan in September 2008 during Ramadan with the objective of introducing the Turkish Holy Quran in that country. The Azeri language is very close to Turkish. When I was in Baku in 2006 distributing the Russian Holy Quran, the Professors in the Islamic studies department had told me that the main language in

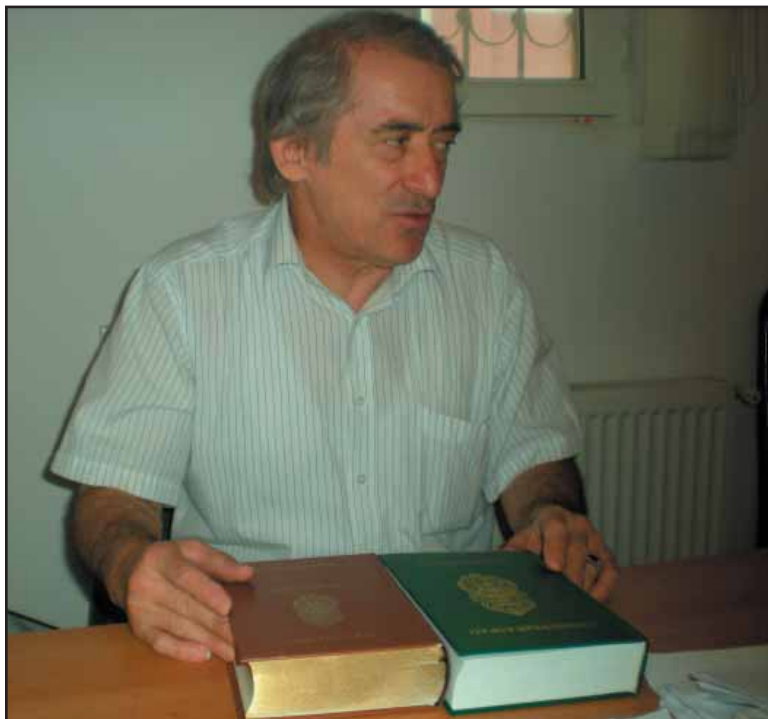


Mosque in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan was Turkish and they requested that when the Turkish Holy Quran was complete I should send them copies for University. I went to the Department of Religion in Baku University and showed the Turkish Quran to several Professors who were delighted to see it. They ordered two hundred Holy Quran for the students. The Quran was also



Samina Malik with a journalist in Baku Azerbaijan.



Professor in Baku University with the Turkish and Russian Holy Qurans.



Samina Malik presenting the Turkish Holy Quran to the Vice-Dean of Islamic studies in Baku University.



Vice-dean of Islamic studies in Baku University issuing an approval certificate for our Turkish Holy Quran translation.

approved by the office of the Sheikhul Islam so that it could enter the country easily. Please pray that Turkish Holy Quran reaches Azerbaijan without any problems.

Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat registered in Albania

Alhamdulillah, the USA jamaat has registered the Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat in Albania. We are profoundly thankful to Almighty Allah that this registration was done so quickly. The Jamaat started functioning officially on the 13th October 2008. Incidentally 13th October is the death anniversary of Maulana Muhamamd Ali. Contacts with Albania were made in the 1930's when students from Albania came to Ahmadiyya buildings Lahore for religious studies during Maulana Muhammad Ali's time. We have a strong conviction that, inshallah, this seed of Ahmadiyyat will flourish in Albania as it was initially planted by the Mansur himself. We are thankful to Mrs. Samina Malik for her hard work in registering the jamaat in Albania and supervising the translation of the Holy Quran and other books into Albanian. We would like to also thank Dr. Hamid Rahman for officiating as the Founder of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Albania.

The Directors of the Jamaat are as follows:

- Executive Director, Mrs. Samina Malik
- Directors, Dr. Mohammad Ahamd, Dr. Noman Malik, Mr. Fazeel Khan Esq, Dr. Ersalan Rahman

Please pray for the success of the mission in Albania.

First Lahore Ahmadiyya Center in the Balkans

by Mrs. Samina Malik

I visited Albania in September during Ramadan with the intention of setting up a center as the Jamaat in Albania could not be registered without a physical address. After an initial investigation, it became clear that it would be more advantageous to purchase a Center instead of renting one. Several places were shown to me by the realtor from among which I selected a very good property which was just few kilometers away from the city center. The greatest advantage I saw in this property was that it was a new construction and had almost one hundred high rise buildings in the neighborhood. This would ensure a prominent exposure of our center to the Albanian people. We have bought two separate properties in the same building. The first one is a two bedroom apartment on the third floor which contains two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living area, and kitchen. The second is a shop on the ground floor close to the stairs and the elevators which has large glass display windows. We intend to use the rear of the shop for storing books and the front for displaying our books and as a place for prayer and meeting people. The

apartment will be used for meetings and as a residence for a mubaligh.

The USA Jamaat has been working with the Muslims of Albania for almost nine long years. I have visited Albania almost eight times already. I have worked with many people in Tirana. Dr. Mohamamd Ahmad, Sister Lubna and Dr. Noman Malik also accompanied me on a visit to Tirana two years ago.

The USA Jamaat is working very hard to translate the literature by Maulana Muhamamd Ali and Hazrat Mirza Sahib into Albanian for the benefit of the Albanian people. Inshallah, the translation of the Holy Quran into Albanian will be finished by early next year.

The following books have already been translated into Albanian: *Islam the Religion of Humanity, Prophet of Islam, Teachings of Islam, Message of Peace, Introduction to Islam, Ahamidyat Vs Qadianiyat, Islam my only Choice.*

Thanks to Almighty Allah, the USA Jamaat has also started the translation of the Light and Islamic Review into Albanian. Inshallah, we will post this magazine on our website www.muslim.org. Please pray to Allah Taala that we are able to translate most of our literature into Albanian, as the people there desperately need our literature for a better understanding of Islam.

Kosovo

While I was in Albania, a Muslim brother who is a professor in the Kosovo University came to visit me in Tirana and agreed to help us in the translation work. He also encouraged me to buy a place in Pristina. If Allah Almighty wills, we will also open a center in

Pristina, the capital of Kosovo.

We urgently need to distribute these books among the public as soon as possible. Due to the long communist rule, many Albanians are not fully conversant with Islam, and significant numbers are being converted to Christianity or do not practice their faith. Without funds,

this work is impossible. So please try to donate any amount for this purpose, so that we may spread an enlightend, rational and peaceful Islam in Albania.

By contributing towards this cause, you are going to help your own self and the Albanian Muslims.

USA Jamaat Local Activities

by Dr. Ayehsa Khan

It's a time for change. Whether in the spheres of politics, economics, or religion, people are challenging long held beliefs and traditions. This summer, The USA Jamaat has continued its concerted effort in engaging in activities that help enlighten the general American population on the beauty of Islam and the general Muslim population on the rationality of the Ahmadiyyat perspective. Our projects were undertaken with the goal of changing the hearts and minds of people with regard to Islam and the beauty of its true teachings as presented by Ahmadiyyat.

Islamic Society of North America Annual Convention

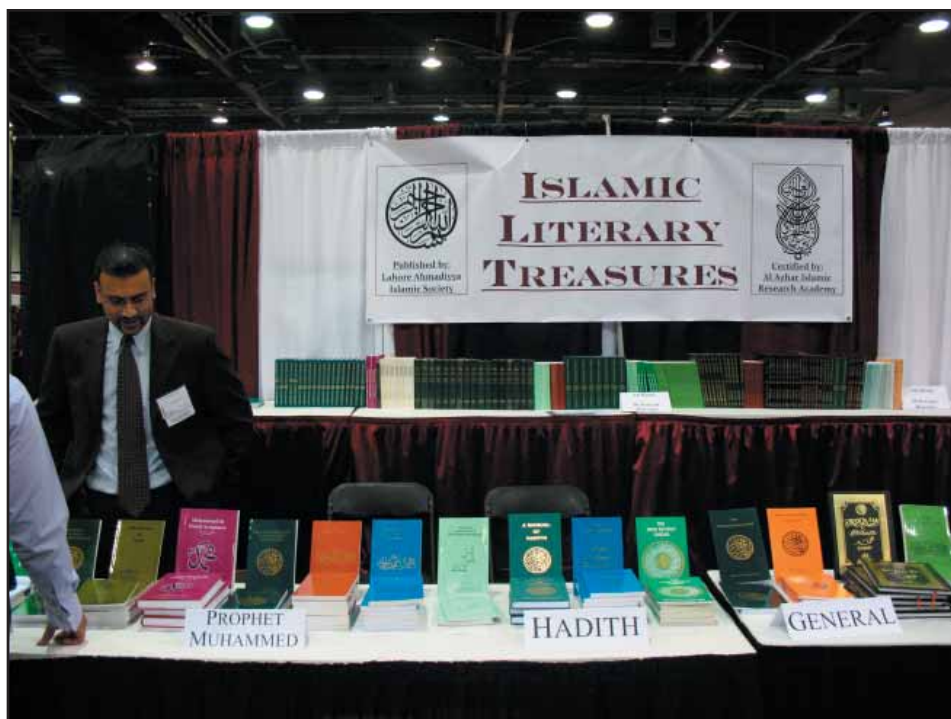
Accordingly, for the first time, the USA Jamaat took an active role in the Islamic Society of North America's (ISNA) annual

convention. ISNA is the largest Islamic organization in North America. Their conventions bring thousands of Muslims from across America and Canada to participate in five days of lectures, meetings and strengthening of the Muslim community. This year, the annual convention was held in Columbus, Ohio and was attended by approximately 30,000 people. The USA Jamaat's participation was twofold. First, Fazeel S. Khan was nominated to be a member of the ISNA Media Committee. Along with seven other local Muslims, the media committee members acted as liaisons between the media and ISNA's spokespersons. Fazeel's participation in this role provided us with an excellent opportunity to meet and establish relationships with Muslims in leadership positions throughout the country and also inform them of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society's beliefs. Among these influential leaders in the Muslim Community

was Sheikh Hamza Yusuf. Fazeel was able to talk to him and present him with Maulana Muhammad Ali's English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran as well as The Religion of Islam. He accepted these books graciously and publically announced while surrounded by a throng of other Muslim Imam's and leaders that he has used these books for many years. When informed by Fazeel that the Religion of Islam has been approved by Al-Azhar University and that Sheikh Tantawi has written a preface for it, he replied: "Yes, it is absolutely sound". Fazeel was also able to speak with senior leadership of ISNA, including members of the Shura Council and the ISNA Communication's Director Br. Mohammed Elsanousi, about what the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is and what its members believe. Their response was positive and fraternal.

Second, we were able to procure a booth in the Bazaar

for display and sale of our literature. This double booth spot was in the center of the Bazaar and prominently displayed our English and Arabic books with a banner overhead reading “Islamic Literary Treasures”. The banner also included on each side logos with the following: “Published by: Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society” and “Certified by: Al-Azhar Islamic Research Academy”. Also displayed on the table was a flyer that explained the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society’s beliefs, accomplishments and mission. The booth was manned by Fazeel S. Khan, Dr. Noman Malik, Dr. Muhammad Ahmad, Mrs. Lubna Ahmad and myself. In addition to selling our books, this booth gave us the opportunity to expose the general Muslim population to the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society, clarify any misconceptions they might hold and exchange ideas for furthering the progression of Islam in the West. Our participation was overwhelmingly positively received. As expected, there were some detractors, but by far the attendees were respectful and supportive. It was frequent to hear comments such as, “I became a Muslim from reading this Quran translation” or “I learned to pray from that Muslim Prayer Book”. One particularly touching encounter was with a former inmate who said that he was familiar with our Society and a Muslim Sister from our group (referring to Sister Samina Malik) was kind enough to send him free literature and a free Quran.



He testified to having become a Muslim through this literature and to how it changed his life in an overwhelmingly positive way.

The theme of this year’s ISNA convention was based on the Quranic verse, “**Verily, God does not change men’s condition unless they change their inner selves**” (13:11). Indeed, it seemed that the time had come to change the old intolerance against Ahmadiyyat to a more forbearing view of our beliefs, acceptance into the Islamic fold, and a greater understanding of our goal to provide a missionary service in Islam.

Council of Islamic American Relations Iftar

Many of the rest of our activities this summer were aimed at fulfilling this missionary purpose by exposing the Non-Muslims to the true beliefs of Islam. Along these lines, the USA Jamaat participated

in the annual Council of Islamic American Relations’ (CAIR) Iftar dinner. The purpose of this dinner is to inform the community of what Ramadan is, to share a meal with them, and foster relationships between Muslims and non-Muslims in the community. Fazeel and Dr. Noman Malik and I took part in this affair and shared a table with seven members of the local Catholic community. This was an opportunity to exchange views both on religion and community life in a positive way seeking to understand and develop a greater understanding of each other’s role as building blocks of a shared community. After the dinner, there was also a chance to mingle with the local Muslim community and inform some people who did not know about the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society all about us. The CAIR Iftar dinner program also included the following ad provided by us:

LAHORE AHMADIYYA **ISLAMIC SOCIETY**

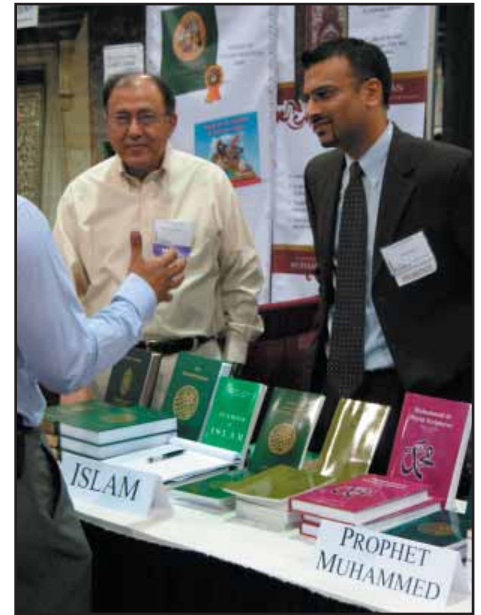
Peaceful • Tolerant • Rational • Inspiring



The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is most well known for its literature, a true Islamic treasury. This collection of works has received worldwide acclaim for its scholarship, authenticity and service to Islamic education. Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt recently certified several of the Society's primary texts and the Grand Imam, Sheikh Tantawi, has also written a Preface for the Arabic translation of the "Religion of Islam" by Maulana Muhammad Ali.

To learn more about our publication work:

Visit www.muslim.org or contact Fazeel Khan, Esq. at (614) 873-1030



Knightsbridge Assisted Living Community Presentation

Another opportunity to show a segment of the community what Islam truly is presented itself in the way of an invitation to a senior assisted living facility to speak to the residents on Islam. Fazeel delivered a provocative and informative expose on the falsity of "Islamic" terrorists' beliefs and the utter refutation of these beliefs by arguments from the Holy Quran and the life of the Holy Prophet. Former General Secretary of the Central Anjuman, Chaudry Mansur Ahmad, accompanied Fazeel to this presentation. After the talk, both of them were met with applause and enthusiastic inquiries into the subject. The residents were delighted to have a chance to learn about Islam as many of them do not have the

opportunity to meet people from different faiths and belief systems.

Whetstone Public Library Presentation

The USA Jamaat also presented a general introduction to Islam at the Whetstone Public Library. This presentation was open to the general public and there were several attendees, both Muslim and non-Muslim. Fazeel first introduced the audience to the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society, primarily focusing on its mission and how it is currently working to further that mission. This was followed by Mrs. Lubna and Dr. Muhammad Ahmad each talking for about twenty minutes, walking the audience through a survey of Islam—in particular, the peaceful nature of the religion. Following was a lively question and answer session in which a

Professor of Religion at Capital University stated that she had the utmost respect for our work and mission and asked how she could help us in our cause. We informed her that referring people to our publications, wherein they can find the true, peaceful teachings of Islam, is of principal importance. She was provided a set of our publications, and the other attendees were also presented with various Jamaat literature. We are hopeful that this relationship will lead to further opportunities for our Jamaat to expose the American public to true Islam. Also in the audience was a young Muslim student who recently emigrated from Morocco. He expressed to us that his desire to learn more about his own faith stemmed from a desire to see his daughter, an American, guided to an Islamic life. He was thrilled to receive a copy of Maulana Muhammad

Ali's English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran and some of our other literature.

Pastor Rod Parsley Invited to Debate

The USA Jamaat also received great exposure of late due to the extreme beliefs of Pastor Rod Parsley. Pastor Parsley is the pastor of a mega-Church in Central Ohio. He has written a book titled, Silent No More, that deals with radical Islam and the moral imperative held by evangelical Christians to destroy Islam. His view on Islam, and the focus of his book and ministry, is best summarized in his own words,

“The fact is that America was founded, in part, with the intention of seeing this false religion destroyed. That’s why I believe Sept. 11 2001 was a generational call to arms that we can no longer ignore. Islam is responsible for more pain, more bloodshed, and more devastation than nearly any other force on the earth.”

Pastor Parsley’s controversial views on Islam received much publicity. Although a number of Muslim organizations denounced Pastor Parsley’s views as “Islamophobic” and deemed it hate speech, none really provided a correction to his views. The USA Jamaat took the initiative to satisfy this void. The USA Jamaat issued a press release challenging Pastor Parsley’s misguided perception of Islam and inviting him to debate the merits of his views. The press release is copied below:

Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society Invites Pastor Rod Parsley to Debate

Columbus, Ohio, 5/29/08:

As widely reported by various media outlets recently, Columbus, Ohio Pastor Rod Parsley has an extremely unfavorable view of Islam. He believes Islam is an “Anti-Christ” religion, the underlying spirit of the faith being “one of hostility”. He believes Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, “received revelations from demons and not from the true God”. He also believes America “was founded, in part, with the intention of seeing this false religion destroyed” and that 9/11 “was a generational call to arms”.

In a sincere effort to educate Pastor Rod Parsley, the members of his congregation, other Christian leaders who may hold similar views, and the millions of Americans who are quite unaware of the true nature of Islam, the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society invites Pastor Parsley to debate the merits of these views.

“Far from a hostile religion”, Dr. Mohammed Ahmad, President of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society, explains, “the word *Islam* is derived from the Arabic word *silm*, meaning *peace*. “Moreover”, he continues, “Islam is titled after the objective to which it aspires: the attainment of peace – within the individual, amongst people, and between man and God – is what Islam prescribes as the very purpose of life”.

It appears Pastor Parsley is quite unaware that the Holy Quran provides:

- All people, regardless of faith, color or creed, are equal: “mankind is but a single nation” (2:213).

- Total and complete religious freedom must be upheld: “There is no compulsion in religion” (2:256).

- State governments must be democratic: “those whose affairs are decided by counsel among themselves” (42:38).

- Financial independence of women must be established: “For men is the benefit of what they earn. And for women the benefit of what they earn” (4:32).

- Justice must be administered in all matters: “Be maintainers of justice even though it be against your own selves or your relatives” (4:135).

- A welfare system for the poor and needy must be institutionalized: “Give away wealth out of love for Him (God), to the near of kin and the orphans, and the needy and the wayfarer and to those who ask and set slaves free” (2:177).

- War must be limited to cases of self-defense only: “Permission to fight is given to those on whom war is made” (22:39); “And fight against those who fight against you, and be not aggressive” (2:190).

Are these principles contrary to the values and ideals upon which America was founded? Is there any other religious scripture that so explicitly defines the principles required to establish a peaceful, civil, democratic society?

It appears Pastor Parsley is also unaware that the Holy Quran:

- Vindicates Jesus' status of Messiah: "...whose name is the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, worthy of regard in this world and in the hereafter ..." (3:44);

- Refers to Jesus as a "word" of God: "The Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, is only a messenger of God and His word ..." (4:171);

- Explains that Jesus was "strengthened with the Holy Spirit": "And We gave clear arguments to Jesus son of Mary, and strengthened him with the Holy Spirit" (2:253);

- Has an entire chapter titled "Mary" (Chapter 19), after Jesus' mother, and defends her against charges of being unchaste: "... for their uttering against Mary a grievous calumny" (4:156);

- Provides that Jesus' disciples received revelations from God: "And when I (God) revealed to the disciples ..." (5:111).

Can these beliefs be reasonably construed as inherently "Anti-Christ"? Do these plain confirmations appear to be inspired by "demons"?

"Clearly, Pastor Parsley has relied on biased and inaccurate sources in forming his views about Islam", explains Attorney Fazeel S. Khan, Secretary of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society. "The erroneousness of his views", he continues, "is plainly manifested by his failure to make the primary distinction between one, Islam as a religion, and two, misguided persons claiming to be followers of Islam". "He has aligned himself with the Islamic extremists' interpretations of Islam; such an act only legitimates the extremists'

cause, a result that impedes the global effort in eradicating extremist ideologies from the world", he concludes.

Inciting hatred towards members of a particular faith and calling for violent acts directed against them is neither Islamic nor Christ-like. The Holy Quran, rather, mandates resolving religious differences in a more civilized manner; it states: "Call to the path of thy Lord with wisdom and goodly exhortation and debate with people in the best possible manner" (16:125). It is in the spirit of engaging respectful dialogue, as mandated by the Holy Quran, that the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society invites Pastor Parsley to a written, public debate on the validity of his views about Islam.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio and is the U.S.A. branch of the international Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. For more information, you may contact Fazeel S. Khan at aaail@aol.com or (614) 873-1030, and visit www.muslim.org.

The press release was covered by many media outlets. Further, one local Muslim of Palestinian origin was very inspired by the press release and wrote editorials to various media outlets and internet forums. His editorial was published in dozens of newspapers and numerous online forums. His editorial is as follows:

He believes Muslims are responsible for America's moral

decay, that Islam is the "Anti Christ", that the Holy Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Mohammad by demons and not from the true God, and that America "was founded in part, with the intention of seeing this false religion destroyed". Please meet Pastor Rod Parsely of Columbus, Ohio.

In a sincere effort to educate Pastor Parsely, his congregation, and others holding similar opinion, a local Muslim group invited Pastor Parsely on June 1, 2008 to public debate on the validity of his views about Islam. Any time, any place.

Till now, the group has not received a response from Pastor Parsely. Interestingly, the book he wrote in which he made many defamatory statements about Islam is called "Silent No More". Yet, when he is challenged to be accountable for his views, he has become "silent."

According to local Attorney Fazeel Khan, who serves as Secretary of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society, "clearly, Pastor Parsely has relied on biased and inaccurate sources in forming his views about Islam".

Senator John McCain has also recently rejected the endorsement of both fundamentalist preachers John Hagee and Rod Parsely due to their religious bigotry and attacks toward Jews, Catholics and Muslims.

We value religious freedom in America more than any other rights. This pastor's ancestors came to the shores of America because of religious persecution and intolerance. Now Pastor Parsley wants to subject other groups to

the same kind of treatment.

Pastor Parsley is certainly entitled to his bigoted views. But when he refuses to accept the challenge to defend his views and public remarks, he is either a liar or ignorant.

These remarks uttered by this "God-fearing Christian" add insult, subtract pleasure, divide attention,

and multiply ignorance.

Mahmoud El-Yousseph
Retired USAF Veteran

In response to our invitation, ironically, Pastor Parsley, author of *Silent No More*, remains completely silent. We plan to

hand out flyers to his congregation outside of his mega-Church regarding his silence in this regard.

Surely the time is ripe for change. May Allah accept our efforts this summer as a step toward changing the course of Muslims and non-Muslims alike to greater peace and posterity in this country. Ameen!

USA Jamaat 2008' Convention

by Dr. Zainab Ahmed

Alhamdulillah, the USA Jamaat's annual international Convention held from Friday August 1st through Sunday August 3rd was a great success. As usual the convention was preceded by an educational course.

On Wednesday 30th of August people from seven countries gathered in Masjid al Urooj, in Dr Noman and Samina Malik's house to attend the two-day Course entitled "Life, Death and Beyond". This was presented by Maulana Kemal Hydal from the **Institute of Imaamat Training**, a service of the Trinidad and Tobago branch of A.A.I.L., along with his wife Mrs. Nareeman Hydal.

Maulana Mustapha Kemal Hydal has been working for the cause of Islam tirelessly for thirty

three years. He has extensively studied Islam and the Ahmadiyyah Movement from great scholars and now transmits knowledge and understanding to others in his beautiful and unique style of presentation.

The format of the Course was interactive and engaging with lively discussions among all participants. Thirty people attended this Seminar coming from a variety of countries, such as South Africa, Australia, Canada, Holland, Fiji, Pakistan, and all over the United States, including many youth members. The Seminar encouraged participants to examine their previous concepts about Life, Death and the nature of heaven and hell. The Maulana used the Holy Quran as his main teaching material and

encouraged participants to keep an open mind and draw their own conclusions. The Maulana truly captivated his audience with his eloquence and deep knowledge. The course material was given to each participant for continued study. Teaching was concluded on Thursday evening. Every day Fajr prayer followed by dars of the Holy Quran was held at Masjid-ul-Uruuj.

On Friday, August 1st, after the Friday prayers led by Maulana Kemal Hydal in Masjid al Urooj, the Ameen ceremony of Sulaiman Ahmad was held. Sulaiman is the young son of Dr. Tanvir and Noreen Ahmad who came from Las Vegas to attend the convention. Sulaiman recited from the Quran and his aunt Mrs. Munira Rahman presented a

beautiful poem that Hazrat Mirza Sahib wrote on the occasion of the Ameen of his children. Sulaiman's grandparents Mr. Mansur and Khadija Ahmad had arranged for scrumptious deserts and tea for all members.

Friday evening the Convention began in Hilton Garden Inn after a delicious dinner. Dr. Hamid Rahman from San Diego conducted the program. After Quran recitation, the first speaker was Hajra Ahmad from Columbus, Ohio who talked eloquently about the need for Muslims to actively participate in the election process. Mrs. Nareman Hydal from Trinidad enlightened the audience about "Leadership in a changing world". Then Muhammad Sadiq, from Columbus, Ohio inspired the audience by telling them how the teachings of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad are the key to an American's belief in God. He shared his personal experience of coming to Islam through the Ahmadiyya view point. Mrs. Attiya Keeskamp from Holland moved the audience by talking about her husband, the late Mr. Keeskamp and his services to Islam and her personal journey to belief. Maghrib and Isha prayers were then combined to conclude the session.

On Saturday, August 2nd, the main symposium began at 9:00a. m. at the beautiful Embassy Suites Conference Room. The welcoming address was delivered by Dr. Muhammad Ahmad, President of Ahmadiyya Islamic Society

of Columbus, Ohio to a diverse audience consisting of people of many faith organizations, such as CAIR (Council on American Islamic Relations), Church Groups and Interfaith groups from Ohio. At 9:45 Fazeel S. Khan, Esq. delivered a brilliant speech on "**Need for Reform**" in which he presented an analysis of the political, spiritual and intellectual condition of the Muslim world in the 19th and 20th centuries, and how urgently and desperately reform was needed at that time. The next speaker was Dr. Hamid Rahman from San Diego, who spoke about **Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad**, introducing him as a Muslim leader whose vision of Islam transcended the contemporary religious and political climate in which he lived.

A short coffee break provided an opportunity for refreshment and conversation among the audience. The next topic was **Jihad, Holy War and Terrorism**, presented by Sadru-Dean Sahukhan Esq., from Australia. He spoke about the denunciation of extremist ideologies and the warning of its dire consequences to humanity at large, by the Reformer Mirza Ghulam Ahmad a century prior to 9/11. Dr. Ayesha Khan spoke about **Logic, Reason and Rationality: The causes of societal and political decline in the Muslim world and the application of an academic approach to the study and interpretation of Islam**. She showed us that logic and reason have everything to do

with our understanding of Islam and a dogmatic approach leads to problems. An elegant lunch was enjoyed by all participants.

The afternoon session began with an excellent presentation by Maulana Kemal Hydal from Trinidad. He spoke about **Fundamentalism from East to West: The rise of religious fundamentalism and the role that literalism, particularly in the case of latter day prophecies, plays in shaping current world events**. Last but not least, Dr. Muhammad Ahmad spoke about the "**Message of Peace**": **Laying the foundation for unity amongst Muslims and a platform for peaceful cohabitation between the Muslim and non-Muslim worlds**. Before the symposium came to an end, the floor was opened to questions and answers and many stimulating discussions took place.

The evening session started after dinner at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Hamid Rahman conducted the session and after Quran recitation Mr. Mehboob Raza of Fiji Jamaat spoke eloquently about Islam and Ahmadiyyat. Dr. Saira Malik Raman from Houston recites a beautiful poem out of the collected verses of Hazrat Mirza Sahib, "Durre Sameen". Mr. Ebrahim Muhammad, President of the South Africa Ahmadiyya movement, greatly moved and inspired the audience by speaking about his sister whose husband left her and took her two children. She was pressurized to defame Hazrat Mirza Sahib in order to meet her

children but she sacrificed her rights as a mother to remain true to her faith and has not seen her children in twenty years. Dr. Umar Ahmad from the USA spoke about the Quran and its importance and application in our daily lives. Lastly Dr. Noman Malik played an audiotape of the only recorded speech (a Friday sermon) of Maulana Muhammad Ali Sahib. Everyone in the audience enjoyed hearing the bold voice of this great servant of Allah giving clear and edifying instructions about accomplishing the Jamaat's work. A scrolling English translation text accompanied the audio for the benefit of those who did not understand the Urdu language of the sermon.

Sunday, 3rd August, in Hilton Garden Inn, the program started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Ayesha Isakh from Florida. Aafia Ahmad from Minnesota conducted the youth program which consisted of young speakers from all over America. Mrs. Khadija Mansur presided over the session. Zaigham Khalil and Aalim Isakh both recited from the Holy Quran. Aarif Ahmad and Aafia Ahmad presented their speeches. Ali and Haady Khalil sang a song along with their brother Zaigham. An adorable group of little children recited surah Fatihah together: Malaika Sahukhan, Aarif Ahmad, Ali, Haady and Zaigham Khalil. Then Sulaiman Ahmad and Saliha Ahmad from Las Vegas presented excellent speeches. The children's program ended with prizes being

given to all the young children who had worked so hard and delighted everyone with their speeches and reminded us that the future of our Movement will Insha Allah be glorious. Dr. Ayesha Khan gave a presentation of Lighthouse Magazine, the youth magazine of A.A.I.I.L. available on www.aaill.org and talked about the various sections of the magazine, urging parents to use it as a teaching tool in their homes.

Before inviting the attendees to participate in the great spiritual jihad of spreading translations of the Quran throughout the world, Mrs. Samina Malik showed slides of her recent trips to Vietnam, Philippines, Holland. The audience was moved and inspired by her account of her journeys, the highlight being the Centre of Maulana Muhammad Ali in Mindanao, Philippines.

The most important event was the fundraising by Mrs. Samina Malik. The members responded enthusiastically to her heartfelt appeal by donating generously to this great jihad (jihadan kabira). Children and ladies of the movement had prepared handicrafts to sell at the convention and raise money for the Quran, and these were displayed in the back of the room. Alhamdulillah, the total amount collected from this small group of people was almost one hundred thousand dollars!

Last but not least, Dr. Hamid Rahman presented his English translation of Dr. Bashrat Ahmad's book, "The Great Reformer" before

the audience. Dr. Hamid Rahman is a Professor of Finance at Alliant International University in San Diego, California. He is a grandson of Dr. Bashrat Ahmad and has spent almost twenty years on the translation project. The book contains beautiful photographs of Qadian and is now available for purchase by the U.S.A. Jama'at. The last session of the convention came to an end with combined zuhar and asr prayers and yet another delicious meal.

All praise and thanks are due to Allah for making the 2008 Convention a great success. All the participants enjoyed the hospitality of Dr. Noman Malik and Mrs. Samina Malik. May Almighty Allah reward bless them for their kindness and generosity in opening up their home and hearts to bring us all together as a family of Muslims and Ahmadiis. Dr. Mohammad Ahmad and Mrs. Lubna Ahmad were also key hosts who worked tirelessly to make the convention a success as were Fazeel Khan and Dr. Ayesha Khan. May Allah bless all these devoted individuals who work so hard in His cause, Ameen, and provide this opportunity for us to renew our faith and share our experiences as Muslims and members of the Ahmadiyya movement.

Translation of the Holy Quran and other books in Vietnamese

by Mrs. Samina Malik

Thanks to Almighty Allah, the USA Jamaat has started the translation of the Holy Quran and other books of our movement from English into Vietnamese. I visited Vietnam in April of 2008 and found three very good translators in Hanoi. These translators teach English in the University in Hanoi. The following books have been translated into Vietnamese already:

- Muhammad the Prophet
- Islam the Religion of Humanity
- The Prophet of Islam

Inshallah, we will print these books as soon as they are proof read. These will be the first books of our Movement to have been translated into the Vietnamese language.

As only twenty percent of

the people in Vietnam can read English, books in their own language to inform them about Islam are very much needed. These books will especially benefit the Vietnamese Muslims most of whom are poor and lack adequate reading material on Islam.

The following books are under translation:

- The Holy Quran
- The Religion of Islam
- The Teachings of Islam.
- Manual of Hadith

Funds for the translation of the Holy Quran into the Vietnamese Language are being provided by our esteemed brother Mr. Mehboob Raza, Secretary of the Fiji Jamaat. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward brother Mehboob Raza for his sacrifice.

The USA Jamaat is in the



Mosque in Hanoi.

process of registering the Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat in Vietnam and acquiring a place for storing our books in Vietnam.



Mrs Samina Malik presenting the English Holy Quran translation to the Imam of the Hanoi Mosque.



Mrs. Samina Malik with the orphans at the Hanoi Mosque.

South Africa Jamaat News

by Ebrahim Muhammad, President AAIIIL South Africa

This is a small report of our activities. Inshallah, in the next basharaat ahamdiyya we will give more news about the work being done by our movement.

1. Our Youth program, Seekers and Thinkers, is ongoing. This is a gathering where youth are engaged in a variety of topics that concern them. In the first round of discussions, we covered the importance of God in our lives, The existence of God, the evidence that we have that prove His existence, how He reveals himself, His Messengers and their roles etc. Forthcoming topics will be around Religion and religious consciousness in modern day society and how it affects the youth. Although adults are part of the program, it is destined towards nurturing the youth and setting up a forum for dealing with issues that they are grappling with in a group.

2. We recently celebrated the 80th birthday of Ismail Peck a prominent figure in our Jamaat and fore-runner in the Ahmadiyya Case. Mr Peck, who was raised in a staunch Sunni home, joined the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in the 60's through Mr Dawood Sydow. Inspired by Mr Dawood Sydow, Mr Peck focused on studying the Bible. He did a course in Bible studies and obtained a certificate from a local Bible

Institute. Although, he agrees he did not support their teachings around Jesus etc, it did give him a deeper, first-hand insight to their approach and interpretation of the Bible's teachings. Mr. Peck, over the years became renowned for his knowledge of the Bible having memorized many verses by heart. This posed many a problem for Christian missionaries he debated with. Once, in a discussion with a missionary who has a doctorate in Biblical studies, namely Dr Rigby, Mr. Peck quoted a verse from the Bible that the Doctor, in front of several others present, claimed did not exist - only to find that it did exist verbatim as quoted by Mr. Peck. In embarrassment Dr. Rigby apologized to Mr. Peck.

Mr. Peck, at great risk to his own and his family's safety took the lead in the Ahmadiyya Case.

Without any academic education to speak about, he produced a little booklet 'the True Teachings of the Quran, The Bible and Torah, which was well accepted locally and Internationally.

Mr Peck has been conducting the Jummah prayers at Brother Noor Mohamed's place for over 20 years, but because of old -age has handed it over to Br Shafiek Hendricks whom he has mentored over last few months.

3. We are having Jummah's

at two localities: One at Br Noor's home conducted by Br Shafiek Hendricks and one at my residence conducted by myself. Eid celebration and other events are conducted from my home at present.

4. This year my wife Sheega and I were privileged to attend the USA Convention in Columbus, Ohio. We enjoyed the hospitality of the hosts and the opportunity to meet Jamaat members from other countries. I made a speech on the metaphorical "Ark" established by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as a safe-haven for errant Muslims having to grapple with the turbulence of religious misguidance that prevails today. We were impressed by the contributions made by the other speakers, which were of a very high calibre.

A highlight of the convention was the course conducted by Moulana Kemal Hydal about Life after death which was very useful and enlightening. Once again, thank you to the hosts, who made our stay enjoyable and comfortable. May Allah reward you.

News From Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore, Fiji

by Mr. Mehboob Raza, Secretary Fiji Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam

“O you who believe, be helpers (in the cause) of Allah” [Holy Quran, 61:14]

Hazrat Mirza Sahib reviewed the character and qualities of Maulana Muhammad Ali and wrote, “I am sure that my foresight will not go wrong in this, that this young man will make progress in the path of Allah, and I am sure that by the grace of Allah he will prove to be so firm in righteousness and love of religion that he will set an example worthy to be followed by his peers.”

Then, mentioning his deeply-held wishes, he handed over to Maulana Muhammad Ali that practical work which he declared as the real aim of his coming. It was on the basis of his foresight that he gave the Maulana the responsibility for this work. According to a Hadith, the foresight of a true believer is illuminated by the light of Allah, and the faith which Hazrat Mirza Sahib had in his foresight could only have been created by Allah in his heart.

The following letter proves this point, in which Hazrat Mirza Sahib writes to Maulana Muhammad Ali:

“I hold an extremely favorable opinion about you. This is why I have a special love for you. If your name had not been pure in

the sight of Allah, I could not possibly have thought so well of you, never. I love you fervently from the bottom of my heart, and often pray for you in the five daily prayers. I hope that at some future time these prayers will show their effect ... I am busy praying, with heart-felt passion, for your welfare in this world and the hereafter, and for your body and soul, and I am awaiting the effects and results of the prayer.”

It also appears from many dreams, visions and divine revelations that Hazrat Sahib was shown before hand that Maulana Muhammad Ali would accomplish the most tremendous service for the cause for Islam.

As the General Secretary of the Jamaat, I write the above for the members to reflect and ponder, over and over again. Be proud of our Jamaat and do not waste your Allah given opportunity to pencil your individual contribution for our cause to carry out our responsibilities of propagating Islam through the eyes of AHMAD! (PBUH) This is our responsibility and no one else's. We are in fact the Torch-Bearer! Let not this opportunity be wasted! Join this Jihad with genuine

convictions in whatever ways you think Allah has given you this opportunity to serve the Jamaat.

In our own life-time we have witnessed the passing away of our fathers and fore-fathers leaving a great legacy to follow, let alone to emulate it.

In our daily prayers we recite: “*ALLAH UM MMAH SALLI ALA MUHAMMAD DIN...*” i.e: “O Allah exhalt Muhammad and the true Followers of Muhmmad ...” and “*ALLAH UM MMAH BARAK ALA MUHAMMAD DIN ...*”

“O Allah! Bless Muhammad and the true followers” Ask yourselves rhetorically, are we not the only “true followers” of Muhammad (PBUH). This is, but, one of the favours Allah has granted to our Jamaat.

We respect, preach and practice with deep convictions every word of the Holy Quran! We encourage every member to read and learn about Islam and not to follow it blindly like a sheep or a parrot, as this would be contrary to the Quranic Teachings. This is why we are head and shoulders above the rest of the Muslims.

For the information of our members it gives me great pleasure to report that our Jamaat World Wide is having a tremendous success in the propagation of Islam. I had the opportunity to go to Jamaats Conventions in Pakistan and recently to Ohio. The presentations on Work/Propagation carried out by members/Jamaats is unparallel, compared with other Islamic Jamaats, especially in the dissemination of our Islamic literatures. Maulana Muhammad Ali's English translation of the Holy Qur'an and Religion of Islam, to name just a few and of course the Propagation through our Jamaats web-sites are glaring example. Please do not be deterred by our small numbers as "Allah is the best Planner". It is the work that matters and not the number game.

Before I present this Annual General Meeting Report, I would like to read the reference to MAULANA MOHAMMAD ALI by the great reformer HAZRAT MIRZA SAHEB. His observations and comments regarding Mualana Mohammad Ali should be sufficient proof to satisfy anyone that the writings and commentaries by Maulana Mohammad Ali, were HEAVENLY Blessed. Probably this is why Maulana Mohammad Ali has been regarded as one of the greatest contributions in the cause of Islam. In fact his writings have laid precedents which are followed by other Muslims, even today.

General Secretary's Acknowledgement

As the General Secretary for sometimes now, I must confess that it has been my pleasure and privilege to present the Annual General Reports.

However, on this occasion I do so with a very heavy – heart!

As I sit to prepare my Report, like a bolt from the blues, it suddenly dawn on me that our dear brother and our beloved former President of the Jammata is no longer with us. *Innallahe waa innallhe rajeoon.*

Our late President Mr Safi Ud Dean was a tower of strength to our Jammata. Both in terms of being a profound leader and a mentor. He was always there to help and encourage any member that required his assistance.

He always spoke very highly of our Jammata members and was always the first to acknowledge any progress of our Jammata in any parts of the world. His smiling eyes said it all!!

His knowledge on Islam and Christianity was profound and he loved to share his knowledge even when he was not feeling too well.

There was not a day – passed without us phoning at least 2 or 3 times a day, particularly discussing about the way – forward for the Jammata or matters pertaining to it.

He was a model of a man that practiced what he preached and indeed he had left a great legacy to be followed.

He always said "*the show must go on*".

So long dear brother! On behalf of the Jammata thanks a million for all that was done for the Jammata AND not forgetting your leadership in starting the Zakat - Fund.

From the bottom of our hearts we pray and will continue to pray to Allah (SWT) to grant you the highest abode in PARADISE. AAMEEN!

Last year in November 2007 together with Dr Sahu Khan, Mr S.D Sahu Khan and Mr Yasin Khan (brother in law of Dr Sahu Khan and Mr S.D. Sahu Khan) the General Secretary Mehboob Raza, through God's assistance had the privilege of performing the HAJ.

Allah makes all things easy, despite the fact that the opponents feel proud to prevent us from visiting KABA-Sharif.

The Holy Quran says: "**Who is so vile as to prevent people from going to Allah's House**".

The General Secretary also travelled to Lahore in the Centenary Celebration of our beloved Mujadid, who passed away on 28.05.1908. *Inna lillahe wa inna illaihe rajioon.*

Propagation Activities in Fiji

(a) **Paigham E Haqq**: the Anjuman's journal which is published and is distributed widely, locally and overseas.

(b) There were 30 radio programs during the month of Ramadan which were presented by Br. Abdul Nasim, Fazal Haq and Br. Abid Aziz. This program

creates a lot of awareness about our Jammah among the Muslims in particular. The program was sponsored by Vodafone Fiji Ltd and we were accorded the prime time. Thanks to Br. Aslam Khan who is the Managing Director of Vodafone Fiji Ltd and a very strong member of our Jammah.

(c) Maulvi Abdul Kuddus also rendered 5 minutes radio segments on radio Sargam through out the year.

REPORT ON INTERFAITH ACTIVITIES, by Br. Nizam Ud Dean

Report on Interfaith Activities 2007-2008

The following report covers the Interfaith activities of our Jamaat over the period August 2007 to July 2008.

Visits to the Masjid Noor by Christian Groups

Friday, 16th May 2008

A Christian group from the Pacific Theological College, including participants from overseas, visited Masjid Noor to learn about Islam. The session was led by Br. Nizam Ud Dean who spoke about the principles and practices of Islam. This was followed by a various questions from the visitors. They were issued pamphlets on Islam.

Friday, 23rd May 2008

A group of Catholic students from the Corpus Christi College

visited Masjid Noor to learn about Islam as part of their curriculum. They were met by Br Nizam Ud Dean who, after speaking on Islam, allowed questions. The students were given pamphlets on Islam.

Friday, 11th July 2008

A mixed religious group from ECREA (Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education and Advocacy) visited Masjid Noor to learn about Islam. ECREA is a Non Government Organisation (NGO) based in Suva, Fiji Islands. It was founded in 1990 by the late Reverend Paula Niukula, with the aim to address the social, religious, economic and political issues that confront Fiji.

The group included international visitors as well as locals and of various religious backgrounds, including Islam. Br Nizam Ud Dean spoke to them and gave a brief account about Islam as well as the Jamaat's mission. A lively question session followed. The talk was appreciated by Sunni Muslim visitors. All were given our Jamaat's pamphlets on Islam.

Monthly Interfaith Scripture Readings

Brs. Jalal Ud Dean, Nizam Ud Dean and Rizwan Ud Dean have been attending interfaith sessions on the 10th of each month at various religious centers to read and discuss scripture readings on various topics chosen by the group for each month. The participants present the readings on the topics from their own scriptures. The topics discussed over the period

August 2007 – July 2008 are:

- Form of prayers according our scriptures.
- Love of God
- Demonstrating love of God
- Unity in Diversity
- Truthfulness
- Chastity, fidelity and purity
- Religious texts relating to

women

- Justice in our scriptures
- Respect for one's parents
- Children in family and

society.

Our Jamaat has made presentations from the Holy Quran and the Hadith.

Interfaith Search Fiji

Br. Jalal Ud Dean continues to be the Chairperson of Interfaith Search Fiji.

Publication

(a) Paigham-e-Haqq

It is progressing and getting positive feedbacks as we publish and distribute widely, locally and overseas.

(b) Annual Calendar

– the annual calendar of the Anjuman containing dates for the new moon, Islamic months, festivals and important events for the Anjuman was printed and distributed to all members locally and overseas.

(c) Ramadan Shareef Time Table – containing Sahri and Iftari times and other relevant information was printed and distributed to all members. [Our sincere thanks to Brother Nizam ud Dean for preparing the annual calendar and the time-table.]

(d) **The Light & Islamic Review** – The Fiji Jamaat has continued to receive limited copies published by the USA Jamaat. These magazines contain excellent reading material. We also receive Phaigham e Sulh from Lahore and Chawdaweena Sadi from India.

Financial Assistance Rendered & Funds Donated for Various Courses

The Anjuman assisted organizations and individuals with funds and donations, as detailed here under:

1. Fitrana Distribution
2. Zakaat A/C
3. National Disaster
4. International Contributions

Sunday Class / Arabic & Urdu

Only one child SALEHA BUKSH is benefiting and takes keen interest to learn how to read Holy Quran in Arabic from Br Abid Aziz who is very impressed with her. She is the daughter of Mr & Mrs Naushad Buksh, Br Abid Aziz takes out time and on his own expense with his wife, goes to Saleha's residence on every Sunday's to teach her Arabic. It is very good to know that she has finished reading One Part (Sipara) of the Holy Quran. Mr & Mrs Naushad Buksh should be congratulated for encouraging her little daughter for learning Holy Quran in Arabic. It may also be

a very good encouragement to all our Jamaat members. It's always NEVER TOO LATE!

General Secretary's Report

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Propagation

(a) **Paigham E Haqq** – the Anjuman's journal which is published and is distributed widely, locally and overseas.

(b) There were 30 radio programs during the month of Ramadan which were presented by Br. Abdul Nasim, Fazal Haq and Br. Abid Aziz. This program creates a lot of awareness about our Jamaat among the Muslims in particular. The program was sponsored by Vodafone Fiji Ltd and we were accorded the prime

time. Thanks to Br. Aslam Khan who is the Managing Director of Vodafone Fiji Ltd and a very strong member of our Jamaat.

(c) Maulvi Abdul Kuddus also rendered 5 minutes radio segments on radio Sargam through out the year.



News from the Stichting Ahmadiyya Ishaat-i-Islam, Holland

by *Shabier Houseni*,
President Stichting Ahmadiyya, Holland

Donation of books to Maulana Muhammad Ali library

Mrs. K. Ahmadali donated all the books of her late husband Mr. M. Ahmadali, according to his last will, to the Maulana Muhammad Ali library. Mr Ahmadali was the Imam of our mosque from the beginning of our organisation till his passing away in 2007. The books were handed over to the president and the treasurer of our organisation on April 28, 2008. Our organisation is very thankful for this important donation, which was coordinated on behalf of the family by Mrs. H. Moenna-Ahmadali.



During this convention the youth of our organisation took part in presenting speeches and poems they paid tributes to the Promised Messiah and the founders of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement.

During this convention some speakers from abroad and the Netherlands contributed with excellent speeches well-suited to the occasion. A main feature was a slide presentation of the Maulana Muhammad Ali Islamic Research Centre in Cagayan de Oro, Philippines by Mrs. Samina Malik.

A major event during this convention was the presentation of two major works by the USA Jamaat by Vice President Mrs. Samina Malik of USA: the Turkish translation of the Holy Quran with commentary by Maulana Muhammad Ali and the English translation of The Great Reformer by Dr. Basharat Ahmad. Copies of both books were presented to Mr. Imami, Mr. Noor Sardar, Mr. Nasir Ahmad, Mrs. Atiya. Keeskamp, Dr.

Eric. Germain, Mr. T. Ahmadali and Mr. A.S. Hoeseni.

At this convention two new books in Dutch language, Islam, Peace and Tolerance and The Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement, both by Dr. Zahid Aziz, were presented to the audience and a free copies of both books were presented to all the participants.

Our vice president Mr. Noor Sardar also spoke on this occasion and on behalf of our organisation, Mr. Hoeseni formally accepted the books of the library of the late Mr. Abdoellatief Ataoellah (who passed away in 1996), which were donated by his wife Mrs. H.Z. Ataoellah-Goelabdin and their son Mr. Afzal Ataoellah, to the Maulana Muhammad Ali library of our Foundation. Our organisation is very thankful to the Ataoellah family for this very important donation.

At the end Mr. Hoeseni presented a copy of the Dutch translation of the Holy Quran and



Participation in International Centenary Convention Netherlands 2008

Our organisation, Stichting Ahmadiyya Isha'at-i-Islam, participated in an international convention organised by Federation Ahmadiyya Anjumans Isha'at Islam on June 14, 2008 on the occasion of 100th death anniversary of the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

Apart from people of local organisations some people from USA, UK, Pakistan, Suriname, and France participated.

a copy of "The Great Reformer" to a Christian representative.

Donation of books to Islamic University of Rotterdam

Some days after the International convention, a delegation consisting of Mrs. Samina Malik, Mr. Hoeseni, Mr. N. Sardar and Mr. S. Dostmohamed donated copies of the books which had been presented at the convention (Turkish Translation of *Holy Quran*, *The Great Reformer*, the Dutch translations of *Islam, Peace and Tolerance* and *The Ahmadiyya Movement of Lahore*) to the Islamic University Rotterdam. They also donated fifty copies of the Arabic translations of *Religion of Islam*, *Muhammad the Prophet*, *Living thoughts of the Prophet Muhammad* and *Manual of Hadith* and a copy of *Prophethood in Islam*.

Donation of the Dutch translations of Islam, Peace and Tolerance and The Ahmadiyya Movement of Lahore

Before the summer holidays started, the above mentioned two books were distributed to members of the Dutch parliament (House of Commons and House of Lords) and Ministers and Secretaries of the Dutch Cabinet. At this moment arrangements are being made to send these books to the major universities. Both books were also sent to Suriname for distribution.



Television documentary

A company which produces documentaries for the Dutch Television made recordings of our organisation's activities to be broadcasted at the end of this year. The items recorded were as follows: Youth classes and presentations by youth members in the Youth Programme of the 100th death anniversary organised by Federation Ahmadiyya Anjumans Isha'at-i-Islam in June 2008, a talk with Mrs. Keeskamp about Haji J. Keeskamp's life, who passed away on June 1, 2007, discussion on Islamic topics held in Almere, classes of the older children and the interfaith meetings of our organisation with Christians.

Regular activities

The two regular courses for the youth as well as meetings for the older members and ladies meetings



are held on a weekly basis. Interfaith meetings with Christians were also continued.

Certificates

In July 22, 2008 children attending the Islamic classes received their certificates from the three teachers in the presence of their parents and grandparents, members and other guests.

Eid-ul Fitr Salaat

Eid-ul Fitr Salaat was held on September 30th and well attended by about 500 people. An Eid Milan (get together) was held after the Eid prayers and was enjoyed by members and non-members.

Basharaat-E-Ahmadiyya

Editor: Dr. Noman Malik

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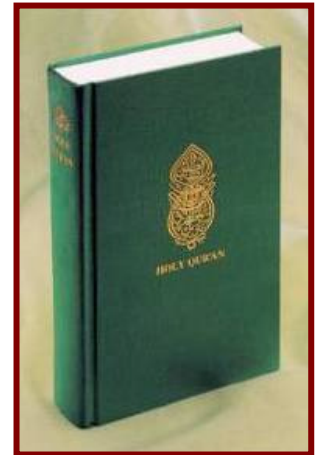
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LAHORE AHMADIYYA ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society was founded in Lahore, Pakistan in 1914 by senior companions of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (d. 1908). The principal objective of the Society is to present the true essence of Islam to the world; that is, a peaceful, tolerant, rational and inspiring faith.

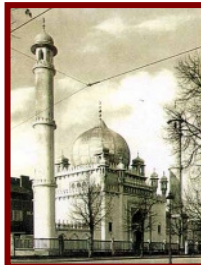
We believe in Islam as revealed in the Holy Quran and as illustrated by the practice of the Holy Prophet Muhammad. We strongly feel that both Muslims and non-Muslims alike desperately need to understand the true message of Islam, vastly different from its distorted image prevalent in the world today.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is most well known for its publications, a true Islamic treasury. This collection of works has received worldwide acclaim for its scholarship, authenticity and service to Islamic education. The Society was a pioneer in establishing Islamic centers around the world and today continues this legacy by producing numerous translations of its historic literature, establishing a network of affiliated branches globally and developing working relationships with like-minded Muslim communities.



Did you know?

- The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society established the first Islamic missions in Europe: Woking Mission in England (1913) and Berlin Mission in Germany (1926).
- The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society produced the first complete English translation of the Holy Quran: by Maulana Muhammad Ali in 1917. This translation was the model and primary resource for most later translations. The widely used “Shakir” translation is, in fact, a wholesale plagiarized version of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s 1917 translation, approximately 90% of it being copied verbatim.
- Highly respected western Muslim scholars and Islamic activists such as Marmaduke Pickthal, Muhammad Asad, Alexander Russell Webb, accepted Islam through relations with the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society.
- Al Azhar University of Cairo recently certified several of the Lahore Ahmadiyya publications. The Grand Imam, Sheikh Tantawi, has also written a Preface for the masterful treatise The Religion of Islam, by Maulana Muhammad Ali.



The Split in the Movement

It is often forgotten that after the founder’s death, the Ahmadiyya Movement split into two groups – the Lahore and the Qadian sections. The principle difference between the two groups is that the Qadian section believes the founder of the Movement, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, claimed to be a “prophet”. Because the view that prophets may appear after the Holy Prophet Muhammad is so utterly repugnant to the very fundamentals of Islam, senior companions of Hazrat Mirza, including Maulana Muhammad Ali, had no choice but to leave Qadian when this view was first introduced and create the Lahore section in order to continue the true mission of the Founder. Moreover, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad himself repeatedly explained that he was only a reformer and one of the saints of Islam, not a prophet, as he states in reference to his own status:



“God speaks to, and communicates with, His saints (auliya) in this Ummah, and they are given the color of prophets. However, they are not prophets in reality (haqiqat)”. (Mawahib ar-Rahman, published in 1903, pp. 66, 67).