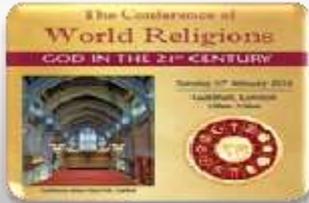




# Summary



Conference of World Religions 2014 was held in Guildhall London on 11/2/14 to raise awareness about God at present time.



This conference was organised by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the UK, as part of its centenary celebrations.



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (aba) gave brief extracts of some of the speeches of the invited guests, a summary of his keynote address and the views and comments of some guests.



Next Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that the world may turn to its Maker, it can only be saved from the impending destruction by turning to God.

**Conference of  
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brief extracts of  
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speeches

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Views of the  
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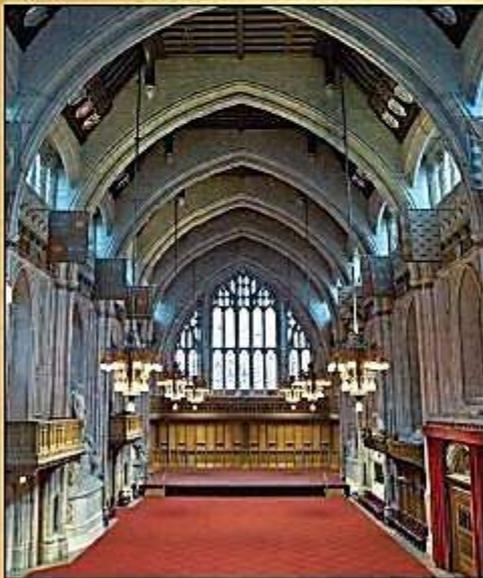
Prayers

The Conference of  
**World Religions**

**GOD IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Guildhall, London  
5.00pm - 9.00pm



Conference venue: Great Hall, Guildhall



**Conference of World Religions 2014**

**brief extracts of some of the speeches**

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Conference of World Religions 2014 was organised by Jama'at Ahmadiyya UK to commemorate its 100 years in Britain.



The theme of the conference was God in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.



Along with Islam other religions were represented including Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Druzes, Zoroastrianism, Sikhism and Baha'i.



In addition politicians and human rights activists were also given the opportunity to present their views.



Chairman of the Hindu Council in Britain, Umesh Chander Sahrma said: 'Today's topic is very interesting, it means at least one thing is for sure that all of us believe God exists. ...You can see conflicts all over the place and for one reason or the other people do not believe the political leaders. This is the time when I think we have to come back to our faith.'

Huzoor remarked may Allah make us practice this because this is indeed the reality.

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**7<sup>th</sup> Match 2014**

Geshe Tashi Tsering, read  
a message from His  
Holiness the Dalai Lama,  
which said:

“Virtues of love and  
altruism are the basis of all  
religions and so a respect  
for all religions is essential.  
All religions are a means  
of inner-peace. I give my  
full heartfelt support to the  
Conference of World  
Religions.”



Conflict in the name of  
religion occurs when people  
fail to grasp true intent of  
their respective faith. We  
should encourage contact  
between the followers of  
different religions...general  
public will develop respect  
for others' religious traditions  
this in turn will promote  
harmony in society.

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The spiritual head of the Druze community in Israel, Sheikh Moafaq Tarif said: 'We have strong relations and close ties with all sects and religions in the Holy Land, the cradle of faith and the home and place of the spiritual journey of all the Prophets. ..Let us join our hands in denouncing violence and aggression in all its forms and sow the seeds of love by developing peace not only in the East but all over the world.'



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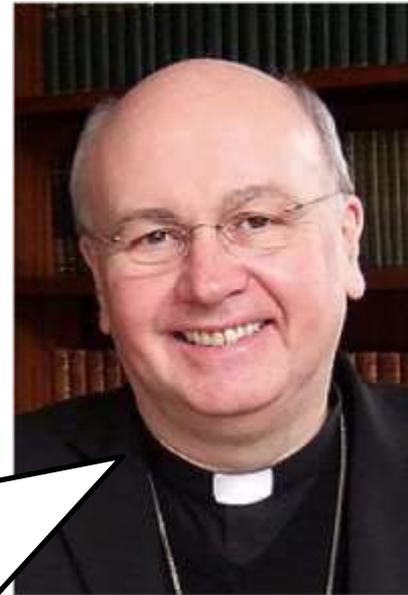
**Brief extracts of  
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Archbishop Kevin McDonald represented the Catholic Church. He said: 'It is a sign of the times that a gathering like this should take place and it is a reason to be grateful for the times in which we live.'



He read out a message from Cardinal Peter Turkson, president of the Pontifical Council for Peace and Justice: 'I am grateful for the opportunity to direct my prayerful greeting to the centenary conference of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community especially as representatives of different faiths gather to consider peace.'

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Rabbi Professor Daniel Sperber, represented the Chief Rabbi of Israel. He said: 'We live in a society where materialism is seen as a positive value of the highest order ... In the name of progress and comfort we are depleting the world of its natural resources polluting our fresh water assets, destroying our forests ... The name of God and His messages are trampled underfoot in the name of rationalism and political convenience.'

The Rabbi said everyone should get together and work against these aspects.



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih remarked that he hoped these thoughts were also appreciated by the head of their country and were also related to him.

## Conference of World Religions 2014

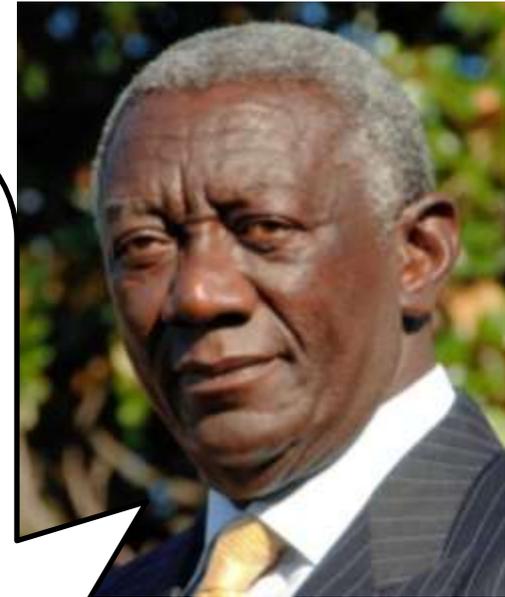
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High Commissioner of Ghana read out a message from the President of Ghana. The message said that the event once again reminds us that God sent His beloved Prophets in this world who gave their message to people of all races without discrimination that mankind should live peacefully and in mutual harmony.



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Baroness Warsi said: ‘. It is a testament to the openness and the pragmatism and the humility of the Ahmadiyya community that your flagship global event today is not just about celebrating your own faith but you are celebrating all faiths. ...It has clearly been an important moment for so many faiths to come up here and express their solidarity to each other and their solidarity and commitment to inter-faith work.’



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Dr Katrina Lantos Swett, vice-chair US Commission on International Religious Freedom said: ‘... Simply stated you, the Ahmadiyya community are living proof that religion can indeed be a true friend of peace, understanding and liberty. ..We, like you, stand for tolerance and freedom. We, like you, stand for a world where people of all backgrounds and beliefs can come together and learn from each other. To learn implies listening and to listen implies respect and tolerance. ...May we redouble our efforts to do just that.’



**Huzoor said may Allah make the big powers understand this.**

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Rt Hon. Dominic Grieve, the Attorney General read out the Prime Minister's message prior to which he said: '...As a person of Christian faith it has always seemed to me that it is very much easier for somebody who has faith to understand people of other faiths than it is for those who have no faith at all.'



Huzoor said may Allah make it so that he was accurate in saying this.

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The Prime Minister's message was: 'I send my sincere greetings to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community as you come together with faiths around the world to unite for social and international peace. I recognise the great work you do here in Britain from inter-faith events across the country to helping communities who had been affected by the recent floods and today highlights the significant work you do for inter-faith relations and peace overseas. I am delighted that the British Government is represented today. We join His Holiness and faiths leaders around the world to discuss how faiths can come together to help bring about peace.'



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A message from Her Majesty the Queen who is the supreme governor of the Church of England and defender of the faith read: 'The Queen was pleased to receive your kind message sent on behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK on the occasion of the conference of world religions being held today at Guildhall as part of your centenary celebrations. Her Majesty was interested to learn of the aims of the conference and appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing as you did. In return, the Queen sends her best wishes to you all for a most successful and memorable gathering.'



# Next Huzoor gave a summarised version of his own keynote address.

It is the will of God to reform mankind and fulfil the rights of God and God's creation; God sent His Prophets for this purpose.

Those who listen to the Prophets are successful and those who reject them eventually reach a bad ending.

The Holy Quran tells us that nations that rejected the message of Prophets and rejected the existence of God met a humiliating destruction.

These matters should give us cause for concern for these are not fables.

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Huzoor told the conference that the Holy Qur'an is the heavenly Scripture



When God sent the Holy Prophet (pbuh) to reform the entire world, he tirelessly and selflessly worked for this and not only that, he spent his nights in intense prayer and supplication.



God Almighty is He Who listens to earnest and heartfelt prayers and transformed the ignorant and uncivilised into the most magnificent moral beings.



No worldly power can ever bring about such a spiritual revolution

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Huzoor told the conference about the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) deportment with his enemies.

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) responded to their brutality, hatred and vicious assaults with nothing but forgiveness, mercy and compassion.

At the time of the conquest of Mecca, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) said to the sworn enemies of, 'I do not wish to take any revenge for the cruelties and persecution. As long as you guarantee that you will live peacefully, you are free to remain in Mecca,'...

'...when the countless enemies of Islam observed this incomparable benevolence they had no option but to acknowledge it and they accepted Islam.

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The Holy Qur'an has conferred the title of 'mercy for all mankind' on the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

To understand this you must be acquainted with the true history of early Islam and keep in mind two important points.

In the early years of Islam, Muslims were bitterly persecuted and they did not seek any revenge and after 13 years they emigrated to Medina.

However when the people of Mecca invaded Medina to eliminate the Muslims, only then Muslims were given a right to defend themselves

**'Permission to *fight* is given to those against whom war is made, because they have been wronged — and Allah indeed has power to help them — Those who have been driven out from their homes unjustly only because they said, 'Our Lord is Allah' — And if Allah did not repel some men by means of others, there would surely have been pulled down cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques, wherein the name of Allah is oft commemorated. And Allah will surely help one who helps Him. Allah is indeed Powerful, Mighty —'(22:40 – 41)**

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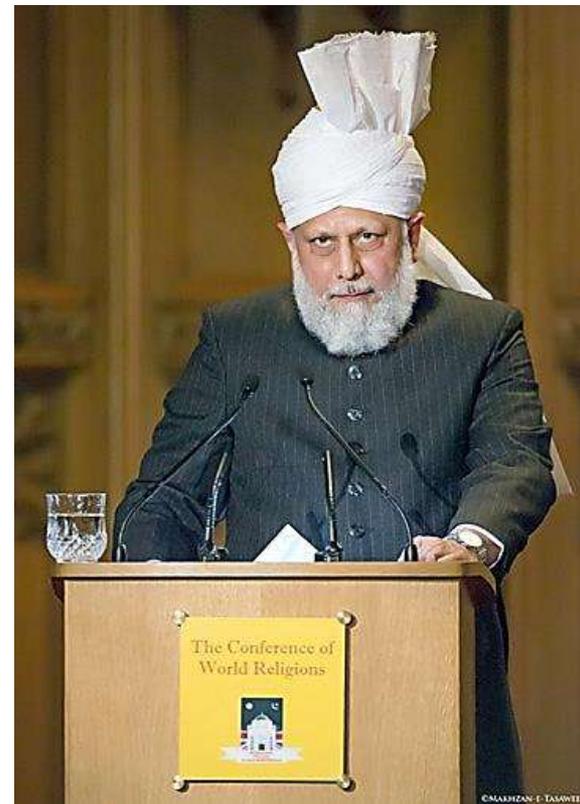
**Prayers**

Huzoor told the conference these verses also safeguard other religions and state that God is Powerful and has the power to defend Muslims against pagans.

In spite of their might and weaponry the pagans were to be defeated ...

...and indeed, giving proof of His existence God helped Muslims to defeat an army which was much larger and better equipped.

The wars fought by the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and his Rightly Guided Khulafa were in defence and to establish peace and were not for power or rule.



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Huzoor told the conference that both the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and the Holy Qur'an prophesised that a time would come when Muslims would forget the true teachings of Islam and today the condition of Muslims is exactly as it was prophesised

Huzoor told them it was his strong belief that just as the prophecy of the deterioration of Muslims has been fulfilled, the prophecy of their spiritual revival will also come true. This will take place with the advent of the Promised Messiah ( on whom be peace).

The Promised Messiah ( on whom be peace) was the founder of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at and he established the teaching of true Islam among his followers. He formed a community that aspires/tries to practice true Islam.



God's help and support is with the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and Huzoor gave fulfilment of three of his prophecies as examples of his truthfulness.



First, he had said that in this age many earthquakes and natural disasters will occur and this has been proven.

He had also foretold that the Russian Czar will be overthrown and this was proven correct.

He also foretold about great wars and the world has seen two great wars since then.

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Huzoor also told the conference that God's help is with the Messiah of this age, otherwise how could a claimant from a small village in India become renowned throughout the world. His community is flourishing and firmly attached to the institution of Khilafat, and furthering his mission throughout the world



**7<sup>th</sup> Match 2014**

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Huzoor told the conference that the founder of our Jama'at has given us the insight that the Word of God is not old fables, rather God lives today and speaks to His righteous servants and shows them true signs.

It is our duty to pay heed to the reformer of the age and recognise our God's true spirit.

Instead of laying the blame of our mistakes upon God and upon our religions we should self-reflect and consider our own shortcomings.



7<sup>th</sup> Match 2014

May God enable the world to practice this!

Next Huzoor presented some of the views and comments of the guests at the conference.

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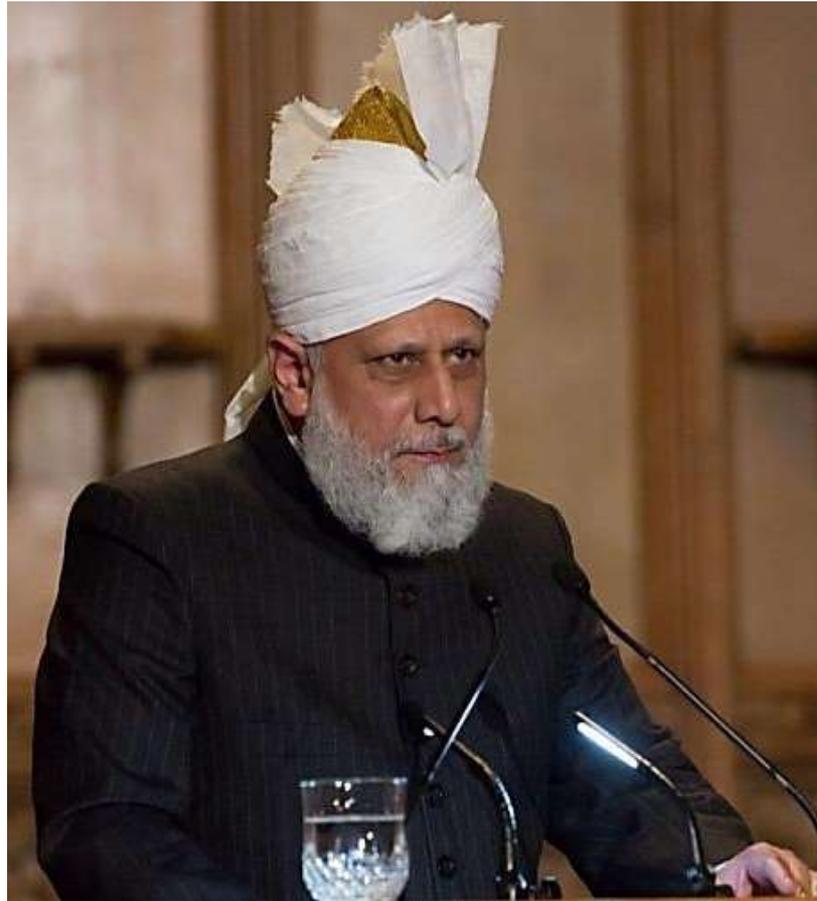
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Next Hazrat  
Khalifatul Masih  
said that may the  
world turn to its  
Maker, it can only  
be saved from the  
impending  
destruction by  
turning to God.

Huzoor asked for prayers for the situation in Pakistan and Syria. With the developing situation around the world it appears to be heading towards war and the big powers do not seem to understand how horrific a situation would emerge if war ensues. The world stands on the edge of destruction it is our duty to pray a lot for them.