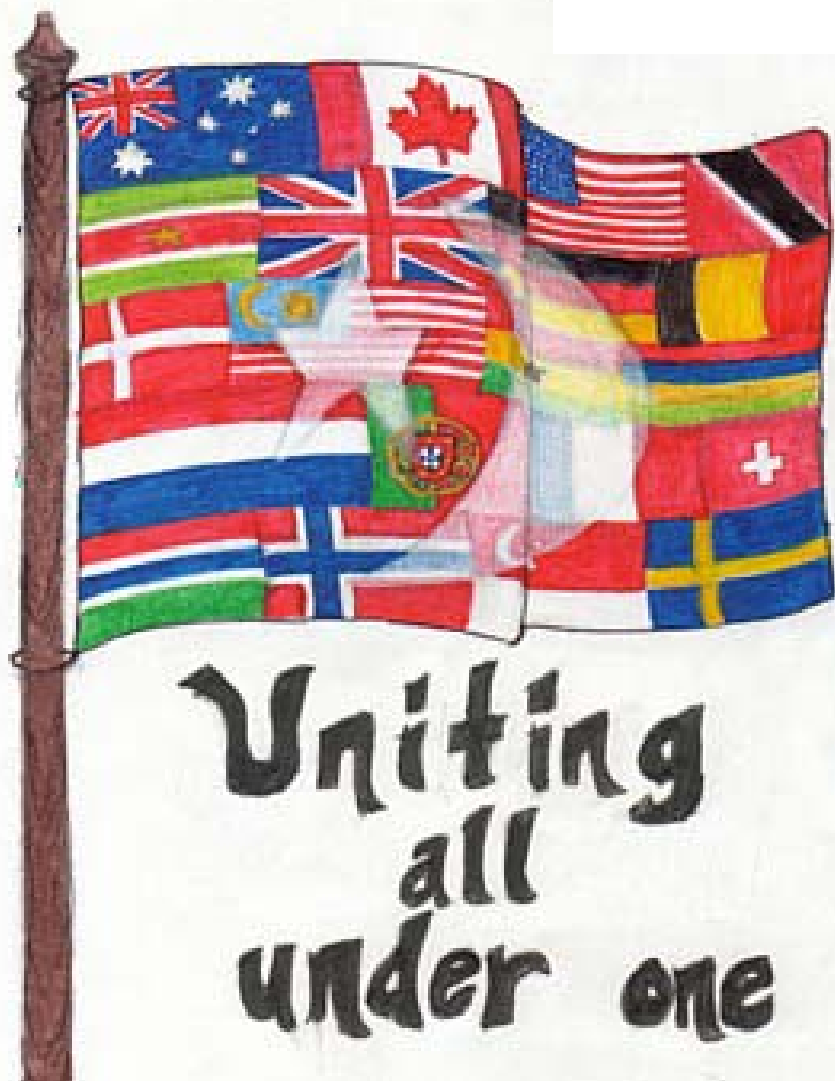


Al Hilal



Letter from Al-Hilāl Staff

Assalāmu ‘alaikum wa rahamutullāhi wa barakātuhū – May the peace and blessings of Almighty Allah be upon you!

Welcome to the second issue of Al-Hilāl, a new magazine of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community written for kids, by kids.

Almost half way through a new school year, the staff at Al-Hilāl thought we would give you an opportunity to say one last good bye to the summer. This issue features fun pictures and memories of three Cs of summer: convention, camps and competitions, along with other interesting pieces by your fellow nāsīrāt and atfāl.

We hope you enjoy reading their thoughts and talents.

Wassalām.

Al-Hilāl Editorial Staff

Al Hilal is a quarterly magazine for children, by children, that provides them with a creative opportunity to learn about the world around them, and how to apply the teachings of Islam and Ahmadiyyat to their daily lives.

Al-Hilāl (The New Moon) is published by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam,
15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905.

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

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Front Cover Design Courtesy of Nila Ahmad, Kansas

Truthfulness

Bilal Ahmad Saeed, Age 8, Boston, MA

كَلِمَاتٌ نَّجِيَّةٌ تَقِيءُ الْكُفْرَ وَالظُّلْمَ وَيُخَلِّصُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ

as-sid-qu yun-jī wal-kidh-bu yuh-li-ku

Truth saves, falsehood destroys

Telling the truth is always good. Lying is bad and lying does not make anything better. Being honest is the best, and Allah likes honesty.

When the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) was breaking the idols in the Ka‘ba, he recited:

جَاءَ الْحَقُّ وَزَهَقَ الْبَطْلُ إِنَّ الْبَطْلَ كَانَ زَهُوقًا

jā’-al-haq-qu wa za-ha-kal-bā-til. in-nal-bā-ti-la kā-na za-hū-qā.

Truth has come and falsehood has vanished away. Falsehood does indeed vanish *fast*. (The Holy Qur’ān, 17:82)

This verse from the Qur’an teaches us that lying does not last, and the truth will come out.

God named the religion brought by him Islam and its followers Muslims. Under Divine command the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) went on top of the Safā hill and called the tribes one by one by their names. When the people assembled, he spoke to them in these words: “Quraish! Were I to tell you that behind this hill, a great and powerful army was preparing to attack you, would you believe me?” They all answered with one voice: “Of course, we will believe you, for we have always heard you speaking the truth.” This teaches us that the Holy Prophet Muhammad

(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) always told the truth, and so he had gained the trust of many people.

Once the Promised Messiah (‘alaihiṣsalām) was having a tract in support of Islam printed at a Press in Amritsar. The Promised Messiah (‘alaihiṣsalām) sent the manuscript to the printer, along with a letter. Sending a letter inside a package was illegal. The Promised Messiah was unaware of this. When questioned about this by the court, the Promised Messiah (‘alaihiṣsalām) told the truth. The judge was so impressed by the truthfulness, that he acquitted the Promised Messiah (‘alaihiṣsalām).

As Muslims, we should try to follow the example of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam), and always tell the truth and never lie. Āmīn.

West Coast Ijtima

Sikander Sohail, Age 9, San Jose, CA

It was a wonderful July day. We were in the car, all packed and ready to go. My Dad, Uncle, Cousin, and friends were all going with me. We were going to the West Coast Ijtima in Chino, California. On the way to Bakersfield (we were going there to pick up another friend) we got stuck in a big traffic jam, so we got there late at night. We woke up at 5:00 in the morning and that morning at 8:00 AM we arrived at the Baitul-Hameed Mosque. When it was time for competitions, I competed in 4 out of 6 competitions (Nazm, Salāt, Speech and Adhan). After the competition, we had turkey sandwiches for lunch, and then we went to the park to play sports. We played in water and slid down water slides. After we came back from the park, we ate pizza and slept in tents. The next day I won first prize in Nazm and Salāt. I had a lot of fun at the West Coast Ijtima at Baitul-Hameed Mosque in Chino, CA.

The Holy Prophet's Blessings on Women

Sadaf Ahmad-Rahman, Age 14, Zion, IL

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) blessed women through his teachings and traditions. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) was very particular on improving the condition of women in society and on securing a position of dignity and fair treatment for them.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) understood why women acted as they did. Hadrat Abū Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) said, “Treat women kindly. Woman has been created from a rib and the most curved part is its uppermost portion. If you try to straighten it, you will break it, and if you leave it alone, you will benefit from it despite its bow. So treat women kindly” (Bukhāri and Muslim). Accordingly, man should treat her kindly, regardless of her feminine quality, as the Prophet has advised.

Abu Hurairah also relates that the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) has said, “Let no Muslim man entertain any rancor against a Muslim woman. Should he dislike one quality in her, he would find another which is pleasing.”

At one point, the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) admonished men and told them that those who treated women with unkindness could never win the favor of God.

Thereafter, the rights of women were established, and for the first time, women began to be treated as free individuals in their own right.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) has required equal rights for men and women. Before the advent of

Islam, women, as a class, enjoyed no statutory rights. Islam is the sole religion which established perfect guidelines—giving full protection to the rights of women, making them equals of men both in the spiritual and religious acts of life, giving them an independent position, granting them proprietary rights, and making their responsibilities and rights a part of the divine law. Islam has given women the rights to work, gain inheritance, attain wealth, own property, and to terminate a marriage (divorce).

Just before the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)’s death, one of the directives he gave to Muslims, and laid stress upon, was that they should always treat women with kindness and consideration. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) was so careful of the feelings and sentiments of women, that he always strongly urged those who had to undertake a journey to finish their errands quickly and return home as soon as possible so that their wives and children should not suffer separation longer than was necessary.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) even goes to say, “The most perfect of believers in the matter of faith is he whose behavior is the best, and the best of you are those who behave best towards their wives.”

In one Hadith, when asked whom a man should treat kindly, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) is reported to have replied, “To your mother.” When asked a second time, he again said “To your mother.” When asked a third time, he once again replied, “To your mother.” Only when being asked a fourth time did he reply, “To your father.” Thus, the Prophet pointed out the high status and role of a mother in Islam. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam) emphasized how important it is for a Muslim to take care of his/her mother and to give the utmost respect to her needs and desires.

Islam and its Prophet have brought to women an increased spiritual status, economic status, and intellectual status. Through the Holy Prophet of Islam's teachings, ways, and advice, women have been blessed by being able to attain an important part in society and being able to enjoy rights that other women today are still fighting for. The rights of women were safeguarded by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam), as he himself, carried out the commands of Allah and treated women with great honor, kindness, and dignity, and, by doing so, set an example for the future treatment of women.



Children's Saturday Classes

Faiq Malik, Age 11, Fairfax, VA

I would like to tell you about my classes at the mosque. At first I did not know my salāt that well. Then I heard that there was going to be Saturday classes at the mosque. The first time I went, I learned more than my brother who had known more than I had. So I thought if I keep going to the mosque every Saturday for class, I could learn more about Allah Ta'āla Hadith, and salat. So I began going to class every Saturday with my cousins and other members of the jama'at. I became better and better at my salat and now I know my full salat. I also learned that there are ahadith for certain things, and that ahadith are the sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Now I am one of the people who knows salat fully and I am learning so much more. And the reason why is because I kept going to class at the mosque on Saturdays.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad Poem (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

Fauzia Asad, MD

The Holy Prophet was born in Mecca, in Saudi Arabia
His mother’s name was Āmina, his father’s was ‘Abdullah

*Muhammad brought us the Qur’an
Revealed to him by Allah
sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam
May peace be upon him!*

The Holy Prophet went to Hirā to think about Allah;
The angel Jibra’īl appeared and said to him, “Iqra”

*Muhammad brought us the Qur’an
Revealed to him by Allah
sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam
May peace be upon him!*

Allah Ta‘ala chose Muhammad to bring his word to everyone;
Within the pages of this book are answers good for anyone!

*Muhammad brought us the Qur’an
Revealed to him by Allah
sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam
May peace be upon him!
Sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam
May peace be upon him!*

Missing in America
Or
So Said the Holy Prophet
Muhammad,
sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam

Musa Asad, Ellicott City, MD

*Recited at the 2001 Khuddam Ijtema
as part of the English Poem Competition*

Land of Opportunity, Land of the Beautiful
Economic Powerhouse, Envy of the World
What Could be Missing
From This Country so Plentiful

Be a Doctor, Be an Engineer, Be a Lawyer
Be All That You Can Be
Investments, Residences, Mercedes Benz
To What End, What’s it All For?

Success is a Millionaire
Is It? What’s Missing in America?
Whoever Spends in the Cause of Allah
Seven Times More the Reward To Be There
So Said the Holy Prophet Muhammad
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

The Best Are The Strongest, The Richest
Are They? What’s Missing in America?

Who Are The Best Among You?
The Kindest to His Family Is He Who Is Best
So Said the Holy Prophet Muhammad
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

Carpe Diem, Live for the Day
This is Alive? What’s Missing in America?
Who is the Living Compared to the Dead?
He Who Remembers Allah, He Who Prays
So Said the Holy Prophet Muhammad
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

It’s All About Me; Forget the Rest
Is there Nothing More? What’s Missing in America?
Your Mother, Your Mother, Then Father and Next of Kin
It is These Who Deserve to be Treated the Best
So Said the Holy Prophet Muhammad
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

Nothing Else Matters, Just the Bottom Line
Is there Nothing More? What’s Missing in America?
Most Pleasing to Allah –
Prayers on Time and to Parents be Kind
So Said the Holy Prophet Muhammad
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

Indeed! The Land of Plenty is Less Than it Seems
Faith Above All is Missing in America
Hold Allah Dearer Over All Else
May This Be the Goal of All Our Dreams
So Said Our Master, Muhammad Mustafa
(sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam)

Accomplishments of Hadrat Musleh Mau'ūd's Khilafat

Aasim Ahmad-Rahman, Age 13, Zion, IL

On January 12, 1889 in Qadian, the Promised son of the Promised Messiah, and later, the second khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was born. Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad was the eldest of the five surviving children of the Promised Messiah from his second marriage. Throughout his childhood and early youth, Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad suffered from chronic bad health and always fared poorly in his school exams. But he took a deep and special interest in the Holy Qur'an. Later in his life, Hadrat Musleh Mau'ūd not only studied the religious literature of Islam, but also developed an unusual comprehension and mastery of numerous scientific, economic, and political disciplines.

When the Promised Messiah passed away, Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad was only 19 years old. He stood by the side of his holy father's body and made a pledge in these words:

“If all others should leave you and I should be left alone, yet I will stand against the whole world and shall not heed any opposition or hostility.”

Later events will show that both his resolve in the face of difficulties and his commitment to the cause of Ahmadiyyat were fulfilled in the most elegant manner.

On March 13, 1914, the First Successor of the Promised Messiah, Maulavi Nūruddīn, passed away and the newly born Ahmadiyya Movement was faced with a crisis. They had to elect the next khalifa, the second successor of the Promised Messiah. As

we all know, that man was Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad.

Immediately after taking over the office of khilafat, Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad intensified the missionary work of the Ahmadiyya Movement. As a result of this effort, a number of new missions were opened in foreign countries such as the U.S., African countries, Indonesia, Japan, Burma, Spain, Switzerland, and West Germany.

In November of 1934, Khalifatul-Masih II initiated the scheme of Tehrik-i-Jadid. Under the 25 demands of this scheme, the Ahmadiyya Community was urged to lead a simple life, to make sacrifices in the cause of Islam, and to volunteer their lives for missionary work. This scheme was initially proposed for a three-year-period, but was made permanent very soon.

In 1958, Hadrat Musleh Mau'ūd set up the organization of Waqf-i-Jadid to carry out the missionary work in Pakistan. Waqf-i-Jadid serves to encourage volunteers to dedicate their lives to educate the rural population of the country, and to teach them the true religion of Islam.

For the better functioning of the members of the Community, Khalifatul-Masih II established various organizations for the different age groups. The male members of the Community were divided into three age groups:

Atfal-ul-Ahmadiyya for boys 7-15 years old

Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya for the youth 15-40 years old

Ansarullah for men above the age of 40

Similarly, the female members of the Community were organized into:

Nasirāt-ul-Ahmadiyya for girls 7-15 years of age

Lajna Imāillah for ladies above the age of 15

This organization of the Ahmadiyya Community into various classes and age groups greatly helped in promoting affectionate ties of mutual brotherhood and sisterhood.

In 1922, Hadrat Musleh Mau'ūd set up a consultative body to advise the Khalifa on many important matters related to finance, budget, education, missionary projects, and other affairs of the community. The advisory body formally meets every year.

In India, Islam was a much despised religion and slanderous remarks were frequently made against the character of the Holy Prophet of Islam (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam). To create public awareness of the true teachings of Islam and of the real character of Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam), Khalifatul-Masih II introduced public meetings in which representatives of other faiths were invited to give speeches on the life and work of the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam). These gatherings were very successful in spreading the message of Islam and improving interfaith relations.

The 52-year-long period of Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad's khilafat gave the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam great stability and visionary guidance. An increase in missionary work, Tehrik-i-Jadid, Waqf-i-Jadid, the grouping of community members, forming a consultative body for the khalifa, and improving interfaith relations all contributed in making the Ahmadiyya Community progress in leaps and bounds.

Disclaimer: The material presented herein reflects the original content of the authors. To the extent possible, Al Hilal staff have attempted to screen the material for accuracy and appropriateness but some oversights may have occurred. If the reader identifies a mistake and/or would like to comment on some of the material, please contact Al Hilal staff.

Waqf-i-Nau Children: Special Mujāhidīn and Leaders of the Next Century

Dr. Sadiqa Mian, Boston, MA

It is the desire of every Muslim to win the love of Allah and to be among his favorite people. We try to achieve this by following the commandments of Allah and by following the examples of his beloved men and women. One way to win the love of Allah is to sacrifice what we have in His way. This could be money in the form of charity, or our lives in the form of time spent in the service of Islam. But Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

لَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تُحِبُّونَ

lan ta-nā-lul-bir-ra hat-tā tun-fi-qū mim-mā tu-hib-būn

You cannot attain to righteousness unless you spend out of what you love (3:93)

And one thing that parents love most is their children. It has been the tradition of Prophets and beloved men of Allah to offer their most beloved possession, their children, in the way of Allah. We have the example of Hadrat Ibrāhīm [Abraham] (‘alaihissalām) who was willing to sacrifice his beloved son Ismā’īl [Ishmael] (‘alaihissalām) to please Allah. There have been prophets like Hadrat Zakariyya (‘alaihissalām) who prayed for a child so that they may offer him in the way of Allah. Mother of Hadrat Maryam (‘alaihissalām) prayed to Allah to accept whatever child she was going to have, be it a boy or a girl.

Allah was so pleased with these people that he granted them His love and promised them success and happiness in this world and the next. The sacrifice of Hadrat Ibrāhīm [Abraham] (‘alaihissalām)

and his obedient son Ismā'īl [Ishmael] (‘alaihissalām) made Allah very happy and now every year Muslims all over the world celebrate *‘Īd-ul-a ḍḥiyya* [*‘Īd-ul-a ḍḥā*] to commemorate his sacrifice. Allah enjoyed the prayer of the mother of Hadrat Maryam so much that he preserved it in the Holy Qur’an in for people of all time to read:

رَبِّ اِنِّي نَذَرْتُ لَكَ مَا فِي بَطْنِي مُحَرَّرًا فَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي

rab-bi in-nī na-zar-tu la-ka mā fī bat-nī mu-har-ra-ran fa ta-qab-bal min-nī

“My Lord I have vowed to thee what is in my womb to be dedicated to Thy service. So do Thou accept it from me.” (3:36)

Thus we see that offering their beloved children has always been the practice of prophets and holy men and women. And we also see what noble fruits it brought for the children and their families.

In the same spirit and following the example of these noble people, parents of Waqf-i-Nau children offered their beloved children to Allah, on the call of our beloved Imam, Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, ayyadahullāh.

In a Friday sermon on 3 April 1987, Hudūr announced the blessed scheme of Waqf-i-Nau. He urged Ahmadis to offer their yet to be born children in the way of Allah. He called these children a gift from our century to the next. He explained that the next century would be the century of the dominance of Islam and we need to offer our contribution to that great time of glory and success. We are already making monetary and other sacrifices, but the time has come when we should also offer the ultimate sacrifice of offering our children to Allah. They would be our gifts to Allah in the new era of dominance of Islam.

Huḍūr has explained that it has already been prophesized that the next century will be the century of Islam and waqf-i-nau will cater to the needs of the world regarding Islam. We will need leaders and workers and preachers for this great time. We are preparing these little soldiers for the service of Islam so they are our Little Mujāhidīn; who will fight in the way of Allah peacefully with their tongue, pen, time, wealth and life, to spread the message of Allah to all corners of the world. It has been thirteen years since the announcement of this blessed scheme and we have already begun to see signs of the great victory of Islam. Every year at the time of ‘Ālamī bai‘at (*international initiation ceremony*) we see hundreds of thousands of people entering the fold of Islam. These people come from all parts of the world, depicting what is said in the Holy Qur’an:

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ
وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا

i-dhā jā-’a nas-rul-lā-hi wal-fat-h. wa ra-’ai-tan-nā-sa yad-khu-lū-na fi dī-nil-lā-hi af-wā-jā

“When the help of Allah comes and the victory, and thou seest men entering the religion of Allah in troops.” (110:2-3)

These people are entering Ahmadiyyat in the form of small armies. The day is not far when the entire world will enter the fold of Islam. As the waqf-i-nau children grow up, they have to guide these people. They have to be the leaders in that new world who will bring the message of Islam to them, train them and make them good and pious Ahmadi Muslims. To be a leader is no easy task and Waqf-i-Nau children need to be educated and trained in a manner that they would be able to handle the enormous responsibility that Allah has chosen them for. Our beloved Imām, ayyadahullāh, and jamā‘at offers guidelines and instructions on how to achieve the daunting task of being a good Waqf-i-Nau child.

Thus you can see, the Waqf-i-Nau children, are not like ordinary children. They have been offered for *waqf* on the urging of our beloved Imām, and following the tradition of the great prophets of Allah. The purpose of their lives is to spread the message of Allah to the entire world. They have to gather humanity under the flag of Allah and Hadrat Muhammad, sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam.

Waqf-i-Nau children should be proud of being born as these special children—as the leaders and Mujāhids of tomorrow. May Allah accept the waqf of these special children and may He enable them to be the children our beloved Imām, Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, ayyadahullāh, had envisioned the Waqf-I-Nau children to be. Āmīn.

We want to hear from you!

Children are encouraged to send their writings for publication in this magazine. Please mention your full name, age, city and state. If you want to send a picture or artwork, please send the original. If you want the original back, please write your address on the back of the artwork with the note: “Please send this back to” followed by your address. The Children’s Magazine Committee, under the supervision of the Amir, Jama‘at Ahmadiyya, U.S.A., will review and approve all submissions before publication.

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Subscription:

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Zion Bismillah Camp

August 12, 2001 - August 18, 2001

Salma Ghani, Philadelphia, PA

The daily scene at the Bismillah Camp in the Zion Mission House from August 12th-18th consisted of 44 Christian and 22 Ahmadi children between the ages of five and ten years. The children (separated into several boy and girl groups) were involved in a spectrum of activities that included: using wood glue and paint to make toys and other items from wooden popsicle sticks and discussing the importance of honesty and truthfulness and how to develop these characteristics in themselves.

During the day the campers played football, jumped rope and watched cartoon videos related to politeness or respect. Some groups developed a puppet show on the concept of cooperation, while others made collages of healthy foods or competed in





assembling large cardboard jig-saw puzzles. At the end of the camp each group produced its own news TV show and aired it on closed-circuit television. All of the activities were related to character building of different aspects: truthfulness, politeness, sharing, forgiveness, responsibility, kindness, compassion and cooperation.

This is a brief summary of the five-day summer camp designed specifically for Christian children by Lajna Imaillah, USA, as a contribution to the Zion Project to serve the community located near the Zion Mission House. The summer camp was well accepted and appreciated by the parents of the community and was a learning experience for Christian and Muslim children.

The camp was such a success that parents who did not enroll their children this year because of our lack of space have already asked permission for their children to be at the top of the list for enrollment next year.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam)

Leila Abbasi, Age 11

Y T M U Y Y A Q A O R M N B S
 Z A E Y M X R P U E R U A S L
 V B B H V U I R V R K S Z E O
 U U A U P S H E X T A L A S D
 M S X N H R L A R A B I A N I
 M U U U I A P C M A U M S L S
 E F B B T M R H M M B Q J H L
 K Y A I S A A I B R A H I M A
 A A O L L D T N R D J D S K M
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 O D A M A N H U S S A I N B C
 O E S U D K L Q B I H D A E C
 M M A B A Y Y A T A K A T U E
 U Q H A L L U D B A K H D O M

LIST OF WORDS

ABDULLAH	ABUBAKR	ABUSUFYAN	ABUTALIB
AHAD	AISHA	ALI	ALLAH
AMINA	ARAB	ARABIA	ARABIAN
AZAN	FATIMA	HADITH	HASAN
HIRA	IBRAHIM	IDOLS	ISLAM
KAABA	KHADIJA	KHANDAQ	MECCA
MEDINA	MUHAMMAD	MUSLIM	PREACHING
QAYYUM	QURAIISH	RAMADAAN	REVELATIONS
SALAT	SUNNAT	TAYYAB	

UMMEKALSOOM (Ummi Kalthūm)

Send your solutions to the puzzle with your name, age, city, and state to Sajid, 5539 Firethorn, Boise, ID 83716. We will give the solutions to the puzzle in the next issue and the names of the children with correct solutions.

My Experiences in the Children’s Tent at USA Jalsa Salana 2001

Sabrina Asad, Age 6, MD

I was very excited when I heard there was going to be a Children’s Tent for my age. In last year’s Children’s Tent, I had a really fun time, so I knew I was going to have a great time this year as well.

When I got to the Children’s Tent, after registration, I was placed in the 5 to 7 age group. The name of my group was “Al-Hādī,” which means “The Guide.” There were about twelve Muslim boys and girls in my group. I had a group leader and an assistant that helped us in our fun activities.

The first activity was decorating our folders. On my folder I wrote my name, drew a picture of myself, and drew things in nature that Allah created. Then my group played a name game so we could



learn each other's names. We then went over the rules of the Children's Tent. There were 5 to 10 year olds in the Tent. We had over 70 children in the whole tent.

We did several fun arts and crafts activities on Islam. We colored a booklet on the Five Pillars of Islam, made a Zakāt Bank for collecting money, created a book on the Holy Prophet's (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam) wives and designed our own sisterhood/brotherhood dolls. When the dolls were connected together, the girl dolls spelled the word, "SISTERHOOD," while the boy dolls spelled the word, "BROTHERHOOD." My favorite activity was making the book on the Wives of the Holy Prophet (sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam) because I was able to make pretty



designs around each of the wife's names and then put it together to make my very own book.

While I was in the Children's Tent, I was able to be with my friends and cousins. We offered our Prayers together, ate lunch together, listened to a beautiful Lajna speech on Sisterhood as well as listened to the Holy Qur'an Talawat on TV, and played together. I was able to take home all of my activities that I had worked on in the Tent. I made lots of new friends that I would probably not have made were I not a part of the Children's Tent. Insha'allah, we will keep having a Children's Tent for us Ahmadi Children every year. I can't wait for next year's Jalsa Salana USA! Alhamdulillah!!!

Impressions of a Summer Camp

San Jose Nasirat Camp, July 15, 2001 – July 21, 2001

One chilly summer night all of the Nasirat came to the Baitul-Baseer Masjid for the Nasirat camp. From Tahajjud to Isha salāt we all stayed at the masjid.

Fariha Mirza, Age 14

We were scheduled for a morning walk at 4:45 AM after Fajr salāt. At this point in the morning it was very cold and dark. Just imagine us half asleep and groggy, in weird looking PJs, marching outside in the pitch dark with big jackets, messy hair, flowing dupattas (head covers) and uncoordinated steps.

Mehwish Mirza, Age 16

There were many things I liked about Nasirat camp. First of all, I loved all of the handicraft activities: cross-stitch, painting pots and fabric painting... I also loved many of the workshops. One I really enjoyed was on persecution. We were told how Ahmadi Muslims are treated in Pakistan and how they still suffer. It was very sad and I got so mad.

Sidra Haiy, Age 11



We had great workshops on people like Sir Chaudhry Zafrulla Khan... and Hadrat Maulana Hakim Nuruddin... We went to Golfland and I had a great time because I was with my terrific friends.

Eamon Chaudhry, Age 16

What I really liked about summer camp was the tee shirt painting. We started out with a plain white tee shirt. Everybody had a different design. We used stencils and stamps.

Hamaila Qureshi, Age 9

From homesickness to humorous moments, San Jose's first week long camp was very successful. Though we have some issues to work out, we know for next time. I believe that I am very privileged to have spent a week in the remembrance of Allah.

Khullat Munir, Age 14

The influence of Noor Class on the North Jersey Jama‘at

Annus Ahmad, Age 14, North New Jersey, NJ

So far the North New Jersey “Noor class” has been a great help. Every Saturday Atfal and Khudam come to Noor class. After everyone arrives we offer salāt in congregation and then we start our class.

Most of the Atfal and Khudam have learned the first 10 and last 10 verses of Surah Kahf with the correct pronunciation, taught to us by our great teacher.

We’ve also learned many du‘ās that we’re supposed to say daily, like the prayer for waking up, the prayer for doing wudū, the prayer for starting a meal and so on.

Now we are learning different hadith of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam); our goal is to learn 40 hadith.

Noor Class isn’t only about learning, we are all making great friends there. After we finish learning for the day, we all sit together and eat pizza or whatever most of the people wanted to eat. Then we all clean up together and after the kids play for a while.

I think Noor Class is a great place for learning and making friends.

Hundred Years Ago

The year 1901 was the first year of general census in India. Every one was to be counted from this year forward, from present-day Bangladesh to present-day Pakistan including present-day India. Though the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was young at this time, the followers of the Promised Messiah, 'alaihissalam, were spread all over the vast Indian Empire. Everyone's religion was also to be recorded in 1901. Just one year before, the Promised Messiah, 'alaihissalam, had announced that the name of his community was Jamā'at Ahmadiyya.

The Holy Prophet, sallallāhu 'alaihi wa sallam, had two names, Muhammad and Ahmad. The name Muhammad was his "jalālī" (awe-inspiring) name, prophesizing that he would use force in defense to counter enemy attack. Ahmad was his "jamālī" (love-inspired) name, prophesizing that he would spread peace and harmony. The name of our community is "Ahmadiyya," to reinforce our claim of spreading peace and harmony and shunning war and hostility.



April 11, 1900 was the blessed day of 'Īd-ul-Adhā, the yearly Islamic festival celebrating the sacrifice of Hadrat Ibrāhīm. This day carried additional blessings for Islam and Ahmadiis. The Promised Messiah delivered the Eid khutba in Arabic with support and inspiration from the Almighty. Some of the words and sentences of the khutba were revealed to the Promised Messiah, 'alaihissalām, while he was delivering the khutba. This khutba was published in August 1901, a hundred years ago, with some additional material accompanying the original khutba. This khutba fulfilled one of his revelations, "Eloquence in speech [has been] bestowed [on you] by Allah the Almighty."

Just for Kids

Solution to Last Issue's Puzzle

Myriam Shaikh, San Francisco, CA

Correct Answers were sent by:

Sandeena Ahmed, Bloomfield, NJ.	Farah Awan, Age 9, Boston, MA.
Wajiha Chaudary, Age 9, Boston, MA.	Maliha Chaudhry, Age 12, Boston, MA.
Muzdah Saman Malik, Age 10, Everett, WA.	Saad Ismail Malik, Age 7, Corning, NY.
A Musawar, Boston, MA.	Aiesha Parwaz, Age 8, Boston, MA.
Amtul. Musawar Saeed, Age 12, Boston, MA.	Raabia Waraich, Age 13, Chino, CA.

Jazakumullah for your participation

Clues Across:

1. Name of the Holy Prophet: Muhammad (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam). 4. A Pillar of Islam: Kalima (also kalimah). 6. First Prophet of God: Adam (Ādam). 7. One of the five daily Prayers: Zuhr. 8. Call to Prayer: Azan (Adhān). 9. First letter of Arabic Alphabet: alif. 10. A Pillar of Islam: salāt. 15. The Holy Prophet’s (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam) Uncle: Abū Tālib. 16. God in Arabic: Allah. 17. Country where the Holy Prophet (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam) was born: Arabia. 19. You can read stories about this Prophet in the Bible: Jesus.

Clues Down:

1. City where Holy Prophet (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam) was born: Mecca. 2. Name of Holy Prophet (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam) Mother: Aamina (Āmina) 3. Name of Holy Prophet (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam) Father: ‘Abdullah. 5. One of the five prescribed Prayers: Asr. 11. One of the four Caliphs who followed the Holy Prophet (sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam): ‘Ali. 12. One of the five formal Prayers: Fajr. 13. Muslim Festival: Eid (‘Īd). 14. Pilgrimage: Hajj. 18. Second letter of Arabic Alphabet: ba.

1	M	U	H	A	M	A	D	K	A	L	I	M	A	
	E			A					S					
	C			M	6	A	A		R		7	U	H	R
	C			I										
8	A	Z	A	N		A	L			9	A	L	A	T
				A			I							
13	E		14	H										
	I		16	A			B		J					
	D		J	J				17	R		18	I	A	
			19	J	E	S			A		A			

Back to School

Sumia Ahmad, Age 12, MD

It's that time again... school! That means waking up early, packing lunch and worst of all, HOMEWORK! Some parents think it's great, because kids will be doing something they can benefit from. No more sleeping in, no more barbecues, no more fireworks, and no more TV watching 24/7. Now parents probably want to know about great bargains for school supplies and things like that. Well, some great places to get school supplies are Staples, Office Depot, Office Max, CVS, Target, K-Mart and WalMart. Most grocery or drug stores have school supplies, too. It may be a good thing for parents to get school supplies asap (as soon as possible), because if you shop late the quality won't be that great. Parents remember: SHOP FOR BARGAINS!

I recently polled kids in grades Kindergarten through 12. They were each asked the following two questions:

- Are you looking forward to school starting?*
Possible Responses:
a. Yes b. No c. Sort of
- How much heavier do you think your backpack will be?*
Possible Responses:
a. one to two pounds heavier
b. three to four pounds heavier
c. five or more pounds heavier

Here are the results:

Are you looking forward to school starting?

Yes	No	Sort of	Total
4 kids	7 kids	10 kids	21 kids

How much heavier do you think your backpack will be?

One to two pounds heavier	Three to four pounds heavier	Five or more pounds heavier	Total
15 kids	4 kids	2 kids	21 kids

As you can see, kids sort of want to go to school but some just want to stay home. You can also see that many kids expect that their backpack will be getting heavier this year. I hope you enjoyed reading my article.

Glossary

Adhān, Azān اذان : Call for formal Islamic Prayer.

Aḥmadiyyat احمديت : Muslim sect believing Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad to be the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, peace be on him

Aḥmadi احمدی : A follower of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

'alaihissalam: peace be on him

Āmīn آمين : amen, so be it.

Amīr, Ameer امير Commander, Head

Assalamu 'alaikum: peace be on you

baīt بيت : house

Bukhārī: بخاری : The most reliable source of the sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

Hadith حديث : Saying of the Holy Prophet Mohammad, sallallahu alaihi wasallam.

Ḥaḍrat, Hazrat: حضرت : His Holiness

inshā'allah ان شاء الله : God willing

Ijtimā', Ijtema اجتماع : Rally.

Khalifatul-Masih خليفة المسيح : Successor to the Promised Messiah, 'alaihissalam.

Majlis مجلس : Society, organization.

Muṣliḥ-i-Mau'ud, Musleh Mau'ood: مصلح موعود (The Promised Reformer): Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashiruddin Maḥmud Aḥmad (1889-1965), Khalifatul-Masih II, raḍiyallāhu 'anhu, who fulfilled the prophesy of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, about the advent of a Reformer.

Nazm: نظم poem

raḍiyallāhu 'anhu: رضى الله عنه : May Allah be pleased with him.

Ṣadr صدر : President.

Ṣāḥibzadah: صاحبزاده Son of a respected person, respected gentleman.

ṣalāt صلوة : Formal Prayer offered according to a prescribed procedure.

sallallāhu 'alaihi wasallam صلى الله عليه وسلم : peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

Wassalām (was-sa-lām) والسلام : and (greetings of) peace.

Hands

Nadia Qazi, Chicago, IL

*Around the world
the hands gather,
Interlocking fingers,
Brother to Brother.*

*A shining tower
spreads light.*

*The four corners of the world
are big and bright.
And each brotherly hand
belongs to a smiling face
as they bend their heads
and say their grace.*



Al-Hilal
(Published by The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, U.S.A.)
15000 Good Hope Rd, Siver Spring MD 20905
Postmaster: Send address changes to
P.O. Box 226, Chauncey, OH 45719

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