Assalāmu `Alaikum, Al-Hilāl Reader!

As you know, 2008 has been devoted to the celebration of Khilāfat. Our community is so lucky to have a supreme leader, appointed by Allah Ta`ālā, to help us each become the very best human beings possible.

So, what did you do this year for Khilāfat? Did you:

1. Learn at least one of the Khilāfat Centenary Prayers?
2. Write to the Khalīfatul-Masīḥ regularly?
3. Tell some of your friends about Islam, Ahmadiyyat and Khilāfat?
4. Go to U.S. Jalsa and were lucky to see our beloved Khalifatul-Masīḥ?
5. Travel to Canada Jalsa and were lucky to see our beloved Huzur?
6. Plan to go to Qadian to celebrate 2008 with our beloved Huzur, In-Shā-Allah?

If you did any of the above, great! If not, it’s not too late to be a part of the celebrations of 2008. Take some time to read the articles in this issue—they’re about Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III and Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV. These were outstanding men who radiated love for our community, particularly kids.

Whether you’re a Ţifl or a Nāṣirah, your duty is the same—to protect Khilāfat. Let’s pray that we can carry out this duty in a way that earns us the best reward possible, Allah’s pleasure. In-Shā-Allah.

Wassalām and enjoy!
Rabia Chaudhry for Al-Hilāl Editorial Staff
IN THIS ISSUE

Khilāfat—Fatima Zahra Siddiqui—4
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Amirah Ṭāhir—5
Need for Khilāfat—Anam Malik—6
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Auroba Kahloon—7
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Saima Rahman—8
The Third and Fourth Khulafa—Ayeza Jamil—10
Why I am an Ahmadi—Alina Ahmed—17
Books of Allah—Amatul Hayee Mariyum—18
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir ʿAḥmad—Tooba Nāṣir Malik—19
Khilāfat Poster—Adeel Ahmed—20
The Third Khalifah—Daanyal Qureshi—21
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Kashif Ibrahim—24
A Retired Engineer—Zohaib Baig—25
The Life of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Kaleem Shahzad—27
The Life of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmado—Naveed ur Rahman—28
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir ʿAḥmad—Omar Ahmed—30
Our fourth Khalifah—Saba Amjad—32
Ḥaḍrat Ḥāfīz Mirzā Nāṣir ʿAḥmad—Danial Ahmed—34
The Fourth Khalifah—Attiya Zafar—35
I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the Earth—
Aaliya Sowerdary—36

Editorial—2
About Al-Hilal—26

Front Cover Design By: Shoeb Abulkalam
Allah has promised to the believers that those who believe and do good deeds, He will surely make them successors and that He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear. The blessed institution of Khilāfah is a mercy upon mankind and requires obedience in everything good. Allah guides the hand of the Khalifah and we must obey him in everything good. If a believer does not remain obedient to Allah's appointed leader, then how can he remain attached to the rope of Allah? Obeying the Khalifah demands much sacrifice from a believer, but the benefits are great. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) said, “He who obeys me, obeys God; and he who disobeys me, disobeys God; and he who obeys the Amīr, obeys me; and he who disobeys the Amīr, disobeys me.”
Hadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmad, (may Allah’s mercy be on him) was a man who will not be forgotten. His achievements are countless. Not only are his accomplishments great, his personality was ideal. Ḥadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) founded the scheme of Waqf-i-Nau, a system for which there are children dedicated to Ahmadiyyat. Ḥadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) also established MTA (Muslim Television Ahmadiyya). His personality was truly dynamic. His sincerity for the young and old, and his taqwa (fear of God) was amazing. Ḥadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) was extremely kind and intelligent. His Q&A sessions on MTA are so interesting to watch, as his answers are so pure and wise. When he was chosen as Khalīfah, he was sitting in the back near the shoe area. Overall, he was a role model that we all should look up to.
Khilāfat. What a beautiful word. It means one who comes after, as a deputy or successor to fulfill the mission of a prophet assigned by God Almighty.

Khilāfat is one of the most beneficial accomplishments for Islām, especially in Aḥmadiyyat. A big question that arises is—why there is a need for Khilāfat? This important question has a simple answer. The reason that Khilāfat is important is because it provides unity, security, and progress for the community.

The first system of Khilāfat, the Khilāfat-i-Rāshidah, which means the Rightly guided Khilāfat, was established by Allah after the demise of Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), when Allah appointed Ḥaḍrat Abū Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him) to be the first successor. Over time, Muslims eventually lost the blessings of Khilāfat, and upon the death of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), Allah again restored the institution of Khilāfat.

Many Muslims do not understand the need for Khilāfat and today the Muslim world is split and torn in conflict with each other. Innocent people are being killed in the name of Jihād. It is common sense that without harmony and unity, it is impossible to practice the teachings of Islām, one of them being to make peace with your brothers. No other sect in Islām has such strong leadership, nor enjoys such unity and devotion among its followers as the Aḥmadiyya Muslim
Community.

Khilāfat establishes the authority of Allah on earth. Allah says in the Holy Qurʾān,

“Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them: and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them: and He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear: They will worship Me, and they will not associate anything with Me. Then whoso is ungrateful after that, they will be rebellious.” (Chapter 24 [Sūrah Al-Nūr], Verse 56)

Allah the Almighty says in this verse that God makes Khalifahs for the benefit of Muslims. Khilāfat is a great Divine blessing that has been bestowed on the Ahmadis and we should cherish it and be grateful to Allah, and continue to pray for the Khilāfat.

This year we are celebrating 100 years of Khilāfat. The present Khalīfah is our Fifth Khalīfah, but I am going to write about the Fourth: Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him. He was born in Qadian on December 18, 1928, and was the son of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashiruddīn Mahmūd Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him).

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad obtained his high school education in 1944 at Ta‘лимūl-Islām High School in
Qadian. Then, for his secondary education, he attended Government College in Lahore. He made a great effort to assist in presenting Ahmadiyya beliefs in July and August of 1974. He was a member of the Jamā’ats delegation headed by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masih III (may Allah’s mercy be on him). When Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) passed away, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad was elected as the Fourth Khalīfah on June 10, 1982.

On October 16, 1992 he inaugurated the Baitul-Islām Mosque in Toronto, Canada. At that time, it was the largest mosque in North America. The ceremony included his leading the Friday Prayer. This was the first time that a Friday sermon was transmitted live to all continents of the world.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) passed away in April of 2003. He achieved many great accomplishments in his life, Ma-Sha-Allah.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad is our Fourth Khalīfah. He was born in Qadian on December 18, 1928. He was the son of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashîruddîn Mâhmûd Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masih II, may Allah be pleased with him, from his third wife Ḥaḍrat Sayyidah Maryam Begum, may Allah be pleased with her. His grandfather was a companion of the Promised
Messiah, peace be upon him. Ḥadrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, obtained his high school education in 1944 at Ta’līmul-Islām High School. He also served as Ṣadr Majlis Khuddāmul-Aḥmadiyya from 1966-1969. After the sad demise of Ḥadrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him), Ḥadrat Mirzā Tāhir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) was elected Khalīfatul-Masīh IV on June 10, 1982.

On September 10, 1982, he inaugurated the historic Masjid Bashārat at Pedroabad, Spain, the first Mosque to be built in that country in at least 500 years. Also, when he was Khalīfah, MTA was established, and a large number of people accepted Aḥmadiyyat every year!!! Ma-Sha-Allah, amazing isn’t it?

He was one of our beloved Khulafā, and will always be alive in our memories!

Subscription
$8/year in the US, $16/year elsewhere. Libraries can request free subscriptions on the condition that the copy is displayed or kept in the library. Send all requests to Syed Sajid Ahmad
E-mail: syedsajidahmad@yahoo.com
National HQ: Al-Hilal, 15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905 USA
In this article, I will talk about the lives of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad and Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad, may Allah be pleased with their accomplishments and their teachings.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad was the third Khalīfah. He was born on November 16, 1909. From his early childhood, he was brought up by Ḥaḍrat Amma Jān, (may Allah be pleased with her). When he was only thirteen years of age, he had memorized the entire Holy Qur’ān. He learned Arabic and Urdu from Ḥaḍrat Maulawi Sarwar Shah (may Allah be pleased with him). He was then admitted to Madrasa Aḥmadiyya to further his religious education. After completing his course of study in theological and oriental studies (Maulawi Al-Hilāl...
Fāḍil) he graduated from Government College, Lahore. In 1934, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the Punjab.

He was married to Ḥaḍrat Sayyidah Mansoora Begum, in August 1934. On September 6, 1934, the Second Khalifah sent him to England. Before his departure, the Khalifatul-Masîh gave him a long list of do’s and don’ts while in the UK. One piece of advice was:

“I am sending you to England so that you may fully grasp the Western point of view. It is your responsibility to find ways for serving Islām, and how to counter the evil attacks. Get to know all the weapons the Dajjāl is using against Islām.”

During his studies abroad at Oxford University, he earned a Masters of Arts degree. In his free time he was busy spreading the word of Islām. He also started the publication of Al-Islām magazine. He returned to India in November 1938.

After his return to India, he became the principal of Jāmi‘ah Ahmadiyya in 1939. He immigrated to Pakistan on November 16, 1947. During the anti-Ahmadiyya riots in Pakistan in 1953, he was held under the Martial Law regulations. He suffered many hardships during his imprisonment. He was set free on May 28, 1953.

On November 8th, 1965, he assumed the exalted position of the Third Khalifah of the Promised Messiah. This fulfilled the glad tiding, which Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd (may Allah be pleased with him) had received from God Almighty. He had announced on September 26, 1909:

“Allah has given me the glad tiding that I will be
blessed with a son who will be a Nāṣir-i-Deen (helper of faith). He will be committed to serving Islām." (History of Ahmadiyyat, Urdu, Vol. 4, page 320)

The Third Khalifah brought tremendous success to the Movement. The blessed period lasted for seventeen years. Some of the books, writings, or speeches by Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Ahmad are:

- Prayer of the Heart
- Obey and Love the Holy Prophet
- 23 Great Objectives of Building the House of Allah

Some of his achievements are:

- Fazl-i-Umar Foundation
- Waqf-i-Ārđī
- ‘Feed the Poor’ Project
- Nuṣrat Jahān Scheme
- Al-Aqṣā Mosque in Rabwah
- Centenary Jubilee Project

Remember, these are only a few of his many achievements. Let us look at some of these achievements in detail. The Fazl-i-Umar Foundation began when the Khalifatul-Masīh made an appeal on December 21, 1965, for the set-up of Fazl-i-Umar Foundation in memory of the Second Khalifah. The project got off to a flying start and in a short amount of time members contributed 3.4 million Rupees, which was over and above the obligatory donations. The purpose of this foundation was to enhance and carry on with the projects, started by the Second
A new Khilafat Library building in Rabwah was constructed, and this was one of the many projects the foundation helped.

The Khalifatul-Masih introduced Waqf-i-Ärđi Project on March 16, 1966. The purpose of this project was to promote the learning and teaching of the Holy Qur‘an, as well as teaching religious knowledge to local members. At their own expense under Waqfe-Ärdi, thousands of Aḥmadis are teaching Qur‘an to other members, making them better people.

The Khalifatul-Masih proposed that a network of food banks be created whereby no member of the Community should ever go hungry. This was the “Feed the Poor” project.

Under the Nuṣrat Jahān Project, Aḥmadis helped the underdeveloped countries by building hospitals, schools and providing service to African nations.

The Al-Aqṣā mosque was built and on March 31, 1972, the Khalifatul-Masih inaugurated the mosque in Rabwah, which can accommodate over 150,000 worshippers. The entire cost of the project, over 600,000 Rupees was paid by a single Ahmadi. Mā-Shā-Allāh.

The main purpose of the Centenary Jubilee Project was to bring the message of Islām to the corners of the Earth, to establish additional Aḥmadiyya Mission houses, to publish Islāmic literature in 100 different languages, to install a modern printing press in Pakistan, to establish a radio station in Africa, and to translate the Holy Qur‘an in six different languages. He asked members to contribute 2.5 million Rupees towards this project. The pledges however, were 4 times this amount.

Hadrat Mirzā Nāṣir Ahmad passed away in June
1982 after he suffered a heart attack while away from Rabwah. His body was brought back to Rabwah, where he was buried next to the tomb of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīruddīn Mehmūd Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him).

After Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad passed away, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) was elected. He grew up with righteousness and virtue under the guidance of his father and pious mother and with divine blessings. Once, during his childhood, he was asked by a well-known Ahmadi Savant, Maulānā Abdur-Rahīm Nayyar, "Which reward would you cherish most for doing good work?" "Allah—Only Allah," was the 10 year old’s answer. This shows that even as a child, the seeds were planted to become a righteous and loving man.

After completing his higher education, he dedicated his life to the service of faith. In October 1958, he was given charge of Waqf-i-Jadīd. From 1960 to 1969, he was vice-president and then president of Majlis Khuddām -ul-Aḥmadiyya in which he displayed remarkable qualities of leadership. From 1979 to 1982, he was president of Majlis Anṣārullāh. He served as the Director of Fazl-i-Umar Foundation in the time of Ḥaḍrat Khalifatul-Masīh III. He was the patron of the International Aḥmadiyya Association of Architects and Engineers (IAAAE). Allah had bestowed upon him extraordinary talents of public speaking and
writing. The books that he wrote are a great example of Ahmadiyya literature. Some of the well-known titles are: Murder in the name of Allah, What Ahmadiyyat Gave to the World, Christianity: A Journey from Fact to Fiction, and Absolute Justice Kindness and Kinship.

The Khalifatul-Masih stressed the importance of observing congregational Prayer Service. He dealt with this topic during Friday sermons. The first was the Friday Sermon of April 1, 1983 and in various sermons since November 8, 1985. On June 17, 1988 he once again stressed the need for establishing and strengthening communion with Allah through prayers. With Allah’s grace, may these exhortations produce good results and show improvement in the moral and spiritual standards of the Jamat.

“Modern” society has attacked the dignity of women under the illusion of equality. The manner in which Islam has safeguarded the honor and esteem of woman has been subjected to misplaced criticism. In his Question and Answer sessions and Press Conferences, The Khalifatul-Masih not only refuted this criticism, he also highlighted the true status of woman in Islam. He exhorted Ahmadi women to observe "Purdah" (parda, hijab, modesty) strictly and to safeguard Islamic values. He warned Ahmadi women about the perils of western culture and stressed the significance and importance of Islamic modesty.

Islam has very noble teachings about family life and the Holy Prophet was a model of moral excellence in this respect. Some people do not follow this good example and transgress Qur’anic teachings. In his Friday Sermon of February 14, 1986, the Khalifatul-Masih exhorted Ahmadies to completely root out this behavior from their daily lives and foster graciousness
between kindred and in-laws.

Aḥmadis, as a group, must stand out from others as comparatively free from the chains of un-Islāmic customs and superstitions. Shortcomings do arise at times and the Khalīfatul-Masīh has particularly laid stress to get rid of them. In his sermons, the Khalīfatul-Masīh enjoined the community to avoid giving dowries that are beyond their means, exchanging gifts on New Year’s Day or other similar customs.

Only one and a half month after becoming Khalīfah, the Khalīfatul-Masīh traveled to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, UK and Australia. He inaugurated the Bashārat Mosque; the first ever to be built in Spain in 750 years. He addressed 18 press conferences wherein he provided well-educated interpretation of Islāmic teachings.

For seven weeks in 1983 (Aug. 22 - Oct. 14), he visited Singapore, Fiji, Australia and Sri Lanka. Laying the foundation stone of Bait-ul-Huda mosque and Mission House at Sydney was a momentous event of this tour. He also addressed a crowded press conference at the University of Canberra where he expounded the beauty of Islāmic values. In December 1984, he undertook a tour of Holland, Germany and France. Plans for establishing big centers were discussed.

Haḍrat Mirzā Ẓāhir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, wrote many books including “Revelation Rationality Knowledge and Truth.” He had many accomplishments and the Aḥmadiyya Community grew under his leadership. He passed away on April 19, 2003. May Allah increase our knowledge about Islām and Aḥmadiyyat and may we all implement what we learn in our lives, Āmīn.
Ahmadies are the ones who follow Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad (peace be upon him) of Qadian India. He came under the Holy Prophet (peace be on him), 1400 years after, to revive Islām. The reason I am an Ahmadi is because I think my religion is the most beautiful and true religion ever. It teaches us the greatest things. It teaches us what is right and wrong. Being an Ahmadi gives me an identity and it make me feel very proud of myself. At the end, I would like to pray to Allah to enable us all to be good Ahmadies. Āmīn

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.
Belief in the books of Allah is one of the Articles of Faith. The message and guidance from Allah given to mankind through his Prophets, is called the books of Allah. We believe in all books of Allah such as Ṣuḥuf, Taurah, Zabūr, Injīl, and Holy Qur’ān. The Qur’ān is the last book of God. The Qur’ān has never been changed. Islām claims that the teachings of the Qur’ān are complete, perfect, and eternal.

Allah says in the Holy Qur’ān:
“This Messenger of Ours believes in that which has been revealed to him from his Lord, and so do the believers: all of them believe in Allah and in His Angels, and in his books, and in His Messengers.” (2:286)

After the Holy Qur’ān, no new teaching is required for the guidance of human beings. Our faith is not complete until and unless we believe in His books, as is described in the sayings of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him).

Hadrat Umar, may Allah be pleased with him, related that the Prophet of Allah said, ”Faith is that to believe in Allah, His Angels, His Books, His Prophets, the Day Of Judgment and in the decree of Allah. Our faith and practice, together make our religion complete."
Hadrat Mirzā Nāṣir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) is the Third Khalīfah of the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him. His Khilāfat period was from November 9th, 1965 to June 9th, 1982. He was born on November 16, 1909. His Father was the Second Khalīfah, Ḥadrat Mirzā Bashīruddīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad (may Allah be pleased with him).

Ḥadrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) became Ḥāfīz at the age of 13, when he completed the memorization of the Holy Qur’ān. He went to the Punjab University for his studies. In 1934 he also went to Government College in Lahore, Pakistan. Ḥadrat Mirzā Nāṣir Ahmad (may Allah’s mercy be on him) got married in 1934. From May 1944 to November 1965, he served as a principal at the Talīmul-Islām College. He announced the golden Islamic Motto, “Love For All, Hatred For None!”. He laid the Foundation Stone of Masjid Bashārat in Spain on Oct. 9, 1980. On May 26, he was taken ill and passed away on June 9th, 1982, at 12:45 p.m. On June 10th, Ḥadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad was elected the Fourth Khalīfah.
Children are encouraged to send their original writing for publication. Please include your full name, age, city, state and contact number when submitting an article as we may follow-up with the author for clarification. If you would like to send a picture or artwork, please send the original. If you would like the original returned, please include your full name and return address/postage along with this request.

The Children’s Magazine Committee, under the supervision of the Amīr, Jamā’at Aḥmadiyya, U.S.A., will review and approve all submissions before publication.

**E-mail Submissions to:**

thealhilal@yahoo.com
Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masih III, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was born on November 16, 1909. His birth was foretold to the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him by God Almighty in a revelation: “I shall give you a boy who will be your grandson.”

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīruddīn Mahmūd Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masīh II, may Allah be pleased with him, the father of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was also foretold by God Almighty that He would be given a son who will be Nāṣir (Helper) of Religion.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad became a Ḥāfīẓ of the Qur’an (memorized the entire Qur’an) at the age of thirteen. He obtained the degree of Maulawi Fādil in 1929 and graduated from Government College Lahore in 1934. He also obtained a masters degree from the Oxford University in England in 1938.

After returning from England, He started serving the Jamā’at in such duties as professor and then Principal of Jāmi’a Aḥmadiyya Qadian from 1939-1944. And later on he served as the principal of Ta’limul-Islām College in Rabwah, Pakistan, from 1944-1965.
He also served the Jamā'at as Ṣadr Majlis Khuddāmid-Ahmadiyya, Ṣadr Majlis Ansārullāh, and Ṣadr Anjuman Aḥmadiyya.

On November 8, 1965, when Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masih II, may Allah be pleased with him, passed away, Ḥadrat Mirzā Naṣīr Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was elected Khalifatul-Masih III by the Majlis Intikhab-i-Khilāfat, the electoral college which was established by the second Khalifah for the election of a Khalifah.

His Khilafat lasted for seventeen years in which he accomplished many things. I will mention some of his most prominent achievements.

Ḥadrat Mirzā Naṣīr Ahmad established the Fadl-i-Umar Foundation in December 21, 1965. This scheme was in memory of Ḥadrat Fadl-i-Umar, Khalifatul-Masih II, may Allah be pleased with him. The fund was used to promote activities which Ḥadrat Khalifatul-Masih II took great interest in, such as, in the fields of research work, education, missionary work, and economic welfare of the jamā'at. The Fadl-i-Umar Library was also established.

Ḥadrat Mirzā Naṣīr Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, visited seven countries of West Africa from April 4-June 8, 1970. After returning to Rabwah from his tour, he announced the Nuṣrat Jahān Scheme on June 12, 1970. He named this program after Ḥadrat Ummul-Mu’minīn, Sayyidah Nuṣrat Jahān, may Allah be pleased with her, the wife of the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him. He established this scheme for humanitarian reasons—to raise funds and to organize a large group of volunteers such as teachers and doctors for the establishment of hospitals and schools in West Africa.

By the Grace of Allah the Jamā’at responded to the Khalifatul-Masih’s appeal and in a very short period of time, 17 Medical Centers and 15 secondary schools were established in West African countries.

Another initiative Ḥadrat Mirzā Naṣīr Ahmad announced on the last day of Jalsa Salana, December 28, 1973, was the...
Centenary Jubilee Scheme. This scheme was not to only mark the 100 years of the existence of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Jamā‘at on March 23, 1989, but also was to plan an intensive program to be undertaken during the next century for the spreading of Islām.

Under this scheme, he wanted to raise funds to expand foreign missions and translations of the Holy Qur’ān and to install printing presses and broadcasting systems. By the grace of Allah, members from more than fifty-four countries participated. Mosques were also built in Berg, Sweden and Oslo, Norway and five new Jamā‘at Centers were opened in the UK, as a result of this scheme.

He also announced the Waqf-i-Ārdī (temporary devotion) scheme on March 12, 1966. The purpose of this scheme was that the members of the Aḥmadiyya jamā‘at should spend at least two weeks of their time at a designated place, at their own expense, teaching the Holy Qur’ān and giving religious training to the local Ahmadis.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad also inaugurated the Khilāfat Library on October 3, 1971 and Masjid Al-Aqṣā on March 31, 1972, both at Rabwah. He laid the foundation stone of Masjid Bashārat in Spain on October 9, 1980. This is where he also announced the golden Islāmic motto “Love for All, Hatred for None”.

During the 1974 violence against Aḥmadis, all Aḥmadis under the guidance of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, faced the hardships with great patience, endurance and prayers.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, may Allah’s mercy be on him, passed away on June 9, 1982. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ IV, may Allah’s mercy be on him, led his Janāza prayer in Rabwah with nearly 100,000 participants.

During the seventeen years of his Khilāfat, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masīḥ III, strengthened and expanded the jamā‘at greatly with his unique administrative abilities and distinctive plans of far-reaching benefits.

“Love for All, Hatred for None”
Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad

By: Kashif Ibrahim /Age 10 / Houston, Texas

Hadrat Mirzā Tāhir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was elected as Khalifatul-Masih IV. He is the son of Ḥadrat Mirzā Bashīruddīn Mahmūd Āḥmad, Khalifatul-Masih II, may Allah be pleased with him, and the grandson of the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him. He was born on December 18, 1928 in Qadian, India. Before becoming Khalifah, he made great efforts in promoting missionary work in Pakistan. He served the Jamā’at as Ṣadr Majlis Khuddām-ul Aḥmadiyya, and as the director of Fazl-i-Umar foundation. In 1974, he was a member of the Jamā’at Delegation, headed by Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih III, to the National Assembly of Pakistan to present and prove the truth of Ahmadiyya’s beliefs.

Some of his great works:

- The Da’wat Ilallah Scheme for calling people towards Allah.
- He established the Waqf-i-Nau Scheme asking Ahmadi families to dedicate their children for the service of Jamā’at.
- He implemented Mubahila (prayer duel). The president of Pakistan had made it extremely difficult for Ahmadi to practice their faith freely. The Khalifah advised the president to stop the persecution of...
Ahmadis because Allah would not let the president continue to torture His people. Zia-ul-Haq did not desist from his schemes. As a result, the president of Pakistan, Zia-ul-Haq, and some of his associates were killed in a mysterious airplane crash on August 17, 1988.

-He established Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA); a universal satellite channel that broadcasts religious programs worldwide.

-He inaugurated Masjid Basharat in Pedroabad, Spain. This was the first mosque built in Spain after 500 years. Two thousand people attended this event.

He was a great Khalifah. I thank Allah for giving him lots of blessings.

There was an engineer who had an exceptional gift of fixing just about any mechanical thing. After serving his company for over 30 years, he happily retired.

Several years later the company contacted him regarding a problem they were having with one of their multi-million dollar machines. They had tried everything to get the machine fixed, but everything failed. In desperation, they called on the retired engineer who had solved many of their problems in the past. The engineer reluctantly took the
challenge.

He spent a day studying the huge machine. At the end of the day, he marked a small "x" with a chalk on a particular component of the machine and proudly stated, "This is where your problem is."

The part was replaced and the machine worked perfectly again. The company received a bill for $50,000 from the engineer for his service. They demanded an itemized accounting of his charges. The engineer responded briefly:

One chalk mark: $1
Knowing where to put it: $49,999

It was paid in full and the engineer retired again in peace.

Razzaq and Farida
A story for children by Dr. Yusef A. Lateef. Send $1.50 per copy and your mailing address to Chaudhary Mushtaq Aḥmad, 15000 Good Hope Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20905.

QUARTERLY AL-HILĀL. A 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 Islām and Aḥmadiyyat to their daily lives. Al-Hilāl (The New Moon) is published by the Aḥmadiyya Movement in Islām, under the auspices of the Children's Magazine Committee, and directed by Dr Ahsanullah Zafar, National Amir, Jama'at Aḥmadiyya, USA. The publication of this magazine was launched by the late Hadrat Sahibzadah M. M. Aḥmad (1913-2002). The members of the committee are Maulana Zafrullah Hanjra, Aḥmadi Muslim Muballigh at Houston, TX; Maulana Azhar Haneef, Aḥmadi Muslim Muballigh in St. Louis, MO; Shanaz Butt, Šadr of Lajna Imaillah, USA; Faheem Younis Qureshi, Šadr Majlis Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya, USA; Tazeen Ahmad of Maryland; Musa Asad of Maryland; and Syed Sajid Aḥmad of North Dakota acting as the secretary of the committee.

Al-Hilāl Editorial Team:
Aliya Latif, Rabia Chaudhry, Khalid Latif and Shoeb Abulkalam

Graphics:
Sumera Choudhary, and Shoeb Abulkalam

Submissions: Anesia McRae
Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was born on December, 18, 1928. He was the second son of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīruddīn Mahmūd Aḥmad, may Allah be pleased with him. Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, obtained his high school education in 1944 from Ta‘līm-ul-Islām high school, Qaidan. He received his higher secondary education from the Government College in Lahore, Pakistan. In 1953, he obtained the Shāhid degree [Religious scholar] from Jāmi‘ah Aḥmadiyya in Rabwah. In April 1955, he accompanied his father, Ḥaḍrat Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd, may Allah be pleased with him, on a trip to England. He received a degree in Oriental Studies from London University. He returned to Rabwah in 1957.

On November 12th, 1958, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II appointed him as Nāẓīm Irshād (Executive) of Waqf-i-Jadīd. Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, made great efforts to promote the missionary work in Pakistan. He served as Nā‘īb Sadr (Vice President) Majlis Khuddām-ul Aḥmadiyya during the period of 1960-1966. Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, served as Sadr Majlis Khuddām-ul Aḥmadiyya from 1966-1969 and Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh III was very pleased with him for his achievements in this office. In January 1970, he was appointed as the director of Faḍl-i-Umar foundation. After the sad demise
of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh III, he was elected as the fourth Khalīfatul-Masīh. He challenged Zia-ul-Haq to a prayer contest. Zia intensified his anti-Ahmadiyya policies and died in a mysterious plane crash. Under his Khilāfat, many major things happened such as the beginning of MTA, Muslim Television Aḥmadiyya. Continuous 24 hours a day, 7 days a week broadcasts by MTA started on April 1, 1996. On July 28, 1993, 204,308 new Ahmadis took Bai‘at at his hand. He passed away on March, 2003.

The Promised Messiah and the founder of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Ahmād 's blessed son, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashiruddin Mahmūd Ahmad (Khalīfatul-Masīh II and Muṣliḥ Mau‘ūd) married Ḥaḍrat Sayyidah Maryam Begum on 7 February 1924. The blessed child of the Second Khalīfah from this marriage was named Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Tāhir Aḥmad. He was very smart both spiritually and materially. After graduation, he obtained the "Shāhid" degree from Jāmī‘ah Aḥmadiyya in Rabwah. Then he studied in Europe for two and a half years. After completing his higher education, he dedicated his life to the service of Aḥmadiyyat. In October 1958, he was given charge of Waqf-i-Jadīd, the department for promoting education and welfare in remote and poor areas in Pakistan. From 1960 to 1969, he was the
vice-president, then president of Majlis Khuddām-ul-Ahmadiyya. While serving as Ṣadr (president), he displayed remarkable qualities of strong leadership. From 1979 to 1982, he was president of Majlis Anşārullāh. He served as Director of Fazl-i-Umar Foundation at the time of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh III. He was patron of the International Aḥmadiyya Association of Architect and Engineers (IAAAAE). Allah has bestowed upon him extraordinary talents of public speaking and writing. His many books greatly enriched the repository of Aḥmadiyya literature. Ḥaḍrat Ḥāfiz Mīrzā Nāṣir Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-Masīh III, passed away on the 9 June 1982 and the following day Ḥaḍrat Mīrzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad was elected as Khalīfatul-Masīh IV. Under divine guidance and with his hard work, the Jamāʿat made great strides and continues to do so. During his Khilāfat, we saw progress and advancement geographically, historically, morally, and spiritually.

The preaching of Islām is obligatory for every Muslim. In the present age, it is only the Aḥmadiyya Movement which is actively engaged in this great effort and this fact is conceded by our opponents also. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh IV vastly expanded this program of preaching and propagation. The Aḥmadis by and large are now receptive to this call. As a whole, the Jamāʿat has spread over 180 countries around the world. The annual budget of Jamāʿat has reached 1 billion dollars. This figure represents the Obligatory Donations only. There are other categories like Tahrīk-i-Jadīd, Waqf-i-Jadīd, Sayyidinā Bilāl Fund and Propagation of Qurʾān Fund. Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh IV
Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was the fourth Khalifah of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and a very important person. He was born on December 18, 1928. He obtained his early education in Qadian, India, and joined Government College, Lahore, Pakistan, in 1944. In 1955, he visited England for the first time with his father, Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, may Allah be pleased with him, the second Khalifah of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. His father advised him to learn more about the English language and European social habits. He studied at the University of London and also visited different parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and some other parts of Western Europe. Upon his return from England in 1957, he traveled to many countries every year to oversee, streamline, extend and accelerate the multifarious activities of the Jam’at. Blessed are those who recognize the Reformer of the Age and come together under the banner of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and those who are steadfast in their allegiance to the institution of Khilafat. May Allah shower His Blessings on them. Amin.
was married to Āṣifa Begum, and was appointed the vice president of the newly founded Waqf-i-Jadīd foundation. The foundation's main task was to educate the community members living in rural areas of Pakistan. Due to his work in the foundation, he acquired vast experience with Ahmadi from various walks of life. During his work, he also started treating poor people with homeopathic medicine.

Later he was elected Khalīfatul-Masīh IV. After taking the office, he worked to improve the Jamā‘at with a new passion. One of the main achievements was the initiation of the Muslin Television Āhmadiyya (MTA). This satellite-based channel started in 1992 with the weekly one hour program, broadcasting the Friday sermon. At the time, the main purpose was to establish direct contact with the main body of Āhmadi. Now, the important events of the community are televised in many major languages of the world.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, also wrote several books in both Urdu and English, including Revelation, Rationality, Knowledge and Truth. This book examines the relationship between science, philosophy and religion.

Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad died of heart failure in 2003. He was buried in Islāmabad, Surry UK, for the time being, until he can be moved to Bahishti Maqbarah in Rabwah, Pakistan. After his death, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Masroor Aḥmad, may Allah be his support, was elected as the fifth Khalīfah of the Āhmadiyya Muslim Community.
The Fourth successor of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was born on Dec 18, 1928 in Qadian, India. He was elected Khalīfah in June of 1982. The schemes of the Pakistani government against the Jamāʿat were at their peak in the 80’s. The Khalīfah (may Allah’s mercy be on him) had to migrate to U.K. This was very hard for the Jamāʿat members, but the Khalifatul-Masīh advised patience and prayers. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) had forewarned that the community would face persecution in diverse ways. He had foretold various trials they would be subjected to. But he had also prophesized ultimate victory for the Community if they remain steadfast in the face of trials and tribulations. As it is written in the Holy Qur’ān, ..."they replied, We were persecuted before thou came to us and even after thou came to us. He said: Your Lord is about to destroy your enemy and make you rulers in the land, He may see how you act." Chapter 7 Verse 130.

The Khalifatul-Masīh was a remarkable human being. He loved hiking, biking, fishing and all sorts of sports. He was
a walking encyclopedia and a very good speaker. He had the capability of getting the attention of a whole room with his extraordinary and deep knowledge of every subject. He had a special love for the younger generations. He left his loving memory with all of us. He had a unique relationship with all of the Jamā’at members, as if he remembered each of them personally. It showed on the faces of the people, when they came out of a mulaqat (meeting) with him.

We all have our own memories of him and we know what he expected from us. He loved and cared about the future of our children and in his many sermons he told mothers about their important job. He said, "When it is said that Heaven is under the feet of mother, it does not mean that there is heaven under every mother’s feet. It means it can only be attained through mothers who themselves have become a heavenly sign. The progeny of such mothers is bound to belong to paradise. They have to make that decision today otherwise the future will indeed remain dark.”

He said he had a huge responsibility as a Khalīfah for the reformation of his Jamā’at, because it is he who had to answer to God. We can still see him through the blessings of MTA. It was the best thing ever to have a live link with the Khalīfah and have him in our homes everyday.

I have only met him a few times but it seems like I knew him forever and added plus of the visit with him was chocolate.

In his 21 years as Khalīfah, other than winning our hearts, he accomplished a lot for the Jamā’at.

May Allah enable us all to follow the footsteps of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and obey our Imam of the time.

As the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "It is binding on a Muslim to listen to and carry out an order issued by his officers whether he likes it or not, except when it involves the violation of a commandment of God or His Prophet or of a superior officer."
Hadrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad Khalifatul Masih III

Hadrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, was born on November 16, 1909. He was the son of Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, may Allah be pleased with him, who was the second Khalifah of the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him. He was also the grandson of Promised Messiah, peace be upon him. His birth was foretold by God Almighty in a revelation to the Promised Messiah and also to his father. Hadrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, may Allah’s mercy be on him, memorized the entire Holy Qur’an, becoming a Hafiz at the age of thirteen. July 1929, he obtained the degree of Maulawi Fa’dil, from the Punjab University.

On November 8, 1965, the second Khalifah passed away in Rabwah, Pakistan. Hadrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad was elected as the third Khalifah, may Allah’s mercy be on him. Following the election some five thousands Ahmadis, who were present at the occasion, performed the Bai’at at his hands. Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih III established the Fa’dl-i-Umar Foundation scheme in the memory of Hadrat Fa’dl-i-Umar Khalifatul-Masih II. The Jamat contributed 5.2 million rupees which was more than the target of 2.5 million.

On May 21, 1982, Hadrat Khalifatul-Masih III delivered his last Friday sermon. On May 23, he left Rabwah for Islambad, and on the 26th he was ill and passed away on June 9 at 12:45 p.m. On June 10, 1982, Hadrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, the newly elected Khalifatul-Masih IV, led his Janaza prayer in Rabwah with nearly 100,000 participants. He was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah in Rabwah, Pakistan.

By: Danial Ahmed / Age 10 / Queens N.Y.
The Fourth Khalifah

The fourth Khalīfah was the one who showed us what he had done

To help the poor and the needy
that is our special duty

He started MTA and from that day
we always hold classes each and every day

He began Humanity First
and it really helped the needy with a burst

He became our beloved the Khalīfatul-Masīh in 1982
but sadly in 2003 his era was through

Ḥadrat Mirzā Ṭāhir Aḥmad taught Aḥmadis to be
good
yes, I think we all should

His Khilāfat lasted a full 21 years
We still listen to his Khutbahs with full open ears

The son of Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd, we will not forget
No we shall not, not ever, not yet
“I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the Earth”

The Ilhām (revelation), “I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the earth,” means that Islām is spreading across the globe with the Help of Allah by Muslim believers. People are trying to stop wars and make peace, but some do not succeed in their doings. Some Muslims have made small changes that have spread slowly around the world.

By: Aalia Sowerdary / Age 10