

Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, USA

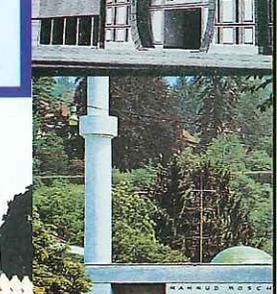
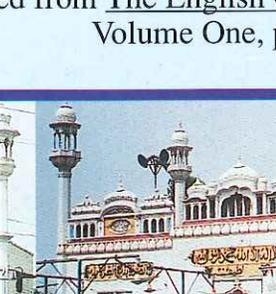
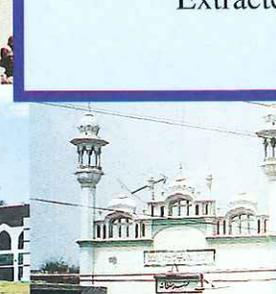
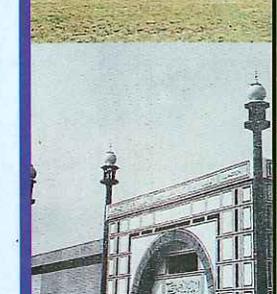
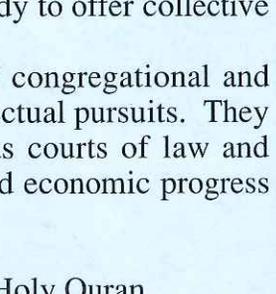
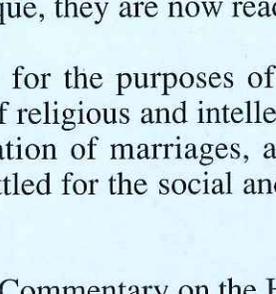
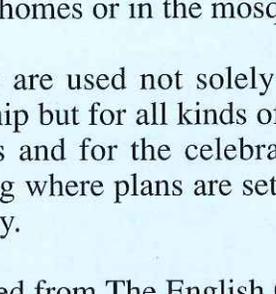
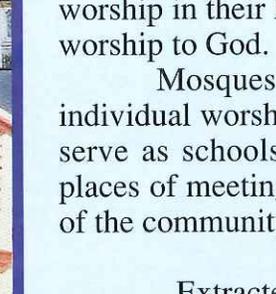
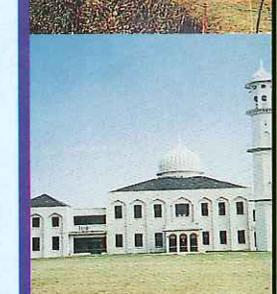
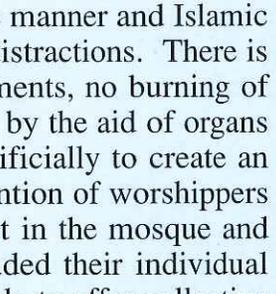
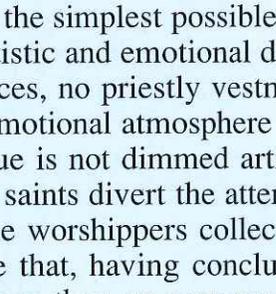
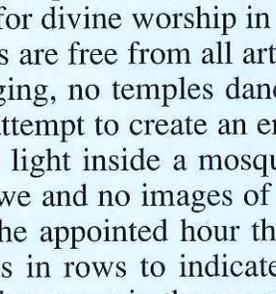
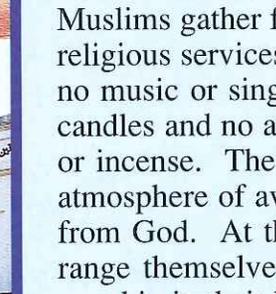
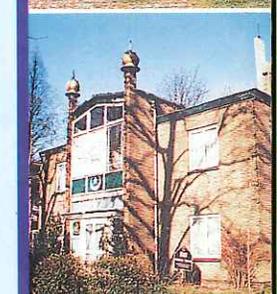
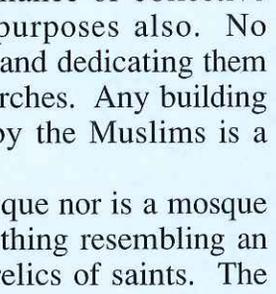
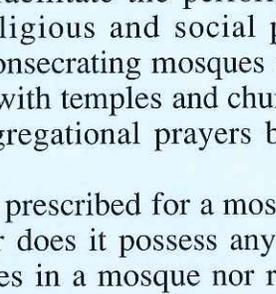
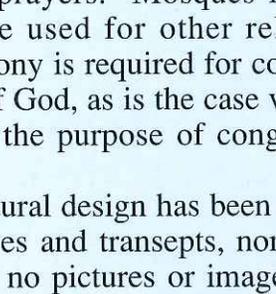
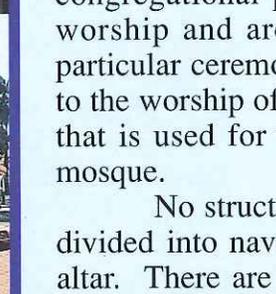
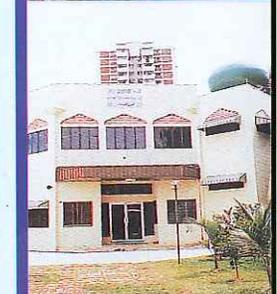
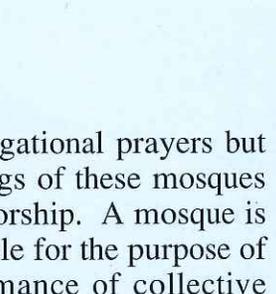
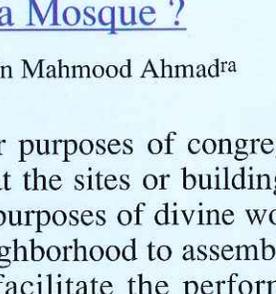
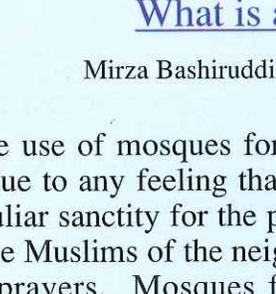
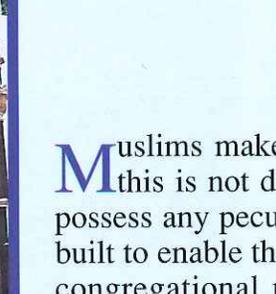
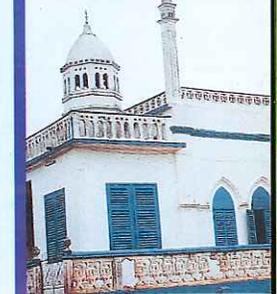
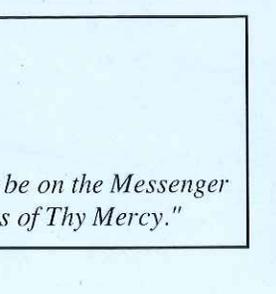
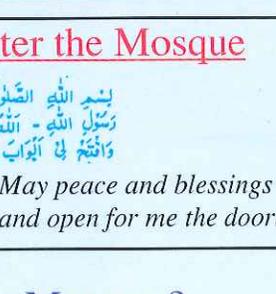
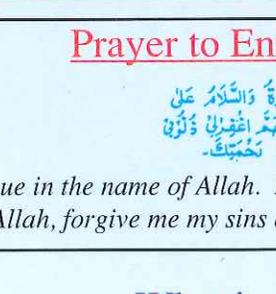
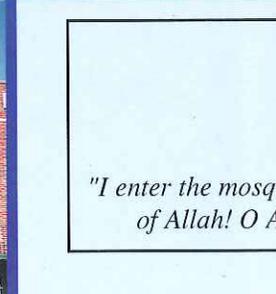
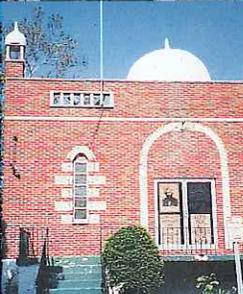
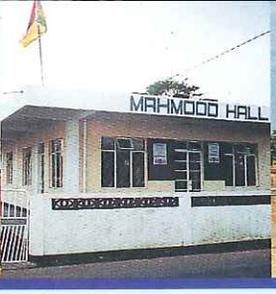
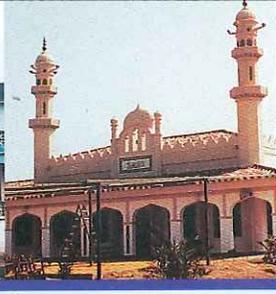
*Souvenir, 1994*

*"Mosques Around the World"*

A Pictorial Presentation



Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque Edition



## Prayer to Enter the Mosque

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
رَسُوْلَ اللَّهِ - اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي ذُنُوبِي  
وَأَنْتُمْ يَا أَيُّهَا الرَّحْمَنُ مَكْرَمَاتِكُمْ

"I enter the mosque in the name of Allah. May peace and blessings be on the Messenger of Allah! O Allah, forgive me my sins and open for me the doors of Thy Mercy."

## What is a Mosque ?

Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>

Muslims make use of mosques for purposes of congregational prayers but this is not due to any feeling that the sites or buildings of these mosques possess any peculiar sanctity for the purposes of divine worship. A mosque is built to enable the Muslims of the neighborhood to assemble for the purpose of congregational prayers. Mosques facilitate the performance of collective worship and are used for other religious and social purposes also. No particular ceremony is required for consecrating mosques and dedicating them to the worship of God, as is the case with temples and churches. Any building that is used for the purpose of congregational prayers by the Muslims is a mosque.

No structural design has been prescribed for a mosque nor is a mosque divided into naves and transepts, nor does it possess anything resembling an altar. There are no pictures or images in a mosque nor relics of saints. The Muslims gather for divine worship in the simplest possible manner and Islamic religious services are free from all artistic and emotional distractions. There is no music or singing, no temples dances, no priestly vestments, no burning of candles and no attempt to create an emotional atmosphere by the aid of organs or incense. The light inside a mosque is not dimmed artificially to create an atmosphere of awe and no images of saints divert the attention of worshippers from God. At the appointed hour the worshippers collect in the mosque and range themselves in rows to indicate that, having concluded their individual worship in their homes or in the mosque, they are now ready to offer collective worship to God.

Mosques are used not solely for the purposes of congregational and individual worship but for all kinds of religious and intellectual pursuits. They serve as schools and for the celebration of marriages, as courts of law and places of meeting where plans are settled for the social and economic progress of the community.

Extracted from The English Commentary on the Holy Quran,  
Volume One, pp. ccxiv. - ccxvi.



Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, U.S.A.

# Mosques Around the World

A PICTORIAL PRESENTATION

1994 Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque Souvenir

Symbol  
Of  
United and  
Vigorous  
Efforts to  
Narrate  
Islam  
Round the world.



ON THE COVER: *Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA*

Photo courtesy of Rasheed A. Arshad

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The words/phrases listed below as well as the abbreviations to the right have been placed here for the benefit of those readers who are not familiar with their meanings and usage. With the exception of the first three abbreviations listed, the remainder are placed as a superscript after the word or phrase they are linked to (for example, the abbreviation 'sa' would be placed as follows: Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, etc.) The reader is advised that when encountering an unfamiliar word or phrase in this souvenir (e.g. in a caption, fact box, essay, etc.), he or she should refer back to this page for assistance, as we have tried our best to ensure that every such word/phrase is included on this page.

## Abbreviations

MTA	Muslim Television Ahmadiyya
C.E.	of the Common Era
B.C.E.	before the Common Era
sa	'salla'llahu alaihi wa salam': an Arabic phrase which means, 'May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!'
as	'alaihi salaam': an Arabic phrase which means, 'Peace be upon him!'
ra	'razi allaho anho' (male); 'razi allaho anha' (female); Arabic phrases which mean 'They were pleased with Allah.'
aba	'ayadahullah' taala bin asrihil aziz': an Arabic phrase which means, 'May Allah assist him with His help'

## Glossary

Ahmadiyya:	of or pertaining to Ahmadiyyat (Ahmadi: a follower of Ahmadiyyat)
Amir:	president
Ansarullah:	an Ahmadiyya auxiliary organization consisting of men over 40 years of age
Bai'at:	a formal rite of initiation and allegiance into the fold of Ahmadiyyat
Hazoor:	'your honor' or 'the honored one'
Hazrat:	'the respected'
Ijtema:	'gathering'
Jalsa Salana:	'annual gathering'
Jama'at:	an Ahmadiyya organization
Ka'aba:	site located at the Sacred Mosque in Mecca (first house of worship)
Khalifa:	caliph; literally 'vicegerent'; a successor -- for our context -- of a prophet of God
Khalifatul Masih:	caliph of the Messiah; for our context, the caliph of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup>
Khilfat:	the institution of successorship in Islam in which caliphs succeed prophets of God and continue their mission
Khuddam:	an Ahmadiyya auxiliary organization consisting of men between the ages of 16 and 40
Lajna Imaillah:	an Ahmadiyya auxiliary organization consisting of women between the ages of 16 and 40
Mahdi:	'rightly guided'
Majlis:	'body of people' or 'gathering'
Majlis-e-Irfan:	a question and answer session in which the caliph answers the queries of people gathered
Majlis-e-Shura:	a session of the executive body of the Jama'at held for the purposes of evaluating proposals and considering ways to improve the Jama'at as a whole in several key areas
Musleh Maud <sup>ra</sup> :	'The Promised Reformer'; a name given to the son and second caliph of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup>
Nazim:	'manager'
Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> :	Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (b. 1835) whose advent as the 'Messiah' was foretold by earlier prophets
Quran:	the most authoritative and sacred text of Muslims revealed to the Holy Prophet Muhammad <sup>sa</sup>
Sahibzada:	'respected son'
Tehrik-e-Jadid:	scheme initiated by the second caliph of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> in 1934 to build mosques and missions of the Jama'at around the world
Waqf-e-Jadid:	a scheme initiated in 1957 which was designed to help the people of Pakistan and India—initiated by the second caliph of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup>



**Nigran-e-A'ala (Incharge)**

*M.M. Ahmad, Amir USA*

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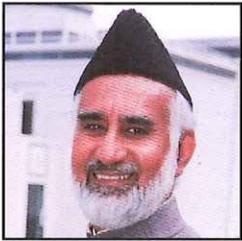
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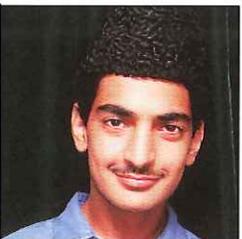
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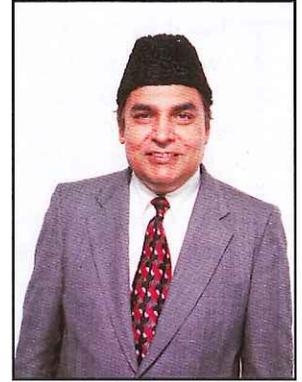


*Ahsan M. Khan  
Design & Layout*

**In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful.**

The sum and essence of Islamic faith is to establish a living relationship between man and God. The worship of the one true God, through prayers and supplications, is the means to achieve this objective—a means facilitated by way of the mosque. A mosque is a house of God, dedicated and consecrated for the purpose of prayer, meditation, and worship of the Divine.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is dedicated to the building of these houses of Allah according to the spirit and tradition of the Holy Prophet'ssa Mosque. 100 years ago, Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> gave us a glad tiding about the future of mosques and Ahmadiyyat, thus:



*Anwer Mahmood Khan*

"The foundation stone of the renaissance of Islam and a superior world order have been laid. Now mosques will be built and people will enter therein, and join the Divine Movement in hordes." (Noorul Haq, Vol. 2, page 42)

This prophecy has been gloriously fulfilled as, today, the seed of Ahmadiyyat has been sown in 142 countries and we have built over 4,000 mosques and missions throughout the world—28 of which are established in the United States. With this commemorative souvenir, we are happy to add a 29th to our list, the Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque located in the beautiful suburb of our nation's capital.

The key ingredient of this extraordinary success, the driving force of this Caravan of Islam, is the unifying force of the Khalifa. All these fruits could be made possible through the blessings of Khilafat and the leadership of these Khalifas. A brief pictorial of the activities of the Khalifas follows the message of our beloved Imam, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>.

Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque is then presented in extensive detail, and a beautiful 11 x 17 picture poster has been added to this souvenir as a pullout hanging.

After describing the mosques at our headquarters in Qadian and Rabwah, we present a vast panorama of mosques around the world. Although the mosques present may have different designs, layouts, etc, the common fundamental theme of all of them is true Taqwa, or righteousness. We then revert back to the purpose of these houses of worship, that being the unification of mankind. In fact, this theme is extended further in an inspiring look at the new tradition started just recently, the International Bai'at. We are truly fortunate to have received the pictures of the 1993 and 1994 International Bai'ats, thus providing a small image of the sublime goal of the mosque, i.e. the unification of mankind through mosques.

Also included is another double-sided insert. On one side is displayed the harmony and fascinating synchronicity of secular and spiritual progress, particularly in the history of communication paralleled with the history of Ahmadiyyat. On the insert's other side is displayed celestial (and other) signs of Allah that establish the truthfulness of Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>.

Finally, we will conclude our theme with a look at the future of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in the words of its blessed founder, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>.

We sincerely hope and pray to Almighty Allah that this souvenir becomes a useful tool in the ongoing efforts to propagate the true Islam throughout the world.

*Anwer M. Khan*

**Anwer M. Khan  
Editor**



# The Holy Quran and the First House of Worship

The very first house ever built for the remembrance and worship of Allah is known as Baitul Haram (Masjid-e-haram, Ka'aba tullah, etc.). This house has been known to mankind since time immemorial. It was renovated under Divine Guidance by the elite prophets Hazrat Ibrahim<sup>as</sup> and his son, Hazrat Ismail<sup>as</sup>. The Holy Qur'an has attributed several blessed names to this Holy Place, including: "Bait-e-Ma'amoor", "Saqaful Mafoo", "Sha'airillah", "Baitul Ateeq", etc. The following are verses where this first house of worship has been mentioned...

وَرَدَّجَعَلْنَا الْبَيْتَ مَثَابَةً لِّلنَّاسِ وَأَمْنًا وَنَجِّدْنَا  
مِن فِتْنَةِ الْبَرِّهِمْ مُصَلًّا وَنَهَّدْنَا إِلَى الْبَرِّهِمْ  
وَأَسْعِجِلْ أَن تَطَهَّرَ الْبَيْتَ لِلنَّاسِ الْغَافِقِينَ  
وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ

"And remember the time when We made the House a resort for mankind and a place of security; and take ye the station of Abraham as a place of Prayer. And We commanded Abraham and Ishmael, saying, 'Purify My House for those who perform the circuit and those who remain therein for devotion and those who fall prostrate in Prayer.'" (2:126)

وَمِن حَيْثُ خَرَجْتَ فَوَلِّ وَجْهَكَ شَطْرَ الْمَسْجِدِ  
الْحَرَامِ وَإِنَّهُ لَلْحَقُّ مِن رَّبِّكَ وَمَا اللَّهُ بِغَافِلٍ  
عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ

"From wheresoever thou comest forth, turn thy face towards the Sacred Mosque; for that is indeed the truth from thy Lord. And Allah is not unmindful of what you do." (2:150)

إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِّلنَّاسِ لَكَانَ بَكَّةَ مُبَارَكًا  
وَهُدًى لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

"The first House founded for mankind is that at (Mecca), abounding in blessings and guidance for all peoples." (3:97)

فِيهِ آيَاتٌ بَيِّنَاتٌ مَّقَامُ الْبَرِّهِيمَةَ وَمَنْ دَخَلَهَا كَانَ  
أَمِنًا وَلْيُحِثِّ عَلَى النَّاسِ حَيْثُ جَعَلَ الْبَيْتَ مِنَ الشَّقَاءِ  
الْبَرِّهِيمَةَ وَمَنْ كَفَرَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ عَلِيمٌ

"In it are manifest Signs; it is the place of Abraham; and whoso enters it, enters peace. And pilgrimage to the House is a duty which means—those who can find a way thither—owe to Allah. And whoever disbelieves, let him remember that Allah is surely independent of all creatures." (3:98)

أَوْ لَا يَجِيرُكُمْ سُنَّانُ قَوْمٍ أَن صَدُّوكُمْ عَنِ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ أَن تَعْتَدُوا

"And let not the enmity of a people, that they hindered you from the Sacred Mosque, incite you to transgress." (5:3)

جَعَلَ اللَّهُ الْكَعْبَةَ الْبَيْتَ الْحَرَامَ قِيَامًا لِّلنَّاسِ وَ  
الشَّهْرَ الْحَرَامَ وَالْهَدْيَ وَالْقَلَائِدَ

"Allah has made the Ka'ba, the inviolable House, as a means of support and uplift for mankind, as also the Sacred Month and the offerings and animals with collars." (5:98)

وَمَا لَهُمْ آلَ يُعَذِّبُهُمُ اللَّهُ وَهُمْ يَصُدُّونَ عَنِ  
الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ وَمَا كَانُوا أَوْلِيَاءَهُ إِنْ أَوْلِيَآؤُهُ  
إِلَّا الْمُتَّقُونَ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

"And what excuse have they now that Allah should not punish them, when they hinder men from the Sacred Mosque, and they are not its true guardians ? Its true guardians are only those who are righteous, but most of them know not." (8:35)

وَرَدَّ بَدَأْنَا لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ مَكَانَ الْبَيْتِ أَن لَّا تُشْرِكَ  
بِي شَيْئًا وَطَهَّرَ بَيْتِي لِّلضَّالِّينَ وَ الْقَائِمِينَ  
وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ

"And remember the time when We assigned to Abraham the site of the House and said, 'Associate not anything with Me, and keep My House clean for those who perform the circuits, and those who stand up and those who bow down and fall prostrate in Prayer.'" (22:27)

ذَلِكَ ، وَمَنْ يُعَظِّمْ شَعَائِرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا  
مِن تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ لَكُمْ فِيهَا مَنَافِعُ إِلَى آجَلٍ  
مُّسَمًّى ثُمَّ مَحِلُّهَا إِلَى الْبَيْتِ الْعَتِيقِ

"That is so. And whoso respects the sacred Signs of Allah—that indeed proceeds from the righteousness of hearts. In them (offerings) are benefits for you for an appointed term, then their place of sacrifice is at the Ancient House." (22:33-34)

الَّذِينَ أُخْرِجُوا مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ بِغَيْرِ حَقِّ إِلَّا أُن  
يَقُولُوا رَبَّنَا اللَّهُ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ اللَّهُ النَّاسَ لَبَدَّلَهُمْ  
بِبَعْضِ هُدًى مَّتَّ صَوَاعِقُ وَبِيعُ وَصَلَوَاتٌ وَ  
مَسْجِدٌ يُذَكَّرُ فِيهَا اسْمُ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا وَلِيُنصَرْنَ  
اللَّهُ مِنْ بَنِيهِمْ إِنْ اللَّهُ لَقَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ

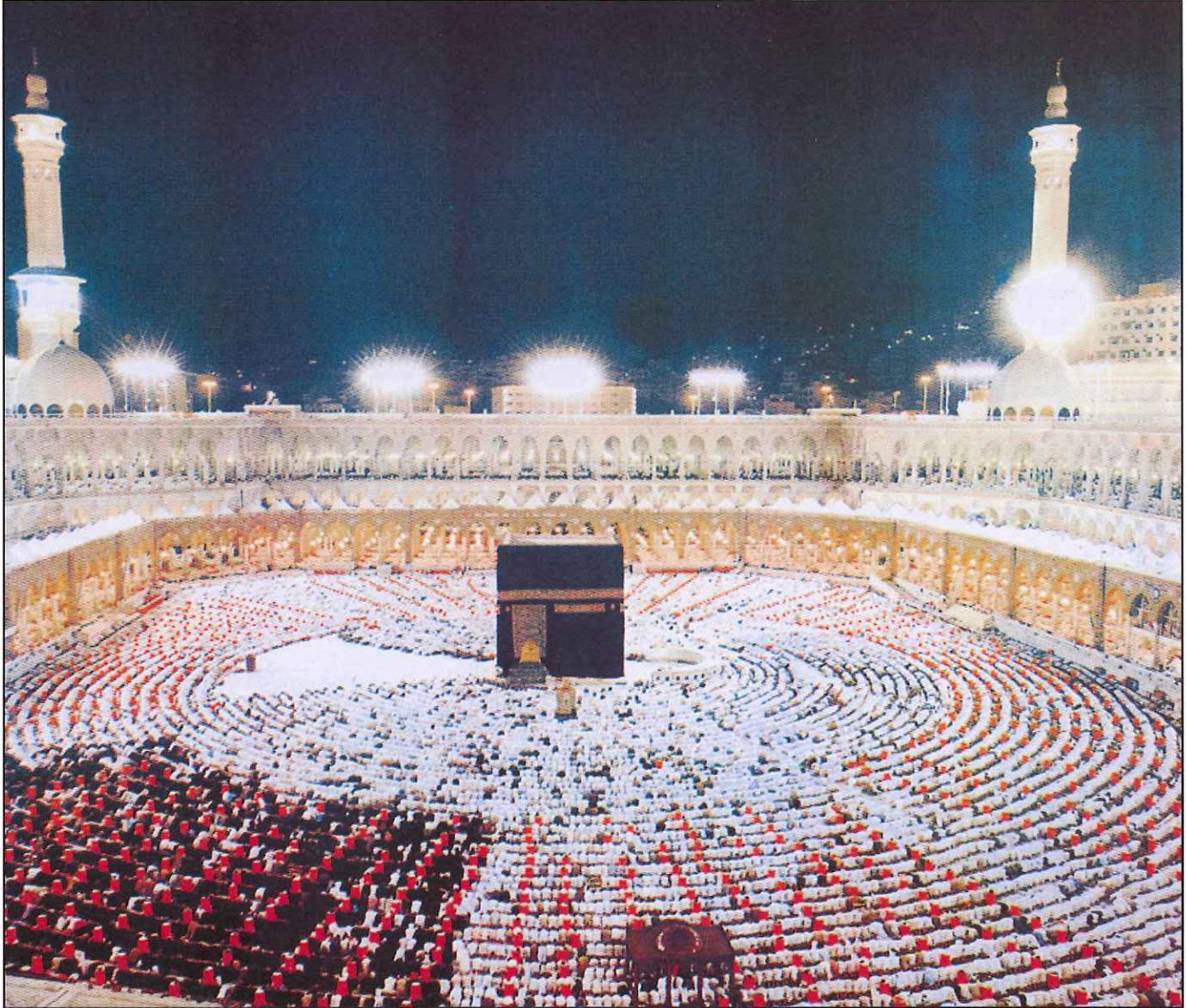
"Those who have been driven out from their homes unjustly only because they said, 'Our Lord is Allah'—And if Allah did not repel some men by means of others, there would surely have been pulled down cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques, wherein the name of Allah if oft commemorated. And Allah will surely help one who helps Him. Allah is indeed Powerful, Mighty." (22:41)

هُمُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَصَدُّوكُمْ عَنِ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ  
وَالْهَدْيِ مَعَكُوفًا أَن يَبْلُغَ مَحِلَّهُ

"It is they who disbelieved and hindered you from the Sacred Mosque and the offering which was prevented from reaching its place of sacrifice." (48:26)

وَالْبَيْتِ الْمَعْمُورِ وَالسَّقْفِ الْمَرْفُوعِ

"By the frequented House, and by the elevated roof." (52:5-6)



## The Holy Ka'aba

MECCA, ARABIA

The First House of Worship, and  
The Spiritual Heart of Islam



## The Dome of the Rock

*(Qubbat-al-Sakhra)*

The sanctuary known as Qubbat-al-Sakhra (The Dome of the Rock) was completed by 'Abd-al-Malik ibn Marwan in 691 C.E. This sacred building is believed to rest on Mt. Moriah in the Old City of Jerusalem. This mountain, also known as the Temple Mount, was the site where Prophet Solomon<sup>as</sup> built the first temple (known as Bait-ul-Muqaddas), which was completed in 957 B.C.E. It was the general direction of this site towards which the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and his companions<sup>ra</sup> would pray (the first Qiblah). Upon receiving a revelation from God (Al-Quran, 2:145), the Qiblah was changed towards the Sacred Mosque in Mecca, Arabia (Please refer to the Holy Quran with English Translation and Commentary by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>, Volume I, page 199, commentary entry #151). The first temple was later destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia, when he sacked Jerusalem in 586 B.C.E. The temple was rebuilt beginning 20 B.C.E. but was again destroyed in 70 C.E.

## The Cave of Hira

The founder of Islam, Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, was deeply endowed with the love of the Creator right from his early youth. When he reached his thirties, his love of God and love of His worship began to possess him more and more. To get away from the mischiefs and vices of the people of Mecca, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> would often retire in a secluded cave atop the lofty Mount Hira. At Hira, he would worship God day and night, praying ardently for the uplift of mankind. When he was forty years of age, he saw an angel commanding him to recite. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said in reply he did not know what or how to recite. The heavenly figure insisted and at last made the Holy Prophet of Islam<sup>sa</sup> recite the

following verses: "Recite thou in the name of thy Lord Who created, created man from a clot of blood. Recite! And thy Lord is the Most Beneficent, Who taught man by the pen, taught man what he knew not." (96:2-6) This cave hence became the initiation place of the greatest spiritual revolution mankind has ever witnessed, the advent of Islam. Hazrat Ahmad<sup>ah</sup> has expressed this spiritual revolution thus:

"Have you any notion what was the strange event which took place in the desert country of Arabia when hundreds of thousands of people were revived within a brief period. And those who were blind obtained sight and those who were dumb began to speak of the understanding of the divine. And the world underwent a revolution which has never been heard or seen before. It was the supplications during dark nights of one who had lost himself in God which raised a clamour in the world, and manifested such wonders as appeared impossible in the case of that unlearned helpless one." ([Blessings of Prayer, page 10](#))

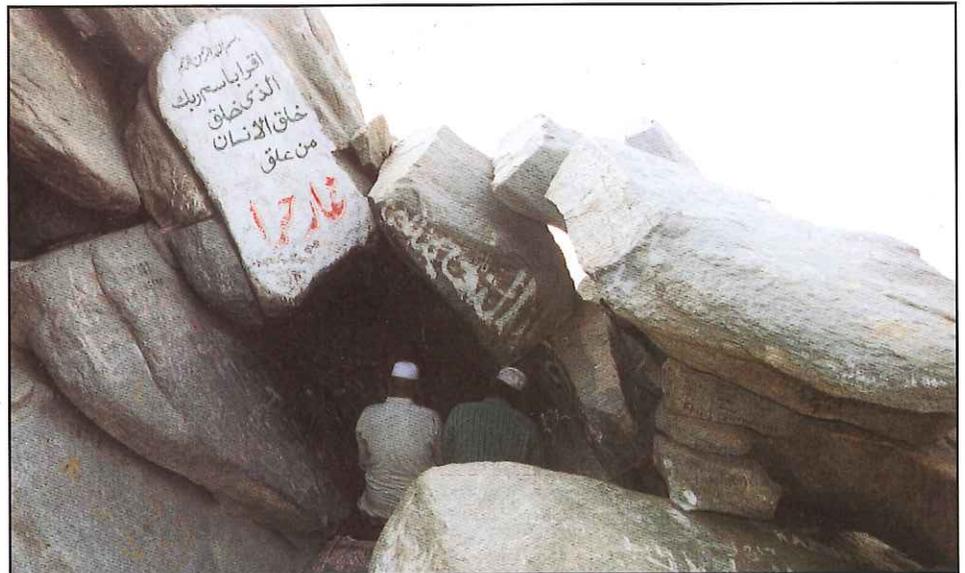
## Quba Mosque

*(Masjid-e-Quba)*

This is the very first Mosque outside Mecca whose foundation was laid down by the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> himself. It was built during the Holy Prophet's<sup>sa</sup> migration to Medina, when he took a short stay at the city of Quba, three miles north of Medina. He worked as a laborer to construct this house of Allah. Within a few days, the mosque was completed. Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> continued to have a special attachment with the Quba Mosque and he visited it every week even after he migrated to Medina. Some righteous scholars have attributed the following verse to be related to this mosque: "A Mosque that was founded upon piety from the very first day, is surely more worthy that thou should stand therein to lead the prayer service." (9:108)



*The Dome of the Rock (Qubbat-al-Sakhra) in Jerusalem*



*The Cave of Hira near Mecca, Arabia*



*The Quba Mosque, in the city of Quba, located three miles outside of Medina, Arabia*



## The Prophet's Mosque

*(Masjid-e-Nabwi)*

After building the Quba Mosque, Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, finally arrived in Medina where he stayed at the home of Abu Ayub Ansari<sup>ra</sup>. It was here where he also purchased a vacant lot and began the construction of a modest structure made of mud and bricks, laboring himself alongside his companions. The roof was made from leaves and trunks of date palms. The dimensions of the Prophet's Mosque were as follows: Height, 10 ft.; Length, 105 ft.; Width, 90 ft.

This mosque represents the height in structural simplicity, not to mention the zenith of righteousness. Even the usually critical Western observers could not help but praise this mosque, as Sir William Muir remarked:

“Though rude in material, and insignificant in dimensions, the Mosque of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> is glorious in the history of Islam. Here, the Prophet and his Companions spent most of their time; here, the daily service, with its oft-recurring prayers, was first publicly established; and here, the great congregation assembled every Friday, listening with reverence and awe to messages from Heaven. Here, the Prophet planned his victories; here, he received embassies from vanquished and contrite tribes; and from hence issued edicts which struck terror amongst the rebellious to the very outskirts of the peninsula. Hard by, in the apartment of Aisha, he breathed his last; and there, side by side with his first two Successors, he lies buried.”

*(Life of Muhammad, page 177)*

## The Mosque With Two Qiblas

*(Masjid-e-Qiblatain)*

The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> used to face towards the sacred temple in Jerusalem all the time, even when he migrated to Medina. His personal desire was to face towards the sacred mosque in Mecca, yet he did not even pray for this change. Allah, however, fulfilled his wish and directed him to change his Qibla (direction of Prayer) to the sacred mosque. This commandment was revealed while he was offering Zuhar prayers and had completed the first two raka'ats. He immediately obeyed this revelation and changed his direction while in the state of prayer. The followers also adopted this change.

This historic change took place at the Mosque of Bani Salma and is now known as Masjid Qiblatain (the mosque with two Qiblas). This event has been chronicled in the Holy Qur'an as follows:

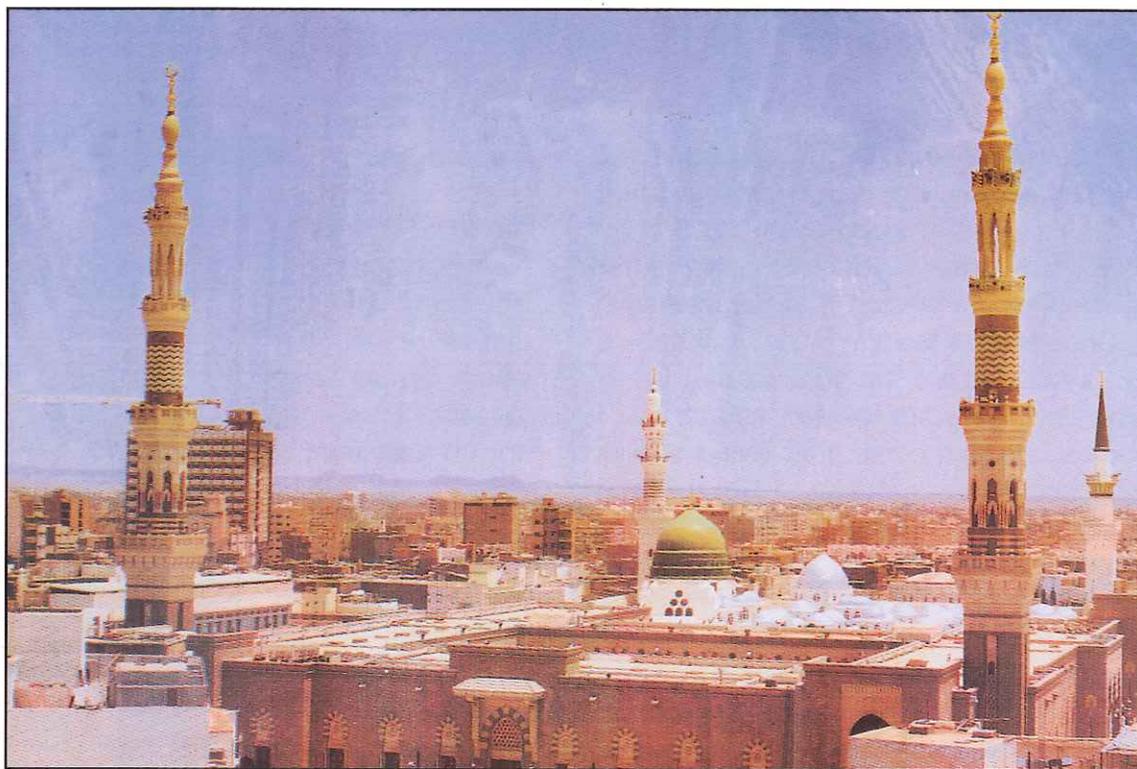
قَدْ نَرَى تَقَلُّبَ وَجْهِكَ فِي السَّمَاءِ فَلَنُوَلِّيَنَّكَ  
قِبْلَةً تَرْضَاهَا فَوَلِّ وَجْهَكَ شَطْرَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ  
وَحَيْثُ مَا كُنْتُمْ فَوَلُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ شَطْرَهُ وَإِنَّ  
الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ لَيَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ  
وَمَا اللَّهُ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٢٠١﴾

“Verily, We see thee turning thy face often to heaven; surely, then, will We make thee turn to the Qibla which thou likest. So, turn thy face towards the Sacred Mosque; and wherever you be, turn your faces towards it. And they to whom the Book has been given know that this is the truth from their Lord; and Allah is not unmindful of what they do.” (2:145)

### **So Said the Holy Prophets<sup>sa</sup>:**

Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> said: Shall I tell you something whereby Allah would wipe out your sins and raise your status? Thos present said: Certainly, Messenger of Allah<sup>sa</sup>. He said: Performing the ablution carefully even in difficulty, frequent walking to the mosque, and waiting eagerly for the next *salat* (prayer) after one is finished... this is your striving in the cause of Allah. (*Sahih Muslim*)

Buraidah relates that the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> said: To those who walk to the mosque in dark nights, give glad tidings of full light on the Day of Judgement. (*Abu Daud and Tirmidhi*)



*The Holy Prophet's Mosque (Masjid-e-Nabwi)*



*The Mosque with Two Qiblas (Masjid Qiblatain)*



## The Universal Message of Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> Regarding Mosques

*Dost Muhammad Shahid*

**H**azrat Maulana Jala-ud-Din Roomi (rahmatul alaihe), the well-known and distinguished soofi of the Muslim world (born 1208 C.E.; died 1273 C.E.) has written a very interesting narrative about a shepherd in Volume II of his Mathnavi. He writes: 'Once Hazrat Moosa<sup>as</sup> saw a shepherd supplicating: O Allah where are you, so that I may serve you and devote my life for you, and so that I may sew your shoes and comb your hair and kiss your beautiful hands and massage your soft and smooth feet, and prepare for you cheese and special bread every morn and eve. May all my goats be sacrificed for you. O my Beloved grant me just once the chance to behold your countenance.'

Recounting this narrative I fell into deep thought and contemplated that if today Hazrat Khatamul Anbiya, Muhammad Mustafasa were to appear in his full resplendent beauty and this humble one had the honor to present his most sincere salaams to His Holiness, I would most respectfully submit: O Prophet of Allah, those who are steeped in your love have built a great mosque for the purpose of spreading the message of Islam in the New World and one of your holy deputies is to inaugurate this mosque. Please give us a message for this blessed occasion. So what message would the one for whom this universe was created give? The answer to this question, I found from the stars of the spiritual firmament, that is to say from the ahadees conveyed to us by the Companions of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> which I now present to the readers of this Souvenir. Every single word of this faith inspiring message was issued forth from the blessed tongue of Hazrat Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, only the order in which they have been presented is the doing of this humble one (may my father and mother and my spirit and my life be sacrificed for him):

O ye people, praise Allah. Whoever builds a mosque for Allah (that is to say builds a mosque with the intention of winning the pleasure of Allah), Allah, the Exalted, shall build a great house for such a one in Paradise. A mosque is the house of each and every believer. Mosques are the houses of Allah and those

believers who enter therein are the guests of Allah and he who comes to meet someone; it is incumbent upon him that he respect him whom he has come to meet. Thus when any from among you enters a mosque he should offer two raka'ats of prayer before being seated. Those who visit the mosques in the



*Maulana Dost Muhammad Shahid*

darknesses, convey to them the good news that Allah shall bestow upon them from Himself perfect light on the Day of Judgment. When you see someone who possesses a deep attachment with a mosque, then bear witness to such a one's faith because Allah, the Exalted, says only such people populate mosques who believe in Allah and the Last Day. Whenever any from among you enters a mosque let him pray that O Allah open up for me the doors of Thy Mercy; and whenever he leaves a mosque, let him pray thus that O Allah, I seek from Thee Thy blessings. Those who are present they should convey this message to the others for it is quite possible that those who are present convey this message to such who are absent as may well better remember this message.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى  
إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

O Allah shower Thy peace upon Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and upon the people of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> as Thou did shower Thy peace upon Abraham<sup>as</sup> and upon the people of Abraham<sup>as</sup>. Thou are indeed Praiseworthy and Exalted.

■ *Maulana Dost Muhammad Shahid, Author,  
History of Ahmadiyyat*



## The Holy Quran and Places of Worship



A Christian cathedral



A Buddhist temple

وَالَّذِينَ أُخْرِجُوا مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ بِغَيْرِ حَقٍّ إِلَّا أَنْ يَقُولُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ، وَلَوْلَا دَفْعُ اللَّهِ النَّاسَ بَعْضَهُمْ بِبَعْضٍ لَهَدَمَتْ صَوَامِعُ وَبِيَعٌ وَصَلَوَاتٌ وَمَسَاجِدُ يُذَكَّرُ فِيهَا اسْمُ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا، وَلَيَنْصُرَنَّ اللَّهُ مَنْ يَنْصُرُهُ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَقَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ ﴿٢٤١﴾

"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 people by means of others, there would surely have been destroyed 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." (Al-Quran, 22:41)



A Baptist church



A Catholic church

In this verse, Allah has enjoined upon the Muslims to defend even with their lives *all* places of worship—the churches, the synagogues, the temples, etc. This injunction, as embodied in this verse, did not just remain as a pious principle. Rather, it was acted upon by Muslims in their daily lives. Presented below is a practical example—a charter of freedom which the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> granted to the followers of other faiths:

### CHARTER OF FREEDOM

This is the document which Muhammad, son of 'Abdullah, God's Prophet, Warner and Bearer of glad-tidings, has caused to be written so that there should remain no excuse for those coming after. I have caused this document to be written for Christians of the East and the West, for those who live near, and for those of the distant lands, for the Christians living at present and for those who will come after, for those Christians who are known to us and for those as well whom we do not know... I promise that any monk or way-farer who will seek my help on the mountains, in forests, deserts or habitations, or in places of worship, I will repel his enemies with all my friends and helpers, with all my relatives and with all those who profess to follow me and will defend him, because they are my covenant. And I will defend the covenanted against the persecution, injury and embarrassment by their enemies in lieu of the poll-tax they have promised to pay. If they will prefer themselves to defend their properties and persons, they will be allowed to do so and will not be put to any inconvenience on that account. No bishop will be expelled from his bishopric, no monk from his monastery, no priest from his place of worship, and no pilgrim will be detained in his pilgrimage. None of their churches and other places of worship will be desolated or destroyed or demolished. No material of their churches will be used for building mosques or houses for the Muslims, any Muslim so doing will be regarded as recalcitrant to God and His prophet. Monks and bishops will be subject to no tax or indemnity whether they live in forests or on the rivers, or in the East or West, North or South. I give them my word of honor. They are on my promise and covenant and will enjoy perfect immunity from all sorts of inconveniences. Every help shall be given them in the repair of their churches. They shall be absolved from wearing arms. They shall be protected by the Muslims. Let this document be not disobeyed till Judgement Day. (Hazrat Mirza Bashirrudin Mahmood Ahmad, Holy Quran Commentary, Volume 4, pages 1755-6)



## Importance and Veneration of Mosques

*Maulana Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad*

**M**asjid is an Arabic word which means 'a place where prostration is done before Allah Ta'ala (God Almighty) for His worship.' The word Masjid (Mosque) has been used many times in the Holy Quran to convey these meanings.

A mosque plays a pivotal role in Islam. It serves as a center for worship and the remembrance of Allah and is a center for learning and training for practical living. It is indeed an institution for the development of religious, spiritual and moral qualities of Muslims and provides knowledge and guidance for their welfare and betterment.

A mosque very effectively facilitates and promotes equality, kindness towards one another and brotherly love. It creates discipline and serves as a vehicle to end disorder and disorganization among Muslims. It is a sacred and blessed place where there is no distinction between the rich and the poor, a king or a beggar. And every Mosque that is built for the worship and remembrance of God Almighty becomes instrumental in the promotion of higher moral qualities among Muslims.

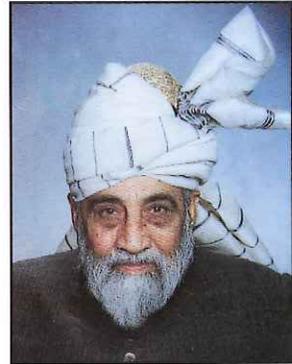
Any person who takes part in the construction and maintenance of a Mosque built to promote goodness and welfare of Muslims is given the following good news from the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>: 'One who builds or participates in building Allah's House (a Mosque) in this world seeking only His pleasure, Allah builds a house for him in paradise.'

All Glory and Praise belongs to Allah. What a reward ! Blessed are those pious servants of Allah who not only contribute in the building and maintaining a Mosque but also try through their practical example to meet all other objectives of their venerable place of worship. They not only contribute money but also devote time and are sincere in their efforts for achieving the true purpose of the construction of a Mosque.

It is my sincere and heart-felt prayer that we may understand the importance and veneration of the Mosque and may Allah enable us to fulfill its blessed objectives.

A mosque is an effective means for the propagation and progress of Islam. Experience tells us that non-Muslims

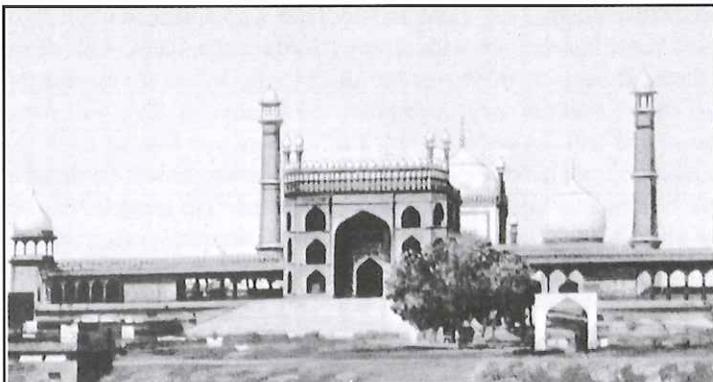
are deeply impressed when they see out Mosques and observe the manner of our worship in them. Syed Ameer Ali, a well-known Muslim scholar referring to an English Historian in his book *Tanqeedul Islam* (Criticism of Islam) writes: 'It is one of the superiorities of Islam that Muslims can worship any place on this Earth. (So whithersoever you turn, there will be the face of Allah. Al-Baqarah, 2:116). Any place becomes sacred and can be considered a Mosque where you worship Allah. Whether at home or



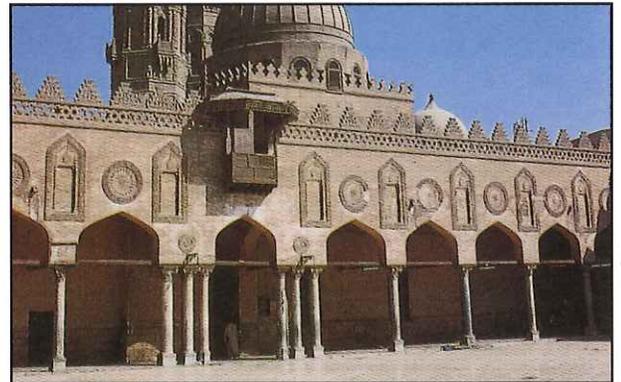
*Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad*

on a journey, a Muslim will pour his heart out before his Creator through simple but exciting expressions when the Prayer time approaches. His heart is satisfied in the short prayer service and whatever he recites during Prayer expresses the Glory, the Mercy and the Blessings of Allah and his humility and dependence upon Him. A Christian cannot even imagine the pleasure of worship enjoyed in Islamic Prayer.' (Faslul Khitab, 2nd Ed., Part 2, page 117)

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, the beloved of Allah and the leader of the world today, has also said: "If you want Islam to progress, build a Mosque." Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq<sup>ra</sup> has narrated that the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> said: "Wherever our Jama'at is established, a mosque should be built there for the worship of Allah. A mosque is the House of God. Our Jama'at progress is founded on the construction of a mosque in any village or city. If there are only a few Muslims in any village or city, build a mosque there with good intention and God will bring more Muslims to that place. It is not essential for the building to be set in stone for a mosque, rather it should have earmarked land (in the beginning) with some simple ceiling as a protection from rain and heat. God Almighty does not like extravagances." (Zikre Habeeb)



*Jaami Mosque, Delhi, India*



*Al-Azhar Mosque, Cairo, Egypt*



## AHMADIYYAT

### The True Islam

Ahmadiyyat is not a new faith. On the contrary, it is the very Islam that was revealed to the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> about 1400 years ago. The objective of Ahmadiyyat, therefore, is the same as that of Islam, namely, to establish the relationship of love between God and His servants and to bring about peace and unity between different sections of mankind. Ahmadiyyat seeks to abolish all barriers set up on the basis of race and color, so that man may unite and promote universal peace.

In Ahmadiyyat, the belief is held that God is One and has no partner either in His Being or in His attributes. God is neither begotten nor does He beget. He is free from every kind of weakness and shortcoming and is perfect in all His attributes. He hears the prayers of His humble servants and succours them in their need. His favors, whether material or spiritual, are not confined and limited to any nation or people. The Ahmadiyya Muslim community regards it as its duty to persuade people to accept the Unity of God, since the acceptance of this concept of unity can bring about unity between mankind.

Ahmadi Muslims believe sincerely in the truth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and of all the prophets who appeared before him<sup>as</sup> among whatever people and in whatever country they might have been raised. An Ahmadi regards it as his or her duty to inculcate the doctrine of the truth of all prophets.

Ahmadis also believe that all great religions were, in their inception, based upon truth, and still contain many excellences. Ahmadis reject and repudiate the attitude which assumes that no religion other than one's own contains any truth or excellence. Nevertheless, it is considered a duty to proclaim that Islam contains in its fullness and perfection the Divine guidance which can lead mankind to communion with and nearness to God.

Ahmadis hold freedom of conscience higher than all other freedoms and as the birth-right of every human being. It is considered utterly unlawful in Ahmadiyyat to go to war with a government or people that grants full freedom of conscience and religion to those who inhabit its territories, and it is maintained in the Ahmadiyya community that those Muslims who consider war justified on the account of differences in matter of religion as being in grievous error in holding this utterly un-Islamic doctrine.

## *The Ten Conditions of Bai'at*

*Conditions of Initiation into Ahmadiyyat as laid down by  
Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, The Promised Messiah and Mahdias*

1. The initiate shall solemnly promise that he shall abstain from Shirk (association of any partner with God) right up to the day of his death.
2. That he shall keep away from falsehood, fornication, adultery, trespasses of the eye, debauchery, dissipation, cruelty, dishonesty, mischief and rebellion; and will not permit himself to be carried away by passions, however strong they may be.
3. That he shall regularly offer five daily prayers in accordance with the commandments of God and the Holy Prophet; and shall try his best to be regular in offering the Tahajjud (pre-dawn supererogatory prayers) and invoking Darood (blessings) on the Holy Prophet; that he shall make it his daily routine to ask forgiveness for his sins, to remember the bounties of God and to praise and glorify Him.
4. That under the impulse of any passions, he shall cause no harm whatsoever to the creatures of Allah in general, and Muslims in particular, neither by his tongue nor by his hands nor by any other means.
5. That he shall remain faithful to God in all circumstances of life, in sorrow and happiness, adversity and prosperity, in felicity and trials; and shall in all conditions remain resigned to the decree of Allah and keep himself ready to face all kinds of indignities and sufferings in His way and shall never turn away from it at the onslaught of any misfortune; on the contrary, he shall march forward.
6. That he shall refrain from following un-Islamic customs and lustful inclinations, and shall completely submit himself to the authority of the Holy Quran; and shall make the word of God and the sayings of the Holy Prophet the guiding principles in every walk of his life.
7. That he shall entirely give up pride and vanity and shall pass all his life in lowliness, humbleness, cheerfulness, forbearance and meekness.
8. That he shall hold faith, the honor of faith, and the cause of Islam dearer to him than his life, wealth, honor, children and all other dear ones.
9. That he shall keep himself occupied in the service of God's creatures, for His sake only; and shall endeavor to benefit mankind to the best of his God-given abilities and powers.
10. That he shall enter into a bond of brotherhood with this humble servant of God, pledging obedience to me in everything good, for the sake of Allah, and remain faithful to it till the day of his death; that he shall exert such a high devotion in the observance of this bond as is not to be found in any other worldly relationship and connections demanding devoted dutifulness.



## The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>

**H**azrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was born on February 13, 1835 in Qadian, India. As a young man, he was deeply immersed in the study of the Holy Quran and often was seen at the mosque in ardent supplication, so much so that people used to call him 'Maseetar', a person who has fallen in love with the mosque.

In 1882, Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> first learnt by revelation that Allah had commissioned him to be the Divine Reformer and that a long and arduous task lay ahead.

In 1889, under the Divine command of God, he established a religious organization known as the Ahmadiyya

Movement in Islam. He was bestowed with Divine revelations. One of his revelations was, 'I shall give you a large party of Islam.' At that time, only a handful of people accepted Ahmadiyyat, but today the number of followers of Hazrat Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> exceed 10 million.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> wrote 85 books to establish the supremacy of Islam over all other faiths, including his masterpiece treatise Braheen-i-Ahmadiyya.

At 10:30 in the morning on May 26, 1908, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> breathed his last .



*The Mubarak Mosque in Qadian, India*

## The Mubarak Mosque

**I**n 1882, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> was commissioned by God to be the Reformer of the age. The very first task he addressed was the building of a mosque like his Master, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. Under the Divine Command of God, around 1883, he laid the foundation stone of the Mubarak Mosque in Qadian, India. Upon laying the historic foundation of this Mosque, he received several revelations.

One of these revelations was as follows:

مبارک و مبارک و کل امر مبارک - يجعل فيه

**“Both blesor and blessed is this mosque, and everything blessed takes place in it.”**

Remarkably, when the numerical value assigned to each of the letters present in the revelation is considered into a total figure, the number attained is 1300. The Mubarak Mosque was completed, in the Islamic Calendar, on the 26th

day of Shawal in the year 1300.

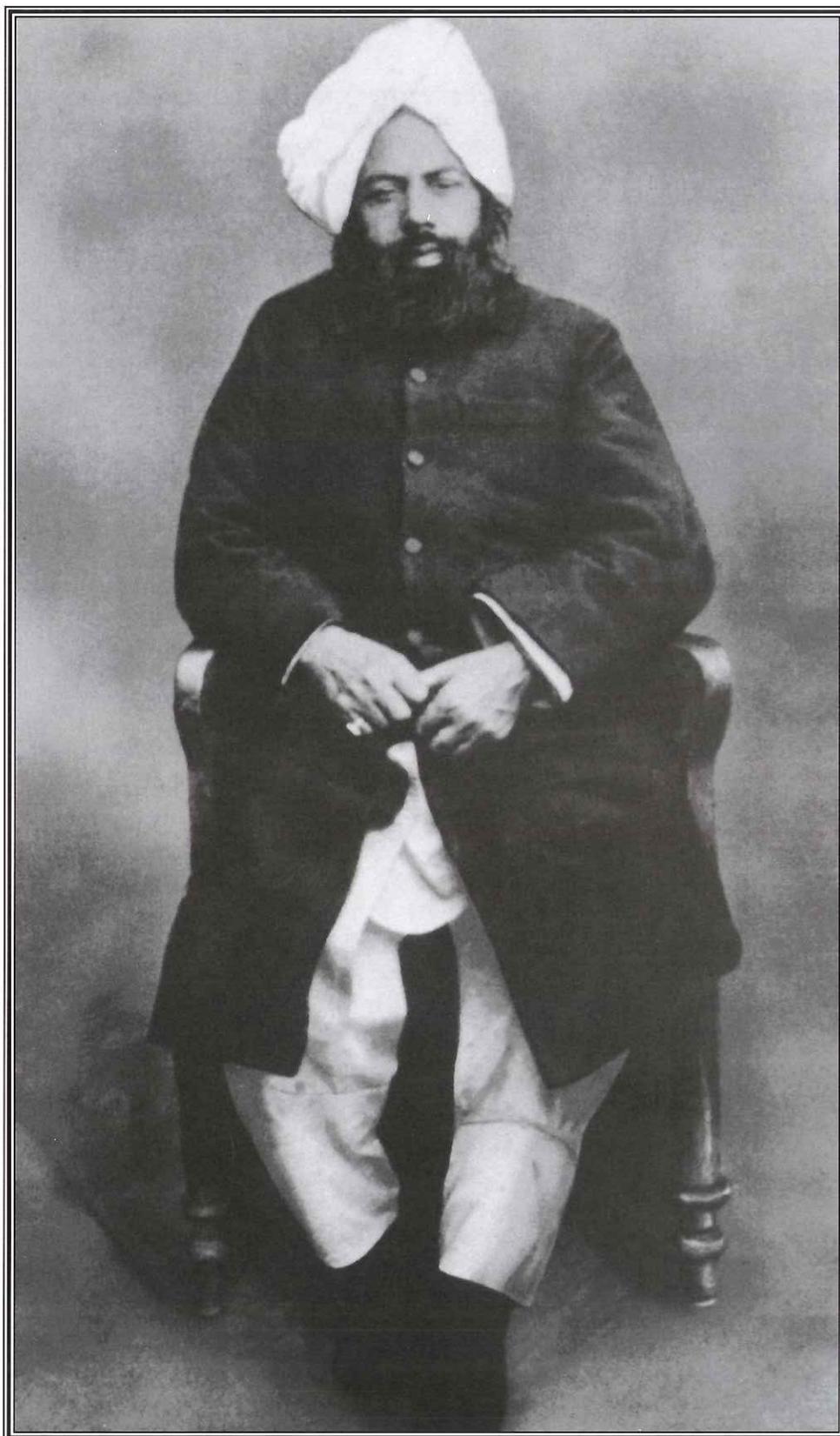
Another revelation Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> received was:

**“There are blessings for the people in this Mosque and he who enters it, enters into peace.”**

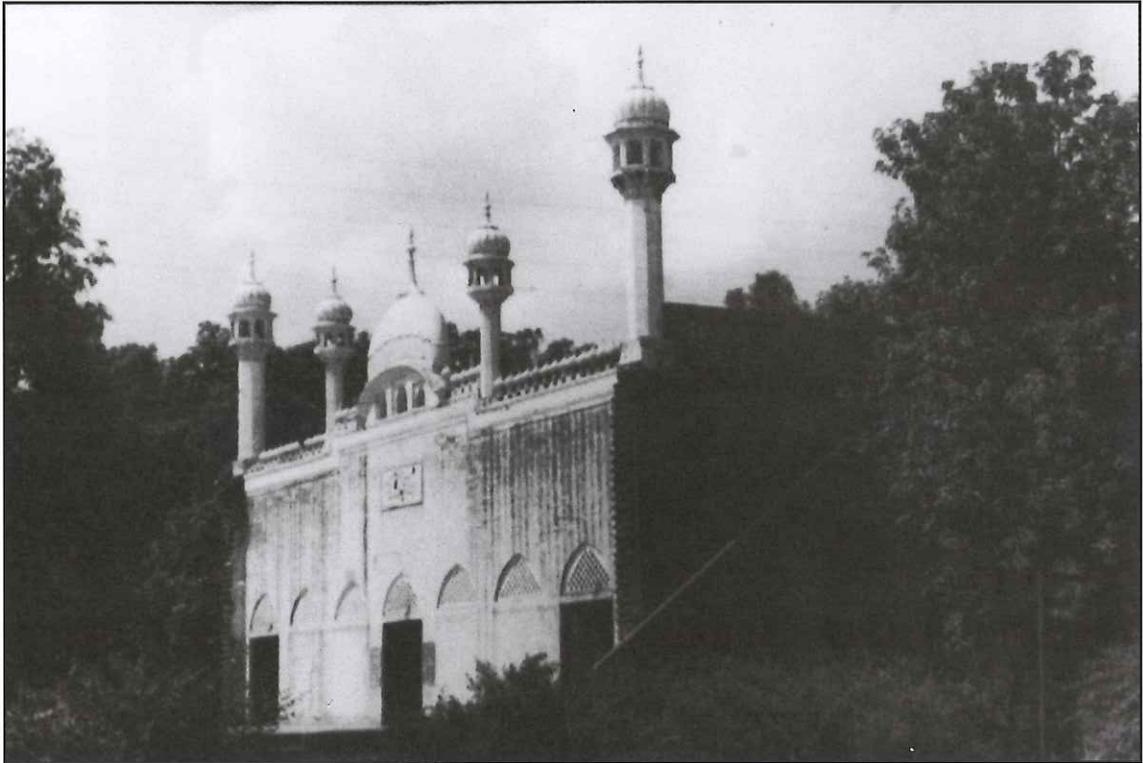
On October 9, 1883, Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> had a dream in which he saw Allah's angels writing some verses of the Holy Qur'an with green ink on the front of the Mubarak Mosque. Included among these verses was:

**“Who can stop the Blessings of Allah ?”**

Initially, the Mubarak Mosque was small, but twice in its history it was extended, first in 1907 and then later on December 2, 1944.



**Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad**  
The Promised Messiah and Mahdi<sup>as</sup>  
(1835 - 1908)



*The Noor Mosque in Qadian, India*

The foundation of this mosque is sheerly based on righteousness, and the mosque which is based on Taqwa is a strong mosque. *(Excerpt from the address by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I on April 23, 1910, History of Ahmadiyyat, Vol. 4, page 330)*

### **The Noor Mosque in Qadian, India**

Foundation Stone	Laid on March 5, 1910 by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I <sup>ra</sup>
Supervisor of Construction	Qazi Abdul Rahim Sahib
Cost of Construction	Rs. 3,000 (donated by Mir Nasir Nawab Sahib)
Inauguration	April 23, 1910 by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I <sup>ra</sup>
Total Area of Mosque	2,200 square feet
Election of Second Khalifa	Held in Noor Mosque



## Hazrat Al-Haj Hakim Maulvi Nuruddin

### Khalifatul Masih Ira

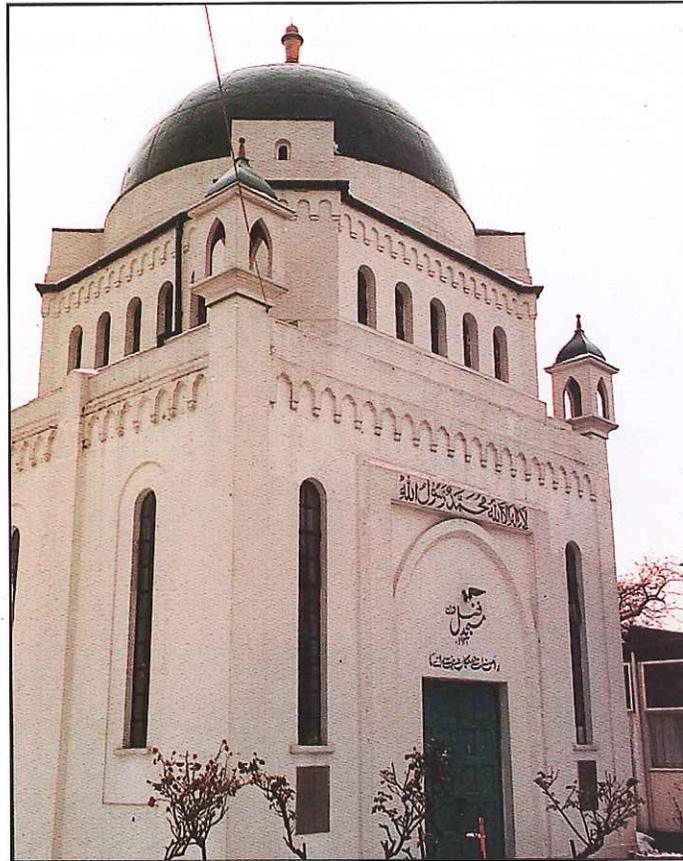
**H**azrat Hakim Maulvi Nuruddin, Khalifatul Masih Ira, was born in 1841 in Bherra, India. He was a descendant of Hazrat Umar Farooq<sup>ra</sup>, the Second Khalifa of Islam.

He was a very learned man and studied in practically all of the famous religious institutions of India, and had the privilege of staying for a long time in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. He was a great scholar, a talented physician, and an expert theologian. When the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> initiated the bai'at on March 23, 1889, Hazrat Maulvi Nuruddin<sup>ra</sup> was the first to pledge his allegiance to him.

His obedience to the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was

exemplary. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> said: 'He obeys me in every respect and as the pulse is governed by the heart beat, similarly he follows me. I find him lost in securing my pleasure and appreciation... How nice it would be if everybody from among my followers were 'Nuruddin.' But it is only possible when one's heart is illumined by the light of the true, strong, firm belief.' (Aina Kamalat-i-Islam)

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Ira served Ahmadiyyat for 6 years and did his utmost for the community's uplift and progress. He studied and taught the Holy Quran, and wrote many books. He passed away in Qadian on March 13, 1914.

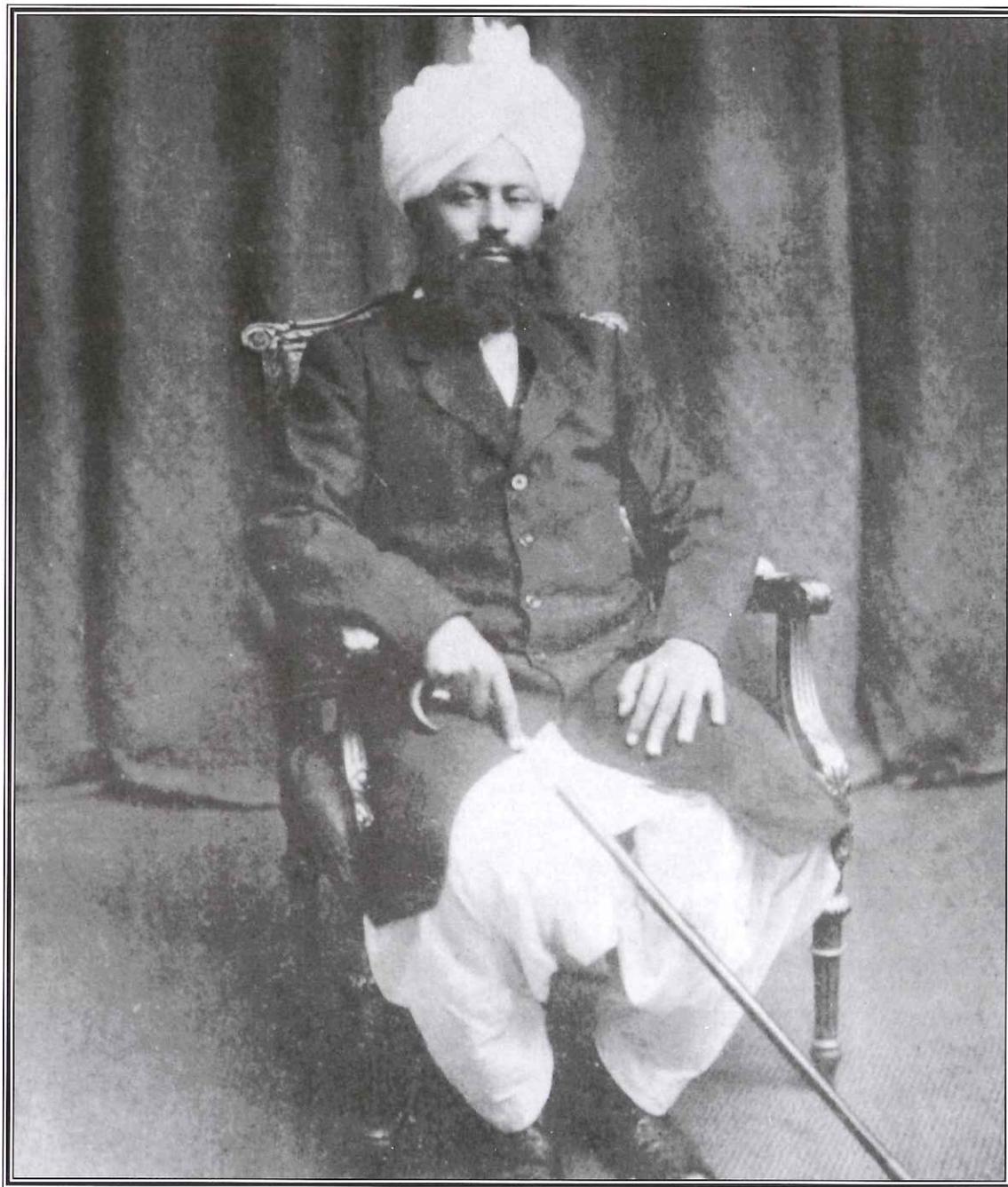


*The Fazal Mosque in London, England*

It was said about the British Empire that the sun does not set over it. Now, by the Grace of God, Ahmadiyyat is also spreading in remote areas of the east and west. We can say about this Jama'at that the sun does not set over it. We, however, do not want only this much. We want that the sun should not set over our Azan as well. May mosques be constructed from one end of the world to the other and may the Azan be called from every mosque. Wherever the sun may rise, may it see the holy name of God being raised there. My desire is that there should be a mosque at every place in the world. (Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, *Al-Fazal*, October 17, 1957, page 3)

## The First Mosque in England

Scheme Initiated	January 6, 1920 by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II <sup>ra</sup>
Amount Raised	Rs. 95,000 (Rs. 83,000 was contributed by Lajna Imaillah - Ahmadiyya Ladies Organization)
Land Purchased	A one acre parcel by Ch. Fateh Mohammad Syaal
Foundation Stone	Laid on October 19, 1924 at 4:00 PM by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II <sup>ra</sup>
Construction	Begun on September 28, 1925
Inauguration	October 3, 1926 by Shaikh Abdul Qadir Sahib (600 people attended the ceremony)
First Imam	Maulana Abdul Rahim Dard
First Muezzin	Bilal David Hawker Nuttal
Architect	Mr. Oliphant
Construction Company	Thomas Mawson & Sons
Named <i>Fazal Mosque</i>	By Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II <sup>ra</sup>



## Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad

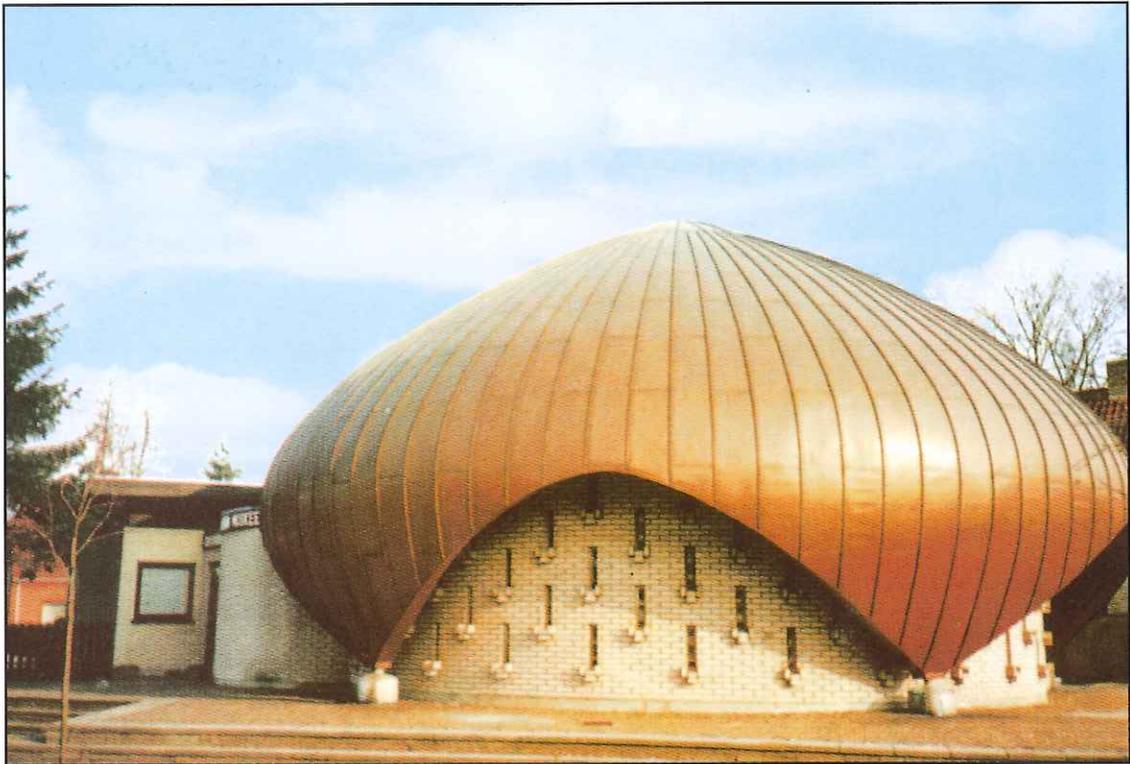
### Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>

**H**azrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, was born on January 12, 1889. His birth was the fulfillment of a great prophecy which was vouchsafed to the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> in advance in the form of a divine revelation. In this revelation, 51 immaculate characteristics were described regarding this Promised Son of Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>. Interestingly, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad reigned for 51 years as the second Khalifa of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

The larger commentary of the Holy Quran (Tafseer-e-Kabeer) and the concise commentary of the Holy Quran

(Tafseer-e-Saghir) are among his greatest works. He also initiated a scheme known as Tehrik-e-Jadid in 1934. This timely scheme facilitated the construction of Ahmadiyya mosques and missions throughout the world. He organized the Jama'at into several auxiliary organizations in order to strengthen the general body of the Jama'at. Truly, under his leadership Ahmadiyyat progressed rapidly worldwide.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> breathed his last on November 8, 1965, marking the end of an incredibly blessed and productive 51 years as the second Khalifa.



*The Nusrat Jahan Mosque in Copenhagen, Denmark*

**O**ur Master and Sole Sustainer ! Make this house a house of peace and security. May Your glowing light illuminate every heart, and may all of our hearts be filled with the love of your most beloved, the chief benefactor of mankind, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. Aameen. *(From the address of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> in his address in Denmark on July 21, 1967, Monthly Khalid, May 1983, page 206)*

### **The First Mosque in Denmark**

Mosque Proposal	Made by Hazrat Maryam Siddique, President of Lajna Imaillah, to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II <sup>ra</sup> in 1964
Total Contributions	Rs. 600,000
Foundation Stone	Laid on May 6, 1966 by Hazrat Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Wakil-ul-A'ala
Inauguration	Performed on July 21, 1967 by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III <sup>ra</sup>



## Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad

### Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>

**H**azrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>, was born on November 15, 1909, the eldest son of the second Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> committed the entire Holy Quran to memory in his early childhood. He was educated at Baliol College in Oxford, England; and later was appointed as the President of several key auxiliary organizations including Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, and the Central Ansarullah Organization. He was elected as the third successor of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> on November 8, 1965.

Among his notable achievements was the initiation of

the Nusrat Jahan Scheme for the uplift of education and health care in six West African nations. He also introduced the slogan 'Love for Allah, Hatred for None' to the worldwide Ahmadiyya community, and initiated the Centennial Jubilee Scheme in 1973.

During his reign, the famous revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, 'Kings shall seek blessings from thy garments' was gloriously fulfilled when Al-Haj F.M. Singhate, the Governor-General of The Gambia accepted Ahmadiyyat. Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad's<sup>ra</sup> leadership as the third Khalifa extended for over 17 years. He passed away on June 9, 1982.



## Message of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV On the Occasion of the Inauguration of Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, USA

The building of places of worship, such as mosques, dedicated to the one and only one God, is indeed among the noblest of tasks. But alas, the places of worship are sometimes built with mixed intentions. They are not always entirely and purely dedicated to the worship of Allah alone.

Islam stands out among religions in its total commitment to the unity of God. Yet it does not permit its adherents to interfere with the beliefs and practices of idolatrous religions. The principle teaching in this regard, without compromise, is given in the following verse of the Holy Quran:

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَفْ

"There is no compulsion in religion." (Al-Quran, 2:257)

This contains, indeed, the fundamental principle of religious practices and beliefs.

This principle also implies that those who believe in the unity of God cannot be denied the right to worship in mosques. The doors of the Muslim mosques must therefore always remain open to the followers of all religions, who believe in the unity of God. As far as physical access is concerned, even the idolaters are not denied. That which is forbidden is only to pay homage to anyone besides God. The Muslim places of worship must entirely remain dedicated to God alone in all sincerity.

There is no doubt that this grand, spacious, and beautiful building is extremely impressive and is a treat for the eyes to behold.

Yet it must be remembered that, according to Islam, the status of a place of worship, in the sight of Allah, is not related to physical grandeur or outstanding architectural design. The greatness of a mosque depends entirely on the fear of God and the sincerity with which the worshippers bow and prostrate therein. However, it is permissible to build large, spacious, simple but beautiful mosques, such as this one for whose inauguration we have all gathered here together. This is an issue that relates to the deep-rooted intentions that precede every human project; if the mosque incidentally also happens to be attractive and beautiful, without the element of lavishness, it is not disapproved in Islam. Alhamdulillah—all praise be to Allah—I can say with great confidence that those who participated in the building of this mosque did so entirely to win Allah's favor and had no baser motives.

The first house of God ever built in the USA was by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in 1922. Since then we have been able to add 28 more mosques or centers of worship in the United States. It is a small number but the work is quickening in pace with the passage of time. Out of the total, 22 were added

only between 1982 and 1994. We are planning to build many more in the coming years to keep pace with the expansion of the Jama'at.

I do hope and pray that the sacrifices of all those who have generously participated in the building of this humble yet great house of God will find favor with the Lord. This mosque has been built at a cost of \$4.25 million, which has been provided almost entirely by members of the US Ahmadiyya Jama'at. A large share of the credit goes to the Association of Ahmadiyya Doctors/Surgeons, who have provided more than half the entire expenses. The president and office bearers of the Medical Association should specially be remembered in our prayers. Among them there are those whose personal sacrifices are phenomenal. As for the rest of the Jama'at a large majority of them participated to the best of their capacity, with enthusiasm and a spirit of dedication that has touched my heart. The Amir of USA, M.M. Ahmad Sahib, and his team, who worked diligently under his able leadership, are also to be remembered in our special prayers. Outside the executive, there is one name which I would personally like to add to the list of those who performed outstanding work with regard to the collection of funds—Hazrat Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad Sahib, the ex-Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of USA. His strenuous tours for fund raising have been truly impressive. He must be nearing 90 years of age and yet, by the Grace of Allah, he works like a young man. God bless him and all the workers in whatever capacity they worked. May posterity also remember them with prayers when they read this brief mention of their services on this stone tablet.

Allah, however, does not need any inscription to remind Him. I have no doubt that He will always shower His blessings on those who have participated with profound sincerity only to please Him. May He always remain pleased with them. Along with those who have made outstanding financial contributions, there are also others who have only been able to offer small sums, but with pure love and a deep sense of sorrow that they could not offer more. The ways of Allah are strange. In His sight, sometimes, small contributors are held higher and closer in His love than those who have offered more. He knows best and to Him we should all turn with prayers that He should ignore our shortcomings and forgive our sins and accept our offerings, small or big, pure or defective, with mercy and graciousness. May He grant us the opportunity to be able to achieve the very noblest of expectations related to the houses of His worship.

  
Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad  
Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>  
October 14, 1994



## Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad

Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>

**H**azrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> is the present supreme head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He was born in Qadian, India on December 18, 1928, the son of the Second Khalifa, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>.

Before being elected as Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>, Hazoor served in several positions in the Jama'at, including President of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Nazim Waqf-e-Jadid, and President of the Central Ansarullah Association.

By the Grace of God, the community has grown at an accelerated pace under his blessed guidance, and a large number of mosques and mission houses have been

constructed in 142 countries around the world.

Hazoor's Friday sermons are telecast around the world via satellite, a milestone in the history of Ahmadiyyat introduced in the form of Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA). His Holiness has authored various books during his Khilafat on topics ranging from the Gulf Crisis in the Middle East, to the New World Order to the promotion of interfaith harmony. Under his leadership, the Holy Quran has been translated into many languages.

In 1984, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> left Pakistan for England, where he presently resides.



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## Message from the Amir of the USA Jama'at

*Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad*

**I**t was in 1983 when Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, the Supreme Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim community called on the U.S.A. Jama'at to collect 2.5 million dollars, outside the regular budget, for the establishment of 5 centers (mosques and mission houses) for the propagation of Islam and service of humanity.

Given the small size of the Ahmadiyya community in the United States and its meager resources, the amount in question looked quite staggering and a challenge.

By Allah's mercy and grace, the United States' Jama'ats response was splendid. We had only 7 mosques and mission houses in 1982, but under Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>saba</sup> new directive we have been able to build/acquire 22 new mosques and mission houses and the funds collected exceed the target many times over. The newest addition is the Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque constructed on an 11-acre parcel of land at a cost of 4 million dollars. It is the largest mosque in the Washington metropolitan area. Bait-ur-Rahman's inauguration ceremony will be performed by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on Friday, October 14, 1994 with prayers, in the presence of thousands of participants and distinguished guests.

The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was established in 1889 under Divine Command by the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> of Qadian. He claimed to be the Promised Reformer of the latter days whose advent was predicted by the Holy Prophet of Islam<sup>sa</sup> and by scriptures of other faiths. He was all alone when he proclaimed his mission from a tiny unknown village completely cut off from the rest of the world. Almighty Allah then assured him in a revelation, "I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the Earth." Today, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is established in 144 countries of the world and its ever growing number is at present estimated at 10 million.

Ahmadiyyat has shifted into a new gear. At the last Annual Ahmadiyya Convention in the United Kingdom (August, 1994), over 400,000 new members joined the Community in a worldwide Bai'at Ceremony which was broadcast all over the world via satellite transmission. These new soldiers of Islam hailed from 93 countries representing 155 nationalities--again, in fulfillment of the Promised Messiah's<sup>as</sup> prophecy, "Every nation shall drink from this Divine fountain and Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam,

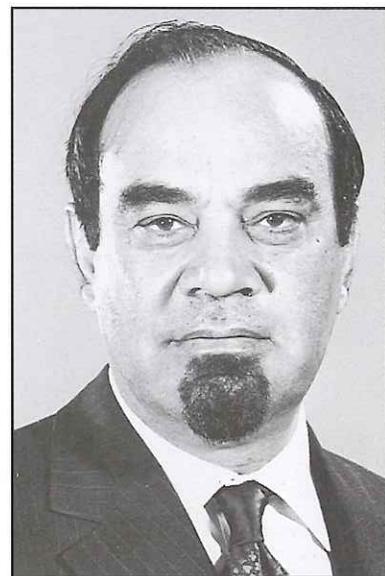
will spread and flourish with vigor and ultimately dominate the entire Universe."

Our new center will be a minaret of light which will enhance the spirituality of this region and remove misconceptions and misgivings about Islam, so widely and unjustly held by so many through a genuine ignorance of its true message and teachings. "Islam is the religion which does away with all discrimination

between man and man and demolishes all barriers of race, color and creed which divide humanity. Islam neither preaches coercion for the spread of its message nor gives license to other religions to do so. Indulgence in terrorism even in the name of the noblest objectives is strictly incompatible with the teachings of Islam." (From the message of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, i'halifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> during the Ahmadiyya Centenary Celebration in 1989)

Let us all rededicate ourselves to the service of the true Islam and humanity--united, determined and with prayers in our hearts. We should mold our lives and work hard and tirelessly for the attainment of the Divine mission for the renaissance of the true Islam, and serve and save a suffering humanity from its maladies and ailments.

It may be recorded here that scores of volunteers have worked hard and devotedly for the construction of this mosque, while thousands of men, women, and children and in particular members of the Ahmadiyya Medical Association have generously contributed to the Mosque Fund. We propose to publish a brief history of the Mosque's construction wherein the services and contributions will be duly acknowledged.



*Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad  
Amir of the U.S.A. Jama'at*

**Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad  
Amir, USA Jama'at  
September 11, 1993**



## Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya: The Second Manifestation

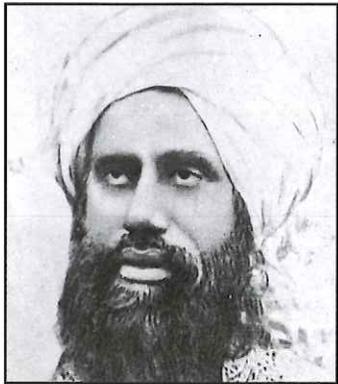
وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ  
لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ  
وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَى لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ  
مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا  
وَمَنْ كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿٥٦﴾

"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 that 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 who so ever is ungrateful after that, they will be the rebellious." (Al-Quran, 24:56)



Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>

Thus, He [Allah] manifests two kinds of power: (1) He shows His hand of might through prophets. And (2), at the time of the demise of the prophet when difficulties mount and the enemy is in full might and thinks that they (the followers of the prophet) are in disarray and is sure that now this community will be destroyed. Even now some within the community become hesitant and their backs are broken and some unfortunates among them even turn apostate, then God manifests His strong hand of might and sustains the collapsing community. Thus, He shows patience until the end and watches this divine miracle. (Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, Al-Wassiyat, pages 6-7)



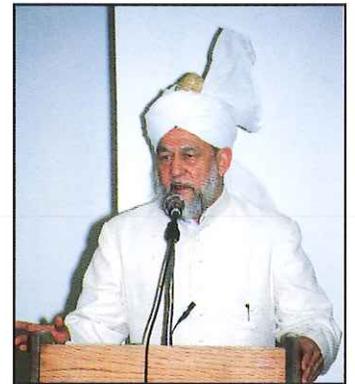
Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I<sup>ra</sup>



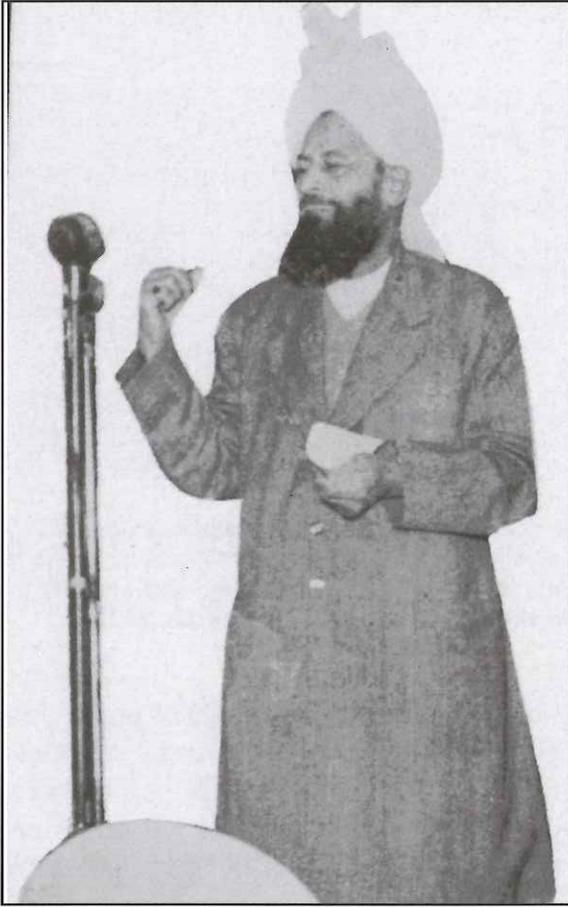
Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>



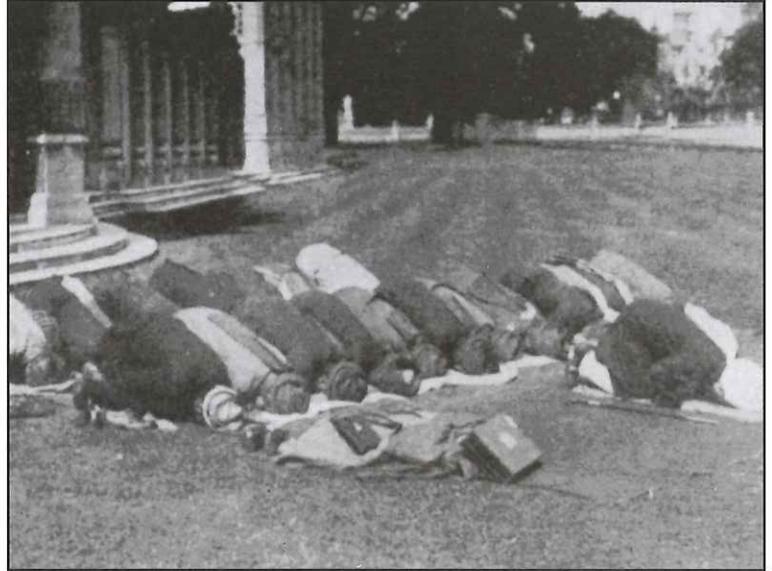
Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> stressing a point during one of his speeches. It was very rare to see Hazoor<sup>ra</sup> making gestures during his addresses.*



*Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> leads prayers in Royal Park, London*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II in London, England in 1924*



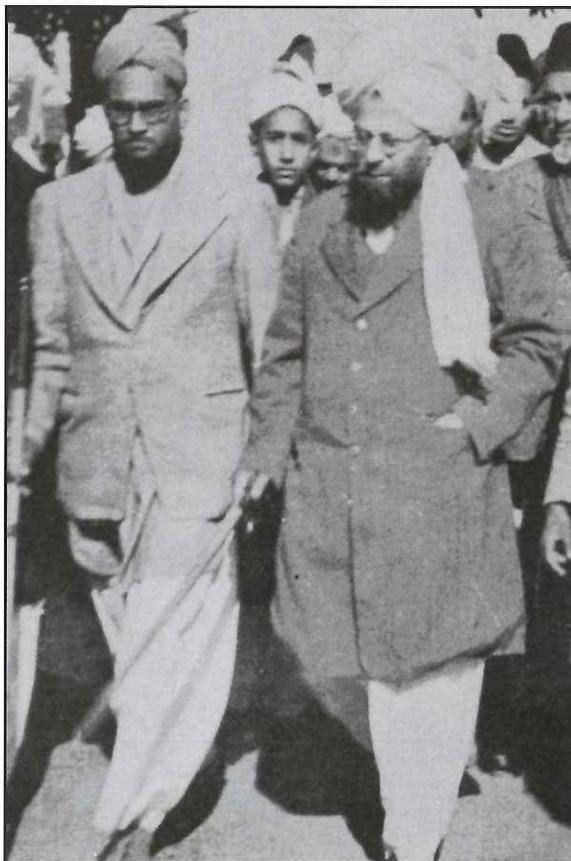
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> is being received on behalf of the German government in the town hall of Hamburg, Germany*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> addresses a press conference. To his right is the late Maulana Abdul Malik Khan, Missionary-in-Charge, Karachi*



*Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, addresses the Musleh Maud Meeting at Delhi in 1944. This was one of a series of public meetings held by Hazoor<sup>ra</sup> to proclaim to the world that God Himself had informed him that the prophecy regarding the Promised Reformer (Musleh Maud) was fulfilled in his person.*



### Object of Tehrik-e-Jadid

**T**his task cannot be accomplished fully with the funds that are now being collected under the Tehrik-e-Jadid Scheme. This fund, however, can be made use of as a nucleus, and if by God's Grace we develop the scheme, a time may come when we will have among us missionaries knowing various languages of the world. We shall be able to send our preachers to every country and every locality, even in such localities which are inhabited by only 10,000 people speaking a language of their own. The task, however, is not an ordinary one: it requires labor spread over many years. Constant watchful ness and an abiding spirit of sacrifice are needed for preparing missionaries with that ideal as the objective. Only when that task is accomplished can the Ahmadiyya Jama'at claim to have conveyed the message of God and His Prophet<sup>sa</sup> in all languages of the world; and, that is the object for which the Tehrik-e-Jadid Fund has been created. (Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>)

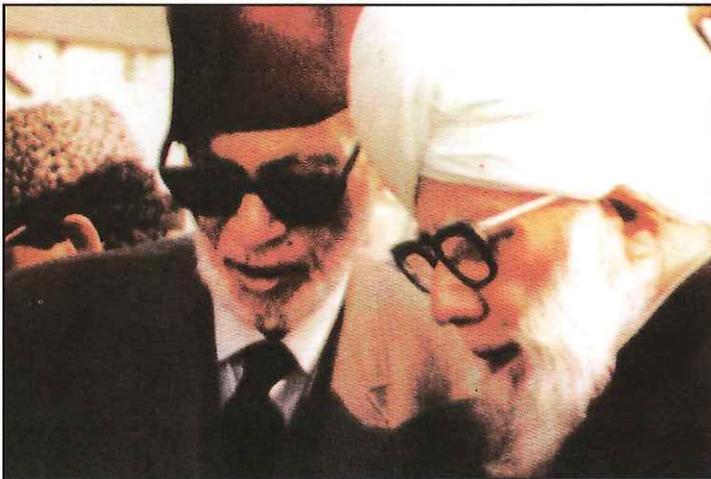
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> is seen here in 1940 with Chaudhry Mohammad Asadullah Khan, the Amir of the Lahore Jama'at, Pakistan*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> arrives at the Karachi airport after his first trip to Europe in 1967 since becoming Khalifa*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> with his brother, Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> and his son, Mirza Luqman Ahmad (left)*



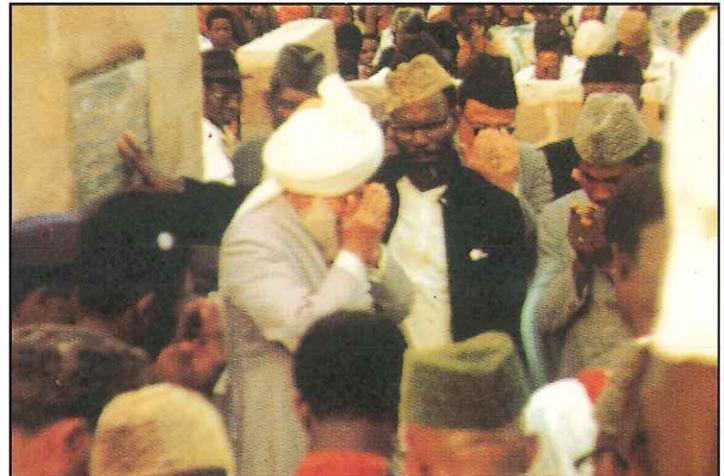
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> with Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan<sup>ra</sup> in London, England*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> with Dr. Abdul Salam, Nobel Laureate in Physics, in London, England*



*Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> delivers the inaugural address of Nasir Mosque at Goteborg, Sweden*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> leads silent prayers after affixing a commemorative plaque at the Mangoasi Mosque in Ghana*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> on his way to the National Assembly proceedings in Islamabad, Pakistan in 1974*



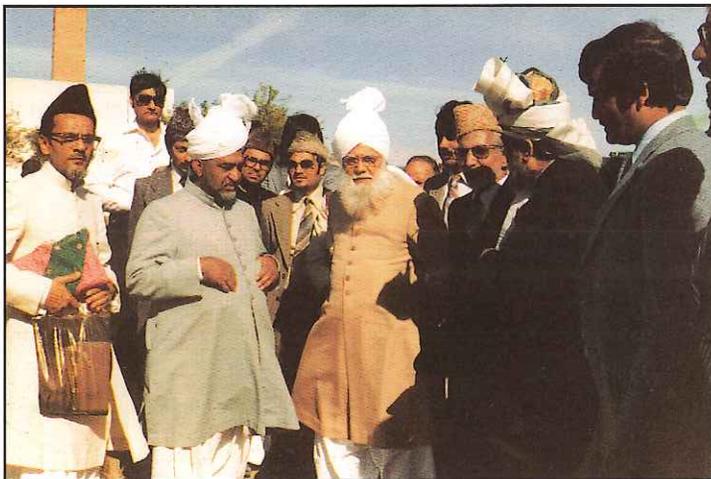
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> lays the foundation stone of the Basharat Mosque in Pedroabad, Spain*



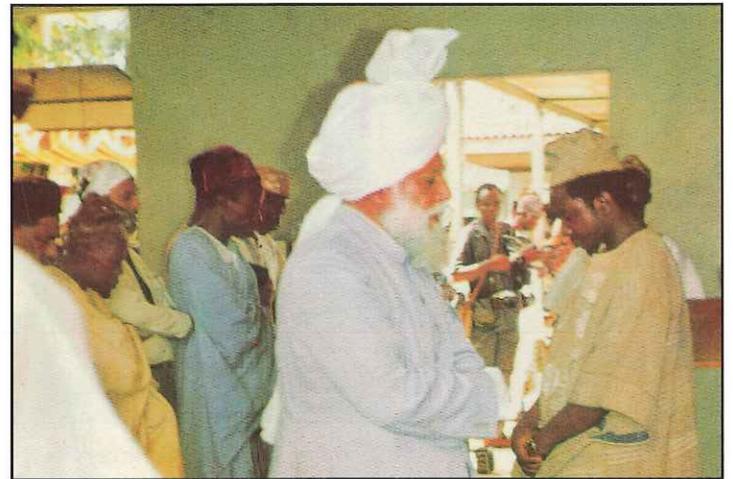
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>, during his visit to the United States, with missionaries Mian Mohammad Ibrahim and Mohammad Siddique Shahid*



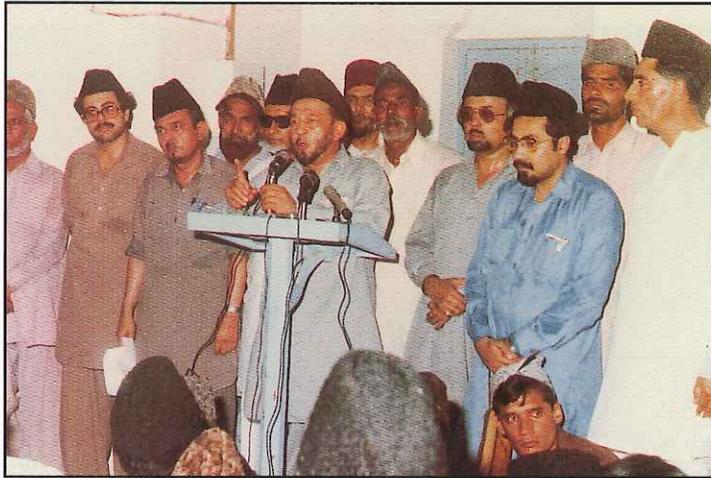
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> during his visit to San Francisco, California, USA in 1980. Rahmat Jamal, former L.A. Jama'at President, greets him at the hotel where the reception was held.*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> in Pedroabad, Spain with a few missionaries*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> leads congregational prayers*



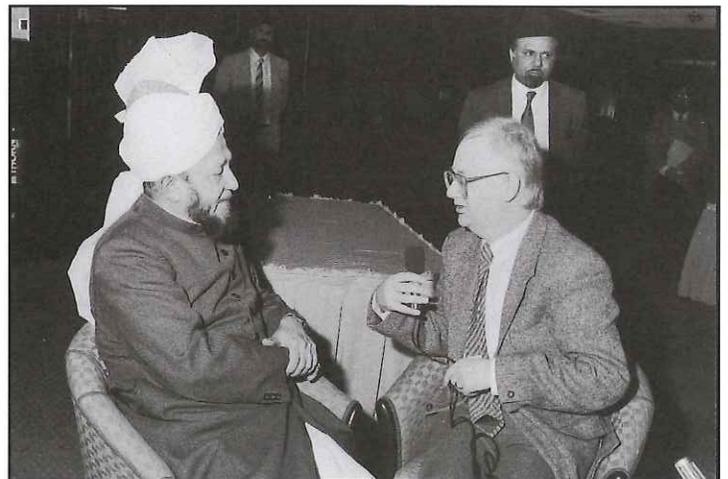
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba delivers his first address after his election to the high office of Khalifatul-e-Masih*



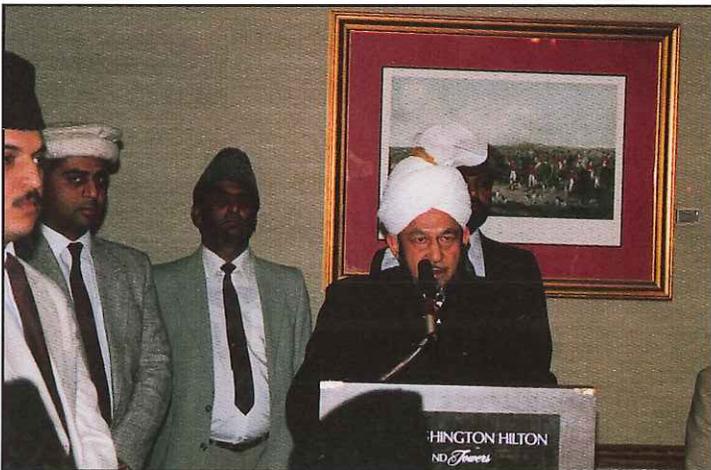
*His Holiness on his first tour to the Far East in 1983, with his family and Jama'at members at the International Dateline Marker*



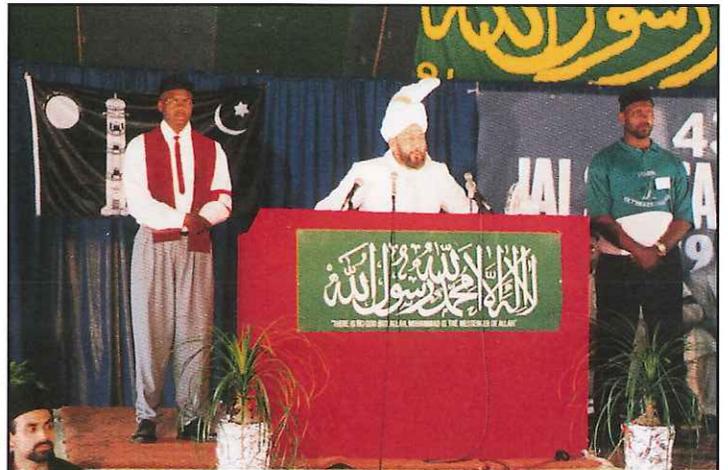
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba addresses the Jama'at on his arrival in the United Kingdom in 1984*



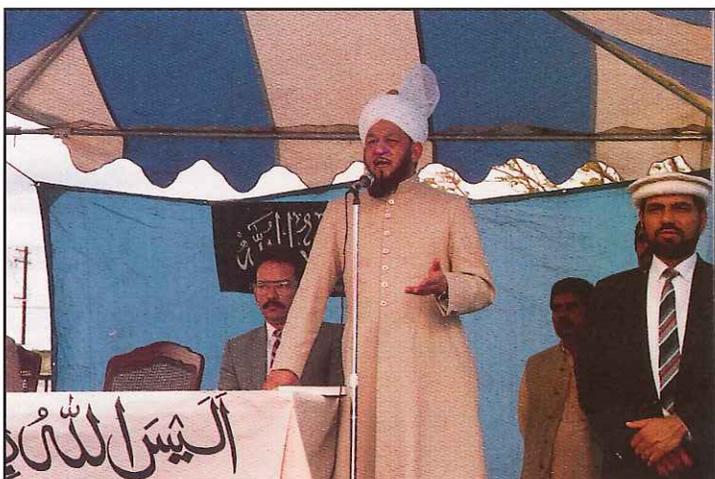
*A B.B.C. representative conducts a special interview with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba as he arrives in U.K. in 1984*



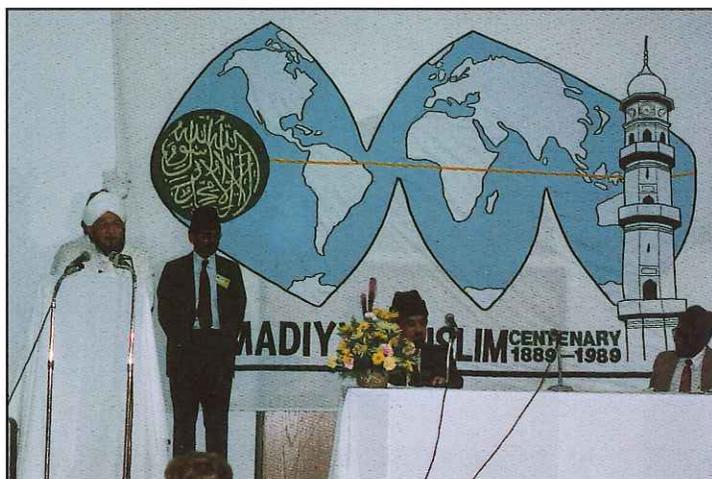
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba offers an address at a reception in the Washington D.C. Hilton Hotel, 1987*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba presides over the 43rd U.S.A. Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in Detroit, Michigan*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba inaugurates the Yousuf Mosque in Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.*



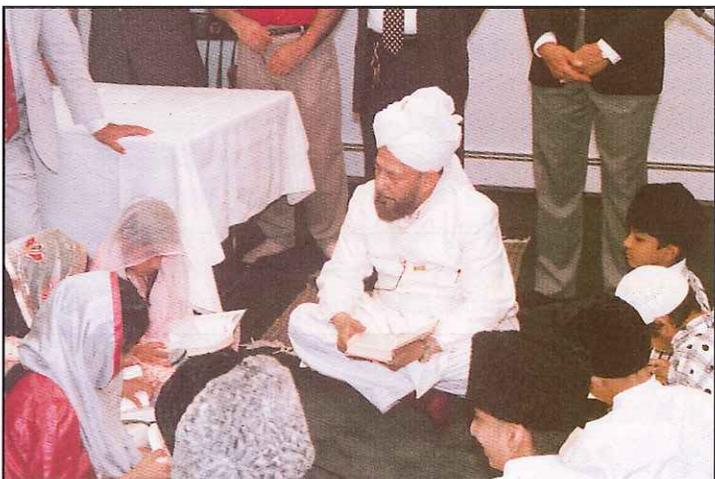
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba inaugurates Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in Los Angeles, California, USA. On Hazoor's right is Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, Amir of the USA Jama'at and Rehmat Jamal, former President of the Los Angeles Jama'at*



*The first visit of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba to Guatemala in 1989. Seated with him are the Vice President and various ministers of the Guatemalan government*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba with a group of doctors at the inauguration of Bait-ul-Shafi in Guatemala.*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba conducts an 'Aameen Ceremony' in New York, USA*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba proceeding to the inauguration of the Rizwan Mosque in Portland, Oregon, USA in 1989*



## **Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque Groundbreaking Ceremony**

*A Speech by Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad,  
Amir, USA Jama'at*

**L**et me first of all extend a warm welcome to all of you—and in particular to our guests—who have taken the trouble and time to be with us in our moment of joy and bliss. We have gathered today for the ground breaking ceremony of the Ahmadiyya mosque whose foundation was laid sometime back by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, the Supreme Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya community.

As many of our guests are not familiar with the Ahmadiyya community, allow me to say a few words about it. The community was established under divine command by its founder Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> in 1889. He claimed to be the Mahdi and Messiah of the age - the latter day Reformer whose advent was prophecied by the Holy Prophet of Islam<sup>sa</sup> and by scriptures of other faiths.

From a remote unknown village of Qadian, cut off from the rest of the world, he predicted under divine revelation that the community, which represents the renaissance of Islam, will spread to the corners of the Earth and would attain a commanding presence all over the world. Today, Ahmadis are estimated to be ten million strong and are established in 135 countries in all parts of the world. Despite a strong and bitter opposition the community has grown fast and Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, at our recent U.K. Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering), took the covenant of over 200,000 new members who joined the community during the last year. The covenant's symbolic representative ceremony was telecast by satellite the world over in eight important languages.

The solid core of the community's work centers around homage to and communion with our Creator and service to humanity regardless of faith, color, or creed. For the spread of Islam and its teachings, just to give an example, it has translated the Holy Qur'an into 51 languages, a service unequalled by any other Muslim organization or any combination of them.

In the area of service to humanity it has established a large number of schools and hospitals and this work has been strongest in the African countries where the need was and remains most acute.

Here in America we have established Ahmadi communities in 40 cities/locations, have 16 mosques and mission houses, and have an ambitious program of expansion.

As regards Ahmadiyya beliefs and teachings these are none other than those of Islam in its true form. Islam teaches us that God has sent His prophets and reformers to every group of people. Consequently, the source and origin of every religion is the same. No religion can therefore claim a total monopoly of truth. A believer in Islam must believe in all prophets like Moses<sup>as</sup> or Jesus Christ<sup>as</sup> and others, or he cannot call himself a true Muslim. Islam's claim is that whereas other religions were limited in time or restricted to a particular people, Islam is the complete, final, and perfect faith embodying all that was best anywhere, any time.

It is a pity that religion, which should be a source of harmony and peace, has through its misuse, abuse or exploitation been turned into a source of conflict and strife. Islam prohibits abuse or disrespect to leaders of other faiths, even idols worshipped by idolaters. It categorically rejects the use of force for conversion and is against violence or terrorism under any circumstances for any cause.

As the ceremony is for a mosque, I might add that the mosque enjoys a pivotal position in Islamic society. The believers gather here five times a day to offer prayers in congregation. It is used to impart knowledge to children and becomes a focal point for many religious and social events. In the Holy Qur'an, the mosque is referred to at no less than 13 different places. It speaks of the first House of Worship founded for all of mankind as that at Mecca, abounding in blessings and guidance for all peoples. The Qur'an categorically condemns ill use of places of worship and their destruction. Thus, in chapter two, verse 115, it claims, "Who is more unjust than he who prohibits the name of Allah being glorified in Allah's temples and strives to ruin them?"



Thus we find that when negotiations were being conducted between Muslims and a Christian delegation from Najran (Yemen), the Christians requested for a break and wanted to go out of the mosque to their own place of worship. The Holy Prophet of Islam<sup>sa</sup> told them it was not necessary to leave and that observing the etiquettes of the mosque, they could offer their prayers in the mosque itself. How tolerant and refreshing are the teachings and practices of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>!

If you study the Hadith (the sayings of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>) you find that once he observed that of all the buildings the most beautiful and attractive in Allah's sight is a mosque.

At another place the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> stated: "If one builds a house for the worship of Allah, surely Allah will provide him/her a house in paradise."

It is with this spirit and noble purpose that we undertake the construction of this, and other Ahmadiyya mosques, and make them a source of spiritual enlightenment, homage to the Creator and welfare to the people.

To our neighbors let me assure them that Ahmadis are a peace-loving and law-abiding community. There will be occasions when there will be large gatherings, but true to our traditions they will be orderly and well-behaved. The Holy Prophet of Islam<sup>sa</sup> has strongly emphasized the rights of and obligations towards one's neighbors. In fact the emphasis was so strong on this subject that fear was expressed that neighbors will be made to share inheritance rights. A true Muslim must be mindful of neighbors' rights and his or her obligations to them. I trust that mutual understanding and good relations shall always prevail.

The time for expression of acknowledgments and thanks will be when we meet here again hopefully in a year's time at the inauguration. But still let me in passing express the Jama'at's gratitude to all the



*Sahibzada Mirza Muza'ffar Ahmad Sahib  
Amir Jama'at, USA*

contributors for their generosity; to the mosque committee; the management team and workers for their selfless service; to Mr. Roger Bass, (the architect) for his hard work; and to our new partners in Tompkins to whom we look for support and a product of beauty and excellence which will always be a source of pride and joy for them and us. Aameen.

■ *Mirza Muza'ffar Ahmad Sahib, Amir Jama'at U.S.A.,  
Ground-Breaking Ceremony, Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, 1993*

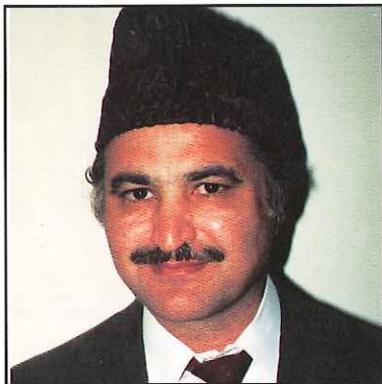
### **THE HOLY PROPHET<sup>sa</sup> AND MOSQUES**

"For him who makes his ablutions at home and then walks to one of the Houses of Allah to discharge the obligation imposed on him by Allah, one single step of his towards the Mosque wipes out a sin, and another step raises his status." (*Sahih Muslim*)



## Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV Makes Worldwide Appeal for \$2.5 Million for the Washington D.C. Mosque

**O**n July 7, 1989, in his Friday sermon at Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in Los Angeles, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> made an appeal to all the Jama'ats in the world to help build a mosque in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area with an approximate cost of 2.5 million dollars. Hazoor stated that Allah has already made some immediate arrangements. Lajna members from the New York Jama'at offered an amount of \$30,000, and Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman of the Los Angeles Jama'at offered \$100,000 to Hazoor at the joyous occasion of the Ahmadiyya Centenary Celebrations, which Hazoor gave for the Washington Mosque, adding \$3,000 as his own donation for the same cause. (*The Ahmadiyya Gazette, U.S.A., July-September, 1989, page 1*)



Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman  
President, Los Angeles Jama'at



Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah  
President, AMMA

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> addressed the members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association on June 25, 1993 and advised them to take up the task of building the Washington Mosque. The Association readily responded to his call. A brief letter of appreciation from Hazoor to the President of A.M.M.A. is presented below...

### English Translation of the letter written by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> to the President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association

July 17, 1993

Dear Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah Sahib,

*Assalamo Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatahu*

I am very pleased to know from a letter to me written by the Amir, Jama'at Ahmadiyya, USA that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association, USA has decided to provide funds for the completion of the Washington Mosque project. Alhamdulillah, God has blessed you greatly. Whatever work you start, your prayers and your efforts are greatly blessed by God Almighty. I had a desire that doctors play a greater role in the Washington Mosque Project. Now with your efforts the AMMA will play a significant role in the Washington Mosque Project.

May God Almighty grant you the best of both lives and be with you all the time.

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad




17. 7. 93

پیارے عزیز میرزا کاظم رحمت اللہ علیہ  
 السلام علیہ ورحمۃ اللہ وبرکاتہ  
 مکرم اور صبر جماعتیہ امریکہ کے ایک خط سے مجھے یہ  
 جان کر بہ حد خوشی ہوئی ہے کہ احمدیہ میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن امریکہ  
 سے صدر اسٹیشن مندرجہ کی تکمیل کے لیے رقم کی فراہمی کا فیصلہ کیا ہے  
 اللہ عزوجل - اللہ عزوجل نے آپ کو بہت برکت دی ہے۔ آپ جس  
 کام میں ہیں حاتمہ ڈالنے میں آپ کی ہر غلطی دعاؤں اور کوششوں  
 سے اور توانائی آپ میں - مدد برکت ڈال دیتا ہے۔ میری خواہش  
 تھی ڈاکٹر صاحبان اس میں نمایاں کردار ادا کریں۔ اب آپ کی تحریک پر  
 میڈیکل ایسوسی ایشن جو کمزور اور کمزور ہے اس سے بہت نمایاں فرق  
 پڑے گا۔  
 اللہ تعالیٰ آپ کو دروزن جہان کی صفات سے نوازے  
 اور ہمیں آپ کے ساتھ ہو۔

رحمت اللہ علیہ  
 تاحر  
 امیر المسلمین  
 فی الدنیا والآخرۃ



# Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque Construction Report

Manzoor Rahman

## Scheme of Five Centers in the United States

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> launched a scheme to build five mosques and mission houses in the United States in December of 1982.

## Purchase of Property and Laying of the Foundation

An 8.75 acre parcel of land was purchased in Montgomery County, Maryland (about 15 miles north of Washington D.C.). An additional one acre adjoining plot was acquired in 1988. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> laid the foundation stone of the mosque on October 9, 1987.

## Site Development

The first step in site development was soil investigation in a topographic and land survey. This was contracted to Kiddie Consultants in 1988.

## Three Phases of Construction

Phase One: Prayer halls for men and women, office on the lower level, a kitchen beside the site development, storm water management pond, pavements, utilities, and the two houses for the missionaries.

Phase Two: Multipurpose Hall & Additional Office Space

Phase Three: Additional structures for the Jama'at as needed.

## Design and Cost Estimation

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> approved the concept design of the mosque in November of 1989. The Mosque Committee laid down the design parameters for the architect. Following competitive bidding, Bass Architect was selected as the Project architect. Detailed drawings and documents were completed by March of 1991. Construction documents were completed in 1992.

## Bidding Process and Contract Award

Six qualified bidders were asked to present their proposal. After a lengthy process of evaluation, Tompkins Builders was selected as the most suitable and qualified builder for the job. A guaranteed maximum price contract was signed in June, 1993. A building permit was obtained on August 2, 1993 and Tompkins was notified to proceed with the project.

## Ground-Breaking Ceremony, Construction Begins

A formal ground-breaking ceremony was held at the mosque site on September 11, 1993. Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, the Amir of the U.S.A. Jama'at, presided over the occasion. Over 500 Jama'at members from the Washington D.C. and Baltimore areas attended. In addition, members of the National Majlis-e-Amla, and local government and public officials participated. Construction of the project started promptly thereafter.

## Building Structure, Capacity and Features

The exterior of the mosque is of exposed precast concrete panels with olive green stone bands at the top. The dome is twenty-four feet in diameter and sits over the precast concrete drum, twenty five feet above roof level, and has stainless steel cladding. The minaret is also made of precast concrete and is about ninety feet above grade level, with a stainless steel top. The mosque is attractively located close to the junction of two roads. The pathways around the building are well-planned, respecting the needs of women and men. The site around the mosque is beautifully landscaped. Site lights illuminate the building exterior, the dome and the minaret at night. The building has three floors.

The ground level includes the men's prayer hall, a spacious corridor, and an office, along with three display cases, a stair hall, an elevator hall and bathrooms. The prayer hall opens into the large 24-ft. diameter dome through the upper floor and has a capacity for about 700 worshippers.

The upper floor is exclusively for ladies. It has a beautiful glass window through which the dome and Mahrab areas are visible. The natural light also comes through the dome windows. There is a separate room within the hall with glass windows where ladies with young children and infants can sit and still participate with others. The ladies' hall has a capacity for about 600 worshippers. There is also a nursery for small children, a kitchenette, two offices beside a spacious hallway, a stair hall, an elevator hall and bathrooms.

The bottom level of the mosque has the National Headquarters office space, with a multi-purpose open space in the middle. Along with a fully equipped kitchen, the bottom floor has an audio/video control room and translation rooms. The open space in the middle of the bottom floor has a capacity for about 250 persons. A new four-bedroom house has been built on the site for the missionary and his family. The existing two-bedroom house has been fully renovated.

## National Mosque Committee

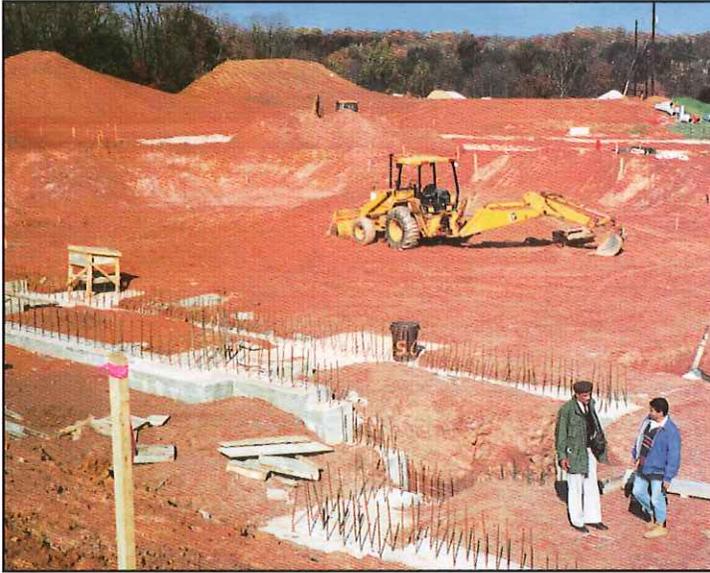
Chairman: Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, Amir, USA  
Members: Manzoor Rahman, Daud Ahmad, Mir Mubarak Ahmad, Suleman Mohammad, Tariq Amjad, Rashid Chowdhry, Raja A. Khalik, Buland M. Akhter, Nasir A. Chughtai, Ather Malik, Saeed Malik, Masood A. Malik, and Mubarak A. Malik.

We are grateful to Allah, the Merciful, for His immense blessings. We are thankful to our beloved Imam, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, for his guidance and his special prayers for this massive project.

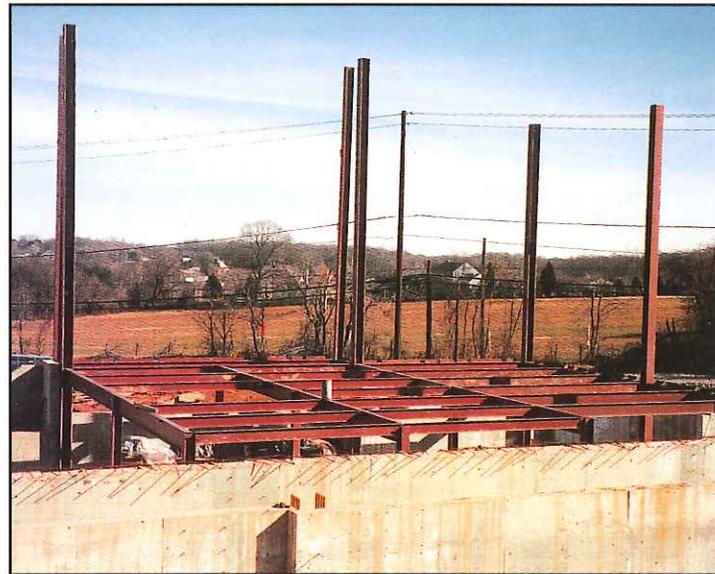
■ *Manzoor Rahman, Secretary Mosque Committee*



## Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque, Washington D.C. *Various Scenes of Construction*



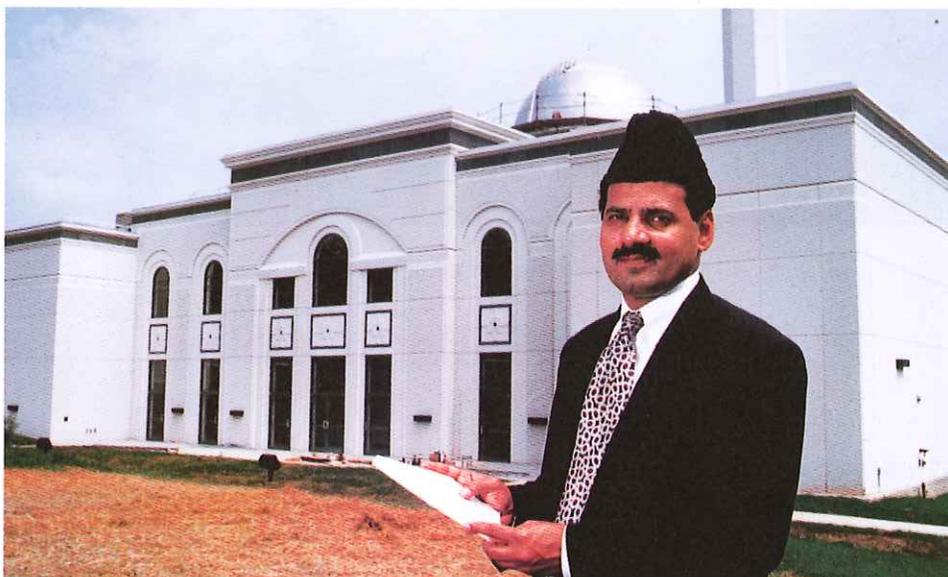
### Initial Stages



### Intermediate Stages



## Completion Stages



## Completed Mosque

### The Mosque Committee

*Seated right to left: Malik Mubarak Ahmad, Manzoor-ur-Rahman, Respected Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, and Malik Masood Ahmad.*

*Standing right to left: Ch. Rashid Ahmad, Tariq Amjad, Mir Mubarik Ahmad, Suleman Mohammad, and Malik Saeed.*

*Not shown: Daud Ahmad, Raja Khalik, Buland M. Akhter, Nasir Chughtai, and Ather Malik.*





*Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque*

## Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque

### F A C T S

- Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> launched a scheme to build five mosques and mission houses in the United States of America ( in December of 1982,). The target of donations was \$2.5 million for the five centers.
- Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> laid the foundation stone of the Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque on October 9, 1987.
- Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> sent a message of appreciation to the members of the U.S. Jama'at in June of 1993, thanking the sincere Ahmadis who demonstrated an extraordinary spirit of sacrifice and enjoined all others to have a minimum pledge of \$3,500.
- On July 7, 1989, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> made an appeal to the worldwide Ahmadiyya community to raise \$2.5 million to help the United States Jama'at.
- The Ahmadiyya Muslim Medical Association responded to the call of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> and unanimously agreed to fund the mosque project.
- On September 11, 1993, the ground-breaking ceremony of Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque was held at the mosque site, presided by Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, the Amir of the United States Jama'at.
- The architect of 'Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque' was Bass and Company, and the construction was assigned to Tompkins Builders
- The mosque was named Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>. It is the largest mosque constructed by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the United States of America.



## Love for All, Hatred for None.

(Ahmadiyya Muslim Motto)

*Presented By*

**Chaudhary Jalaluddin Ahmad**  
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

## I Shall Give You A Large Party of Islam.

(Revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)

*Presented By*

**Karim Ahmad**  
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

## Kings Shall Seek Blessings from Thy Garments.

(Revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)

*Presented By*

**Aasim Ansari**  
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

## Is Not Allah Sufficient For His Servant ?

(Revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)

*Presented By*

**Farooq Ahmad Khan**  
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

Boundless blessings and peace be upon Mustafasa, O God,  
Verily through him we receive Thy light.

My soul is eternally bonded to the soul of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>,  
I made my heart drink deep from the brimful cup of this love.

None better than he could I discover in the whole world,  
Most certainly, I have broken my heart loose from the grip of others.

God's glory is reflected in your virtues my beloved,  
Him I made my own, by having made you mine.

Having touched the hem of Thy Garment, O God, one is saved from  
the charms of others. Verily I bow my head at your threshold alone.

O my beloved, I swear by Thy Unity,  
In my love of Thee I have become oblivious of my own self.

By God, all other images have vanished from my heart,  
Ever since I had your countenance etched upon it.

It was because of you that we became the best of all the peoples,  
O Prophet of God who is the best of all the prophets,  
As you marched ahead of all the rest, we too step forward.

Let alone the human beings, even all the angels in the Heavens  
follow suit and join me, as I sing Thy praise.

(By Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, *Roohani Khazain*, Volume 5)

اس سے یہ نور لیا بد خدایا ہم نے  
دل کو وہ جام لب لب ہے پلایا ہم نے  
لا جرم غیروں سے دل اپنا چھڑایا ہم نے  
تیرے پانے سے ہی اس ذات کو پایا ہم نے  
لا جرم در پہ ترے سر کو جھکایا ہم نے  
آپ کو تیری محبت میں بھلایا ہم نے  
جب سے دل میں یہ ترا نقش بھایا ہم نے  
تیرے بڑھنے سے قدم آگے بڑھایا ہم نے  
مدح میں تیری وہ گاتے ہیں جو گایا ہم نے  
(روحانی خزائن جلد ۵ آئینہ کلمات اسلام صفحہ ۲۲۵ - ۲۲۶)

مصطفیٰ پر تیرا بے حد ہو سلام اور رحمت  
رابط ہے جان محمد سے مری جاں کو دام  
اس سے بہتر نظر آیا نہ کوئی عالم میں  
شان حق تیرے شاکل میں نظر آتی ہے  
چھو کے دامن ترا ہر دام سے ملتی ہے نجات  
دلبراً مجھ کو قسم ہے تیری یک لکلی کی  
بخدا دل سے مرے مٹ گئے سب غیروں کے نقش  
ہم ہوئے خیر ام تھ سے ہی اے خیر رسل  
آدی زاد تو کیا چیز فرشتے بھی تمام

*Presented by*

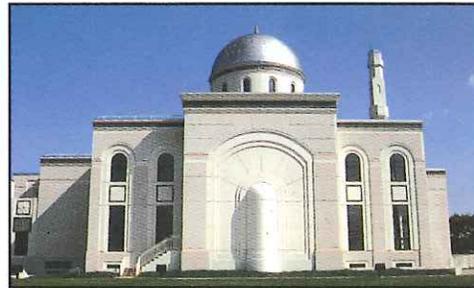
**Dr. Hamid-ur-Rahman**  
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.



# Mosques Around the World



In the pages that follow, we humbly present to you a glimpse of *Mosques Around the World* built by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association. All these mosques have been, and will continue to be, constructed in the spirit and tradition of the Holy Prophet's<sup>sa</sup> Mosque in Medina. Thus, righteousness is their hallmark, simple is their style, peace and tranquility is their motto, and worship to Almighty Allah is their ultimate purpose. This pictorial presentation, as extensive as it may look, of course does not represent every country where the seed of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at has been sown. Rather, it represents only a fraction of the over 3,000 Ahmadiyya Muslim mosques built around the world. May these mosques continue to be the source for the unification of mankind under one God.



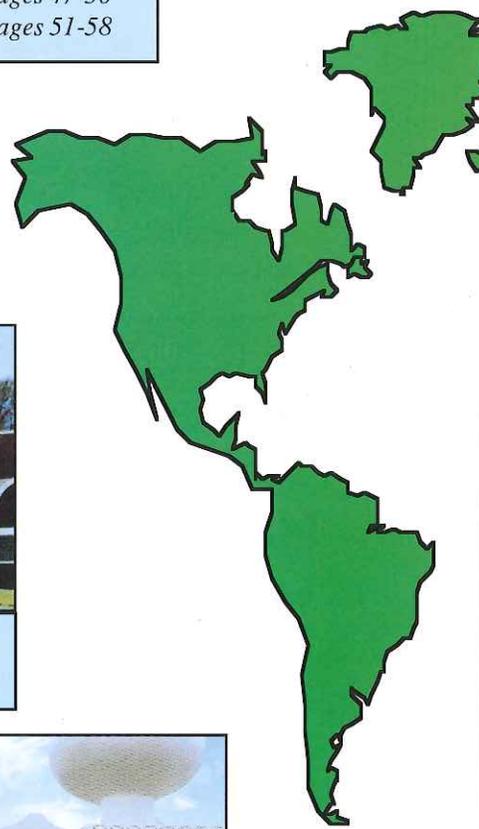
## North America

Canada Pages 47-50  
United States of America Pages 51-58



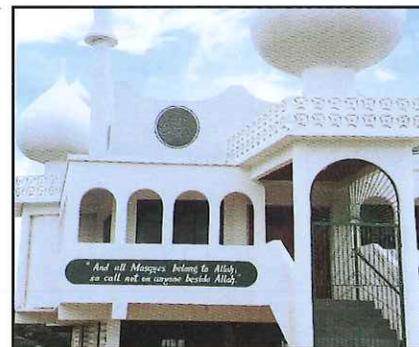
## Central America

Guatemala Pages 59-61



**"May mosques be constructed from one end of the world to the other and may the Azan (call to prayer) be heard from every mosque. Wherever the sun may rise, it may see that the holy name of God is being raised there. My desire is that there should be a mosque at every place in the world."**

*(Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>)*



## South America

Trinidad & Tobago Pages 62-64  
Suriname Pages 65-66  
Brazil Page 67



**"The entire earth has been made for me a mosque and a means of purity."**

*(Saying of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, Sahih Bukhari)*

**Europe**

<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Pages 68-71</i>
<i>Germany</i>	<i>Pages 72-75</i>
<i>Holland</i>	<i>Pages 76-78</i>
<i>Denmark</i>	<i>Page 79</i>
<i>Norway</i>	<i>Pages 80-81</i>
<i>Sweden</i>	<i>Page 82</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>Pages 83-84</i>
<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>Pages 85-87</i>
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>Page 88</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>Pages 89-91</i>



**Asia**

<i>Japan</i>	<i>Page 110</i>
<i>Thailand</i>	<i>Pages 111-112</i>
<i>Malaysia</i>	<i>Pages 113-114</i>
<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Pages 115-117</i>
<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Pages 118-120</i>



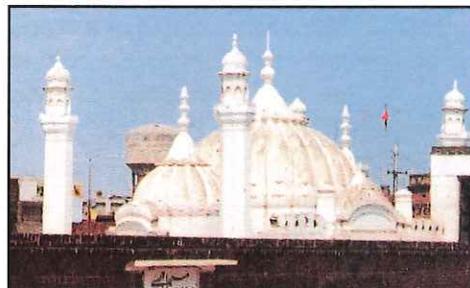
**Australia**

<i>Australia</i>	<i>Pages 44-46</i>
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**Africa**

<i>The Gambia</i>	<i>Pages 92-95</i>
<i>Sierra Leone</i>	<i>Pages 96-99</i>
<i>Burkina Faso</i>	<i>Pages 100-101</i>
<i>Ghana</i>	<i>Pages 102-105</i>
<i>Uganda</i>	<i>Pages 106-107</i>
<i>Mauritius</i>	<i>Pages 108-109</i>



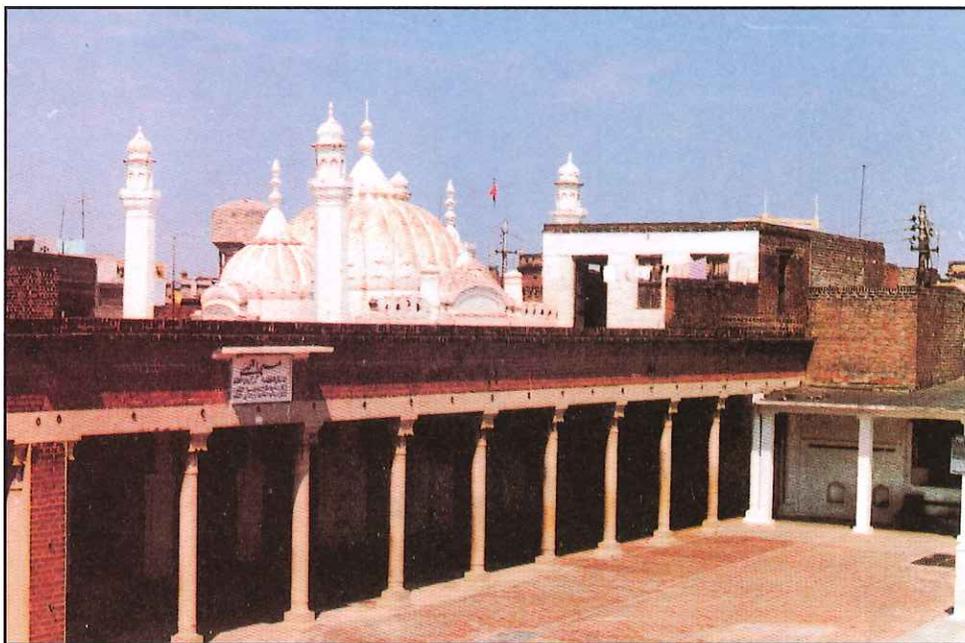
**Headquarters**

<i>Qadian, India</i>	<i>Page 40</i>
<i>Rabwah, Pakistan</i>	<i>Page 41</i>



# Qadian, India

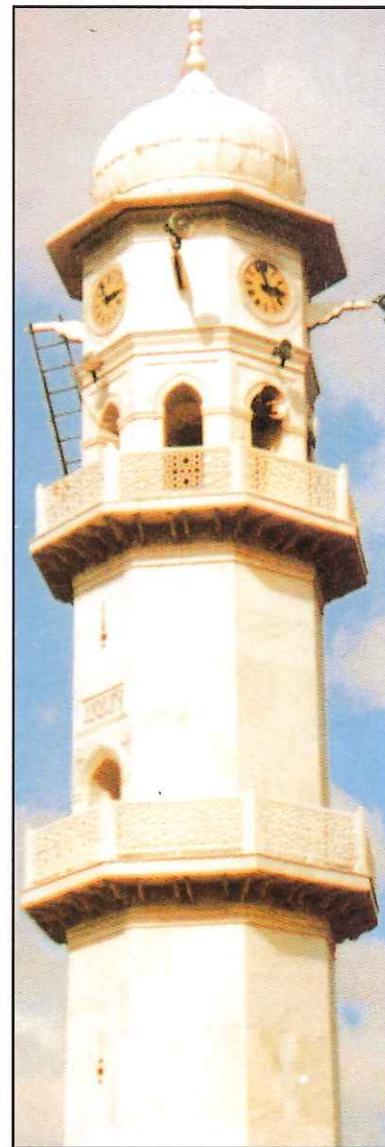
(Permanent Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association)



The Aqsa Mosque in Qadian, India

## The Aqsa Mosque

- The Aqsa Mosque was built in 1876 by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Murtaza, the father of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>).
- On April 11, 1900, Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> delivered the divinely inspired sermon (Khutba Ilhamia) in this blessed mosque. The entire sermon was revealed to him by Almighty Allah as he spoke.
- Extensions of the mosque took place in 1900, 1910 and 1938.
- A lofty minaret was built in 1903 in the mosque's courtyard, known as Minarat-ul-Masih
- On January 7, 1938, for the first time Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, used a loudspeaker to deliver his Friday sermon in the Aqsa Mosque.



Minarat-ul-Masih  
Qadian, India

## Minarat-ul-Masih

The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> prophesied that the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> would be raised near a white minaret, east of Damascus. This prophecy was fulfilled with the advent of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> from Qadian, India, a city situated exactly east of Damascus. Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> decided to give the fulfillment of this prophecy concrete shape. On March 13, 1903, he laid the foundation stone of Minarat-ul-Masih, with three objectives in mind: (1) The muezzin should call out the Azan from it five times every day and thus it may be loudly proclaimed throughout the world that there is only one God and that He alone is worthy of worship, (2) Bright lamps shall be fixed on the top of the Minaret to dispel darkness and enlighten the world. People should know that it is the age of heavenly light and spiritual advancement, and (3) A clock shall be fitted on the top to strike the hours of the day for the benefit of the people. It shall indicate that the present is the time when the doors of heaven are open and that there is no need of any Holy war with the sword. (*Life of Ahmad*, p. 570)



# Rabwah, Pakistan



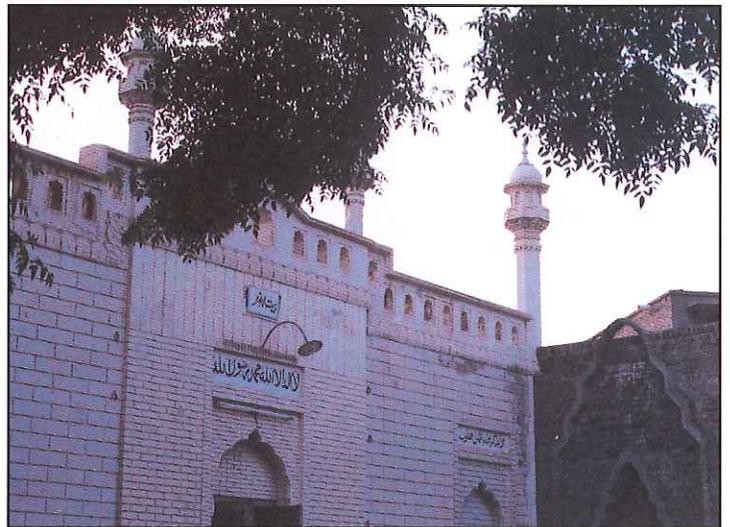
*Yadgari Mosque, the first mosque built in Rabwah*



*Rajeki Mosque, named after Maulana Ghulam Rasool Rajeki<sup>ra</sup>*



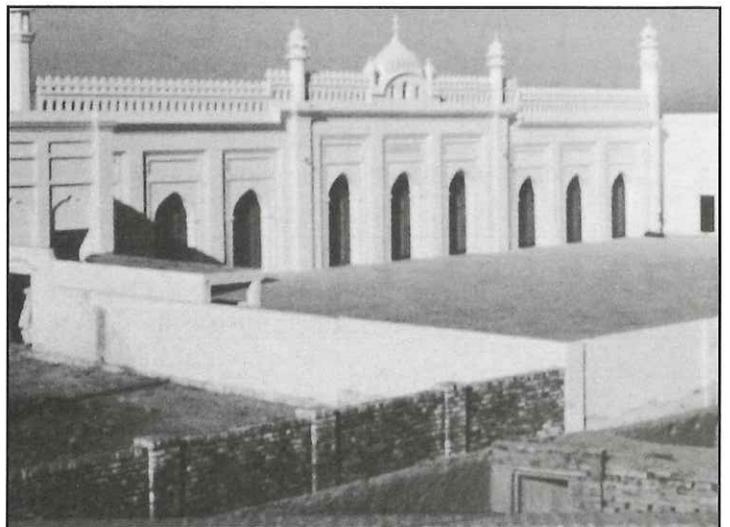
*Lateef Mosque, named after Sahibzada Abdul Lateef Shaheed<sup>ra</sup>*



*Anwar Mosque, Rabwah*



*Aqsa Mosque, Rabwah*



*Mubarak Mosque, Rabwah*

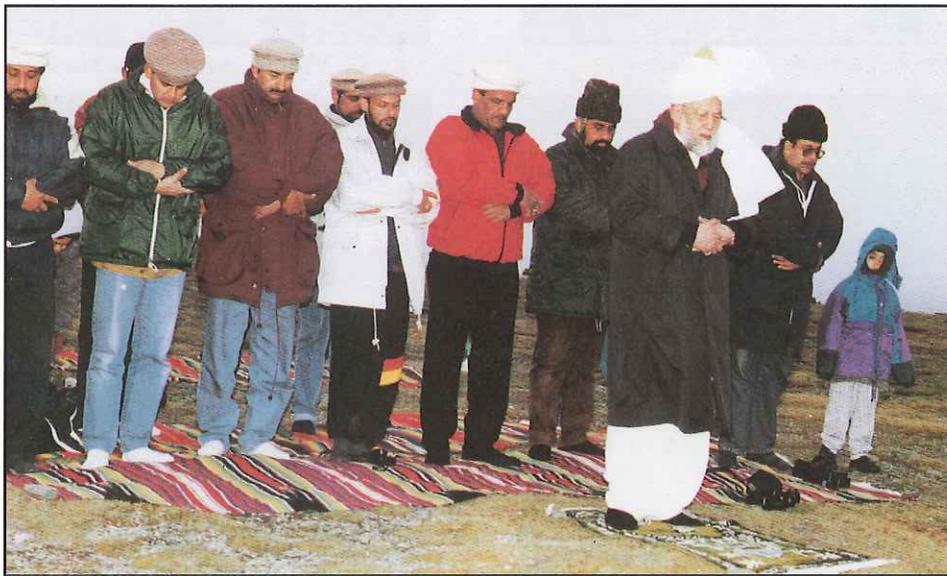


# NORTH POLE

(Nord Kapp, Norway)

## Fulfillment of a prophecy by Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>

Describing the scenario of the latter days when the Anti-Christ (Dajjal) would appear, Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> mentioned that the duration of the days would be longer than usual, as long as six months to a year at some places of the world and regular at others. He further indicated that Muslims would have to estimate the times of offering Salat during a 24 hour period due to the unusual conditions. This prophecy was fulfilled with full splendor when the five daily prayers along with Friday prayers were offered in congregation, led by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on June 24, 1993 at Nord Kapp, Norway, the northernmost point in Europe.



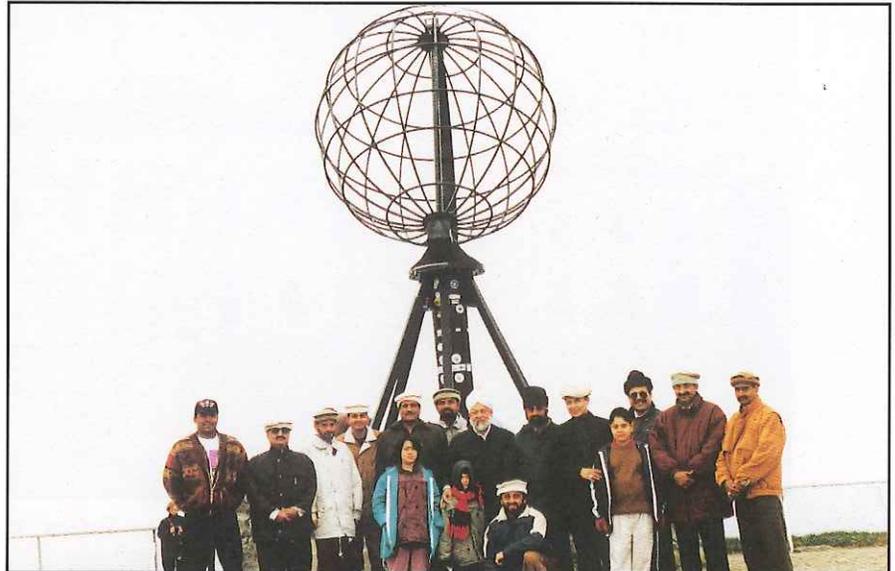
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> leads congregational prayers at Nord Kapp, Norway, the extreme northern end of Europe, June 24, 1993*

**T**oday, we too are making history. This history has no significance or value in the sight of the worldly people. But today I tell you that there are some histories which are preserved in the heavens rather than here on earth... This small group which has come here today has standing in the sight of the world, but calling Almighty God to witness, I say that a time will come when the history preserved in the heavens shall descend to the earth, and not only the people of Norway but the peoples of every other nation in the world shall recall these days with pride and remember when a small group of these humble ones came here yesterday, in fulfillment of the the prophecy of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, and proclaimed the name of the one God and offered Friday prayers here. Thus, the real history is only that which is related to Almighty God and which talks of God's things.

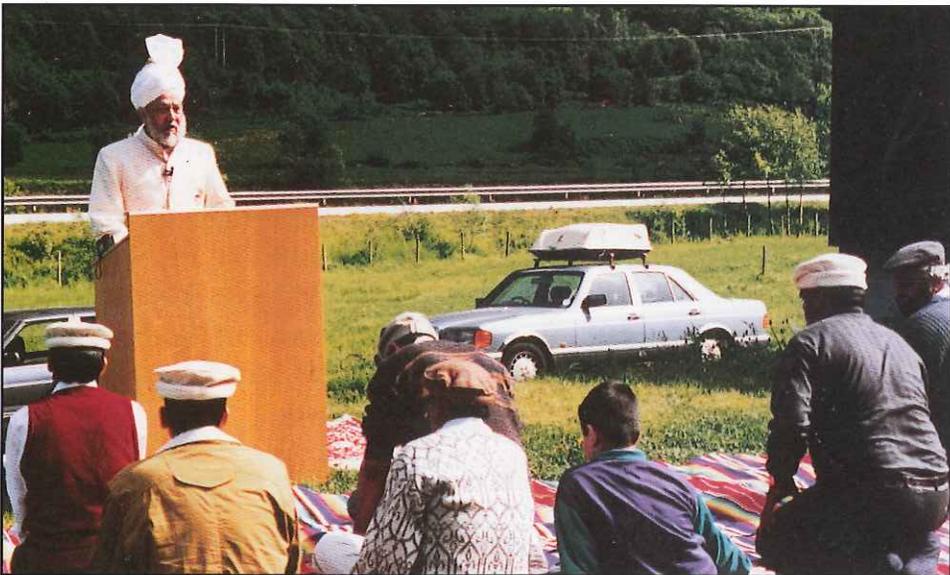
If you can convey the message of Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam, then I promise you, on behalf of the worldwide Ahmadiyya community that we, Insha'Allah, shall build the first ever mosque in the North Cape. It shall be the first, but not the last. Thereafter, a whole series of mosques shall be built here. *(Excerpt of the Friday Sermon delivered at Nord Kapp (the northernmost point in Europe) by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on June 25, 1993)*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba offers prayers at Nord Kapp, Norway*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> with Jama'at members at the monument marking the northernmost point in Europe, Nord Kapp, Norway*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba, on his way to Nord Kapp, Norway, delivers a Friday sermon, June 18, 1993*

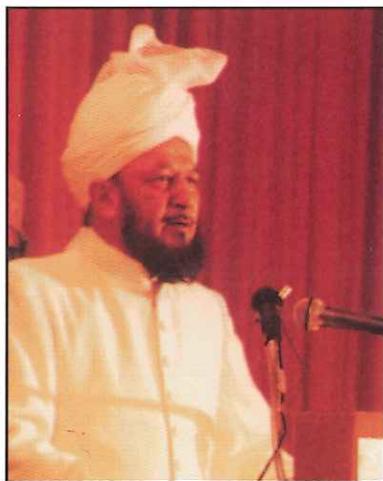


# AUSTRALIA

*Jama'at Established in 1983*



*Bait-ul-Huda Mosque, Sydney, Australia*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba*

Today, when we are laying the foundation stone of our first mosque and mission house, it is the greatest day in the history of Australia. The splendor of this day shall increase with the passage of time, and the day when Captain James Cook stepped for the first time on the soil of this continent shall diminish and fade away before the glaring brilliance of this day.

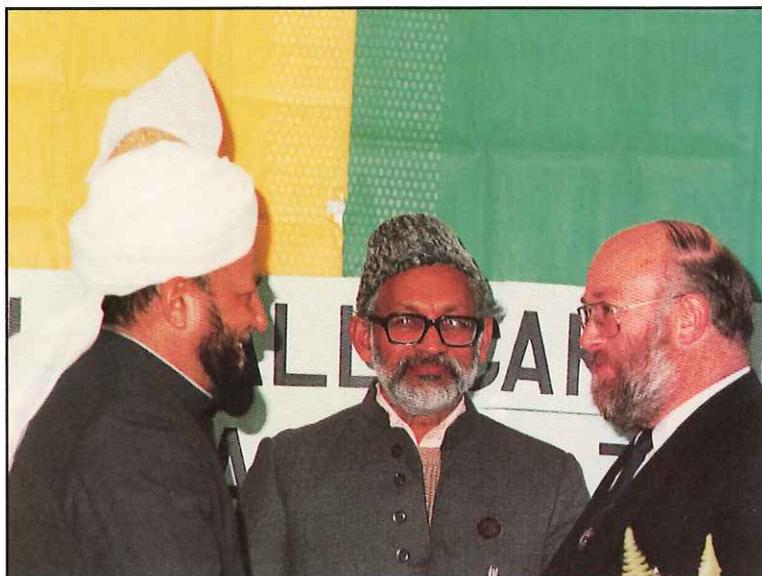
The time is not far away when the inhabitants of Australia will come in multitudes to pay homage to this mosque and, worshipping in this house of God, they shall remember the great

day when a very humble servant of Islam laid down the foundation stone of a very small mosque with earnest supplication. In this mosque's courtyard, they will pray, with tears in their eyes, for all those sincere souls who offered wealth and life to construct this house of God, and wish they were present at the time, and were among the pioneers who initiated the dominance of Islam in Australia.

■ *From the address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba, delivered at the Foundation-stone Ceremony of Bait-ul-Huda Mosque in Sydney, Australia*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba, laying the foundation stone of Bait-ul-Huda Mosque*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba speaks with the Lord Mayor of the City of Blacktown, the Honorable Robert Sinclair in 1989. In the center is the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Australia, Shakil Ahmad Monir*



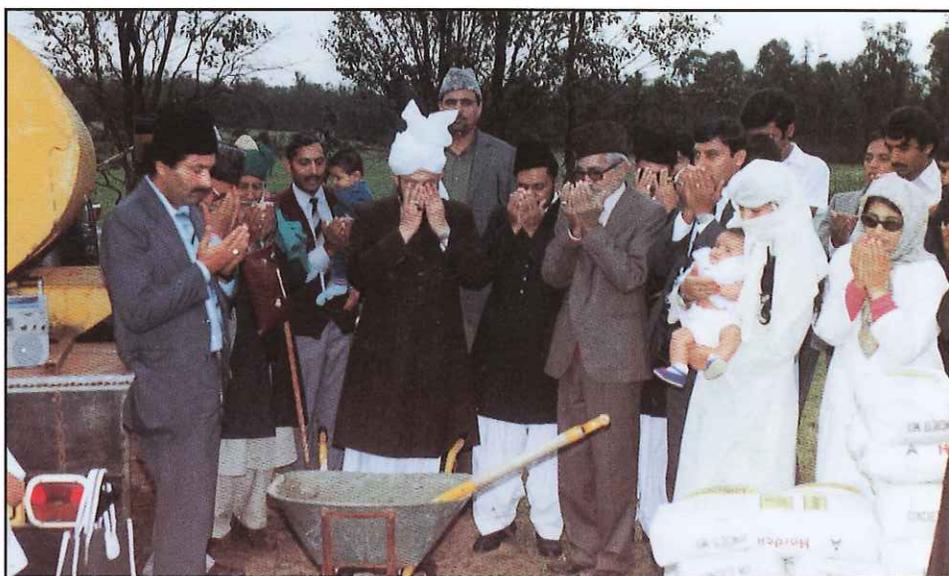
*Hazrat Syeda Asifa Begumra, wife of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba, participating in the foundation stone laying ceremony of Bait-ul-Huda Mosque*



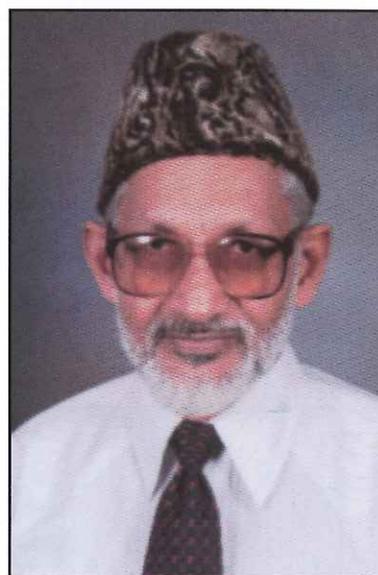
*Hazrat Maulvi Muhammad Hussainra also accompanied Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba and participated in the foundation stone laying ceremony of Bait-ul-Huda Mosque*



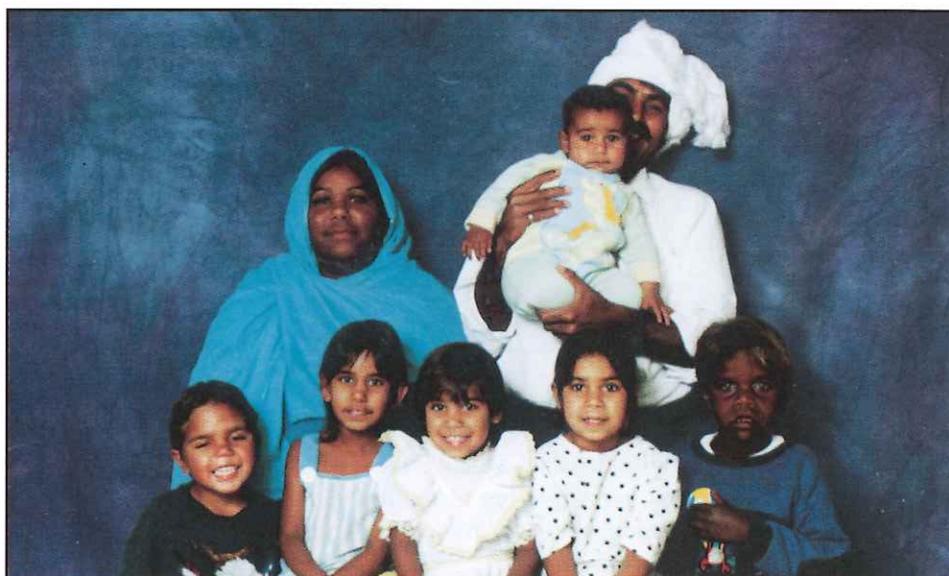
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba leads silent prayers after laying the foundation stone of Bait-ul-Huda Mosque in Sydney, Australia*



*LEFT: Mahmood Ahmad Bengalee, present Amir of the Australian Jama'at. RIGHT: Shakil Ahmad Monir, former Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Australia.*



*The first fruit of the mosque... Mr. Rana Atiullah Khan with wife Fatima and their children in 1993. Mrs. Khan is the first Aboriginal person to accept Ahmadiyyat.*

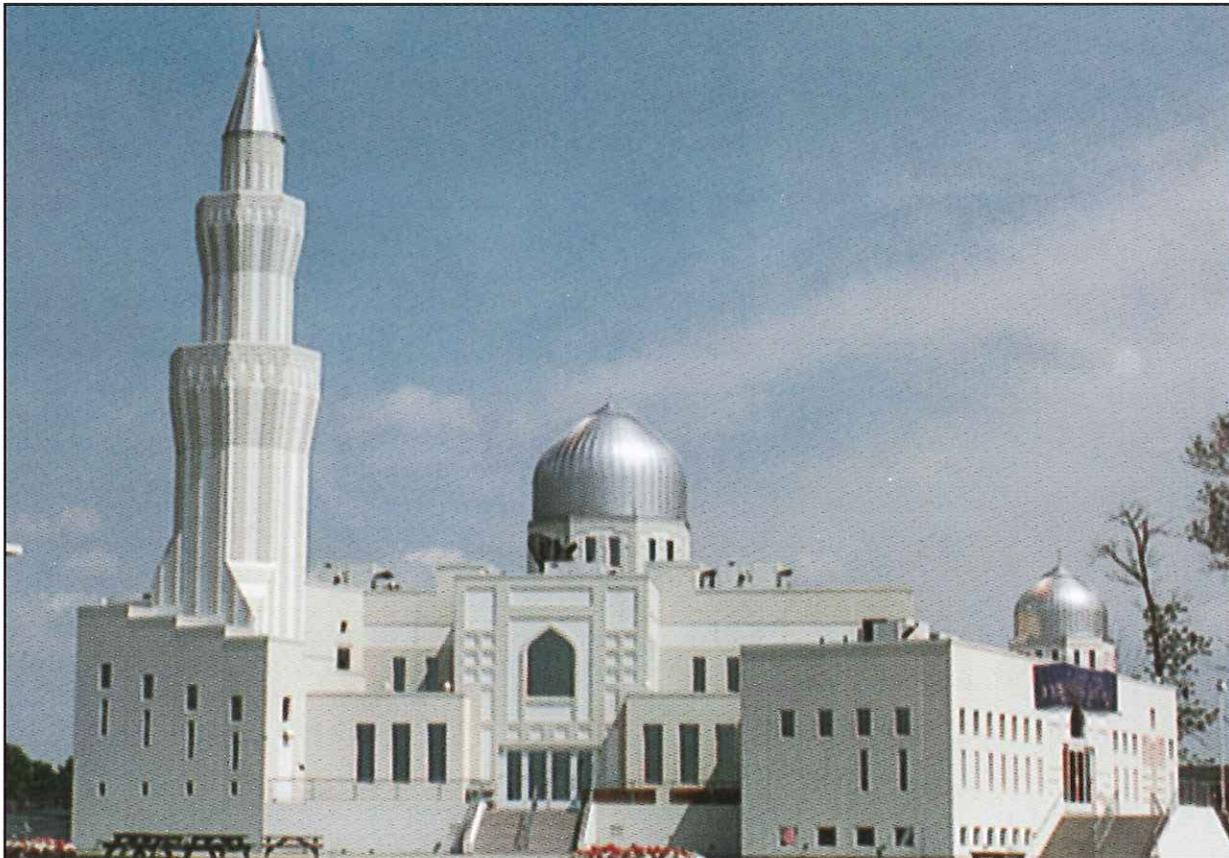




**THE AMERICAS:**

# CANADA

**Jama'at Established in 1966**



*Bait-ul-Islam Mosque in Maple, Ontario, Canada. The foundation stone of this mosque was laid on September 20, 1986, and the inauguration was performed on October 16, 1992; both by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>*

**B**y the Grace of God, today is both an extraordinary and historic Friday. This day which has dawned before us has brought blessings after blessings for the worldwide Ahmadiyya Jama'at and is presenting a scenario of light after light.

The first thing worth mentioning is that today is the inauguration of the Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at in Canada and, along with it, is the inauguration of Bait-ul-Islam Mosque. This is the largest mosque in North America in terms of capacity. The Ahmadiyya Muslim community may be the smallest Muslim sect in the world by population. But if we look at it from the point of view of worshipping Almighty Allah, what a blessed day it is since God has granted us the opportunity to construct a mosque which can accommodate the largest number of worshippers in the whole of the American continent.

Therefore, it is a remarkably blessed day and on

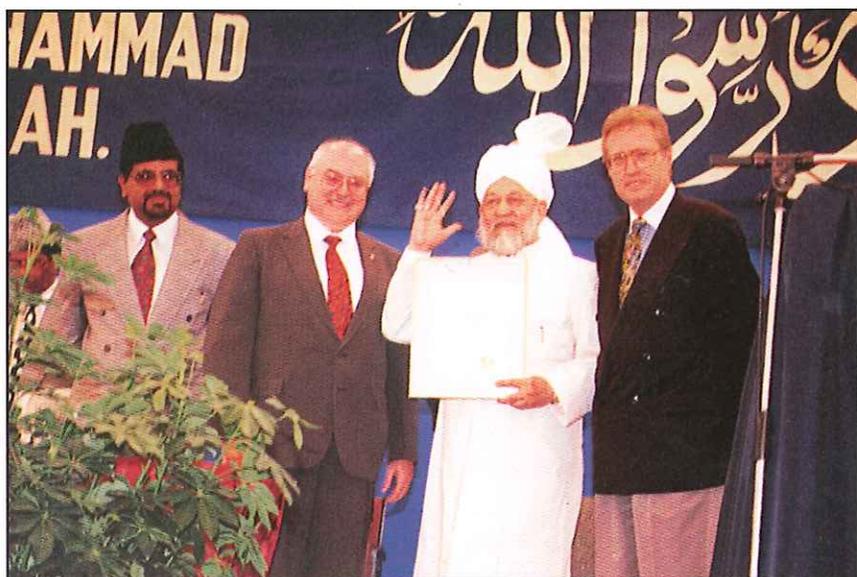
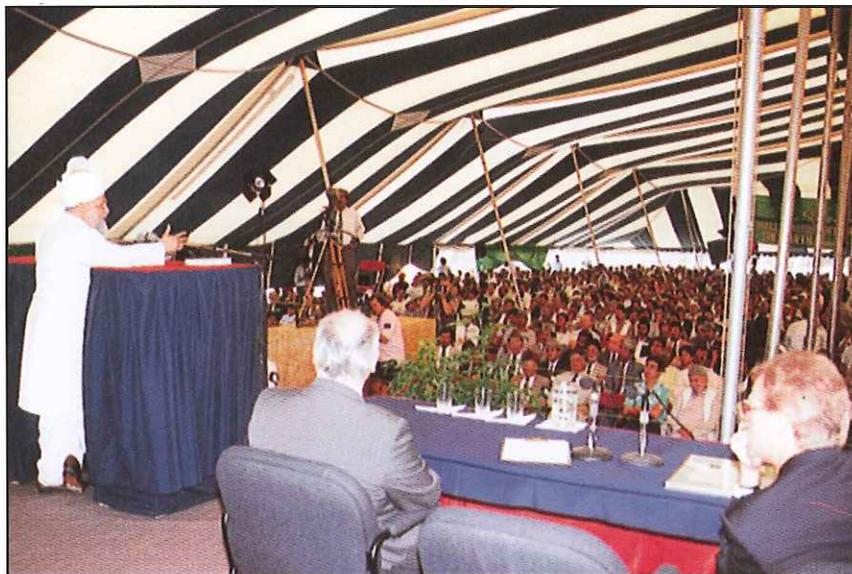
behalf of Jama'ats all over the world, I convey to this audience and the people of Canada my loving salaam and congratulations...

The beauty of the mosque lies in the beauty of the hearts of worshippers. Nowhere have I read in the Holy Quran any verse regarding the external beauty of the mosque. The Holy Ka'aba is the most beautiful mosque in the world. When Hazrat Abraham<sup>as</sup> and his dear son Ishmael<sup>as</sup> reconstructed it from its ruins, however, it was in no way a beautiful edifice from any architectural point of view. But it *was* the most beautiful structure upon which God placed His loving eyes. No other building is mentioned in the Holy Quran so lovingly as the Holy Ka'aba.

■ *Excerpt from the Friday sermon delivered by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> at Bait-ul-Islam Mosque in Maple, Canada on October 16, 1992*

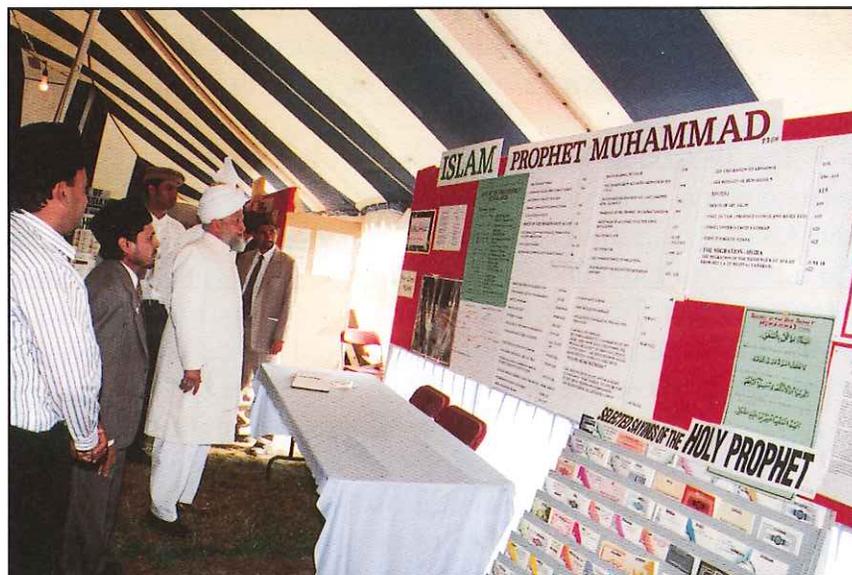


*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> addresses the 1994 Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in Canada*



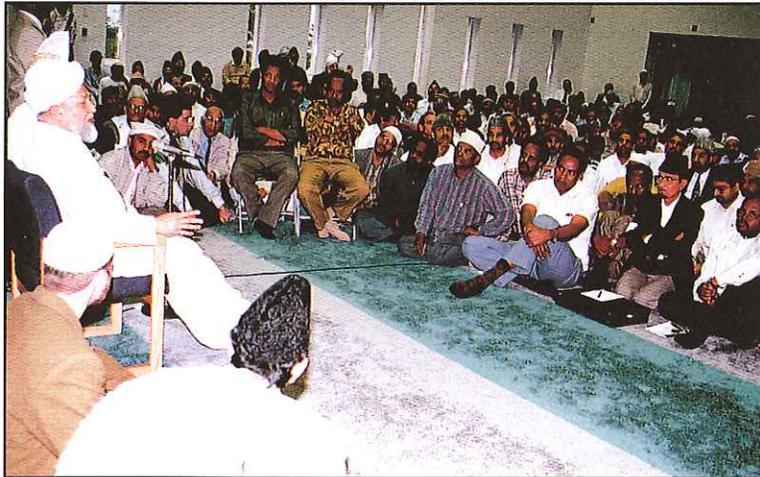
*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> displays the message of the Prime Minister of Canada, brought by Mr. Art Eggleton (standing on Hazoor's left)*

*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> visits an exhibition on Islam prepared by the Canadian Jama'at on the occasion of their Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in 1994*





*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>, with Marcel Masse, the President of the Privy Council of Canada (standing at Hazoor's left), and Khalifa Abdul Momin, Naib Amir of Canada (standing at Hazoor's right). At Hazoor's extreme left is Maulana Naseem Mahdi, the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Canada*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> conducts a session of Majlis-e-Ifran held in Bait-ul-Islam Mosque*

*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> returns to the Jalsa Gah (location of Annual Gathering) after prayers*





*Maulana Naseem Mahdi, the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of the Canadian Jama'at presents the Jama'at's Telephone Directory to His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>*



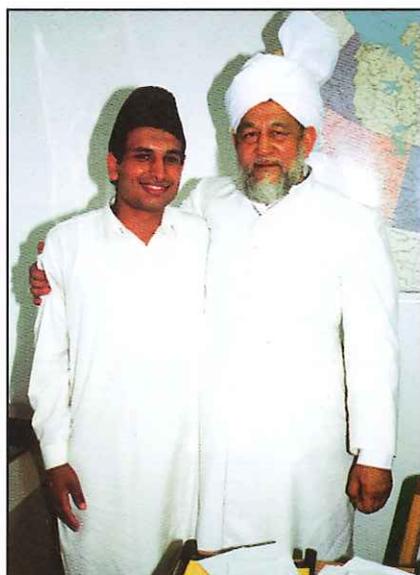
*Maulana Naseem Mahdi addresses Majlis Ansarullah, Canada*



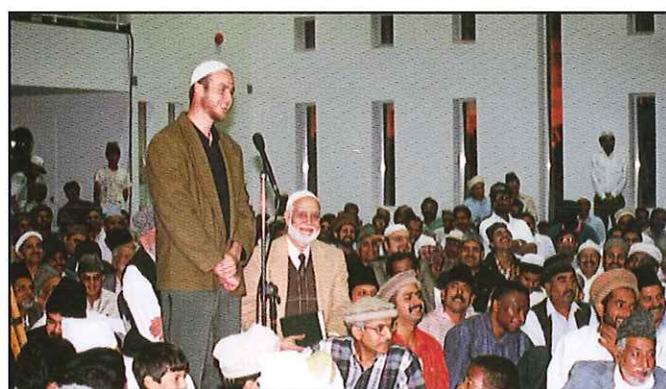
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> with Nasir Yusuf, a newly converted Somalian Ahmadi*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> with Jama Farah, a newly converted Somalian Ahmadi*



*Sa'd, a newly converted Arab Ahmadi from Morocco, was guided to Ahmadiyyat by a vision*



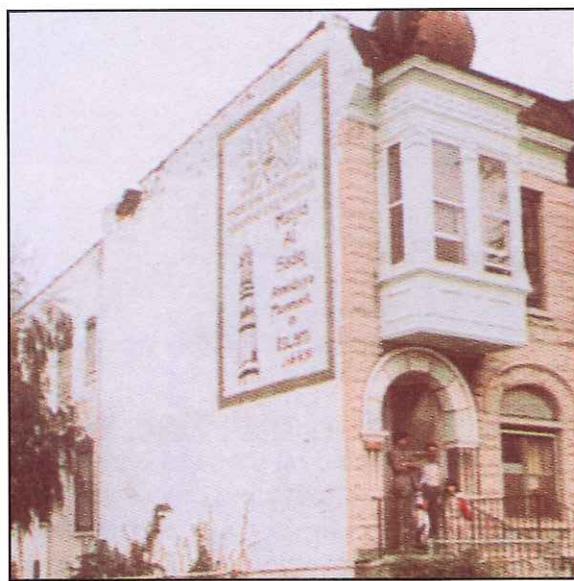
*Isaac Fonseca, a newly converted Bulgarian-Canadian Ahmadi, asks His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> a question during a Majlis-e-Irfan session*



**THE AMERICAS:**

# United States of America

**Jama'at Established in 1920**



*The Chicago Mosque, the first Ahmadi mosque in the United States of America, was built in 1922*

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at was established in the United States in 1920 under the direction of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>. The first missionary to America was Hazrat Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq<sup>ra</sup>, who arrived in New York on February 25, 1920. After receiving federal permission to preach Islam, he established the first Ahmadiyya Mosque and U.S.A. Jama'at Headquarters at 4448 Wabash Avenue in Chicago.



*Hazrat Dr. Mufti Mohammad Sadiq<sup>ra</sup>, The first missionary sent to the U.S.A.*

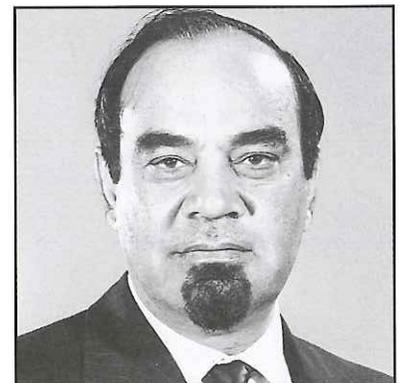
I have been asked by our Missionary-in-Charge in the United States of America, Mr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir, to write a message for you to be read in your Second Convention. It is a pleasure for me to do so. Twenty-nine years ago, I sent Mufti Muhammad Sadiq<sup>ra</sup>, an old companion of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, to introduce the Ahmadiyya Movement in your country. After reaching the United States of America, he chose Chicago as the center of his mission. His was a lonely voice raised in support of the truth about a quarter of a century back; and probably the people laughed when they heard him preach Islam. Probably they thought every prophet and his disciples were mad. But those who thought so were mad themselves. The sheep that does not recognize the shepherd is mad and destined for destruction, for it becomes the prey of that old wolf, Satan, and loses all hope for salvation. *(Excerpt from the message to the American Jama'at delivered by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> on the occasion of the 2nd Annual Ahmadiyya Convention in 1949)*



*Mr. Muhammad Alexander Russel Webb, the first Ahmadi in America*

It occurred to me that I might, through your aid, assist in spreading the truth here. If, as you say, Islam is the only true religion, then why could I not act as its apostle or promulgator in America..." *(Excerpt of letter from Mr. Webb to Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> written on February 24, 1887. Mr. Muhammad Alexander Russel Webb was the first Ahmadi in America)*

Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, the present Amir of the United States Jama'at, is the grandson of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. Among the positions he has held in the past include Chairman of the Planning Commission for the Government of Pakistan, and the Director of the World Bank. He has been serving as the Amir of the United States Jama'at since 1989.



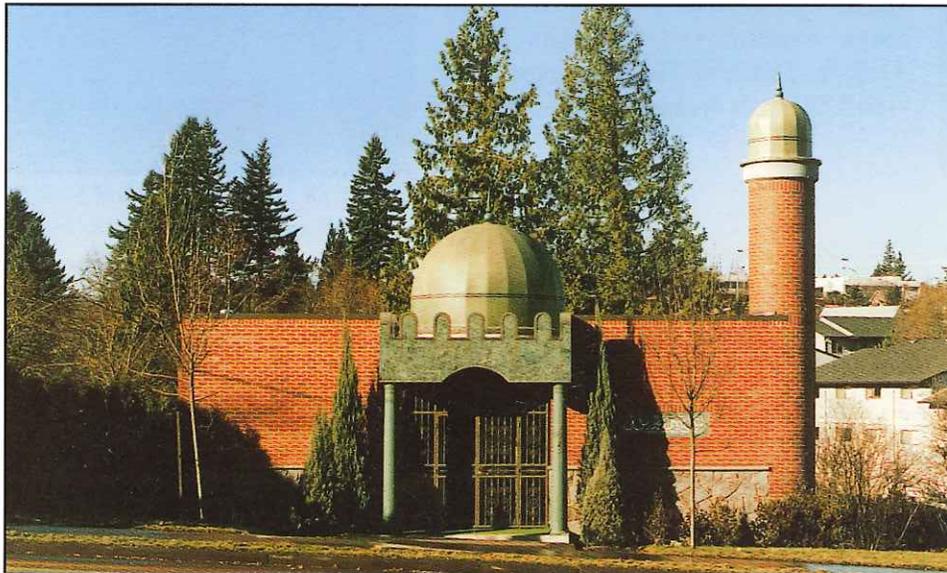
*Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad the Amir of the U.S.A. Jama'at*



Our life is tied up with mosques alone. And the acceptance by Allah of any particular mosque is, in fact, dependant on the initial intentions of the builders. We are a Community that believes in the One God, and so it is incumbent upon us that we always keep this in mind. *(Excerpt from the Friday sermon of His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba during the inauguration of Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque on July 7, 1989, Al-Fazal, August 19, 1989)*



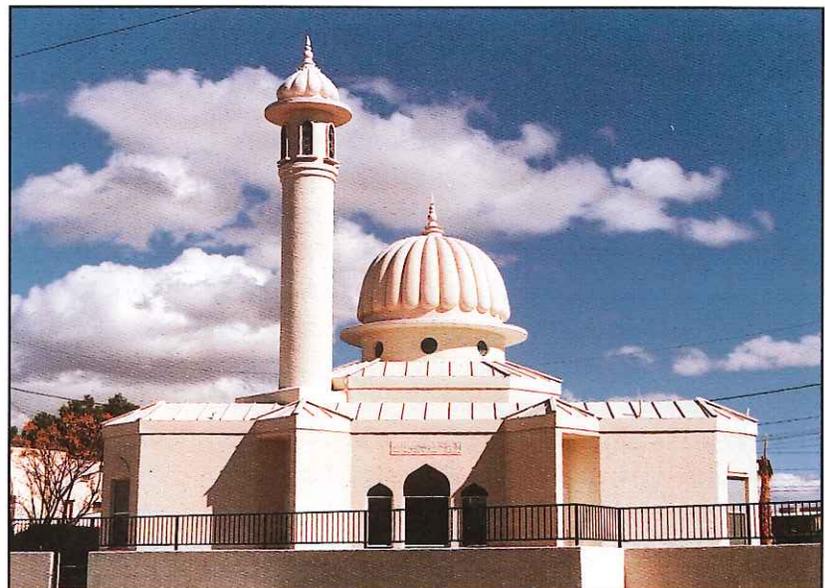
*Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque, Chino, California, U.S.A.*



*Rizwan Mosque, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.*

As this is the first mosque constructed on the west coast of the United States, today is a day of immense joy and thanksgiving... One thing important to remember is that if we want to express our thanks on the construction of this mosque, we must pay special attention to ardent supplications and prayer. The best way to express thanks to Allah is to increase our level of prayer at every occasion when a mosque is built. There is no meaningful or better expression of thanks than this. *(Excerpt from the Friday sermon of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba during the inauguration of the Rizwan Mosque on October 30, 1987, Badar, January 21, 1988)*

*Yousuf Mosque, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.*

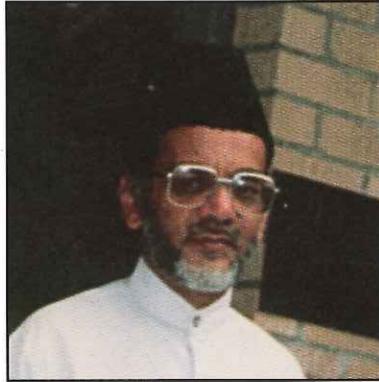




**Former Missionaries**  
**Jama'at Ahmadiyya U.S.A.**



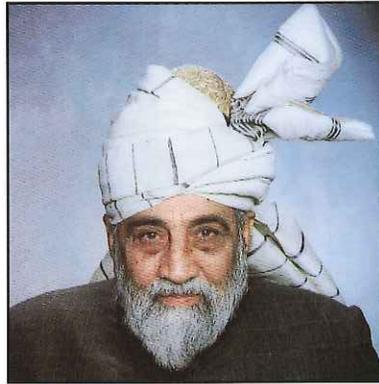
*Sufi Mutiur Rehman Bengalee*



*Syed Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir*



*Masud Ahmad Jehlmi*



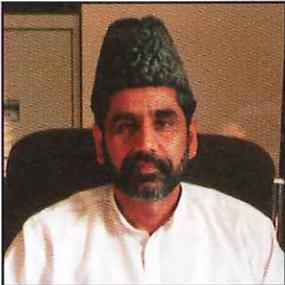
*Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad*

**Missionaries sent to the  
U.S.A. Since 1920**

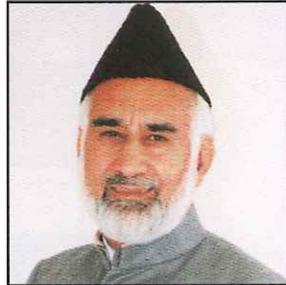
1. Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq
2. Hazrat Maulvi Muhammad Din
3. Sufi Mutiur Rehman Bengalee
4. Dr. Khalil Ahmad Nasir
5. Muhammad Yusuf Khan
6. Ghulam Yasin Khan
7. Mirza Munawar Ahmad
8. Abdul Qadir Zaigham
9. Syed Jawad Ali Shah
10. Nurul Haq Anwar
11. Aminullah Khan Salik
12. Nafisur Rahman A.G. Soofi
13. Abdul Rehman Khan Bengalee
14. Major (Rtd.) Abdul Hamid
15. Major (Rtd.) Sharif Ahmad Bajwa
16. Muhammad Sadeeq Shahid
17. Mian Muhammad Ibrahim
18. Ata Ullah Kaleem
19. Masud Ahmad Jehlmi
20. Syed Mir Mahmood Ahmad Nasir
21. Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad
22. Chaudhry Munir Ahmad
23. Muhammad Abdur Rashid Yahya

**Current Missionaries**  
**Jama'at Ahmadiyya U.S.A.**

Picture of Zafar Ahmad Sarwar not available.



*Mukhtar Ahmad Cheema*



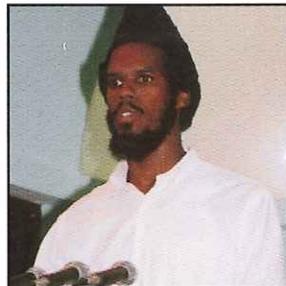
*Mubashar Ahmad*



*Inamul Haq Kauser*



*Syed Shamshad A. Nasir*



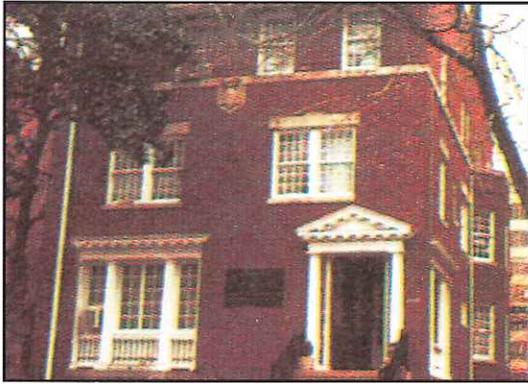
*Azhar Haneef*



*Mirza Mahmood Ahmad*



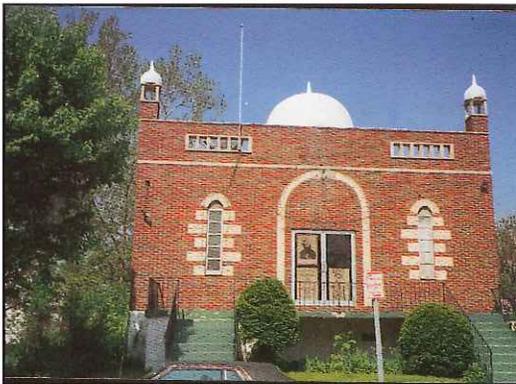
# Ahmadiyya Muslim Missions, U.S.A.



*Fazal Mosque, Washington D.C.*



*Bait-ul-Zafar, Holliswood, New York*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Dayton, Ohio*



*Bait-ul-Muzaffar, Detroit, Michigan*



*Bait-ul-Wahid, Clifton, New Jersey*



*Sadiq Mission House, St. Louis, Missouri*



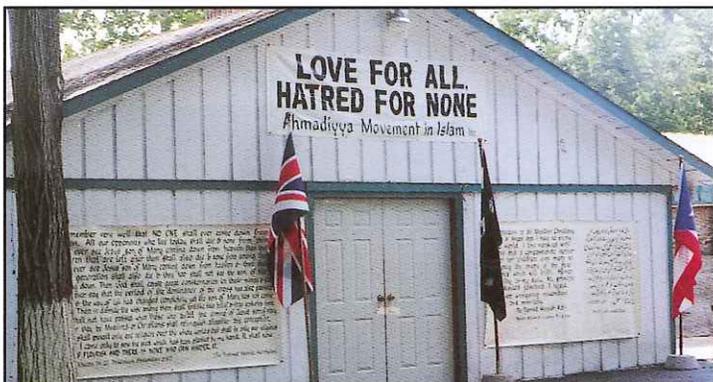
*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, York, Pennsylvania*



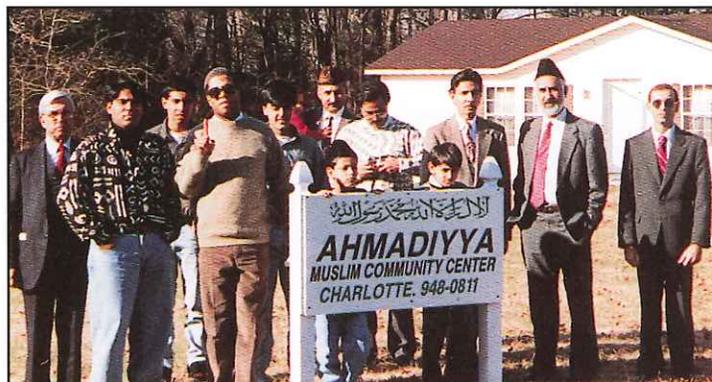
*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Baltimore, Maryland*



# Ahmadiyya Muslim Missions, U.S.A.



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Houston, Texas



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Charlotte, North Carolina



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Willingboro, New Jersey



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Miami, Florida



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Rochester, New York



Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, New Orleans, Louisiana



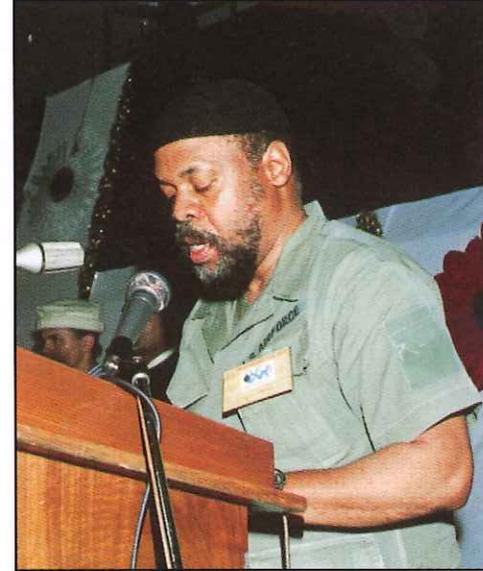
Bait-ul-Ahad, Cleveland, Ohio



# Glimpses of Jama'at Activities in the United States



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> inaugurates the Rizwan Mosque in Portland. At his left is Victor Attiyya, and at the podium is Dr. M.M. Tahir, the President of the Portland Jama'at, presenting the mosque report*



*Munir Hamid, the President of the Philadelphia Jama'at, address the 1989 USA Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)*

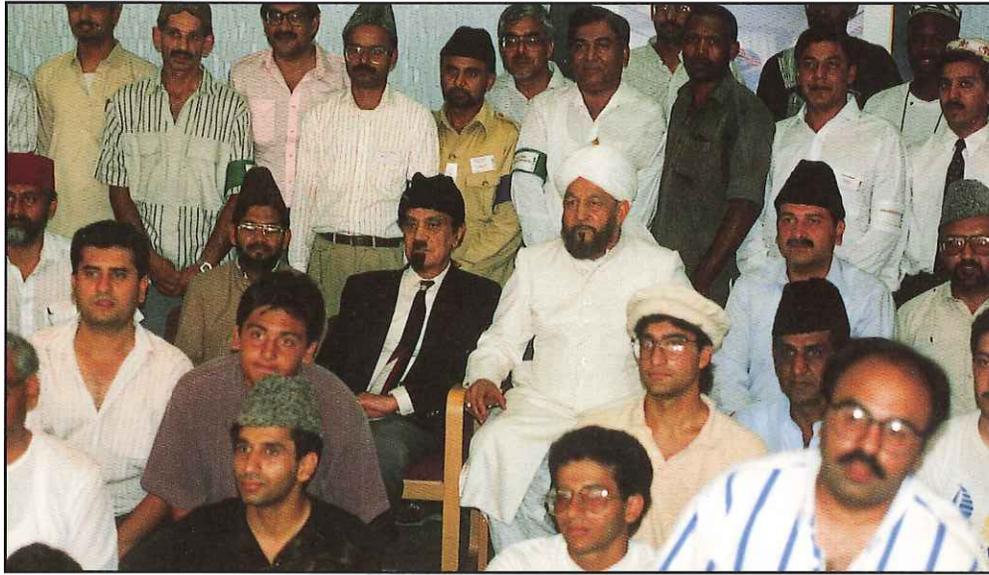
*Los Angeles Jama'at delegates present Islamic literature in the Lithuanian language to the Premier of Lithuania, Alexander Brazauskas, at the World Council Reception in Los Angeles, California. Right to left: Dr. Tahir Khan, Missionary Inamul Haq Kauser, the Premier, Anwer Mahmood Khan, and Ch. Jalaluddin Ahmad*



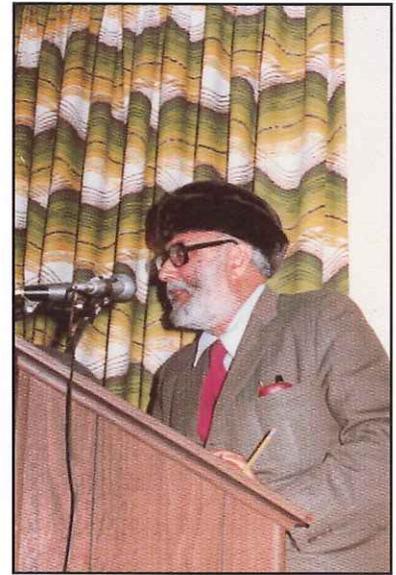
*Left: Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> leads silent prayers at the close of a reception arranged by the North Jersey Jama'at in Bait-ul-Wahid, 1989*

*Right: Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> conducts a Majlis Irfan session at Bait-ul-Nasar in Rochester, New York. On the left is Sh. Mubarak Ahmad, ex-Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, USA, and on the right is Dr. Naseer A. Tahir, the President of the Rochester Jama'at*

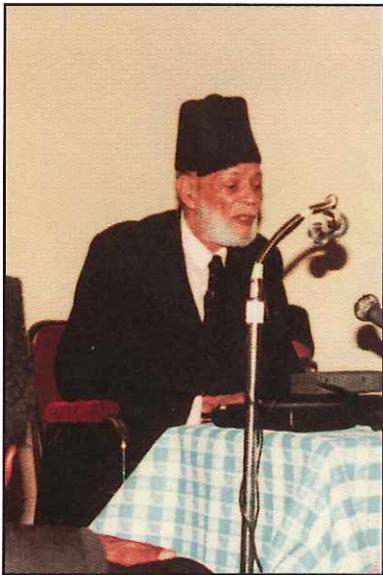




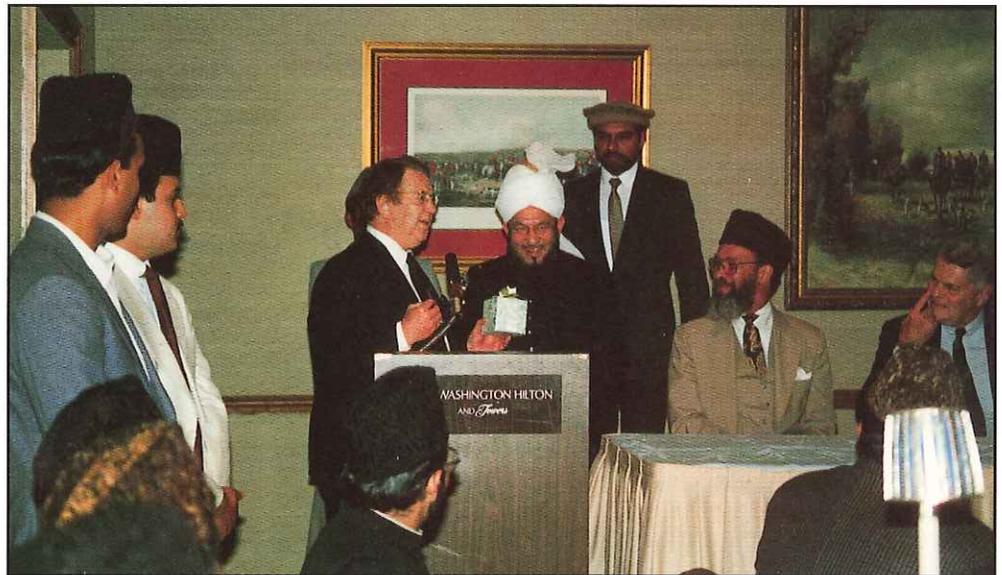
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba seated with Jama'at members at the 1991 USA Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)*



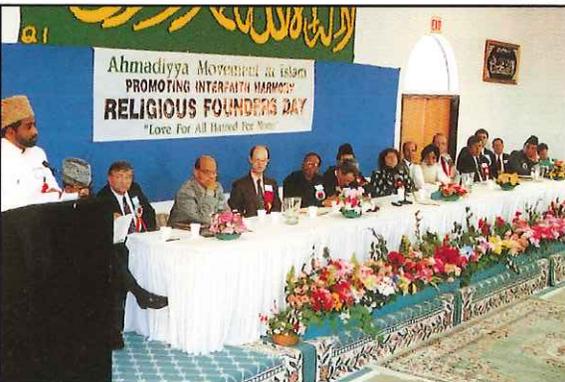
*Dr. Abdul Salam addresses the New York Jama'at*



*Hazrat Ch. Zafrulla Khanra address the New York Jama'at*



*A government official presents Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba a token of appreciation at a reception in Washington D.C. On Hazoor's right is Abid Haneef, President of Boston Jama'at*



*LEFT: Scene from the Religious Founders' Day celebration in Tahir Hall, Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque, Los Angeles  
RIGHT: Promised Messiah's Day celebration in Houston. Right to left: Brother Hanson, Dr. Muzaffar A. Zafar (Naib Amir I, USA), Syed Shamshad Ahmad Nasir (Missionary). At the podium is Tariq Hamid*

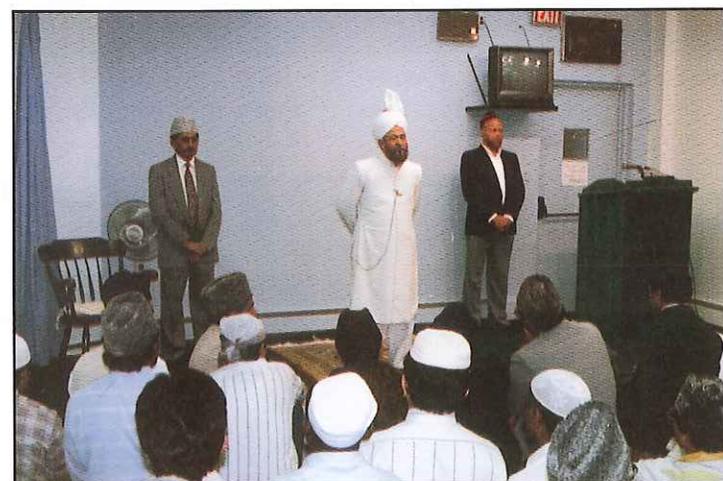




*A delegation from the U.S. Jama'at with Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> at the 1983 USA Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> leads silent prayers at the close of the USA Majlis-e-Shura (Consultative Body Meeting) in 1989*



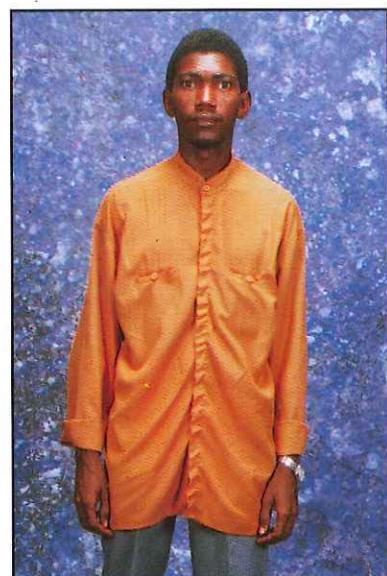
*His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> addresses a gathering at Bait-ul-Zafar Mosque in New York*

**M**y dear friends and children ! No country and no people are absolutely without seekers for truth. The voice which was taken as the babble of a mad man by many, began to attract some of those who were destined to be the pioneers and torch-bearers of truth in the United States of America. Maybe some of them have left this world, their spirits might be hovering over your heads just now seeing you in the seed which is being sown by God in the wilderness, as well in some well-prepared soil, to grow in time and become heavy crop to give a new life to millions and millions of people of your country. *(Excerpt from the message by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, on the occasion of the 2nd Annual Ahmadiyya Convention in 1949)*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> makes his way to the Islamic Exhibition at the 1989 USA Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)*

*Mohammad Abdul Salam, the first Jamaican Ahmadi. He accepted Ahmadiyyat through correspondence with Chaudhry Nasir Ahmad, the President of the North Carolina Jama'at*





**THE AMERICAS:**

# GUATEMALA

**Jama'at Established in 1989**



*Bait-ul-Awwal Mosque in Guatemala*



*The President of Guatemala, Mr. Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, with Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad at the Presidential Palace in Guatemala City, Guatemala in 1989*

Building a house of Allah in this part of the land is an event of great historic significance. All the expenses to build this mosque and mission house have been donated by Chaudhry Mohammad Ilyas, President of the Calgary Jama'at in Canada. His father, Chaudhry Mohammad Ishaq, was among those who were put behind bars in the way of Allah. In order to express his joy and gratitude upon the release of his father, he shared his desire with Hazoor to build seven mission houses in different countries of South and Central America, and donate all of them to the Jama'at after dedicating them to the Asirane-Rahe-Maula (Ahmadi prisoners in the cause of Allah). Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> accepted his offer, and the first fruit of this proposal is seen in the construction of Bait-ul-Awwal Mosque in Guatemala. (*Ahmadiyya Gazette*, July-September, 1989)



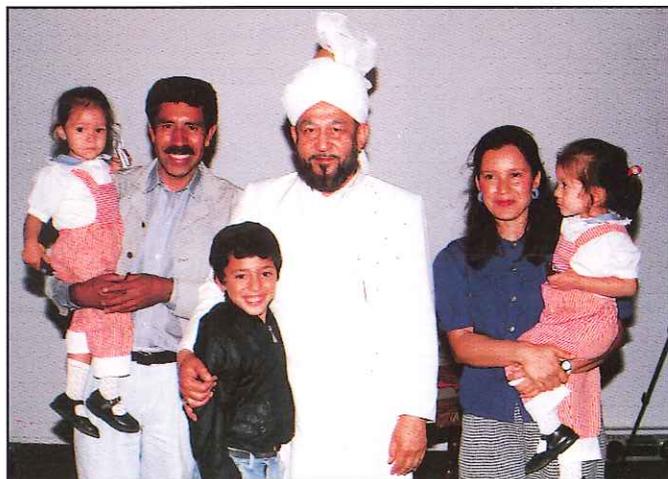
*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba, during his visit to Guatemala in 1991, meets with some local Indian chiefs*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba with the family of Mr. Tomas Lopez (Zahur Usman) in 1991*



*Mohammad Akram Umar, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Guatemala*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba with the family of Mr. Guillermo Joachin (Isa Ahmad) in 1991*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba with the family of Mr. Julio Cesar (Qamar Ahmad) in 1991*



*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba, during his 1991 visit to Guatemala meets with the President of Guatemala, Mr. Jorge Serrano Elias*

*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba with Guatemala Jama'at members and guests from other countries in 1991*



## Ahmadiyyat in Guatemala

The Ahmadiyya Jama'at was established in Guatemala in 1989. Mr. Ilyas Chaudhary purchased the land for the mosque and mission house and provided the construction funds. Dr. Waseem Sayed and the former Missionary-in-Charge of Guatemala, Maulana Iqbal Najjam together took care of the construction work, under the direction of the Maselli family of Guatemala. The total area of the mosque and mission house land is approximately 9,856 sq. meters, of which 1,700 sq. meters comprises the mosque site.

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba, inaugurated the mosque in Guatemala on July 3, 1989 and named it Bait-ul-Awwal Mosque. Mr. Roberto Carpio Nicolle (Vice President of Guatemala), Mr. Gehlert Mata (Minister of Health), and other government officials participated in the inauguration ceremonies.

Hazoor's blessed arrival in Guatemala marked the official establishment of Jama'at Ahmadiyya in this Central American country. People have been joining the fold of Ahmadiyyat on a continuous basis, and by God's grace four Jama'ats have been established in Guatemala.

At the inauguration in 1989, Hazoor also laid the foundation stone of the first Ahmadiyya clinic. Mr. Ilyas Chaudhary purchased land adjoining the mosque and had the clinic constructed. Hazoor kindly revisited Guatemala in 1991 and inaugurated the Bait-ul-Shafi Clinic.

Jama'at Ahmadiyya Guatemala, although fairly young, is progressing forward at a sure pace. May Allah make this blessed Jama'at the means for satisfying the spiritual thirst of the nation of Guatemala. Aameen.

■ *Mohammad Akram Umar, the Missionary-in-Charge of Jama'at Ahmadiyya Guatemala*

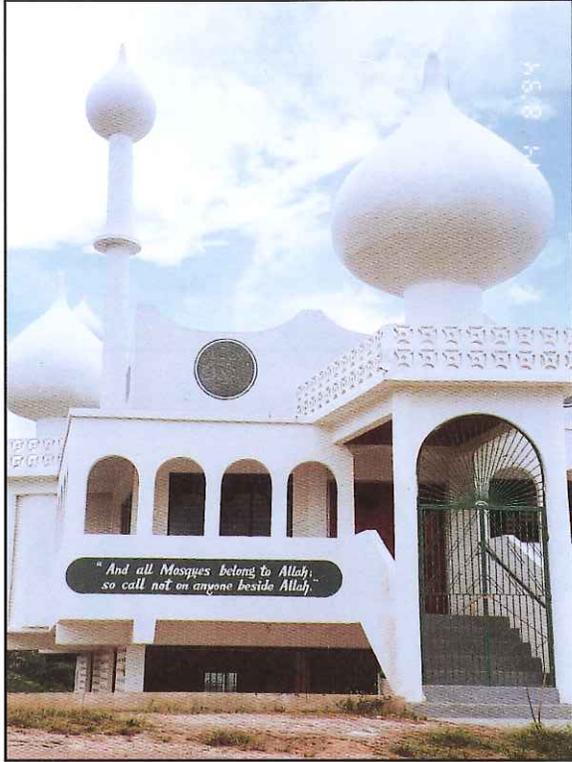


**THE AMERICAS:**

# TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



**Jama'at Established in 1952**



*Bait-ul-A'laa Mosque, Caratal, Trinidad*



*Rahim Mosque, McBean, Trinidad*



*Ahmadiyya Mission House, Couva, Trinidad*



*Nasir Mosque, Freeport, Trinidad*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba, on his way to inaugurate Bait-ul-A'alaq Mosque in 1991. To his right is the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, Maulana Ibrahim bin Yaqub*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba, on arriving at the main airport in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, is welcomed by local members*



*The first missionary sent to Trinidad & Tobago, the late Maulana Muhammad Ishaque Saqui, being received by the present Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, Maulana Ibrahim bin Yaqub, at the Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in 1990*



*A large gathering of people listen attentively to a speech being delivered by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> during his visit to Trinidad & Tobago in 1991*



A full view of Bait-ul-A'laa Mosque. This mosque was inaugurated by His Holiness, Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> during his visit to the Caribbean island nation of Trinidad & Tobago in 1991

## Ahmadiyyat in Trinidad & Tobago

**T**he seed of Ahmadiyyat was first sown in the Caribbean island of Trinidad & Tobago by the late Maulana Muhammad Ishaque Saqui in 1952. This seed of Ahmadiyyat germinated, and the late missionary continued to water and nurture it until he breathed his last in 1991.

The community has five main mosques and a sixth is presently under construction. There is one mission house in Trinidad, where the offices of the mission are housed. The mission house is also the official residence of the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge.

The five main Jama'ats where mosques or mission houses are situated are in Freeport (Nasir Mosque), McBean (Rahim Mosque), Siparia (Shahadah Mosque), Caratal (Bait-ul-A'laa Mosque), and Couva (Mission House). At the moment, there is a new mosque under construction at Vallencia. The first ever mosque to be

built in Trinidad by the Ahmadiyya community was the Nasir Mosque in Freeport.

Since the inception of the community in Trinidad & Tobago, five missionaries have worked to help make the Jama'at what it is today. Their names, in succession, are Muhammad Ishaque Saqui, Haniff Yaqoob, Bashir Ahmad Orchard, Mohammed Aslam Qureshi, and Ibrahim bin Yaqub (the current Amir and Missionary-in-Charge).

The beautiful Bait-ul-A'laa Mosque in Caratal, Trinidad was inaugurated by His Holiness, Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>, during his historic visit to this country in 1991.

May Allah Almighty shower His abundant blessings on the Jama'at.

■ Ibrahim bin Yaqub, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at in Trinidad & Tobago



**THE AMERICAS:**

# SURINAME

**Jama'at Established in 1956**



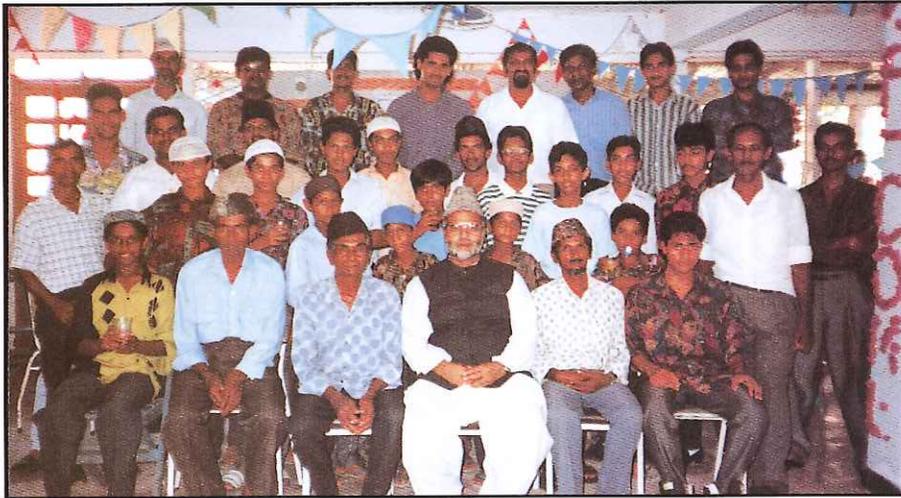
*The Nasar Mosque in Suriname*



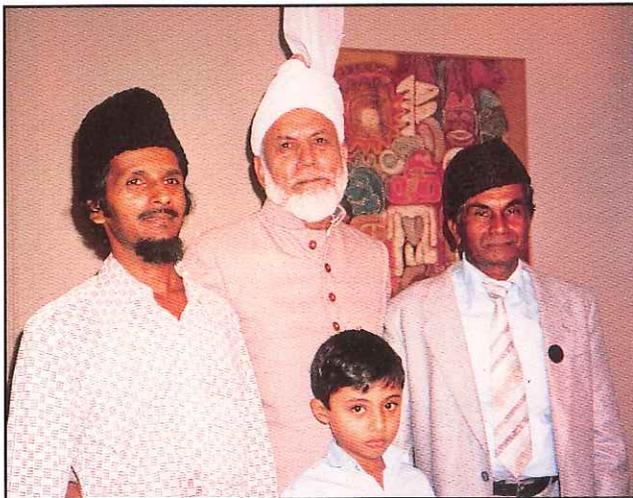
*The Nasir Mosque in Suriname*



*Maulvi Hameed Ahmad Zafar presents the Holy Quran to Mr. Sabiran, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Suriname*



*Students of the Taleem-ul-Quran Class with Hussain Baidullah, the President of the Suriname Jama'at, and Hameed A. Zafar, the Missionary-in-Charge of Suriname*



*Maulana Ataullah Kaleem with Abdul Mutalib Mahmood, Amir of the Jama'at (left)*



*Maulana Hasan Basri (left) and Maulana Nazeer with Sheikh Qamar, the Suriname Minister of Defense*

Today, through God's help, for the first time in the history of Suriname, a Successor of one sent by God, the Exalted, is speaking directly to you through this Friday Sermon. This historic event was to happen only once, and it has now happened, never to reoccur. If Allah so wills, Imams shall be sent by God, and they shall address the people of Suriname. They shall also deliver sermons, but the first time remains the first time. So you are fortunate in having become the witnesses to this historic occasion. It is essential that thanks be rendered for this. Thus, like Prophet Solomon<sup>as</sup>, pray to God and render your thanks to Him by making sure your children also listen to this sermon in these very words. Do not be content by letting them hear summaries. By exposing them to this sermon, you shall be counted among those who took steps to protect their faith, who saved them from attacks of others, and who protected their moral values...

I came here and saw that this Jama'at is made of great and sincere material. Indeed, this Jama'at is a mine of sincerity. But if mines are not excavated and valuable gems are not obtained therefrom, then of what benefit are they? These gems remain mixed up in clay. There is in your midst such sincere material that if your missionaries and office-holders take benefit from it and bring out these hidden treasures, then the whole area could benefit from your blessings and be filled with the light of Ahmadiyyat, by the Grace of Allah. May Almighty Allah grant you the capacity to do this. *(Excerpt from the Friday Sermon delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba on May 31, 1991 at Bait-un-Nasir Mosque in Suriname, Al-Fazal, September 23, 1991)*



**THE AMERICAS:**

# BRAZIL

**Jama'at Established in 1985**



*Waseem A. Zafar  
Missionary-in-Charge of Brazil*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission House, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*



*Syed Mahmood Ahmad*

We had been waiting for a long time to establish a mission house in Brazil. Some Ahmadis had been to South America, but no mission house had yet been established there. So, by the Grace of God, the first mission house has been established in Brazil and now we are looking for a large piece of land where we shall, Insha'Allah, build a great mosque. (Excerpt from the Friday Sermon delivered by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on August 30, 1985 at the Fazal Mosque, Badar, October 24, 1985)



*First Jalsa Salana in Brazil, 1994*



*From right to left: Syed Mahmood Ahmad (Missionary), Yusuf Yawson, and Afanso Bokhari*



*Abdul Rasheed, a new Ahmadi convert*

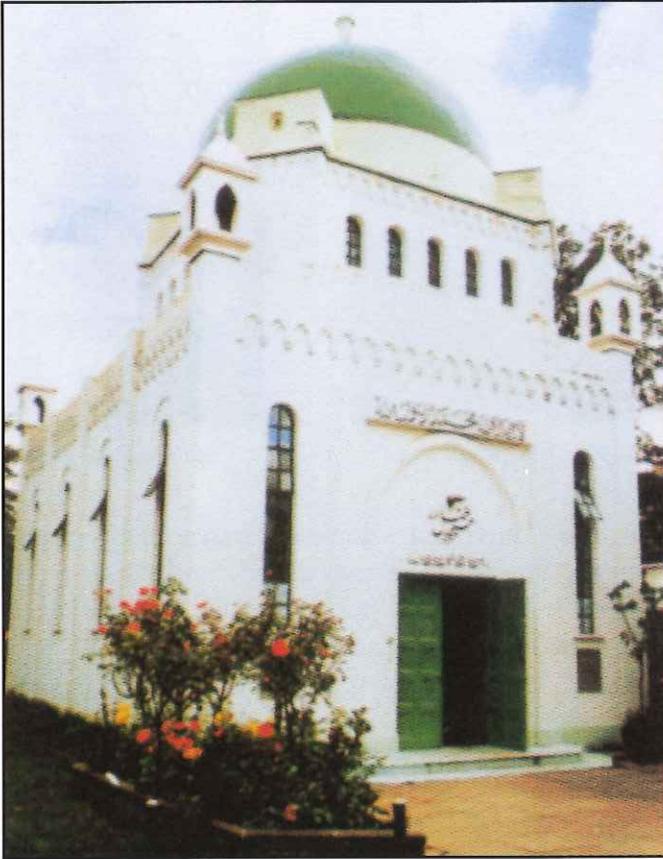
It is impossible to forget when, for the first time, I visited the headquarters of Ahmadiyyat in Brazil. My mind was confused with respect to Islam, and however strange it may seem, my heart was filled with uncontrollable happiness as if it was saying, 'Enter therein, it is your house.' While on my way home, I began to reflect on my conversation with the missionary and had discovered that in spite of the false propaganda surrounding me, my heart still remained pure and ready to attend to the call of Islam. (From the letter of Abdul Rashid, a new Ahmadi Muslim in Brazil)

**EUROPE:**

# UNITED KINGDOM



**Jama'at Established in 1915**

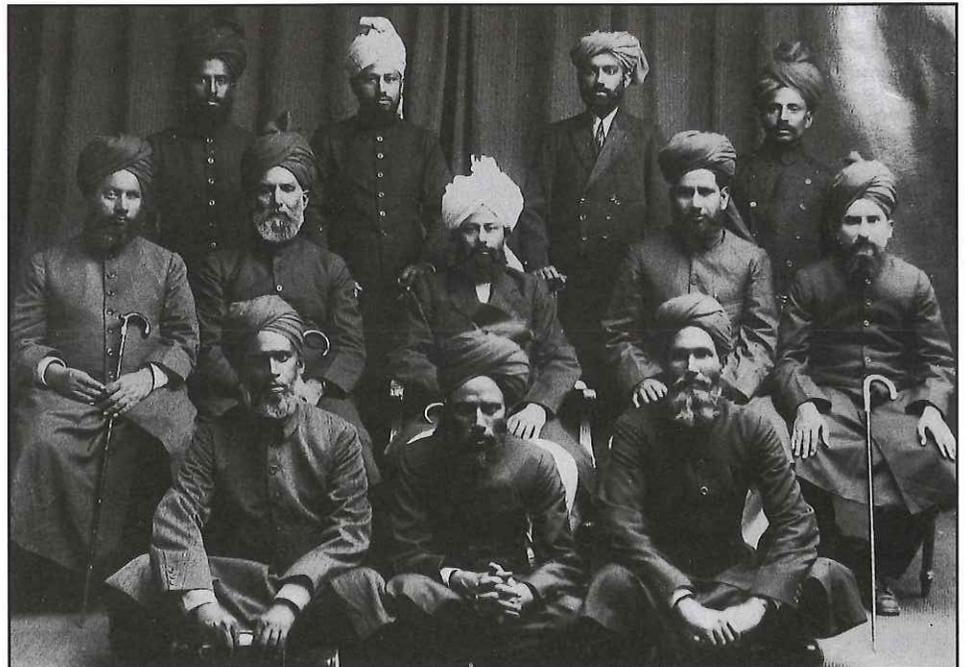


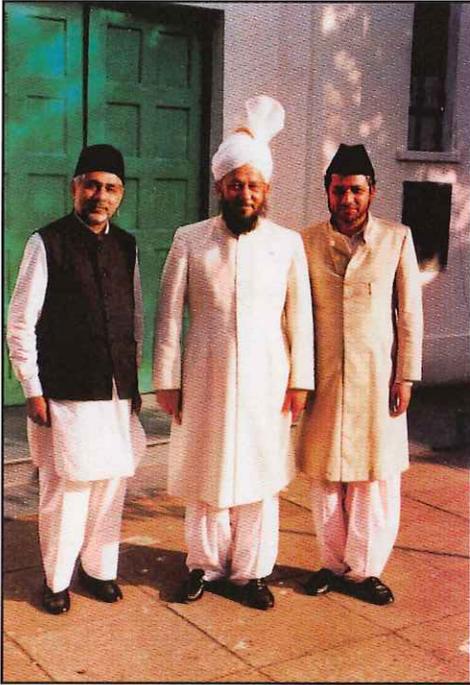
*Fazal Mosque, London, England*

I saw in a vision that I was standing on a pulpit in the city of London and setting forth the truth of Islam in the English language, in a very well reasoned address. Thereafter I caught several birds who were sitting upon small trees and were of white color and their bodies resembled the bodies of partridges. I interpreted this vision as meaning that though I would not be able to travel to that country. My writings will be published there and many righteous English people will accept the truth.

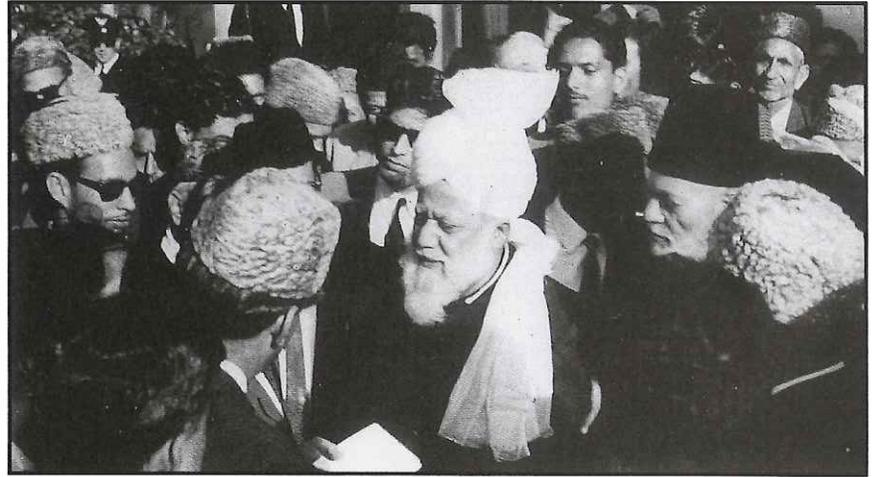
...We believe in the rising of the sun from the west, but it has been disclosed to me in a vision that the meaning of the rising of the sun from the west is that the western countries, which from ancient times, have been enveloped in the darkness of disbelief and error, will be illuminated by the sun of truth and will partake of Islam. (*Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, Izala Auham, 1891*)

*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> with the companions who accompanied him on his first visit to London in 1924. Seated from right to left: Hazrat Sh. Abdul Rahman of Egypt<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Ch. F. M. Siyal<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>), Hazrat Zulfiqar Ali Khan<sup>ra</sup>, and Hazrat Hafiz Roshan Ali<sup>ra</sup>. Standing from right to left: Hazrat Mian Rehm Din Sahib<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Yaqub Ali Irfani<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Dr. Hashmatullah<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Bhai Abdur Rehman Qadiani<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Chaudry Muhammad Sharif Advocate<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Chaudry Ali Muhammad<sup>ra</sup>, and Hazrat Mian Sharif Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>*





*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> with Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashid, the Missionary-in-Charge of the U.K. Jama'at (right) and Aftab A. Khan, the Amir of the U.K. Jama'at*



*Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad's<sup>a</sup> first visit to London (during his Khilafat) in 1967*

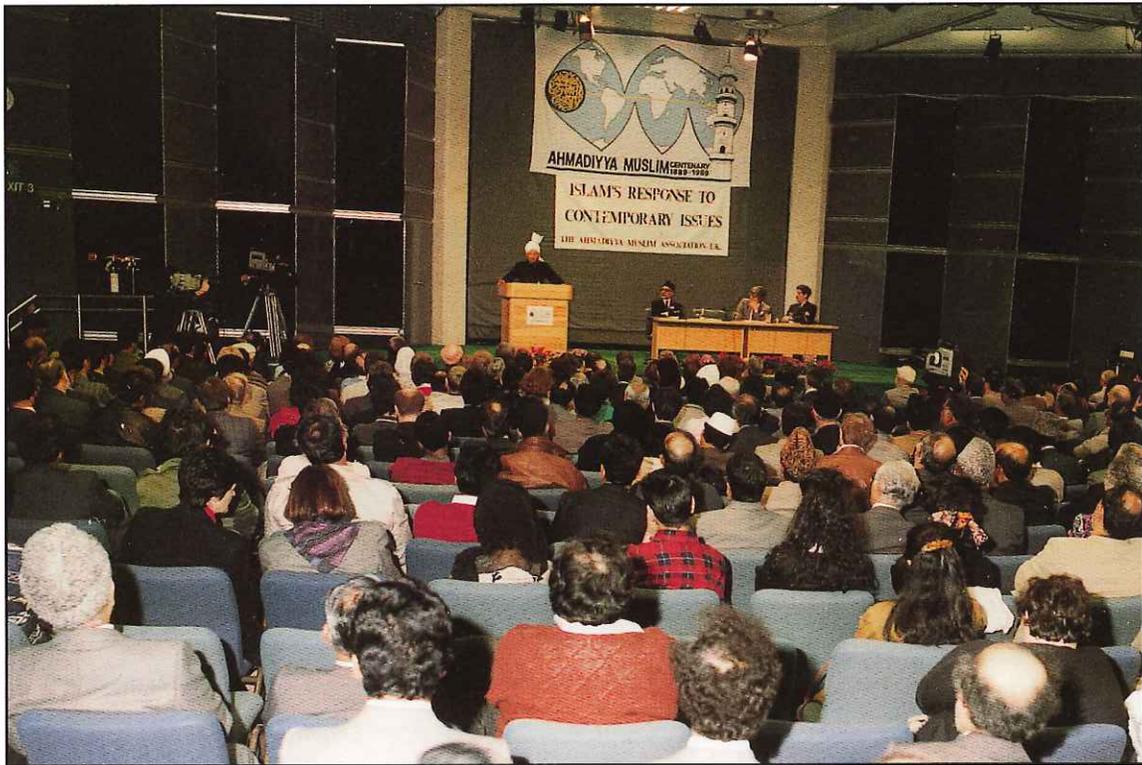
وہ شہر جو کفر کا ہے مرکز ہے جس پر دین مسیح نازل  
 خدائے واحد کے نام پر اک اب اس میں مسجد بنائیں گے ہم  
 پھر اس کے مینار پر سے دنیا کو حق کی جانب بلائیں گے ہم  
 کلام ربّ رحیم درحماں بیاگمب بلاستنائیں گے ہم

The city which is the center of disbelief,  
 Upon which Christendom is proud,  
 In the Name of the One God,  
 We shall now build therein a mosque !  
 From its minaret we shall call the world to  
 truth,  
 And proclaim aloud therefrom the words  
 of the Gracious, Merciful Lord.

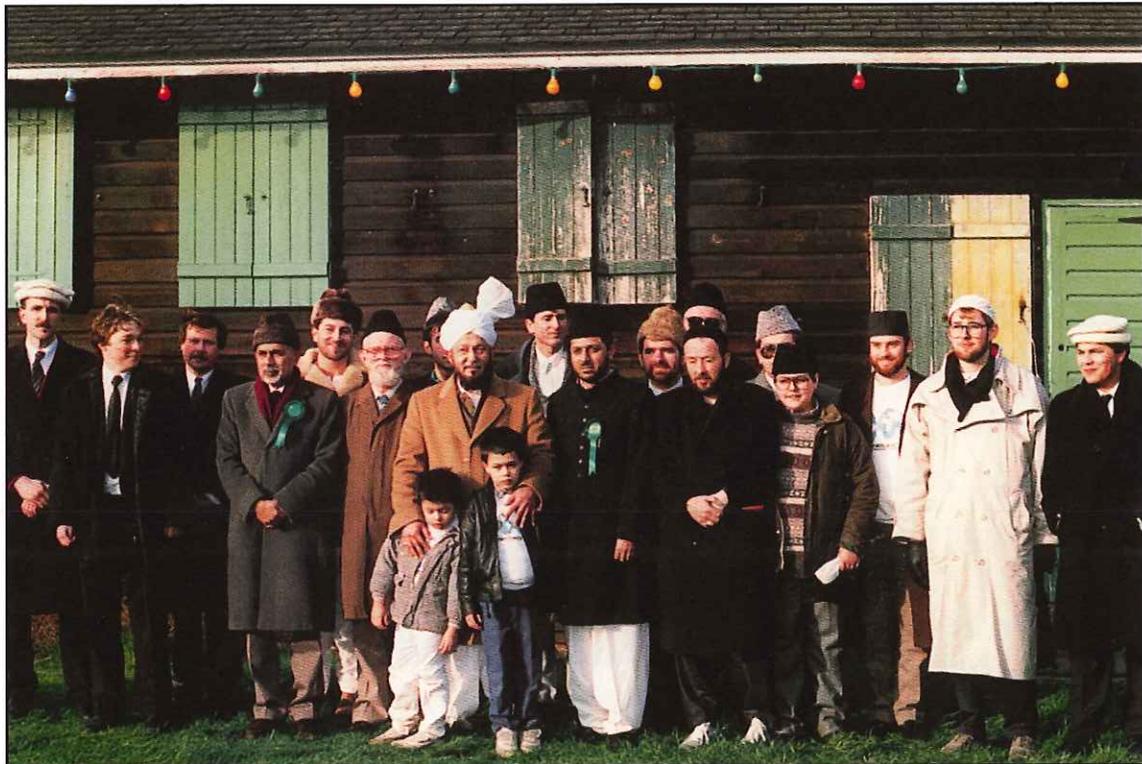
(Verses from a poem by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, *Kalaam-e-Mahmood*)



*The first Bai'at of the second century of Ahmadiyyat on March 24, 1989*



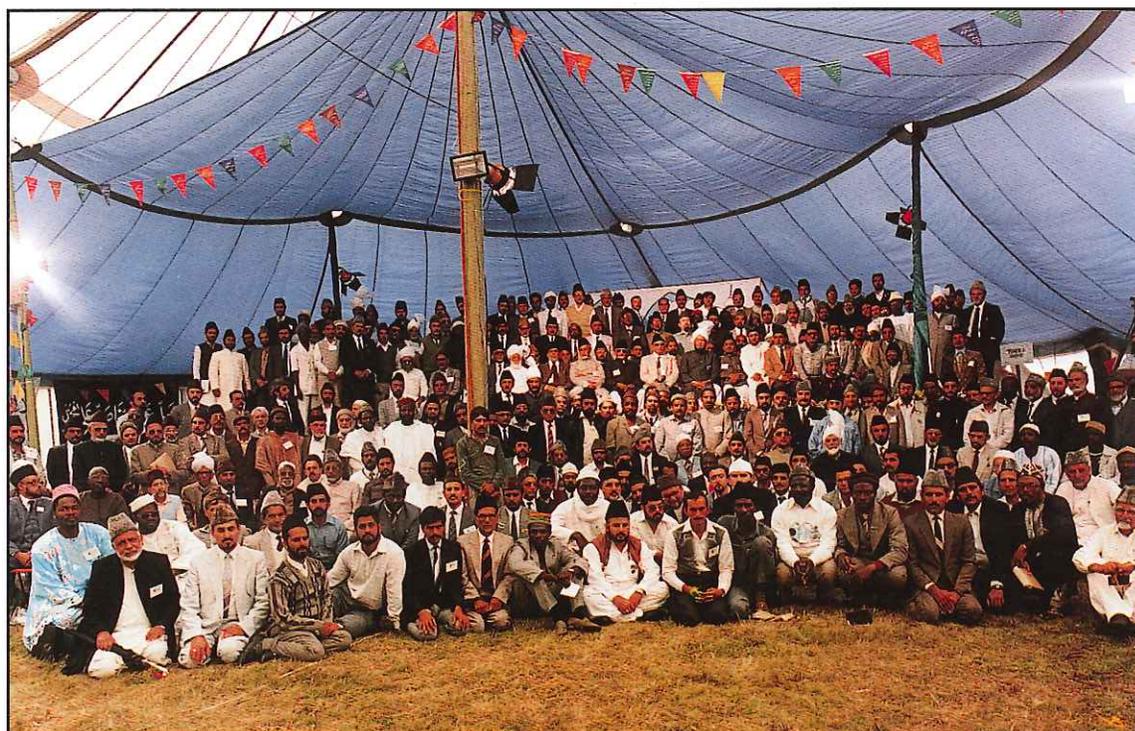
*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> delivering his famous lecture "ISLAM'S RESPONSE TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES" at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London, England*



*A group of new Ahmadi converts from the United Kingdom with Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>*



*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> solemnizing the marriage of his daughter. Seated at the far left is Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad, the Amir of the USA Jama'at*



*Participants of the First International Majlis-e-Shura (Consultative Body) of the second century of Ahmadiyyat with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>*



**EUROPE:**

# GERMANY

**Jama'at Established in 1948**

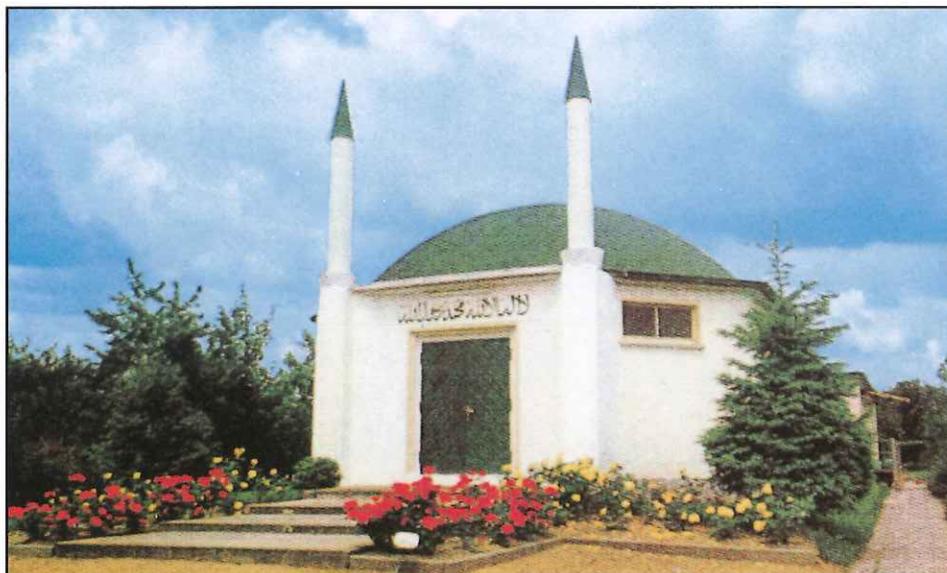


*The first mosque in Germany, Fazole Omar Mosque in Hamburg*

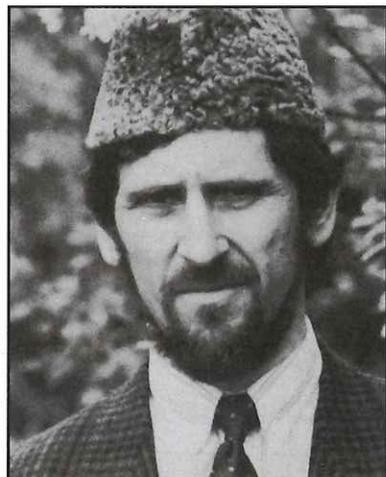
Alhamdulillah, I pray to Allah that may Islam spread rapidly in Germany.  
*Cable message delivered at the inauguration of the Nur Mosque by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> in 1959*



I wish Germany would be the first European country for Jama'at Ahmadiyya to be bestowed with the ability to build 100 mosques.  
*Excerpt from the Friday sermon delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> in Germany, May 14, 1989*



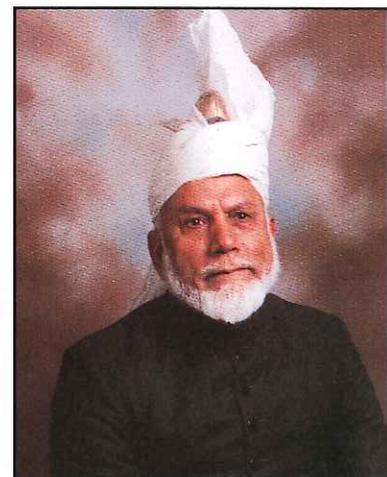
*Nur Mosque, Frankfurt, Germany*



Mr. Abdullah Wagishauser  
Amir of the German Jama'at



Maulana Mubarak Ali, the first missionary  
sent to Germany (Sept. 1922 - Mar. 1924)



Maulana Ataullah Kaleem  
Missionary-in-Charge, Germany

The first German to extend the hand of help to Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> was Mrs. Carolyn in a letter: 'I will be glad if you could write me back a few words of advice. Could I be of any help to you in this part of the world... Trust me dear Mirza, I am your sincere friend.' (*Badar*, March 14, 1907)

Dr. Tiltcock, a German historian, accepted Ahmadiyyat within a few hours of having a personal audience with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> on June 26, 1955.

## Spiritual Reflections on Germany

**H**azrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> prepared an inaugural message for the Fazle Umar Mosque in Hamburg, Germany in 1957, an excerpt from which is as follows:  
"May Allah enable the German nation to promptly accept Islam. Just as they are European leaders in the material world, so may they be spiritual leaders in the same respect."



**H**azrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> described his vision to a reporter during his visit to Frankfurt, Germany, thus:

"Several years ago, when I just completed my education at Oxford University and the Germans had lost the war, I saw a vision that at the center of the German nation was inscribed...

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

'There is none worthy of worship except Allah, and Muhammad is His Messenger.'

It was a strange phenomenon, but I was pleased with it" (*Khalid*: May, 1983, p. 276)



**H**azrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>, while describing the sacrifices and efforts of the German Jama'at, said:  
"When I observe these great endeavors, I find an extraordinary love for the members, and just as water gushes out from the mountain spring, I am moved to pray for all Ahmadi men, women, and children of the German Jama'at. May Allah shower His abundant blessings on you. May He become your Guardian. May He bring forth huge results for your efforts. Aameen." (*Message delivered at the 9th Annual Convention, Germany*)



Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Ijtema, Germany, 1994



Bosnian Muslims in Germany listening to an address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba



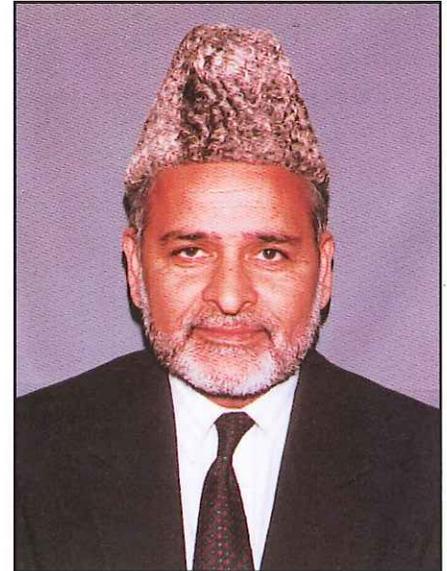
**EUROPE:**

# BELGIUM

**Jama'at Established in 1985**



*Ahmadiyya Mission House in Brussels, Belgium, acquired in 1985*



*Mir Shameem Ahmad Khalid  
Missionary, Belgium*

*His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba  
being received on arrival at the Belgium  
Mission House in 1992*



*Messers Ridwan Vanderbroucke and Nazeem  
Vandenbroucke, two Flemish Ahmadi  
from Brussels (left), with Hazrat Khalifatul  
Masih IVaba*





**EUROPE:**

# HOLLAND

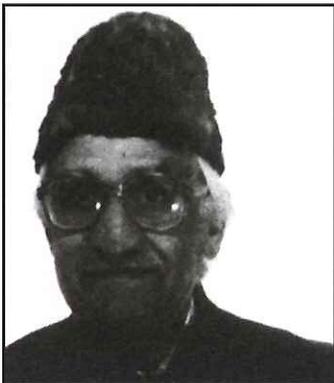
**Jama'at Established in 1947**



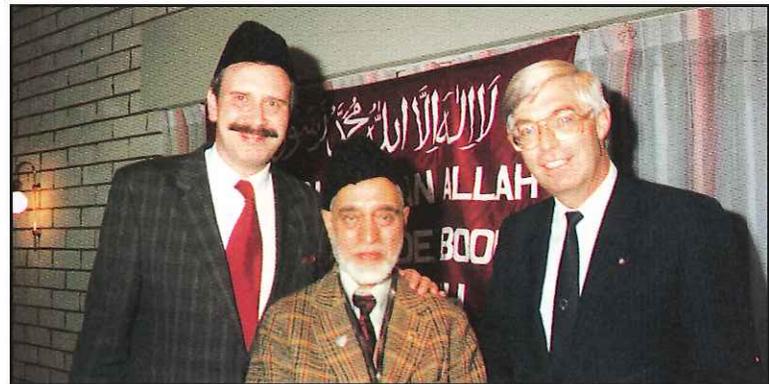
*Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan<sup>a</sup> laying the foundation stone of the Mubarak Mosque in The Hague in 1953*



*Mubarak Mosque, The Hague, Holland*



*Ch. Abdul Latif  
Missionary (1947-1948)*



*The late Maulana Hafiz Qudratullah (the first missionary sent to Holland) with Mr. Shahid Mahmood Frouw (a Dutch Ahmadi) on the left and the Mayor of Nunspeet, Holland on the right*

*Maulana Abdul Hakim Akmal, the Missionary-in-Charge of Holland*



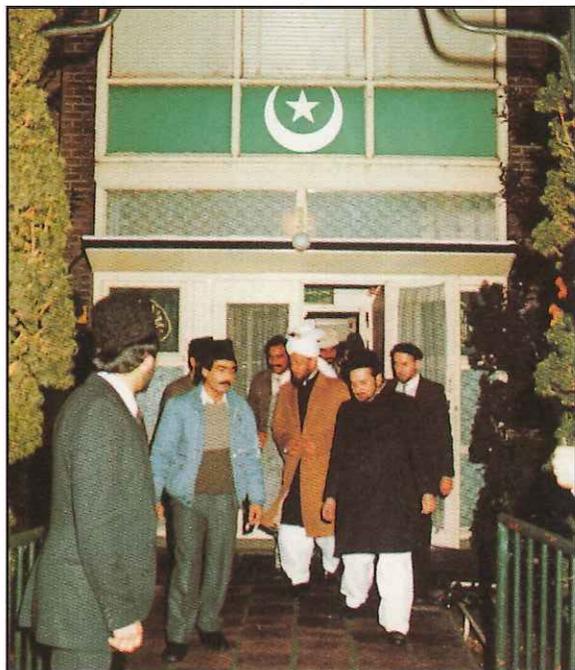
*Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan<sup>a</sup> leading silent prayers after the foundation stone ceremony of the Mubarak Mosque in Holland*



*Bait-un-Noor Mosque, Nunspeet, Holland*

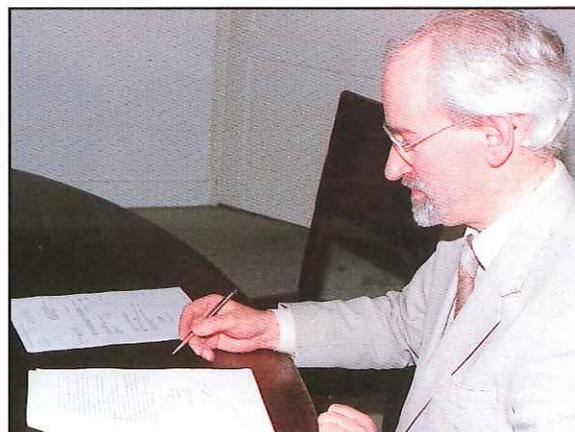


*Opening Ceremony of Bait-un-Noor Mosque in Nunspeet, Holland on September 13, 1985*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba leaving the Mubarak Mosque in The Hague, Holland in 1987*

The Dutch have a love for natural beauty. I am therefore confident that if the beauty of the teachings of Islam is shown to the Dutch people properly, there is no reason why they would not accept it. The Dutch, far from being hypocrites, were a people always known for saying what they mean. This is indicated by the fact that they do not even bother to hide certain parts of the interior of their houses by drawing curtains. Their reception rooms are visible from the street, beautifully and tastefully decorated. This is a positive factor from a religious point of view... I have brought the message of Islam to you which is full of pure love. (An excerpt from the address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba delivered at the inauguration of Bait-un-Noor in Nunspeet, Holland in 1985)



*Mr. Abdul Hamid van der Velden, a devoted Dutch Ahmadi*

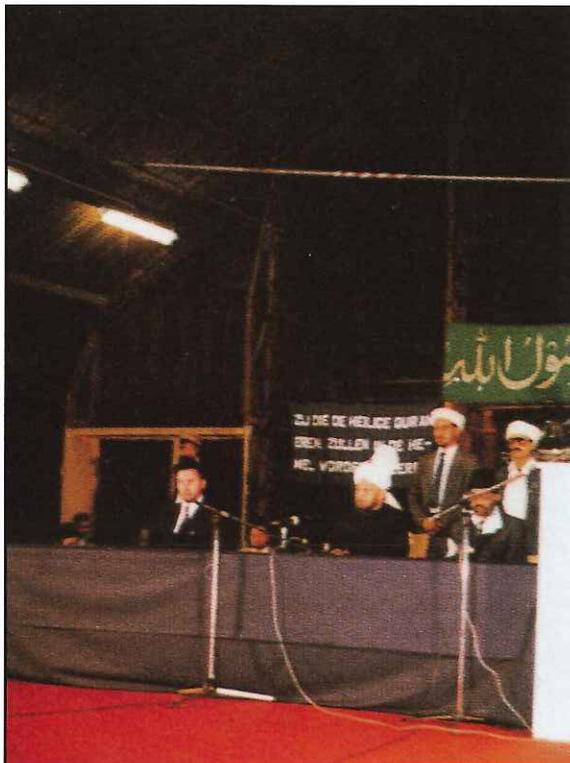


*Maulana Abdul Hakim Akmal (far right) conveys the message of Islam to a Dutch guest (far left)*

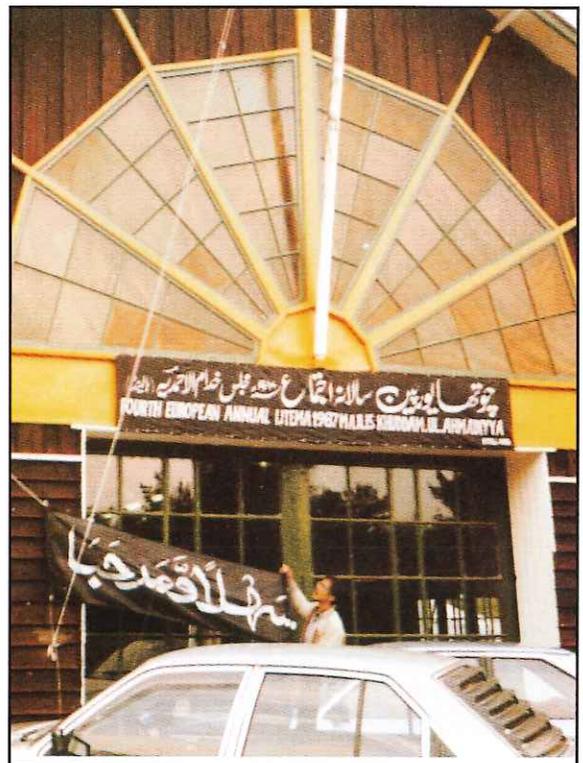


*Press conference at the Mubarak Mosque  
in The Hague, Holland in 1987*

**T**his day is a very special day in the history of Holland. The historians of tomorrow will give special significance to this day... Allah has an eye on the deeds of each and every Ahmadi. Prayers will bring about a spiritual change in your actions at an incredible pace. *(An excerpt from the address of His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on June 12, 1987, at the celebration of the European Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Ijtema held in Holland)*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> presiding over a session of the European Ijtema in Holland held on June 12, 1987*



*European Annual Ijtema in Holland  
June 12, 1987*



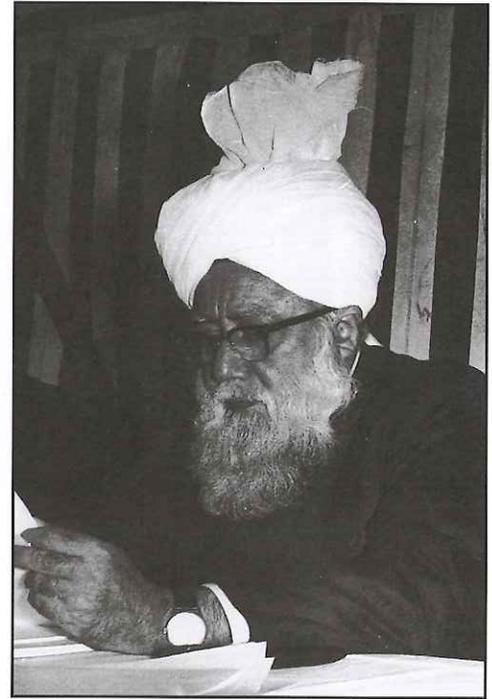
**EUROPE:**

# DENMARK

**Jama'at Established in 1958**



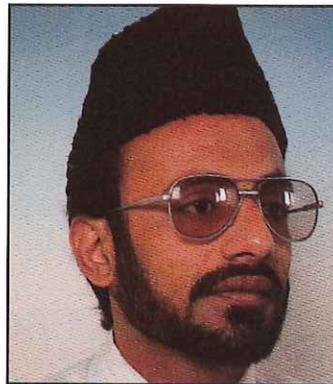
*Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad leading silent prayers after laying the foundation stone of the Nusrat Jahan Mosque on May 6, 1966*



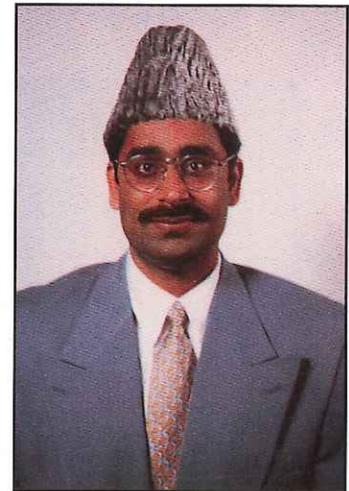
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IIIra addressing the Jama'at at the opening ceremony of the Nusrat Jahan Mosque in 1967*



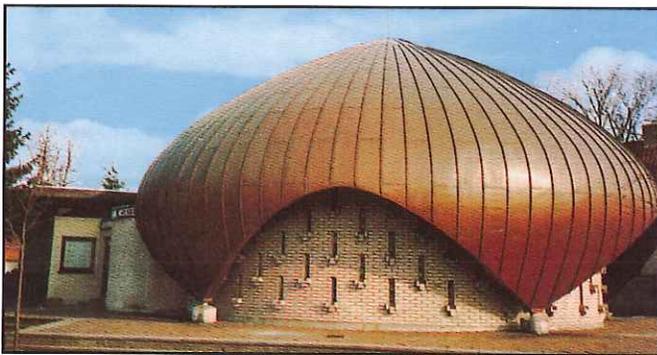
*Mr. Abdus Salam Madson, a devoted Ahmadi missionary*



*Mohammad Usman Shahid Missionary-in-Charge, Denmark*



*Ch. Abdul Latif Amir, Denmark*



*The Nusrat Jahan Mosque in Copenhagen, Denmark*

**L**ord, bless this mosque and make it a house of pure and undefiled worship and selfless sacrifice. May all those who are connected with this mosque be able to serve the whole of mankind and be sympathetic towards all. May they all have a brotherly and transparently sincere relationship with others. May they cause no pain or harm to anyone, neither with their hands nor with their tongues nor in any other conceivable way. Let darkness vanish from their hearts and let the world be illuminated by the light they radiate. *(Excerpt from the address delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IIIra at the opening of the Nusrat Jahan Mosque in Copenhagen, Denmark on July 21, 1967)*



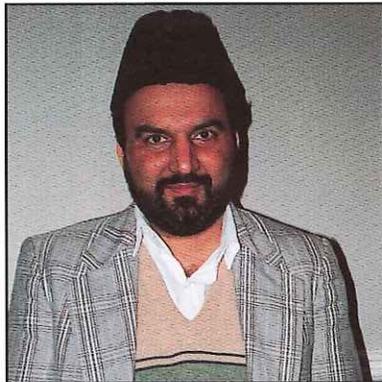
**EUROPE:**

# NORWAY

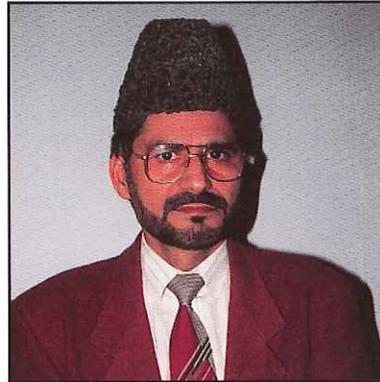
**Jama'at Established in 1957**



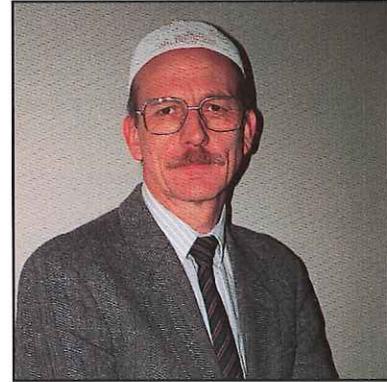
*The Noor Mosque, the first Ahmadiyya mosque in Norway*



*Naimatullah Javed  
Missionary-in-Charge, Norway*



*Mubashar Ahmad Tariq  
Amir, Norway*

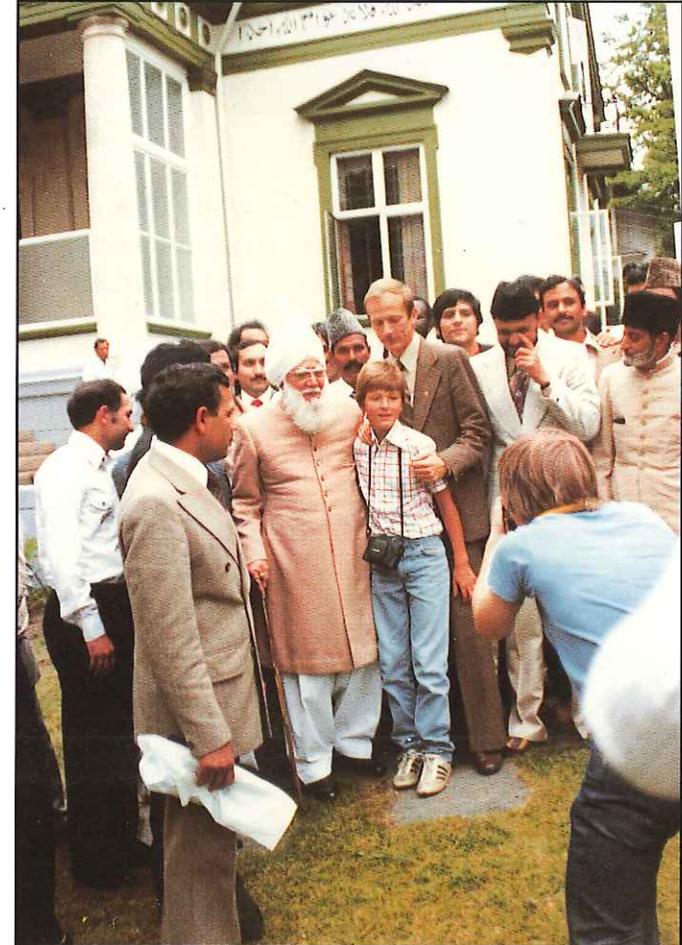


*Noor Ahmad Truls Bolstand  
Additional Amir, Norway*

If all Ahmadis living in Norway grasp this reality full well, and put forth a relentless and untiring effort to win the hearts of the Norwegian people; with full trust in Allah and with patience and goodly exhortation; then I assure you that these, your small advancing steps towards them will, in the end, overcome even mountains of difficulties. And God will certainly grant you the ability to bring about a life-giving revolution among those who are spiritually dead in Norway. *(Excerpt of the message to the Norway Jama'at delivered by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, Weekly Badar, January 24, 1991)*



*Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> arriving for the inauguration of the Noor Mosque in Oslo, Norway on August 1, 1980*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> with some Jama'at members in front of the Noor Mosque*



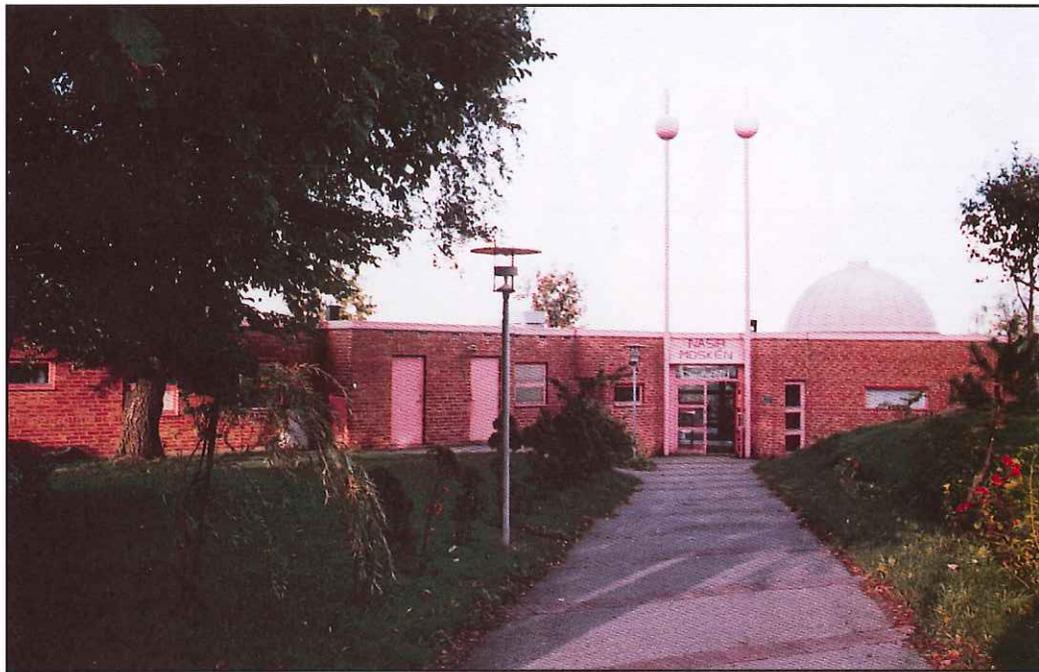
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> hoisting the flag of Ahmadiyyat at the 1993 Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya Ijtema in Norway*



**EUROPE:**

# SWEDEN

**Jama'at Established in 1956**

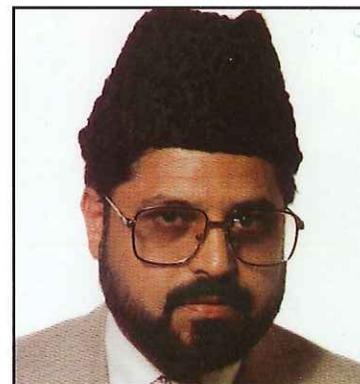


*Nasir Mosque, Goteborg, Sweden*

The Nasir Mosque was the first mosque built in Scandinavia. The foundation stone was laid by Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> on September 27, 1975. The mosque was completed within a year and on August 20, 1976, Hazoor travelled once again to Goteborg to perform the opening ceremony of the mosque by delivering the first Friday sermon at this mosque. Goteborg is the second largest city in Sweden and the Nasir Mosque ranks as one of the significant buildings of note in this city. (From *Mosque: Its Importance in the Life of a Muslim*, R.A. Chaudhri, page 50)



*Newly converted Bosnian Ahmadis in Goteborg with the Amir of the Swedish Jama'at*



*Mashood-ul-Haq  
Amir of the Swedish Jama'at*



**EUROPE:**

# FRANCE

**Jama'at Established in 1946**

*Ahmadiyya Mission House, Bait-us-Salam in Paris, France*



*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba during the opening of the mission house in Paris in 1985*

## **EUROPE... A prophecy of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>**

آسمان پر دعوتِ حق کے لئے اک جوش ہے  
ہو رہے نیک طبعوں پر فرشتوں کا اُتار  
آ رہے اس طرف احرارِ یورپ کا مزاج  
نبض پھر چلنے لگی مُردوں کی ناگہ زندہ وار  
کتے ہیں تسلیم کو اب اہل دانش الوداع  
پھر ہوئے ہیں پیغمبرِ توحید پر از جاں نثار

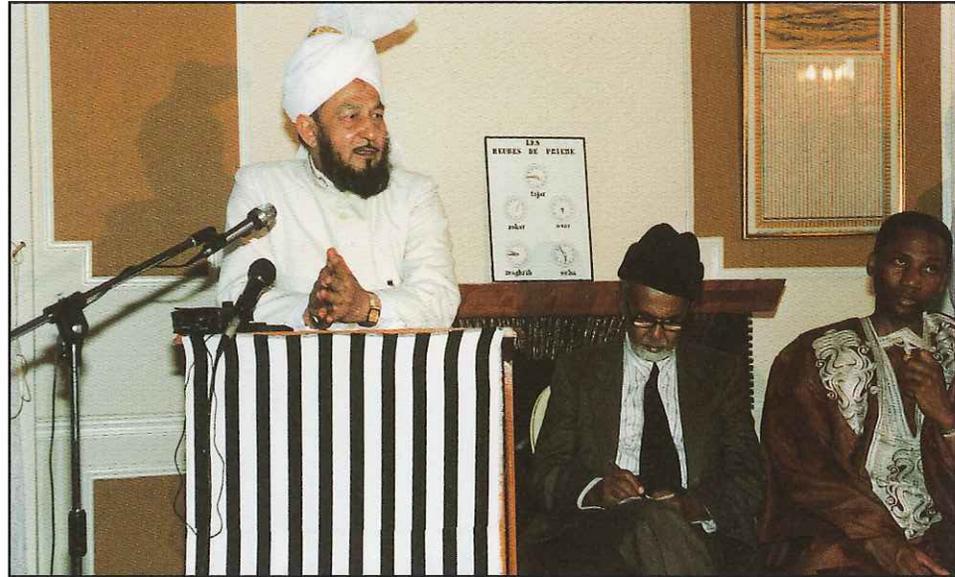
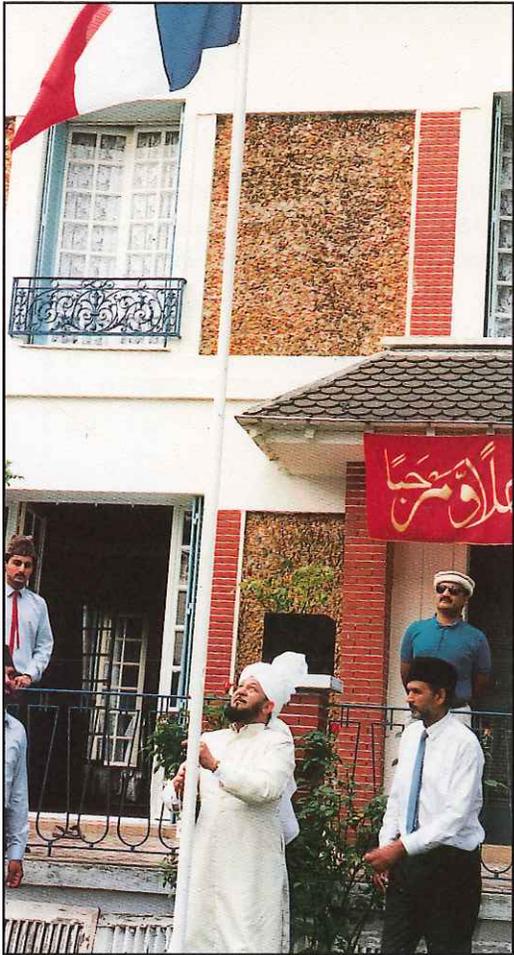
There is at present a great enthusiasm in the heavens for the call to the truth. Angels are descending on good natured souls...

The minds of the unbiased thinkers of Europe are inclining towards this direction. The pulse of the spiritually dead has suddenly been revived...

The wise now bid goodbye to Trinity. Again they have offered to serve with their lives the Fountainhead of Unity. (*Durr-e-Thameen - Psalms of Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>*)



*Some members of the French Jama'at in front of the Bait-us-Salaam Mission House in Paris, France*



*ABOVE: His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> delivering a speech in 1989. Seated to Hazoor's left is the late Al-Haj Ahmad Yadullah Bhunoo Sahib, ex-Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Jama'at France*

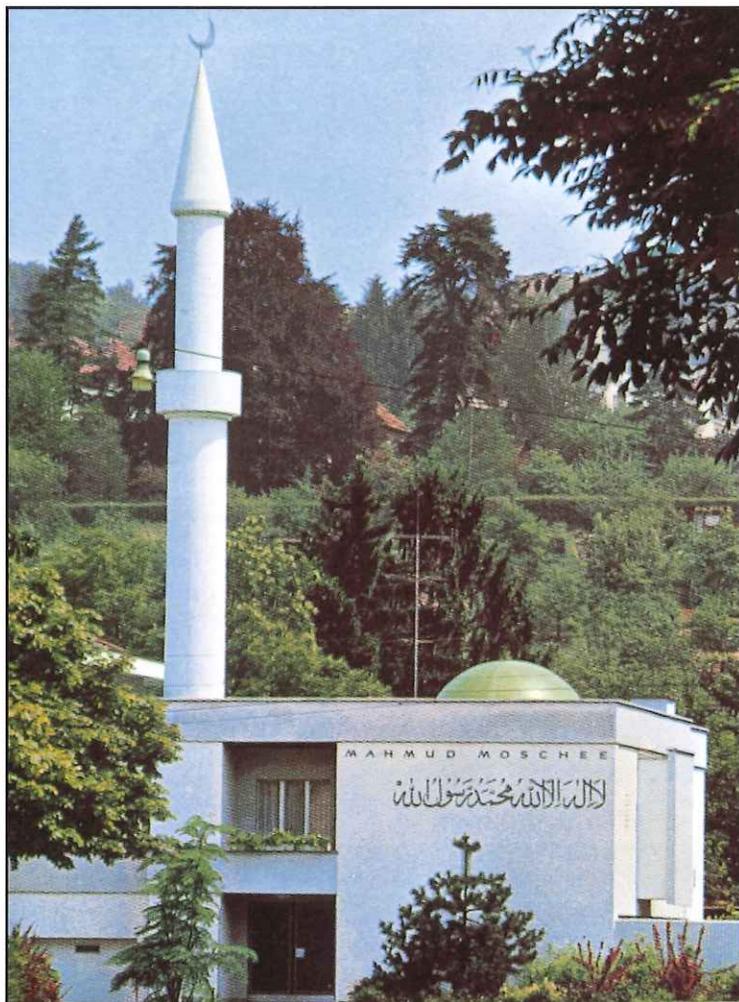
*LEFT: Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> hoisting the French flag during his centennial visit in 1989*



**EUROPE:**

# SWITZERLAND

**Jama'at Established in 1946**



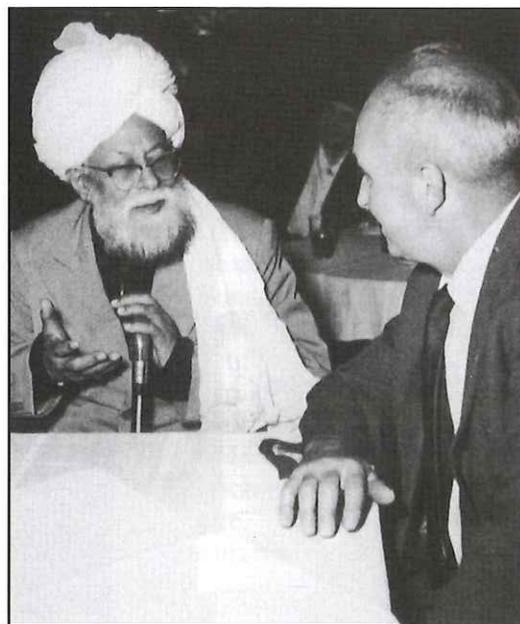
*Mahmood Mosque, Zurich, Switzerland*



*Hazrat Amtul Hafeez Begum Sahiba<sup>ra</sup>, daughter of Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, laying the foundation stone of the Mahmood Mosque in Zurich, 1962*



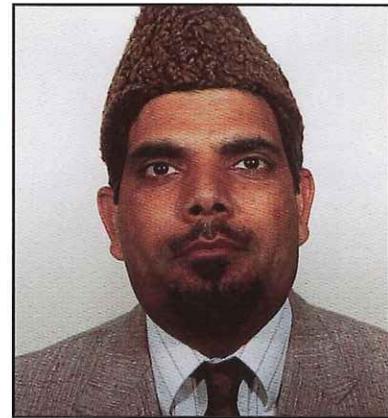
*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> exhorting Swiss Ahmadis regarding the training of children*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> speaking with the first Swiss Ahmadi, Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Frei, in Zurich, 1955*



*Three Swiss individuals accepting Ahmadiyyat at the hand of  
Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>*



*Basharat Ahmad Mahmood  
Amir and Missionary-in-Charge,  
Switzerland*



*Mr. Tariq Walid Tanvezar,  
a Swiss Ahmadi*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> conducting a Majlis-e-Irfan session in Zurich  
Right: Dr. Karl Henking, Left: Hidayatullah Hubsch*



## The First Mosque in Switzerland

**T**he 18th of October 1946 was a Friday, and I had arrived in Switzerland from England along with two other colleagues only five days earlier. In the course of the first Friday prayer, offered on a hill - "Waidberg" - in Zurich, I felt a strong urge to pray for a mosque in Zurich.

In 1955 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> arrived in Switzerland for medical treatment. During his stay in Zurich, Hazoor instructed me to build a mosque in Zurich. Before the preparations could be started in earnest, a message came from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup>, who was then in Germany, that before building a mosque in Switzerland, one would be built in Hamburg. After a temporary suspension of efforts, the work for building a mosque in Zurich was resumed.

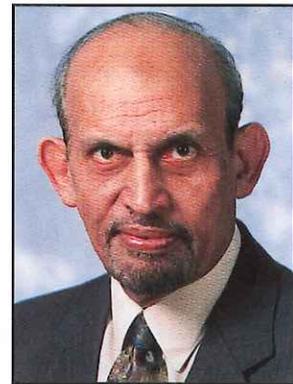
The most formidable difficulty seemed to be the procurement of a suitable site. One attempt after the other bore no fruits, and the prospects were dim and disheartening. It was decided that I needed to approach the local government. I had my first meeting with the Mayor of Zurich, Dr. Emil Landolt, on June 19, 1957. The mayor sympathized with the idea of building the first ever mosque of Switzerland in Zurich, but was apparently helpless. After two years of negotiations at different levels, a contract was signed with the local government on December 24, 1959, for a plot of land on lease for 60 years. It took almost another year to get the public registration of the contract on November 29, 1960.

The site for the mosque happened to lie just opposite a big church, and it was genuinely feared that getting a building permit would pose great problems. Indeed, there was opposition to our project from church circles, but the local authorities, particularly the mayor, had been so thoroughly briefed by us that the opposition had no chance. Luckily, a Swiss Ahmadi Muslim, Herr Fried Badertscher, was working as an architect in one of the offices of the Municipal Corporation of Zurich. He was a great help. Over a period of two and a half years he worked out eight different sketches for the mosque, and the 8th attempt offered the optimal solution to meet our requirements. The center, too, adopted this plan.

The task of doing the project was entrusted to the construction company Ernst Gohner AG. In connection with the building permit, objections were raised as to the minaret, the dome, parking lot, the mandatory space to be left

between neighbor's houses, etc. At long last, the building permit was issued with the rider to start construction within one year.

I requested the center to send a brick from the Mubarak Mosque in Qadian to be used in the foundation of our mosque. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> had the brick flown to Zurich after he blessed it with his prayer.



*Sheikh Nasir Ahmad*

The next stage was to secure the right amount of funds, and according to the center the prospects were bleak. I was asked to negotiate with the government of Pakistan directly. I spoke on the telephone to President Ayub Khan, with whom I had a brief acquaintance many years earlier when he was Commander-in-Chief. Later, on the 22nd of January, 1961, I traveled to Munich and met President Ayub Khan and Mr. Mohammad Shoaib, the Finance Minister of Pakistan, when they were visiting Germany. The Finance Minister was opposed to the very idea of a foreign exchange grant for any mosque at all, but by the Grace of God I was able to make him change his mind. After a few months our application was accepted.

Now everything was apparently ready to start the work. It turned out, however, that the building permit had expired, and we had to get it renewed. This involved getting over all the formalities and cumbersome red tape.

At this juncture, we were confronted with yet another unforeseeable hurdle. A suitable site, the building permit, the foreign exchange grant - everything was there, but the money had not yet arrived. The building firm insisted on a bank guarantee which seemed almost impossible to provide, considering our financial standing. But Almighty God opened the door and the Canton Zurich Bank agreed to give a guarantee to the building firm. This favorable development was nothing short of a miracle.

At long last, Hazrat Syedah Amatul Hafeez Begum<sup>ra</sup>, the revered daughter of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, laid the foundation stone on the 25th of August, 1962. On June 22, 1963, Hazrat Chaudhary Muhammad Zafrullah Khan<sup>ra</sup> performed the inauguration of this, the first mosque in Switzerland, in the presence of the mayor, Dr. Emil Landolt. The mosque was named "Mahmud Moschee." Thus my dream on the 18th of October, 1946 for a mosque in Zurich was realized after about 17 years, Alhamdulillah. All praise belongs to Allah.

■ *Sheikh Nasir Ahmad, the first Missionary to Switzerland*



**EUROPE:**

# PORTUGAL

**Jama'at Established in 1952**



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> having lunch with some Jama'at members of Portugal after Friday Prayers in 1990*



*Some members of the Portugal Jama'at with His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> conveying the message of Islam to Anjos Almeida, the Director Justice of Portugal*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> offering a copy of the Holy Quran with a Portuguese translation to the Vice Governor of Portugal*

Today's Friday Sermon is being delivered in Portugal. Because this is the first time that I had an opportunity to come to Portugal to inaugurate the Ahmadiyya Mission House, it was my wish that during this journey I should deliver a Friday Sermon on Portuguese soil... The only issue that still remains is that until now we still have not been able to acquire an appropriate piece of land for our Mission. The land that has been bought may be enough to satisfy the needs of a small Jama'at, but, in keeping with my expectations, this land will prove to be completely insufficient for our future needs, and indeed my prayer is that this land prove insufficient very quickly at that. May God Almighty grant us a most excellent and ample piece of land. (From the Friday Sermon by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>, in Portugal on March 9, 1990)



*Karam Elahi Zafar, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, Portugal*



**EUROPE:**

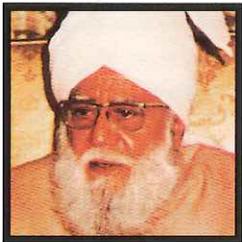
# SPAIN

**Jama'at Established in 1946**



1946

Have we forgotten Spain just because we had left it ? No, we have never forgotten it. We shall most surely return to Spain. **At the spot where our swords became blunt, our tongues shall wage a war, and by presenting the beautiful teachings of Islam, we shall ourselves make our brethren our arms.** (Comments of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> regarding the progress of Islam in Spain, *The Muslim Herald*, September 1982, page 22)



1970

Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>, during his visit to Spain in 1970, ardently prayed to Allah for the rejuvenation of Islam in Spain. In the city of Granada, Hazoor<sup>ra</sup> received the following revelation:

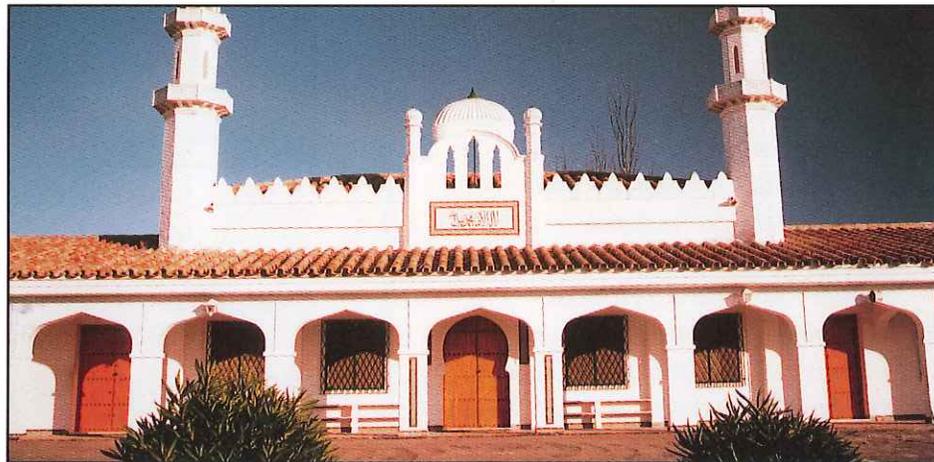
وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَالِغُ أَمْرِهِ قَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدْرًا

Allah is sufficient for him who puts his trust in Allah. Allah is sure to attain His purpose. Allah has appointed a measure for everything. (*The Muslim Herald*, September 1982, page 26)

1980

10 years later, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> laid the foundation stone of the Basharat Mosque in Pedroabad, Spain on October 9, 1980.

The Basharat Mosque in Pedroabad, Spain. Inaugurated in 1980, it is the first mosque built in Spain after 500 years



1982

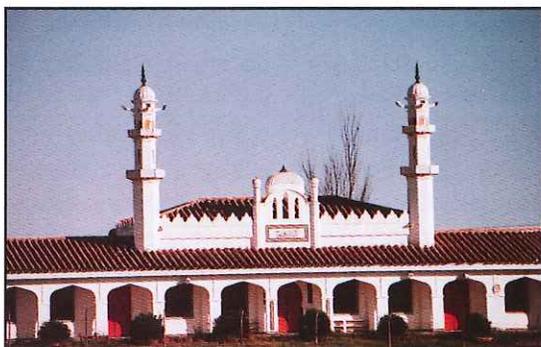
Today our hearts are full of His praise at the opening ceremony of this mosque and our tongues sing songs of His Holiness. His remembrance is soaked in our life and our soul. Today, we are prayer personified... May the portals of this house remain open for His creatures. May everyone, without discrimination of color, caste or creed believing in Your unity and coming to prostrate at Your doorstep enter this House. No one may stop anyone to enter Your House who wants to worship You... O our Lord, grant us strength that we may always remember this noble message which is linked with every mosque that is built in Your Name... With the true guidance of my Lord and insight granted to me by Him, I firmly believe that the conquest of the people of Spain has been destined only with the weapons of love, sincerity and service. (Inaugural Address of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> delivered on September 10, 1982)



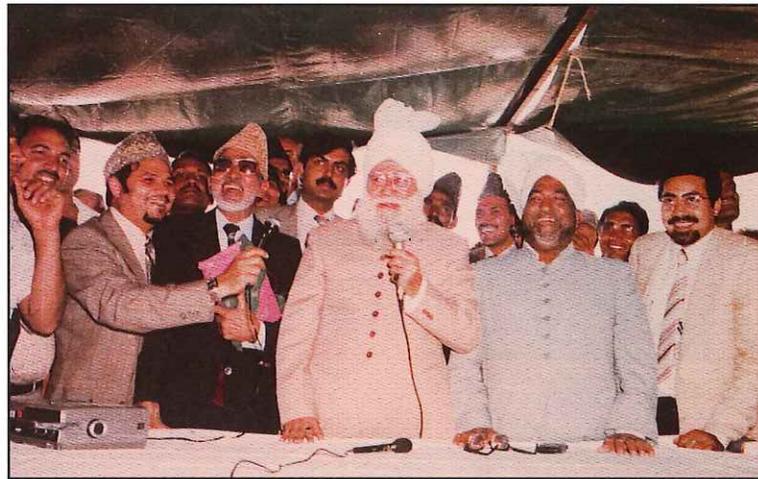
# SPAIN

## A Time Line...

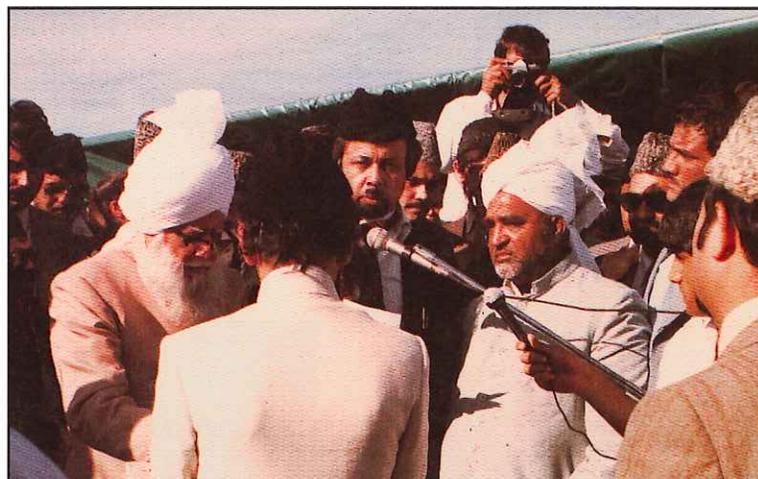
<u>Year</u> <u>(C.E.)</u>	<u>Event</u>
570	Birth of Holy Prophet Muhammad <sup>sa</sup>
610	Advent of Islam
630	Conquest of Mecca by the Holy Prophets <sup>sa</sup>
632	Death of the Holy Prophets <sup>sa</sup>
711	Conquest of Spain
762	Foundation of Baghdad
786	Mosque of Cordoba erected
900	Peak of Muslim population in Spain
1095	Start of the First Crusade
1232	Construction of Alhambra
1492	Fall of Granada and the Moors in Spain
1835	Birth of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup>
1889	Advent of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at
1908	Death of the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> and the start of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya
1914	Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad <sup>ra</sup> elected Second Khalifa
1934	Tehrik-e-Jadid initiated
1946	Spanish Mission established
1970	Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III <sup>ra</sup> visits Spain and receives revelation
1980	Foundation stone of the first Mosque in Spain laid by the third Khalifa <sup>ra</sup>
1982	Inauguration of the Basharat Mosque in Spain by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV <sup>aba</sup>



*Basharat Mosque in Spain*



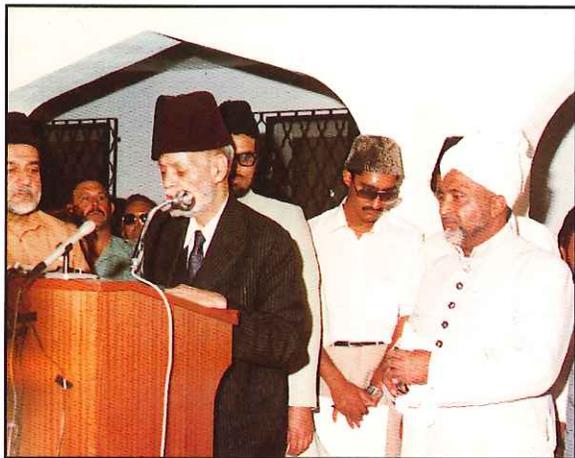
*Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> provides a moment of humor while responding to a press correspondent*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> responds to a question in Pedroabad, Spain*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> leads Zuhar Prayers in Pedroabad, Spain*



*Ch. Muhammad Zafrullah Khan Sahib<sup>ra</sup> presents his address at the inauguration of Basharat Mosque*



*Maulana Karam Elahi Zafar  
First Missionary to Spain*



*Mirza Nasir Mahmood  
Missionary-in-Charge, Spain*

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has to accomplish through love and affection that task which the sword failed to accomplish. Those hearts in which were sown the seeds of hatred and wherein the Muslim rulers had sown fields of hatred--today you have to cleanse those hearts and plant the seeds of love in them, and win the land of Spain once again for Islam through love. You must win an everlasting victory... a victory that shall last until Judgement Day, and which no earthly power shall be able to erase. *(Excerpt from the Friday Sermon delivered by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> on March 16, 1990 at Khateba, Spain, Al-Fazal, April 12, 1990)*



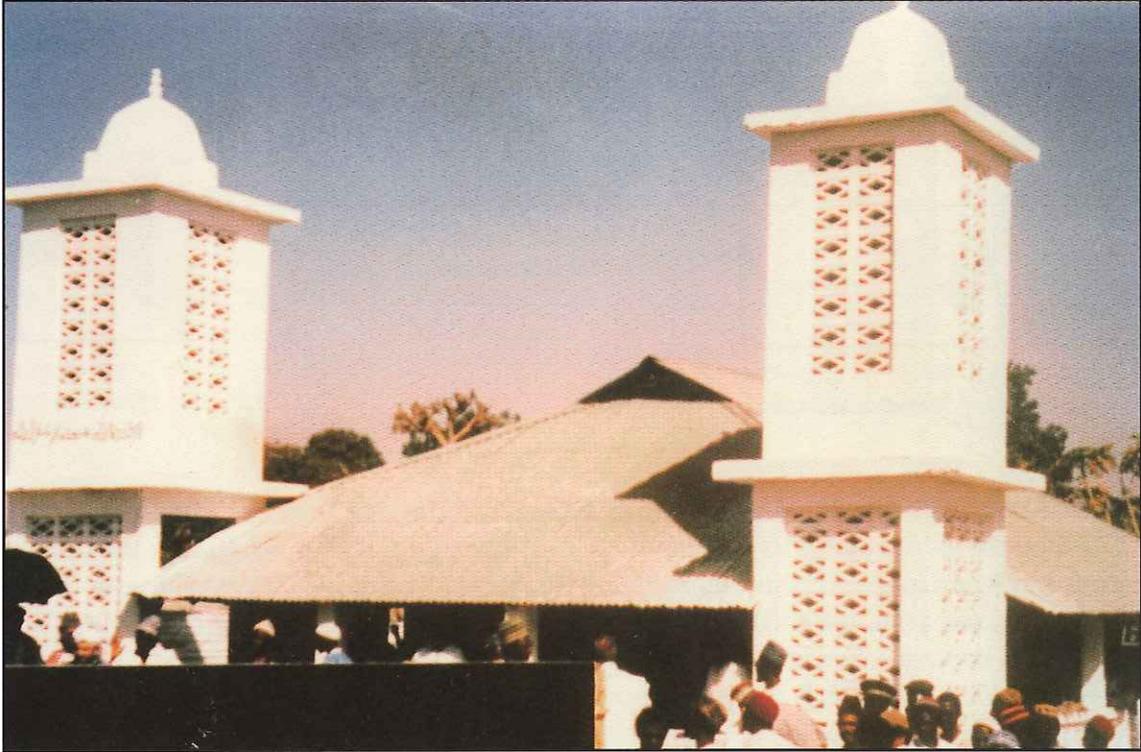
*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> presides over the inaugural function of the Basharat Mosque. Maulana Karam Elahi Zafar is at the podium. To Hazoor's right is Hazrat Ch. Muhammad Zafrulla Khan<sup>ra</sup>, and to Hazoor's left is Dr. Abdus Salam*



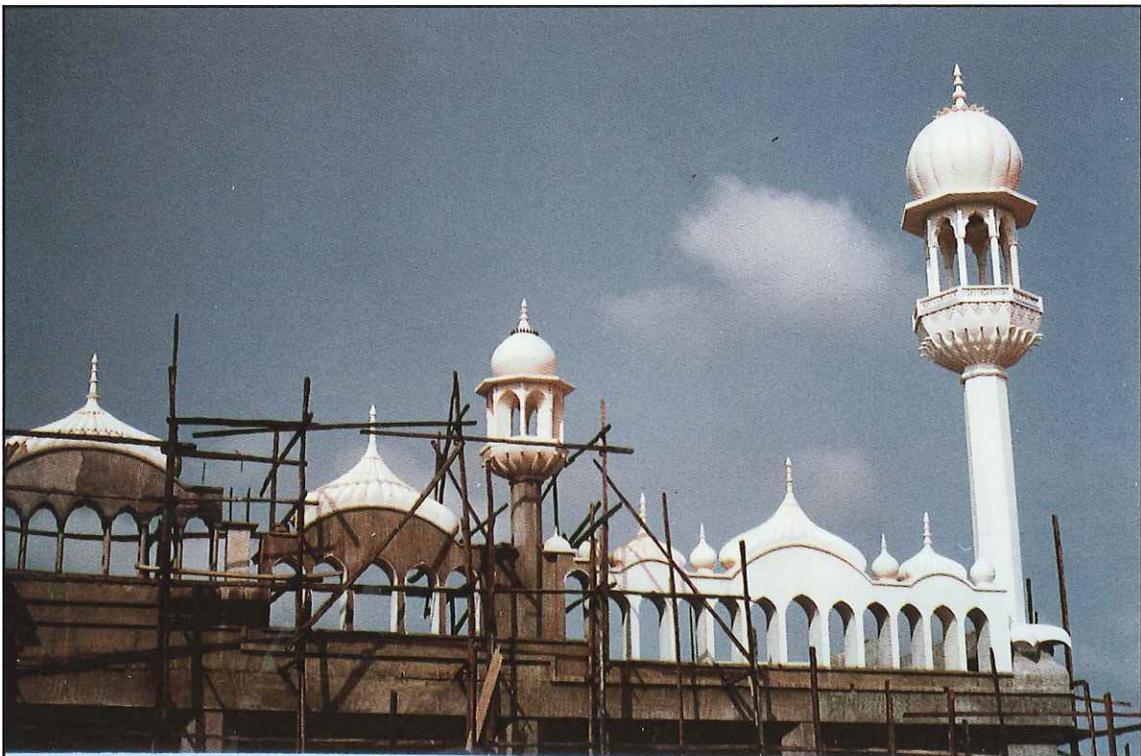
**AFRICA:**

# THE GAMBIA

**Jama'at Established in 1961**



*Ahmadiyya Mosque, Saba, Gambia*



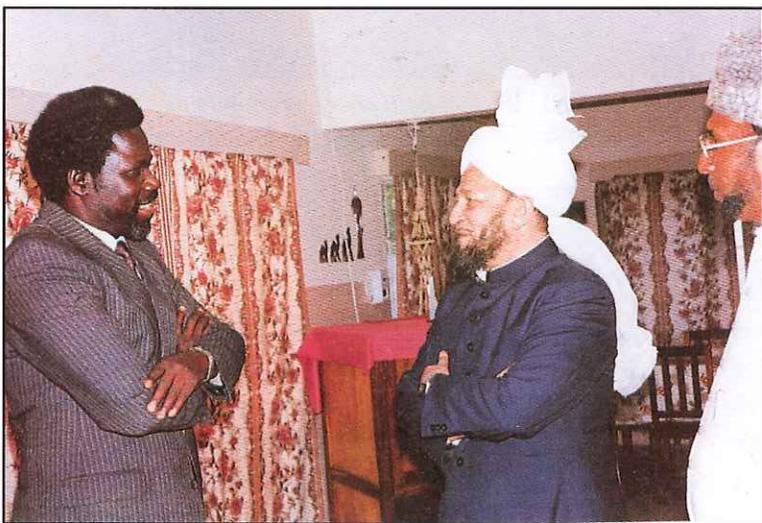
*The newest Ahmadiyya Mosque in The Gambia, Bait-us-Salam, under construction (June, 1994)*



*The Honorable Omar Badjie, a member of the Senegalese Parliament, delivers a speech at the Jalsa Salana in The Gambia. He joined the Ahmadiyya community in 1992.*

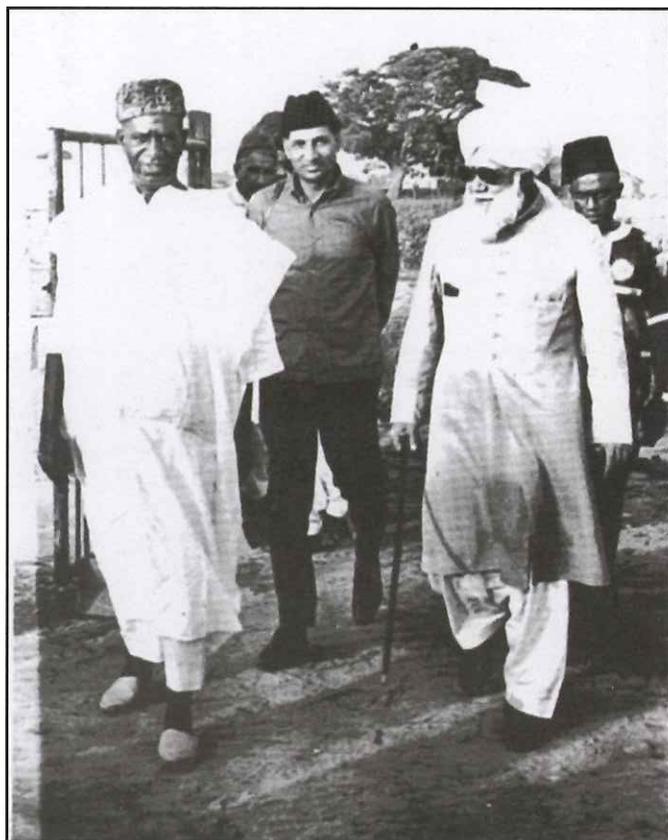


*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> delivers a Friday sermon on January 22, 1988, in which the Nusrat Jahan-e-Nau Scheme (New Nusrat Jahan Scheme) was announced*



*The Honorable Dr. Lamin Sabo, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, greets Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> in 1988*

**T**oday I announce Nusrat Jahan-e-Nau. With fresh valor and new vigor for the advancement of the original Nusrat Jahan Scheme, the new department of Nusrat Jahan-e-Nau will enable the Jama'at to serve in new areas of Africa. It is a wonderful design of Almighty God and a great blessing that this scheme was initiated in The Gambia. God granted the opportunity to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> to announce the Nusrat Jahan Scheme here, and again God has chosen this land. May Allah bless you along with this honor and may He bless this scheme ever more. Aameen. *(Excerpt from the Friday sermon of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> delivered on January 22, 1988 in Saba, The Gambia)*



*Al-Haj F.M. Singhate, Governor-General of The Gambia with Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup>*

**D**o not be upset for God has assured me during my present illness that half a million Christians will be converted to Islam in West Africa. All of them will be educated. That will be a great day for Islam. (*Message of Hazrat Hakim Maulvi Nooruddin, Khalifatul Masih I<sup>ra</sup>, Pegham Sulah Newspaper, March 3, 1914*)



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> with the President of The Gambia, Sir D.K. Jawara*

### Spread of Islam in Gambia A MOVING EXAMPLE

**M**issionary Inayatullah Zahid reported that once he came across the Dogoling village in The Gambia and met with the Imam of the village. Zahid Sahib requested the Imam to assemble all the residents of the village so the message of Ahmadiyyat could be conveyed to them. As the people of the village gathered, the Missionary and a few other Ahmadis with him invited the Dogoling tribe members to Ahmadiyyat and reminded them that all of the villages surrounding theirs had already accepted the blessed faith. The Imam, on behalf of his people, responded by saying that he had heard from somewhere that Ahmadi prayer rituals and beliefs regarding the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> were different from other Muslims.

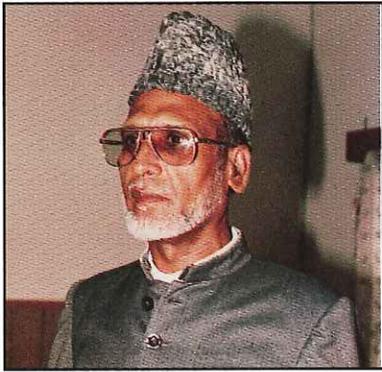
Zahid Sahib promptly presented two pamphlets regarding the Holy Qur'an and the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> to the Imam, and suggested that careful scrutiny of the material in the pamphlets would clarify Ahmadi beliefs.

Regarding prayer rituals, the Missionary and the Ahmadis with him offered Zuhar Prayers, demonstrating that Ahmadis do indeed practice the standard Islamic worship.

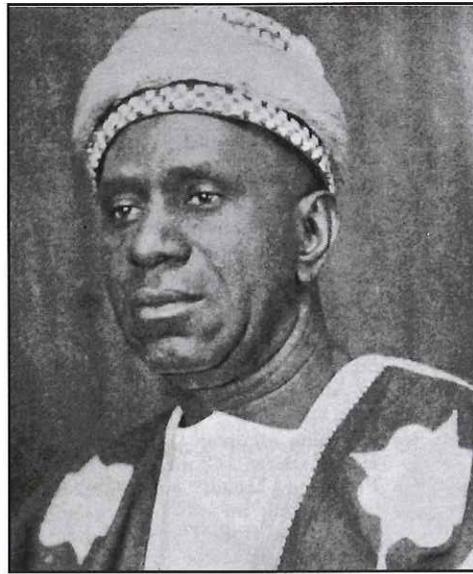
Upon concluding the Zuhar Salat, the Imam directed all attention towards himself and made an announcement to all of his people. He told them, 'Ahmadis have come from long distances to convey the message of Islam. These Ahmadis have invited us to the true Islam despite the fact that their fanatic opponents have left no stone unturned to stop the spread of this message. Today, I announce the veracity of Ahmadiyyat. You are all free to choose your faith.'

Remarkably, and with the Grace of Almighty Allah, the entire village in a single passionate voice of allegiance announced their acceptance of Ahmadiyyat.

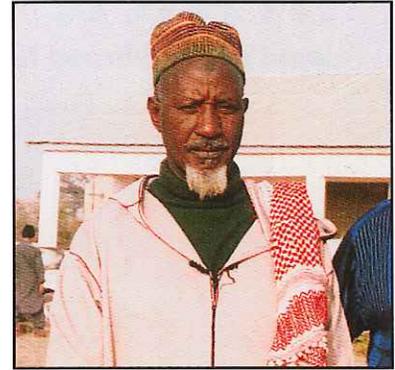
■ *From an address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> at the 1994 Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering), U.K.*



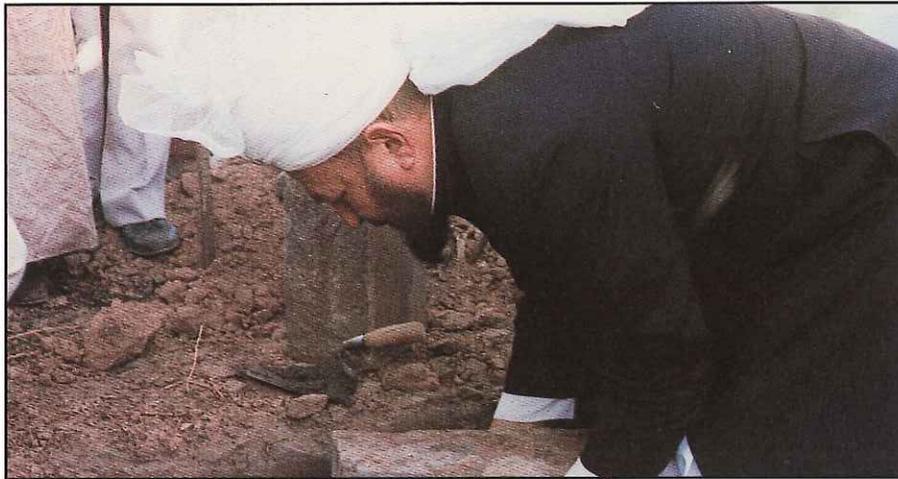
*Maulana Daud Ahmad Hanif, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, The Gambia*



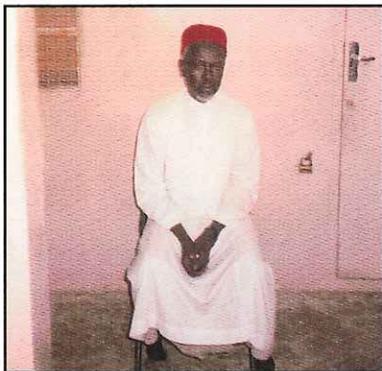
*Al-Haj Sir Famara Mohammad Singhate  
The first Ahmadi Governer-General of The Gambia*



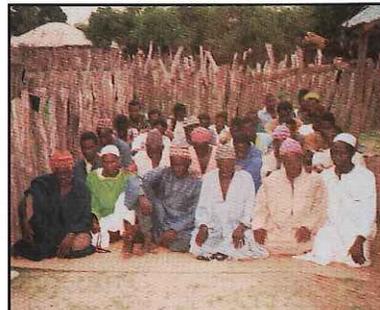
*Al-Haj Ibrahim Jakti, now a local Ahmadi Missionary, was initiated into Ahmadiyyat in 1960*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IVaba laying the foundation stone of Bait-us-Salam Mosque in Talinding Kunjang, The Gambia on January 20, 1988*



*Brother Ash Malick Ndoye, one of the pioneers of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at in The Gambia*



*New members of Ngore Cinjo and Bissau, The Gambia*



*Brother Sidi Mucktar Mydara, the first person to accept Ahmadiyyat from Georgetown M.I.D., The Gambia, in 1967*



**AFRICA:**

# SIERRA LEONE

**Jama'at Established in 1921**



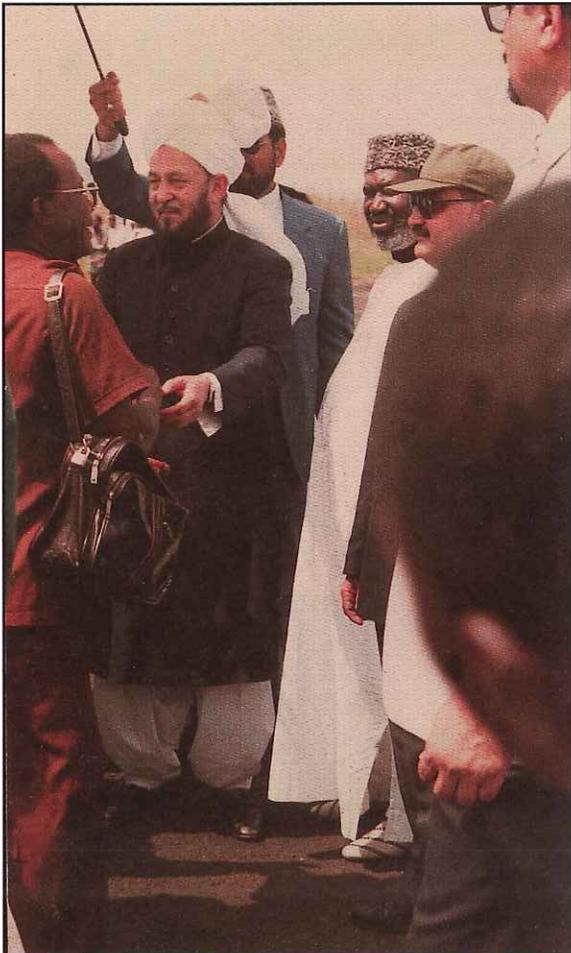
*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Gbendembu, Sierra Leone*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Gbonkohan, Sierra Leone*

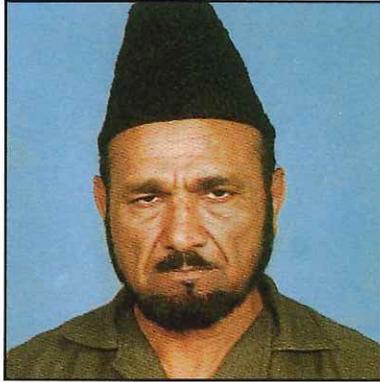


*Nasar Ahmadiyya Central Mosque, Bo, Sierra Leone*

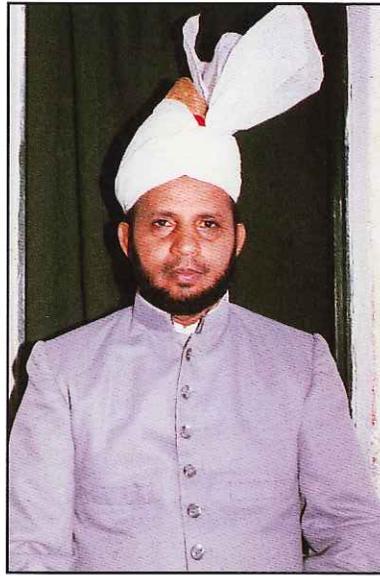


*ABOVE & TOP RIGHT: Glimpses of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> during his blessed visit to Sierra Leone in 1988*

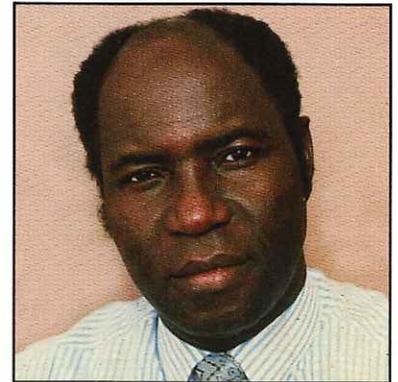
*RIGHT: His Holiness leaving an Ahmadiyya Secondary School in Freetown, Sierra Leone*



*A.S. Zafir, Missionary-in-Charge,  
the Sierra Leone Jama'at*

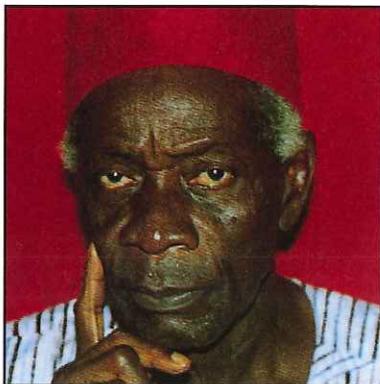


*Khalil Ahmad Mubashir, Amir and  
Missionary-in-Charge, the Sierra  
Leone Jama'at*

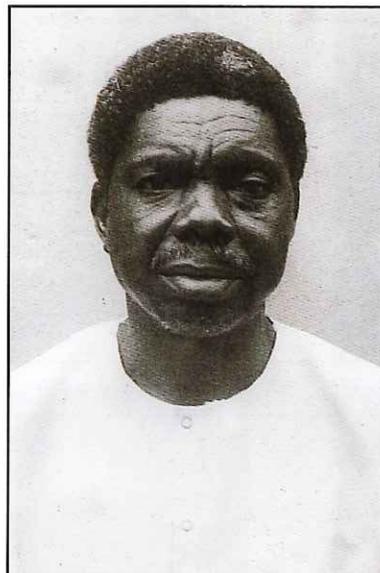


*Mr. Allieu S. Deen, Deputy Amir,  
the Sierra Leone Jama'at*

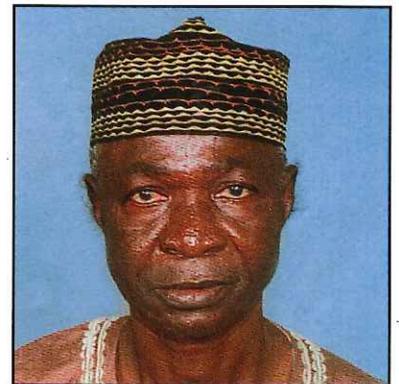
**I**speak with full confidence when I say that it is a great responsibility of all Muslims living in Sierra Leone to offer thanks and express gratitude to Jama'at Ahmadiyya for her relentless and invaluable services rendered to this nation. Their efforts have served to uphold the truth. It is quite possible that in the absence of these services, the truth might have forever been missing from Sierra Leone soil. If any historian overlooks these great services, and ignores the golden history of Jama'at Ahmadiyya in Sierra Leone, while attempting to write a history of this nation, he would be destroying the sacred history of Sierra Leone. *(Remarks of the Honorable Regional Minister, Basheer Vickmara, during a National Conference in Bo, Sierra Leone, Al-Fazal, January 25, 1984)*



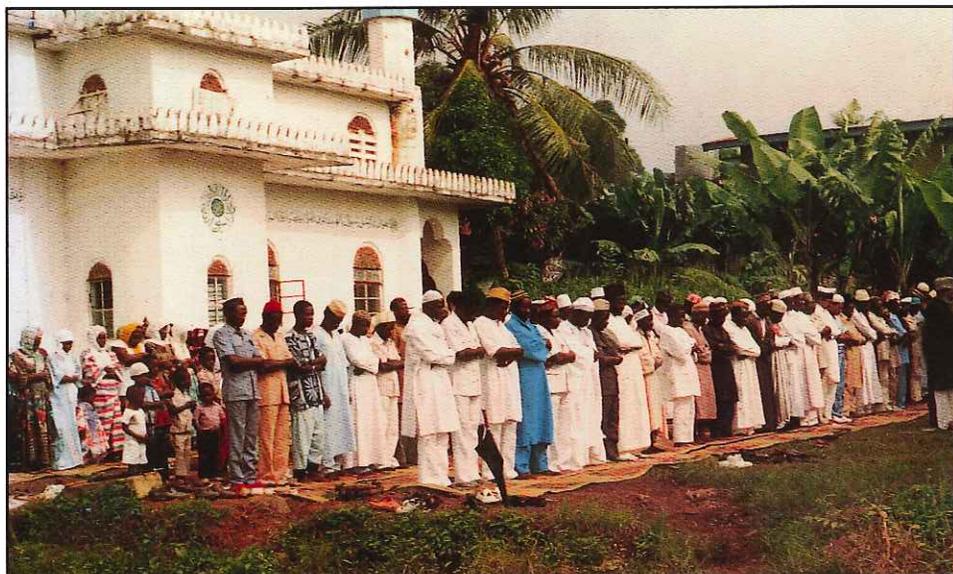
*P.C. Sanda Sarie, a Paramount  
Chief of the Suda Mamblato  
Chiefdom*



*Almami S. Kargbo, a Paramount Chief  
of the Suda Mamblato Chiefdom*



*P.C. Bakinga Lunhe, a Paramount  
Chief of the Mangoy Bureh  
Chiefdom*



*Eid Prayers being offered in front of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque in Kenema, Sierra Leone*

*A group of Ahmadis with the Amir at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque in Bo, Sierra Leone*



## Spread of Islam in Sierra Leone A MOVING EXAMPLE

**K**ushi Mohammad, a missionary in Sierra Leone, reported that as he and a few Ahmadi brothers with him were returning back home, they were stopped by a lady who requested a ride to a neighboring village called Rotifink, to which the missionary agreed. No sooner had she sat in the car, when she asked if she could first be taken to another location to pick up some of her possessions, and then proceed on to the original destination. The missionary first hesitated but eventually acknowledged the request.

When the missionary arrived at the location where the lady had to pick up her possessions, he and

the Ahmadis accompanying him had the opportunity to meet with the chief of the town, referred to by the locals as the Imam. Not before long, all the village residents assembled with their Imam, and the message of Ahmadiyyat was conveyed to all those in attendance.

By the Grace of Allah, all 373 people gathered right then and there entered the fold of Ahmadiyyat. Alhamdulillah.

■ *From an address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> at the 1994 Jalsa Salana, U.K.*



**AFRICA:**

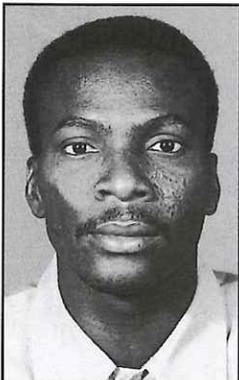
# BURKINA FASO

**Jama'at Established in 1986**



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso*

The journey via rivers has now come to an end and the time of oceanic travel has begun. For these journeys, Allah's power alone will be the defining force. Khilafat has been endowed with those blessings which are destined for the future progress of Islam. To whichever direction the Khalifa will face, that will also be the direction of the wind of Allah's grace... In this year alone we have been bestowed with over 150,000 bai'ats from the French-speaking countries. Alhamdulillah. *(Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> describing his vision relating to the spread of Islam in French-Speaking countries, International Al-Fazal, August 19, 1994, page 2)*



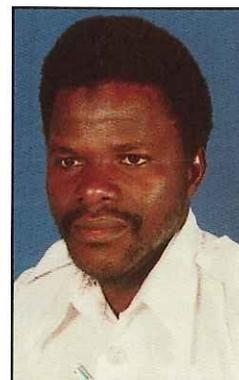
*Somana Amadon  
Naib Amir*



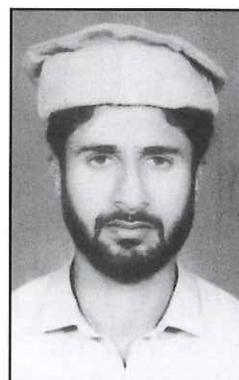
*M. Saeed Khalid  
Missionary*



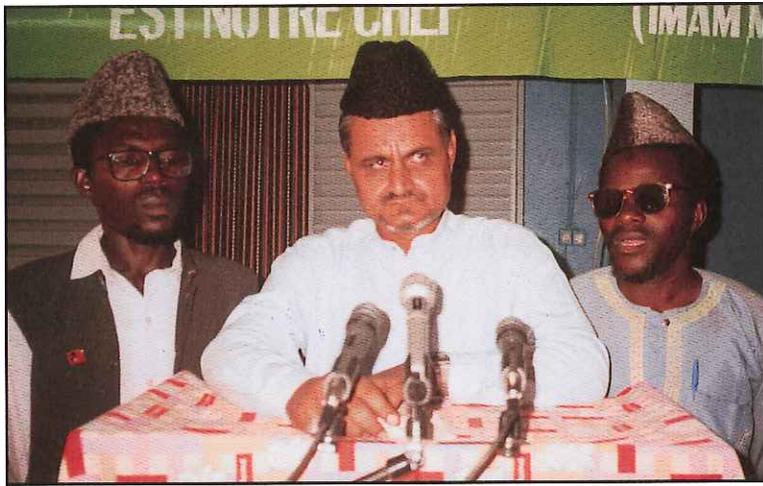
*M. Idrees Ahmad, Amir  
& Missionary-in-Charge*



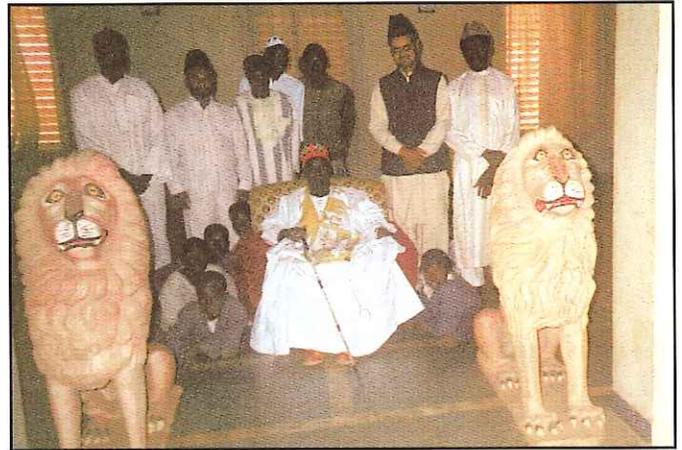
*Ou'edreogo Moumoumi  
Local Missionary*



*Abdul Quyyum Pasha  
Missionary*



Right to left: A. Momin Widrago (Missionary), M. Idrees Shahid (Amir of the Burkina Faso Jama'at), and Sonfo Ibrahim (Missionary)



Some missionaries of Burkina Faso with the King of the country's largest tribe, the Moussi



A Burkina Faso Delegation visiting the U.K. Jalsa Salana, 1993. From right to left: M. Idrees Shahid, Widrago Mahras, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup>, Tarauday Ishaq, Widrago Abu Bakr and Sonfo Ibrahim



Three missionaries of the Burkina Faso Jama'at with Sheikh Abu Bakar Maiga II, leader of the Tejamia sect

**B**urkina Faso was previously called Upper Volta. The message of Ahmadiyyat first arrived there through the efforts of the Ghana Jama'at. Around 1950, Mr. Muhammad Yusuf went to Ghana for education and there was introduced to Ahmadiyyat. He learned that the Imam Mahdi had appeared, and there he took the oath of allegiance and performed the bai'at. Upon his return, he told this to his father, Mr. Muhammad Baru, and his brothers. Consequently, they too embraced Ahmadiyyat. The people of their village rose up in opposition so much that for a time they had to leave the village. But by the Grace of Allah, more and more villages converted to Ahmadiyyat, and callers unto Allah arrived from other nations. (Mohammad Idrees Ahmad, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, Burkina Faso)



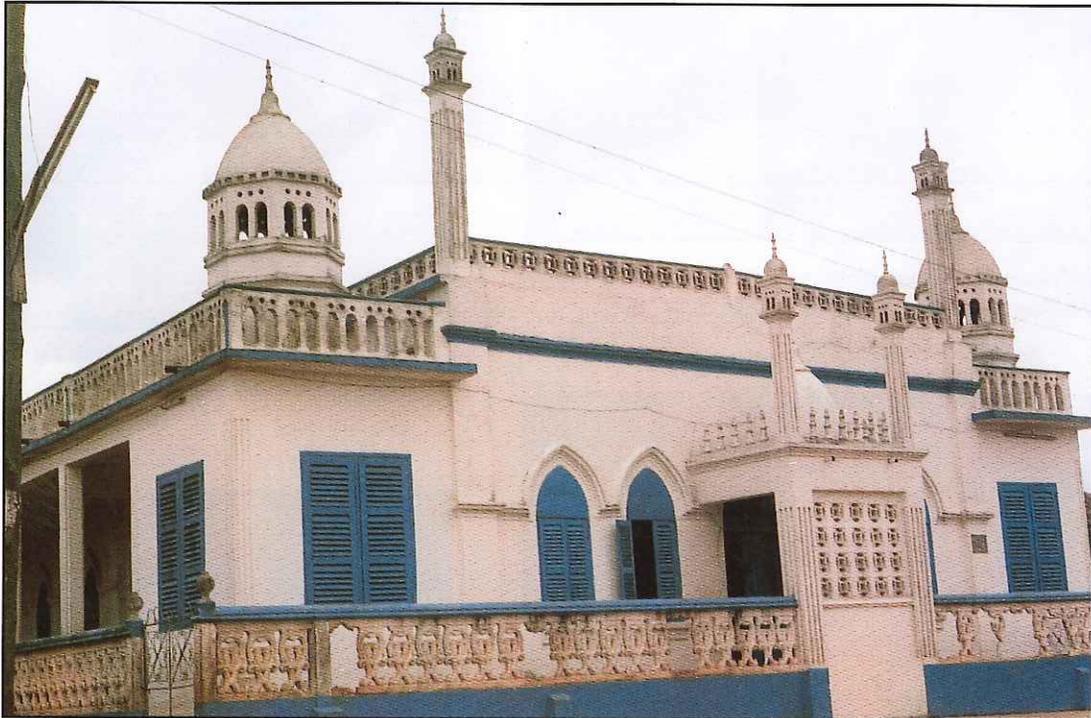
Jalsa Salana in Burkina Faso



**AFRICA:**

# GHANA

**Jama'at Established in 1921**



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Essiam, Ghana, inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> in 1980*



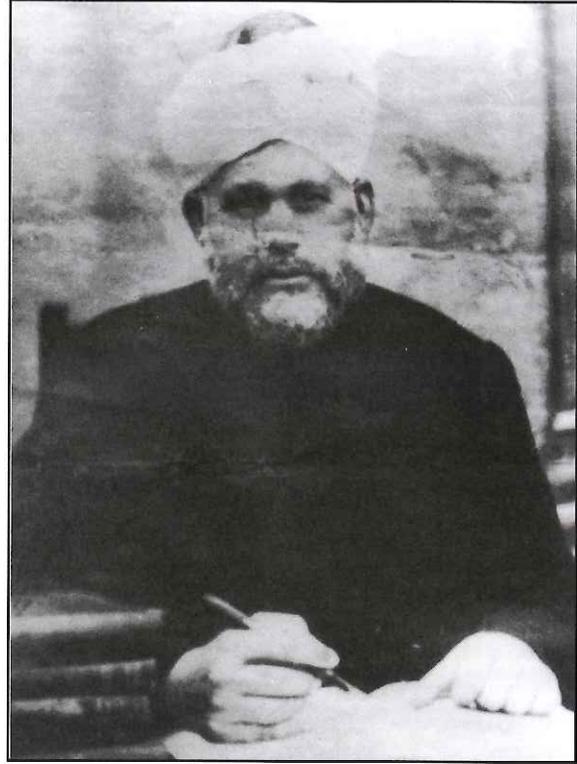
*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Accra, Ghana, inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III<sup>ra</sup> in 1980*



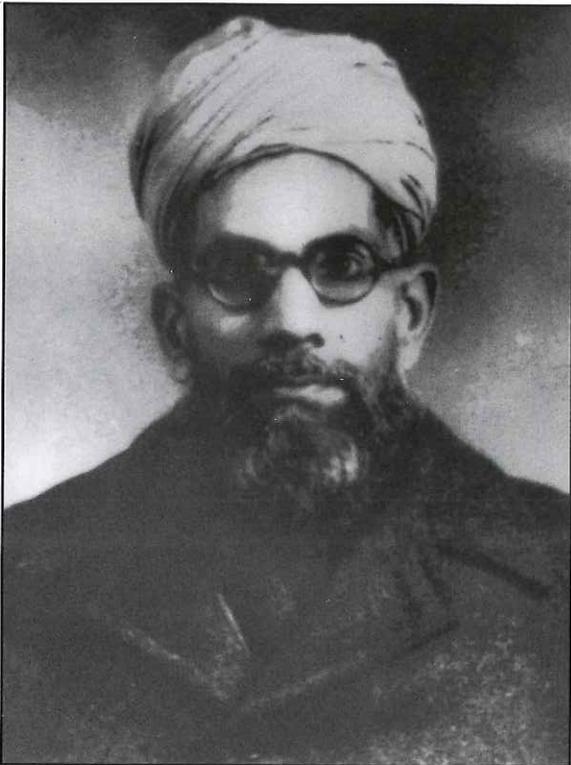
## Pioneer Missionaries Sent To Ghana



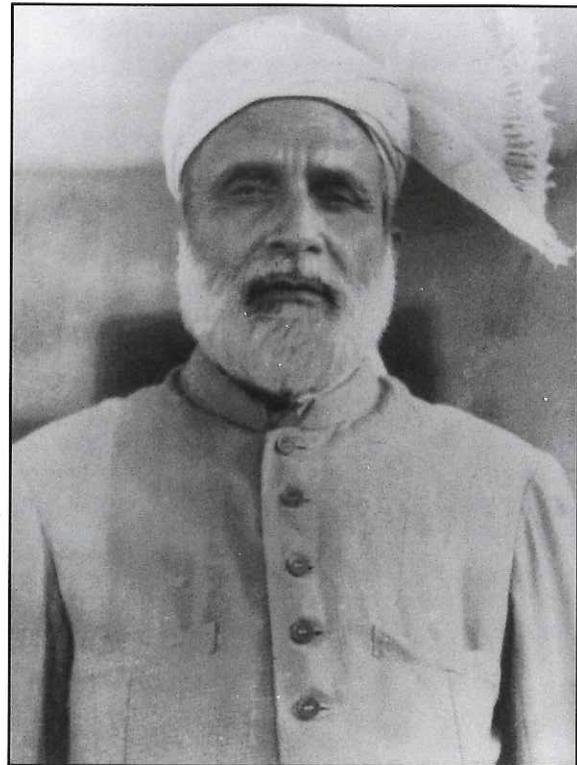
*Hazrat Al-Haj Maulana Abdur Raheem Nayyar  
The First Missionary sent to Ghana*



*Hazrat Al-Haj Maulana Hakeem Fazlur Rahman  
The Second Missionary sent to Ghana*



*Hazrat Al-Haj Maulana Nazir Ahmad Ali  
The Third Missionary sent to Ghana*



*Hazrat Al-Haj Maulana Nazir Ahmad Mubashir  
The Fourth Missionary sent to Ghana*



## Spread of Islam in Ghana A MOVING EXAMPLE

**T**ahir Mahmood Chaudhary Sahib reported: In one of our trips for tabligh, we reached a village where Ahmadiyyat had not yet been introduced. The tribal chief and other respected dignitaries offered us a warm welcome and explained the problems their village was facing due to the lack of rain for a long and sustained period of time. They mentioned that the crops were getting spoiled and the livestock were dying due to the drought. Upon their request, we immediately began praying for rain and anxiously awaited for some kind of miracle to take place.

That same evening, as our scheduled tabligh program started, it suddenly began to rain and continued raining until the next day. The unexpected downpour was the principle source of discussion throughout the village. The residents began to associate the rain with the prayers of the Ahmadis, and they came to the conclusion that indeed the prayers of the Ahmadis were heard.

Alhamdulillah, due to this miracle of rain the entire village accepted Ahmadiyyat.

■ From an address by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba at the 1994 Jalsa Salana, U.K.

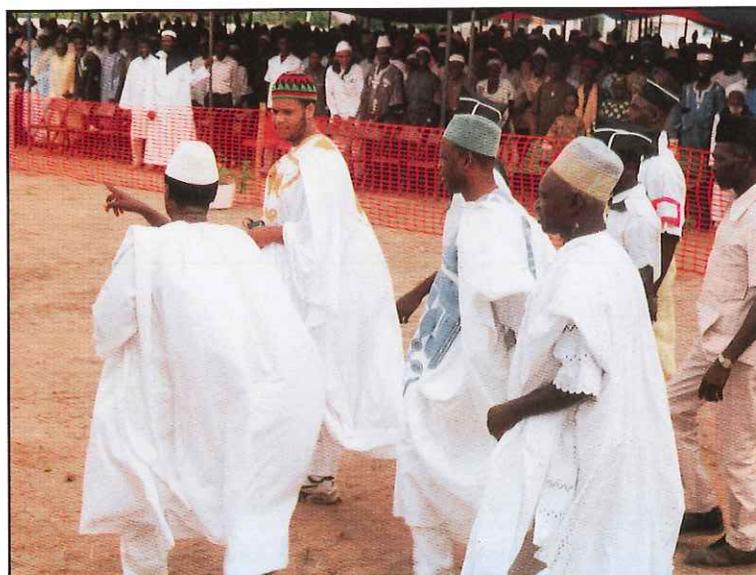
*The Honorable Mr. M.A. Seidu, an Ahmadi member of Parliament (first from right) and the Honorable Al-Haj Mahama Iddrisu, the Ahmadi Minister of Defense in Ghana (second from right), are being received by Maulvi A. Wahab Adam, the Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Ghana (fourth from right). On Amir Sahib's right is Muhaimin Karim, a delegate to the 66th National Annual Conference from the United States of America*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Saltpond, Central Region, Ghana. This mosque was constructed during the Amirship of Al-Haj Maulana Nazir Ahmad Mubashir*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque under construction in Kumasi, Ashanti Region, Ghana*





*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque, Mangoase, Central Region, Ghana, opened by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> in 1988*



*Entrance to Bustan-e-Ahmad (a conference center) of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission, Accra, Ghana*



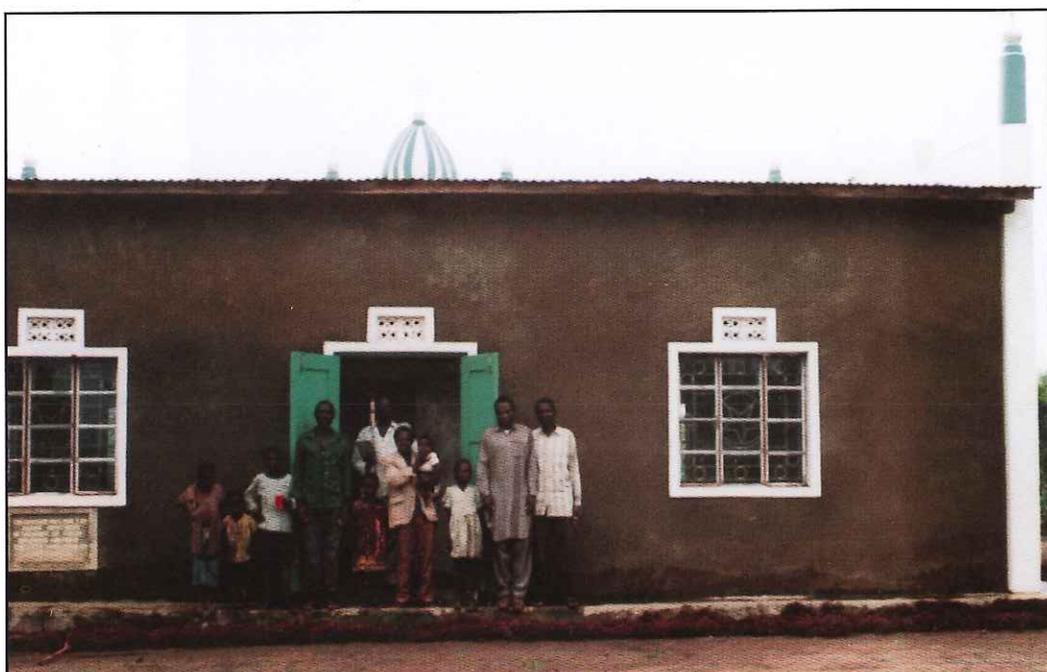
**AFRICA:**

# UGANDA

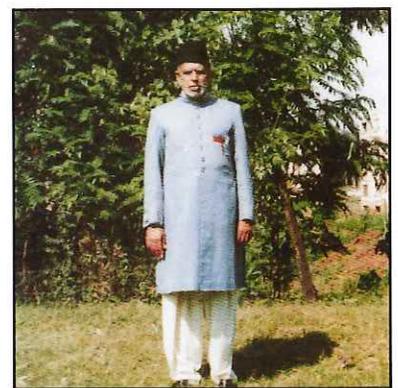
*Jama'at Established in 1935*



*Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque in Kampala, Uganda*



*The Imam and worshippers of this mosque embraced Ahmadiyyat simultaneously*



*Abdul Aziz Shahid, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge, Uganda*



*"I shall give you a large party of Islam."*

(Revelation of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>)



Ugandan Tribes Who Have Collectively Accepted Ahmadiyyat...





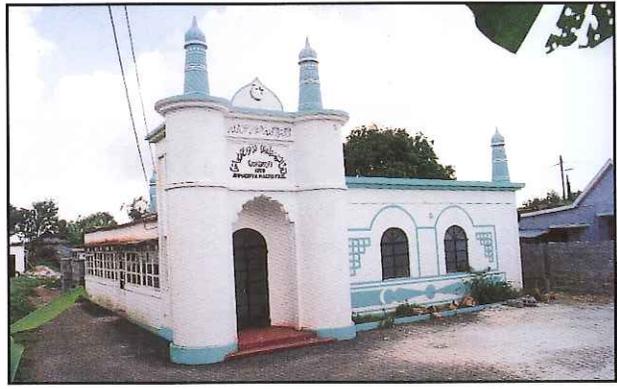
**AFRICA:**

# MAURITIUS

**Jama'at Established in 1915**



*The Fazal Mosque in Phoenix, Mauritius*



*The Noor Mosque in Pailles, Mauritius*

*The Tahir Mosque in Q-Militaire, Mauritius*



*The Tariq Mosque in Gently, Moka, Mauritius*



*Dar-us-Salam Mosque illuminated and decorated during Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV'saba visit in 1988*

*His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba conducting a Majlis-e-Irfan session. A Hindu Pandit is asking him a question.*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Mashi IVaba with various dignitaries at a dinner table. From right to left: Mayor Johan DaCruz, Minister A. Parsooramen, Zafrullah Domun (Amir of the Mauritius Jama'at), His Holiness, Minister Jean Claude de L'estrac, and Maulana M. Afzal Qureshi Sahib (Missionary-in-Charge, Mauritius)*

*His Holiness, Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba with the Mauritian Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth during Hazoor's visit in 1993-94. To Hazoor's immediate left is Zafrullah Domun (Amir of the Mauritius Jama'at) and to his far left is Mr. Karim Khan*



ASIA:

# JAPAN

**Jama'at Established in 1980**



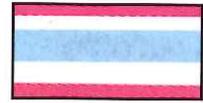
So, just upon my return, I received the decisions of the Majlis-e-Shura in Japan. There they had stated with great strength and self-reliance that they shall themselves build their first mosque in Japan within the next three years. For the first year they have promised to contribute 300,000 pounds, for the second another 300,000 pounds, and for the third again 300,000 pounds... Thus, the small Japanese Jama'at has established an extraordinary example that for the building of a House of God, every Ahmadi of Japan, on the average, has accepted the responsibility of contributing 200 pounds per month. And they have pledged that come what may they shall, God willing, definitely build the first mosque in Japan within the next three years. So pray that Allah, the Exalted, grant them the ability to fulfill their pledge, increase their capability, elevate their courage, and enable them to forever remain attached to good works. Whatever they spend in the way of Allah, may He continue to bestow upon them much more than that Himself. Aameen. *(Excerpt from the Friday Sermon delivered by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> at Nunspeet, Holland on May 4, 1991)*



*The Ahmadiyya Jama'at at the occasion of the 13th Jalsa Salana in Seto City, Japan in 1992*



*Ahmadiyya Mission House in Japan*

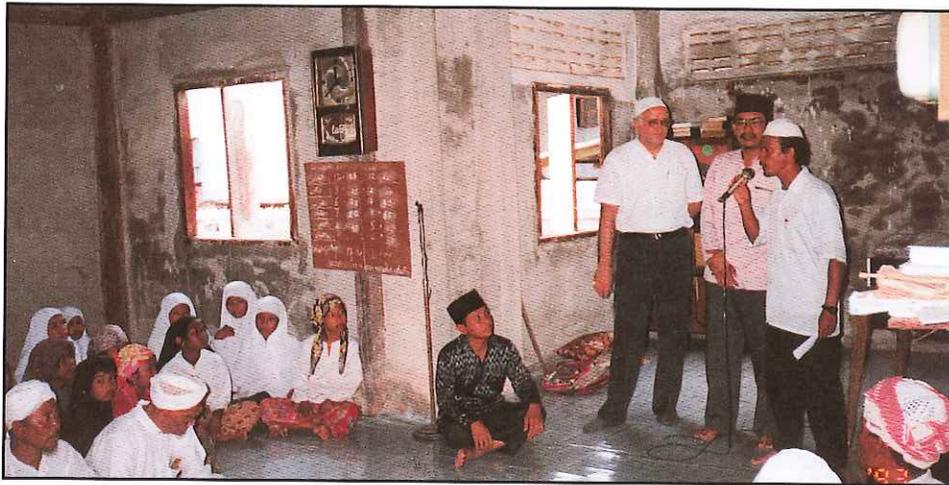


**ASIA:**

# THAILAND

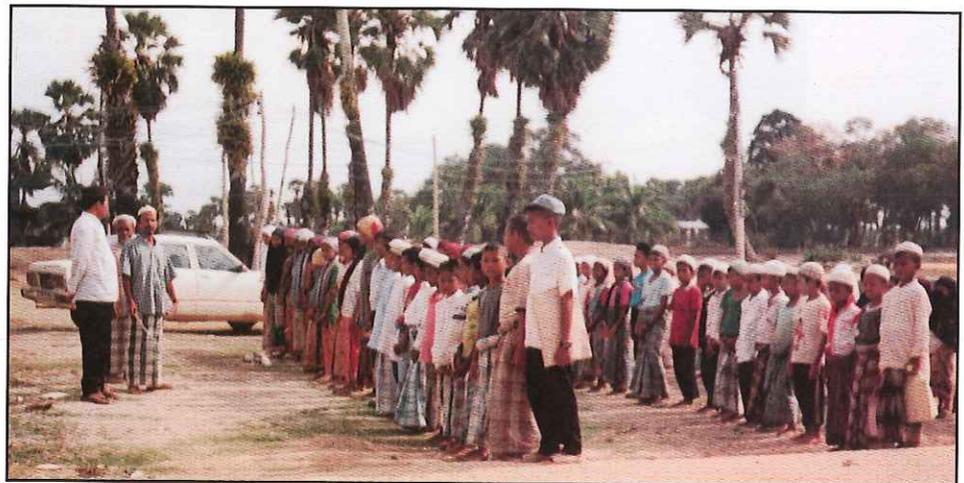
**Jama'at Established in 1983**

*Thai Ahmadis attending a Tarbiyyati Class in the Thailand Mission House*



*Rafiq Channan, the Amir of the Thailand Jama'at gives instructions to the Tarbiyyati Class. From right to left standing: The local Imam, Hasan Basri (Missionary), and Rafiq Channan*

*Some children of the Ban Bangnai village. The entire village of 400 people accepted Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam, in September of 1993. Standing at the front are Rafiq Channan, Shamsheer Ali, and a local missionary*





*A Taleem-ul-Quran class in session, attended by newly converted Thai families*



*Some Ahmadi brothers sharing a meal at the Mission House*



ASIA:

# MALAYSIA

Jama'at Established in 1935



*Bait-us-Salam Mosque, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*



*Abdul Basit, the Missionary-in-Charge of the Thailand Jama'at*



*Participants of the 1994 Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*



*Mr. Mansoor Ahmad Khan (Vakil-ul-Tabshir) with some members of the Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Jama'at during his visit in 1990. The mission house in the background was under construction*



*Participants of the 1993 Majlis-e-Shura (Consultative Body) in Malaysia*



ASIA:

# SINGAPORE

Jama'at Established in 1935

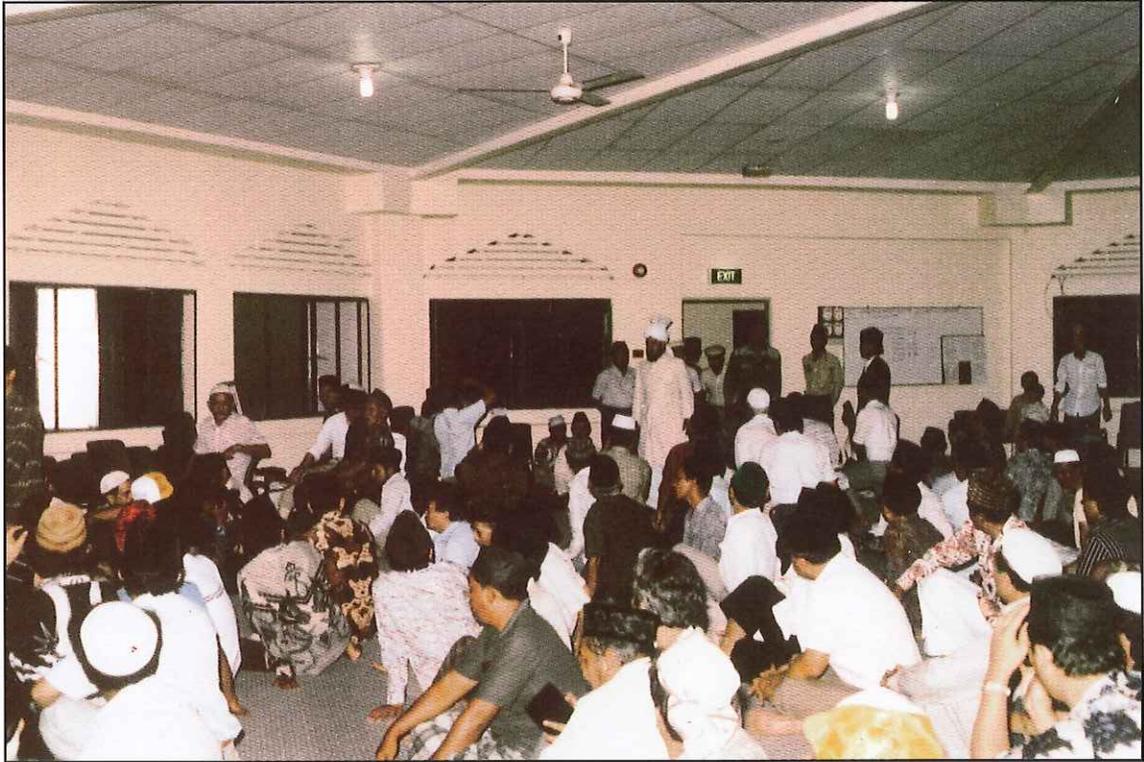


*Ta-Ha Mosque, Singapore*



*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmadaba visits a shelter for the elderly and meets with a resident. On Hazoor's left is Mr. Azim Bulia, the Amir of the Singapore Jama'at*

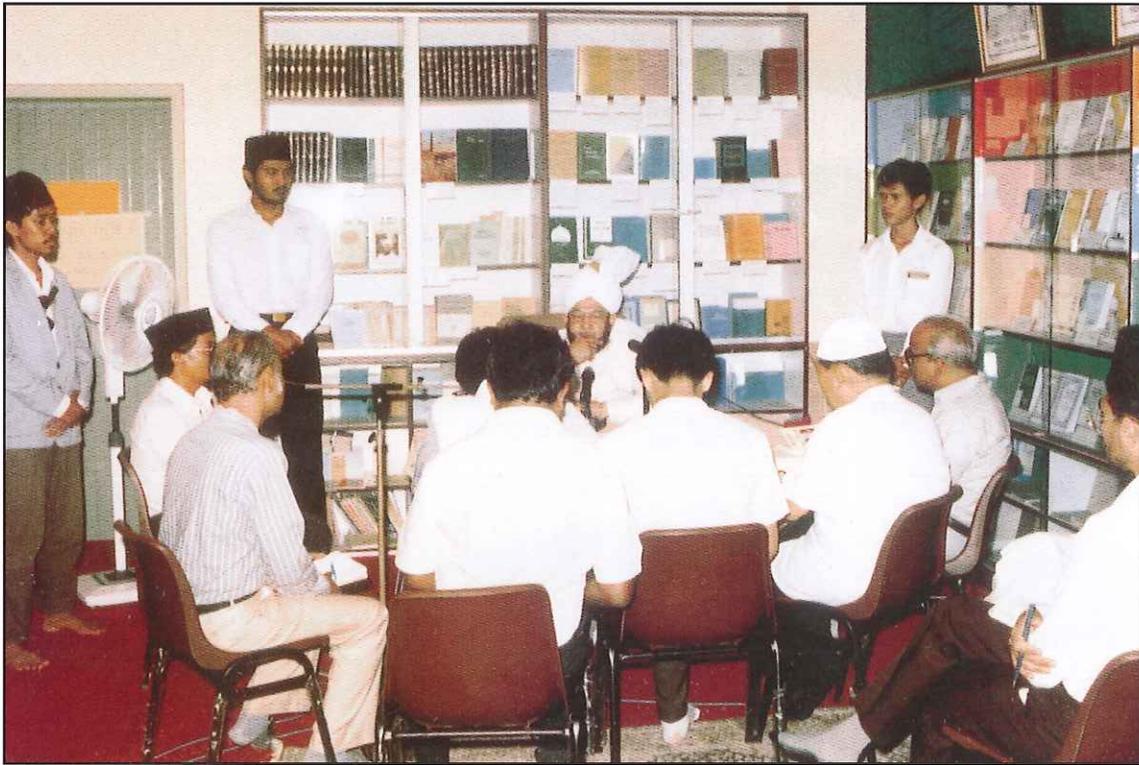
Describing the fruits of his trip to the Far East, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> gave the following glad tidings in his Friday sermon: 'I am foreseeing signs that armies upon armies of people are about to enter the fold of Islam in a very short time. In the Far East, Allah has opened up new avenues for the victory of Islam.' (*Al-Fazal*, October 15, 1983)



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> entering the Mosque for Friday prayers*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> with members of the Singapore Jama'at at Changi Airport, Singapore in 1989*



*Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> speaks with members of the press at the Ta-Ha Mosque in Singapore*



*Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> departing from Singapore for his onward journey*



ASIA:

# INDONESIA

*Jama'at Established in 1925*



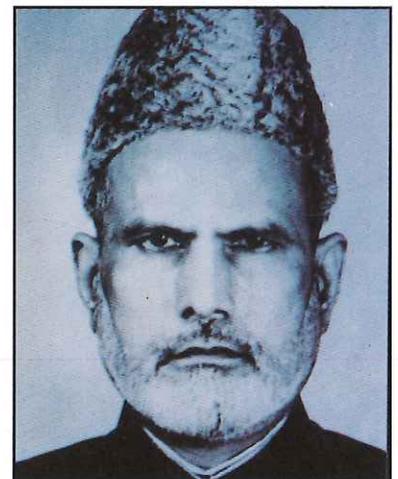
*Nasar Mosque, Parung, Indonesia*



*Maulana Rahmat Ali Sahib,  
the first Missionary to Indonesia*



*Syarif Ahmad Lubis, the  
Amir of the Indonesian Jama'at*

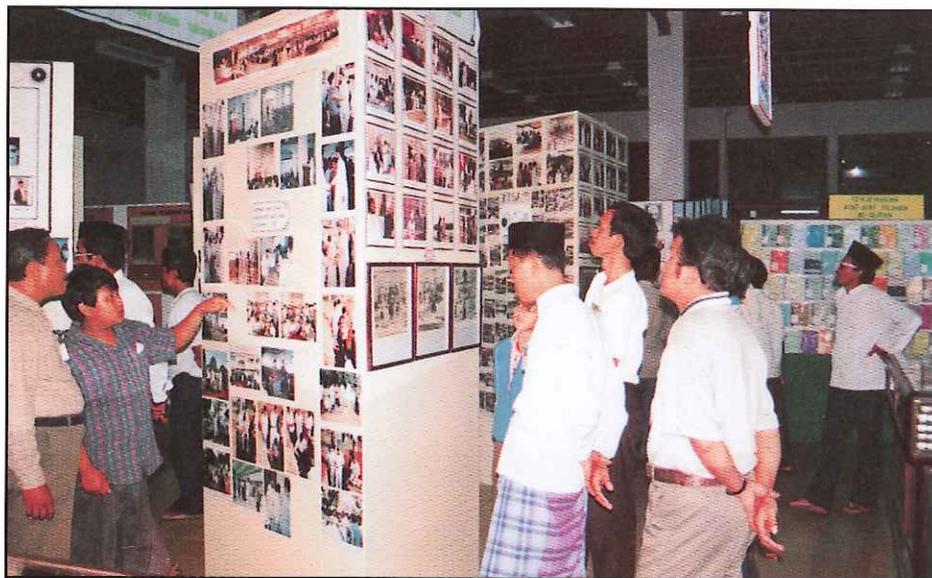


*Maulana Mahmood Ahmed Cheema  
Missionary-in-Charge, Indonesia*



*Indonesian Jama'at members in front of an Ahmadiyya exhibition of photos and literature*

*Exhibition of literature and photos at the Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering) in Indonesia*



*Friday prayers in the mosque*



*Bait-ul-Anwar Mosque in Indonesia*



*Members of the Indonesian Jama'at in front of the Nasar Mosque*

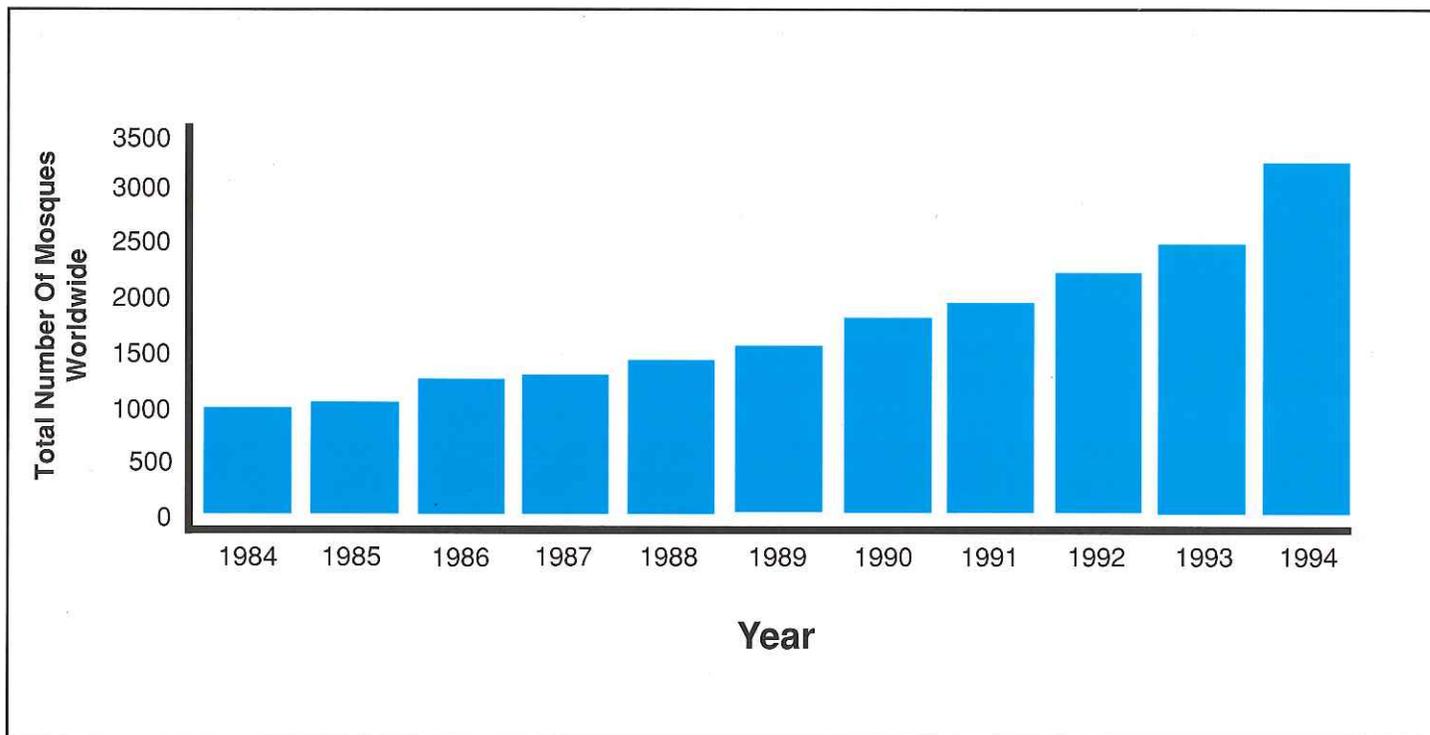
The story of the establishment of the first Ahmadiyya Mission in Indonesia is interesting. It revolves around two students, Abu Bakar Ayub and Ahmed Nooruddin, both from West Sumatra and graduates from Thawalib. They were sent to India rather than to Egypt, as originally planned, for theological studies by their Diniyat School teacher. It was in Lucknow, India, that they along with a third gentleman from Sumatra, were introduced to the teachings of the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Community. They were so moved by his writings that they decided to visit Qadian. This was in 1923, a year after they reached Lucknow. In Qadian they met Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> who permitted them to join the Madressah Ahmadiyya for engaging in theological studies. They were soon followed by 19 more Indonesian members.

In 1924 when Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II<sup>ra</sup> returned to Qadian after his European visit the Indonesian students present in Qadian requested him to take a similar journey to the East, particularly Indonesia. As a visit then was not feasible he, as compensation, promised that he would post a Missionary in Indonesia. Consequently the first Ahmadiyya Missionary was appointed in the person of Maulana Rehmat Ali. He reached Indonesia in 1925.

■ Mahmood Ahmed Cheema,  
Missionary-in-Charge, Indonesia



## A Decade of Accomplishments: Number of Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosques Established All Over the World (Cumulative)



	<u>1985</u>	<u>1994</u>
<b>Number of Countries where Jama'ats are established</b>	87	143
<b>Number of Chapters</b>	not available	4,232 new chapters since 1985
<b>Number of Missions</b>	287 in 38 countries	496 in 60 countries
<b>Number of Schools</b>	192	347
<b>Number of Hospitals</b>	24	30
<b>Number of Translations of the Holy Quran</b>	11	52

Source: *Tabsheer's Office, U.K.*



# Towards the Unification of Mankind

*Naeem Osman Memon*

The Holy Quran declares the universality of mankind as one community in no uncertain terms and deplores the fact that mankind has divided itself into different groups<sup>1</sup>, rejoicing in its own confined environment<sup>2</sup> - a sad state of affairs brought about by man's refusal to keep stride with the constant process of evolution in religion, thereby dividing itself in a large number of different religions, sects and creeds. This, it has done, despite the realization that the only object of man's creation has been that it worship the One and Only Lord, God Almighty so that it may become a manifestation of Divine attributes.<sup>3</sup> The Quran also alludes to the repeated blessings of God which has been finding expression through the constant chain of messengers sent unto mankind to invite it under one banner and, regrettably, mankind's persistence in differing amongst itself. It states:

'Mankind were of one persuasion, then they developed differences, so Allah raised Prophets as bearers of good tidings and as warners, and sent down with them the Book comprising the Truth, that they might judge between the people on that wherein they differed. Then those very people to whom it was given, differed about the Book, after clear Signs had come to them, out of insolence and envy of one another. Whereupon, Allah guided by His command those who believed to the Truth in regard to which the others differed. Allah guides whomsoever He pleases to the right path.'<sup>4</sup>

Islam, which is designated the final culmination of the constant process of evolution in religion by God Almighty<sup>5</sup> proposed to redress the situation with its universal call to mankind to unite under one banner, that of humanity. It eradicated the influence of segregative tendencies and gave religion a totally new meaning and a unique force towards achieving the unity of the entire human race. It acknowledged the truth of messengers sent unto all nations of the world<sup>6</sup>; called upon mankind not to create distinction amongst them<sup>7</sup>; recognized the divine nature of the laws revealed unto these messengers<sup>8</sup>; admitted the equal creation of every individual<sup>9</sup>, whether male or female<sup>10</sup> or of diverse language and color<sup>11</sup> and denied the superiority of one race over another.<sup>12</sup> And, in doing so, it provided mankind with the infra-structure upon which to work towards the unification of mankind.

It is said that Muslims, who were bestowed with this bounty by God Almighty and entrusted with the task of finally bringing mankind under one banner, lost their sense of direction after the death of the Holy Prophet of Islam, Hazrat Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and his four righteously guided

Caliphs. They became engaged in building kingdoms based upon confined tribal loyalties and hence, the history of the Islamic peoples witnessed the rise and fall of racial dynasties, beginning with the Umayyad's. But since God Almighty, had decreed the final task of the unification of mankind with Islam, He had caused His apostle, Hazrat Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> to pronounce a prophecy in relation to the advent of a prophet who was to appear in the distant future to unite mankind under one banner and rid it of spite, hatred and jealousy.<sup>13</sup> And, this latter day prophet finally appeared in the closing years of the 19th Century C.E. in the person of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> of Qadian, the founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim movement in Islam. He declared that it had been made clear to him through Divine revelation that the Messiah whose advent had been promised from the beginning<sup>14</sup> and the Mahdi whose advent had been decreed<sup>15</sup> at the time of the spread of error and who was to invite people to partake of the heavenly banquet was him<sup>16</sup> and that he was the Krishna<sup>17</sup> whose advent has been promised in the Hindu scriptures.<sup>18</sup> Hazrat Ahmad<sup>as</sup> also stated that he had been raised since God desired to draw mankind scattered throughout the world to His Unity and gather it together under one banner.<sup>19</sup> He established a Community under Divine instruction, which he stated was, solely with the purpose of gathering a group of the righteous together so that a large group of such people should create a good effect in the world and their being united together should be a source of blessings. He also introduced a system of bai'at, taking an oath of allegiance to be formally initiated as a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.<sup>20</sup>

Since its initiation in 1889, the Ahmadiyya Muslim movement has vigorously pursued its goals to unite the world under one banner. It has broken all traditional barriers of caste, color, creed, nationality, etc., not only in theory as is evident in most other religions of the world and also denominations within the broader spectrum of Islam, but in practice also. Hence, its sincerity of purpose and motivation has borne fruit and its adherents, spreading the message of peace and unity, are to be found in more than 150 countries of the world - which are now brought together through the Muslim Television Ahmadiyya international satellite link, sagaciously thought of and initiated by the present Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> with a view to take one further step towards the unification of mankind.

On its first such international bai'at ceremony at the Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, United Kingdom, held at Islamabad in Tilford, Surrey, a historic



event was recorded in the annals of international history when on the 1st of August, 1993 more than 200,000 Ahmadi Muslims all over the world, either renewed or pledged anew, their allegiance to Islam. On this occasion, representatives from five continents placed their hands on the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> with the others placing their hands on the shoulders of those in front of them or holding hands with those by their sides to form a human chain and repeat the oath of allegiance after Hazrat Ameerul Momineen<sup>aba</sup>. This process was followed by the Jama'ats throughout the world where live transmission facility was available and although people at these distant lands were not able to physically form a human chain linked to their beloved Khalifa<sup>aba</sup> in London, they joined hands to form localized chains within their congregations at their local mosques throughout the world and repeated the words of the Oath of allegiance behind their Ameerul Momineen, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>.

The year 1994 witnessed a still larger Oath of allegiance being taken by the existing and new Ahmadi Muslims throughout the world. On this occasion, the satellite transmission was extended to remote corners of the world with the acquisition of more transmitting antenna which were linked to the existing space stations. While the full extent of the number of people who joined the international bai'at held from Islamabad at Tilford in the United Kingdom during the 1994 U.K. Jalsa Salana is still not known, it is estimated that millions of people joined in this historic event and further enhanced the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's endeavors towards the unification of mankind through Islam and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Movement within the broader spectrum of Islam.

This further expansion of a united mankind also requires preparation for the future and since a mosque plays a crucial role in Islamic life and serves a pivot in the cultivation of unity and fostering of love amongst people, its importance in the field of the unification of mankind cannot be minimized. It is here that people congregate without being conscious of their social, economic or intellectual status and stand shoulder to shoulder, the king alongside a beggar, the dark skinned alongside a light skinned, an intellectual alongside a simpleton, all humble human beings in the presence of their Lord, Allah. It is here that people learn the essential lessons of life by listening to the lessons of the Quran and sermons delivered by their Amirs; cultivate a sense of obedience and discipline by following their Imam in prayer five times a day; renew their past acquaintances and foster new

friendships; assemble to share the grief of some in the death of their beloved or enhance the happiness of others in celebrating new marriages and also assemble on special occasion to celebrate the festivals. Hence, a mosque is essentially a first step towards fostering unity amongst people and consequently, a powerful force in mankind's endeavors to unite the world. In opening another grand mosque at Washington D.C. in the United States of America, God Almighty has blessed the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community with yet another instrument in the realization of the ultimate goal - the unification of mankind under one banner. All praise belongs to Allah!



Naeem Osman Memon

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# First International Bai'at (1993)

*Excerpts from the address by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IVaba*

**E**ver since the creation of the heavens and the earth, no eye has beheld this spectacle at one and the same time. In many countries of all the continents, many nations are performing the bai'at at one hand repeating the words of initiation in many different languages. And that man at whose hands such a bai'at is being taken is a servant of the Servant of His Holiness, Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa<sup>sa</sup>. This is the first time that such a thing is happening in the history of the world and this shall continue now forever. All of you who are participating here in this bai'at are fortunate, as are those who are joining us by means of radio or television and are hearing and watching us and thus are being blessed with participation in this grand event. I want to let you know that when Allah, the Exalted, put this scheme in my heart, the numbers of those who were to perform the bai'at were only ten or twenty thousand or a few more than that, and only a small portion of the year was left. I became concerned because I had expected the Jama'at to at least get 100,000 bai'ats in a year and now only a small amount of time remained; how would this target be reached.

Then Allah, the Exalted, caused to descend upon my heart a scheme. A full plan of this scheme came before me, that it should be said to the Jama'ats of the whole world that not only should they prepare to participate in the worldwide Bai'at, but that they should each be given a target also; that such and such a Jama'at has so many bai'ats as its target. These targets had to be fixed at very high numbers and I was afraid that the targets we had established were completely unrealistic. In some places where in the last ten years not even 100 bai'ats had taken place, the target had been fixed at 5,000. The worry was how would this target be reached? But Allah strengthened my heart and supported me by saying it is He Who has started this scheme, and it is He who is responsible for its success. Be patient and wait.

During this period it happened that a writing of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> came to my attention in which he had written that until now, 400,000 individuals had performed the bai'at at his hands. And just a few days earlier, Khadeeja Nazeer Sahiba who keeps track of the worldwide bai'at records, had told me, "Since your migration from Pakistan, I have been keeping track of the number of bai'aats, and until now, 250,000 bai'ats have taken place. I wish to congratulate you on these quarter million bai'ats." I said that if 150,000 more bai'ats occur, then I would gain the honor of similarity with the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, that until now 400,000 bai'ats have taken place since my migration from Pakistan (1984). So the targets were increased a little more. Then it occurred to me that since we are begging from our Beloved Allah, why be content with

100,000 or 150,000... let us beg for 200,000. So the targets were increased even more and prayers were started for 200,000 bai'ats this year.

Now the situation is such that, from all over the world today, two hundred and four thousand, three hundred and eight persons are performing bai'at at the hand of this humble one.

These more than 200,000 people are those who are entering the fold of Islam for the first time or are entering this Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at for the first time. Apart from them there are hundreds of thousands who are already members of this Jama'at and are being blessed with the opportunity to renew their oath of allegiance. Thus, join in this Bai'at with Taqwa. May God cause it to be that later these occasions become scenes of great worldwide bai'ats and every year this situation continues to grow and spread so much so that the whole world comes within the peaceful abode of Islam. As of now, peoples from 84 countries and 115 nationalities are participating in this International Bai'at.

104 years have passed since the establishment of Ahmadiyyat. This means that, as a consequence of the efforts of only a few months, at least one nation per year has entered Ahmadiyyat. These are the graces of Allah, the Exalted, a brief account of which I have just presented...

*"...it was destined that in this century Islam would spread rapidly. And these fruits have come before our very eyes, and we have them in our own hands, and we shall taste them and derive great spiritual joys and pleasures from them."*

The century into which we have entered has been destined from the very beginning, for it was destined that in this century Islam would spread rapidly. And these fruits have come before our very eyes, and we have them in our own hands, and we shall taste them and derive great spiritual joys and pleasures from them.

Thus you should all pray during this prayer, and continue praying after this concluding prayer that may Allah, the Exalted, cause this situation to grow and spread and encompass the entire world of Islam. It is my desire that those members who have participated in this effort, they should, with the Grace of God and in a prayerful attitude, pledge in the coming year to gain twice the fruit they were blessed with this year. They should pledge this and those whose bai'ats have been taken today they should display in themselves such signs of spiritual growth that if not more than this, then at least they themselves should each become two in the coming year. This would be in excess of the efforts of those who participated this year.

*(International Al-Fazal January 14, 1994 Pages 7 & 8.)*



Representing **115** nationalities living in **84** countries...

# 204,308

**INDIVIDUALS SIMULTANEOUSLY** joined the fold of Islam at the hand of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> during the First International Bai'at on August 1, 1993 at the U.K. Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)



*The first International Bai'at, August 1, 1993. Representatives from five continents placed their hands under the right hand of Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup>*

### *One of the Five Representatives observed...*

**M**y participation in the 1993 Jalsa Salana, U.K., was in a private capacity. I had requested Hazoor for a leave on personal grounds which he had graciously granted. I came to attend this Jalsa from Nigeria in West Africa where I was serving as a missionary, on transfer from Australia. When I came to the Jalsa, I had absolutely no idea of what surprise was in store for me there—I was sitting in the main marquis of the Jalsa when a loudspeaker announcement unexpectedly reached my ears, that, I should come to the stage immediately. I was wondering what could be the purpose of this urgent summon. Then, on reaching the stage, I was told that Hazoor has chosen me to represent the continent of Australia (or more correctly, the whole region of Australasia), for the International Bai'at. It was a big surprise to me, and then the surprise gave way to thrill at the prospect of my being 'one' of the 'five' fortunate Ahmadis in the world selected to hold Hazoor's hand

in the first ever historic global bai'at. I said to myself, 'God is Great.' Hazoor had given the occasion a great spiritual touch by referring to the Quranic verse:

**'The hand of Allah is over their hands.'** (48:11)

This had a profound effect upon me. Then there came the Bai'at Ceremony and a train of hands behind me, which I imagined to be electronically reaching the ends of the earth. It was no doubt a great moment. After the Bai'at, I even ventured to touch the blessed green coat of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, which Hazoor wore for the occasion. Among the people who congratulated me were two elders of the Jama'at, who said to me, 'This blessing could not be had with any personal effort.' This, too, had a great impact on me, and I said to myself, How true it was !... I had done nothing to receive this honor.

■ *Shakil Ahmad Monir, Missionary to Nigeria*



وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَتَافِقًا

"And thou seest men entering the religion of Allah in troops."  
(Surah Al-Nasr, Chapter 110 of the Holy Quran)

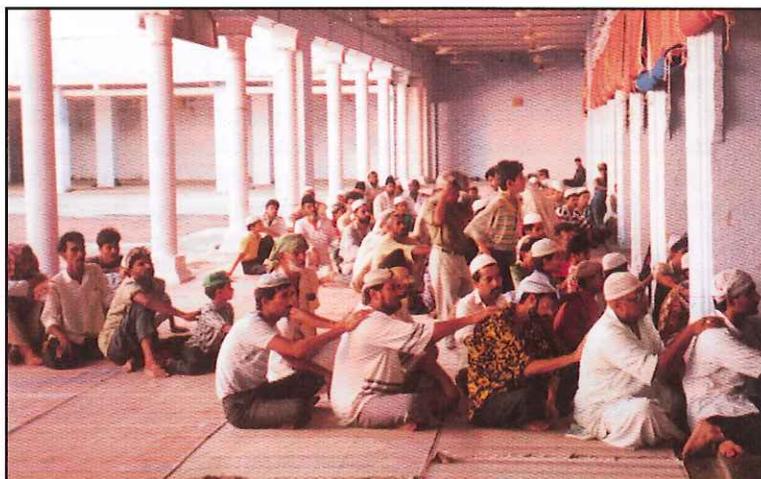
Representing **155** nationalities living in **93** countries...

# 4 1 8 , 2 0 6

INDIVIDUALS **SIMULTANEOUSLY** joined the fold of Islam at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>aba</sup> during the 2nd International Bai'at on July 31, 1994 at the U.K. Jalsa Salana



The second International Bai'at, held on July 31, 1994 at the U.K. Jalsa Salana (Annual Gathering)



A scene from the courtyard of the Aqsa Mosque in Qadian as the International Bai'at was taking place



*His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> leads a moving Dua at the conclusion of the 1994 International Bai'at at the U.K. Jalsa Salana. Seated around him are representatives from the various continents of the world. Over 400,000 new converts, along with a worldwide audience ranging in the millions, participated in this International Bai'at Ceremony, 1994.*

## The Future of Ahmadiyyat

God desires to found a community of the faithful to manifest His Glory and Power. He will make the Community grow and prosper, to establish the Love of God, righteousness, purity, piety, peace and goodwill among men. This shall be a group of persons devoted to God. He shall strengthen them with His own spirit, and bless them and purify them. He shall multiply them exceedingly as He has promised. Thousands of truthful people shall join His ranks. He shall Himself look after them and shall make the Community grow, so much so that its numbers and progress shall amaze the world. The Community shall be a lighthouse so high as to illumine the four corners of the world—The members thereof shall serve as models of Islamic blessings. My true followers shall excel over every other people. They shall always rise among them, till Judgement Day, personages who will be the chosen ones of God in every respect. So has the Almighty decreed. He does as He wills.

*Leaflet written by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi<sup>as</sup>, on March 4, 1889 at Ludhiana, India*



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Khan, Raja Nasrullah (1989) Rabwah. *Centennial Souvenir (1889- 1989) of the Jama'at Ahmadiyya, U.K.*

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Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (31 Jan 1992)  
Friday sermon [Hazoor mentions that this sermon, for the first time, is televised live]  
Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (16 Oct 1992)  
Friday sermon [Hazoor mentions that this sermon is being broadcasted to five continents of the world]  
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### Sierra Leone

Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (29 Jan 1988)  
Friday sermon [Hazoor commends the missionaries, doctors, and teachers in Sierra Leone].  
Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Karachi (1970)  
Sierra Leone [Part VI of "African Tour"] *Souvenir*, '70.  
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### Spain

Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (18 Oct 1985)  
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Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (29 May 1992)  
Friday sermon [advice to Jama'ats in Spain].  
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Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (19 Sep 1986)  
Friday sermon [on the training of children in the U.S. and Canada]  
Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (9 Oct 1987)  
Friday sermon [on the occasion of the foundation stone-laying ceremony of Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque; U.S. senator gives medal to Hazoor]  
Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (30 Jun 1989)  
Friday sermon [Hazoor enjoins listeners to come to the mosque and offer congregational prayers]  
Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Tahir (7 Jul 1989) Friday

sermon [delivered on the inauguration of Bait-ul-Hameed Mosque in Los Angeles, California in the U.S.]

*Ahmadiyyat in America* [First Ahmadiyya mosque in the U.S.; the story of the American Ahmadiyya community; Ahmadi Muslim missionaries in the U.S.; Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV's visits to the U.S.].  
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Rehman, Manzoor (Dec 1993) [A report of the ground-breaking ceremony of Bait-ur-Rahman mosque]. *The Ahmadiyya Gazette, USA*.

**"Those will help you who will be guided by the Heavens."**

*(Revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)*

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**"The 15th Century (Hijrah) will be the Century of victory for Islam"**

*(Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>)*

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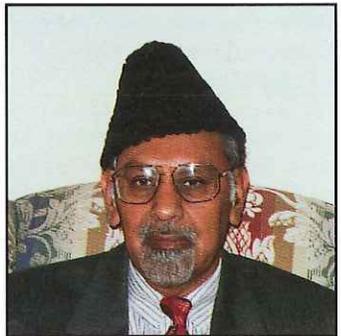
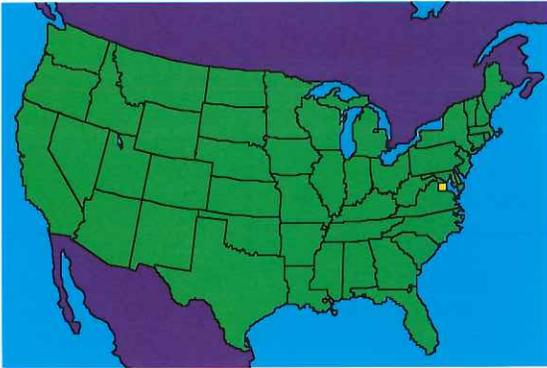
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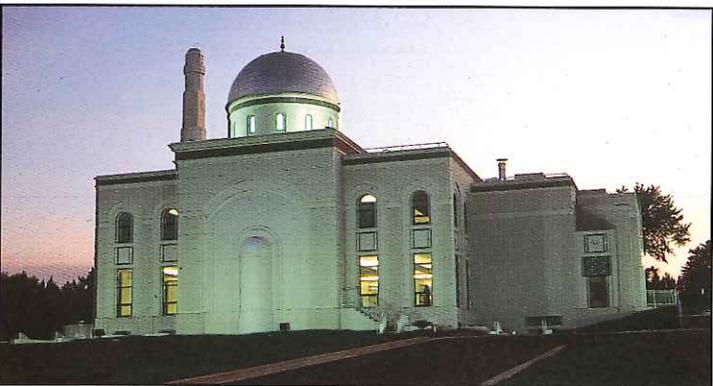
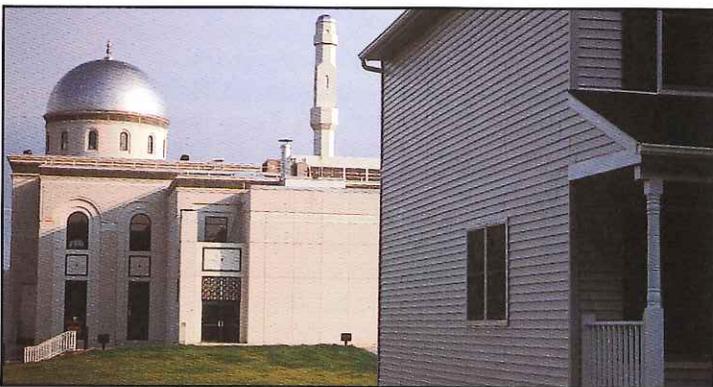
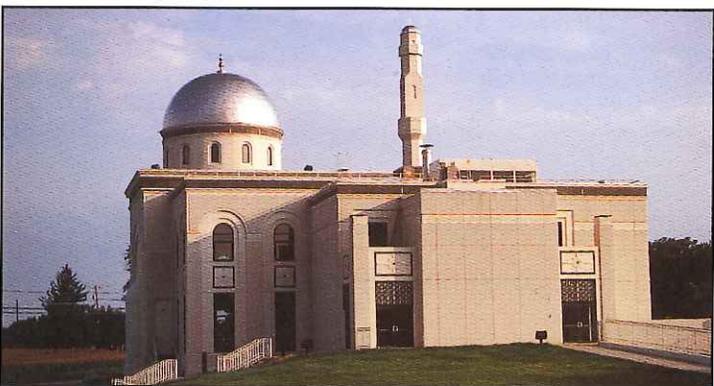
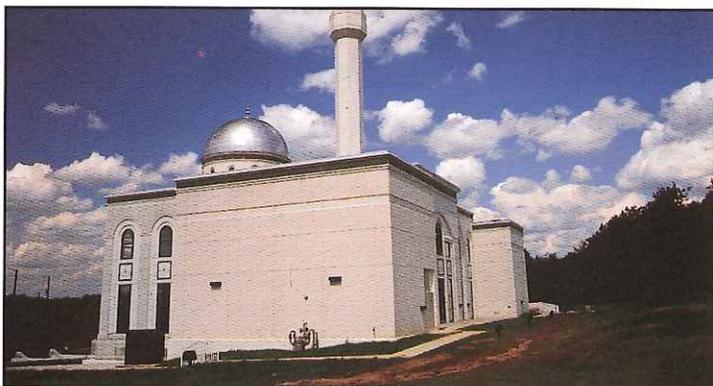
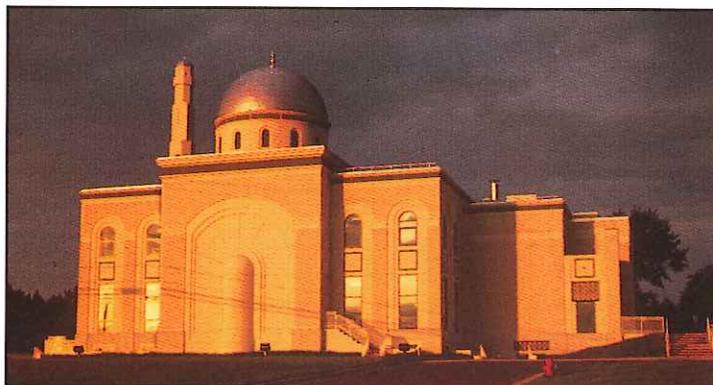
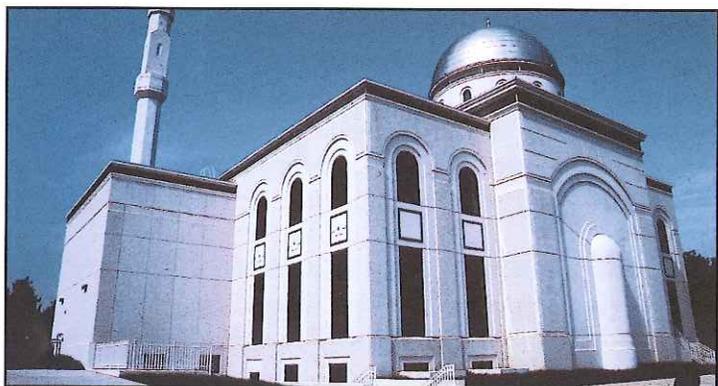


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# Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque

## VARIOUS VIEWS





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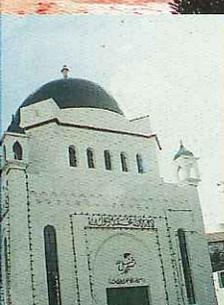
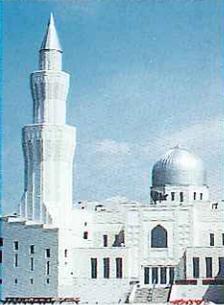
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## Prayer to Exit the Mosque

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الْمَنَّانِ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ  
وَعَلَىٰ آلِيَّ وَأُمَّمِيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ  
وَأَتَمَّ لِي الْأَبْوَابَ فَتُحِيَّتِي.

*"I enter the mosque in the name of Allah. May peace and blessings be on the Messenger of Allah! O Allah, forgive me my sins and open for me the doors of Thy Grace."*

## Ahmadiyya Muslim Communities in the U.S.A.

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Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque  
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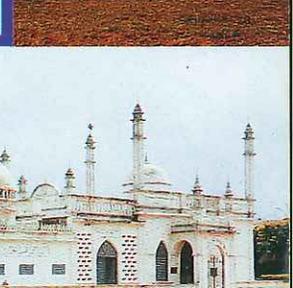
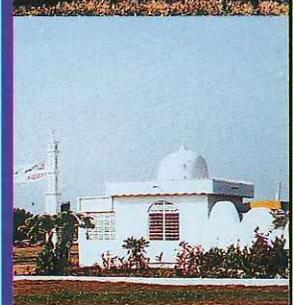
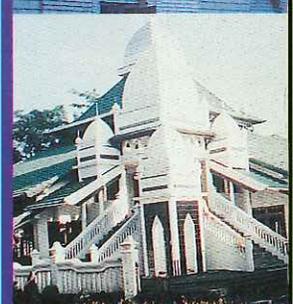
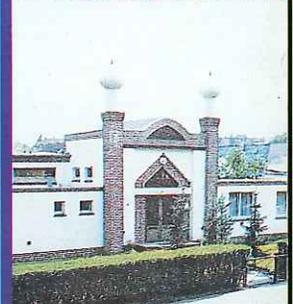
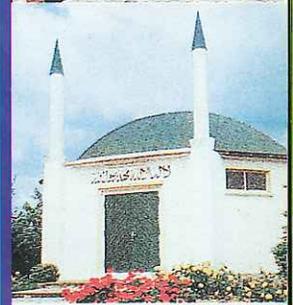
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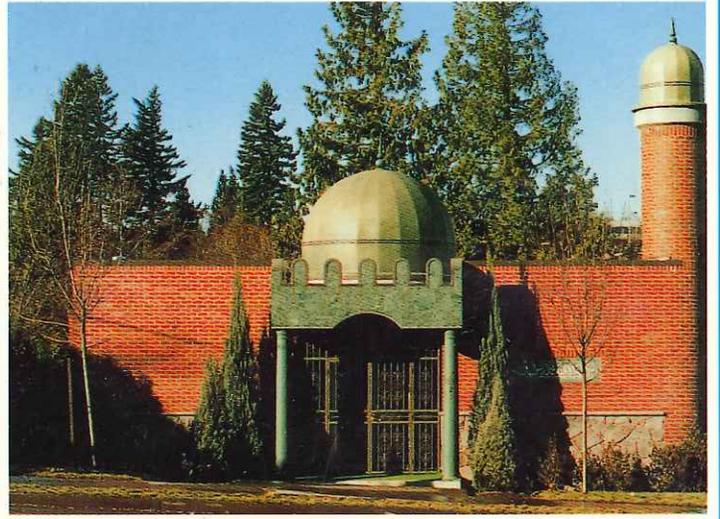
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