

KHITAB



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF AHMADIYYA
ANJUMAN ISHAAT - I - ISLAM (LAHORE) FIJI

GPO Box 407, Suva, Fiji
Telephone : 313549
Fax : 315994

Headquarters: Masjid Noor, 12 Bau Street, Suva, Fiji.

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ISLAM MADE ITS RISE and marvellous progress in the teeth of adverse circumstances; such was its superhuman power that it imparted a new life to, and worked a complete transformation in its adherents. It is to this exalted condition that the revivalist associations intend to raise it from the deplorable state into which it has fallen. But I request them to consider for God's sake if they are, in doing so, following in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet, and if the agencies which had been at work in the beginning are now being employed by them to give a new turn to the life of the people who have forsaken the higher principles of a true religion. It needs no demonstration to prove that the degeneration of the Mussalmans has passed all bounds and that they are now standing on the verge of the pit of fire from which a blessed and mighty hand had drawn them back at first. The same dissensions and disputes, the same division in the camp, which marked the pre-Islamic Arabs, are witnessed among those who claim to be following the banner of Islam. Success has already departed, and faith, religion and union, the moving spirit and the life of the nation, are gone. Luxurious habits, transgressions, drunkenness, gambling and laziness, evils from which the Mighty Magnetiser had granted them a deliverance, have

WHITHER MUSLIMS?

Revivalist Associations Must Follow True Islamic Guidelines

again got the upper hand. Reverence for striving after the model of the Holy Prophet, the honour and respect due to the Holy Quran, awe and devotion for the grandeur and majesty of God, have been blotted out from all hearts. The evils which have wrought the destruction of the race find utterance, in sincerity or otherwise, from the lips of all speakers. The Mussalmans have fallen on evil days and such must be the fate of every people who in spite of the shining arguments of God's existence depart from His ways.

The Mussalmans could fall into no greater error than to take as the standard of perfection and as a model for emulation, a people who are bent low upon the mean cares of this world, without ever raising their hand to heaven, and whose sole object in life is not to go beyond indulgence in the animal passions and carnal desires, and passing their lives in luxury and surfeiting. The Mussalmans are a people who are taught to take care of things relating to religion in preference to their worldly affairs, while the materialistic tendencies of Europe are well expressed in the verse: "There is no other than our life in this world,

neither shall we be raised again." How can a nation labouring day and night for the fleeting comforts and pleasures of the world, having its whole soul in the material inventions and manufactures, scheming and plotting day and night for subduing territories, in short, utterly abandoned to all sorts of low desires and earthly cares and utterly estranged from truth and light, serve as a model for a people whose goal is not earth but heaven. If there are persons among them who aspire to a higher aim and have pretensions of leading a heavenly life, their case is still worse, for they rest satisfied with a dead man as their God. We hear on all sides a cry for "High Education" but admitting its need, are we not justified in saying that the side of spirituality is utterly neglected and that intentionally or otherwise, no regard is paid to it. The first principle of all associations formed for the amelioration of the condition of the Mussalmans is, not to interfere with the irreligious course of life which a man may adopt. Sacred words are forbidden to be uttered within the precincts of their meeting-halls. In the volley of numberless resolutions, not a single word is ever said or allowed to be said, upon the observance of religious injunctions, constancy at prayers and fasting, refraining from ways of wickedness and

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transgression or making piety and righteousness as the guiding rules of life. There is a grand and solemn assemblage of robes and forms with every diversity of the inclinations and passions of the soul. A daring libertine may stand up as the champion of Islam and propose a resolution with the avowed object of restoring it to its original purity, and an equally dissolute gentleman flushed with wine may second it

with toering feet and reeling head! A man quite ignorant of Islam and contemptuously rejecting its holy injunctions, a Materialist or an Atheist, is some time chosen as a chief of an association so long as he bears the name of a Mussalman, though he is completely enslaved to the world.

By *Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, The Promised Messiah and Mahdi*

MILAD-UN-NABI OBSERVED BY NON-MUSLIMS ALIKE

The birthday of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was observed in Fiji by non-Muslims as well.

☆ At the Shirdi Sai Temple, Sai devotees commemorated the occasion on Thursday 25th July, and at the Laucala Bay Sai Centre on Monday 29 July. At both these functions the General Secretary of the Anjuman, Muhammad Ameen Sahu Khan, was the guest speaker.

☆ As part of the cultural development programme of the School of Hospitality and Tourism (of the Fiji Institute of Technology), a special function to observe the birthday of the Holy Prophet was held at the school in Nasese on Thursday 25th July, attended by the staff and students. Mr Jalal-Ud-Dean, secretary of the Anjuman's Suva branch, was the chief guest.

☆ Also, at the Samabula Primary School in Suva a similar function was organised by the staff and students in honour of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on Friday 26 July. Here, too, the chief guest was Mr Jalal-Ud-Dean.

ANJUMAN COMMEMORATES HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD'S BIRTHDAY

The annual and glorious event of *Milad-un-Nabi* was celebrated at Masjid Noor on Sunday 28 July 1996. It was 1425th anniversary of Rasul-Allah's birth and 1362nd anniversary of his passing away; this is on foundation that he was born and died on the same date of month. The event was successful although the numbers attending could have been much better.

This year the presenters were significantly different in that the younger members dominated as speakers. The younger members were keen to participate and give exposition of their Islamic knowledge development at their Sunday classes. Our young members are the future of the jamaat in Fiji and it was most enlightening to see their display of interest and enthusiasm. May Allah shower His blessings upon them to continue their keen interest in Islam.

The Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam is appreciative of the Government of the Republic of Fiji to declare a public holiday as "Prophet Muhammad's (S.A.W.) Birthday" as this event is giving Rasul Allah special prominence and facilitates propagation of Islam at national level with government recognition.

The flow of presentations were as follows:

<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Material</u>
Abdul Nasim	Master of Ceremony
Maulvi Abdul Kuddus Hussein Congregation Noor Ud Dean Shabana Sahu Khan Razia Dean & } Zakia Nisa Dean }	Qur'an Tilawat Nazam (Urdu) Speech (English) Speech (Urdu)
Altaf Ali Maulvi Abdul Kuddus Hussein Irshad Zullah Famida Raza Razia Dean Dr M S Sahu Khan Wahid Ali Buksh	Nazam (Urdu) Speech (English) Speech (Urdu) Qur'an Tilawat Speech (Urdu) Shairee (Urdu) Speech (Urdu) Dua

A matter which took most people's attention was the wealth of talent within our younger generation and who will become the leaders of the *jamaat* in the future

[By: *Jalal-Ud-Dean*]

*This Newsletter is sponsored by
Mr. Rehamatullah
of USA in memory of his beloved wife
Mariam Bibi.*



[Searching for ways of building bridges of respect and understanding between people of different religious traditions for the sake of the wider community.]

INTERFAITH SEARCH NEWS

PRAYER FOR FIJI SERVICE

The Suva Branch of the Anjuman continued to take up a prominent role in the Interfaith Search Fiji. A special "Prayer for Fiji" service was held at the (Roman Catholic) Sacred Heart Cathedral in Suva on 7 July 1996, attended by 14 religious groups in Fiji. The Anjuman was represented by Messrs Imran Sahu Khan and Jala' Ud Dean who, respectively, read in Arabic and translated into English various relevant verses of the Holy Quran.

Messrs Ameen Sahu Khan, Imran Sahu Khan, Iraz Sahu Khan, Jalal Ud Dean, Noor Ud Dean, Maulvi Kuddus Hussein, Mr & Mrs Aslam Khan with children and Mrs Malka Shah also attended. The event was a success, with over 400 people in the congregation, thus giving the Anjuman the opportunity of a keen gathering to propagate Islam.

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CLUSTER DISCUSSES CONCEPT OF GOD

A cluster meeting of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-I-Islam, Roman Catholic Church, Sathya Sai Baba Organisation and the Sikh Gurdwara Prapandhak was held at the Roman Catholic Church in Suva. The questions for discussion were: (i) "What do your sacred scriptures tell you about the concept of God," and (ii) "How does this concept of God influence or affect your life?" The Anjuman's paper was presented by Mr Jalal-Ud-Dean.

About 50 people attended the function dominated by mainly non-Muslim groups; Ahmadiyya Anjuman members were Mr Ameen Sahu Khan and Mr Jalal Ud Dean. Judging from responses from the audience, it was clearly evident that the Anjuman's paper was the most pointedly scripture based.

The Anjuman is getting positive recognition as the most vocal and participating Muslim group

which makes presentations of balanced judgement with scripture support for certainty.

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INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

On Sunday 4 August 1996, the Roman Catholic Church held a special function in Suva as a follow up to a Papal directive received from the Vatican for Catholics to participate in religious functions of other religious groups with a view to understanding them better.

The gathering consisted mainly of Roman Catholic Priests, Marist Brothers, Marist Sisters (SOLN) and senior members of the Roman Catholic community in Suva. Four religious groups were selected to present their papers, address the gathering and answer questions from the same; the four groups were the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-I-Islam, the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, the Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak, and the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais. Each organisation discussed the following elements:

- (i) Its experience with Interfaith Search
- (ii) Interfaith dialogue
- (iii) A brief account of its own faith

The Anjuman was most ably represented by Mr Jalal-Ud-Dean.

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METHODISTS HOLD ECUMENICAL SERVICE

The Fiji Council of Churches "Ecumenical Service" was hosted by the Methodist Church of Fiji at the Centenary Church on Sunday 4th August. The theme of the service was "To create a just community that shares a common fellowship in the love of God".

The General Secretary (Ameen Sahu Khan) attended the service as a representative of the Anjuman.

Don't go destroying houses of worship, police chief says

The destruction of a house of worship should be abhorred by every right-minded citizen because religion and the manner one chooses to worship is a personal right, says Police Commissioner Isikia Savua.

He made the comment while addressing the annual Police Ramayan Sammellan at Andhra High School in Olosara, Sigatoka at the weekend. (27/7/96)

Mr Savua said the destruction of a Hindu temple in Sawani earlier this year was not an isolated case. There were acts of violence even between Christian denominations.

He noted that these were signs of the times which showed how ill society was.

He suggested how society could help solve these problems:

- When anything goes wrong we should first of all look at ourselves and see what we could have done about it and not try and blame others.
- When we take our responsibilities, we are showing our children that they too should become responsible people.
- We should not be quick to judge others.
- Since Christians make up the biggest group of people in Fiji, denominations should learn to accept each other, when we can do that it would be easier to accept other religions.

"All over the country sectarian differences of the Christian church have led to the demolition of houses of worship, injuries sustained by

people, administrative problems - created by officiates refusing postings, road-blocks, etc," Mr Savua said.

"All these activities are symptomatic of society's ills. All major religions preach neighbourly love and tolerance, yet something is very wrong - if we crowd the churches every Sunday and fail to live by its teachings on Mondays to Saturdays.

"In Fijian we joke about an airhead connecting both ears - perhaps we should learn something from the drum, which produces a sound despite its cavernous interior. With our airheads nothing appears to work.

"Maybe we should start with our leaders. Who are these leaders? We tend to define them by groups: political leaders, civic leaders, captains of industries, etc."

"And by doing so, pass on leadership responsibilities to them, and should anything go wrong - we blame them."

Mr Savua said he believed people should move away from leadership categorising and instead regard each other as leaders with responsibilities.

"We should first learn to accept our responsibilities irrespective of size," he said.

"Perhaps by doing this, our children may learn something and grow up to be better and more responsible citizens. Your annual gathering provides the reason for you to be together and worship as a group."

"To the Christians among us, can we please learn not to be quick to judge. We give ourselves 52 Sundays every year in which to

gather together and learn the teachings of our Saviour."

"Let us not allow this teaching to last until the expiry of Sundays but to sustain and guide us for the remaining 313 days."

"We, the Christians, make up the biggest religious group in Fiji, but we have yet to learn to tolerate each other's denomination. How can we judge other religions to be heathen or not of the true faith when we ourselves cannot find true unity?"

Mr Savua quoted verses 3-5 from Chapter 7 of Saint Matthew: "Why, then, do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, and pay no attention to the log in your own eye? How dare you say to your brother, please let me take that speck out of your eye, when you have a log in your eye You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will be able to see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye".

Mr Savua said: "Let us learn from this lesson and practice it to last and sustain us for at least the remaining days of 1996."

*[Reproduced verbatim
from Fiji's Daily Post
(31.7.96)]*

"And had there not been Allah's repelling some people by others, certainly there would have been pulled down cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques in which Allah's name is much remembered." (Holy Qur'an 22:40)

AHMADIYYA ANJUMAN ISHAAT ISLAM, INDIA

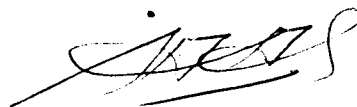
Financial Report

1 April 1994 - 30 June 1996

Balance brought forward	US\$	0.00
<u>Income:</u>		
Contributions	40,242.72	
	<hr/>	
Total Income	US\$	40,242.72
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Establishment of Centre at Delhi	5,430.64	
Salaries and Allowances of Muballighs (5)	6,764.32	
Publication of Books (12)	2,493.87	
Travelling and Incidentals - Muballighs	2,196.99	
Operating Expenses of the Centre	602.75	
Administrative Expenses including Distribution of Books	820.55	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditure	US\$	18,309.12

Note: Expenses incurred by the Project Director on his visits to India are not debited to the Anjuman's account.

Balance Carried Forward to 1996/97 U.S. Dollars **21,933.60**



Shaukat. A. Ali
Project Director

در عشق نبی کریم ﷺ

فَمَنْ أَحْبَبَنِي فَقَدْ أَحْبَبَنِي وَأَمَّنْ أَحْبَبَنِي فَقَدْ أَحْبَبَنِي وَأَمَّنْ أَحْبَبَنِي فَقَدْ أَحْبَبَنِي

نام اُس کا ہر محمد دلبرِ مری ہے
 لیک از خدائے برتر خیر الوریٰ ہی ہے
 اُس پر ہر اک نظر ہے بدر النجی ہی ہے
 میں جاؤں اسکے اے بس ناخدا ہی ہے
 دل یار سے ملائے وہ آشنا ہی ہے
 دیکھا ہے ہم نے اُس سے بس ہنسی ہی ہے
 وہ ہلکتے ہیں اے اسکی شناسی ہی ہے
 جو راز تھے بنائے نعم العطا ہی ہے
 ہاتھوں میں شمع دیں ہر عین النسیا ہی ہے
 دولت کا مینے والا فرما زوایا ہی ہے
 وہ ہر مین چیز کیا ہوں بس فیصلہ ہی ہے
 باقی ہے سب فسانہ سچ بیخاطا ہی ہے
 وہ جس نے حق دکھایا وہ مدلقا ہی ہے
 پھر کھولے جس نے جندے ہ معتبی ہی ہے
 مشکل ہو تجھ سے آساں ہر دم رجا ہی ہے

وہ پیشوا ہمارا جس کے ہے نور سارا
 سب پاک ہیں ہمیں ہر اک دوسرے بہتر
 پہلوں سے خود تر ہے خوبی میں اک قمر ہے
 پہلے تو راہ میں ہائے پار اُس نے میں آتے
 پرے جو تھے ہٹائے اندر کی راہ دکھائے
 وہ یار لامکانی وہ دلبرِ نمائی
 وہ آج شاہ دیں ہر وہ تاجِ مرسلین ہے
 حق سے جو حکم آئے اُس نے وہ کر دکھائے
 آنکھ اُسکی دُور میں ہر دل یار سے قریں ہے
 جو راز دیں تھو بھائے اُس نے بتائے سائے
 اُس نور پر فدا ہوں اُس کا ہی میں ہوں
 وہ دلبرِ یگانہ علموں کا ہے خزانہ
 سب ہم نے اُس سے پایا شاہد ہے تو خدایا
 ہم تھم دلوں کے اندھو سو دلوں پہ پھندے
 لے میری رب حُمن تیری ہی میں یہ احساں

دل میں یہی ہے ہر دم تیرا صحیفہ چوموں
 قرآن کے گرد گھوموں کہ بیسرا ہی ہے

کتبہ نور اللہ نور اللہ

حَدِيثِ نَبِيِّ: "بِئْسَ مَا كَانَتْ تَدْعُو دِينَهُ وَالْأَيْدِي كَرْنَهُ وَاللَّهُ فِي حَيْثُ رَكَعَاتِهِ"

OBITUARY

"Surely we are Allah's and to Him we shall return"

The Fiji Anjuman announces with deep grief the passing away of a very ardent and devoted member, Maulvi Riasat Ali, of Nausori at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva on Wednesday 11 September; he was buried the same afternoon at the Raralevu cemetery.

Mr Muhammad Imran Sahu Khan, the Pesh Imam at Masjid Noor, addressed the large gathering at the residence of the deceased on the Islamic concept of life and death. He later led the janaza namaaz.

Maulvi Riasat, whose late father hailed from India, associated with the Ahmadiyya Lahore Jamaat with the arrival in Fiji of Maulana Muzaffar Begg and saw the founding and growth of Ahmadiyyat in this country. He was very well known to every other Maulana in Fiji from Lahore - Maulana Abdul Haque Vidyarthi, Maulana Ahmad Yar, Maulana Hafiz Sher Muhammad and Maulana Shafqat Rasool Khan Shafeeq.

The Anjuman records also with deep grief the passing away of Mr Sahabud Dean in Australia, on 5 July. He was a brother-in-law of Mr Shafi-Ud-Dean (Committee member of the Anjuman's Suva Branch) and son-in-law of Mr & Mrs Wazid Kamal-Ud-Dean. Janaza Ghaibana was held at Masjid Noor in Suva after Jumuah on 14 July.

The Fiji Jamaat is saddened at the passing away of one of its members in the United States. A former resident of Suva, Mr Ismail Buksh (son of the late Mr Khuda Buksh of Tanoa Street) died in USA on 10th September. Janaza Ghaibana in Suva was held at Masjid Noor after Jumuah on 13 September.

*"O soul that art at rest,
Return to thy Lord,
well-pleased, well-pleasing,
So enter among My servants,
And enter My Garden."
(Holy Quran: ch. 89,
Verses 27-30)*

AINUL TAKES THE PLEDGE

Mrs Ainul Nisha Sahu Khan, wife of the Anjuman's Assistant General Secretary Mr Muhammad Nazeem-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan, has recently accepted Ahmadiyyat and has accordingly signed the Anjuman's Pledge of Fidelity (Bai'at). She has been married to Nazeem for over seven and a half years.

The Anjuman congratulates Ainul on her decision. May the Almighty Allah grant her the conviction of faith and the enthusiasm to work in the cause of Islam.

ANJUMAN'S REGIONAL DIRECTOR VISITS FIJI

The Anjuman's Regional Director for South East Asia & the Pacific, Mr Shaukat Ali, visited Fiji in September as part of his schedule of visits to as many of the Jamaats in his region; he was accompanied by his wife (Zohra) and daughter (Zakia). The Suva branch of the Anjuman hosted a welcome reception in their honour at Masjid Noor after Dars-I-Quran on Sunday 15 September. Brother Shaukat, who is based in Bangkok where he works for the International Civil Aviation Organisation, has recently been very actively (and successfully) involved in the diversification and general expansion of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman in India. He also represents the Fiji Jamaat at all international fora of the Anjuman.

While in Fiji Mr Shaukat Ali briefed the members on the recent developments of the Anjuman, particularly in the South East Asia and Pacific, and made a fervent appeal for funds for the restoration of the Berlin Mosque built in 1927.



Grandmother goes to jail for owning banned Bible

Singapore, Reuter -

A 72-year-old grandmother chose jail yesterday rather than pay a Singapore \$700 (\$F708) fine for owning a *Bible* and other literature published by the banned Jehovah's Witnesses.

Yu Nguk Ding, a retired nurse, began serving her seven-day jail term yesterday, her defence lawyer S Asogan said.

Yu, the oldest person to be tried under Singapore's Undersirable Publications Act, was convicted on Monday and sentenced yesterday.

She served six days in jail in April this year after a separate conviction under the Undesirable Publications Act.

Prosecutor Deena Bajrai said during sentencing that she would treat the case as a first offence, which carried a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a \$1000 fine.

Yu could have faced up to two years in prison as a second offender.

"I've considered this case very carefully," Magistrate Phua Aik Siew said in delivering the sentence. "You have previous antecedents against you."

The Jehovah's Witnesses were banned under Singapore's Societies Act in 1972, because male followers refused to perform compulsory military service.

Since November last year, Singapore courts have convicted more than 60 Jehovah's Witnesses in cases that have led to protests by Amnesty International, the London-based human rights agency. [*Fiji Times*: 3/7/96]



Hell is a reality: Report

London, PA -

Hell is a reality and we all face a Day of Judgment, according to a Church of England report published on Sunday.

However, the study, from the Doctrine Commission, rejects the traditional image of Hell as eternal torment in a flaming pit, describing it rather as a state of annihilation or total non-being.

The study runs counter to attempts by the church to play down Hell and try to end a religion of fear in recent years.

Only two years ago, the former Bishop of Durham, the right Reverend David Jenkins stirred controversy when he completely rejected the existence of Hell.

The study, entitled *The Mystery of Salvation*, warned: "No one can be compulsorily installed in Heaven. The possibility remains for each human being to make a final rejection of God. Final judgment therefore remains a reality."

The report also stated that heaven is not "eternal and static perfection" but an "everlasting participation in the life of God".

It examines feminist theology but rejects the use of feminist pronouns when talking about God.

Use of the word "God" over the word "He" is favoured. However, the report rejects terms such as "Godself" over "Himself".

Churches being handed over

The Church of England might start handing over unused church buildings to other faiths, drawing fire yesterday from some members who don't want them handed over to non-Christians.

The Church's Board of Mission suggested that other Christian groups should get priority, but that the old church buildings could be handed over to Muslims, Sikhs or Hindus rather than face demolition.

The Reverend Julian Litten of east London said he was astounded to think some of the buildings could be given to Muslims because "to be a Christian in some Muslim countries means certain death".

This would create impressions that the church was dying in Britain's inner cities.



Repentance with Disinfectants

A Christian church group in Hong Kong caused a stir with reports that it instructs its members to drink a medicinal disinfectant in order to cleanse their body and soul, despite dangers to their health.

The Church of Zion told worshippers to drink hydrogen peroxide, a commonly-used antiseptic fluid applied to external wounds, the *South China Morning Post* said.

The paper quoted doctors as warning that drinking the liquid could cause seizures, respiratory failure and heart attacks.

REGIONAL NEWS

From *Shaukat A Ali*
AAII Regional Director - South/East Asia and Pacific

Assalamu Aleikum wa
Rahmatullahe wa
Barakatahu

"And he who obeys Allah and His Messenger, and fears Allah and keeps duty to Him, these it is that are the achievers."

(24:52)

"O you who believe, keep your duty to Allah and believe in His Messenger - He will give you two portions of His Mercy" - (in this world and in the Hereafter) (57:28)

"Surely those who recite the Book of Allah and keep up prayer and spend out of what We have given them, secretly and openly, hope for a gain which perishes not - That He may pay them back fully their rewards and give them more out of His grace. Surely He is Forgiving, Multiplier of reward."
(35:29,30)

We sincerely pray that you are all enjoying good health and are in high spirits by the grace of Merciful Allah. *Alhamdulillah*, we are glad to note that *Hazrat Ameer*, Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib, is generally keeping well, however, you are requested to continue to pray for his long and healthy life.

Alhamdulillah, I have just returned to Bangkok after ten weeks on a trip that took us to Berlin, where we spent a few days at our historic and grand Mosque, Holland, London, Vancouver, California, Fiji and Australia. My wife and daughter accompanied me on this hectic trip. As a result of your prayers, he trip was very successful from

the *Anjuman's* point of view. Our brothers and sisters at all these locations went out of their way to make us feel at home and the hospitality, co-operation, support and courtesies extended to us were overwhelming. I took advantage of the visit to appeal for funds for the renovation of the Berlin Mosque. You will be pleased to note that as a result of this tour the *Anjuman* stands to gain greater support and an additional sum of at least US\$25,000.

The *Jamaats* in the Asia and Pacific region have continued with their programme of activities with enthusiasm and zeal by the grace of Almighty Allah as you can see from the brief reports provided below:

AUSTRALIA

The *Milad-un Nabi Jalsa* was arranged at a hired hall for the first time and attracted a record 120 people of various races and religions. The programme was very well organized and augurs well for the future of the *Anjuman* and the Sydney *Jamaat* deserves our hearty congratulations.

I had a very fruitful visit to Sydney where the *Jamaat* organized a special gathering on 22 September 1996 to welcome the General Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary of the Fiji *Anjuman*, Mr M Ameen Sahu Khan and Mr Nazeem-ud Dean Sahu Khan as well as my family and me. My appeal for funds for Berlin Mosque resulted in an enthusiastic and spontaneous response and it appears that the branch may contribute another A\$3,000 in addition to A\$3,000 already sent to

Imam Ch. Saeed Ahmad Sahib at Berlin Mosque - *JazakAllahu Khaira*.

In Brisbane also I received tremendous support.

FIJI

As can be seen from this issue of the *KHITAAB* the Fiji *Jamaat* has remained active. The *Anjuman* organized a special *Jalsa* on Sunday, 15 September 1996 at *Masjid Noor*, Suva to welcome us. Response to my appeal for funds for Berlin Mosque was truly overwhelming and *Insha Allah* my target of F\$20,000 will be met - *JazakAllahu Khaira*.

INDIA

As promised in the previous REGIONAL NEWSLETTERS, I have great pleasure in publishing in this issue of the *KHITAAB* the financial statement of our India Project for the period 1 April 1994 to 30 June 1996. You will kindly note the overwhelming response to my appeal - *JazakAllahu Khaira*, and I take this opportunity on behalf of all our members in India to thank from the core of our hearts all those who have supported this important project. Although the appeal during our trip was exclusively for Berlin Mosque, some funds were also received for India Project, mainly in fulfilment of earlier promises.

Alhamdulillah, our esteemed Brother Abdul Razak Sahib is feeling a lot better and is involved with various activities

of the *Anjuman* and the reports from various branches have been encouraging. In addition to reports from Brothers Abdul Hafeez, Basharat Saleem and Basharat Iqbal of Bhaderwah on the *Jamaats'* activities in Bhaderwah and Jammu, I have received a detailed report from our esteemed Brother Prof. Noor-ud-Din Zahid Sahib who visited the area in July. The Srinagar *Jamaat* has established Ahmadiyya Medical Clinic at the Central Mosque at Qalamdau Pura, Srinagar and our respected Brother Dr Khurshid Alam Tareen Sahib is in attendance to provide free advice. Medicine is also dispensed free of cost to the poor. Brother Dr Khurshid Alam Tareen Sahib is also continuing with the revision of his Hindi translations of the Holy Quran and the Manual of Hadith. He has also translated several small publications which will *Insha Allah* be published by the end of the year. Prof. N.D. Zahid Sahib has also mentioned that the *Anjuman's* Guest House at Srinagar is being refurbished.

Apart from the usual reports from our Centre in Delhi, the latest report includes details of a surprise but most welcome visit by the President, Vice-President and Treasurer of Ohio Branch on 2 September 1996. On behalf of the Delhi *Jamaat*, I would like to extend an invitation to all the members who pass through that part of the world to visit our members in Delhi. However, I suggest that the visitors try to provide advance notification so that the *Muballighs*, who are frequently visiting other areas remain at the Centre. As you are aware, it is a very humble beginning with all new members so they deserve all

the support and encouragement from all of us. The members there have sacrificed a lot and despite the trials and tribulations have remained steadfast.

INDONESIA

Encouraging reports have also come from our brothers in Indonesia where arrangements are being made to purchase a computer in order to improve the layout of Bahasa Indonesia translation of the Holy Quran before the next reprint. Arrangements are also in progress for translation of a few more books in Bahasa Indonesia. The Branch was recently visited by our esteemed international *Muballigh*, *Alhaji Maulana B. Jaggoe Sahib* of Holland.

NEW ZEALAND

Reports from New Zealand confirm that the Branch has remained active and will arrange contribution to the Berlin Mosque appeal.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR BERLIN MOSQUE

As I stated in my previous Newsletters, the *Anjuman* has declared 1996 as the Year of Berlin Mosque and our appeals for funds globally will continue to be focused this year on repairs to the Berlin Mosque. Contributions of A\$50 from Mr Manzoor Raza of Adelaide, Australia, Rs.1,000 from Mr Abdul Muttalib of Calcutta and DM2,000 from Thailand were handed to Imam Ch. Saeed Ahmad Sahib during our visit to Berlin. As stated in para.1 above, I took advantage of my trip to raise funds for the project and the branches were requested to collect and remit the funds directly to the Imam at Berlin Mosque, however, some funds were collected by me as follows:

in Australia (Brisbane) A\$605
in Fiji (Suva) F\$10,140
in Canada (Vancouver) C\$1,860
in U.S.A. (San Francisco)
US\$150

CONCLUSION

I would like to once again extend our sincere thanks and *Salaams* to you for your overwhelming and unflinching support and encouragement extended to us on all our activities. Please continue to pray for *Hazrat Ameer Sahib's* health and long life. Prayers are also requested for Brother Abdul Razak Sahib and for all the other members globally. May the Mercy and Blessings of Allah be with you. *Wassalam*,

Shaukat A Ali
Regional Director

The first mosque built on the earth is the Sacred Mosque, the Ka'bah built at Makkah also called Bakkah (Qur'an 1); and all mosques should therefore face towards the Sacred Mosque (Qur'an 2, Hadith 3)

"Surely the first house appointed for men is the one at Bakkah blessed and guidance for nation"

(Qur'an 3:95)

Gems of Thought

Said the Prophet: The person who when placed in administrative authority over a people does not promote their well-being in sincerity, will never catch even the scent of heaven.

(Bukhari)