



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
*In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful*



# THE CALL

JOURNAL OF THE AHMADIYYA ANJUMAN ISHA'AT-I-ISLAM INC., TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Rabee'uth Thaneer 1, 1424 A.H.

Thursday May 20, 2004

Editor: Imaam Iqbal Hydal ( B.Sc.,

## Ahmadi Knighted in Holland

August Abdul Samad Santoe was born in Nickeri, Surinam on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1938. He received primary and secondary education in the capital city of Paramaribo where he also graduated as Bachelor of Law at the Surinam University. Married to Sara Ilaahibaks, they are blessed with four children and four grandchildren.



In 1956, Mr. Santoe was appointed as a civil servant at the Ministry of Economics Affairs in Paramaribo, and rose to the rank of Deputy Head of the Trade Department. During his service for the Surinam Government, he was assigned to an extensive study programme at the Ministry of Economic Affairs in The Hague for one year. In 1970 the Indian Government also granted Mr. Santoe a training programme for International Trade and Export Promotion in New Delhi. In

1972, he left for Holland with his family for a sabbatical leave of 14 months.

Besides his official duties in Surinam he was, from an early age, involved in voluntary activities for sports and cultural organisations. First, as Vice president and during the final two years he was president of the AMOS - a general Muslim social and cultural organization open to all sections of the Muslim communities in Surinam.

While in Holland, the family decided to settle there and Mr. Santoe took a position at the Rotterdam Erasmus University Library. He retired from there as Chief Administrator in 2001.

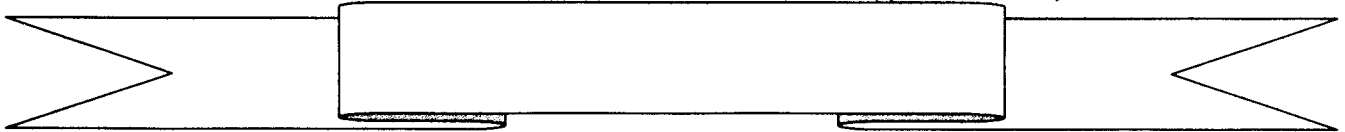
Mr. Santoe's services for the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement in Holland are summarised below:

- 1976. As a founding member and first president of the Rotterdam Islamic Jamaat (AAIL) he later played a key role in the formation of a Federation of Ahmadiyya Jama'ats in Holland. First, as its Secretary and later as Vice President.
- 1984. Mr. Santoe is appointed as European Zonal Representative of AAIL by the then Hazrat Ameer Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Marhoom.

- 1987. He is also at the base of the foundation of another Ahmadiyya (Lahore) Jamaat in the southern part of the city of Rotterdam and also became its president for a temporary period.
- 2001. At present Mr. Santoe is, besides his duties as Central Anjuman's Representative, also active in the affairs of the Berlin Mosque as well as training programmes,

lectures and publications within the Ahmadiyya community in Holland.

- 29th April 2004: Mr. Abdul Santoe is awarded the distinguished order of the Knighthood of the House of Oranje (the Royal Family of the Netherlands). Special mention is made in the citation of his incessant voluntary service for the Ahmadiyya community in the Netherlands.



## PROFILE OF MRS. PEARL SHAHIRA RAHAMAN DEEN

HONOURED ON THE 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2003

AT

THE ANNUAL JALSA OF THE AHMADIYYA ANJUMAN ISHA'AT-I-ISLAM INC.,

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

by

*Khashi Ali-Mohammed*

It is indeed a difficult task to try to do justice by summarizing the life thus far of Mrs. Pearl Deen in a few minutes but indeed this is an honour I accept and will do my best.

Do we focus on the places where she worked?  
Her six years at Colonial Life?  
Her seven years at JTA?  
The years she spent at GEC of England?  
Or even her few years at Neal and Massy Limited?

Do we focus on the grounded family life in which

Aunty Pearl was raised with Islamic values? Or even the good humour that permeated the household that would have friends say: *"If you want to have a laugh when you feeling down, go to the Rahaman's, they'll cheer you up."*

### **Teacher of Islam**

Let us focus on Aunty Pearl the woman. Certainly, as you speak to her, we see the qualities of the Sunday School teacher who taught Arabic and Islam for fifteen years at San Fernando. We see her patience,

her encouragement and her passion for her religion that radiates from her.

### **Proud Ahmadi**

When I prepared questions I would ask in an interview, the question I was to start with was "What are you most proud of in your life?" Before I ask the question Aunty Pearl said: *"Let me first say I am proud to be an Ahmadi...Proud of the Principles and Causes that our organization represents in the furtherance of Islam"*

Islam has indeed been the focal point of her life. She was one of eight members who banded themselves for their first meeting in Gasparillo to have *Maulaana Tufail* return to Trinidad to continue his missionary work. As she relates it, this was the foundation upon which the Ahmadiyya movement of today began.

In her hometown of San Fernando, she was a founding member of the San Fernando Muslim Women's Association. This group exists as a vibrant women's organization to this very day and is indeed the lifeblood of that jamaat.

Aunty Pearl indeed portrays confidence and her opening of not one, but two international Jalsas with duas in 1971 and 1975 stand as testimonies to this.

### **First Woman To Read *Tarawih Prayers***

In 1976, she took Nabee Deen as her husband, and moved to Fiji where she continued her leadership skills. A couple of incidents that Aunty Pearl related with passion and excitement include when she arrived in Fiji for her first month of Ramadhan. She attended the first *tarawih salaah* and it found her and her adopted daughter at the time as the only female members present. She had two choices, to stay and say her prayers or turn around and go home. She opted to say her prayers. Later that night and the next day, the word spread. This gave encouragement to have more women of the

community to come out and day after day more women came in their numbers to attend *tarawih*.

The mosque in which they prayed initially was an old ice cream factory. It was decorated with thick drapes but they were not regularly cleaned. Aunty Pearl saw the dust and cobwebs and it appalled her. She appealed to her members "***Is this the way we want to have our mosque? Let have some pride in the place where we worship.***" She mobilized the women of the mosque to come out their brooms and their mops to bring a level of respectability to their house of worship. Is this not a leader?

### **Conquest of Arthritis**

Her greatest accomplishment she says is the conquering of arthritis. Whilst employed at GEC of England and doing her typing, she felt the stiffening of her fingers and there came a time when she could not properly hold a cup of tea to bring it to her lips. She took control of the situation and invested in herself; her resources, her time and her faith. Through seeking knowledge, she found a masseuse who could help. Fifty dollars, which was a lot of money at the time, three months and many prayers later, she conquered her problem and this was symbolized when she could turn over the wash basin that was filled of water. Now she had regained the health and freedom to continue her life.

### **Travels**

Where finances are concerned, she is very firm and prudent. She has no qualms in saying "***I want my receipt! If you don't give me a receipt, do not expect to get my money.***"

Aunty Pearl is very well travelled. In addition to living in Fiji, she embarked on a world tour in 1980, which also saw her perform the Umra in Mecca. Additionally, she visited Holland, Indonesia, Australia and England just to name a few.

### **Her Sponsored Child Through World Vision**

Perhaps the one thing that brings intense joy and satisfaction in her life is the sponsorship of child through ***World Vision***. ***World Vision*** is an international relief and development organisation working to promote the well being of all people - especially children by supplying food, clothes and educational supplies. When she speaks about her sponsored child, you may notice a tear or two because she is very sympathetic to this cause that is close to her heart and will encourage us all to take up this cause as well.

To close, the one advice she has for us is the following credo that she cherishes:

**"LIFE IS A RAW MATERIAL. YOU HAVE TO TAKE IT AND SHAPE IT INTO WHAT YOU WANT."**

**EDUCATION ON ISLAM VARIES WIDELY**

The September 11 attacks by Islamic extremists sent educators scrambling for ways to include information about Muslims in their lesson plans. But more than two years later, with the nation involved in an increasingly violent struggle in Iraq, students' knowledge of the world's second-largest religion remains spotty at best. For years, the National Council for the Social Studies has recommended that all students learn about world religions. But because no national standards exist for any subject, states decide what their students should know. More than 1.2 billion people are Muslims, one-fifth of the world's population. Their religion is based on five rules or pillars: belief, worship, fasting, almsgiving and pilgrimage. Arabic scholars say the word Islam is rooted in peace, or salaam, and the belief in one God, known in Islam as Allah. Most public school students are likely to learn about Islam in ninth or tenth grade world cultures or history courses that cover the Crusades and the Ottoman Empire. Teachers with special expertise often bring

more attention to this subject. Many teachers, though, are still at a disadvantage because Islam has received scant attention in U.S. classrooms and was rarely covered in any depth, even in college history courses.

Martha Woodall, Knight Ridder News Service  
 "Education on Islam varies widely"  
 Lexington Herald-Leader, May 1, 2004  
<http://www.kentucky.com/mld/heraldleader/living/religion/8555566.htm>

Submitted by Nasser Khan

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**ORBITUARY**

Dear Members,  
*Assalaam-o-Alaikum Wa Rakhmatullahi Wa Barakaato Hoo.*

We just got the very sad news that our dear sister Safia Begum passed away in Hayward California, USA.

*Inna Lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.*

The deceased was sister of the late Brigadier Abdul Latif (Shaheed),  
 Chaudry Abdul Karim (Okara, Pakistan), Chaudry Abdul Sattar (Hayward California), Mrs. Qudsia Masud Akhtar and Mrs. Zakiyya Zafar Abdullah.

May her Soul rest in eternal peace and may Allah Ta'ala grant patience to the bereaved family to bear this great loss.

The deceased will be buried in Hayward California this evening. All Jama'ats are requested to offer *Janaaza-i-ghaaibana* wherever possible.

Seeker of your prayers,  
 Lahore Ahmadees Moderator  
 Mohammad Saeed

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lahoreahmadees/>

Name : .....

Address : .....

.....

And thy Lord has decreed that you serve none but Him, and do good to parents.<sup>173</sup> If either or both of them reach old age with thee, say not "Fie" to them, nor chide them, and speak to them a generous word.

وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا اللَّهَ رَبًّا وَوَالِدًا  
 وَالْوَالِدَاتِ رَحِيمَةً إِنَّهُ كَانَ يَتَّقِنَ الْعِدَّةَ  
 الْكَبِيرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَيْهِمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا  
 آيَةً وَلَا تَكْفُرْ لَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا

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