

Lifelong Dedication of Maulana Muhammad Ali (1874-1951)

Introduction:

It has become a rule of thumb that before discussing a very important historical event, or a very important person, it is prudent to go back several steps prior to that historical event, or origins of that person. This therefore sets the scene of circumstances, which may have existed prior, the difficulties which people may have encountered, or the circumstances that may have been happening throughout the world. Maulana Muhammad Ali of Lahore, was one such person, who attracted the attention of many of this world's leaders in his impeccable British English¹, his astonishing photographic memory and his amazing general knowledge of almost everything that happened in this world. He was indeed a priceless gem and pride of Muslims of India, both during his lifetime and after his demise in Pakistan, in 1951. Maulana Muhammad Ali has been regarded both during his lifetime and continues to be regarded after his demise as one of the most outstanding translators of the Holy Qur'an in the English language². He has indeed become as one of the most reliable and authoritative authors on all matters pertaining to the Islamic Faith. His immaculate English translation of the Holy Qur'an became the foundation³ for many others, to further the translations of the Holy Qur'an into various other globally practised languages. Maulana Muhammad Ali has over decades, become an institution on all matters in Islam.

Appreciating Lifelong Dedication of Maulana Muhammad Ali:

- 1) There is dire need to link backwards from Maulana Muhammad Ali to past history of India, regarding in particular, Muslims in India. Accordingly, Indian history records that most Muslims entered India both from Afghanistan and along the upper West coast of India. They were mostly Arab traders, purchasing spices from India and selling their dates and other desert fruits in exchange. Their entry was from Afghanistan and then through the Khyber Pass in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region⁴, commenced around the 12th century. These were Muslims of Turkic descent. Whereas

¹ The British English language used in the 18th and 19th centuries were authentic English of the time, without inclusion of other words from other countries. All British laws were in this format. English translations of all scriptures were also in the same format and often with usage of older words such as thee, thou, thine, etc.

² Maulana Muhammad Ali was first Muslim to translate Holy Qur'an into English. His translations were so perfect as to convey only the truthful meaning, without any ambiguity or confusion of words to the readers.

³ The perfect English translation of the Holy Qur'an became the foundation for others to translate it further into other languages, confidently using his translations for consistency and without confusion or ambiguity.

⁴ Previously the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region was known as the North West Frontier Province (1901-2010).

there were hundreds of Arab merchants trading in spices between the Persian Gulf countries, the Red Sea countries and the Sind region, descending down to Bombay (Mumbai) in India, travelling by sea. They were frequently trading from those Arabic spoken countries and mostly to the upper Western coasts of India. The Arab sea merchants' trading geography to India, was mainly around Karachi and Mumbai.

- 2) The first large contingent of Muslims to enter India were led by the military leader Muiz-ad-din Muhammad Ghori, from Ghor⁵ in Afghanistan. This invasion was in 1206 and the Afghans, under the leadership of their most powerful head of military, Muiz-ad-din Muhammad Ghori, captured Delhi. This capture was after killing Maharaja Prithviraj Chauhan, who was the Ruler of Delhi⁶. This occupation after capture of Delhi continued from 1206 till 1226 and throughout this period, their occupation was known as the Delhi Muslim Sultanate, in the first stage. The second stage of Delhi Muslim Sultanate continued, comprising several Muslim dynasties. Amongst the Muslim dynasties' heads was Queen Razia Sultana, who ruled for four years and went to the battlefield and fought alongside her soldiers. She was killed in the battles. Consequently, there were several administrative changes, pertinent with those five⁷ dynasties. Eventually, those five dynasties were short-lived, were also conquered and taken over by Babur, the founding Emperor of the Mughal⁸ Empire in 1526.
- 3) The Mughal Empire in India commenced from 15th century. The Mughals' leadership era were with 15 Emperors, commencing with Babur in 1526 and ending with Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar in 1857.
- 4) Prior to the commencement of the British Raj, the East India Trading Company⁹ had already infiltrated into India and commenced trading work. One such aspect of work was recruitment and despatches of Indians to other countries, after the abolition of slavery¹⁰. In all such despatches of Indians, there were always some Muslims in each shipment.

⁵ Ghor is one of thirty-four provinces of Afghanistan.

⁶ Prithviraj Chauhan was a Rajput king who ruled the kingdoms of Ajmer and Delhi in northern India in 12th century; he was one of the last independent Hindu kings to sit upon the throne of Delhi.

⁷ There were five separate Muslim dynasties (Mamluk, Kalji, Tughluq, Sayyid and Lodhi) from 1226-1526.

⁸ The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur, a Central Asian ruler who was descended from the Turco-Mongol conqueror Timur on his father's side and from Chagatai, the second son of the Mongol ruler Genghis Khan, on his mother's side.

⁹ The East India Company was established under Royal Charter of Queen Elizabeth I in 1600.

¹⁰ Slavery was abolished in 1806. The East India Company commenced recruitment of Indian indentured labourers in 1807. The labourers were despatched to several of British Empire countries, largely as cheap labour in those countries' agricultural sectors, mainly those in the Tropical sectors in the production of sugarcane and cotton. This became alternative to slavery, in the sense that the workers were paid daily wage. However, wherever the Indian labours were despatched, there were always Muslims amongst them.

- 5) The British Raj of India commenced in 1858¹¹. The British Government signed treaties and made military and trading alliances with many of the independent Indian states (ruled by Indian Maharajas) that made up India at that point in history. The last such Ruler was the Nizam of Hyderabad.
- 6) There is dire need to understand why the two *Mujaddids* came to India consecutively. Why did those *Mujaddids* not go to some other Arabic spoken countries? A *Mujaddid* is Divinely appointed Reformer in Islam.
- 7) The two *Mujaddids* were (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Bareilvi (1786-1831) and Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908). The answers to those questions (above) are simply as “matters of Divine intervention.”
- 8) There is need to understand the most difficult life of Muslims in India before the Mughal Emperorship. India had the 5-level caste structure¹² of the mixed peoples of India: Brahmins at top to untouchables at bottom. Muslims were also included at the bottom¹³. During the pre-Mughal era, there were few Muslims in India and Muslims had no position, respect or recognised standing in Indian society. This was so, because Muslims believed in One Almighty God, Who was never made, and Who cannot be seen with human eyes, touched or depicted as a manmade idol. Muslims had nothing to do with descriptions of idolatry or ate any food, which were prior-offered to idols. Muslims of India continued to be classified at the lowest rung of the societal ladder in India.
- 9) The Muslims of India, as a community, were circumstantially centred in a triangular aggression by Hindus, Sikhs and Christians. It was during these difficult times that Divine decision was taken to appoint two *Mujaddids* consecutively¹⁴.
- 10) There is therefore compelling need to comprehensively understand, exactly why Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad came to India and not to any Arabic speaking country, and so soon, after demise of his predecessor (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Bareilvi in 1831.
- 11) The Islamic era 13th *Hijri Mujaddid* was (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Bareilvi (1786-1831). He was born in Rae Bareli (near Agra) and travelled widely throughout most of northern regions of India and he did his level best to elevate Muslims to better recognition. However, there were also Sikhs¹⁵, who were also fighting for their own recognition and demanding

¹¹ In the main, other than those epics in the Mahabharata, the following were formal administrations ruling India: Delhi Muslim Sultanate 1206-1226. Five Muslim dynasties 1226-1526. Mughal Emperorship of India 1526-1858. British Raj from 1858-1947. India and Pakistan Independence in August 1947.

¹² Top to bottom: Brahmin (priests), Kshatriya (warriors), Vaishya (business), Shudra (farmers), Dalits (dirty jobs).

¹³ Lowest 5th tier comprised: *Dhobi, Motchi, Topas, and Chammar*, to mention a few in Indian terminologies.

¹⁴ The first was from 1761-1831 and the next was 1835-1908. Note: Maulana Muhammad Ali (1874-1951) was not a *Mujaddid* but most certainly helped in the ramification of the work of those *Mujaddids* during his life.

¹⁵ Sikhism was founded in 1469 by Guru Nanak Devji. He was succeeded by 9 other Gurus. Their Holy Scripture, the Guru Granth Maharaji is personified as the final Guru.

independence, both from the Mughals' Emperorship and later from the British Government, when India was under the British Raj till 1947. The Sikhs wanted total independence of the Punjab province, which they wanted to call as Khalistan¹⁶. In summary, the Sikhs were very much against the Mughal Empire¹⁷, the British and the Muslims at all times.

12) Bearing in mind that *Mujaddid* (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Barelvi was assassinated by the Sikhs in 1831¹⁸, Almighty God used His wisdom; and three years after the assassination of *Mujaddid* (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Barelvi, Almighty God planned the birth and arrival of *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad within the radius¹⁹ of the same country and also surrounded by Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. That was Divine intervention, without doubt. Hence, within 3 years of assassination, then the next *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is born (in 1835) and in 1883, he announced that he was the promised *Mujaddid* of the 14th Hijri. Whilst it is noted that *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad died in 1908²⁰, however, to provide further reinforcement to Islam, Maulana Muhammad Ali is born in 1874. This is further Divine intervention, in extending the work of the *Mujaddids*. He joined the followership of *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1897 and immediately began to act as the Defender of Islam, with outstanding zeal. At this juncture, it is important to note that neither of the two consecutive *Mujaddids* had the fluency of British English. The details of their combined defences against insulting attacks on Islam by the Hindus, Sikhs and Christians are quite broad and perhaps not to be covered in this article; the article would become quite extended and wordy. Except insofar as to mention that Hindus were very upset that their country, historically a Hindu environment, was conquered and commandeered by the Mughal Empire (as Muslims). The Sikhs, as earlier discussed, always wanted independence of their own country (Punjab), which they wanted

¹⁶ The history of Alexander the Great needs to be taken into consideration. The Indian campaign of Alexander the Great began around 326BC. When he departed Macedonia to conquer the world, he started with an army of 47,000 foot soldiers and each time he invaded a country, he took charge of the strongest and best soldiers from the army he defeated and then he added them to his victorious army. The end result was when Alexander the Great reached the Indus River in India, his army comprised of best soldiers of various past countries. They had left their families behind and they became landless in India. Hence they demanded to have a land of their own. The collective size of his army exceeded 100,000 foot soldiers at banks of river Indus. These soldiers then settled in Punjab and always demanded a land of their own. Consequently, their downstream descendants have continued to demand for independence from India. However, after the 1947 partition, much of Punjab was allocated to Pakistan. The expression Khalistan is taken to mean in Punjabi as "land of the Khalsa."

¹⁷ The Sikhs were always against the Mughal Empire and they wanted the Punjab Province to be independent.

¹⁸ The Ruler of Manshera, was Maharaja Ranjit Singh Balakoti. He ordered assassination of (Shaheed) *Mujaddid* Saiyad Ahmad Barelvi in 1831, in Balakot. Thereafter he ordered cremation of the body and scattered the ashes all over in Balakot. The reason for scattering the ashes was to prevent making of a mausoleum in that honour.

¹⁹ The distance from Balakot to Murar was 394 km before the partition of India/Pakistan in August 1947.

²⁰ There is only 77 years difference between dates of deaths of *Mujaddid* (Shaheed) Saiyad Ahmad Barelvi and *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. That shows Divine intervention in protectively strengthening Islam.

to be renamed as Khalistan. The Christians had the privilege of transferring denominations of Christians, visa-free from any member country elsewhere within the British Empire, to India.

- 13)** It is indeed necessary to marvel how Maulana Muhammad Ali handled these communal conflicts with diplomatic smoothness. The Hindu sect of Arya Samaj was founded on 10th April 1875, in Mumbai, India, by Swami Dayananda Saraswati (1824-1883), and who was assassinated in 1883 by his own folk. Swami Dayananda Saraswati had made very negative and disappointing criticisms against other faiths existing in India. This Arya Samaj sect is somewhat different from the mainstream Hindus, in that Arya Samaj followers believe in One God and do not worship idols, or practice any form of idolatry. Notwithstanding this very slight commonalty, the Arya Samaj followers were forever against Muslims. This hatred of Muslims by followers of Arya Samaj continued to wherever the Indian Diaspora took them to this day.
- 14)** Rather than resorting to open conflicting debates, Maulana Muhammad Ali resorted to writing academic religious articles in the newspaper called “Review of Religions”²¹ in 1902 and of which Maulana Muhammad Ali was its Editor since its inception. All the negativity, which other religions were brandishing against Islam were put to rest within a short period. Maulana Muhammad Ali continued to be its outstanding Editor from 1902 till his demise in 1951.
- 15)** Both *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and Maulana Muhammad Ali had to establish strong foundations of Islam and respond to attacks on Islam by the Hindus, Sikhs and Christians. This is where it became combined teamwork, initially. *Mujaddid* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was guiding with Divine inspirations and Maulana Muhammad Ali was able to reply immediately in perfect British English. All these happened between 1897 and 1908. Their responses left the Hindus, Sikhs and Christians speechless. The Christians asserted that Maulana Muhammad Ali had concealed a highly educated Englishman in his house and who was doing all the write-ups for Maulana Muhammad Ali.
- 16)** The Hindus, Sikhs and Christians had common agenda of hatred against Muslims. The Hindus of whatsoever sectarian division, believed and practised various descriptions of idolatry. The Sikhs were forever demanding their independence of having a State to themselves and the Mughals (as Muslims) did not allow that to happen. In addition, the Sikhs also tried the same demands with the British Raj and the British also did not allow that to happen. The Christians were propagating that Jesus Christ

²¹ The “Review of Religions” was the first religious publication ever produced by Muslims in English language.

was both son of God and fully God as part of the Trinity, which the Mughals were not accepting.

- 17)** In 1900 the size of British Empire was 72 countries and English was their official language. The total populations of all peoples in these 72 countries in 1900, came to 384 million people, but not including India; which alone had a significant population of 1.3 billion. At that time, there were two different streams of English in use. The normal (regularly spoken) English and then the specially worded but styled in legal drafting texts, which were written to mean exactly what was correct with no misunderstanding by the readers. Originally Maulana Muhammad Ali used the legal version of British English for his translation of the Holy Qur'an in 1917.
- 18)** Subsequently the Holy Qur'an was revised in 1951, 1963, 1973, and 1985, 1987-1999 and revised with new expanded index in 2002, together with additional information in footnotes, considering modern-era technological advancements and discoveries as mentions in footnotes.
- 19)** A certain point to remember is that Maulana Muhammad Ali never intended to be Maulana. He had initially chosen the academic stream to become as lecturer in mathematics and specialising also in English and Arabic languages. Later he became Molvi Muhammad Ali and few years later he became Maulana Muhammad Ali. Leaders of other religious communities were absolutely astounded by his knowledge. At this juncture, it is perhaps pertinent to mention the absolute brilliance of Maulana Muhammad Ali, who had devoted 51 years of his life to Ahmadiyyat²² as a soldier of Islam, where he fought in defence of Islam, only with his fountain pen.
- 20)** Having mentioned some of the significant attributes of Maulana Muhammad Ali, it is prudent that his life from infancy get recognised. Maulana Muhammad Ali was born at Murar, Kapurthala State, Punjab, India in December 1874. His father was Hafiz Fateh-ud-Din. Maulana Muhammad Ali had 6 brothers and 1 sister in Murar.
- 21)** Before delving deeper into the condensed life-history of the esteemed Maulana Muhammad Ali, it is indeed prudent to consider the inter-related windows of time lapses between the 13th *Hijri Mujaddid*, the 14th *Hijri Mujaddid* and the brilliance of Maulana Muhammad Ali, who was most capable to interface, to relay and to present their work deliverables, into a compact of the best British English translation of the Holy Qur'an ever. Added to his achievements are 62 books and so many leaflets, in succinct simplification and best comprehension of the religion of Islam.

²² Ahmadiyyat is taken collectively to mean Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore), founded in 1914. Ahmad was the birth name of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), explained in later footnote.

- 22)** Maulana Muhammad Ali and his brothers had to attend boarding schools at Kapurthala, travelling from Murar. There were no paved roads for motor vehicles in those days, so they had to use horse-tracks and carriages. He had to ride using horses for 20-miles journey to his school every 2 weeks for boarding. Journeys were 2 hours each way. Every 2 weeks the brothers came home for weekend breaks. After Maulana Muhammad Ali completed secondary school in Murar, he had to go to university.
- 23)** Thereafter Hafiz Fateh-ud-Din²³ moved his family from Murar to Lahore. This allowed them best education in India at Lahore Government College. The College was run by the British Raj for their British children, during the tenure of British civil servants in India. Even in his boarding school Maulana Muhammad Ali performed his prayers 5 times daily. He also studied Arabic language through to university. Maulana Muhammad Ali was excellent in Mathematics, English and Arabic and got his Bachelor of Arts in 1894, at the age of just 20 years. Surprisingly, Maulana Muhammad Ali topped the university Government College of Lahore defeating all the British students. Maulana Muhammad Ali loved and played the sports of cricket and soccer in his university days.
- 24)** Maulana Muhammad Ali then joined Central Teachers College in Lahore as Mathematics Lecturer. From 1894-1897 and now as Professor Muhammad Ali, he taught at Islamia College in Lahore.
- 25)** Maulana Muhammad Ali took employment at Islamia College Lahore, as Professor of Mathematics. It was his original ambition. In 1896, Maulana Muhammad Ali qualified with his Master of Arts in English and Mathematics at age of just 22 years and again topped the University of British students. However, whilst still lecturing as Professor of Mathematics and also studying as student in Law, Maulana Muhammad Ali was approached by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1897.
- 26)** In 1899, whilst still lecturing in Mathematics, Maulana Muhammad Ali (studied also as student in law) qualified with a Bachelor of Laws at the same university at age of 25. He was now BA; MA; and LLB in 1899.
- 27)** By this time, at age of just 25 years Maulana Muhammad Ali was the most educated person in his district with BA; MA; and LLB. Having completed his qualifications, Maulana Muhammad Ali went to Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad for blessings in 1900. Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad spoke to Maulana Muhammad Ali not to proceed with commencement of his private law practice as a Pleader²⁴ but to join Ahmadiyyat. Maulana Muhammad Ali attended many of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's discussions on Islam and Holy Qur'an and he made important notes from

²³ Hafiz Fateh-ud-Din, who was the father of Maulana Muhammad Ali, and he lived in Murar in Kapurthala.

²⁴ In Indian Law, a Pleader is a lawyer who drafts pleadings or actually pleads in court of law on behalf of the client.

1897-1908. At this point in time, Maulana Muhammad Ali was getting ready to set up his law practice in Lahore as Pleader, which was then as practised in British Legal system²⁵ in 1899. Maulana Muhammad Ali had already rented a house and set up his legal practice and ordered books on judicial precedents from UK. This was in 1899. Maulana Muhammad Ali did so and sold his practice to another lawyer, without going into the business as a practicing lawyer (as a Pleader).

- 28)** From then on Maulana Muhammad Ali was with Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad at every meeting function. Maulana Muhammad Ali joined the Ahmadiyya Movement of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1897 after taking *Bayt* directly with and on the hands of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. There were regular letter exchanges between Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and Maulana Muhammad Ali. This became the fastest steep learning curve.
- 29)** Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad started sending his writings to Maulana Muhammad Ali for translation into English. That period became the foundation layer of propagation of Islam into the English speaking world.
- 30)** For 51 years Maulana Muhammad Ali worked tirelessly day and night as Defender for Ahmadiyyat. Maulana Muhammad Ali fought back defensively with other religions' attacks on Islam with his fountain pen. Maulana Muhammad Ali was blessed by Almighty God. Maulana Muhammad Ali had experienced most extensive research ever by any religious leader, and read all the best Encyclopaedia with him throughout.
- 31)** After death of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1908, Maulana Nur-ud-Din led Ahmadiyyat as its caretaker leader from 1908-1914. Throughout 1908-1914, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's eldest son, Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad caused very serious rift in Ahmadiyyat. Bashir-ud-Din (then aged only 19) claimed that Almighty God spoke and told him (Bashir-ud-Din) directly that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was full-fledged Prophet.
- 32)** This happened after death of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1908.
- 33)** Further, Bashir-ud-Din said that Almighty God also told him that his father Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad did not even know he was Prophet, because he wasn't told. It is an established fact that all delivery of messages to Prophets are always done by Archangel Gabriel (*Jibreel*) and not to that person's son or other relatives! Regardless of how many times Maulana Muhammad Ali explained to Bashir-ud-Din that the finality of Prophets has

²⁵ Higher than a Pleader was an Advocate. The term lawyer is used with the similar meaning of Advocate in India, however, the official word is an Advocate as per the Advocates Act, 1961. Lawyers are also referred to as attorneys are known for their excellent argumentation and status so as to protect the law and give advice in all matters that require order. The term Advocate was aligned more towards appearances in the High Court, way back then in 1899.

already been sealed off in the Holy Qur'an at HQ33:40²⁶, and that Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) had publically declared at Urana Valley in 632AD, that no Prophet or Messenger will come after death of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), Bashir-ud-Din refused to listen and claimed himself as "son of prophet." The rift became deeper and wider. Bashir-ud-Din began lobbying support.

- 34)** Consequently in 1914, Maulana Muhammad Ali took immediate detour out of Ahmadiyya Movement of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and formed the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore). This was whilst still retaining the absolute truthfulness of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, as valid *Mujaddid* of the 14th *Hijri*: especially, who had declared several times that he was only a *Mujaddid* but not a Prophet or Messenger.
- 35)** Maulana Muhammad Ali registered the Ahmadiyya²⁷ Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) with 58 others as Trustees. The AAII was registered on 2nd May 1914 and on 3rd May 1914, there was a meeting of the newly appointed Council of Trustees. Maulana Muhammad Ali was elected Ameer of the community and its President. Other officials were also elected. In all 59 members were elected trustees. They all mortgaged their properties to raise funds, because Bashir-ud-Din took full custody of all assets and finances of the Ahmadiyya Movement, which was founded by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.
- 36)** Maulana Muhammad Ali explained that Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was last and final Prophet. Maulana Muhammad Ali stated the evidence in Qur'an at HQ33:40²⁸.
- 37)** Maulana Muhammad Ali also explained the Final sermon by Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) in 632AD at Mecca and then he died in 632AD at Medina.
- 38)** Thereafter, Maulana Muhammad Ali developed corroborative evidence needed to explain difference between Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-I-Islam Lahore and Qadiannis²⁹ in most of his books.
- 39)** Most importantly Maulana Muhammad Ali had established the English translation of the Holy Qur'an as best foundation base, for others to further translate the Holy Qur'an into their other languages. This was very important, as when other people attempted to directly translate the Holy Qur'an into their other languages, there would have been high incidences of interpretative material errors and so to cause confusions amongst other communities of Muslims. After Maulana Muhammad Ali

²⁶ HQ33:40 "Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things."

²⁷ The name Ahmadiyya was taken as the root from birth name Ahmad, of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), given by his parents before he was born and retained that name Ahmad until age of 6. His grandfather (Abu Muttalib) then changed from Ahmad to Muhammad, after Ahmad was orphaned and then relocated from Mecca to Medina.

²⁸ *Ibid*.

²⁹ Qadiannis (from Qadian) are followers of Bashir-ud-Din, who claim Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as a Prophet.

published his English translation of the Holy Qur'an, there were examples of other translations - but they were no match to legally drafted based style and corroborated English translation by Maulana Muhammad Ali.

- 40)** Arguments put forward by Maulana Muhammad Ali were logically correct and legally corroborated and left critics no room to challenge. Many courts throughout the world now use Maulana Muhammad Ali translations of the Holy Qur'an. Maulana Muhammad Ali stressed that regardless of whatsoever Muslims' schools of thoughts, all Muslims are Muslims. He further stressed that they all use the same Holy Qur'an, the same Hadiths and they all uphold the same five pillars³⁰ of Islam.
- 41)** Maulana Muhammad Ali proved to world from the Holy Qur'an all Prophets were Muslims (HQ22:78)³¹.
- 42)** Maulana Muhammad Ali proved from Hadith there were 124,000 past Prophets (Ahmad *ibn* Hanbal No 21257) out of which 313 were both Nabi and Rasul. Maulana Muhammad Ali stressed that people must differentiate Nabi from Rasul. He proved from the Holy Qur'an that all Prophets were humans (HQ25:20)³².
- 43)** Maulana Muhammad Ali proved from Holy Qur'an all humans must die (HQ29:57)³³. Maulana Muhammad Ali explained from Holy Qur'an every nation had Prophets (HQ10:47)³⁴. Maulana Muhammad Ali explained to world the meaning of seal of Prophets (HQ33:40)³⁵. He proved that Prophet Muhammad was final Prophet with his final farewell *Hajj* in Urana Valley in 632AD.
- 44)** Maulana Muhammad Ali explained: the Four Khalifa after the death of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*). No more Khalifa in Islam (explained Khalifa as successor to leader, such as Prophet). He also explained that the sudden demise of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) required a gradual closure of the event of Prophets and the four Khalifa were there to do just that. Thereafter there will not be any further Khalifa to Islam or to any other religion on Earth.

³⁰ The universal five pillars of Islam are: 1. Belief in only One Almighty God. 2. Performing prayers five times daily. 3. Giving towards charity. 4. Fasting during month of Ramadan. 5. Performance of Pilgrimage (*Hajj*).

³¹ **HQ22:78** "And strive hard for Allah with due striving. He has chosen you and has not laid upon you any hardship in religion — the faith of your father Abraham. He named you Muslims before and in this, that the Messenger may be a bearer of witness to you, and you may be bearers of witness to the people; so keep up prayer and give the due charity and hold fast to Allah. He is your Protector; excellent the Protector and excellent the Helper!"

³² **HQ25:20** "And We did not send before you any messengers but they surely ate food and went about in the markets. And We make some of you a trial for others. Will you bear patiently? And your Lord is ever Seeing."

³³ **HQ29:57** "Every soul must taste of death; then to Us you will be returned."

³⁴ **HQ10:47** "And for every nation there is a messenger. So when their messenger comes, the matter is decided between them with justice, and they are not wronged."

³⁵ **HQ33:40** "" *Ibid*

- 45) Maulana Muhammad Ali explained from the Holy Qur'an that every person must die (HQ3:185)³⁶.
- 46) Maulana Muhammad Ali also explained why only 25 names of Prophets were mentioned in the Holy Qur'an and not all 124,000 names as these 25 names were case studies for people to read and comprehend.
- 47) Rather importantly, Maulana Muhammad Ali proved from the Holy Qur'an the arrival of *Mujaddids* every *Hijri* (HQ24:55)³⁷.
- 48) Maulana Muhammad Ali authored the book "Religion of Islam" in English in 1936. It was the subtle combination of the two books of the Holy Qur'an and the Religion of Islam in English, which convinced thousands of people in England and other English spoken communities, to have been converting to Islam.
- 49) Maulana Muhammad Ali wrote a total of 62 books in his life.
- 50) Maulana Muhammad Ali died on 13th October 1951, at age of 76, after totally dedicating his life to Islam. His death was in Karachi, and he was buried in Lahore, Pakistan.

Conclusions: Appreciating Lifelong Dedication of Maulana Muhammad Ali:

- a) It was Divine Decision to place two *Mujaddids* in consecutive order in India, due to the united aggression by other communities against Muslims.
- b) Maulana Muhammad Ali was founder of Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore), which was registered on 2nd May 1914.
- c) Maulana Muhammad Ali, who was a Professor in education at the Government University in Lahore, was invited to abandon his practice as a Professor and as a lawyer, and join the 14th *Hijri Mujaddid* in the service of Islam, decided so spontaneously: and joined him in the service of Islam.
- d) Maulana Muhammad Ali was the first Muslim to translate the Holy Qur'an from Arabic language into English language in 1917. In 1936 Maulana Muhammad Ali wrote the Religion of Islam, which was the most concise description of the practises of Muslims ever written and which impressed many people to understand Islam and then converted to become Muslims.
- e) Maulana Muhammad Ali authored 62 books and he died on 13th October 1951 at the age of 76.

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³⁶ HQ3:185 "Every soul must taste of death. And you will be paid your reward fully only on the day of Resurrection. Then whoever is removed far from the Fire and is made to enter the Garden, he indeed attains the object. And the life of this world is nothing but a provision of vanities."

³⁷ HQ24:55 "Allah has promised to those of you who believe and do good that He will surely make them rulers in the earth as He made those before them rulers, and that He will surely establish for them their religion, which He has chosen for them, and that He will surely give them security in exchange after their fear. They will serve Me, not setting up any partner with Me. And whoever is ungrateful after this, they are the transgressors."