



Message from Hazrat Ameer

Dear Members of the Jama'at,

Assalaam-o-Alaikum Wa Rakhmatullahi Wa Barakaato Hoo.

I am very impressed with the first issue of ILAN. The efforts of all those who worked towards its production is commendable. I hope and pray that this venture will continue and Allah will make it a success. This will of course need the enthusiasm of the editorial team to continue together with active participation of contributors who will join the effort in the times ahead. Together we shall, Insha Allah, strive to improve the quality of this venture, which is now in its infancy.

Talking of quality I cannot help thinking of a great man who Allah has willed to call to the next life. Air Commodore Hamid Farooq son of the first Ameer-i-Jama'at, Hazrat Maulana Mohammad Ali, surrendered his soul to the Maker on 6th February 2004. He was involved in quality control of many institutions in Pakistan. When I last met him in Karachi he had just returned after assessing the quality of a prestigious hospital in Islamabad. I asked his advice about the control of quality of our Jama'at. His simple advice was "You should not say what you are going to do unless you mean to do it; and what you says you will do you must do." This he said ensures the quality of any institution or project. His words will always remain a guideline for me as I work to improve the affairs of the Jama'at.

As I pray for brother Hamid Farooq, I assure his soul that I have passed on his advice and renew the pledge to abide by it. May Allah bless his soul and grant him the highest place in the life ahead. *Aameen.*

Professor Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed



*Hazrat Maulana Hakeem Nur
ud Deen, the First Successor of
Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
Sahib of Qadian*

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*You can also download this newsletter from
<http://www.aaiil.org/ilan>*

The Islamic view on.... Serving Allah

Selected by Sarah Ahmed

Holy Quran

"Say: I am a mortal like you – it is revealed to me that your God is one God. So whoever hopes to meet his Lord, he should do good deeds, and join no one in the service of his Lord."

(Al Kahf 18:110)

Hadith

Narrated 'Abdullah:

The Prophet said, "Who among you considers the wealth of his heirs dearer to him than his own wealth?" They replied, "O Allah's Apostle! There is none among us but loves his own wealth more." The Prophet said, "So his wealth is whatever he spends (in Allah's Cause) during his life (on good deeds) while the wealth of his heirs is whatever he leaves after his death."

(Sahih Bukhari: Book 81 Chapter 12)

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib Qadiani

"You should rely on God completely and exert yourselves with great dedication, determination and valour. This is the time to serve God. There comes a time when a mountain of gold spent in His way cannot match a penny that is spent in these times... Do not think that you are doing any favour to God or to His appointed servant by sacrificing a part of your wealth, or by rendering a service in His way. Instead, it is actually a blessing from Him that He calls you to render this service. I say this unequivocally that even if all of you abandon me and do not participate in assisting me, God will raise a nation that will serve Allah and His cause. You should truly believe that this affair is from the heavens, and that your service is in fact for your own good. I dread the prospect that arrogance may enter your hearts, and that negligence from duty might find place in your minds. I say to you, again and again, that God does not stand in need of your services. Rather, it is His favour to you that He has given you the opportunity to serve Him."

(Proclamation in September 1903, regarding the publication of Review of Religions)

The News From...

ULOMON (Union of Lahore Ahmadiyya Organisations in the Netherlands)

Ahmadis Recognised As Muslims In The Netherlands

Al Hamdo Lillah. Our Jama'at in the Netherlands has achieved a major breakthrough. As elsewhere, in Holland too the Ahmadis were excluded from organisations and bodies representing Muslims, due to the obstructions of our Sunni brothers mainly from Pakistan and Surinam.

Brother Hikmat Mahawat Khan was waging a battle against this obstruction for the last two years. Allah Ta'ala has finally granted success through His infinite mercy, and the Government has recognised the Ahmadiyya Movement as Muslim representatives. The Government has gone on to declare that they will not accept any representative Muslim body without participation of Ahmadiyya Movement.

May Allah Ta'ala amply reward all those who strive in His way.



Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i-Islam Lahore Inc. USA

Certificate Of Approval

Al Hamdo Lillah. Al Azhar Al Sharif has issued a certificate of approval for "Muhammad in World Scriptures" by Maulana Abdul Haq Vidhayarhi.

Distribution of Booklets

The project to mail a set of booklets made up of *Jihad in Islam*, *Islam the Religion of Humanity* and *Prophet of Islam* to US senators, congressmen, government officials, editors of major newspapers and other opinion makers is proceeding well by the Grace of Almighty Allah. Mrs. Samina Malik after a great effort was able to get a list of addresses for the mailing.

Members have met over two weekends in Columbus Ohio and packed three thousand booklets for mailing. This mailing has exhausted the stocks of *Islam the Religion of Humanity* and *Prophet of Islam*, and as soon as shipment of these books is received from the printer, packing and mailing of the additional three thousand will be completed.

Jazak Allah to all who participated in this Jihad with such a spirit of enthusiasm and camaraderie. Members are requested to pray for the success of the project.

Lecture on Islam at the First Community Church

Dr. Noman Malik was invited by the First Community Church to give a talk on Islam on 4th February 2004. About fifty people were present at the lecture. Extracts from a letter by the organiser of the event, Mr. Lee Solis, thanking Dr. Noman for his presentation is given below:

"Your presentation was exactly what I had hoped for and it helped us all better understand the Islamic faith. Too often our media and our Government stress the differences between us rather than our similarities. We so desperately need to know that Islam and the Judio-Christian faith stem from the same root and that we

worship the same Creator regardless of how we name Him.

“When it fits your schedule I would like to arrange a return visit where we might have the opportunity to ask questions about those aspects of Islam which trouble us or which we do not fully understand. Please let me know if you would consider this or if you would prefer to enlighten us in some other manner.

“In the meantime, please know that your visit was most appreciated. You have my warm personal regards. May God/Allah bless you”.

Our Websites

Al Hamdo Lillah. With every passing day the message of Islam continues to reach more and more people across the world. Since the inauguration of our website, www.aaiil.org almost 4 years ago, 274 people have converted to Islam or joined our Jama'at through this medium. The latest convert was a British female (Previous religious association: Christianity; Age: 33 years) who accepted Islam on 15th Feb 2004.

New Imaam at the Berlin Mission

Chaudry Saeed Ahmad has relinquished charge as Imaam of Berlin Mission and come back to Pakistan to join his family in Islamabad. Eighteen years of dedicated service by him will be written in golden words in the history of the Jama'at. May Allah Ta'ala reward him for his efforts. Chaudry Riaz Ahmad has taken over as the new Imaam. Central Anjuman's Regional

Director for Europe Mr. Abdul Santoe traveled to Berlin to facilitate the changeover. The new Imaam has a challenging task ahead for which he has our good wishes and prayers.

Weddings



Hazrat Ameer's son Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed has married Uzma Chaudry granddaughter of Malik Saeed Ahmad Sahib. The Walima function was held at Darus Salaam Lahore on 1st January 2004. A large number of family, friends and Jama'at members from Pakistan and abroad attended. May Allah Ta'ala shower His blessings on the newlyweds.

Obituaries

During the month of February we have lost two very dear and important members of our Jama'at.

Inna lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.

Air Commodore Hamid Farooq, the youngest son of our first Ameer-i-Jama'at, Hazrat Maulana Mohammad Ali, passed away on 6th February 2004. His wife Zareen and two sons survive him. May Allah Ta'ala grant them the strength and patience to cope with this unbearable loss.

[This issue of ILAN is dedicated to the memory of Late Air Commodore Hamid Farooq].

Mrs. Hameeda Abdullah, the beloved wife of our legendary missionary, Master Muhammad Abdullah Sahib, surrendered her soul to the Maker on the morning of 9th February. Her Namaaz-i-Janaaza was held at The Chapel of Chimes (Muslim Section)

Hayward, near the last resting place of her late illustrious husband. Our heartfelt condolence to brothers Akbar, Zafar and Basharat Abdullah, sisters Salma and Fareeda and all other members of the bereaved family.

A Summary of the Friday Sermon

Tayyaba Anwar Ahmed

Qari Ghulam Rasool delivered the Friday Sermon at Jamiah Darus Salaam Lahore on 30th January 2004. The theme of the sermon was “ The Concept of Sacrifice in Islam”.

“Whose hearts tremble, when Allah is mentioned, and who are patient in their afflictions, and who keep up prayer, and spend of what We have given them.

“And the camels, we have made them of the signs appointed by Allah for you — for you therein is much good. So mention the name of Allah on them standing in a row. Then when they fall down on their sides, eat of them and feed the contented one and the beggar. thus have we made them subservient to you that you may be grateful.

“Not their flesh, nor their blood reaches Allah, but to Him is acceptable observance of duty on your part. Thus has He made them subservient to you, that you may magnify Allah for guiding you aright. And give good news to those who do good (to others).”

(Al Hajj 22:35-37)

It is by the mention of Allah’s name that an animal is sacrificed, and the meaning underlying it is that his or her own heart should tremble at the mention of that name. The principle of sacrifice in Islam has a very deep meaning. It signifies the sacrifice of the sacrificer himself, and becomes thus an

outward symbol of his readiness to lay down his life, if required, and to sacrifice all his interests and desires in the way of Allah.

The flesh of the animals sacrificed is not to be wasted, but it should serve as food for the poor and the needy as well as the contented.

It should also be borne in mind that the sacrifice is performed according to Sunnah. Islamic sacrifice does not in any way relate to the concept of atonement. Giving money to the poor or in charity cannot be the alternative of sacrificing an animal at *Eid-ul-Azha*.

We should always remember the real and underlying meaning of sacrificing an animal at *Eid* and should be prepared every moment to submit all we have, even our lives, in the way of Allah.

Do you think millions of people throughout the ages would have believed in prayer if it didn't work? Discover the power of prayer yourself. It's no secret! And it is available for free; all you have to do is try it.

My Cousin and Friend Hamid Farooq



Wing Commander Ehsan-ul-Haq TI(M)

Born at Lahore and buried at Karachi, Air Commodore *Hamid Farooq* was the youngest of the Late Maulana Muhammad Ali's children. He breathed his last on 6th February 2004 at the age of 76 years in one of Karachi's best hospitals where he had gone to pick up medicines for his wife Zareen

My memory takes me back to 1938 when he visited our ancestral village along with his mother to participate in my eldest sister's wedding. We were too young to be watching the various ceremonies connected with the wedding; instead we roamed about in a sandy barren patch of land not far from the house. He being one-year elder to me was the leading force who took me out and we wandered in our little world.

Again, time put us together in high school and Pakistan Air Force where he won accreditation for making friends easily but steering clear of mischief. He was awarded Sitara-i-Basalat and Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (Military). By training he was in the Maintenance and Technical Engineering

Branch where he served for over thirty years, including ten years at the Pakistan Air Force Base Sargodha – the elitist of the PAF Bases. He also had the singular honour of serving as the Air Attaché at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, China. At the end of his career he was sent on secondment to the Pakistan International Airlines where he made significant contributions to the manufacturing of precision instruments and calibration equipment.

As a young student in the United Kingdom in the late nineteen forties he was an active member of "Moral Rearmament" and regularly participated in their rallies. He was married and leaves behind a widow and two sons Aamir and Ahmad who mourn this modest industrious person along with many friends and relatives.

He never failed to help a friend, relative or colleague in need. A true patriot who will be long remembered as a person who set example for others to follow and was well known for meticulously following a strict regime of self-discipline and never missing an opportunity to display his virtue of leading from the front. It was perhaps due to his exemplary manners and God fearing qualities that Allah spared him from any serious illness in life. When he finally reported his presence to the mercy of Almighty Allah, he was on duty to his family. May Allah bless his soul and grant fortitude to the family to bear this great loss.

Inna lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.

All of us are living for Allah and we shall be returned to Him.

A Letter Of Advice

Tahira Fazl-i-Ahmed, Lahore Pakistan

While my father Maulana Muhammad Ali was in Quetta, he bid farewell to my younger brother Hamid Farooq who was leaving for England to pursue higher studies. At Quetta railway station, as the train was about to depart for Karachi, he gave him a sealed envelope, instructing him to open it on reaching England. The letter in the envelope read as follows:

Colvin Road, Quetta, 1 August 1948, 24 Ramadan

My dear Hamid,

May Allah keep you safe and sound.

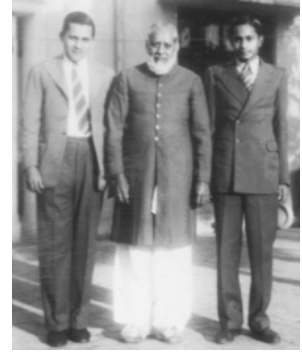
Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuhu.

I have reached an age where I am not sure if I will ever meet you again in this world's life. I am writing some words of advice that may guide you in your long journey.

- 1. Never forget that we have an Almighty God, Who helps us in our troubles and difficulties, and opens such ways for us as we could never imagine.*
- 2. Do not forget that each and every deed of ours is noted in God's record. If it is good, it leaves a beneficial effect upon us, if bad then a detrimental effect upon us. We may hide our shortcomings from people but never from God.*
- 3. Alcohol is the root of all evils. Never go near it -- never, never. Do not join in a gathering where alcohol is partaken.*
- 4. Keep up your daily prayers. Every morning make sure that you rise and say your prayers, and also recite a few verses of the Quran. Make it such a firm habit that it is the one thing that you never omit to do.*
- 5. Work hard and live a simple life. If you stick to these two habits, they will keep you happy all your life.*
- 6. Work very hard on your studies, but always keep in mind that you also do some work of service of your religion and good to humanity. Without this, there can be no bliss in life.*
- 7. Never hide this fact that, by the grace of God, we are Muslims, and we accept the Mujaddid of this century as our Imam — we are Ahmadis who do not accept the coming of any prophet after the Holy Prophet Muhammad, nor do we call as kafir anyone who professes the Kalima.*

If you try to live up to this advice, God will be pleased with you, your parents will also be pleased with you, and you yourself will be pleased as well. When I am gone, be very good to your mother.

*Wassalam,
Muhammad Ali*



Hazrat Maulana Mohammad Ali flanked by his two sons Mohammad Ahmed (left) and Hamid Farooq (Right) (Circa 1947)

From the day Hamid read this letter right up to his death he tried his best to shape and lead his life according to the advice given to him by his father who died in 1951 while Hamid was still away.

During his stay in England he led a very simple life spending his time in studies. In his spare time he mostly kept company with members of "Moral Rearmament" whose objective was to keep people away from vices such as drinking and immorality. There he made lifelong friends from some very good families.

On Sundays and other holidays he often visited Woking and helped Mrs. Abdullah entertain guests who came to visit the Mosque from all over the world.

His childhood was spent playing with his cousins and other Ahmadi children in the streets of Ahmadiyya Buildings. They all have fond memories of him as a gentle boy who never quarrelled or made fuss. For schooling up to the fourth class he went with his sisters to Queen Mary College where boys were allowed in junior school. After that he did his matriculation from Muslim High School and then graduated from Forman Christian College.

By nature he was a very quiet and unassuming person and never pushed himself forward in any way, but once you started talking to him you were surprised at how much knowledge he had of religion and world affairs. He knew the *Tafseer* of *Quran Shareef* so well that you could talk to him on any point thereof.

Whenever he was in the States he would attend the Convention in Columbus and take a lot of interest in the publication of books.

In Karachi, where he resided, he took a lot of interest in the Jama'at affairs. He was ever ready to give a lift for Jumma prayers to anyone who wanted. He was always ready to pick up foreign delegates from the airport and if need be to host them in his house, thus serving the Jama'at in his own quiet way. He was a member of the *Majlis-i-Mautimideen* (Council of Trustees) of the Central Anjuman for seven years.

Though the baby of the family, he grew up when our beloved brother Muhammad Ahmad passed away. He tried his best to keep an eye on all family matters and was there to sort out the problems, small or big, of his sisters. When posted in Risalpur, he visited his sister's house every morning when her husband was a prisoner of war in India. The family has indeed lost a beloved brother and a pillar of strength and the Jama'at a very quiet and sincere member.

To me he was not only my little brother but also a friend and a presence to whom I could turn to in all my troubles and joys.

With him gone so suddenly, I feel the best of the family of that great man, my dearest father, late Maulana Muhammad Ali is now in the other world in the highest place in heavens.

I pray to Allah that in His infinite mercy He will join us with them when our time comes. *Aameen*.

بلانے والا ہے سب سے پیارا
اسی پر اے دل تو جاں فدا کر

Bolaanai waala hai sub sai payaara

Ussee peh aiy dil too jaan fidaa ker

Some Memories

Ahmed Nawaz, California USA



The sudden death of Hamid Bhai was a shock to all of us. May Allah bless his soul. *Aameen.*

We had spent some time together at PAF Base Sargodha back in 1976/77. He was posted as Chief Maintenance officer at the largest PAF fighter base at that time, which is an honour in itself. I was working as a senior controller at HQ No.1 Air Defence Sector, which was located six miles away from the base. We were working under two different organisations. However we lived in the same domestic area and were members of the same Officers' Mess. Hamid Bhai, may Allah bless his soul, enjoyed a very good reputation as an officer and was respected by juniors and seniors alike.

We often called on each other and I enjoyed the pleasure of his company. I found him very truthful, humble and compassionate. He often talked about his childhood, which was spent, at Dalhowzey and Lahore. He was highly impressed by Maulana Abdul Haque Vidyarthi (God bless his soul). He once told me that Vidyarthi Sahib visited them at Dalhowzey and he enjoyed going for early morning walks with him because he told him a new story every morning and this continued over a period of one month.

Hamid Bhai had a peculiar face expression when he smiled. His face showed a childlike innocence. Some one tells me that he had inherited this from *KhalooJan Marhoom.* (God bless his Soul).

I'm standing on the seashore; a ship spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the ocean. I stand watching her until she fades on the horizon and someone at my side says, "She is gone." The loss of sight is in me not her. Just at the moment when someone says, "She is gone", there are others who are watching her coming. Other voices take up the glad shout, "Here she comes" and that is DYING.

Eid-ul-Adha Congregation at Jamiah Darus Salaam Lahore



The Pledge (Bai'at) Of a Lahori Ahmadi

"I bear witness that there is no God but Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, is His servant and His messenger."

1. I declare in all sincerity that from now till I am laid in the grave, I will desist from associating anyone with Allah.
2. I will shun falsehood, adultery, sensual gaze and all kinds of inequity and impiety and perfidy and sedition, disloyalty, and will not submit to carnal passions under the most provocative instigation.
3. I will regularly perform my prayers five times in accordance with the injunctions of Allah and the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and so far as possible, I will say the Tahajjud Prayers (Voluntary Nightly Prayers), and call for Blessings on the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him (Darood), and seek Allah's forgiveness and will crave for His mercy.
4. I will not inflict any injury on the people generally, and in particular on the Muslims, under any undue provocation by tongue or hand or in any other manner.
5. I will ever remain faithful to Allah under all circumstances whether in grief or respite, or distress or prosperity, and will be always content with Allah in calamity, and will be ready to bear willingly any disgrace and affection in His path, and will not abandon Him on occurrence of any calamity; but instead will move forward.
6. I will abstain from following the traditional customs, and indulging in licentiousness. I will comply fully with the Quranic injunctions, and will follow in every way, the commandments of Allah and the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.
7. I will entirely shun arrogance, haughtiness, and will spend my life in humility, and meekness, politeness and gentleness in consonance with the Quranic injunctions as contained in verse 63 of Chapter al-Furqan: "And the servants of the Beneficent are they, who walk on the earth with humility," and in verse 37 of Chapter Bani Israel: "And go not about in the land exultingly."
8. I will keep the Faith, and the honour of the Faith, and my sympathies with Islam, dearer than my life, my honour, and my wealth and my children, and, even more precious than everything dear to me.
9. I will be compassionate with all mankind for Allah's sake only, and as far as possible, I will utilise my God-given energies to benefit them with Allah's favours.
10. I will maintain fraternal relations with Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, exclusively for Allah's sake with the pledge for submission in the right cause till my death, and in this fraternal kinship will be so thoroughly steadfast as to be above all blood relations and connections, and all subjugatory positions.