



*Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful*

..... **The HOPE Bulletin** .....

Health, Ongoing Projects, Education



(Vol. 4:2)

August 2009

AAIIL Worldwide Edition

Editor: Akbar Abdullah

CALIFORNIA JAMA'AT PROJECT: APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL ANJUMAN, LAHORE

## INTRODUCTION

### **Editor's Notes**

*Bismillah!* With the grace of Allah and with your support and prayers and with the blessings of Hazrat Ameer, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed, and the *Jama'at*, we are stepping into the fourth year of publication of this esteemed journal, *The HOPE Bulletin*. *Jazak Allah!*

We hope that in the past year we have been able to meet your expectations and have kept your interest alive. We strongly urge you to submit your contributions regularly and give us your feedback.

The year 2009 is the fourth calendar year since we embarked on the project of *The HOPE Bulletin*. The “*Du'a-e-shifa*” and “*Obituary announcement & condolence*” services were in place. *Alhamdollillah*, we are pleased that we were able to bring these timely services to you and now we seek your prayers that Allah (*swt*) gives us health, strength and stamina to continue this very useful mission for the *Jama'at*.

While we try our very best to produce an informative monthly *Bulletin* for our readers, we are somewhat concerned that a fair number of our worldwide *Jama'at* members still do not have access to this publication. We urge our global *Jama'at* Secretaries to provide us with an updated list of readers, especially young members of the *Jama'at*, so that we can send forward the *Bulletin* to them.

*Inshaa Allah*, beginning next month, we will introduce a new column, “*History of (name) Jama'at*”, enabling our readers to learn how an individual or group of pioneers established a *Jama'at* in a particular country and what were their sacrifices and contributions in shaping the *Jama'at* and how that *Jama'at* has flourished. We have entrusted this task to our knowledgeable brother, Captain Abdus Salam Khan, who will start with the efforts of a pioneer from Lahore who established a viable *Jama'at* in Indonesia in a span of 20 years. *Alhamdollillah!*

As our Lahore Ahmadiyya population has grown worldwide, there is a dire need to focus on community building and establishment of worldwide brotherhood, with respect for one another and respect for leadership of the *Jama'at*.

### **Greetings on *Ramadan Al-Mubarik***

I join my wife Parveen and *The HOPE Bulletin* team in wishing you, your family, and the *Jama'at* immense joy, happiness and spiritually fulfilling greetings on the blessed month of *Ramadan Al-Mubarik* 2009 /1430 AH. May Allah (*swt*) bless you all and keep you under His protection and His care at all times. *Aameen*.

## **JAMA'AT NEWS**

### **First day of *iftar* at Oakland Mosque, California**

On Saturday, August 22, the first day of Ramadan, *iftari* and prayers were held at the AAIIIL Oakland Mosque. The event was hosted by Group Captain (Retd.) and Begum Ahmad Nawaz and family.

*Jazak Allah!* The highlight of the evening was the performance rendered by young children of the families residing around the Bay Area of San Francisco. The children participated in the following order, and except for Hamza Ahmad, their photographs may be viewed in the "Photographic Presentation" section.

1. Hamza Ahmad, who recited the Holy Qur'an and spoke on it in English.
2. Ridda Ahmad, who delivered a brief speech in English on the merits of fasting.
3. Abyer Ahmad recited some verses of the Holy Qur'an.
4. Aleema Majid recited a few verses and spoke on Holy Qur'an in English.
5. Haseep Majid recited a few verses of the Holy Qur'an.
6. Saira Ahmad spoke briefly on the essence of Holy Qur'an.

The evening's programme continued with Br Jaffar Ali Buksh, Vice-President, AAIIIL Oakland, who read out Hazrat Ameer's Ramadan message, followed by a speech on the blessed month of Ramadan rendered by Haji Dr. Hameed Jahangiri Sahib. The formal programme concluded with a closing *du'a* offered by Maulvi Mohammad Mustapha, President of AAIIIL, Oakland.

A large number of members from various localities of the San Francisco Bay Area attended the first day Ramadan *iftari* with their family members. The evening's programme concluded with *iftari*, congregational prayers and a sumptuous dinner. *Alhamdollillah!*

### **Daily Ramadan Qur'an study**

*Jazak Allah!* We are blessed again to receive daily Ramadan Qur'an reading with commentary notes from our brother, Dr. Zahid Aziz, Editor of *The Light*, UK edition. These useful mini-*dars-ul-Qur'an* can be accessed by clicking on the following link: <http://ahmadiyya.org/WordPress/>

### **First ever live broadcast from the Center**

This year the *Tarbiyyati* courses were held at the Center from August 2<sup>nd</sup> till the 12<sup>th</sup>. Most of the sessions, and including the *Janaza* of Dr. Hami Sahib Marhoom, were broadcasted live. Kindly click on the following link to access the *Tarbiyyati* courses placed on archive: [www.ustream.tv/channel/atc2009](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/atc2009).

## **HEALTH & PRAYER NEWS**

### **Request for *du'a-e-shifa***

We urge the members of our global "Prayer Circle" to kindly continue their prayers of *shifa* for Dr. Khaliel Ghafoerkhan of Paramaribo, Suriname who will soon undergo delicate heart bypass surgery on his clogged arteries, and for Br Saeb Lalla, senior member of AAII, New Zealand, who has become considerably frail after his release from hospital. May Allah have mercy on both of them and on our other ailing brothers and sisters in our worldwide *Jama'ats*.

We thank Allah (*swt*) that with His bountiful mercy Br Nur Alam, nephew of Br Jaffar Ali Buksh, was given a clean bill of health and released from Washington Hospital in Fremont, California.

### ***Du'a of shifa* from Shaukat A. Ali, Bangkok, Thailand**

Dear Brother Dr. Khaliel and Sister Mary,  
*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuhu.*

We were deeply saddened to note that you may require surgery and have been praying for your speedy and complete recovery which leaves no ailment behind – *aameen*.

In the meantime, as Ramadan Kareem has commenced today, I wish you and your loved ones a fruitful spiritual sustenance. May Allah *Ta'ala* facilitate the successful completion of the holy month.

### **Condolences on the demise of Begum Sabiha Parveen Marhooma**

**Ahamed Hosein, President of Toronto *Jama'at***

*Assalaam O Alaikum.*

Choudry Masud Akhtar at [masudchoudry@yahoo.com](mailto:masudchoudry@yahoo.com) and Group Captain Ahmad Nawaz at [AhmadNawaz1@aol.com](mailto:AhmadNawaz1@aol.com).

On behalf of the Toronto *Jamaat* of AAII (Lahore) I extend our deepest sympathy for the passing of Begum Sabiha Parveen, wife of the Late Mher Khan Muhammad, who expired after one week's confinement in Ganga Ram Hospital in Lahore at 9:00 PM in the evening of Tuesday, August 4, 2009.

Allah knows best & we are to accept what he decree for us

### **Shaukat A. Ali, Bangkok, Thailand**

Dear brothers Choudry Masud Akhtar sahib and Ahmad Nawaz sahib  
*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuhu.*

We are deeply saddened to note the death of sister Begum Sabiha Parveen sahiba. *Inna-lillahe wa inna Ilaihi rajioon*. We pray that Allah *Ta'ala* grant the departed soul eternal peace and abode in the highest pedestal of *Jannat-ul Firdous* – *aameen*.

I was in Lahore at the time and attended the *Janaza* Prayers and internment at the graveyard at Darus Salaam after *Fajr* Prayers.

Our prayers are with you and other surviving members of the bereaved family. We pray that Allah *swt* grant all of you strength, fortitude and *sabr* to bear this sad loss.

Please convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to all the members of the bereaved family and to the members of the *Jamaat*.

## **HEALTH INFORMATION**

[Courtesy Sister Akela Haroun]

### **Blood Clots/Stroke - They Now Have a Fourth Indicator, the Tongue**

**STROKE:** Remember the first three letters: S.T.R.

#### **STROKE IDENTIFICATION**

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall. She assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics). She said she had just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes.

They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken, Ingrid went about enjoying herself the rest of the evening.

Ingrid's husband called later telling everyone that his wife had been taken to the hospital. Then at 6:00 pm Ingrid passed away. She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Ingrid would be with us today. Some don't die; they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough.

#### **RECOGNIZING A STROKE**

Remember the three steps: STR.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking the three steps:

**S:** Ask the individual to SMILE.

**T:** Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (coherently. For example, It is sunny out today).

**R:** Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call emergency immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

#### **New Sign of a Stroke – Stick out Your Tongue**

**NOTE:** Another sign of a stroke is this: Ask the person to stick out his/her tongue. If the tongue is crooked, if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

# **ALL ABOUT US**

## **Abul-Ata Mirza Khuda Bakhsh**

[Author of *Asl-e-Massafa*]  
(1859-1937)

(Based on the account in the compilation *Yad-i-Raftigaan*.  
Translated and adapted by Masud Akthar Choudry, Secretary, AAAIL, Hayward, CA, USA.)

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was born in Jhang City in the Punjab Province. His father's name was Mirza Murad Bakhsh.

### **Seeking knowledge/Education**

From childhood Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was very fond of study. Reading, in addition to his prescribed study books, and gaining knowledge, were his dearest hobby.

He passed his Matriculation (High School) examination in the First Division, obtaining such high marks that he was admitted to Government College, Lahore, where only students who had excelled were considered for admission.

In those days there was no direct rail connection between Lahore and Jhang. The railway ran only between Lahore and Karachi. The motor vehicle had not yet been invented so people used to travel by horse cart or on foot. Mirza Khuda Bakhsh used to walk to Cheecha Watni, the nearest railway station on the Karachi-Lahore rail link, a distance of thirty miles from Jhang, and he used to take the railway for Lahore from Hill Station.

He had to drop out of college in his fourth year due to his family's unfavourable economic conditions. Though financial difficulties did not allow him to complete his BA degree, his love for knowledge did not keep him back and he passed the Munshi Fazal (with honours in Persian), Maulvi Fazal (with honours in Arabic), and the Bachelor of Literature (B.O.L) examinations of the Punjab University with distinction. These qualifications enabled him to be appointed as a Translator in the High Court of the Punjab in Lahore.

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was a devotee of the religion of Islam even from his student days, and was fond of Islamic studies. In those days, whenever he knew that *dares-e-Qur'an* or *dares-e-Habit* were being delivered anywhere in Lahore, particularly in the Mashed-e-Chiniawali and Masjid Boharwali, as he was a member of the Ahl-e-Hadith school of thought, he used to attend.

During his service as Translator, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh started Friday prayer for Muslim employees of the High Court. Other Muslims residing or working in the vicinity of the High Court also attended, and Mirza Khuda Bakhsh used to give the *khutbah* and lead the prayer. The Christian British Registrar of the High Court, who was an Indian Civil Servant, vehemently protested by saying: "You people are not only wasting valuable Government time but are also engaging in provocation." Mirza Khuda Bakhsh strongly resented this attitude and told the Registrar that nobody could stand in his way as he was delivering the message of Allah and His Messenger (pbuh), and advised him to cooperate with the Government which had granted them the freedom to practice their religion. Mirza Khuda Bakhsh made it clear that the

Registrar could give up his job but that he, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh, will not bear the Registrar's unfair behaviour. This gave a clear message to the Registrar and he did not bring up the matter again.

### **Joining Ahmadiyyat**

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh used to say that he was being made a Civil Judge and was being posted to Peshawar (which in those days was in the jurisdiction of the Lahore High Court) when, just at that time, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian claimed to be the *Mujaddid*, and later Promised Messiah and Mahdi. This resulted in consternation amongst the people and the majority of the *'ulama* resorted to *takfir* (declaring him a *kafir*). Mirza Khuda Bakhsh desired to see this claimant to being Allah's appointee and he proceeded to Qadian and stayed there for six days. He recorded his impressions of that visit in his book *Asl-e-Mussaffa* in these words:

“On seeing his face and appearance, my conscience bore witness that this is not the face of an imposter. His speech had the effect of winning the hearts like an electric current and his writings were so forceful that no pen could stand against them. A few days spent in his company were a panacea for the seekers after truth, and a special state of pleasant stupor will be experienced by joining with him in the offering of *salah* (prayer).”

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was so impressed by the Promised Messiah's spiritual state, excellent qualities of mind and character and devotion and dedication to the cause of the honour of Islam and the Holy Prophet (pbuh) that he quit his job and went to reside in Qadian. The Promised Messiah provided him with accommodation in a part of his own house. Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was a great devotee of the Promised Messiah and the Promised Messiah was so kind to him that when Mirza Khuda Bakhsh's two elder sons, Mirza Ata-ur-Rahman and Mirza Habib-ur-Rahman, were born, the Promised Messiah's wife breastfed them out of love, thus they became foster brothers of the sons of the Promised Messiah.

### **Tabligh activities**

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh spent a long period of his life with the Promised Messiah as his sincere devotee. He writes in *Asl-e-Mussaffa*:

“The closeness and honour which this humble one enjoyed in the sight of the Promised Messiah was a matter of emulation for many persons. An elder was shown in a dream that I was Zarar ibn al-Azwar. I was wondering what affinity I had with Zarar ibn al-Azwar, who was a great and eminent companion of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), who had great fame for taking part in *jihad* in many battles, and who was so brave that he would singlehandedly attack the army of the unbelievers, killing many and causing many others to flee. Maybe in the present *jihad*, when the boisterous ocean of *takfir* was raging and slurs and vituperation were being hurled from all directions, I too had set out all alone, without any means, and faced hundreds of them and performed *tabligh* to thousands and not even for a moment did I have any feelings of fear or intimidation.”

It was not easy to live a life full of such strife by giving up all the lures of the world. It was only the spiritual grace of the Promised Messiah which generated in Mirza Khuda Bakhsh a true spirit of giving prominence to religion over worldly concerns.

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh participated in debates with renowned *'ulama* in various cities of India and by disproving their false and erroneous beliefs, presented the true face of Islam.

In his *tabligh* mission, visited Delhi, Gwalior, Madras, Bangalore, Mysore, Karachi, Bhopal, Dera Ghazi Khan, Jhang, and Khairab, Hyderabad Deccan, Lucknow, Aligarh, Simla, Kashmir etc. where he

delivered public speeches and held, and won, public debates with renowned ‘*ulama* of those cities. He also engaged in *tabligh* on an individual level with Nawab Sikandar Nawaz in Hyderabad Deccan, Mirza Hemayun Qadr in Lucknow, Hakim Hasan Raza in Delhi, Maulvi Abdul Haq in Shamsabad, Malik Umar Hayut Khan Tiwana in Shahpur, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and his son, Mr Justice Mahmud, in Aligarh, and His Highness Nawab Ahmad Ali Khan, the ruler of Malirkotha State, in Simla, whose brother, Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, who had joined Ahmadiyyat, was so impressed by the knowledge, understanding, intellect, honesty and truthfulness of Mirza Khuda Bakhsh that he appointed him as his private secretary and made him an instructor and guide in his children’s education.

### ***Hakim***

During his stay in Mahir Ketla, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh became acquainted with a *sanyasi* (one who roams in forests and treats diseases with herbs that grow there). He started going into the forest with this *sanyasi*, who showed him the various herbs and explained their healing qualities to various diseases. This generated a love in Mirza Khuda Bakhsh for treating diseases and he travelled to Kashmir to gain knowledge about various herbs which grow there. On his return he became a pupil of Hakim Maulana Nur-ud-Din, and at the age of fifty-five he passed the Zubda-tal-Hukma examination, which was offered by the Punjab University, obtaining first place and receiving a gold medal. Later, he excelled so much as a *hakim* that Dr Syed Tufail Hussan Shah and Dr Mirza Yakub Beg sent patients that they were not able to cure to him, and many of them recovered as a result of his treatment. During Maulana Nur-ud-Din’s last ailment just before his death, when treatment by the leading doctors was not working, Maulana Nur-ud-Din would say that, if anyone could treat his disease successfully, it was his pupil Mirza Khuda Bakhsh.

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh had many certificates of excellence issued by many great personalities of his time. One day, when Dr Abdul Aziz, personal physician to His Highness, the Nawab of Maler Kotla, saw those certificates, he said that Mirza Khuda Bakhsh could get the highest job anywhere based on the certificates. On hearing this, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh tore all the certificates of merit and threw them away saying: “In your opinion these are my sustainer and provider. Nay, I only trust in Allah. He alone is my *Raziq* (Provider/Sustainer).”

### ***Asl-e-Mussaffa***

Perhaps Mirza Khuda Bakhsh’s greatest accomplishment was his book *Asl-e-Mussaffa* (The Purest Honey). While Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was living in the Promised Messiah’s company, Allah put in him a desire to write a book which could serve the purpose of true service to Islam and Ahmadiyyat. He writes in a pamphlet that he had been praying to Allah constantly for the fulfilment of this desire of his and Allah had accepted his prayers as He had been accepting his *tabligh-e-haqq*, which was very well received in common men. Maulana Nur-ud-Din, Maulana Abdul Karim Sialkoti and Hazrat Maulvi Syed Muhammad Ahsan Amrohi appreciated this pamphlet very much and the Promised Messiah asked Mirza Khuda Bakhsh to read it out to him in the *masjid* after prayers. On hearing it in full, the Promised Messiah expressed his pleasure.

This encouraged Mirza Khuda Bakhsh and he thought if he wrote a book that too will be well-received by the public. He had done extensive research about every topic covered in this book. He consulted hundreds of books in Arabic, Persian, Urdu and English in various libraries in India. He went through many *tafsirs*, books of *Hadith* and *fiqh* and on the history of Islam. This book became a source of guidance for thousands of people and many persons, scholars of *deen* and debaters became Ahmadis after reading it.

The Promised Messiah asked Mirza Khuda Bakhsh to read this book in the *masjid* after *Maghrib* prayers and Mirza Khuda Bakhsh did so, completing it after many months. When the entire book had been read out, the Promised Messiah expressed his pleasure saying that Mirza Khuda Bakhsh had written a most

excellent book such that none of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's followers had written to that day. Maulvi Nur-ud-Din was full of admiration for this book so much so that one *Eid*, in the presence of the Promised Messiah, he praised it in his *khutbah*. Maulvi Muhammad Ali used to call it an encyclopaedia of Ahmadiyyat and he once wrote: "One is astonished as to how one person has been able to collect so much information and then arrange it in such an excellent manner that nothing better could possibly have been done by anyone else."

*Asl-e-Mussaffa* covered 1400 pages and was published in two volumes. Maulvi Murtaza Khan praised it in Urdu verse thus:

*Lakhon ko too may dar-se ilmo huda diya  
Apni qalam say asle mussafa laha diya.*

(To hundreds of thousands you have given a lesson of knowledge and guidance  
Through your pen you have let the purest honey flow.)

In recognition of Mirza Khuda Bakhsh's knowledge and his devotion to the cause of religion, the Promised Messiah included him as one of the members of a deputation which was selected to tour the Middle East. Unfortunately, this deputation could not proceed for some reasons.

### **Joining Lahore Jama'at**

On the passing away of Maulana Nur-ud-Din, when Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad presented his false beliefs to the people, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh protested strongly and opposed those beliefs and refused to take *bai'at* at Mirza Bashir-ud-Din's hand. Due to the close friendly relations between the two families, Mirza Mahmud Ahmad was keen to have Mirza Khuda Bakhsh in his *jama'at* and offered that Mirza Khuda Bakhsh could keep his opposing beliefs and yet take the *bai'at*. Mirza Khuda Bakhsh agreed but kept up his *jihad* against those beliefs relentlessly and when he saw that it had become harder for people like him to remain in Qadian then, along with other scholarly people, he moved to Lahore and participated in laying the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i Islam Lahore in 1914. For some time he worked as the Assistant Secretary to the Anjuman, while practising as a *hakim* in Lahore.

### **Personal life**

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh's personal life was a mirror of piety, righteousness, *tawakul-billah* (complete reliance and dependence on Allah), and virtue. In addition to the five compulsory daily prayers, he never missed his *Tahajjud* prayers and used to offer *nafil* prayers up to *Fajr* prayer. After *Maghrib*, he used to recite prayers from the Qur'an and the *Hadith* repeatedly for a long time. He used to tell his children to offer prayers regularly and at times would sternly make them offer prayers if he saw any laxity on their part.

He led a very simple life and had no love for worldly gains or riches. He had a very strong faith in Allah, that Allah alone is sufficient to fulfil his needs.

He spent money for his children's higher education without reservation.

His prayers were accepted and he used to get true dreams and *roya* and sometimes he used to foretell happenings which proved true. A few days before his death he said that his son, Mirza Aziz-ur-Rahman, who had obtained his PhD from Berlin University and was returning home via the Middle East after five years, will meet him soon. This proved true when Mirza Aziz-ur-Rahman died of appendicitis in August 1937, a few months after his father's death.



Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was not keeping well for some time due to old age. His digestive system had been failing and he often suffered from attacks of diarrhoea, which rendered him very weak. His eyesight was also affected by ailment, but he was mentally sound till the end. Two days before his death, he told his family that he will leave them after two days. When the two days had passed, he enquired from them the time and when he was told that it was nine o'clock in the morning, he said: "I am here for only two months." At 11:05 on 6 April 1937 he breathed his last. *Inna lillah-e-wa inna Ilaih rajoon.*

Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was survived by his sons, Mirza Habibur Rahman, M.A., Vice-Principal, New Muslim College, Mirza Khaliur Rahman, B.A.B.T, who retired as Headmaster Muslim High School, Mirza Hameedur Rahman, Planning Officer Health, Government of West Pakistan, and Mirza Aziz-ur-Rahman, Bsc(Pb), Msc.(Aligh), PhD (Berlin), who also had worked as *Imam* of the Berlin Mosque for two years (and died August 1937).

## **PUBLICATION**

### **Web link to *The HOPE Bulletin* on Central Anjuman's official website**

The aail.org Webmaster will place online, at <http://aail.org/text/articles/hope/hopebulletin.shtml>, some selected issues of *The HOPE Bulletin* and some articles and special photographic supplements which do not carry any sensitive or confidential matters of our worldwide *Jama'at*.

### ***The Muslim Prayer Book with CD-ROM***

Now available from the U.K. *Jama'at*. The computer CD plays the sound of all the prayers given in the book. Each syllable is pronounced distinctly.

*Published by:* Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at Islam Lahore (U.K.)  
Darus Salaam, 15 Stanley Avenue, Wembley, HA0 4JQ

### **Book review by Muslim P. Salamat of *Leitner and the Woking Mosque* by Khalid Ahmed**

A Miracle at Woking: A History of the Shahjahan Mosque; by Muslim P Salamat; Phillimore London 2008; Pp. 130; price £9.99

Please click on the following link (courtesy Shahid Aziz) to read the review:

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009%5C08%5C30%5Cstory\\_30-8-2009\\_pg3\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009%5C08%5C30%5Cstory_30-8-2009_pg3_5)

### **Dr. Zahid Aziz's comments on this book**

*Assalamu alaikum.*

A "book review" should make comments about the quality and value of the book in the reviewer's eyes. This is not a book review at all. It simply reproduces various sections of the book. Much of the historical part of this book has been copied directly from material I compiled and published on the website [www.wokingmuslim.org](http://www.wokingmuslim.org).

Almost all the historical photographs are taken from my website. The very first photo, which is on page 2, is of a postcard dated 1905 with the mosque on it. That postcard belongs to me. I purchased it from a

secondhand postcard dealer and published it on the Woking website.

Then there are the reports sent by Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din sahib to Maulana Nur-ud-Din sahib published in *Badr*, quoted in this book. Where did the author get them from? He doesn't give any reference. A few years ago, I spent days going through issues of *Badr* tracing out all such reports. After I created the Woking Mission website I translated them into English and placed them on the website. This author has just copied them from there.

Nowhere does this author mention that he obtained extensive material from my website.

### **UK Convention 2009 Videos [courtesy Mudassar Aziz, United Kingdom]**

Brother Mudassar Aziz of the United Kingdom writes:

“After much hard work from Haider the Sat/Sun videos are now online for people to watch.

Please visit the homepage where you will see the link near the bottom of the page. Please note that to watch the video (or to select any of the links from the homepage) you need to select the first part of the text which appears in green (i.e. move the mouse/cursor over the words “International Centenary Convention” and then select this and it will take you to the convention page).

<http://www.virtualmosque.co.uk/>

For those who have trouble getting to the page the direct link is:

<http://www.virtualmosque.co.uk/convention.php>

### **VirtualMosque, United Kingdom records Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> sermon**

Kindly click on the following link to view Br Shahid Aziz delivering Friday *khutba/daras* as recorded on the U-tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IFOucCb5no>

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

[Courtesy Brother Muhammad Ameen Sahu Khan]

Two teenagers asked their father if they could go to the theatre to watch a movie that all their friends had seen. After reading some reviews about the movie on the Internet, he denied their request.

“Ah dad, why not?” they complained. “It's rated PG-13, and we're both older than thirteen!”

Dad replied: “Because that movie contains nudity and portrays immorality as being normal and acceptable behaviour.”

“But dad, those are just very small parts of the movie! That's what our friends who've seen it have told us. The movie is two hours long and those scenes are just a few minutes of the total film! It's based on a true story and good triumphs over evil, and there are other redeeming themes like courage and self-sacrifice. Even the movie review websites say that!”

“My answer is ‘no,’ and that is my final answer. You will not go and watch that film. End of discussion.”

The two teenagers walked dejectedly into the family room and slumped down on the couch. As they sulked, they were surprised to hear the sounds of their father preparing something in the kitchen.

They soon recognized the wonderful aroma of brownies baking in the oven, and one of the teenagers said to the other, "Dad must be feeling guilty, and now he's going to try to make it up to us with some fresh brownies. Maybe we can soften him with lots of praise when he brings them out to us and persuade him to let us go to that movie after all."

The teens were not disappointed. Soon their father appeared with a plate of warm brownies, which he offered to his kids. They each took one.

Then their father said, "Before you eat, I want to tell you something: I love you both so much."

The teenagers smiled at each other with knowing glances. Dad was softening.

"That is why I've made these brownies with the very best ingredients. I've made them from scratch. Most of the ingredients are even organic; the best organic flour, the best free-range eggs, the best organic sugar, premium vanilla and chocolate."

The brownies looked mouth-watering, and the teens began to become a little impatient with their dad's long speech.

"But I want to be perfectly honest with you. There is one ingredient I added that is not usually found in brownies. I got that ingredient from our own back yard. But you needn't worry, because I only added the tiniest bit of that ingredient to your brownies. The amount of the portion is practically insignificant. So go ahead, take a bite and let me know what you think."

"Dad, would you mind telling us what that mystery ingredient is before we eat?"

"Why? The portion I added was so small, just a teaspoonful. You won't even taste it."

"Come on, Dad; just tell us what that ingredient is?"

"Don't worry! It is organic, just like the other ingredients."

"Dad!"

"Well, OK, if you insist. That secret ingredient is organic ... dog poop."

Both teens instantly dropped their brownies back on the plate and began inspecting their fingers with horror.

"Dad! Why did you do that? You've tortured us by making us smell those brownies cooking for the last half hour, and now you tell us that you added dog poop! We can't eat these brownies!"

"Why not? The amount of dog poop is very small compared to the rest of the ingredients. It won't hurt you. It's been cooked right along with the other ingredients. You won't even taste it. It has the same consistency as the brownies. Go ahead and eat!"

“No, Dad ... Never!”

“And that is the same reason I won’t allow you to go watch that movie. You won’t tolerate a little dog poop in your brownies, so why should you tolerate a little immorality in your movies?”

We pray that Allah (*swt*) will not lead us unto temptation, so how can we in good conscience entertain ourselves with something that will imprint a sinful image in our minds that will lead us into temptation long after we first see it?

Remember, we become de-sensitized a little bit at a time; it is the small and minimal sins that we forget the most.

## **WHAT OUR READERS SAY**

### **Ramadan greetings from Manfred Yahya, Germany**

My very dear Ameer, my dear brothers and sisters, *Salam Alejkum*.

I’m so sorry that there was no chance to send you this Ramadan greeting sooner ...

I wish you all and your families and *jamaats* all the very best and Allah’s blessing and protection on that Holy Days.

With very kind regards and *Wasalam*.

### **Letter of encouragement from Shaukat A. Ali, Bangkok, Thailand**

Dear Br. Akbar Abdullah sahib

*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahe wa Barakatuh*.

I pray and hope that you and your loved ones are in best of health and high spirits and this holy month of Ramadan is bringing additional blessings to you.

I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the excellent service you are providing to the members through the *HOPE Bulletin*. I know it is not an easy task to keep abreast with what is happening around the world and to disseminate the information immediately. It appears sometimes you are providing a minute by minute description of events and activities.

May the choicest blessings of Compassionate and Merciful Allah be always with you and your loved ones.

### **Ramadan greetings from Ashraf and Nafiesa Ali, Trinidad & Tobago**

Nafiesa and I wish for you a happy and peaceful month of fasting and pray that Allah will bring us all closer to Him. *Ameen*.

### **Correspondence from Dr HSM Boedhoe, Rotterdam, Netherlands**

*Assalaam alai kum wrb*.

I'm very pleased to notice that my mail with the poem was received correctly. I encountered the first problem after sending it because I had added three types of attachments but the computer cut off one of them. Under the poem I had added your (our) logo (Allah is with us), that in my opinion says in three words the same as the poem does, but I realize now that I didn't ask permission to add it with the text of the poem. But *AlhamdoLillaah* I'm very glad that the poem is now published in the *HOPE* bulletin.

And of course you can have my photos. I even thought about it by myself but I thought that maybe you will get too many photos. I've seen that the photos in the *Bulletin* are a bit fuzzy indeed. The photos I made are indeed some more clear. I've made some small movies also, these a bit fuzzy because they are made with the photacam.

Now that you have offered credit for my photos I will ask for it also! Just pray for the health of those who are suffering from disease, pain or any needs or problems, and who have passed away and lived (or even tried to live) as a Muslim that their (little) sins may be forgiven and may suffer no *kabar ke azaab* (punishment in grave) and may Allah grant them *djannatal firdaus* in the hereafter. May Allah grant all prophets and their ancestors and offspring and *sahabas* the best wishes, from Adam (*a.s*) till the beloved prophet Muhammed (pbuh).

I would like to ask *dua* separately for my father who passed away in November 2007 after a very tragic car accident on a very gruesome way, that we still see images of that on today.

And I'm ashamed to ask *duas* for a very big sinner, that's me. May Allah give me the strength to walk on the *seraatal mustaqiem* and give me and my family health and may our good wishes and intentions be fulfilled.

So I don't hope you regret now asking me for the photos now that I've asked you so much compensation, but you're welcome to ask me anything in the way of Islam and all that is derived from that.

### **Encouragement from Arshad and Bushra Alvi, Lahore, Pakistan**

Dear Sir,

*Assalam-o-Alaikum W.R.W.B.*

We were surprised to see the *Bulletin*, that it was online in a very short time. We appreciate you and pray a healthy life to serve more and more. Thanks for a nice and loving magazine.

### **Appreciation of our coverage of the UK 2009 Convention from Javaid Sadiq, Islamabad**

Thank you very much.

### **Encouragement from Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed, United Kingdom**

I went through the document as soon as you sent it out. It has been very professionally done and afforded me the chance to relive those three lovely days. *Jazakallah!*

# **HOPE MEMBER SERVICE**

## **Recipe of the Month**

### **Pineapple Upside Down Cake**

#### **Ingredients**

- 20 g unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tbl firmly packed soft brown sugar
- 440g can pineapple rings in natural juice
- 90g unsalted butter, extra, softened
- 1/2 cup caster sugar
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 tsp vanilla essence
- 1 cup self raising flour

#### **Method of Preparation**

- Preheat oven to moderate 180 deg. C.
- Grease a 20cm ring tin.
- Pour the melted butter into the base of the tin and tip to evenly coat.
- Sprinkle with the brown sugar.
- Drain the pineapple and reserve 1/3 cup of the juice.
- Cut the pineapple slices in half and arrange on the base.
- Beat the extra butter and the caster sugar with electric beaters until light and creamy.
- Gradually add the egg, beating well after each addition. Add the vanilla essence and beat until combined.
- Fold in the flour alternating with the reserved juice, using a metal spoon.
- Spoon the mixture evenly onto the pineapple and smooth the surface.
- Bake for 35-40 mins, or until a skewer comes out clean when inserted into the centre of the cake.
- Leave in the tin for 10 mins before turning out onto a wire rack to cool.

### ***Ramadan Kareem from the Oakland Jama'at***



# PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

## First *iftari* at Oakland Mosque, California



*Tilawat* by Abdul Majid's son



Open speech by Mohammed Mustapha



*Tilawat* by Abdul Majid's daughter



*Takreel* by Ahmad Nawaz's granddaughter



*Tilawat* by Ahmad Nawaz's granddaughter



*Takreel* by Abdul Majid's daughter





Jaffar Ali Buksh reading Hazrat Ameer's Ramadan message



Listening the *takreel*



Speech by Haji Dr. Hameed Jahangiri



Closing *du'a* by Mohammed Mustapha



Listening the *takreel*



*Iftar*





Opening the *ifari*



Dinner is served

### **Ramadan 2009, courtesy Rizwan-ud-Dean, AAIIIL, Fiji**

In Muslim nations and regions around the globe, this is the first week of the holy month of Ramadan, a time for followers to abstain from eating, drinking, smoking and sexual activity during the day, breaking their fast each sunset, with traditional meals and sweets. During this time, Muslims are also encouraged to read the entire Quran, to give freely to those in need, and strengthen their ties to God through prayer. The goal of the fast is to teach humility, patience and sacrifice, and to ask forgiveness, practice self-restraint, and pray for guidance in the future. This year, Ramadan will continue until Saturday, September 19th. (39 photos total). Please click at the following link to view 39 photographs:

[http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2009/08/ramadan\\_2009.html](http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2009/08/ramadan_2009.html)

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