A photograph of a mosque with a large dome and minaret against a blue sky with clouds. The minaret is on the left, and the dome is on the right. The sky is a deep blue with some white clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Love for All Hatred for None

Ahmadiyyat

The Renaissance of Islam



ANNUAL CONVENTION: The highlight of the year is the UK Convention (Jalsa) which is attended by thousands of delegates from all over the world and watched by millions live on television. It is truly a unique gathering.

Islam, the Holy Prophet^(sa) and the Holy Qur'an.

Islam which means 'Peace and surrender to the will of Allah' is the fastest growing religion in the world. It was founded by the Prophet Muhammad^(sa) nearly 1400 years ago in Arabia. Muhammad^{(sa)*} received a revelation from Allah in which he was told that Islam was the final and complete religion for mankind. He said that Allah alone was worthy of worship and nothing else was equal to Him. Muhammad^(sa) helped the poor, liberated slaves and established equal rights for women. He told his followers to be patient during hardship and to pray to Allah. His mission was to eradicate evil and iniquity and implant goodness and piety in the world. Muhammad^(sa) led a simple, pious and peaceful life. He was well known for his willingness to help others and his conduct earned him the titles of *Siddiq* (meaning 'truthful') and *Amin* (meaning 'honest').

The Holy Qur'an is the holy book of Islam. It is the word of Allah and was revealed to Prophet Muhammad^(sa) over a period of 23 years. It is spread over 30 parts and has 114 chapters. It contains a vast array of teachings and is a comprehensive code of conduct for mankind. It also contains numerous prophecies many of which have been fulfilled and many that remain to be fulfilled.

Islam believes in all the prophets and religious teachers appointed by God, including Muhammad, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Krishna, Buddha, Confucius, and Zarathushtra (peace be upon them all). It regards them all as heavenly teachers sent to reform humanity and to establish its communion with God — the Creator. Therefore, it seeks to establish peace between all religions by testifying to the truth of the original teachings of various faiths.

Islam also emphasises that men and women are equal before Allah and only righteous deeds elevate one person above another.

Islam re-enforces the concept of humanity and respect for individual liberty. It also reminds man of his fundamental human right of being free to choose his own religion as it is stated in the Qur'an that there is no compulsion in religion.

THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

The followers of all great religions awaited the advent of a Promised One in the Latter Days, as it is predicted in their Holy scriptures. The Hindus awaited Krishna, the Jews and Christians the Messiah, the Buddhists the Buddha and the Muslims the al-Imam al-Mahdi, as well as the Messiah. Under Divine guidance, Hadhrat Ahmad made the momentous disclosure that in fact only one such person representing all the Promised Ones was to appear and humanity would ultimately be brought into the fold of one universal religion. Hadhrat Ahmad^{(as)*}, the founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, claimed to be that Promised One who was awaited throughout the world, in various faiths.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has prospered throughout the world in the face of all adversity. It teaches the true Islam, in all its purity.

Islam is a religion of peace. It is a religion so simple, yet so highly organised that it meets the demands and challenges of the changing world. It permits no exploitation, be it social, political, economic or religious.

It believes in absolute morality and enjoins justice and fairness to friends and foes alike, in every sphere of human interest. It is the firm belief of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community that Islam is the cure for all maladies and ailments of suffering in humanity today.

Islam teaches us that unless man learns to live at peace with himself and his fellow human beings, he cannot live at peace with God. In Islam, you shall find peace and tranquillity of the heart which is the fruit of submitting to the Will of God.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is international in scope, with communities established in over 170 countries, in Africa, Americas, Asia, Australia and Europe.

The membership of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community is in the millions and is increasing everyday. It is the most dynamic and positive religious force on the earth today.

Members of the Community include a Nobel prize winner in Physics (the late Prof. Abdus Salam) and a Chief Justice of the International Court of Justice and President of the United Nations General Assembly (the late Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan). Many members are successful businessmen, professors, academics, engineers, doctors, lawyers and other professionals, but the majority come from modest means. Nevertheless, the level of dedication of all its members is unmatched. Members of the Community have earned the distinction of being law-abiding, peaceful, hard-working and benevolent citizens all over the world.

The Caring Community

The Community has established schools – open to all – in many countries around the world. Many of the schools have become some of the most sought after institutions in their respective countries.



The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is noted for its active engagement in social welfare and in meeting the medical and educational needs, not only of its own members but also of the communities in which they reside. The Community has also opened up many medical clinics and hospitals that offer free medical assistance. In Africa these efforts have served the local communities for decades.

The Community has launched several social projects to help developing countries in Africa and Asia, and to assist the victims of wars and natural disasters like in India, Kobe, Turkey, Bosnia or Kosovo. Humanity First is a UK based charitable trust established by the Ahmadiyya Community to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity. It is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with communities around the globe to improve the quality of life for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Members of the Community serve humanity through selfless sacrifices, devotion and love.



Publications

The Community actively translates and publishes literature that provides a better understanding of Islam and promotes positive and peaceful inter-faith dialogue including a monthly magazine initiated by Hadhrat Ahmad^(as) himself – *The Review of Religions*.

The community has also translated the Holy Qur'an in over 50 languages of the world including Chinese, Russian, Japanese, German and Italian.

Ahmadiyyat – The True Islam



Over a hundred years ago, an amazing event took place in an obscure and tiny hamlet (Qadian), in the province of the Punjab, India. It was an event that was destined to change the course of history.

Hadhrat Ahmad^(as) declared that he was the Promised Messiah and Mahdi and that his advent was in fulfilment of the various prophecies regarding the promised reformer of the latter days.

Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad
The Promised Messiah and Mahdi

The progress of Ahmadiyyat has been blessed by the institution of

Khilafat – the spiritual system of leadership in Islam. The first successor of Hadhrat Ahmad^(as) was Hadhrat Maulvi Nooruddin^(ru), a renowned scholar of the Holy Qur'an and an eminent physician. In 1914 he was succeeded by Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad^(ru) – a profound scholar of Islamic studies who also enjoyed a vast knowledge of other religions. He led the Community for 51 years and firmly laid the foundation of Ahmadiyyat as an international community. The third successor was Hadhrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad^(ru), a distinguished educationalist, who placed great emphasis on service to Africa. In 1982, Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad was elected as the fourth successor. During his leadership, he projected the wonderful teachings of

Islam into the 21st century on a truly global scale through numerous Community projects and the creation of a unique satellite tv channel. His passing away in April 2003 was marked by condolences from some of the world's leading public figures. Even his funeral procession and arrangements were assisted by the authorities and full honours with official protocol was observed as a mark of respect for a highly respected leader.



Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad
Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community

The Ahmadiyya Community is now passing through another golden era of a fifth Khalifa, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, who holds the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community together as one. He ensures that every step taken under his leadership is in the right direction, fulfilling the mission of The Promised Messiah^(as) and Imam Mahdi – the reformer of the latter days. The Khalifa is particularly dedicated to ensure that Islam is viewed and appreciated in its pure state – that of a religion of peace.

ISLAM TODAY

In the new millennium Islam will be the dominant religion of the world. Its vibrant teachings remain as relevant today as they were during the lifetime of Prophet Muhammad^(sa).

It remains a universal religion. The guidance that emanates from the Qur'an and from the example of Prophet Muhammad^(sa) is at one with the nature of man and his environment.

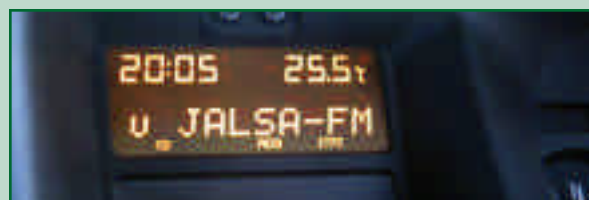
The Annual Convention



One of the main highlights of the UK Jalsa are the speeches and sessions led by the leader of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, whose speeches during each of the three days always attract record number of listeners.

On December 27, 1891, a gathering (Jalsa) of the Ahmadiyya Movement was held in Qadian, India, in which 75 persons participated. The conference was a great success and the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad – the Promised Messiah^(as), announced that such a gathering for three days of the community should be held every year. The event is now one of the main highlights of the Community's calendar and it is held at different times over a three-day period in a number of countries. The UK Annual Convention is one of the largest and attracts visitors, dignitaries and other VIP's from all over the world.

The purpose of these gatherings is to review the work done in the previous year and benefit from talks and speeches presented by learned scholars and the Khalifa on topics covering God, Islam, Ahmadiyyat, comparative religions, and economic, social and political problems and their remedies. The Ahmadi Muslims participating in these gatherings come from all parts of the world. They take this opportunity not only to increase their religious knowledge and spiritual energy but also to revive old friendships. Over 20,000 people attend the UK Jalsa who also get to hear speeches made by VIP's and other distinguished non-Muslim guests. Shown here is just a small selection of recent Jalsas held in the UK.



Coverage of Jalsa proceedings are relayed live throughout the world by the Community's own satellite tv station (MTA) which simultaneously broadcasts the event in up to eight different languages. During the 3 days, live coverage, guest, VIP interviews and updates are transmitted on Jalsa FM radio.



Tony Colman, MP for Putney, London who is a regular speaker at the UK Jalsa. and below Rt. Hon John Bowis MEP speaking at the 2003 UK Convention held in Surrey.

You are a very noble religion, which I hope the world will come to understand and more and more are coming to understand, and it is important that what you are saying should be listened to.

(Tony Colman – MP)



My association and my love for the Ahmadiyya has existed for many years and will always continue...In every continent of the world, there is Ahmadiyya Community following its religious beliefs – and what honourable, what lovely beliefs they are! Because they are beliefs of tolerance, of understanding, of friendship, of compassion.

(Hon. Tom Cox, MP)



Rafiq Hayat, the UK National President presiding over a speech given by Dr. Ann Lee (prospective parliamentary Candidate) for Woking.

The Ahmadi are a generous community, not just with their money but with the free gift of their time and expertise to people who are even less fortunate than themselves.

(Lord Eric Averbury)

Thousands of delegates representing all parts of the world attend the UK Jalsa enriching their spiritual experience.

Islam

it means 'PEACE'

We live in a world today that is very much influenced by media coverage. Images, text, headlines and news can just as easily present a false notion as they can present facts. Although misreporting and misinformation is not always confined to religion, an inaccurate account of any true religious beliefs creates mass prejudice and injustice. Unclear and biased 'Islamic' reporting has been prevalent for many years, especially with regards to terrorism and war. The clear and true understanding of Islam can only be found in its core teachings and such a study will reveal a religion that not only abhors violence but actually promotes peace at all levels – even during a war conflict.

Islam is a comprehensive religion. It realises that with human weakness, ambition and dynamism, there will be occasions when dispute, conflict and even wars will be inevitable. Although Islam forbids initiation of war or aggression, when it becomes inevitable for Muslims to fight a defensive war, the teachings of Islam lay down strict guidelines. For instance, the freedom and rights of non-combatants must be respected. The old and infirm, women and children must be protected from any harm. Residential properties must be left intact and crops and plantation must not be damaged; and the list goes on.

Even when it comes to the opponents in the battlefield, Islam enjoins that if the enemy sues for peace, the hostilities must stop and peace accepted. Just from this very basic description, one can understand that in Islam, there is no room for terrorism in any form. On the contrary, religious interaction and harmony is encouraged and the Ahmadiyya Community all over the world, but especially in the UK is recognised as a peaceful and highly respected Community who encourage and promote peace.



MTA International Television

MTA emerged in 1992 with the aim of providing a positive alternative in the broadcasting world. It is the brainchild of the fourth Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Community, Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad and ever since its inception, MTA has been a unique channel in many respects. Its focus lies in producing programmes that can be enjoyed by people of all ages at all times.

MTA's future is not dependant upon commercial sponsorships or licence fees, thus allowing it to concentrate on producing a variety of programmes. These include subject matters such as International news, sports, science, medicine, alternative therapies, learning languages, children's shows, documentaries, travel and religion.

MTA broadcasts its state-of-the art digital service throughout the world from six satellites. The UK is served by two channels on the SKY network.



www.mta.tv

The Ahmadiyya Community has built over 8,000 mosques worldwide, including the first mosque in Spain for 700 years and the largest mosque in Sydney, Australia. In Toronto, Canada it has also built one of the largest mosques in the Western hemisphere.



Australia



Canada



Guatemala



Ghana



Trinidad



Mauritius



The first overseas mission of the Ahmadiyya Community was established in London in 1913. The Ahmadiyya Community is also proud to have built the first purpose built mosque in the UK. The Fazi Mosque (pictured above) was established in London in 1924. It is the only mosque in London known as 'The London Mosque'. Pictured below is the Baitul Futuh Mosque.



In October 2003, the inauguration of one of Europe's biggest mosques took place in London at Morden. The Baitul Futuh Mosque (cover and above) is one of the biggest in Europe and the total complex can accommodate up to 10,000 people. Baitul Futuh Mosque was voted as one of the top 50 buildings to visit IN THE WORLD by *The Information* – a supplement magazine of *The Independent* national newspaper which itself recently won the Newspaper of the Year Award.

**"I Will Cause Thy Message
to Reach the Corners of the Earth"**

Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as)
(The Promised Messiah and Mahdi)



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*For the information of non-Muslim readers, '(sa)' or 'sa' after the words, 'Holy Prophet', or the name 'Muhammad', are used. They stand for 'Salallahu alaihi wassalam' meaning 'Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him'. Likewise, the letters '(as)' or 'as' after the name of all other prophets is an abbreviation meaning 'Peace be upon him' derived from 'Alaihi salato wassalam' for the respect a Muslim reader utters. Also ru or (ru) for Rahemallahu Ta'ala means the Mercy of Allah the Exalted be upon him.

For further informaton about the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, please visit: www.alislam.org