

One World One Community One Leader

100 YEARS

1908-2008

Today, the 27th May 2008, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community is celebrating one hundred years of Khilafat (Caliphate) – a unique system of global spiritual leadership in Islam

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

"Prophethood shall remain among you as long as God wills. He will bring about its end and follow it with Khilafat on the precepts of Prophethood for as long as He wills and then bring about its end. Kingship shall then follow to remain as long as God wills and then come to an end. There shall then be tyranny which shall remain as long as God wills and come to an end upon His decree. There will then emerge Khilafat on the precept of Prophethood."

The Holy Prophet said no more.

THE PROMISED MESSIAH

Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, was born in Qadian, India. From an early age he had a keen interest in religion. Over time his knowledge and understanding of religion and its application to society deepened. He started to receive direct revelation from God – a blessing that continued for the rest of his life. In 1889, under Divine guidance, Hadhrat Ahmad founded the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He claimed that he was the Promised Messiah and the Mahdi awaited by people of all faiths. By the time of his demise tens of thousands of people had accepted him.



KHILAFAT - THEN AND NOW

The Promised Messiah was succeeded by a Khilafat that has since encompassed the entire globe with Islam's message of peace, love and tolerance.

One hundred years on, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Khilafat continues to spearhead an Islamic renaissance, drawing strength from an unwavering belief in God and a relentless passion to serve humanity the world over. Today tens of millions of Ahmadi Muslims belong to this community and stand united under Khilafat.

MESSAGE

The Ahmadiyya message to the world is clear – re-establish your link with your Creator and help God's creation. Only by revitalising this spiritual awareness can peace and cohesion be truly attained in you, between neighbours as well as between nations. The Ahmadiyya community honours all prophets of God be they Moses, Krishna, Jesus or Muhammad (peace be on them all) and promotes religion as a force for good. It jealously guards the Qur'anic injunction that there should be no compulsion in religion, and vigorously defends the individual's right to follow one's beliefs for which accountability is to God alone.

POLITICS AND RELIGION

The Khilafat has no political basis, ambition or allegiance. It coexists peacefully in all nations, with the aim of uniting people and civilisations by working for the common good.

MESSAGE FROM HADHRAT MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD – Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim community



"In this age, God commissioned one of His servants – Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani with reviving Islam's message of peace. He was a sincere servant of Muhammad, the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and we believe him to be the Messiah and the Mahdi. In the light of the real teachings of the Holy Qur'an, he outlined the obligations people owe to God and the rights of people on each other. If mankind understands this reality, the world will be transformed into a paradise.

A basic principle to establish peace is to maintain a positive rather than a negative viewpoint; respect mutual sentiments and safeguard societal rights. Only that belief is real that enjoins good, spreads good and forbids evil.

It is essential for a true Muslim to love his country, comply with the law of the land and be loyal to it, just as it is essential for him to comply with the Shari'a.

I express my deep appreciation to the British Government and so does every Ahmadi Muslim, that they protect basic human rights.

There is one community that acts on the true teachings of Islam. The community loves its Khalifa and their Khalifa loves them; and together they fulfil the rights of humanity and the rights of God because of their love of God."

KHILAFAT, ISLAM AND BRITAIN

The Khalifa guides his community to act in accordance with all Islamic injunctions - including those that reject violence, instil loyalty to one's country of residence and grant complete freedom of religion for all. He reminds Muslims that it is their duty to practise every aspect of Islam rather than simply proclaim its greatness. The Ahmadiyya Muslim community of Britain has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for British charities.

CENTENARY

This year the Ahmadiyya Muslim community marks the centenary of this blessed institution of Khilafat that was established on this day in 1908. Today more than 15,000 British Ahmadi Muslims will gather at the Excel Centre in London for thanksgiving and joining in prayer for world peace. This celebration will be replicated by Ahmadi Muslims in 190 countries across the world where the community is established. At today's historic occasion the fifth Khalifa, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, will lead them in prayer and remind his community to remain steadfast, humble and ever grateful to God. He will invite the world to reflect on the true message of all religions and indeed of Islam. It will be a rallying call for peace.