

Mujahid

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Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA

www.mkausa.org

Editorial

Human life is full of beginnings: birthdays, New Year's, new school, or new jobs. A man is not known, however, by how many new beginnings he encounters, but how he deals with these momentous occasions. This issue of *Mujahid* focuses on two such new beginnings – the new office of Sadr of MKA, USA and the return of the holy month of Ramadan.

If the youth of a community are considered its backbone, then it becomes imperative that the youth are led by an individual whose hard work and dedication set an example. Our previous Sadr, Abdul Shukoor Ahmed, was such a person. Always mindful of the organization and discipline of national auxiliaries of Khuddamul and Atfalul Ahmadiyya, Shukoor Bhai also tried to uplift our spirits at the same time. We thank him for progressing MKA to such heights as we enjoy today. In the same vein we pray that our new Sadr, Naseem Waseem Sahib, will bring his years of expertise at various levels of the Majlis and Jamaat and show us the way to become true leaders of mankind.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Arabic calendar, is the time a believer awaits patiently to once again re-establish his relationship with his Master. The benefits of this blessed month are innumerable, but the reward promised for observing it with sincerity is just one thing: Allahta'la Himself. During an entire month man tries to mimic his Maker by abandoning food and drink, the company of his wife, and the comfort of sleep, and in return he receives what he had been seeking. What a wonderful trade indeed! May Allah the Almighty fulfill our noble desires in this month and may He make this Ramadan a means being extinct in Him. Ameen.

From The Holy Qur'an And The Hadith

O ye who believe! fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous. (Al-Baqarah: 184)

The month of Ramadan is that in which the Quran was revealed as a guidance for mankind with clear proofs and guidance and discrimination. Therefore, whosoever of you is present *at home* in this month let him fast therein. But whoso is *temporarily* sick or is on a journey, *shall fast* the same number of other days. Allah desires ease for you, and He desires not hardship for you, and *He desires* that you may complete the number, and that you may exalt Allah for His having guided you and that you maybe grateful. And when My servants ask thee about Me, *say*, "I'm near. I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he prays to Me. So they

should hearken to Me and believe in Me, that they may follow the right way." (Al-Baqarah: 186-87)

Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet said: Allah, the Lord of honor and glory, says: All other deeds of man are for himself, but his fasting is purely for Me and I shall reward him for it. The fast is a shield. When any of you is fasting he should eschew loose talk and noisy exchanges. Should anyone revile him or seek to pick a quarrel with him, he should respond with: I am observing a fast. By Him in Whose hands is the life of Muhammad, the breath of one who is fasting is purer in the sight of Allah than the fragrance of musk. One who fasts experiences two joys: he is joyful when he breaks his fast, and his joyful by virtue of his

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Message From New Sadr And Former Sadr

Assalamu Alaikum

First of all, please remember Huzoor^{aba} in your special prayers.

I would like to thank the previous Sadr Abdul Shukoor Sahib. He has done a lot for Majlise Khuddamul Ahmadiyya. Although the task was very tough, due to his determination and superior management capabilities he made that target very easy. He achieved many successes. He guided his Amila very well and I can vouch to that. He was good in communication skills and he never said “No” any caller during day or night although he is a very busy person in his daily life. Now I am stand in his shoes and my eyes are wet for prayers for him – how he guided us on different occasions and how he faced all the difficult tasks smilingly. May Allah reward him with the best rewards. JazakumuAllah! I request all the members also to remember him in your special prayers.

On this occasion I would like to convey my Assalamu Alikum Wa Rahmatullahe Wa Barakatahu to all the members of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Atfalul Ahmadiyya. Also we are entering the blessed month of Ramadan please remember Huzoor in your prayers. In fact, please remember all the Jamaat members in your special prayers. Please make sure Salaat will be your number one priority. Show respect to your elders. Please remember me and my Amila members in special prayers as we have very hard task ahead. I hope and pray that we can accomplished them with your prayers and cooperation.

JazakumuAllah.
Naseem A. Waseem
Sadr, MKA, USA

[The following was written by our out-going Sadr of Majlise Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Abdul Shukoor Ahmed Sabib on the achievements of MKA USA during his Office. On behalf of Mujahid, we would like to thank Shukoor Bhai for his outstanding leadership and dedication, and being a close friend and guide to all of us personally – Editor.]

I hope this short note finds you in the best of health. It was indeed an honor and a great opportunity to serve as Sadr Majlise Khuddamul Ahmadiyya for the last 3 years. I enjoyed every second of those 1095 days. I was extremely fortunate to have the guidance of Hazrat Sahibzada Mirza Muzaffar Ahmad Sahib and Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar Sahib (our current Ameer) at every stage of my tenure as Sadr Majlis.

I was also blessed with a terrific team. Every member of the team did a remarkable job in their respective capacities (Naib Sadraan, Amila Members, Regional Qaideen and Local Qaideen). From the very beginning, we had made up our minds that our work is going to stand for quality. We are going to stamp a superior quality upon everything that goes out of our hands. Whatever we do shall excel the hallmark of excellence.

We have:

- Organized our Tabligh Efforts Regionally and evolved a good team
- Improved our Chanda Collection and assisted several majalis with grants
- Improved our Tajneed by capturing critical information
- Built www.mkausa.org (Automated Reporting and Communication)
- Built www.mkaprofessionals.org (Organized several professional groups)
- Built www.muslimwriters.org (Created a good writers group)
- Held two Summer Camps for older Atfal and younger Khuddam (2001 & 2002)
- Held Entrepreneur Conferences (2001 and 2002)

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fast when he meets his Lord. (Bukhari & Muslim)

Ibn Abbas relates that the Holy Prophet was the most generous of men and he was at his most bountiful during Ramadan when Gabriel visited him every night and recited the Quran to him. During this period the bounty of the Holy Prophet waxed faster than the rain-bearing breeze. (Bukhari & Muslim)

Resolution of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA

On The Demise Of Ameer Sahib

October 29th, 2002

Members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA via this resolution wish to express great pain and sorrow on the death of our beloved Ameer M.M. Ahmad Sahib. The deep impressions left by Ameer Sahib's loving and caring personality will always remain with Khuddam of USA. May Allah elevate his ranks in the paradise and grant eternal peace to his soul.

M.M. Ahmad Sahib was born on Feb 28, 1913. He was grandson of Promised Messiah^{as} and son of Qamarul Ambia, Hadhrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib MA^{ra}. He also had the honor of marrying to the daughter of the second Khalifa, Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad^{ra}. He held many high offices during his lifetime, but always regarded service of Islam above everything else. Because of this utmost devotion to the Jamaat, Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV appointed him to the office of Ameer of USA Jamaat in 1989. His love and respect for the Khalifa was often evident in the emotional appeals he made to the Jamaat in his short addresses. He always refrained from lengthy speeches, but his few words were always full of profound advice and straight from his heart. He kept meetings to the agenda and always kept his appointments.

His services for his beloved country Pakistan couldn't be forgotten. Because of his deep insight and political vision, he was also very well respected in the political circles of the capital. He often lobbied to the US Senators and Congressmen for Pakistan whenever there was a need or he was approached by Pakistani officials. He longed to go back to Pakistan but was prevented by his poor health and the treatment he was going through.

Khuddam of USA remember him as a very affectionate and loving person who in spite of his poor health always attempted to attend Khuddam's meetings. Majlis-e-Amila of Khuddam and Qaideen will remember his words of wisdom and advice which he often delivered to its members in Qaideen's refresher courses, or Amila meetings held in Baitur Rehman Masjid in Washington DC. Very often, he would read portions from the sayings or writings of Promised Messiah^{as} in a very humble and soft voice. Memory of those short speeches will always stay in the minds and hearts of Khuddam and Atfal. He would make himself available to Khuddam for Q/A sessions at the end of Khuddam programs. He wanted to see Khuddam achieve marvelous heights in all the fields. He was always very conscious about Huzoor's call regarding Tabligh in USA and wanted Khuddam to play a pivotal role in achieving this goal. His obedience to the Imam will always serve as a glowing model for the generations to come and a lesson for Khuddam and Atfal.

Members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya offer our sincere heartfelt condolences to Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Respected Ameer Sahib, all the members of M. M. Ahmad Sahib's family and members of the US Jamaat.

Abdul Shukoor Ahmed
Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA
Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya USA

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arm's reach. All you have to do is just reach out to acquire this Blessing. This is the Blessing that was longed for even by those saints and holy men whom you admire and whose thought moves you to tears.

Admiration for the Deeds of the Noble Saints of the Ummah:

Just as you admire the piousness and devoutness of the noble saints of the Ummah, your participation in Allah's work during present times is similarly worthy of admiration by these same noble saints. Whenever you read the names of saints like Hazrat Shibli^{ra}, Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi^{ra}, Hazrat Shahabuddin Soh'rwardi^{ra}, Khwaja Moeenuddin Chishti^{ra}, Hazrat Mohiyuddin ibn Arabi^{ra}, you admire them for their profuse efforts towards attaining Allah's nearness. Allah opened numerous avenues of blessings for them. Thus, you are justified in your admiration, because in their own times, these saints were the pillars of the faith. They were the living signs of Allah's kingdom, and they showed a reflection of Allah's face through their persons. I truthfully state that even these saints admire you because Allah gave you life during an era that was eagerly desired by these holy men. Thus, understanding your status, and recognizing your eminent rank, search for the path that is adopted by people of eminence."

(Khutba-e-Jumma delivered on January 13, 1950, published in Al-Fazal – January 22, 1950).

Glossary:

1. Daftar-e-Daum: Phase Two of Tehrik-e-Jadeed (1945-1965)
2. Daftar-e-Awwal: Phase One of Tehrik-e-Jadeed (1934-1944).

Chicago Khadim Runs The Windy City Marathon

by *Tayyib M Rashid, Chicago*

My brother Qasim recently ran the Chicago marathon, and by the Grace of Allah, did very well. His debut marathon was the largest marathon in Chicago history with 37,500 participants. Qasim, after having what he called a bad day, finished 1098th out of 37,500 at the time of 3:03. The most amazing thing was that at the 20 mile mark, his time was just slightly over two hours. That's only 6 minutes per mile! The last six miles took a toll on him and he fell from about 150th place to 1098. However, he did manage to qualify for the Boston marathon in April 2003, and inshAllah, if Allah wills it, he and I will be traveling to Boston next spring.

Qasim belongs to the Chicago Suburb Jamaat. He may arguably be the most active young Khadim in the Jamaat and was recently appointed as the Naib Qaid. Before this he was the Chicago Khuddam Tabligh Secretary. Speaking as his older brother and his roommate, I can say that he is probably the laziest person I've ever met in my life when it comes to normal everyday tasks. But I must also admit that when it comes to propagation of Islam, and running, there is no one who is more active than he. Those are his two main passions and among the Jamaat members, he stands out as one of the model Khuddam for the Atfal in the Jamaat to look up to. He is always there for any kind of Jamaat work when he is called upon.

As far as running is concerned, he started out in junior high. He continued to improve in high school and onto college. Over the last three years, I assume that he has run probably somewhere between 12,000 to 15,000 miles. This was his very first marathon, and for that reason this was such a great accomplishment for him. He not only ran the whole marathon, he ran very well in fact. I have been watching him over the last two years and I know that this was not his best effort. If he manages to stay injury free and healthy, he might even become good enough to compete professionally. I for one pray that Allah give him the strength to be among those about whom the Promised Messiah^{as} prophesied that "people of my Community will be among the best and the brightest in the world." May Allah give him the strength and the determination to accomplish this great task. InshAllah.

SOCCER SATURDAY IN NEW YORK ATTRACTS YOUNG AND OLD

by *Manzurul A Sikder, NY*

During the past summer, nearly every Saturday the Cunningham Park in Queens, NY hosted members of Khuddam and Atfal to friendly soccer matches. It started with a few enthusiasts kicking the ball around, but soon turned into fun filled afternoons that saw more than 20 Ahmadi youth and old playing competitive ball game each week. True, the pitch may not have been regulation size nor the talents world class, but every reckless challenge still hurt the same and the joy of scoring a goal was just as sweet. Besides providing the participants with healthy brotherly activity in sunny afternoons, these summer sessions also helped in 'discovering' some of the young talents this Majlis possesses. We hope that such pastime continues in the near future and more members join in the merriment.

Share Your Memories of MKA!

2003 is the 25th Anniversary of Majlise Khuddamul Ahmadiyya National Ijtema in the USA. InshAllah, we will be publishing a Souvenir to celebrate this historic event. We are looking for any interesting photographs or stories of past MKA events that you would like to share with your fellow brothers. Please send any material you might have by email to mahmood_hanif@yahoo.com or by snail mail to Mahmood Hanif, 6 Fir Road, Jersey City, NJ 07305. Stay tuned for more information on the Silver Jubilee Souvenir throughout the year!

About Mujahid

Mujahid is a monthly newsletter of Majlis-e-Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, an auxiliary of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, published under the auspices of National Ameer USA Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar and Sadr MKA Naseem Waseem. You may submit articles, pictures, or reports to mujahid@mkausa.org. The current and past editions of Mujahid is available online at www.mkausa.org.

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Initiated Flu Shot drives and Blood Drives

Provided renewed focus on Atfal Classes

Assisted Local Chapters and other Auxiliaries in making their events successful and nurtured a good relationship with every National Office, Auxiliary and President..

The list goes on!

However, there are still several challenges on our hand and they are:

To improve participation of Khuddam in activities

To enhance our Taleem and Tarbiyyat Activities

To deliver services to local Jamaats and build good communities

As our new Sadr, Naseem Waseem Sahib will take the office on November 1, 2002. I hope and pray that he and his team will stay focused on building MKA and providing excellent services to everyone.

In closing, I want to thank you for your kind cooperation in strengthening MKA USA. We did our best, if there were any shortcomings I would take responsibility of them and I hope you will forgive us and extend your help to the new Sadr so that he could lead MKA effectively.

May Allah enable us to do our best for sake of our Faith, Country and Nation.

Yours Sincerely,

Shukoor Ahmed (Sadr MKA USA)

Participation in Tehrik-E-Jadid

Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Should Endeavor To Not Let Any Young Member Be Deprived Of Participation in Tehrik-e-Jadid

(Khutba-e-Jumma delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Bashir-uddin Mahmud Ahmad (Khalifatul Masih II) on January 13, 1950, published in Alfaazal – January 22, 1950. Translated by a Khadim of Indianapolis Majlis, Waseem Ahmad Sahib, and reviewed by Anver Mahmood Khan Sahib, National Secretary Tehrik-e-Jadid. Please remember both of them in your prayers.)

“During the last announcement of Tehrik-e-Jadeed, I expressly pointed out to Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya that they should pay special attention towards Daftar-e-Daum⁽¹⁾ of Tehrik-e-Jadeed. I again direct the attention of Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya towards their responsibility to strive such that not even a single Khadim fails to participate this year in Daftar-e-Daum⁽¹⁾ of Tehrik-e-Jadeed. In all majalis, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya should contact every young member, and ensure that there are no such members left who did not participate during Daftar-e-Awwal⁽²⁾ and who are not participating in Daftar-e-Daum⁽¹⁾ as well. Similarly, I have also come to know that Majlis Khuddamul-Ahmadiyya is not established in every place where Jamaat exists. I direct the attention of all Jamaats towards

establishing their Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya. No place should be left where Jamaat-e-Ahmadiyya is established but Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya is not. Any project assigned to young Khuddam should progress quickly and smoothly. This work belongs to Allah and I am certain that He Himself will open all kinds of avenues for us. But it is Allah’s Blessing upon us that He is granting us the opportunity to do this work.

Thus blessed is the person who was brought in this world by Allah in an era that was keenly anticipated for hundreds of years by many saints, apostles and holy men. And blessed is the person whom Allah not only brought in this world in the present era but then also granted the ability to recognize the Massih and the Mahdi whom the world had been awaiting for hundreds of years. The significance of this matter becomes clear in a saying of the Holy Prophet (may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him). The Holy Prophet^{saw} said:

‘Go to him even if you have to crawl on your knees across glaciers to reach him, and convey him my salaam.’

Thus, blessed is the person who was granted not only the ability to recognize the Promised Messiah^{as}, but also such a sufficient opportunity to participate in the work for which the Promised Messiah^{as} came to this world, that he

was ranked among the eminent saints of the past.

Serving the Mission of the Promised Messiah^{as} is a Great Opportunity and a Great Honor:

The young Khuddam need to understand that Allah has provided them with a rare opportunity that comes to pass only once in centuries, rather thousands of years. The world had to wait for six thousand years before the Holy Prophet Mohamad^{saw} was born. The Muslims then spent thirteen centuries waiting for the arrival of the Holy Prophet's^{saw} successor, and only then the Promised Messiah^{as} was born. The present era has been called the era of the final battle with the Satan. As such, this is the most sensitive time the world has ever seen in the past, or will ever see in the future. Thus, exceedingly blessed is the person who is given the gracious opportunity by Allah, to work for His cause at such a time. So, know your worth, feel the critical nature of the time, and value this gracious Blessing from Allah, which He has placed within your

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A Servant Of God Is In Search Of You

1. Can you work hard? So much that you can work for 13 to 14 hours a day?
2. Do you speak the truth? To the extent that you will not lie in any case, nor can your friend and relative dare to lie in front of you. And, if anyone tells you a false story of his bravery you cannot remain without showing your displeasure.
3. Are you free from the feelings of false ego? Can you clean your streets? Would you walk on the streets carrying load on yourself? Can you make announcements with a loud voice in markets? Can you travel for a whole day and stay awake the whole night?
4. Can you perform "P'tikaaf"? which means:
 - a. To sit in one place for a few days.
 - b. To meditate for hours and hours.
 - c. Not to talk to anyone for hours/days.
5. Can you travel carrying your load, without any money in your pocket? Can you travel among enemies, rivals, and strangers, for days, weeks or months?
6. Do you agree that some people cannot be defeated? They do not even like to hear the word "defeat". They are prepared to bring down mountains and control rivers! Do you think that you will be prepared for such sacrifices?
7. Do you have the courage to say "Yes" when the whole world is saying "No"? Everyone will laugh around you and you can remain serious. People run after you and stop you to assault and you stand there instead of running and humbly say, 'beat me'. You do not agree with the liars but make everyone agree with you because you are the truthful!
8. You do not say that I worked hard but God did not grant me success. Instead, you see your own fault in your failure. You believe that those who work hard

always succeed and one who does not succeed, has never worked hard.

If you are such a type of person then you have the abilities of becoming a good missionary and merchant.

But where are you? A servant of God is in search of you for a long time! O' Ahmadi young man! Look for that man in your province, in your city, in your area, in your house and into your heart!!

Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad

(Al-Musleh Ma'ood)

IN THE NEWS

In response to a letter written to New York *Newsday* by Reverend Goodhue, the Executive Director of the Long Island Council of Churches, our National Muhtamim Talim Dr Irfan Alladin wrote a letter commending the Reverend on his advice. Below we reproduce the letter, also printed on *Newsday*:

I laud the Rev. Thomas W. Goodhue on his "Christians Can Learn Much from the Quran," [Viewpoints, Aug. 28], in which he has encouraged others to embark on a study of the Quran in order to promote tolerance.

Certainly, the Quran reciprocates on this exhortation to examine other faiths as it mentions that light emanates from the Torah and the Gospel. The covenant with Abraham, the parting of the sea with Moses and the virgin birth of Christ are all mentioned in the Quran with great reverence. The Quran mentions Jews and Christians by name among followers of other faiths and declares that "whoever believes in God, the Day of Resurrection and does good deeds, shall have their reward with their Lord, and on them shall come no fear, nor shall they grieve."

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Ameer Sahib of Germany Takes A Bite Of The Big Apple Marathon

by *Rizwan Alladin, New York (Naib Sadr, MKA, USA)*

Our Jamaat, mashAllah, is often graced with the company of righteous servants of Allah. In November, another such individual paid us a visit: Ameer Abdullah Wagishauser of Germany.

An athlete enthusiast, Ameer Sahib had the strong desire to participate in the New York City Marathon. Alhamdulillah, his name was picked from the international lottery. He arrived on October 29th, accompanied by his two sons, Brothers Mannan and Nassir, and Brother Rashid Guddat, incharge of AMI Germany's computer administration. He began his training, running several miles, despite the cold weather we faced that week.

On October 31, Ameer Sahib and "team" (consisting of his fellow travelers, and Irfan Alladin – my brother and myself) went to the Javits Center for registration. The process was quite quick (it took longer to find parking) and we were able to enjoy the grand exhibition that followed. The expo floor was studded with merchants offering free Gatorade and PowerBars (Ameer Sahib's favorite was Cappuccino... "flavor of champions"). One could see advertisements for other marathons offered in what I felt were more enticing locations in Bermuda, Lake Tahoe, Big Sur (California), and Hawaii!. However, we enjoyed our time together and Ameer Sahib seemed impressed with the variety.

On Friday, November 1, Ameer Sahib returned to the Javits Center to enroll Brother Rashid for the International Fellowship 6k run (4 miles). Little did I expect that he would enroll me as well. (I guess it was payback for our poor hospitality!)

Early Saturday morning, the three of us went to the starting line at the United Nations Plaza. The crowd was multi-national, each country showing off their colors and cheering with their flag. I was surprised to hear that there were 45 people from India running – but no Pakistanis. It was great running with Ameer Sahib and Brother Rashid. Running down a vehicle-less 42nd Street and 6th Avenues really gave me a new outlook to Manhattan. As we were running pretty slow compared to Ameer Sahib's standards, he would run ahead and take video shots. He also really got into the whole event by cheering to waving crowds... loudly. We were then greeted with a cold bagel and horrible coffee for breakfast at the Tavern on the Green at the finish line.

We spent the rest of the day in Manhattan in anticipation for the grand Ronzoni Pasta Party. Brother Waseem Malik from NJ joined us as well. The Ronzoni Pasta Party was the biggest let-down. We waited on line in the cold for 1.5 hrs and even I've made better ziti at home. We were worried for Ameer Sahib as the next morning was the big race and the cold air was tightening his leg muscles.

Dr. Shahid Sahib graciously invited Ameer Sahib to stay at his home that night to shorten the distance to the starting line at the Verrazano Narrows Bridge. Ameer Sahib began the race on Sunday, November 3rd, a little after 11:15 AM. He ran the 26.2 miles through all five boroughs of NYC in 3 hours and 48 minutes. He remarked on how nice it was for the crowd to cheer all the runners, whether they knew them or not. He saw different neighborhoods and was fascinated by each area's "culture". Still, the Marathon united the diverse peoples.

MKA NY was able to cheer him on at Central Park East before he entered the park towards the Finish Line. Murabbi Sahib, Ayaz Sahib, Qaid Sahib and others were at the park exit to greet him. Nazim A&V, Rizwan Akbar, filmed various portions of the race as well as took interviews of several runners. We noticed that the runners exiting the park reminded us of soldiers on their way back from war, beaten by the cold wind and fatigue. However, Ameer Sahib looked fit and ready for more, mashaAllah.

Inspired by Ameer Wagishauser Sahib, Brother Manzur and I recently talked about interest in running the Marathon in a few years... but for now, it's all just talk.

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Goodhue also shows great insight into the underlying message of the Quran by stating that Islam does not encourage Holy War. The Quran mentions that when even one life is taken unjustly, it is tantamount to the loss of humanity itself. If Osama bin Ladin is alive, I would encourage him to read this article as it may enlighten him regarding the teachings of this great faith.

Irfan Ahmad Alladin