

# Mujahid



## 8th Qaideen Refresher Course

Zahid Mian, Worcester, Massachusetts

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Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, USA held its 8<sup>th</sup> annual Qaideen Refresher Course on December 14, 15 2002. The main goals of

this event included: presenting a n n u a l plans by the National Muhtameen, addressing questions by local Qaideen,

and giving Qaideen guidelines on how to become good leaders. The event was held at Baitul Hadi in Old Bridge, New Jersey (Central Jersey Jamaat). More than 100 members attended the

event, including national Amila members, Qaideen, and other respected members of the Jamaat.



Sadr MKA USA, Naseem Waseem, address the participants at the QRC.

This year, former MKA Sadran, local Jama'at presidents, and National Muhtameen led several panel discussions. Participants of the QRC

also held a "farewell" session in recognition of former MKA Sadr Mr. Shukoor Ahmad's contributions to the development of MKA USA. In addition, the

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**National Ameer:**  
Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar

**MKA Sadr:**  
Naseem Waseem

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## MKA Participation in the 17th Annual West Coast Jalsa Salana

Ata-ul-Malik Khan, Chino Hills, California

By Allah's grace, the 17th Annual West Coast Jalsa Salana held at Baitul Hameed Mosque in Chino, California (December 27-29, 2002) was a major success. Guests of the Promised Messiah (as) trav-

eled from as far north as Vancouver, Canada to as far south as Guatemala, including from Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, San Jose, Merced, San Diego, Phoenix, and

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Editorial

The Quranic injunction ‘You cannot attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love’ (Al-Imran 93) was epitomized, bodily, in the persons of Hadhrat Ibrahim and Hadhrat Ismael (peace be on them both). Through dreams and revelations, the Patriarch Prophet was being urged, repeatedly, that he should sacrifice his most prized possession. Though a tremendously kind-hearted father, Ibrahim resolved to surrender his only son to the Lord God Who bestowed on him this favor in the first place.

This offering of Ibrahim<sup>as</sup> of his son is quite distinct from the Christian story of atonement, where God, in order to maintain absolute justice in His Kingdom, had to sacrifice His only begotten son. While in the first account a loving father fulfills his devotion along with his willing son only after receiving a full consent, in the story of Christ we are told that he was crucified despite his continual pleas to the contrary. Whereas the sacrifice of Ibrahim and his son freed billions of people of their bondage and lead them towards closeness to Allah, the crucifixion of Christ only added impiety and sinfulness in the world. The former inspires people to greater heights, the latter casts them to a dark abyss. The difference between them is indeed enormous!

All the Messengers have been honored by Allah, but the sacrifices of Ibrahim<sup>as</sup> and his family have been immortalized in the form of Hajj and Eidul Adhia. It is no wonder then that the Lord of the Universe called him ‘a paragon of virtue, obedient to Allah, and ever inclined to Him’ (Al-Nahl 121). May Allah shower His blessings upon Ibrahim and his progeny and may He enable us to follow the footsteps of this noble Prophet. Ameen.

## From the Holy Quran

Abraham was neither a Jew nor a Christian but he was ever inclined to God and obedient to Him, and he was not of those who associate gods with Allah.

Surely, the nearest of men to Abraham are those who followed him and this prophet and those who believe in him, and Allah is the Friend of the believers.

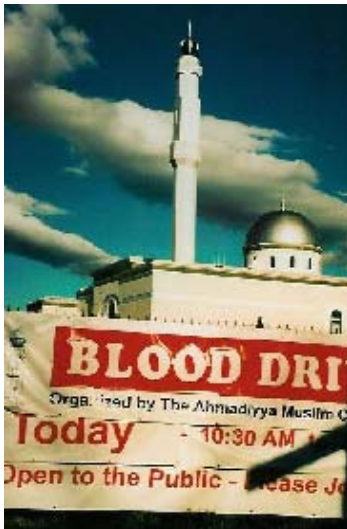
(Al-Imran 3:68-69)

## Ahadith

Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet said: The strong one is not he who knocks out others in wrestling, the strong one is he who keeps control over himself when he is roused (*Bokhari and Muslim*).

Abu Hurairah relates that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said: He who calls people to guidance has the same reward as those who follow him without any diminution of the reward of the latter, and he who calls people to error carries the same burden of sin as those who follow him without any diminution in the burdens of the latter. (*Muslim*)

## MKA and Service to Humanity



left, Maryland Majlis holds a Blood Drive in Baitur Rehman; top right, Detroit Majlis participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program in Michigan; bottom right, A few Khuddam from the Atlanta Majlis helping out on Eid Day festivities.



## 8th Qaideen Refresher Course

(Continued from page 1)

QRC had three simultaneously-held workshops for finance, Taleem, and Tabligh.

During the “farewell” session, several members spoke affectionately about their experiences with Mr. Ahmad. Some spoke of his deep devotion to the Jama’at, while others spoke of his respect for those who worked under him. QRC participants shared examples from their experiences that spoke volumes about Mr. Ahmad’s character. He was described as devoted, altruistic, responsive, committed, organized, brotherly, and service-oriented. It was a moving mix of words for the former Sadr.

A session moderated by Naib Sadr, Mr. Rizwan Alladin, entitled “Leading my Qiadat” included points of interest from previous Sadaraan Mr. Munum Naeem and Mr. Shukoor Ahmed, and Regional Qaid and Director of Racine Youth Leadership Academy Mr. Ahmad Qawi. Each addressed a specific aspect of being a good leader. Mr. Naeem described the compelling need for Khuddam to adhere to their pledge, to exhibit passion for service, to pursue measured goals, and to pray continuously for the success of their efforts. Mr. Ahmad stressed the importance of developing a strong Amila that is receptive to constructive criticism and that establishes clear communication channels between Nazimeen. Mr. Qawi urged Qaideen to lead by example and to listen to the concerns of the local membership. Mr. Alladin added the importance of reciting the Qur’an daily and writing to Hazoor for prayers.

In the final session chaired by Sadr MKA USA, Mr. Naseem Waseem, Jamaa’t Presidents, and other Jama’at dignitaries spoke to the participants of the QRC. They discussed a range of issues including strengthening the rishta-nata (matrimonials) process. Mr. Wasim Malik, president of San Jose Jama’at, focused on building relationships with members. Pointing to examples in his own Jama’at, he discussed how a stronger relationship with his membership helped him become very efficient in Jama’at work. Mr. Nazir Ayaz, president of New York Jama’at, reminded the participants about Khuddamul Ahmadiyya’s designation as the backbone of the Jama’at and the roles associated with it. He went on to describe the position of Qaid as the “most sensitive and important position” in the Jamaat and how critical it was to be a strong leader. The issue of leadership was again raised when he discussed the issue of offering prayers. He said that it was critical that the Qaid not only demonstrate a good example by observing Salat, but also lead others to perform the Salat. Citing the sermons of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV, he explained that Sala’at was necessary to achieve peace of mind and mentioned “families who pray together stay together.” He also touched on other issues such as helping the younger men become better citizens, Waqar-e-Amal, and Rishta Nata.

By Allah’s grace, the event proved to be inspiring and constructive for all participants. May Allah give each Khadim the wisdom and strength to discharge his responsibilities for the upcoming year. Insha’ala. Ameen.



From left to right, Munum Naeem, former MKA Sadr, Shukoor Ahmed, former MKA Sadr, and Naseem Waseem, current MKA Sadr.

## MKA Participation in the 17th Annual West Coast Jalsa Salana

(Continued from page 1)

Tucson as well as the host city, Los Angeles. In addition, several international guests traveled from England, Germany, and Pakistan. Approximately 800 men and women were in attendance—one of the best-



Respected Ameer Jama'at, USA, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar Sahib, addressing participants at the 2002 Jalsa Salana West Coast

attended conventions to date. The Jalsa was blessed with the presence of the Respected Amir Jama'at USA, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar Sahib, who presided over the opening and closing sessions and addressed all the workers at a sit-down dinner in Tahir Hall on Sunday afternoon. In addition, Respected Tahir Ahmad Sahib, National Mohtamim Atfal, attended the Jalsa as the representative of Sadr Khuddam USA, Respected Naseem Waseem Sahib.

Over the three-day period, a plethora of interesting and inspiring speeches were delivered, the climax of which was a two-hour Saturday night session consisting of speeches delivered by new Ahmadi converts. Roughly fifteen new Ahmadiis shared very touching and inspiring stories of how

they converted to Islam-Ahmadiyyat. Alhumdhollillah, four young converts from the LA East Majlis moved the audience with their unique and heartwarming accounts of their love for the Promised Messiah (as). One of these converts, Mahershalalhashbaz Ali, a television and movie actor by profession, also spoke in the Saturday afternoon session on the topic of "Entertainment and Islam."

Khuddam from several West Coast Majalis expended enormous efforts in preparing for the Jalsa. In particular, roughly 30 LA East and LA West Khuddam gave their assistance the week before the Jalsa, and 10 of these Khuddam were present nine straight days, often 15 hours each day, tirelessly and meticulously setting up the Jalsa Gah and surrounding facilities. Khuddam from the San Francisco, San Jose, and Phoenix Majalis were instrumental in serving food and tea for the duration of the Jalsa. Respected Sadr Sahib of the LA East Jama'at, Dr. Hameed-ur-Rahman Sahib, and Respected Missionary Inam-ul-Haq Kauser Sahib expressed their sincere gratitude for the seamless organization and selfless spirit exhibited by the host Majlis. After the closing of the Jalsa, Respected



Los Angeles Khuddam at the Langar Khana assisting in the preparation of food for Jalsa participants. From left to right, Fahad Rajpoot, Faisal Rajpoot, Bilal Rajpoot, and Sameer Shaikh.

Ameer Sahib USA presided over a special dinner with all the workers and thanked them for their commitment to serve the guests of the Promised Messiah (as).

## In Loving Memory of Shemyel Khan

*Amjad M. Khan, Cambridge, Massachusetts*

On January 2, 2003, Shemyel Khan, a beloved and dear Khadim of the Los Angeles East Majlis, passed away at Orange Coast Memorial Hospital in Fountain Valley, California. Inna Lillahi wa Inna Ilaihi Raajioon. He was twenty-three years old. While at home in December, Shemyel's sugar had abruptly spiked, and the resulting diabetic shock caused him to collapse. He was rushed to the hospital where he lay in a coma for several days before becoming conscious again. Over the course of a few weeks, he suffered from fever, kidney, and pancreatic complications. Shemyel fought bravely during this time, and many well-wishers and Jama'at members prayed fervently for his recovery, particularly during the occasion of the Jalsa Salana West Coast. Shemyel's condition improved considerably before a sudden cardiac arrest took his life.

Shemyel was the eldest and only son of Masood Elahi Khan Sahib: a selfless, dedicated, and veteran member of Jama'at Los Angeles East. Standing 6 feet 2 inches with a magnetic smile and dignified posture, Shemyel had a commanding presence familiar to Jama'at members, young and old. It was not just his handsome physical features, however, that made Shemyel so memorable, but also his supremely gentle and loving personality. A remarkably well-mannered and humble young man, Shemyel would always be first to convey his salam and would always be last to take credit for anything. I had the privilege of living with Shemyel at a very young age, and though we were both toddlers at the time, I distinctly remember learning the Qur'an and playing in the front yard with him. I will never forget his sensitivity towards others and utmost respect for his parents: two features that defined Shemyel as a child and remained a part of him for his entire life.

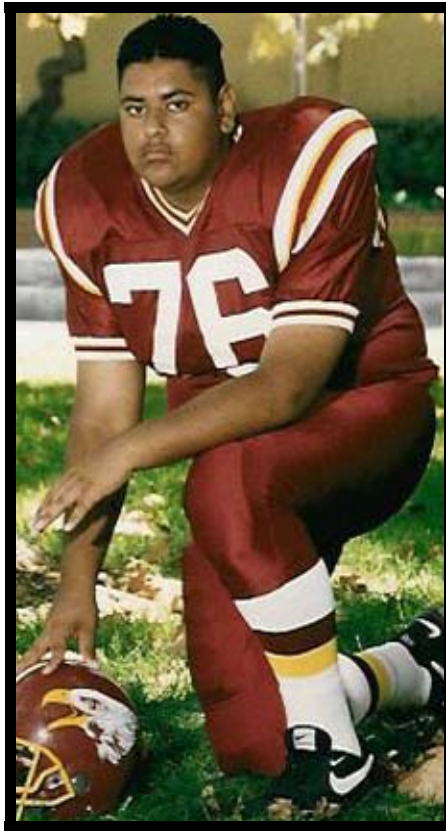
Shemyel was easily the most likeable and fun-loving Tifl and Khadim among the Ahmadi youth in Los Angeles East. He would participate in all the major religious and

sports activities both outside and in the Mosque. As a Group 2 Tifl during Sunday class, I would sit next to Shemyel and was struck by how soft-spoken, honest, and god-fearing he was. On one fond occasion in a Tarbiyyati Camp in 1991, I remember tag teaming with Shemyel in a pillow fight competition against two Atfal who were much older at the time. I was petrified that I would get clobbered to the floor. But Shemyel took me aside and in his trademark soothing tone said, "Amjad, we're smarter than them, we'll take them." Sure enough, with me hanging on his shoulder, Shemyel courageously knocked both

Atfal to the floor within fifteen seconds. It was one of our most proud moments as Atfal, and it was something the Los Angeles East family would talk about for years afterwards. Indeed, many Khuddam shared similar light-hearted anecdotes about Shemyel after his passing, which is evidence of the sublime love he shared with all of us. When I was Qaid, I remember Shemyel as an active Khadim. He would attend all the general meetings, participate in all major events, and would sacrifice his time away from school and work to spend it at the Mosque. A few years ago, for example, Shemyel stayed four or five continuous days and nights at the Mosque during the last portion of Ramadhan indulged in ardent prayers, Qur'an recitation, and Zikr-e-Ilahi. His passion for service and love for his Ahmadi brothers were indeed impressive.

On January 7, 2003, several hundred people attended Shemyel's funeral at Forest Lawn near Baitul Hameed Mosque. Apart from Jama'at members, scores of his co-workers, school friends, and even parents of his friends came out

to convey their condolences to Shemyel's family. Shemyel touched the lives of all those he knew, be it at home, school, work, or the Mosque. He was an obedient son, an adoring brother, an inspiring friend, and, above all, a true servant of Allah. I will miss him greatly. May Allah grant strength and peace to Masood Sahib's family. May Allah elevate Shemyel to the highest ranks of paradise. Insha'allah. Ameen.



**Shemyel Khan (1979-2003)**

## From the Desk of ...

### Tabligh (Propagation) Mirza Ghulam Rabbi



All Qaideen need to submit local Tabligh plans explaining how they will reach their Majalis' goals, i.e. 1 bait for every 10 Khuddam, in addition to 1 bait per Qaid and National Amila member residing in his Majlis.

### Taleem (Education) Dr. Irfan Alladin



The 2002-2003 Taleem syllabus has been compiled and consists of the following:

1. Departmental plan: outlines agenda and means of implementation for the upcoming year.
2. Overview / Introduction to department: guidelines and expectations of Amila members, Qaideen, and general Khuddam.
3. Taleem syllabus: first trimester, Nov. 2002 to Feb. 2003. Ijtema syllabus: info on competitions for National/Regional/Local Ijtema(s).
4. List of competitions: for 2003 National/Regional/Local Ijtemas
5. Competitions guide: preliminary guide to future competitions that will serve for all Ijtemas at all levels for years to come, insha'allah.
7. Exams from the past -- two old Taleem exams.

Guidelines for the trimester:

1. Read all of the above material and reference material as indicated in the syllabus. Most sources are available at [www.alislam.org](http://www.alislam.org).

2. Complete the online second semester 2002 exam, which gets automatically graded and returned to me (this exam is actually testing current material as well) and is mandatory for all Khuddam.

3. Download, print, and complete the two exams mentioned in # 7 above. Please send them to Wadood Chaudhry, Muhtamim Taleem II at [wadood@optonline.net](mailto:wadood@optonline.net).

4. Review the competitions guide and email, write, or call me with suggestions to improve on it.

5. A first trimester exam will be placed online within a few weeks. It will either be graded online or have to be mailed like the old exams.

6. Continue reciting the prayer, "O Allah, increase me in knowledge."

### Tarbiyyat (Moral Training) Rafiuddin Malik



1. In the month of December, Tarbiyyat Department advised Qa'ideen to hold a New Year Tarbiyyat Workshop. Thirteen Majalis held the event on or before the New Year's Eve. Khuddam, Atfal, and other Jama'at members participated in the event. Discussions on how an Ahmadi Muslim should welcome the New Year were held. Atfal and Khuddam also enjoyed various games. In many Majalis, participants stayed overnight and offered Nawafil at midnight and also offered Tahajjud in the morning followed by the Fajr Prayer, Dars and breakfast.

2. Tarbiyyat Department will be arranging a Tarbiyyat Week in each Majlis in the month of February, insha'allah. The focus will be on the religious training of Khuddam. We will emphasize

## From the Desk of ...

regularly offering Salat, attending Friday prayer, daily Qur'an recitation, and abiding by Islamic morals. We will also ask Khuddam to do a *Nafl* *Roza* or voluntary fast during the Tarbiyyat week. Khuddam are urged to actively participate in the Tarbiyyat Week and try to derive as much benefit out of it as possible. Jazak'Allah.

3. All Khuddam are urged to write regularly to Huzoor for prayers. Qaideen have been provided a sample letter that would help those Khuddam who have not written to Huzoor before.

### **Sanato Tajarat (Trade and Industry) Iftikhar Ahmad**



We are pleased to announce that Sanat-o-Tijarat department is organizing the third annual Ahmadiyya Conference for Entrepreneurs (ACE 2003) on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003. This year, the conference will be held at University of Houston campus, Houston, Texas.

We would like to request all interested members to send us their valuable suggestions about the following topics by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003:

- Overall theme for the conference
- Ideas for conference programs (topics for panel discussions, presentations, areas of interest/development for entrepreneurship, hands-on workshops, etc.)
- Recommendations for speakers, panelists, and active participants for the conference
- Suggestions on how we can advertise the conference even more effectively for a larger attendance this year and make it a very useful and worthwhile event for attendees.

Please send your suggestions to [iahmed@mkaprofessionals.org](mailto:iahmed@mkaprofessionals.org). We welcome all the current and aspiring entrepreneurs at ACE

2003: an inspiring, educational, and networking event for USA Jama'at members.

### **Khidmat-e-Khalq (Service to Humanity) Faheem Younus**



Serving at local homeless/food shelters, organizing blood and flu shot drives, adopting highways, and conducting walkathons are some of the current Khidmat-e-Khalq activities. If your Majlis has not participated in these services, we urge you do so. If you have, then it's time to excel further. We have developed step-by-step guidelines for all projects. Go to [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) (click the "Documents" tab and then the "Khidmat-e-Khalq" tab). In addition to this, let us not forget the everyday gestures of goodness that we extend towards our friends, neighbors, and family. These simple contributions go a long way toward ensuring that our world remains a more livable place. In the future, we intend to develop a nationwide system for clothing donations, health days, and food drives. Feel free to contact us at [drounus@hotmail.com](mailto:drounus@hotmail.com).

### **Majlis-e-Sultan-ul-Qalam (MKA Writers' Guild) Amjad M. Khan**



If you are eager to contribute to the Khuddam writers' guild, please e-mail Amjad Khan ([akhan@law.harvard.edu](mailto:akhan@law.harvard.edu)) for further information. See listing on page 11 for a summary of the guild's media-monitoring activities this past quarter.

### **Isha'at (Publications) Zahid M. Mian**



As many of you may know, Mujahid has gone through many changes in the past several years. Well, now you have one more

## From the Desk of ...

(Continued from page 7)

change: in its current form, Mujahid will be published quarterly and will be available on [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) in both pdf and html format. In addition, at least one special edition of Mujahid is slated exclusively for coverage of the 25<sup>th</sup> National Ijtema. The print edition will be limited to 8-12 pages, but because of fewer limitations, the online edition will have much more content, including more pictures. Our goal is to eventually update the online version on a weekly basis.

Part of the reason why it has been so difficult to firmly establish this publication is the cost associated with printing and distribution. We must, however, strive to establish this publication as the standard means of communication for MKA USA. One way you can help is by promoting this newsletter in your Majlis. Insha'allah, with your efforts and prayers, we'll get to where we should be. Jazakamullah.

### **Sihhat-e-Jismani (Health and Physical Fitness).** Yusef A. Lateef



The 2003 SEJ department plan is listed on pp. 81-85 of the 8th Annual QRC Manual, which can be downloaded from [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) (click the "Documents" tab and then the "Physical Health" tab). All Qaideen and/or Nazimeen-SEJ should carefully follow the 2003 SEJ local implementation plan of sports practices, exercise programs, and deadlines to order MKA-USA T-shirts, which are required to compete in all regional and national Ijtema sports tournaments. The deadline to mail T-shirt orders is March 30th.

This is my second year in a row serving as Muhtamim Sihhat-e-Jismani, and I expect a very healthy, athletic, and fun year. The first priority is for Qaideen and Nazimeen-SEJ to review the SEJ local implementation plan, then look for the exer-

cise/fitness program and start slowly, stay healthy, eat well, do not get hurt, and take it seriously. Also start saving your money now for ordering official Majlis sports T-shirts. For more details on all the above, routinely check [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) /"Documents page"/ Sihhat-e-Jismani section or email Yusef Lateef at [SEJ@mkausa.org](mailto:SEJ@mkausa.org).

### **Ma'al (Finance) Mansoor Malik**



All Khuddam are reminded to please offer their Annual Ijtema Chanda of \$12 as soon as possible, as the Center needs to arrange properly this year's Ijtema well in advance.

All Qaideen and Nazimeen-Finance are requested to download the new finance reporting package (version 1.7) from [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) (click the "Documents" tab and then the "Finance" tab).

### **Amoor-e-Tulba (Student Affairs) Mohammad Shafiqur Rehman**



Majalis with three or more Khuddam students at a college/university are encouraged to set-up a chapter of Ahmadiyya Muslim Student Association (AMSA) at that respective college/university. A sample Constitution is available on [www.mkausa.org](http://www.mkausa.org) (click the "Documents" tab and then the "General" tab). Any Khadim who needs advice on organizing specific AMSA activities may contact me at [mishu@tamu.edu](mailto:mishu@tamu.edu).

### **MKA Pledge**

I solemnly pledge that I shall always be ready to sacrifice my life, wealth, time and honor for the sake of my faith, country, and nation. Likewise, I shall be ready to offer any sacrifice for guarding the institution of Khilafate Ahmadiyya. Moreover, I shall deem it essential to abide by any Ma'roof decision made by Khalifatul Masih. Amin.

## MKA Professionals @ Work – Certification trainings update

Iftikhar Ahmed, San Jose, California

The Networkers Professional Sub-Group of MKA Professionals pooled their resources to organize a professional network certification course. The group finished the first of the four courses required for the CCNP certification in nine three-hour sessions. The prerequisites of the class were CCNA certification and preferably some hands-on experience with Cisco networking products. 12 Ahmadis and at least 5 non-Ahmadi friends of the Jama'at attended these weekly sessions. Using web collaboration and audio conference tools, remote students attended the course from San Jose, Florida, New Jersey, Toronto, and other cities. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

Based on the class feedback and interest from other members for additional basic level networking training sessions, we decided to start a two-month class with the intention to teach basic networking skills up to Cisco's first certification level, CCNA. This time, the physical class



was held at Baitul Baseer in San Jose and it accommodated remote attendees as before. Remote students from Virginia, Maryland, Boston, and Los Angeles joined together locally every week. We held eleven sessions for this course and there were a total of 28 students who attended these sessions (including 15 non-Ahmadis). The CCNA classes were broadcasted live through audio conference, online presentations and remote application sharing tools.

By the grace of Allah, several students have already passed the certification examinations. Others are preparing to take the tests in the coming months. We plan to resume the advanced level certification classes in the coming weeks. Please remember the instructors, organizers, and students in your prayers. For further information, please contact iahmed@mkaprofessionals.org.

Time is fleeting and much remains to be accomplished-let us go!  
The evening haze is setting in-let us go!  
Do not let life run its course like this  
When tasks remain unfinished-let us go!  
The morning breeze has a message,  
As long as you are alive, keep going!  
The destinations beckon us,  
Journey on from dawn and cease not at dusk.  
Comrades, stay with me,  
Let us move forward in the spirit of harmony.  
Your awakening has illuminated the ambiance with a dazzling radiance  
If you are determined in your resolve, move quickly like lightning!  
If you do pause, do so like a cloud in spring.  
After the rainfall has benefited everyone-move on!  
Let the moon and stars be your companions when you are awake at night  
During the day, tread gracefully alongside the sun.  
In the days to come you will be the commander of the caravan.  
As of today, you are still the guide-let us go!  
The hopes of the new world are pinned upon you,  
You have been entrusted with its reins- us go!  
March forward, take a step and recognize,  
The new era bears your name-let us go!  
Assume leadership and take charge,  
A new order is coming forth- let us go!  
O, you fortunate one with a great heart and diligent hand,  
Persevere, like wave upon wave, in your joyous deeds-let us go!  
O my beloved!  
Always send tidings of peace on the loved ones of Allah-let us go!

\*We appreciate the efforts of those who helped in this translation.

وقت کم ہے بہت ہیں کام چلو  
زندگی اس طرح تمام نہ ہو  
کمر رہا ہے خسرا م باو صبا  
منزلیں دسے رہی ہیں آوازیں  
ساتھیو میرے ساتھ ساتھ رہو  
تم اٹھے ہو تو لاکھ اُبانے اُٹھے  
کبھی ضرور تو شیل اُپر بہا  
رات جاگو نہ وجوم کے ساتھ  
ہو تھی گل کے قافلہ سالار  
تم سے وابستہ ہے جہان تو  
آگے بڑھ کر قدم تو لو دیکھو  
پیشوائی کرو۔ تمہاری طرف  
اسے خوشا۔ دل بیار۔ دست بگار  
میرے پیار و خدا کے پیاروں پر

Above: the first fourteen couplets of a poem written by our beloved Huzoor, Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad<sup>ab</sup>, which was referenced by several speakers at the 8th Qaideen Refresher Course

## Meet The Author: Arif Humayun

Dr. Faheem Younus, Baltimore, Maryland

On Saturday, December 28, 2002, MKA Baltimore held an event entitled “meet the author”, which showcased Arif Humayun, author of *Islam the Summit of Religious Evolution* and *Islam and the US Constitution*. Mr. Humayun joined his current employer in 1989 and spent the first three years at the parent company’s research facilities in Australia, where he developed an interest in studying comparative religion. He engaged in extensive discussions with some Australian Christian missionaries and conducted a literature search on the Semitic religions. Before departing Australia, he published his research in a book titled *Islam: The Summit of Religious Evolution*. Our present Huzoor suggested the name of this work. Mr. Humayun has since written several newspaper articles and this year published another book: *Islam and the U.S. Constitution*, which cross references the U.S. Constitution to the Qur’an. Both titles can be accessed free online at [www.IslamSummitofReligiousEvolution.com](http://www.IslamSummitofReligiousEvolution.com) and [www.IslamandUSConstitution.com](http://www.IslamandUSConstitution.com).

The event was held with great success at the Towson Public Library in Baltimore County, Maryland. More than 90 people attended the gathering. The evening, beautifully moderated by Abid Khan, started with recitation of Holy Qur’an by Hafiz Abdul Qudus. This was followed by a 35-minute slide show by the author about his first book. “*This work is the result of my discussions with Christian missionaries in Australia, who challenged my faith*”, said Arif. The presentation was followed by an interactive Q/A session that lasted for another 30-minutes. “*Did you have an inherent bias in favor of Islam during your discussions?*” asked one of the participants. The author responded to this and other questions very eloquently. Dr. Baig, the president of Baltimore Jama’at, concluded the meeting with his address. Light refreshments were served afterwards.

The event was a first of its kind for the U.S. Jama’at. Although under the auspices of MKA Baltimore, the entire Baltimore Jama’at, including Lajna and Ansar, were able to mobilize a concerted, enthusiastic effort to organize an educational, interactive event with Arif Humayun, who traveled all the way from Oregon to attend. In addition to local Jama’at members, guests from the Maryland and Virginia Jama’ats attended the event, including former MKA Sadr, Shukoor Ahmed, and four national MKA Amila members.

May Allah help all Majalis to enact such events in the future that promote a basic awareness of the principles propounded in the Qur’an and in Ahmadiyya theology. Insha’llah. Ameen.

## New York’s Flu-Shot Drive a Hit

Mahmood Ahmad, Woodside, NY

On November 17, 2002, the New York Queens Majlis organized a flu-shot drive at their mosque in Holliswood. After Maghrib prayers and Iftar, Dr Laeeq Ahmad Sahib administered flu vaccinations to over 40 interested and eligible members. Dr Hina Tabish Sahiba performed the same in the Lajna hall. Zeeshan Hamid, Nazim Khidmate Khalq, was instrumental in organizing this hugely successful event. A day earlier, a timely presentation on the importance of the influenza shot by Manzurul A Sikder managed to capture the attention of the members.



Flu-Shot Drive in NY Attracts Young and Old.

## Northeast Khuddam on the Slopes

Mubarak Bajwa, Edison, NJ



On December 21, 2002 Central Jersey, as well as neighboring Majalis North Jersey, Willingboro, and Philadelphia went on their annual ski trip, this time to Camelback Mountains in the Poconos. Before reaching the trails, the Khuddam enjoyed a

snowball fight.

The group included novices and veterans. The novices had the opportunity to take a training lesson, while the veterans glided through the trails. In either case, participants enjoyed the activities. Lunch was provided by Central Jersey and drinks by North Jersey. It was a fun time for all. There were many falls and tumbles, but no one was hurt. Members are already looking forward to next year’s trip.

## Pen Against Pen (from the writings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)

“You should know it well that this is not the time to go the battlefield for religious purposes. The battles that were fought during the life time of the Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wa sallam, were not meant to convert the non-believers to Islam by force; these battles were fought by the Muslims to defend themselves. When the Muslims were inhumanly tortured and turned out of Mecca and many Muslims had become martyrs, it was then that God commanded them to fight back; this definitely was a defensive measure. Now the times have changed. There is peace everywhere; it is with the pen that Islam is being attacked. That is why it is necessary that pen should be used to rebut the attacks. God the Almighty says in the Holy Qur’an that you should make preparation to defend yourselves with the same kind of weapons as the opponents happen to use.

Think of the preparations that the opponents of Islam are now making. They are not lining up the armies. They are publishing magazines and books. We also should, therefore, pick up our pen and answer their attacks with magazines and books. It is not expedient that the prescription (treatment) and the sickness should be at variance. If the treatment does not conform with the sickness, the consequence is bound to be unprofitable and harmful.” (*Malfoozat Vol. 8, pg. 20*)

### Majlis-e-Sultan-ul-Qalam Media-Monitoring Summary Table (Oct. 2002—Jan. 2003)

| Article Title                               | Author                | Periodical                            | Date     | Responding Team Member(s)*  |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|---|
| General comments about the Prophet of Islam | Rev. Jerry Falwell    | <i>World Net Daily</i>                | 10/4/02  | Arshad M. Khan  |
| “Saudis in Bikinis”                         | Nicholas D. Kristof   | <i>New York Times</i>                 | 10/25/02 | Mirza Ghulam Rabbi  |
| “Imams of Inanity”                          | Richard Cohen         | <i>Washington Post</i>                | 12/3/02  | Omar Ahmad  |
| “Anti-Islam Rhetoric Undercuts Moderates”   | Salam Al-Marayati     | <i>Los Angeles Times</i> <sup>f</sup> | 12/11/02 | Arshad M. Khan  |
| “PBS Recruiting for Islam”                  | Daniel Pipes          | <i>Los Angeles Times</i>              | 12/17/02 | Irfan Alladin, Fouzan Pal, Manzurul Sikder, Mueenudin Ahmad, Zahid Mian, and Nasir Rana |
| “A Year and Holding”                        | Joseph Marguiles      | <i>Washington Post</i>                | 12/22/02 | Arshad M. Khan  |
| “What is Jihad?”                            | Daniel Pipes          | <i>Commentary</i>                     | 1/1/03   | Mahmood Qureshi   |
| “A Year for Vigilance”                      | Alan Bock             | <i>Orange County Register</i>         | 1/4/03   | Arshad M. Khan  |
| “We’re at War, and It’s World War IV”       | Christopher Brassford | <i>New York Newsday</i> <sup>ff</sup> | 1/23/03  | Irfan Alladin   |

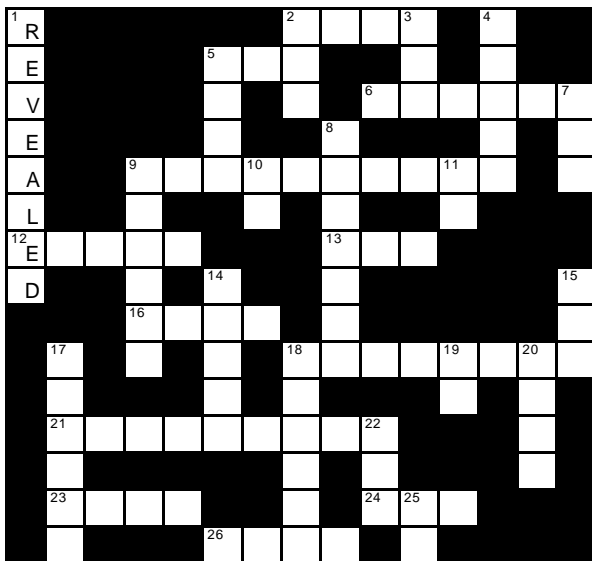
\*All responses are posted on [www.muslimwriters.org](http://www.muslimwriters.org).

<sup>f</sup>This response was printed in the “Letters to the Editor” section of the *Los Angeles Times* on 12/17/02.

<sup>ff</sup>This response was printed in the “Letters to the Editor” section of the *New York Newsday* on 1/23/03.

## Crossword Puzzle

Those of you who took the written taleem exam at the National Ijtema in 2002 should have an easy time with this because the puzzle consists of words from the first section of that exam. The clues are Arabic words and the words are their English translation. You can find the solution to the puzzle online at mkausa.org.



| Across       | Down                   |             |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 2. min       | 1. unzila              | 17. inna    |
| 5. man       | 2. la                  | 18. nas     |
| 6. ghaib     | 3. nas                 | 19. be      |
| 9. azhabon   | 4. yoonfiqoon          | 20. absar   |
| 12. sawaaoon | 5. inzartha            | 22. yaqoolo |
| 13. al       | 7. ma                  | 25. ala     |
| 16. sam      | 8. a (as in allazeena) |             |
| 18. razakh   | 9. salat               |             |
| 21. mutaqaen | 10. hay                |             |
| 23. Rabb     | 11. laa                |             |
| 24. ka       | 14. azeem              |             |
| 26. hom      | 15. wa                 |             |

## Awards and Recognition



### Alm-e-Ainamee

MKA USA congratulates the San Jose Majlis and its Qaid, Saleem Qadir (left), for earning the coveted Alm-e-Ainamee (Best Majlis USA) award for 2001-2002 !

### Best Majalis (FY 2001-02)

|     | Large Majalis | Medium Majalis       | Small Majalis |
|-----|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1st | Houston, TX   | San Jose, CA         | York, PA      |
| 2nd | Queens, NY    | New Jersey (Central) | Columbus, OH  |
| 3rd | Maryland      | Detroit, MI          | Boston, MA    |

### 2002 Q1 Taleem Exam (top scores)

| Name            | Majlis     | Score |
|-----------------|------------|-------|
| Zahid M. Mian   | Boston, MA | 136   |
| Hisham Qureshi  | Boston, MA | 124   |
| Muneeb Khan     | Queens, NY | 122   |
| Nuruddin Bashir | York, PA   | 118   |
| Javed Bhatti    | York, PA   | 112   |

### Useful Links

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <a href="http://www.alislam.org">www.alislam.org</a>             | <a href="http://www.askislam.com">www.askislam.com</a>                 |
| <a href="http://www.mkausa.org">www.mkausa.org</a>               | <a href="http://www.mkaprofessionals.org">www.mkaprofessionals.org</a> |
| <a href="http://www.muslimwriters.org">www.muslimwriters.org</a> |  |