

THE HOLY PEN

A FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION BY MAJLIS SULTAN-UL-QALAM, USA

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“THE WORK OF THE
SWORD WE HAVE
PERFORMED WITH
OUR PEN.”
HADHRAT MIRZA
GHULAM AHMAD OF
QADIAN^{AS}

FIRST READ – LETTER OF SOLIDARITY

ARSHAD MAHMOOD KHAN - LOS ANGELES, CA

Dear Senior Rabbi Rosenblatt and Assistant Rabbi Berger of Riverdale Jewish Center, and Dear Rabbi Lewis of Riverdale Temple,
Shalom aleichem,

You don't know me, but I am an assistant professor working at the University of Southern California. I have been following the news about the horrific plot that was devised by four so-called "Muslims" against your sacred institutions with anger, frustration and sadness. As an American and a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (www.alislam.org), I just wanted to write to you about how thousands of Muslims such as myself stand in 100% solidarity with you against individuals such as these, who seek to destroy our common values and beliefs in one God, in family and community, in faith and spirituality, and citizenship and patriotism.

In today's troubled times, I hear time and again how peace-loving, moderate Muslims like myself do not speak out against terrorism or extremism, and how a desire by many of us to not be associated in any way with such events often leads us to quietly hope the problem disappears and pray that things return to normal.

I wanted to write to you all today, in part, because I wanted you to know that moderates are slowly finding their voice now, and that I will continue to try to engage my friends, colleagues and neighbors more about issues such as these, so that they, too, find their voice.

In the past, for example, I have written letters to editors of newspapers as a form of such protest, and will continue to do

speaking out against intolerance in any form. However, I wanted to do it differently this time: I wanted members of your community to personally know that Muslims like myself admire what you do every day. Regardless of our faith, the fact of the matter is that you

dedicate much of your lives as religious leaders to help guide and lead others, and to create and foster a spirit of love and harmony within your communities.

For that, I salute you, and hope and pray that violence and extremism disappear by the strength of a united front among moderate members of all religious faiths and persuasions.
May God Bless You.

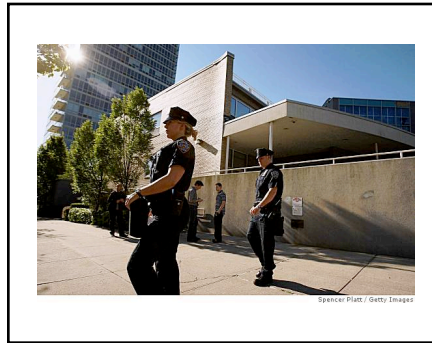
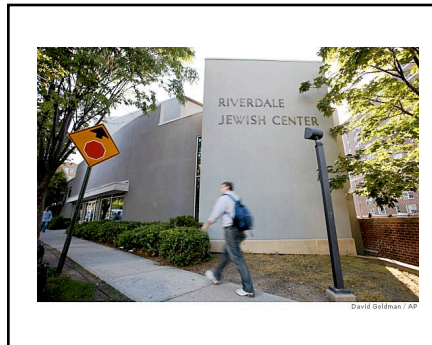
(If you find it suitable to do so, I would like this letter to be read to members of your congregation, as an expression of our friendship and solidarity with you all).

L'shalom,

Arshad M. Khan
Assistant Outreach Secretary
The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Los Angeles West Chapter

PS You may also be interested to know that we have a thriving chapter of our community in the New York area, and that one of our local New York centers that we recently purchased was

originally a synagogue, the structure of which we have preserved in its original form (Temple Israel of Jamaica Estates) with the blessings of the Jewish community attending that center. Our chapter in Haifa, Israel, also maintains strong ties of friendship and solidarity with our Jewish brothers and sisters living in that city.



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DON'T BURN BIBLES, BUILD BRIDGES

MAY 28, 2009

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SOHAIL HUSAIN - NEW HAVEN, CT



As a Muslim, I was perplexed to read that US officials in Afghanistan were prompted to burn several copies of a local translation of the Bible after rumors spread that US soldiers might proselytize Christianity by distributing them. Firstly, the Muslim holy book the Quran reveres the Bible as guidance from God. Secondly, the fact that there is a real fear of violence resulting from preaching Christianity in troubled Afghanistan bears sad testimony to the intolerant land of Kabul, but not to the Quran, which states, "There is no compulsion in matters of faith." Thirdly, the Prophet of Islam Muhammad during his lifetime 1500 years ago went so far as to advise his followers that to rebuild the churches of a certain Christian delegation would constitute an act of benevolence. Based on the teachings of the Quran and the Prophet, this Muslim keeps a Bible respectfully perched in his library, not for the burning, but for building common bridges of understanding.

ANOTHER AHMADI MUSLIM MURDERED IN PAKISTAN

MAY 29, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

It is with great sadness that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat confirms that yet another member of its Community has lost his life in a senseless attack in Pakistan. Mian Laiq Ahmad [54], a well known Ahmadi trader in Faisalabad, died earlier today after being brutally attacked last evening. He becomes the 5th Ahmadi to be martyred in 2009 and the 101st to be killed in Pakistan since anti-Ahmadiyya laws were introduced by the Government of General Zia-ul-Haq in 1984.

Yesterday evening the deceased was returning to his home in 'Peoples Colony', when he saw a parked Toyota Corolla blocking the road outside his home. As Mr Ahmad neared his home he slowed down and at that point unknown persons jumped out of the Toyota and ran towards his car. It seems that at this point Mr Ahmad tried to reverse but just as he did so he was shot in the head. At that point the attackers closed in on Mr Ahmad and fired repeatedly at his stomach and arms. The assailants then fled the scene.

Mr Ahmad was taken to the local hospital immediately and then transferred to the 'Allied Hospital' but was unable to recover and today at 11.30am local time he passed away. Mr Ahmad is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters.

Currently throughout Pakistan and in particular within the Punjab, anti-Ahmadiyya conferences are taking place on a regular basis. During these conferences audiences are instructed that there is a duty to kill Ahmadis and as a result uneducated yet indoctrinated people are led to believe that the bloodshed of innocent Ahmadis is something that will be greatly rewarded. It is of serious note that yesterday a similar such Khatme Nabuwat was held near to where the deceased lived.

The International Community, Media and Human Rights organisations are all urged to take action to safeguard the basic human and civil rights of Ahmadi Muslims both in Pakistan and in other countries where they face discrimination. In an era where freedom of religion and belief is accepted as a basic human right throughout the world it is of disbelief that anti-Ahmadiyya legislation is still active and indeed still being enforced in Pakistan.

Further Info [Abid Khan, press@ahmadiyya.org.uk] Press Secretary, AHMADIYYA MUSLIM JAMAAT

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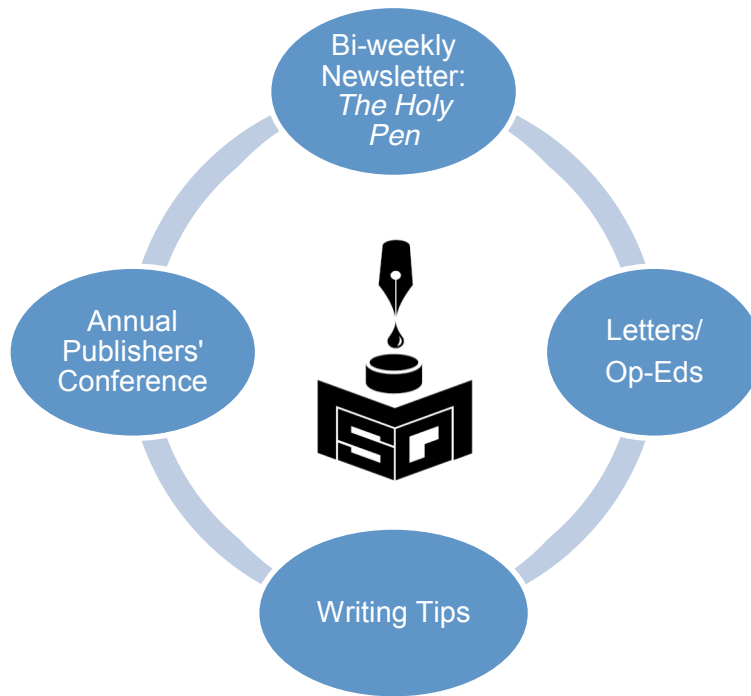
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