



*Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at Islam Lahore
(United Kingdom)*

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December, 96 Bulletin

December, 96 Meeting

Assalamu alaikum, You, together with your family and friends, are cordially invited to take part in our next meeting.

Venue: *Dar-us-Salaam*

Date: **Sunday, 1 December 96**

Time: 3 p.m.

Subject: A tribute to the late *Hazrat Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan, Amir* and International President of *Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam*
Please remember meetings of the Jamaat are held on the first Sunday of each month. The next meeting is on January 5, 1997.

Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan

- Our Amir -

On Friday, 15th November our Amir and President of the World Wide *Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam* of Lahore in Pakistan passed away peacefully. (*Inna lilla hi wa inna alaihai rajaan*)

Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan was born on 9th of October 1900 in Mansehra in India. He belonged to a family well known for its religious scholarship and piety. Many years before his birth a saint by the name of *Hazrat Syed Amir* had appeared in that area. *Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Saeed*, an

ancestor of *Hazrat Dr Saeed Ahmad*, was a *khalifa* of this saint. This saint had prophesied that the Mahdi-to-come had already been born and that the Mahdi spoke the Punjabi language. *Hazrat Syed Amir* passed away and many years later *Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad* announced his claim to the world. Thus fulfilling the prophecy made by this saint.

When *Hazrat Dr Saeed Ahmad's* father and uncle heard of the Promised Messiah's claim, they entered into his baiat and joined the jamaat. At the age of six *Hazrat Amir* himself wrote a letter to *Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad* and took the pledge. Two years later, in December 1907, *Hazrat Amir* went to Qadian with his father and took the pledge on *Hazrat Mirza sahib's* hand. With *Hazrat Amir's* passing away an era has come to an end. The last person alive who took the pledge on the Promised Messiah's hand has departed this world. There is now no one alive who saw *Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad*. This jamaat is fortunate indeed that it had a very close association with the last two people to take the pledge on *Hazrat Mirza sahib's* hand, namely *Dr Allah Bakhsh* and *Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan*. That also places a special responsibility on us for we saw with our own eyes the faith that their pledge inspired in their hearts. Both these old, small and weak men starred death in the face but refused to give up their

faith. May Allah grant their progeny the same strength of faith in the truthfulness of this jamaat.

The next time he went to Qadian was in 1912 C.E. The Promised Messiah had passed away and *Hakim Maulana Nur-ud-Din* was the *Khalifa* of the jamaat. Even at that young age, when most children would prefer to play, *Hazrat Amir* regularly attended the *dars* of *Bukhari* (the foremost collection of hadith) given by *Hazrat Maulana Nur-ud-Din*. Having completed his education in Mansehra, *Hazrat Dr sahib* joined the *Talim-ul-Islam High School* in Qadian and studied there for two years. At this time he committed the whole of the Holy Quran to memory and started to lead prayers at the tender age of fourteen. In 1914 *Hazrat Maulana Nur-ud-Din* passed away and *Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Ahmad sahib*, the first Qadiani *Khalifa*, concocted the tale that *Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad* was a prophet in fact and that all those who did not accept him as such were heretics.

At this *Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad* left Qadian and went to *Abottabad* where he sat for and passed the *Metric examination*. From *Abottabad* he proceeded to *Islamia College* at *Peshawar* to study for his *F.A. pre-medical examination*. After passing his examination he started to read *Medicine* at the

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King Edward Medical College in Lahore. At that time he fell seriously ill with Tuberculosis and at one stage he was close to death. He missed out a years of his medical training because of health problems. Although seriously ill *Hazrat* Dr. sahib had continued to prepare for his examination. He was confident of success in theory but he was worried about the practical examinations. He wrote to his uncle to pray for him. His uncle wrote back saying that after the prayer for *Hazrat* Amir's success, he saw that he was given a light but told that Saeed Ahmad does not need it but to give it to Allah Bakhsh. When the results were announced *Hazrat* Dr Saeed Ahmad had not only passed the examination but he had gained the Gold Medal for distinction. He was the first Muslim to do so and at the time the Muslim press of Lahore greatly rejoiced at this. It was in 1925 C.E. that he finished his medical studies.

While *Hazrat* Dr sahib was a student in Lahore he regularly attended the *dars* of the Holy Quran given by *Hazrat* Maulana Muhammad Ali. He also saw the Maulana at close quarters and this left an indelible mark on *Hazrat* Dr. sahib's personality. It was at that time that the Ahmadi Young Men's Association was formed and *Hazrat* Dr Saeed Ahmad became its first President.

After completing his education he joined the Health Department of the North West Frontier Province of India. There he specialised in chest diseases and in 1939 C.E. he was appointed the superintendent of the largest T.B sanatorium in India at Dadar. He held this post until 1964 C.E. In the intervening period, he was also appointed the Deputy Director Health for West Pakistan. The W.H.O granted him a fellowship and he toured many western countries as the leader of an international delegation of experts. For many years, he was also the president of various medical association in Pakistan. In recognition of his services the British government granted him the title of Khan Bahadur and the

Pakistani government granted him the Sitara-i Khidmat.

Hazrat Dr sahib performed the Hajj on two occasions. First in 1947 C. E. and the second time in 1950 C. E. As he had by that time become an internationally renowned personality, **the second Hajj was performed at the personal invitation of King Ibn Saud. After the Hajj Ibn Saud offered *Hazrat* Dr Sahib the position of the Royal Physician.** However, *Hazrat* Dr Saeed Ahmad declined it with thanks.

Where ever he was, *Hazrat* Dr sahib would organise lectures about the Holy Quran, hadith and writings of *Hazrat* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. From around 1930 C.E. onwards, he led the prayers during the annual jalsa at Lahore. For some time, he also organised and ran a Summer School at Abottabad to train young Ahmadis.

From 1964 C.E. to 1974 C.E. he established and ran a private clinic at Abottabad where, together with the clinic, he built his home and a mosque for the jamaat in that area.

During the agitation against Ahmadi in 1974 C.E., his clinic was burnt to the ground. His home was surrounded by a mob of several thousand. There were a few old men and women inside the house. *Hazrat* Dr. sahib, aged 74 with some of his family, Prof. Khalil-ur-Reham and his wife, *Hazrat* Dr. sahib's son-in-law, Kamal Hydral from Trinidad and Safura from Guyana. The mob's demand was very simple - that *Hazrat* Dr. sahib should hurl abuse on *Hazrat* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and recite the kalima and embrace Islam! *Hazrat* Dr. sahib remained firm in his faith. Upon his refusal to give in to these demands the mob attacked his house, firing with guns and setting it on fire. *Hazrat* Amir still remained firm and refused to give in. The lives of all those present were saved by what can only be described as a miracle. However, *Hazrat* Amir's son-in-law was shot and had to take medical retirement due to his injuries. What a wonderful example it must have made of the Quranic

verse where Allah promises to grant one steadfast believer victory over a multitude.

Hazrat Amir had been a member of the General Council since 1934 C. E. He was also a member of its Executive Council and for long the Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam. On 20th November 1981 C.E. he was unanimously elected the Amir and the President of the World wide Movement by the General Council. This decision was ratified by a public open meeting of the jamaat the same day. However, at the annual Jalsa that year, he, of his own free will, put the question of his election for ratification to the whole gathering. There upon the whole jamaat ratified his election.

Hazrat Amir extensively toured the Western World after the Ahmadi were declared kafirs in 1974 in Pakistan. He helped form new jamaats and strengthened the existing ones. This jamaat owes a great debt of gratitude to him. It was *Hazrat* Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan sahib who supported the idea of purchasing Dar-us-Salaam and it was he who raised the funds to enable us to put down a deposit and then to pay off the loan. For every prayer said in this house of Allah the reward will surely go to him. I am personally indebted to him for encouraging me to take part in the activities of this jamaat. My very small contribution to the work of this jamaat has been through his encouragement and guidance.

It is easy to pay tribute to him in words but if we really have some regard for him then we will want to see his dreams come true. One dream close to his heart concerned this jamaat. He longed for a united, vibrant, self-sufficient Ahmadi jamaat in the U.K. It is now up to us. He is now gone to his maker. **"O soul, that are at rest. Return to your Lord, well-pleased, well-pleasing. So enter among My servants and enter My Garden."** (89:27 - 30) You and I my friends have yet to reach the stage of pleasing Allah. We have seen an example with our own eyes and know that it can be done.