

**GOLDEN
TREASURES**

***Hazrat Mirza
Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud
Ahmad, The Promised
Reformer***

(may Allah be pleased with him)

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In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

Foreword

In a time when social temptations are on the increase, never more is the need for spiritual inspiration. In this booklet, you will be introduced to a true role model.

This booklet is about the humble life of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II (May Allah be pleased with him). Readers will truly be inspired and if God wills, see a change within their own lives.

This booklet was written in Urdu by
in 1979. With the kind permission of our beloved Huzoor, Hazrat
Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V (May Allah be his Helper)
the English translation of the original Urdu booklet published by
on the life of Hazrat Musleh
Mau'ud (May Allah be pleased with him) is being presented with
certain revisions and additions.

I would also like to acknowledge and give heartfelt thanks to the
Lajna Ima'illah UK Isha'at team under the leadership of Mrs. Zahida
Ahmed for undertaking and supervising its completion for the
benefit of our younger members.

I pray that those who read this book are truly inspired. May we
always be guided by Allah the Almighty, Ameen.

Nasira Rehman
Sadr Lajna Ima'illah UK
2014



Alhamdulillah, with the blessings of Khilafat, this is a great honour for Lajna Ima'illah UK to design and produce stories of prominent personalities in Islam and Ahmadiyyat, at the time when we are celebrating 100 years of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the UK.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih II (May Allah be pleased with him) established Lajna Ima'illah in 1922 for the training and education of Ahmadi Muslim women. He envisioned a broader and active role for Ahmadi women. He felt their participation was of great importance for the success of the Jama'at. Women play an important role in the moral and spiritual development of their children. They are responsible for raising the leaders of tomorrow.

Keeping this in mind, we are presenting this booklet for the younger members of our community so they can be inspired by these special personalities.

Zahida Ahmed
Secretary Isha'at, Lajna Ima'illah UK
2014

Salutations and Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used. Readers are urged to recite the full salutations when reading the book.

as - Alaihis Salaam, meaning “peace be upon him.” This is written after the names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

ra - Razi-Allaahu anhu/anha, meaning “May Allah be pleased with him/her.” This is written after names of the Companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and of the Promised Messiah^{as}.

rh - rahimahu-Llahu `alaihi meaning “May Allah have mercy on him” This is written after the names of the deceased pious Muslims who are not Companions of a Prophet.

sa - Sallallaahu Alaihi wa Sallam, meaning “May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.” This is written after the name of the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

***Hazrat Mirza
Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad,
The Promised Reformer***

(may Allah be pleased with him)



HAZRAT MIRZA BASHIR-UD-DIN MAHMUD AHMAD, THE PROMISED REFORMER^{ra}

You may have read stories about prominent people of history. Today we will learn about the story of a prominent person from a recent time and age whose birth was foretold by Allah, the Almighty even before he was born. Our story begins long ago, in 1886...

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Promised Messiah^{as} travelled on January 22, 1886 to Hoshiarpur under the command of Allah. For 40 days, he stayed at the residence of Sheikh Meher Ali on the top floor of his house which was called a ***Taveela***. During these 40 days, the Promised Messiah^{as} neither met anyone nor went to anyone's house. All day long, he would spend his time in reflection and prayer. During this time, Allah gave him the glad tidings of a pious son. On February 20, 1886, the Promised Messiah^{as} published a leaflet regarding the prophecy of a great son. The meaning of 'great' is very important to understand here; someone great is one who does amazing works and has excellent qualities which make him stand out from others. **But what was the actual prophecy about this 'great son', you may wonder?** We have included the full prophecy here.

Prophecy of the Promised Son¹

'I confer upon thee² a sign of My mercy according to thy supplications. I have heard thy³ entreaties and have honoured thy prayers with My acceptance through My mercy and have blessed thy journey (the journey to Hoshiarpur). A sign of power, mercy, nearness to Me is bestowed on thee. A sign of grace and beneficence⁴ is awarded to thee and thou⁵ art granted the key of success and victory. Peace be on thee, O victorious one. Thus does God speak so that those who desire life may be rescued from the grip of death and those who are buried in the graves may emerge therefrom and so that the superiority of Islam and the dignity of God's word may become manifest unto the people and so that the truth may arrive with all its blessings and falsehood may depart with all its ills, and so that people may understand that I am the Lord of Power, I do whatever I will, and so that they may believe that I am with thee, and so that those who do not believe in God and deny and reject His religion and His Book and His Holy Messenger Muhammad, the Chosen One^{sa} may be confronted with a clear

¹ It is important to remember that Musleh Mau'ud Day is a celebration of an important phase in the fulfilment of the grand prophecy in Islam made by the Holy Prophet^{sa}. The Holy Prophet^{sa} had said that in the last days, a Messiah and Mahdi would appear to revive the faith of Muslims, who would forget the true teachings of Islam. The Promised Messiah's^{as} prophecy of Musleh Mau'ud is further proof of the fulfilment of this prophecy, because through Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra}, great works were achieved towards reviving Islam and the faith in Muslims. Therefore, we do not celebrate Musleh Mau'ud Day as a birthday. Rather it is celebrating the fulfilment of a great prophecy in Islam made by the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

² 'thee' means 'you'.

³ 'thy' means 'your'.

⁴ 'beneficence' is being good, kind generous or being of benefit.

⁵ 'thou' means 'you'.

sign and the way of the guilty ones may become manifest.

Rejoice⁶, therefore, that a handsome and pure boy will be bestowed on thee. Thou wilt receive a bright youth who will be of thy seed and will be of thy progeny. A handsome and pure boy will come as your guest. His name is Emmanuel and Bashir. He has been invested with a holy spirit and he will be free from all impurity. He is the light of Allah. Blessed is he who comes from heaven. He shall be accompanied by grace (Fazl) which shall arrive with him. He will be characterised with grandeur, greatness and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their disorder through his Messianic qualities and through the blessings of the Holy Spirit. He is the Word of Allah for Allah's mercy and honour have equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and understanding and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He will convert three into four (of this the meaning is not clear). It is Monday, a blessed Monday. Son, delight of heart, high ranking, noble; a manifestation of the First and the Last, a manifestation of the True and the High; as if Allah has descended from heaven. His advent will be greatly blessed and will be a source of manifestation of Divine Majesty. Behold! A light cometh⁷, a light anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. We shall pour our spirit into him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and peoples will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to his spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed' (Majmua Ishtiharat, vol. 1, p. 95; Ishtihar dated February 20, 1886).

⁶'Rejoice' means to show great happiness and joy.

⁷'cometh' means 'come'



MAKHZAN - E - TASAWER © 2006

This was the prophecy about the great son - Musleh Mau'ud (the Promised Reformer), Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, the second Khalifah of the Promised Messiah^{as}. Allah the Almighty had informed the Promised Messiah^{as} that the boy who was mentioned in this prophecy would be born within nine years. Before the birth of the second Khalifah, the Promised Messiah^{as} had a son who passed away at a young age. The enemies of the Promised Messiah^{as} became very happy that his words had proven to be untrue. But the words of Allah are never false and this prophecy was from Allah. Thus, the Promised Messiah^{as} wrote:

'The prophecy is regarding the second son, that a blessed Bashir will be given to me whose second name will be Mahmud. Although he is not born yet until now (December 1, 1888), but will be born within the time frame Allah Has prophesied. The heavens and the earth can move but Allah's promises cannot be altered' (Majmua Ishtiharat, vol. 1, p. 146; Ishtihar dated December 1, 1888).

The Promised Messiah^{as} published this prophecy on a green coloured leaflet which is called **'Sabz Ishtihar'** (The Green Leaflet). He wrote in it that the Promised Son was named Fazl according to a revelation. His second name was Mahmud and his third name was Bashir, the Second. In another revelation, he was named **Fazl-e-Umar**.

After this prophecy was revealed to the Promised Messiah^{as} by God the Almighty, Jalsas were arranged in various places in celebration and to praise Allah the Almighty. One such Jalsa was also held in Hoshiarpur.

Pandit Lekhram was an arch enemy of the Promised Messiah^{as}. He published leaflets in which he stated that the Promised Messiah's^{as} children would all die and none would survive. But he was proven

wrong; on Saturday, January 12, 1889, between 10-11pm, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was born to **Hazrat Ummul Momineen** (the mother of the believers and wife of the Promised Messiah^{as}, was Hazrat Nusrat Jehan Begum Sahiba^{ra}).

Remember that the marriage of the Promised Messiah^{as} to Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra} was also in accordance with a revelation from Allah the Almighty. As a result of this marriage, other children besides Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} were also born to them who lived long lives (*Mubashar Aulaad*)⁸. Their names are, **Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad^{ra}**, **Hazrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad^{ra}**, **Hazrat Nawwab Mubarika Begum Sahiba^{ra}** and **Hazrat Amtul Hafeez Begum Sahiba^{ra}**.

The *Aqeeqah* (sacrifice given at the birth of a child) of the Promised Son^{ra} was held on Friday, 18 January 1889. The barber who shaved his head was called Deena.

At that time, it was the tradition of some families to employ a nanny to take care of the children. Such a woman was called *Khilayi* (nanny). The nanny who was hired to look after the Promised Son^{ra} was sick, but she had not told anyone about her sickness. Around eight or nine of her own children had died because of tuberculosis. She fed her milk to the second Khalifah^{ra} without telling the Promised Messiah^{as} and Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra}. As a result, germs of diseases like tuberculosis and mumps were transferred to his body and from the age of two to 12-13 years, he remained constantly ill. Sometimes he would get a severe cough and sometimes he would suffer from fever. Other times his mumps would swell up like balls. Doctors said

⁸ In accordance with revelation from God the Almighty, the Promised Messiah's^{as} children were Mubashar Aulaad, meaning blessed children. Each child's birth was accompanied by a revelation from God the Almighty. The details of each revelation can be found in Tazkirah, the book of dreams and revelations of the Promised Messiah^{as}.

this child would not survive very long. But Allah the Almighty had promised that he would do great works and grant him a long life. Thus, despite the predictions of the doctors, Allah saved him with His blessings. Indeed, nobody can harm one whom Allah protects.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was dearly loved by his parents. They would take great care of his moral training. From an early age, the Promised Messiah^{as} and Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra} paid special attention that his moral training should be done in such a way that he would become a good Muslim and have good morals. Along with his moral training, they would be mindful of small things. Here we will mention a few examples which point towards the moral upbringing he had.

Once during his childhood, he hunted a parrot and brought it home. The Promised Messiah^{as} said to him,

“Mahmud, the meat of this bird is not ‘haram’ (forbidden) but Allah Has not created every animal to be eaten. Some animals are created for their beauty, and some for their melodious voices so that we become happy when we listen to them” (part 3, p. 511).

Therefore, from a young age, he was taught that although not all things are *‘haram’* (forbidden according to Islamic law), but our beloved master, the Holy Prophet^{sa} has shown a disliking to their eating. Once the Promised Son^{ra} said to his younger brother, Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad^{ra}, “Bashir, tell me, which is better, knowledge or wealth?” The Promised Messiah^{as} who was sitting close by, answered,

“Ask for forgiveness. Neither knowledge nor wealth is good. Only Allah’s Grace is good” (vol. 1-2, p. 85).

In this way, the Promised Messiah^{as} instilled in the mind of his young child that unless one has Allah's Grace, both knowledge and wealth are useless because if one starts to indulge in bad deeds, as a result, this knowledge and wealth become wasted.

There is another incident. Once the Promised Son^{ra} was catching birds in his house. The Promised Messiah^{as} said to him,

“You should not catch birds that are reared in the house. One who doesn't show mercy doesn't have faith” (vol. 1-2, p. 85).

These few incidents show that even in little matters, the Promised Son's^{ra} moral training was taken care of.

The Promised Son^{ra} was very intelligent from his childhood. Once when he was playing with the other children, Hazrat Hakim Maulvi Nooruddin^{ra} (who later became the first Khalifah) passed by. He asked lovingly, **“Are you playing?”** Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} replied, **“When I grow up, I will do a lot of work”** (, p. 490). At this time, he was only four years old.

Similarly, in another instance he was playing with some other boy at home. He was nine years old at the time. While playing, he picked up a book in which it was stated that the angel Jibrail (Gabriel) does not appear anymore. He said, **“This is untrue. He appears to my Dad.”** The boy replied, **“No, Jibrail does not come anymore because this book states this.”** Both boys stood firm on their respective statements. The boy kept saying that Hazrat Jibrail does not bring the message of Allah anymore, and Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} kept saying that he still does. Finally, both boys went to the Promised Messiah^{as} and presented their argument to him. The Promised Messiah^{as} replied,

“It is written wrongly in the book. Jibrail still appears”
(vol. 1-2, p. 149).

These little incidents show his knowledge and intelligence even in childhood.

In 1895, Hafiz Ahmadullah Sahib Nagpuri started to teach Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} the Holy Qur’an. On June 7, 1897 he had his **‘Ameen’** (ceremony upon the completion of the Holy Qur’an). On this occasion, the Promised Messiah^{as} wrote a poem. Some of its verses are as follows:

**How can I thank you, O Allah! All that is mine is yours
You have filled my home with every kind of blessing
When your light came, all darkness disappeared
Every day is a blessed day as You are watching over me!**

**You have shown me this day when Mahmud has completed
the Holy Qur’an
My heart sings Your praises when I see this great blessing
of Yours
I thank You greatly for this, I thank You greatly for this
Every day is a blessed day as You are watching over me!**

This poem is from Durre Sameen. I think you may have read it; if not, you should try and read it.

For some time, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} studied in the lower primary school in the district board in Qadian. He joined Talim-ul-Islam School in 1898 when it was established.

The names of the people who taught him are as follows:

1. Hazrat Sheikh Yaqub Ali Irfani^{ra} – Editor, Al-Hakam, Qadian

2. Hazrat Qazi Syed Ameer Hussain Bhervi^{ra}
3. Hazrat Maulana Syed Muhammad Sarwar Shah^{ra}
4. Hazrat Maulana Sher Ali^{ra}
5. Hazrat Master Abdul Rehman^{ra} (Previous name – Mehr Singh)
6. Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq^{ra}
7. Master Faqeer-ul-allah^{ra} etc.

Hazrat Syed Muhammad Sarwar Shah^{ra} says, “When I used to teach Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, I said to him one day, ‘Your father has revelations frequently. Do you also have revelations and true dreams?’ to which he replied, ‘Maulvi Sahib, I do have a lot of dreams. There is a dream I have every day in which I see myself commanding an army.’” Maulvi Sahib says, “When I heard this dream from Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, I became certain that he would one day lead the Jama’at.”

Hazrat Maulana Sher Ali^{ra} says, “Since his childhood, I haven’t seen anything except good morals and habits in Huzoor (referring to Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}). From the very beginning, there were indications of piousness and righteousness in him.”

In October 1902, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad’s^{ra} *Nikah* (official announcement of marriage) was performed with Hazrat Syeda Mahmuda Begum Sahiba^{ra}, the daughter of Hazrat Dr Khalifah Rashiduddin^{ra} in Rurki. He was married to her in 1903. His wife, who was known as Umme Nasir had seven boys and two girls. Their names are: **Hazrat Sahibzada Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III^{rh}, Late Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Late Sahibzada Doctor Mirza Munawwar Ahmad, Late Sahibzada Mirza Hafeez Ahmad, Late Sahibzada Mirza Anwar Ahmad, Late Sahibzada Mirza Azhar Ahmad, Late Sahibzada**

Mirza Rafiq Ahmad, Late Sahibzadi Nasra Begum Sahiba and Late Sahibzadi Amtul Aziz Begum Sahiba.

Here it is appropriate to mention that Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra} married several times in his life (all the details of each marriage will be given later in the story). It is important to know that in accordance with Islamic law, he never had more than four wives at a time. There was deep wisdom in the Promised Reformer^{ra} marrying many wives. It was to provide excellent Tarbiyyat or moral training, and a means of reformation to the ladies of the Jama'at for all times to come. The wives of the Promised Reformer^{ra} gave incredible and extraordinary services towards Lajna Imaillah, the ladies' auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

Initially, there was no separate body in the community for women. Understanding the crucial role of women in Islam, and inspired by his second wife, Sahibzadi Amatul Hayee^{ra}, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} founded a separate organisation (within the community) called **Lajna Ima'illah**, which was only for women. His wife Hazrat Amatul Hayee Sahiba^{ra} was its first secretary. After her, this important office was assigned to another wife of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, Hazrat Sarah Begum Sahiba and then to another wife, Hazrat Syeda Maryam Begum Sahiba^{ra}. When Lajna Ima'illah was established, its members requested Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra}, the blessed wife of the Promised Messiah^{as}, to become its first president. It is likely that she presided over the first session, but during that very session she nominated Hazrat Syeda Mahmuda Begum Sahiba^{ra} as president. Hazrat Syeda Mahmuda Begum Sahiba^{ra} held the post until her demise on 31 July 1958. From August 1958, Hazrat Maryam Siddiqah Sahiba, another wife of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra}, took this responsibility.

So you can see through this short example that the wives of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra} gave amazing sacrifices and incredible

services to the Jama'at during their lives. They displayed high moral standards and left behind for all future generations of women examples of great passion and service to the Jama'at. This was the wisdom in Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra} marrying many wives, to leave behind such noble and pious examples for all women.

On May 26, 1908 when the Promised Messiah^{as} passed away, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} thought that people would now raise various kinds of objections and oppose the Jama'at. At the time, he made a promise while standing on the bedside of the Promised Messiah^{as} saying:

“Even if all the people leave you and I am left alone, even then I will stand against everyone on my own and I will not care about any kind of opposition or enmity” (Al-Fazl, April 10, 1938, p. 9).

Thus throughout his life, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} never cared about any opposition or enemy; instead he always made every effort towards the progress of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. Allah had already stated about him that he would be '*Uool-ul-Azam*' which means, one who has a strong will and a lot of patience. Thus whenever he took a decision to do something, he would complete the task even if it meant going against all odds.

In 1912, he visited Egypt followed by Arabia where he performed Hajj. He met the caretaker of Makkah and drew his attention towards the arrangement of better hygiene and cleanliness.

After the demise of the Promised Messiah^{as}, when Hazrat Hakim Maulvi Nooruddin^{ra} became the first Khalifah of the Promised Messiah^{as}, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was the first person to take *Bai'at* (oath of allegiance) at his hand. He used

to respect and dearly love the first Khalifah^{ra} who also loved him equally. Whenever Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} visited a gathering with the first Khalifah^{ra}, Hazrat Hakim Maulvi Nooruddin^{ra} would create space for him on his mattress and ask him to sit on it. Once the first Khalifah^{ra} stated in an address:

“Mian Mahmud is mature now. You may ask him and he will tell you that he is my true and obedient follower. A person can argue that he is not a true and obedient follower, but I know very well that he is, and he is so obedient that none of you can be compared to him” (vol. 3, p. 400).

After the demise of the Promised Messiah^{as}, his opponents started to raise objections. Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} presented his answers to them which were published in the form of a book called, **‘Who can Diminish the Light of those who are Truthful?’** This was his first book. After reading it, the first Khalifah^{ra} told Maulvi Muhammad Ali^{ra},

“Maulvi Sahib! Both you and I have written in response to the opposition raised after the demise of the Promised Messiah^{as}. But Mian has outdone us both!” (vol. 3, p. 207).

In June 1913, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} launched the Al-Fazl newspaper from Qadian. At this time the Jama'at did not have enough money to publish a newspaper, so Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad's^{ra} wife, Hazrat Umme Nasir^{ra} sold all her jewellery and presented the income from it to him. In this way, enough funds for the publication of the newspaper were made.

On March 13, 1914 the first Khalifah^{ra} passed away. On that day,

people gathered at Noor Mosque in Qadian at the time of Asr prayers where Hazrat Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan^{ra}, the son-in-law of the Promised Messiah^{as} read out the will of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I^{ra} and requested the people to nominate a Khalifah in accordance with the will. Hazrat Maulvi Syed Muhammad Ahsan Amrohi^{ra} presented the name of Hazrat Sahibzada Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, the Promised Reformer^{ra}. At first, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was hesitant, but upon seeing the excitement and persuasion of the people, he understood that this was the decision of Allah. Therefore, he took Bai'at from them. In this way, Allah made him the second Khalifah of the Promised Messiah^{as}.

On the demise of the first Khalifah^{ra}, the ***Ghair Mubaeen*** (those who did not accept Khilafat or take the Bai'at) tried their best to end Khilafat, but by the Grace of Allah, their efforts were in vain and Khilafat remained in Jama'at Ahmadiyya. There were some people, like Maulvi Muhammad Ali and Khwaja Kamaluddin who wanted an executive body to take up the administration of the Jama'at instead of Khilafat. But Ahmadis knew that unless the Jama'at had a Khalifah, it would not progress. So they did not listen to such people. When Maulvi Sahib and his follower saw that no-one was listening to them, they formed their own party and set up its headquarters in Lahore. This Jama'at is known as '***Lahori***' or '***Paighami***' or '***Ghair Mubaeen***' (those who did not take Bai'at and accept Khilafat). The Lahoris took almost all the money and resources of the Jama'at and the true Ahmadiyya Jama'at was left with hardly anything. Yet despite this, we observe today that the true Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has progressed leaps and bounds whereas the Lahoris are almost non-existent. This is because the true Ahmadiyya Jama'at has a Khalifah chosen by God who guides them and true Ahmadis have remained loyal to Khilafat. This is why the Ahmadiyya Jama'at is established in over 200 countries in the world today and we witness so many new stories of progress every single day, because they receive God's help. On the other hand, those who formed the Lahori Jama'at rejected

Khilafat, and today the Lahori Jama'at in comparison are in small numbers and unsuccessful.

The second Khalifah's^{ra} daily responsibilities increased a lot after becoming Khalifah. He would give '**Dars**' of the Holy Qur'an after Fajr prayers, then read his mail until 12 noon and get their replies composed and also carry out other duties. After Asr prayers, he would deliver another '**Dars**' at Aqsa Mosque. A question and answer session would be held after Maghrib prayers at Mubarak Mosque where he would talk affectionately with people on various topics.

As we mentioned before, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} used to fall ill quite often from an early age. After becoming a Khalifah, his health was affected even more and he became quite weak. **Ghair Mubaeen**, (those who did not take Bai'at) had another objection that a Khalifah should be a healthy person. However, despite his illness and weakness, he carried out the duties of Khilafat with immense courage and strength.

On April 12, 1914 on the instructions of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, **Majlis-e-Shura** (a meeting to consult on certain matters) was held in Mubarak Mosque in Qadian to discuss issues of **Tabligh** (spreading the message of Islam). This conference was attended by Ahmadis from all over the country. On this occasion, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} stated, **“I would like that we have people among us who can speak every language so that we can carry out Tabligh in all languages”** (vol. 2, p. 35).

In London, the Jama'at had already been established at the time of the first Khalifah^{ra}. During the second year of his Khilafat, the second mission of the Jama'at was set up in Mauritius.

In 1900, the Promised Messiah^{as} had a revelation:

تائی آئی

'Taiee Aiee' (or 'Aunt came.')⁹ This revelation was fulfilled when the wife of the Promised Messiah's^{as} elder brother, Mirza Ghulam Qadir, who was the aunt of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, took Bai'at at his hand in March, 1916.

On May 31, 1914 Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was married to Hazrat Syeda Amtul Hayee^{ra}, the daughter of the first Khalifah^{ra} and they had three children whose names are as follows: **Late Sahibzada Mirza Khalil Ahmad, Late Sahibzadi Amtul Qayyum and Late Sahibzadi Amtul Rasheed.**

As the Tabligh work of the Jama'at was increasing, on December 7, 1917 Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} announced the scheme of **'Zindagi Waqf'** (devoting one's life in the way of Allah). Sixty three young men presented their names for this scheme. These included Maulvi Abdul Rahim, Sheikh Yusuf Ali, Soofi Abdul Qadeer Niaz, Soofi Muhammad Ibrahim, Maulvi Jalaluddin Shams, Maulvi Zahoor Hussein, Sheikh Mahmud Ahmad Irfani etc.

As we have related before, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad's^{ra} health became worse for a while. In 1918 when he became very ill, doctors suggested that he should visit Bombay. Thus on May 3, 1918 he travelled from Qadian to Lahore where he got laser treatment for his nose and throat and then went to Bombay for recovery. On June 15, 1918 he returned to Qadian.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was keen to take special care of vulnerable people within the Jama'at. On his instructions, an orphanage was established in 1919 in Qadian for

⁹ 'Taiee' in Urdu means the wife of one's father's eldest brother.

the upbringing and care of Ahmadi orphan children so that they would have a place to live and would not be wandering here and there looking for shelter. Hazrat Meer Qasim was appointed as the head of this orphanage.

On February 21, 1921 Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} married Hazrat Syeda Maryam Begum Sahiba^{ra} who was the daughter of Hazrat Doctor Syed Abdul Sattar Shah^{ra}, a companion of the Promised Messiah^{as}. They had four children whose names are as follows: **Late Sahibzada Mirza Tahir Ahmad^{rh} (Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV), Late Sahibzadi Amtul Hakim Sahiba, Late Sahibzadi Amtul Basit Sahiba and Sahibzadi Amtul Jamil Sahiba.**

On December 25, 1922 Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} laid the foundation of Lajna Ima'illah. As mentioned earlier in this story, the first secretary of Lajna was Hazrat Amtul Hayee Sahiba^{ra}. The members of Lajna requested Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra} to be the **Sadr** (president) but on the very first meeting, she offered this position to Hazrat Umme Nasir^{ra}.

Along with Lajna, Nasiratul Ahmadiyya was also established which includes girls of 7-15 years. These auxiliary organizations of Lajna and Nasirat were started so that Ahmadi women could be well educated and become exemplary sisters, daughters, mothers and wives.

In 712 AD, Muhammad bin Qasim established an Islamic government in India, following which many Hindus converted to Islam. However, in some regions of the country, the Muslims still followed the customs and traditions of the Hindus and were Muslim only in name. They remained Muslims in this way for hundreds of years. However, in the 18th century, Pandit Diya Nand Sarsoti started a movement called '**Shuddhi.**' The purpose of this movement was to convert people from other religions into Hinduism. As a result, a lot

of Muslims who were not completely familiar with Islam became Hindus. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} began to respond to the Shuddhi Movement and sent Ahmadi missionaries to places where the scheme was very active. As a result, a lot of people who had become Hindus converted back to Islam. A newspaper called '**Zameendar**' praised these efforts and wrote:

'The manner in which Ahmadi brothers have participated in these efforts with such humbleness, passion and sympathy, is worthy of every Muslim's pride' (
vol. 4, p. 375).

After the demise of Hazrat Amtul Hayee Sahiba^{ra} on April 13, 1925 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} married Late Hazrat Syeda Sarah Begum Sahiba, the daughter of Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Majid Bhagalpuri. They had two sons, **Late Sahibzada Mirza Rafi Ahmad and Late Sahibzada Mirza Hanif Ahmad** and one daughter, **Late Sahibzadi Amtul Naseer Sahiba**.

We mentioned earlier that the second Khalifah, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} established Lajna Ima'illah so that Ahmadi women could work together. Three years after establishing Lajna, he laid the foundation of a religious school for women in Qadian where along with other teachers, he used to teach himself. He was very concerned about the training of women. He used to say that if 50 percent of women were reformed, then the Jama'at would progress. This is why he established a school and college for the education of girls so that along with secular education, they would also receive religious education and become true Ahmadi Muslim women.

On February 1, 1926 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} married Hazrat Aziza Begum Sahiba, the daughter of Seth Abu Bakr Yusuf of Jeddah. They had two sons, **Late Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad and Late Sahibzada Mirza Naeem Ahmad**.

He was always concerned about the education of both men and women. A school for boys already existed but for their religious education, he established Jamia Ahmadiyya where Ahmadi children would study and become missionaries and spread the message of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. On April 15, 1928 Jamia Ahmadiyya was established. From here Ahmadi missionaries are trained and they call people towards Islam and Ahmadiyyat in their own countries and abroad. As a result of their efforts and the blessings of Allah, a lot of people convert to Islam and Ahmadiyyat. He also established Taleem-ul-Islam College in Rabwah.

In 1924, an exhibition and a religious conference were to be held at Wembley Park in London. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} travelled to London to participate in this conference. In the conference, his address entitled **'Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam'** was read out by Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrullah Khan^{ra} which was much liked by all.

'He will turn three into four' was a prophecy revealed to the Promised Messiah^{as}. Out of the four living sons of the Promised Messiah^{as}, Hazrat Mirza Sultan Ahmad^{ra}, the elder brother of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra} had not taken Bai'at at the hands of the Promised Messiah^{as}. In December 1930 Hazrat Mirza Sultan Ahmad^{ra} took Bai'at at the hand of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud^{ra}, and in this way, the prophecy was fulfilled.

Not only did Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} have deep affection for Ahmadis, he also had a lot of sympathy for other Muslims. At the time, the Muslims of Kashmir were being tortured by Hindus for many years. In 1913, these cruelties increased a lot and the Hindu government in Kashmir martyred hundreds of Muslims and robbed their properties. They also arrested a lot of Muslims. The Muslims of Kashmir wrote about the situation to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} and requested him to handle this matter. He immediately sent a telegram to the Viceroy of India asking him to end the difficulties

imposed on the Muslims. In addition, he called a meeting of all the prominent leaders of the Muslims in Shimla in which he said that a committee should be formed to help the Kashmiri Muslims get their rights. As a result, the All India Kashmir Committee was formed. Khwaja Hassan Nizami and Allama Iqbal presented Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II's^{ra} name to preside this committee. At first he refused but when the Muslims insisted that they needed his help, he agreed. At the time, the Muslim leaders of Kashmir used to visit him in Qadian and seek his guidance. Eventually, through the efforts of the All India Kashmir Committee, the Maharaja of Kashmir promised to grant the Muslims their rights.

On September 30, 1935 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra} married Hazrat Syeda Maryam Siddiqah Sahiba, the daughter of Doctor Hazrat Mir Muhammad Ismail. They had one daughter, **Late Sahibzadi Amtul Mateen Begum Sahiba**.

In 1947 when Pakistan was founded, on the instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II^{ra}, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community participated very actively in these efforts and gave a lot of sacrifices.

At the time Pakistan was created, there was a large population of Muslims in Kashmir. Despite this, the Hindu Maharaja, with the help of the British had joined Kashmir to India. The Muslims on the other hand wanted to be part of Pakistan but were helpless at the hands of the Maharaja and the Indian government.

The government of Pakistan expressed a desire that a community of helpers should be formed to help the Pakistan army in the liberation of Kashmir. So Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} created Furqan Battalion which worked from 1947 to 1950. Ahmadi youth participated in this effort with a lot of passion and helped the army in the war. Once Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} himself went to the warfront which was very encouraging

for the Ahmadi youth of the time.

In 1949, a magazine, '**Qaid-e-Azam**' wrote about this Jihad of Ahmadis as follows:

'In the fight for the independence of Kashmir, no other community has come forward and shown such courage the way the Ahmadiyya Community has fought along with soldiers with dedication and loyalty and offered their sacrifices for the cause of Kashmir' (
vol. 5, p. 708).

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} always used to be concerned that the Jama'at should continue to progress. In this effort, he initiated the scheme of Tehrike Jadid in 1934. Tehrike Jadid had 19 demands some of which we are writing down here for you so that you may also understand them:

- **Ahmadis should not waste money; one demand stated that every Ahmadi should promise to cook only one dish, buy clothes only out of necessity and should not visit the cinema.**
- **For a period of three years, all Ahmadis should deposit their money in the treasury which would be returned to them after the completion of three years.**
- **People should go abroad for the sake of Tabligh on their own expense. They should dedicate their lives to the Jama'at on a temporary basis. Those who receive pension should also dedicate themselves for the service of the Jama'at. Similarly, doctors and lawyers should also dedicate themselves for the Jama'at.**

- **Ahmadi children should be educated in different fields. Some should become doctors; some should become lawyers while others should join the railway and the army. Thus, Ahmadis should work in all kinds of occupations.**
- **Learn to work with your own hands. No Ahmadi should remain without doing any work. Even if you have to do labour, sell books or magazines, do not remain idle. Those who are disabled and are restricted in their movements should spend their time praying.**

Ahmadis fulfilled these demands of Tehrike Jadid with utmost happiness and willingly. Initially these demands were only for three years but some were permanently extended.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} himself followed the scheme of Tehrike Jadid strictly. Initially, there was so much work that needed to be done that he could not sleep before 1 am. Sometimes he would stay up until 3-4 am working. He personally donated 118,686 Rupees towards this scheme. In addition, he also donated his valuable piece of land towards Tehrike Jadid.

Once Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} came for dinner but left quietly after seeing the dinner. He later said,

“I have said that only one dish should be laid out on the table for dinner. But today there were three kinds of dishes on the table, so I won’t eat the food” (Tareekh-e-Ahmadiyyat, published in 2007 by Nazarat Nashro Isha’at, Qadian, vol. 7, p. 49, footnote 1).

He didn’t buy any new cloth for his shirts for four years and kept using the same shirts that he had before the start of Tehrike Jadid.

Initially, he also stopped using ice and soft drinks during the summer.

He dedicated all his sons for the Jama'at. He said:

“I have 13 sons and I have dedicated all 13 of them for the Jama'at” (vol. 3, p. 329).

He used to participate in *Waqar-e-Amal* (dignity of work done with one's hands). He would say:

“On the first day when I held a spade and carried a basket of soil, some of the dedicated members of the Jama'at would come running to me out of concern and say, ‘Huzoor, please don't be troubled by this work, we will do the work.’ However, a few days later when I worked with them, they became accustomed to it and understood that this was team work which we were all doing” (Tareekh-e-Ahmadiyyat, published in 2007 by Nazarat Nashro Isha'at, Qadian, vol. 7, p. 50).

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} always wished that no Ahmadi should stay idle. So to encourage Ahmadi youth to develop interest in skills and industry, he created *'Darul Sana'at.'* On the occasion of its inauguration, he took a hand plane, shaved the wood and cut it with a saw. With these actions, he exemplified that working with one's hands is not degrading, but respectful.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} established missions in many countries of the world where Ahmadi missionaries spread the message of Ahmadiyyat. In this way, people in all corners of the world came to recognise the name of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} and the prophecy **'He will gain popularity in all the corners of the earth and nations will get blessings from him'** (Majmua Ishtiharat, vol. 1, p. 96, Ishtihar dated February 20,

1886), was fulfilled.

From among the different schemes Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} established, one important scheme was the formation of **Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya** in 1938. This is an auxiliary organisation for young men and was created for the moral training of the Ahmadi youth so that they would hold the flag of Ahmadiyyat high. Along with Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, he also formed Atfal-ul-Ahmadiyya for young boys so that they could be trained according to Islamic teachings.

In 1939, Khilafat Jubilee was celebrated to commemorate 25 years of Khilafat. On this occasion, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} told the Jama'at to participate in good deeds as a way of offering gratitude to Allah. The same year he formed a committee to draft the Hijri Shamsi Calendar. He named the months as follows:

1. **Sulah (January)**
2. **Tabligh (February)**
3. **Aman (March)**
4. **Shahadat (April)**
5. **Hijrat (May)**
6. **Ehsan (June)**
7. **Wafa (July)**
8. **Zahoor (August)**
9. **Tabuk (September)**
10. **Akha'a (October)**
11. **Nabuwwat (November)**
12. **Fatah (December)**

All these months relate to some important incidents in the history of Islam.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was always concerned about the moral training of everyone in the Jama'at

including children, the old, the young and women. This is why he formed auxiliary organisations for them so that everyone would work within a structure. He had already formed **Lajna Ima'illah, Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, Nasirat-ul-Ahmadiyya** and **Atfal-ul-Ahmadiyya**. In July 1940, he formed **Ansarullah** which men over 40 years old join so that the elders within the Jama'at do not become lazy but instead actively participate in the work of the Jama'at.

As we have related to you earlier on, Allah had already informed the Promised Messiah^{as} that Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} would be the Promised Reformer. However, he had not announced until then that the prophecies of the Promised Reformer were about him.

In January 1944, Allah informed Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} in a dream that he was indeed the Promised Reformer. He then announced in a Friday sermon, **"I am the Promised Reformer."** Upon hearing this announcement, Ahmadis were overjoyed and began to congratulate one another, except for a few hypocrites who were jealous of him.

After declaring himself to be the Promised Reformer, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} started to sit in Mubarak Mosque, Qadian after Maghrib prayers. This gathering was called **'Majlis-e-Irfan'** in which he would tell people matters of religion in a very loving way. In one such gathering he said in answer to a question:

"A Khalifah is superior to a Mujaddid and his work is to implement the commandments of religious law and to establish religion. So how can a Mujaddid appear in his presence? A Mujaddid appears when a religion goes astray" (Al-Fazl, April 8, 1947 p. 4).

On July 24, 1944 Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}

married Hazrat Syeda Bushra Begum Sahiba who was the daughter of Syed Azizullah Shah, son of Hazrat Syed Abdul Sattar Shah.

As we have already told you, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} assisted Muslims at every occasion. When the Muslims of India decided to establish a country of their own, he worked a lot towards the success of this scheme. He also urged all Ahmadis to offer sacrifices of every kind to create Pakistan.

In 1947 after the creation of Pakistan when conflicts began, he set up Qadian as a camp where Muslims from the surrounding areas came to seek refuge because, by the grace of Allah, Qadian remained safe from the attacks of the Hindus and Sikhs. At the time of the partition, Qadian became part of India. He decided that not all the Ahmadis would leave Qadian. Thus, following his instructions, about 313 Ahmadis remained in Qadian. He instructed his son, Sahibzada Mirza Waseem Ahmad to remain in Qadian who served the Jama'at in Qadian for a very long time. Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} himself remained in Qadian for a while until everyone had left Qadian before leaving for Lahore. As Qadian which was the headquarters of the Jama'at remained in India, he made new headquarters in Pakistan which he named Rabwah. '**Rabwah**' means an elevated place. Initially, there was neither water nor vegetation there. Due to the prayers and efforts of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, Rabwah became populated. With Allah's blessings, water was found from the earth. It started to rain a lot and vegetation was seen everywhere. In the initial days, only two trains would pass through Rabwah during the day. There were no night trains. The roads could only be used for some time during the day. However, when the town was established through the efforts of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}, Rabwah became a station. Buses and trains started to pass through the town; electricity, telephone lines and gas pipelines were laid out which provided gas for household use. Thus, a deserted and unfertile area

became a populated town.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} loved Allah, the Holy Prophet^{sa} and the Holy Qur'an a lot. He spent his entire life understanding and teaching the Holy Qur'an. All his life, his enemies kept hurting him and causing him pain. These enemies were both from within and outside the Jama'at. Those within the Jama'at are called hypocrites as they appear to be friends but are actually enemies and they strike whenever they get a chance.

All his life, such hypocrites kept hurting him and during his Khilafat, they tried to cause conflicts and divisions in the Jama'at. Even those who were not Ahmadis kept causing him hurt in every possible way. They would say foul things against him but he would always tolerate such things courageously and did not care. Allah named him '**Uool-ul-Azm**' (one with firm intentions). He defeated his enemy with strong will and patience.

In 1954 while returning from Mubarak Mosque in Rabwah after Asr prayers, one of his enemies attacked him with a knife which caused a deep cut on his neck. However, Allah saved his life. He remained unwell for a long time after this incident but even during his illness, he constantly kept working. He completed all the work on the translation of the Holy Qur'an during his illness. He would stay up the whole night translating the Holy Qur'an. The short commentary he wrote of the Holy Qur'an is called '**Tafseer-e-Sagheer**.' He also wrote a detailed and longer commentary which is called '**Tafseer-e-Kabeer**.'

It was his habit that he would read while walking except when he fell very ill and became very weak. Otherwise, he would always be seen walking holding the Holy Qur'an and reading it.

As the prophecy regarding Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} had stated that he would be very intelligent, he used to solve matters very quickly. He had a lot of authority and whenever he saw something wrong, he would always correct it immediately regardless of whether it was his own children or anyone else who had made that mistake. However, he was very soft-hearted. If he scolded someone at one time, he would treat them with great empathy at other times. This is why everyone loved him very dearly and found him to be truly sympathetic towards them.

Despite his numerous responsibilities towards the Jama'at, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} would never feel tired and was always happy and full of life. He often took his whole family on picnics. He enjoyed the company of both the young and the old. He loved the Jama'at in the same way as he loved his children. In fact, people would say that he loved them more than he loved his own children.

He loved young children a lot and would often have a hearty laugh with them. I remember that, **“Once when I took some letters to him which a security guard had given to me, he was having his dinner. When he saw me, he became very serious and said, ‘You have committed a mistake and I will punish you for this.’ I felt terrified and didn’t know what I had done wrong. He said, ‘Your fault is that you are the daughter of my daughter and the punishment I will give you is a lot of love! As much as he loved everyone, he also cared greatly for their moral training. Initially when Rabwah was founded, we had homes made of brick. There were a couple of shops near the homes. Once I was returning from the shops after buying something. Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} who was on his way for prayers saw me and said, “Where are you coming from?” I said, “From the shops.” He did not say anything to me but told my mother, “She is still very young. It’s not**

appropriate to send her alone to the shops.”

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} respected everyone and did not think ill of anyone. Once a servant kissed his grandson on the face. The rest of the children teased the child saying, **“A servant has kissed you and now you have become dirty too.”** When Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} found out about this, he called his grandson over and asked where the servant had kissed him. The child pointed to his cheek. Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} hugged him and kissed him on the same spot on his cheek. Thus, he taught a lesson to the children that no person is bad.

Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} had a very melodious voice. When he recited the Holy Qur’an, everyone would want to listen to his voice. He would deliver speeches in a way that everyone enjoyed them. He used to deliver his addresses for hours and the audience would not want him to stop.

After 1954, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad’s^{ra} health declined and he became weaker. Following the advice of doctors and on the insistence of the Jama’at, he travelled to Europe in 1956 for treatment. Besides medical reasons, he also visited the missions in Europe and met the Ahmadis living there. The treatment was effective but only to an extent and he could not recover completely. Eventually, on the night of November 8, 1965 at about 10 pm, Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, the Promised Reformer^{ra} returned to his dear Lord. ***Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon - Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return (2:157).***

On hearing the news of his demise, people from near and far began arriving in Rabwah. The following day, the Jama’at gathered to elect their new Khalifah and selected Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad^{rh} as the third Khalifah and took Bai’at at his hand.

On the evening of November 9, 1965 his body was taken to ***Bashisti Maqbarah (Heavenly Graveyard)*** in Rabwah where Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad^{rh} led his funeral prayers. He was buried next to his mother, Hazrat Ummul Momineen^{ra}.

You should always pray that Allah may enable us to become humble servants of Islam and develop in us true love for the Holy Prophet^{sa}. You should also pray that Allah may grant our beloved Khalifah a long life; that no conflicts arise in the Jama'at and that we work together and obey the instructions of the Khalifah of the time because numerous blessings are associated with Khilafat. Think of a tree that has branches which always remain green. When you break the branches, they dry up immediately. Similarly, when the members of a Jama'at are joined to Khilafat and support it, their faith remains alive. On the other hand, when an unfortunate person leaves Khilafat, Allah makes him the dry branch of a tree which has no value any more.

So this was a brief overview of the life of Hazrat Fazl-e-Umar^{ra} which we have presented before you.

***Your name is Mahmud; all your work is good
Every action, every practice and conduct of yours is good
Your whole life is an example of righteousness
Your beginning was blessed, and so is your end!***



Timeline of the life of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}

- **January 12, 1886** – Prophecy of the Promised Reformer
- **1889** – Birth of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}
- **May 26, 1908** – Demise of the Promised Messiah^{as}
- **1914** – Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} became Khalifah
- **1916** – Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad's^{ra} paternal Aunt accepted Ahmadiyyat
- **1920** – Foundation of Darul Tabligh America was laid
- **1922** – Established Lajna Ima'illah
- **1923** – Started a scheme to oppose the Shuddhi Movement
- **11 July 1924** – Travelled to Europe for Wembley Conference
- **1928** – Established Jamia Ahmadiyya
- **December 19, 1928** – Inauguration of rail route from Amritsar to Qadian
- **December 1930** – Hazrat Mirza Sultan Ahmad, the elder brother of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} took Bai'at at his hands
- **1931** – All India Kashmir Committee was founded
- **1934** – Launched Tehrik-e-Jadid Scheme
- **1937** – The rebellion of the hypocrites
- **1938** – Founded Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya
- **1939** – Khilafat Silver Jubilee
- **1940** – Creation of the Hijri Shamsi Calendar
- **1940** – Founded Ansarullah
- **1944** – Claimed to be the Promised Reformer
- **August 31, 1947** – Migration from Qadian to Pakistan

- **1948** – Rabwah became the new headquarters of the Jama’at
- **1954** - Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra} was attacked
- **1955** – Trip to Europe
- **1958** – Launched Waqf-e-Jadid Scheme
- **November 8, 1965** – Demise of Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad^{ra}



The Promised Messiah (peace be on him) stated,

'.....The prophecy is regarding the second son, that a blessed Bashir will be given to me whose second name will be Mahmud. Although he is not born yet until now (December 1, 1888), but will be born within the time frame Allah Has prophesied. The heavens and the earth can move but Allah's promises cannot be altered'

(Majmua Ishtiharat, vol. 1, p. 146; Ishtihar dated December 1, 1888)