



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

ISSUE 1

MARCH 2021



# ROEHAMPTON VALE

*Newsletter*

And We have expounded the (Quran) to them in diverse ways that they may take heed, but most men would reject everything but disbelief. If We had pleased, We would have surely raised a warner in every city; So obey not the disbelievers and strive against them by means of (the Quran) with a mighty striving. (25:51-53)

## PRAYER TIMINGS 🕒

London

From 28th March 2021

06:00

FAJR

14:00

ZOHR

17:00

ASR

19:45

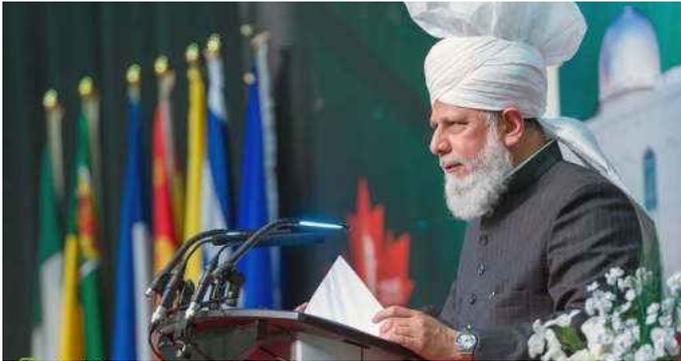
MAGHRIB

21:15

ISHAA

# FRIDAY SERMON

*In today's day and age, we are blessed to have MTA on which sermons and various other programmes of His Holiness(aba) are relayed all over the world. Thus, aside from studying the books of the Promised Messiah(as), it is necessary to watch and learn from MTA, specifically by regularly watching the Friday Sermons - His Holiness(aba)*



## MARTYRDOM OF HAZRAT ALI (RA); IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO THE WORLD FOR 2021

**DETAILS ➤**

## MUSLEH MAUD: THE PROPHECY AND THE MAN

**◀ DETAILS**



**PLEASE CLICK ON THE TITLES TO ACCESS THE SERMON SUMMARY AND RECORDINGS**

# ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



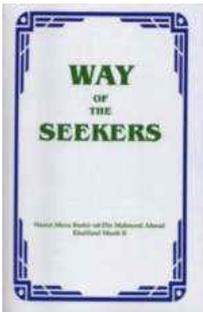
- **Virtual Musleh Maud Day 2021**

Roehampton Vale held its very own Musleh Maud virtual event where the attendees were quizzed on Hazrat Musleh Maud's life. They were also reminded of the importance of the day through speeches and nazams by nasirat and lajna Roehampton vale.

- **Virtual Messiah Maud Day 2021**

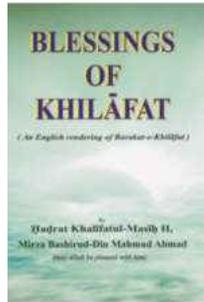
Roehampton Vale also held a virtual event for the Blessed Messiah Maud day, where the lajna and nasirat took part in discussions regarding Hazrat Messiah Maud and were able to listen to informative speeches about the history and significance of the day.

- **Readings**    *CLICK ON THE BOOKS TO ACCESS MORE INFORMATION*



*Way of the seekers*  
by Hazrat Mirza  
Bashiruddin Mahmud  
Ahmad, Khalifatul  
Masih II(ra)

*We will surely guide in Our ways  
those who strive after Us. (29:70)*  
*An Exposition of the Islamic Theory  
of Morals and the way of its  
translation into daily life.*



*Blessings of Khilafat*  
by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin  
Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul  
Masih II(ra)

*The book consists of the addresses of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II(ra) during the first Jalsa Salana of his Khilafat in 1914. Huzoor(ra) gave a detailed account of the events after the demise of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih I(ra) and his election to the august office. Huzoor(ra) also addressed the issues facing the Jama'at - Politics, marriages between Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis, Zakat, settlement of disputes, doctrinal issues etc. His insights on these points are as pertinent today as they were then. <https://www.alislam.org/book/blessings-of-khilafat/>*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Ramadan Mubarak Roehampton Vale!*

**KEY DATES:**  
**RAMADAN STARTS ON 14TH APRIL 2021**  
**EID UL FITR IS ON 14TH MAY 2021**

# ARTICLE

## *Why don't we celebrate Valentines Day*

By Simra Khan

Why do we Ahmadi's not celebrate Valentine's Day? To answer this question, we must understand the purposes and the intentions of this event. Valentine's day, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, is celebrated annually on February 14th. It originated as a Christian feast day honouring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine and has become a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

There is nothing wrong with the idea of expressing love and affection towards your loved ones but to celebrate a day which has a Christian background and is followed by society is wrong. As well as that, Valentines Day inspires boys and girls unreasonably towards illegitimate relationships. Us Ahmadi's should stay pure and clean from such traditions and celebrations.

Hazraht Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud (ra) said:

"in my point of view, the most important thing that needs attention is to get religious education and only this will help our generations to stay in their limits. Our country civilians follow the western traditions in such a disgusting manner that its shameful for us to look at. We should not only try to protect ourselves but others from this."

Islam promotes love among people and the exchange of gifts is one way for love and good relations to increase in society however does not restrict the expression of this familial love to just one day a year.

The word "Muslim" means "the one who submits (to God)" therefore, us muslims unquestionably obey to the commands of Allah. Allah has commanded muslims to not follow the way of the disbelievers. This is why us Ahmadi muslims do not celebrate Valentines Day.

# ARTICLE

## *Misconceptions of warfare in Islam*

By Kashifa Sarwer

In today's world, we continuously see in the media how Muslims are portrayed negatively, constantly labeled as terrorists. Unfortunately, these labels do not stop here, but go further to tarnish the name of our beloved Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). It is often said that the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was violent and constantly sought warfare when this is false and just slander. This becomes evident if we take a closer look at Islam's actual teachings on warfare and the Holy Prophet's (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) attitude to abuse.

During the time of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Muslims faced severe persecution for many years in Mecca. They were constantly beaten, humiliated and many lost their lives due to the harsh treatment from the non-believers, just because they proclaimed in the belief of one God and that Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was his messenger. Despite all this suffering, not once did the Muslims initiate warfare. The Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed the Muslims to remain patient and to pray, he wanted to avoid warfare at all costs and resolve this problem peacefully.

But when this abuse on the Muslims became too much to endure and it seemed that the other party (the Meccans) showed no signs of backing down or engaging in any form of negotiation, the Muslims had no choice but to defend themselves. All the wars fought during this time were defensive wars. It is important to mention here, that during these wars, the Meccans came in thousands, with skilled fighters and proper weapons, whereas the Muslims were only a few, maybe a hundred, who mostly were poor and lacked the proper equipment.

One should ask oneself, if it is possible to remain silent for years in front of an abuser without ever protecting themselves.

Allah has given permission in the Quran to engage in warfare against an abuser. In Surah Al-Hajj verses 40-42, Allah says:

“Permission to fight is given to those against whom war is made, because they have been wronged—and Allah indeed has power to help them—Those who have been driven out from their homes unjustly only because they said, "Our Lord is Allah"—And if Allah did not repel some men by means of others, there would surely have been pulled down cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques, wherein the name of Allah is oft commemorated. And Allah will surely help one who helps Him. Allah is indeed Powerful, Mighty.—Those who, if We establish them in the earth, will observe Prayer and pay the Zakat and enjoin good and forbid evil. And with Allah rests the final issue of all affairs.”

By looking at these verses, we can see that Allah has given the permission to defend oneself against an aggressor, who has driven people out of their homes and taken away their freedom to practice their faith. Allah has also said that He will stand with the victims and help them. If this kind of defensive warfare was not permitted and if Allah did not help, then there would be no freedom of any religion in the world today.

In addition to defending themselves, the Muslims had to follow a certain list of rules, laid out by the Quran. Some of them are as follows:

1. These wars should only be fought for the sake of Allah and not for any selfish gains.
2. Wars should only be fought against those who initiate warfare first.
3. Only attack those who attack you, not against those who are not taking part in the war. Innocent civilians, children, women, and the elderly should not be attacked.
4. Places of worship, including churches and synagogues should be protected.

Just looking at a glimpse of Islam’s teachings on warfare, we can clearly see that the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) taught peace not warfare. So of course, these slanders made in the media would hurt the sentiments of many Muslims around the world.

Now if we look at the wars fought today, almost all the time, these wars have been unjust and waged for selfish purposes. Usually, a more powerful party uses war, to suppress a much weaker party. In these wars, innocent individuals are killed, and many houses are bombed. These attacks usually become more severe over time and those involved in the war go far and beyond in their attacks. It is the world leaders of today who are violent and seek warfare.

There is much to be learnt from Islam and from the Holy Prophet’s (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) attitude towards war. May Allah enable us to spread the true teachings of Islam and may Allah enable the disbelievers the ability to learn and benefit from them. Ameen.