

## Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Lesson Plan

Month: JANUARY 2022 (Term -1 October 2021 to January 2022)

Learning Objectives:

- ∞ To learn the key points from History of Ahmadiyyat
- ∞ To understand the key points on 'Testimony of the Holy Qur'an' written by the Promised Messiah<sup>(AS)</sup>

### ACTIVITY HISTORY OF AHMADIYYAT

RESOURCE: Silsila Ahmadiyya by Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib M.A<sup>ra</sup> Pages 359-370

***Below section has been translated in English by the National Lajna Ta'lim Department for the purpose of lesson plan only.***

#### First Mission house in Western Africa:

In 1928, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> was considering sending a tabligh mission to Western Africa. This was a vast area which included countries like Nigeria, Gold Coast and Sierra Leone. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> sent Maulvi Abdul Rahim Sahib Nayar as the missionary to Western Africa. He stayed in Sierra Leone and Gold Coast on his way to Nigeria where he established the mission house in Nigeria's capital, Lagos. Allah the Almighty blessed his mission so much that in a short time thousands entered the fold of Ahmadiyyat. After Nayar sahib's return, Hakeem Fazal ur Rahman sahib was sent to this mission house and by the grace of Allah this mission is still running successfully. Now mission houses have also been established in Sierra Leone and Gold Coast.

#### The establishment of Majlis-e-Mushawarat (Consultative Body):

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> felt there was a need for a better, more permanent system that includes all local Jamaats while seeking advice on Jamaat matters. Hence, in 1922 he laid the foundations of Majlis-e-Mushawarat (consultative body) which was to convene annually and he asked all local Jamaat's to send their representative to advise in important matters. This had three profound benefits. Firstly, it informed Khalifatul-Masih of the Jamaat's views and advice, which was generally accepted and even if it was not, the final decision was made by Khalifatul-Masih after hearing all views. Secondly, it informed members on the financial matters of the Jamaat which is essential for national development. Thirdly, it helps to train members in the running of Jamaat matters.

#### The Apostasy movement in Province Uttar Pradesh and Ahmadiyya Jamaat's tireless efforts :

The Hindu sect Arya Samaj started the Shuddhi movement in Uttar Pradesh through which they started reconverting Malkana Rajput Muslims back to Hinduism by covertly preaching to them. Other Hindus also joined them after realising the political benefits. When the movement grew stronger in 1922 and 1923, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> activated the Jamaat in order to stop the flood of Shuddhi and at once he sent a few Ahmadi Mubaligh to Uttar Pradesh, who started working in these areas. Then Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> recruited several honorary Mubaligh by making a general appeal and sent them to Uttar Pradesh, creating a well connected web of Ahmadi Mubaligh there. All this work was done through a well organised system under the guidance and supervision of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II who appointed Chaudhry Fateh Muhammad Siyal Sahib M.A as the in charge. Through their tireless efforts not only were they successful in stopping the Shuddhi movement once and for all but by the grace of Allah they also reconverted people back to Islam.

#### Preaching to the low caste sects:

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II devised a scheme to preach to the lowest caste sects of the Punjab. By the grace of Allah these efforts were very successful and in a small period of time, many people from Sikh, Baalmiki and other low caste Hindu sects were guided to the truth and accepted Islam Ahmadiyyat.

#### Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih's II<sup>ra</sup> tour abroad:

In 1924, on the occasion of the famous Wembley exhibition, some respectable Englishmen suggested that a religious conference be organised in London, where representatives and dignitaries of different religions of the British Empire would be invited to explain the philosophy of their religion. Hazrat

Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> also received the invitation, requesting his presence at the conference. Thus, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> left from Mumbai on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1924 along with twelve companions. This is the first time that any Khalifatul-Masih went abroad. By the grace of Allah, this tour proved to be very useful and led to many future successes. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> visited Egypt, Syria and Palestine on his way. His visit received a lot of attention. Although there was some opposition, the respectable classes warmly welcomed him. The High Commissioner of Palestine and the Mufti Aazam of Palestine arranged a dinner in his honour. After a few months, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> established a mission house in Damascus and now by the grace of Allah there are Ahmadis in Egypt, Syria and Palestine.

Upon his arrival in England, he received a lot of coverage in British Newspapers and he was greeted warmly by the British public. A summary of his essay was prepared for the conference, which was readout by Chaudhry Zafarullah Khan on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1924 at the conference on behalf of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>. This address was listened to attentively and liked more than all other speeches. The original essay has also been published with the name “Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam”. During his trip, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> laid the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Mosque in London on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1924.

**ACTIVITY                      BOOK OF PROMISED MESSIAH<sup>as</sup>**

**RESOURCE:** Testimony of the Holy Qur’an by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib<sup>as</sup> Pages 21-39

***Please note that to fully understand & achieve full benefit, you must read the complete text. Here, the key points are reproduced in the words of the Promised Messiah<sup>AS</sup>.***

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> wrote this book because a gentleman named Ata Muhammad enquired from him what proof he had for being the Promised Messiah and whether one is obliged and duty bound to wait for a messiah.

The critic believes that:

1. Hazrat Isa<sup>as</sup> had died as is mentioned in the Holy Quran.
2. However he denies that someone bearing the name of Isa will appear in this Ummah.
3. He accepts that Ahadith do, indeed, record this prophecy, but considers the reports of such Ahadith to be unreliable.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> says that in order to address his objections there are three issues that need to be investigated.

In the previous lesson plan we looked at the first issue. This month we will look at the second point of issue i.e. Whether or not there is any mention concerning the Promised Messiah in the Noble Quran?

**Key Points:**

- ☞ The Noble Quran categorically and definitively contains news of such a Reformer whose name, in other words, must be the Promised Messiah, not something else.
- ☞ In order to understand this tiding, the following verses should first be viewed as a whole.  
Surah al-Anbiya’, 21:92–94 and Surah al-Anbiya’, 21:97–98
- ☞ And all these sects will remain in this state until Gog and Magog are let loose and they shall hasten forth from every height and when you see that Gog and Magog have become dominant in the land, then understand that the promise of the spread of true religion has drawn nigh and that promise is: “He it is who has sent His Messenger with the guidance and the Religion of truth, that He may cause it to prevail over all religions, even if those who associate partners with God hate it (Surah as-Saff, 61:10).”

- ☞ The truth will become manifest in an extraordinary manner and the disbelievers will realize that they were in the wrong.
- ☞ The purport of all these verses is that in the Latter Days many religions will spread in the world and there will be many sects. At that time, two Christian nations will emerge and gain every single type of height
- ☞ At another place the Holy Quran says: Surah al-Kahf, 18:99–100; meaning that, when the promise of God Almighty draws near then God Almighty will pulverize the wall, which is a defence against Gog and Magog. Indeed, the promise of God Almighty is true.
- ☞ Every single sect will desire to make their religion and faith dominant over others. None of them will spare any effort. Every single sect will endeavour to make their religion superior. And while they are engaged in these conflicts, God Almighty shall blow the trumpet. Then shall We gather all sects upon one religion. The blowing of a trumpet here implies that in accordance with the practice of Allah, a reformer shall be raised by God Almighty with heavenly succour, and the spirit of life shall be breathed into his heart. And that life will be infused into others.
- ☞ And those blessed with visions also experience a physical manifestation of the ‘trumpet’ in their visions. In short, the aforementioned verses establish clearly that in the Latter Days, the Christian religion and empire will be dominant in the world and many religious disputes will arise among various nations and each nation will want to suppress the other. At such a time, the trumpet will be blown and all peoples will be gathered under the banner of Islam. That is to say, in keeping with divine practice, a heavenly dispensation shall be established with the advent of a divine reformer.
- ☞ In fact, that very reformer is named the Promised Messiah. Since Christians are the source of the mischief and the main purpose of God Almighty was to destroy the glory of their cross, therefore, the person who was to be sent to invite the Christians was named Masih and ‘Isa. The second wisdom in this [to call him the Messiah] is that when the Christians deified Hadrat ‘Isa, attributed fabrications of their own to him, hatched thousands of machinations, and exaggerated the status of Hadrat Masih out of all proportion, the honour of that Living, One, and Unique God required that one of His servants from this very ummah be sent, in the name of Jesus, son of Mary, to show the miracle of His might so that it is established that to deify humans is sheer stupidity.
- ☞ When a reformer appears at a time of decadence, there is a diffusion of light from heaven. In other words, with his advent, a light also descends upon the earth and upon eager hearts. It is at this time that people spontaneously turn to the ways of goodness and virtue according to their capabilities. And every heart applies itself to deliberation and contemplation, and due to unknown reasons every eager disposition is inspired to move to seek the truth. Thereby, there blows such a breeze as inclines the eager hearts towards the Hereafter and awakens dormant faculties and it seems as if a grand revolution is about to take place.
- ☞ When these signs are manifested, they testify that the reformer has come into the world. And these heavenly inspirations quicken the eager hearts in proportion to the lofty stature of the reformer. Every good-natured person awakens, though they do not know what awakens them. Every righteous person feels a change in themselves, but cannot understand what has brought it about.
- ☞ In short, the hearts begin to stir, making the ignorant think that the awakening started by itself. But, in fact, these lights descend with the advent of a Prophet or a Mujaddid [Reformer]. The Holy Quran and ahadith clearly establish this fact. Allah, the Lord of Glory, says: Surah al-Qadr, 97:2–6
- ☞ In addition to the conventional meaning, the Night of Destiny is also the age when darkness spreads all over the world and there is darkness upon darkness everywhere. And that darkness itself requires that a light should descend from heaven. At that time, God Almighty causes His light-bearing angels and the Holy Spirit to descend to the earth in a manner that is consistent with their grandeur. The Holy Spirit then establishes a relationship with that Mujaddid and Reformer who, having been chosen and purified by God, is commissioned to invite people to the truth. The angels, too, grasp a relationship with all pious, righteous, and eager people and draw them towards virtue and place righteous abilities before them. Then peace and blessings spread in the world, and so it continues until faith reaches the perfection destined for it.

- ☞ To think that this awakening and stirring happens by itself, without the advent of a reformer, goes against the holy Word of God Almighty and His eternal law of nature.

The Promised Messiah (as) then enumerates the verses of the Holy Quran wherein the signs of the Latter Days are told.

- ☞ That is, firstly, they foretell that intense worldly darkness will spread all around, and then they foretell the signs of the descent of heavenly light: Surah az-Zilzal, 99:2–6. Meaning that the Latter Days shall come at a time when the earth, in a way proportionate to its size, is violently shaken. That is to say, the inhabitants of the earth will experience a major revolution and they will incline towards selfishness and worldly pursuits.
- ☞ It was written that the Antichrist would claim both Prophethood and Godhead, and so it came to pass through this people. Brazen and unwarranted interpolation into the books of the Prophets on the part of the Christian clerics is, in other words, tantamount to claiming Prophethood. They have so boldly interpolated into them as if they themselves were the Prophets.
- ☞ The Noble Quran clearly points to this time of *dajjal* [Antichrist] in as: When the earth is shaken with her violent shaking (Surah az-Zilzal, 99:2).
- ☞ Then, as a description of this age, when new arts and sciences will be developed in the world, certain inventions and machines have been described as illustrations. Surah al-Inshiqaq, 84:4–5
- ☞ That is, when the she-camel will become useless and will not be possess any significant value. The word *Ishar*] means a pregnant she-camel, which is highly prized among Arabs, and it is quite clear that this verse has nothing to do about the Day of Judgement. Judgement Day is not an occasion when a male camel will mate with a she-camel and result in a pregnancy. On the contrary, it points to the invention of railways. . Surah at-Takwir, 81:5
- ☞ And when the books are disseminated and spread about. That is, the means for publishing books will become available. This refers to the abundance of printing presses and post offices in the Latter Days. Surah at-Takwir, 81:11
- ☞ And when people are brought together. This refers to the relations between various nations and countries. It means that owing to the opening up of new routes, the availability of mailing services and the telegraph, mutual communication between people will increase. Surah at-Takwir, 81:8
- ☞ And when savages will be brought together with people. That is to say, savage nations will turn towards the civilized world and will develop humane values and decency. The lowly classes will be dignified with worldly ranks and prestige, and with the spread of material sciences and arts, there will remain no distinction between the nobles and the common people. Surah at-Takwir, 81:6
- ☞ And when the rivers will be split. Meaning that, canals will sprawl the land and agriculture will boom. Surah al-Infitar, 82:4
- ☞ And when the mountains will be blown away, and in them tracks will be built for people travelling on foot or as passengers, or for trains to move about. Surah al-Mursalat, 77:11
- ☞ In addition, signs of general darkness were described and it was said: When the Sun is wrapped up. Meaning that, the world will be engulfed in extreme darkness, ignorance, and sinfulness. Surah at-Takwir, 81:2
- ☞ And when the stars will be obscured; meaning that, when religious scholars will lose the light of sincerity. Surah at-Takwir, 81:3
- ☞ And when the stars will fall; meaning that, when divine scholars will pass away. For, it is impossible that people should continue to inhabit the earth while stars fall. . Surah al-Infitar, 82:3
- ☞ Then it was said: When the heavens will be torn part. . Surah al-Inshiqaq, 84:2
- ☞ And when the Messengers will be brought at the appointed time. This, in fact, is an indication of the advent of the Promised Messiah and the purpose is to state that he shall descend at the precise time of need. It must be remembered that in the Word of God, the term *Rusul* [Messengers] is also used for a single [Messenger] as well as for non-Messengers. Surah al-Mursalat, 77:12

The Quranic verses that we have quoted thus far establish clearly that the Holy Quran certainly contains the prophecy that, in the Latter Days, the faith of the Christians will spread far and wide in the world. And they will plan for the religion of Islam to be wiped off the face of the earth and will leave no stone unturned in promoting their own faith. Then, God Almighty will turn His attention towards helping the religion of Islam and will demonstrate, in such time of conflict, how He protects His religion and His Holy Word.

God Almighty has stated in clear words that the trumpet shall be blown at the time when the clamour of debates and controversies rises. It is then that righteous people will be gathered under the banner of one Faith. Moreover, He has also stated that the Messengers will be sent at the time of darkness. Now what more can clear up this matter than Allah, the Lord of Glory, stating that:

- **The first sign** of the Latter Days will be the dominance of Gog and Magog, i.e. the influence of Russia and the British.
- **The second sign** will be the emergence of many sects.
- **The third sign** is that these sects will feud with one another and would fall upon one another like waves.
- **The fourth sign** will be the development of railways.
- **The fifth sign** will be the means for publishing books and newspapers, such as the press and the telegraph.
- **The sixth sign** will be the digging of canals.
- **The seventh** will be the increase in population and cultivation of the earth.
- **The eighth sign** will be the blowing away of the mountains.
- **The ninth sign** will be the progress of all modern sciences and arts.
- **The tenth sign** will be the spread of sinfulness and darkness and the disappearance of righteousness, purity, and the light of faith from the world.
- **The eleventh sign** will be the emergence of *dabbatul-ard*, that is, a surge in preachers who would be totally devoid of heavenly light and who will be like earthly worms. Their works will side with Dajjal [the Antichrist] whereas their words will side with Islam. That is, their deeds would be in service of Dajjal—ugly and animal-like—yet their speech will be like that of humans.
- **The twelfth sign** will be the advent of the Promised Messiah, which is described metaphorically as *nafkh-e-sur*, [blowing of the trumpet] in the Holy Quran. In reality, this *nafkh* [blowing] is of two kinds: one is the inspiration that leads one astray and the other is the inspiration that guides one aright.