

Maulana Muhammad Ali¹ Day 2013

For anybody to have completed a BA in mathematics at age of 19, a MA in English² at age 22 and a LLB in law all by the age of 25 and in the year 1899 would most certainly get considered as a brilliant person. One such person was Professor Muhammad Ali of Lahore (then in British Raj India)³. He was so brilliant that he was made a professor in mathematics and he commenced lecturing in mathematics at another university from where he had obtained his degrees. Surely he was guided and blessed by Allah in preparation for his future.

He commenced his lecturing in mathematics as a professor at the age of 19 and many of his students in class were many years older than Professor Muhammad Ali. He was very humble and did not complain that his students were older than he. Professor Muhammad Ali obtained his LLB degree as his last academic achievement. Just before he had set up his

¹ Maulana Muhammad Ali (b.1874-d.1951) has been the world-famous translator of the Holy Qur'an both in English and Urdu. He has also been equally world-famous author of many books on Islam and also the author and compiler of the Manual of Hadith. Maulana Muhammad Ali was directed by Maulana Nur-Ud-Din (the successor to the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad), prior to his death in 1914, to commence translating the Holy Qur'an into English. Thereafter the Holy Qur'an will reach out to the English-speaking communities with its inherent Divine power. He commenced working on all matters of Islam in 1899 and continued so till his death in 1951. Maulana Muhammad Ali devoted his entire life for the service of Islam, commencing with his very close allegiance with the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. Upon request from the 14th Hijri Reformer, Maulana Muhammad Ali became the first Editor of the English-language monthly called the Review of Religions in 1902. This monthly magazine presented Islam to the mainly English-speaking world against the backdrop of other major religions; and which prompted many Englishmen to convert to Islam. Maulana Muhammad Ali, together with his associates founded the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) in 1914, largely to preserve and original aims and mission of both Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in their quests to elevate both Islam and the Holy Qur'an to the highest status. The full name of the society is Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) which means the Ahmadiyya society dedicated for the propagation of Islam; and using the suffix (Lahore) for distinctiveness.

² Maulana Muhammad Ali completed both his BA in mathematics and MA in English from the Government College in Lahore (then in British Raj India), which was considered the best university in India at the time. Later he taught mathematics at the Islamia College in Lahore for next three years as professor of mathematics in 1896. Later he left that college and joined the Oriental College in Lahore and continued as professor of mathematics; but continued to study and obtained his LLB in 1899 at the age of just 25.

³ British Raj India was the name given to Hindustan (India) from 1858 – 1947, when following the Sepoy (Indian) Mutiny of 1857, the British East India Company (under Royal Charter) brought in British Troops and commandeered control of India after capturing and imprisonment of the last Mughal Emperor Abu Zafar Muhammad Siraj-Ud-Din Shah Bahadur II in 1857. India in those days spread from the borders of Afghanistan to borders of Burma under the Mughal Empire. The Mughal Emperor was forced to sign the Treaty of Surrender (under duress), after both his son and grandson was beheaded by the British troops, in the grounds of the Tomb of Emperor Humayun in Delhi in 1857. The British troops then had the severed heads of the Emperor's son and grandson presented to the Emperor on a silver platter as indirect threat. The Emperor, after his capturing, was charged by the British as responsible for not preventing the Sepoy (Indian) Mutiny and he was then life-imprisoned in Burma in 1858. The Emperor later died whilst still in prison in Burma in 1862 and the British had his body buried in an unmarked grave. After independence of India from the British in August 1947, and following the Partition agreement between India and Pakistan, the prefix British Raj was dropped and India remained as the sovereign democratic Republic of India.

professional practice as a brilliant lawyer, Professor Muhammad Ali moved over to Qadian⁴ to set up his very own lawyer's office.

It was here in Qadian that he and his elder brother Aziz Bakhsh⁵ were approached most influentially by the 14th Hijri⁶ Reformer⁷ Hazrat Mirza⁸ Ghulam Ahmad, to discontinue going into private practice as a lawyer; but to join the Ahmadiyya⁹ Movement in the service of Allah. Maulana Muhammad Ali agreed to do so in that single request.

⁴ Qadian is a district in Punjab, India.

⁵ Landlord Mukum-Ud-Din was the paternal grandfather of Maulana Muhammad Ali; and Mukum-Ud-Din moved over from Jhelum district into the new district of Murar in Punjab in 1860. He had acquired vast areas of land and in doing so, also moved over his extended relatives from Jhelum district to settle in the newly acquired property. His only son was Hafiz Fateh-Ud-Din, father of Maulana Muhammad Ali. Hafiz Fateh-Ud-Din had six sons (s) and a daughter (d) in the following chronological sequence: Khair-Ud-Din (s), Amir-Ud-Din (s), Aziz Bakhsh (s), Nabi Bakhsh (s), Muhammad Ali (s), Imam Begum (d) and Ahmad Ali (s). Hence Maulana Muhammad Ali was fifth son in that order and he was born in December 1874. Since there was no school in that district prior to 1880, Maulana Muhammad Ali had to walk to school 2-miles and back 2-miles each day and in each direction with his elder brother Aziz Bakhsh. Maulana Muhammad Ali started school at age of just three and half (3 ½) years. Both brothers were in the same class and studied together for first five years of primary education.

⁶ Hijri is the Islamic calendaring system commencing from 622AD with the migration of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) from Mecca to Medina (in 622AD, which is 1AH). Hijri dates are generally identified with prefix or suffix use of AH.

⁷ The promised Reformer of the 14th Century (Hijri) is also referred to as the "*Mujaddid*" or Promised Messiah and the "Imam Mahdi." He inherited these two specific titles because of the broad nature of work that was especially and simultaneously set out for him. The English word Reformer is better suited to the English-speaking not-Muslim communities. A *Mujaddid* is not a *Nabi* or a *Rasul*, as the final *Nabi* and *Rasul* was Rasul-Allah (pbuh) and clearly proclaimed in the Holy Qur'an at 33:40 as "*Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things.*" Rasul-Allah (pbuh) brought the final closure to the periodic arrival of any other *Nabi* or *Rasul*. It must be stressed that the title of *Nabi* or *Rasul* is bestowed upon a person directly by Allah through His obedient angels. Hence the title of *Nabi* or *Rasul* resides with the holder forever and is never suspended, withdrawn or cancelled by Allah. None of the past prophets, prior to Prophet Muhammad will ever return, as they have already served their Divine contract of service to Allah on earth. Accordingly no past *Nabi* or *Rasul* shall ever emerge after the death of Rasul-Allah (pbuh). In the same Divine code, no new prophet will ever be bestowed the tile of *Nabi* or *Rasul* after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), otherwise that event (of emergence of any prophet whether from the past or new entrant) will prove the Holy Qur'an wrong at 33:40 and also lead to all sorts of allegations that the authorship of the Holy Qur'an was not by Allah. The entire superstructure of the Holy Qur'an with its literature engineering is based on multiples of 19, as the master key. This has been stated in the Holy Qur'an in a unique standalone powerful verse at 74:30 "*Over it are nineteen.*" The underlining point is that the Holy Qur'an was revealed in the Arabic language and not in the English language. This vitally important point is clarified that in the Holy Qur'an, all references to multiples of 19 in chapters, verses, sections and entire superstructure of the Holy Qur'an with its literature engineering, are in Arabic alphabets, Arabic words, Arabic punctuations, and numerals (Arabic numerals have same values as in English).

⁸ Mirza is a Persian title which is the equivalent to a Noble or a Prince. The title comes from Persian root word "*Amirzade*" which literally means "child of Ruler" and with other pronouncing variations in former Timurids occupied communities are "Morza" and "Myrza."

⁹ It is necessary for the reader to get positive clarification that the name *Ahmadiyya* is named after the original birth-name of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), which was Ahmad. The name Ahmad was already allocated to the unborn child by his father Abdullah, aged 24, who died several weeks before the child was born in Mecca, Arabia in 570AD. After the child was born in 570AD, his mother Amina, aged 17, gave the name Ahmad to her first and her only child. Amina had seen in a

The most common question that may cross anybody's mind is why was it necessary for 14th *Hijri* Reformer¹⁰ Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad to select Maulana Muhammad Ali to join the Ahmadiyya Movement; and in doing so, prevented Maulana Muhammad Ali from commencing his very lucrative career in legal practice, bearing in mind that he was already a qualified young lawyer?

The answer is very simple: It was purely Divine guidance, which the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad had received from Allah, through His angels.

Seldom do people appreciate the wonderful ways, which are part of the marvellous planning that Allah plans. The 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad had some difficulty in communications using the English language. Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was well-versed in Persian (*Parsi*), Punjabi, Urdu and Arabic but not so in English.

India was under British Raj at that time and English was the official language of India. The situation that faced the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was that he needed a brilliant language-bridging agent, who could translate all his written works into very high standard of English.

Professor Muhammad Ali was most brilliantly versed both in spoken and in written English¹¹, and the same with Urdu, Punjabi, Persian and Arabic languages. He studied those languages for his BA (his first degree) and he was so well versed in all those languages.

The 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was writing several articles in Urdu almost daily and he desperately needed a language-bridging agent to translate them correctly into perfect English. The prominence of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was becoming significant and he requested Professor Muhammad Ali to start translating his Urdu articles into English.

Since this happened in the days of the British Raj, most expatriate Englishmen who were resident in India as British civil servants, and after having read those articles reached conclusion, that the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was actually hiding a highly educated Englishman in his house, to write those articles in such perfect English.

dream, whilst pregnant that her late husband Abdullah had instructed her to name her baby as "Ahmad." The child continued with the name Ahmad until at the age of almost 6 years, when he was totally orphaned; and his paternal grandfather then adopted the orphaned child Ahmad, and thereafter the grandfather changed the name to Muhammad. The name Ahmad name comes from the Arabic root word "Hamada" which means "to praise and to glorify," whereas, the name Muhammad means "the praiseworthy."

¹⁰ The 14th Century *Hijri* covers the period 1883AD – 1979AD. We are now in the 15th Islamic Century AH (*Hijri*).

¹¹ Maulana Muhammad Ali did his MA in English in 1896.

After the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad passed away in 1908, the first successor to Ahmadiyya Movement as its new Head was Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din. Maulana Hakeem Noor Ud Dean in his capacity as successor and Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement then assigned Professor Muhammad Ali to immediately commence translating the Holy Qur'an directly from Arabic into English. Professor Muhammad Ali was the first non-Englishman and first Muslim in this world to have translated the Holy Qur'an into magnificent English; and also translating the Holy Qur'an into Urdu as the *Bayan-ul Qur'an*. This took Maulana Muhammad Ali 3 years and the English version of the Holy Qur'an was first published in 1917. The British expatriate Englishmen based in India as civil servants were utterly amazed.

Having considered his intense and deep knowledge on all matters in Islam and his unequalled brilliant achievements, Professor Muhammad Ali later became known as Maulana Muhammad Ali after the death of Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din¹² in 1914; and he continued to be known by that name till his own passing away 62 years ago in 1951¹³, at the age of 77 years.

The years from 1899 till 1908, when Maulana Muhammad Ali joined the Ahmadiyya Movement and the time when the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad had passed away, are considered to be the "gems years" when Maulana Muhammad Ali received the precious truthfulness about Islam, directly from the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

Maulana Muhammad Ali had a video memory and not only did he remember whatever he read but he also remembered every word that he was discussing in those 9 years.

When Maulana Muhammad Ali had completed all his studies and ready to go into private practice as a young lawyer, his age was 25 and the age of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat

¹² Maulana Noor-Ud-Din was the first person to make his pledge directly, placing his hand with the hand of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1881. Maulana Noor-Ud-Din, upon unanimous agreement by members of the Ahmadiyya Movement was appointed successor to the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad after the 14th *Hijri* Reformer died in 1908. Maulana Noor-Ud-Din, served as successor and Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement from 1908-1914. Maulana Noor-Ud-Din, who was a physician (known as *Hakeem* in India) and he was indeed a very pious person - but certainly not a Reformer in Islam. After the death of Maulana Noor-Ud-Din in 1914, a dispute developed within the Ahmadiyya Movement solely orchestrated most cunningly by Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad (the eldest son of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad), claiming without proof from the Holy Qur'an that his father was a prophet (*Nabi*) and which then led to a permanent split of the Ahmadiyya Movement in 1914. The main cause leading to the split was Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad (the eldest son of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad) as leading one faction and the other faction was led by the General Secretary of the Ahmadiyya Movement (Maulana Muhammad Ali), which maintained that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the Final Prophet and there shall never be any prophet of any description, after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

¹³ Maulana Muhammad Ali died at 11.30 am on 13th October 1951 in Karachi, in what was then called as West Pakistan. His body was taken by train to Lahore for burial and *Janaza* was led by his elder brother Aziz Bakhsh. In the Arabic calendaring system, that date was the equivalent of 10th *Muharrum*.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was 64. The 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad had founded the Ahmadiyya Movement in 1889 and the Ahmadiyya Movement had then been in existence for just 10 years.

It is very important to fully understand the global environment and the global political situation, which existed around those times. The British Government at its height of expansion had commandeered and taken control of the Mughal Empire¹⁴ of India in 1857 and the British Empire¹⁵ was the largest empire in the world at that time. English became the default language that was the main spoken language in all countries, which were listed as parts of the British Empire.

In addition to expanding the British Empire, the monarch who was the supreme head of the British Empire was at all times also the Supreme Head of the Church of England¹⁶. Accordingly, wherever the British went, the spread of Christianity through the Church of England was an expectation. It was imperative, therefore, for the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat

¹⁴ Mughal communities are the merged by-products of Timurids and Mongols. The famous Mongolian conqueror Genghis Khan (b.1155-d.1227 in Mongolia) had conquered so many countries, travelling through the Silk Route with over 1 million Mongol warriors, crossed over from Samarqand into the northern Mediterranean region and southern Europe; Genghis Khan ruthlessly conquered over 40 million people and occupied what was (until recently) the former southern Russian States and also the whole of Turkey. There the Mongols merged with the Timurids and the new Mughal community then emerged from this merger. The Mughal community were very powerful and spilled over from Middle East to Persia, Afghanistan and took over control of entire India. *Mughal Barlas* were descendants of the original army of Genghis Khan. During this time, the majority of the other not Muslim religious groups in India were very powerful and very much against Islam, having lived under the great Mughal regime, from Zahir-Ud-Din Muhammad Babur (b.1483 d.1530, the very first Mughal Emperor) to Abul Muzaffar Muhy-Ud-Din Muhammad Aurangzeb Alamgir (b.1658 - d.1707, the 6th of great and powerful Mughal Emperors) spanning the years 1504 – 1707. The Mongols were the original stalk of Mongolians as part of the Genghis Khan's army of ferocious warriors. Timurids were a major alliance of Turkey-Mongolian descendants, which spread from the Caucasus and the Mediterranean to Delhi, India. This alliance was formed after the great Mongolian Emperor Genghis Khan had reached what are today northern Mediterranean countries and former southern USSR countries and upon his return brought them over, on his way back to Mongolia. The Mughal Empire was dominated by Muslims. Christians preached to Muslims in India that their Rasul-Allah (pbuh) was already dead as recorded in Muslim scriptures, but the Christians' Jesus Christ was still bodily alive in Heaven as given in the Bible and used this tactic to convert many Muslims into Christians. In order to fully understand the rise and fall of Islam in India, it is necessary to list the great Mughal Emperors (as all Muslims) which reflect the rapid and vast spread of Islam in India: 1. Zahir Ud Din Muhammad Babur (b.1483- d.1530). 2. Nassir Ud Din Muhammad Humayun (b.1508 - d.1556). 3. Jalal Ud Din Muhammad Akbar (b.1542 - d.1605). 4. Noor Ud Din Muhammad Salim (b.1559 - d.1627). 5. Shahanshah Shahab-Ud-Din Muhammad Shah Jehan (b.1592 - d.1666). 6. Abul Muzaffar Muhy-Ud-Din Muhammad Aurangzeb Alamgir (b.1658 - d.1707). 7. Qutb-ud-Din Muhammad Mu'azzam (b.1643–d.1712). 8. Mahaz-Ud-Din Jahandar Shah Bahadur (b.1661d.-1713). 9. Farrukhsiyar (b.1685-d.1719). 10. Rafi-ul-Darjat (b.1699-d.1719). 11. Rafi-ud-Daulah (b.1696-d.1719). 12. Nikusiyar Muhammad (b.1679-d.1723). 13. Muhammad Ibrahim (b.1703-d.1746). 14. Roshan Aktar Bahadur (b.1702-d.1748). 15. Ahmad Shah Bahadur (b.1725-d.1775). 16. Aziz-Ud-Din (b.1699-d.1759). 17. Muhi-ul-Millat (b.1759-d.1772). 18. Ali Gauhar (b.1728-d.1806). 19. Mirza Akbar Shah Saani (b.1760-d.1837). 20. Abu Zaffar Siraj-Ud-Din Muhammad Bahadur Shah II (b.1775-d.1862).

¹⁵ In the period 1858 - 1900, the British Empire was made up of total of 134 member countries and British Crown Colonies.

¹⁶ King Henry VIII had broken away from the Catholic Church in Rome following his multiple marriages and divorces and in 1534 the monarch became the Supreme Head of the Church of England following the *Act of Supremacy* of 1534.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad to have all his newspaper articles and books translated from Urdu into English.

The 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad decided to use the countries of the British Empire as springboards and English language as the obvious medium to spread Islam globally. He was most successful using Maulana Muhammad Ali as an Arabic-English language bridging-agent and of course this came with Divine guidance. It now becomes obvious at the way Allah plans. The particular line of education of Maulana Muhammad Ali, the political circumstances in India surrounding Ahmadiyya Movement and the coordinated behaviours of people within the Ahmadiyya Movement conclude without doubt that Maulana Muhammad Ali was being prepared to manage greater challenges for the future.

Prior to the proclamation by the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of his Divine appointment as such, Islam was mostly centrally located and mainly in those countries which were conquered by the Arabic speaking communities more than 13 centuries previously.

It was again through Divine guidance that if the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad did not take the initiative to have all his written works translated into English, the Muslim communities in India and the rest of the world would have been swamped by Christianity mainstreams under the strategic combined forces of the British Empire and the Vatican in Rome; and Islam would have most certainly got relegated to minority position.

At that point in time, Christianity was championing to the Muslims throughout the world that their Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was dead and buried in Arabia and that Jesus Christ was still very much alive and bodily resting in Heaven; hence Jesus Christ was the Saviour to the world and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was non-existent. This psychological attack by Christians upon Muslims prompted many Muslims in Asian countries to become Christians.

The combined forces of the British administration in India and Christianity in India were not the only serious obstacles against Islam in India. Swami Dayananda Saraswati had founded the Arya Samaj¹⁷, as a new faction of Hinduism. Other denominations of Hinduism¹⁸ included *Sanatan Dharam*, *Vaishnavism*, *Shaivism*, *Shaktism* and *Smartism*.

¹⁷ Swami Dayananda Saraswati (b.1824-d.1883) was a prominent Hindu religious leader. He is known as the founder of the Arya Samaj, a Hindu reform movement of the Vedic tradition. He was a scholar of the Vedic lore and the Sanskrit language. Swami Dayananda Saraswati had made himself a sworn enemy of Muslims; and he had lived during the transition from Mughal Emperor Rule and the British Raj commandeered takeover of the whole of India. He did everything within his means to debate, condemn and ridicule Muslims. Swami Dayananda Saraswati died after he was poisoned by a servant of the king with whom he was visiting as a guest in the king's palace, in Ajmer, India.

¹⁸ Hinduism in a compact description is a religion originating in India and the religion is strongly structured on polytheism, idolatry, deity-worship, caste-dividedness, belief in recycling of souls (*awa-gawan*), the custom of *niyog*, and superstitions. It is the diametrically opposite to the fundamental principles of Islam.

The Buddhists¹⁹ were another group which was subjected to strict compliance under Mughal Empire in India and the Buddhists also took sides with the British to go against Muslims. To this day, the Buddhists of South East Asia are still terrorising Muslims. This matter is now before the United Nations Disputes Resolution Committee.

The Sikhs²⁰, who were still roughed-off and bitter against Muslims under the deposed Mughal Empire, reached agreement with the British presence in India to taking sides with the British and going against Muslims. Accordingly, the Muslims of India were totally isolated and the Muslims were totally oppressed by the consolidated communities of Hindus, Buddhists and Sikhs.²¹ If it had not been for the combined efforts of the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and Maulana Muhammad Ali in India between 1899 and 1908, the Muslims of India would have been greatly eliminated; and many of whom would have converted to other religions.

After the death of the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1908, Maulana Muhammad Ali continued to champion the Ahmadiyya Movement and Islam in India till 1947, which saw the partition of India into India and Pakistan in August 1947. After the 1947 Partition, Lahore came under the allocation of West Pakistan and Maulana Muhammad Ali continued to defend Islam from Pakistan, till his own death, caused by a series of severe heart attacks in Lahore on 13th October 1951.

Maulana Muhammad Ali wrote in several of his books that any prayer not accompanied by sincere effort was not accepted. Prayer must be with express sincere effort in which the person at prayer is in direct and sincere communications with the Maker. He said that prayer with special sincere effort was the biggest defence for any Muslim. Maulana Muhammad Ali stressed in his books that *Tahajjud* prayer was an example of special effort

¹⁹ Buddhism commenced in India in 3BC, commencing with erection of temples with Buddhist statues and idols.

²⁰ The initiator of Sikhism was Guru Nanak Dev, originally of Brahmin descent in India. He received his initial spiritual training from a Muslim saint Hazrat Farid Ganj Shakkar and took *bai't* (pledge into Islam) at his hands. Guru Nanak also made his *Hajj* at Mecca. *Hajj* is very restrictive and limited to Muslims only. He always treasured his copy of pure Arabic Qur'an and his famous "*Chola Sahib*," which was a cloak he brought over from Mecca and which had several verses from the Holy Qur'an stitched over it. Guru Nanak had special respect for Muslims. After the final human Guru, (the 10th Guru) Guru Gobind Singh then took charge of Sikhism, and then he made substantial changes, which were made to their holy book, the Sri Guru Granth Sahib. He also declared their holy book the Sri Guru Granth Sahib as the final Guru (11th) and an embodiment of all Gurus.

²¹ Those were the dark days of India when the British East India Company sided together with the Hindus, Sikhs and Christians against Muslims, so that the British could topple the Mughal Empire (Muslim) and then wrest full control of India. Throughout the 90 years the British East India Company with support of the British Government kept the communities divided so that there was no possibility of unity and potentially no likelihood of the return of the Mughal Empire in India.

and was likened to the person knocking on the door of the Almighty beseeching help directly from the Maker.

He stressed also that prayer was also likened to a petition to the Court of the Lord Almighty. Maulana Muhammad Ali explained that regular and sincere prayer with lots of efforts reduces the gap between a person and the Almighty, which in turn widens the gap between the person and the devil (Satan). On the contrary, ignorance of prayer greatly distances the gap between the person and the Almighty; and that puts the person in closer companionship with the devil (Satan) and likely to get misled into sins.

Soon after the death of Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din in 1914, a serious rift developed within the Ahmadiyya Movement. The original rift instigator and the mastermind behind it all was Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, eldest son²² of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

After the death of the Reformer on 26th May 1908, the original teachings and works of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad continued quite correctly by his first successor²³ to the Ahmadiyya Movement, Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din (b.1841-d.1914), who was a medical practitioner and indeed an honest man. He was appointed as first successor on 27th May 1908 by majority consensus of the Ahmadiyya Movement. He died in 1914.

Prior to that in 1911, Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad (b.1889-d.1965), eldest son of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, wanted to wrest the leadership of Ahmadiyya Movement away from Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din to himself, and make that position of leadership as a family heredity. However, he was very young then at age of barely 21. All this happened during the era of the British Raj in India and the British Royal Family Line of Succession descendants' code was the model that Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad had used as his blueprint and he tried many ways and schemes to gain total control of the Ahmadiyya Movement.

Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad devised all sorts of cunning schemes and he included all sorts of unsubstantiated false allegations against both Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din and Maulana Muhammad Ali to create a rift between them, including false claims of misappropriation of the funds of Ahmadiyya Movement. The rumours and false allegations continued with support from the faction led by Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad; and him with his faction made every effort within all their cunning abilities to cause a rift between Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din and Maulana Muhammad Ali.

²² Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad was the eldest son of 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (from his second wife, Nusrat Jahan Begum). He died in 1965 at the age of 76 and he had fathered 24 children.

²³ After the death of the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, his Will was read out and the successor was delegated to the Ahmadiyya Movement to elect by majority consensus, the best person to lead the Ahmadiyya Movement and to correctly lead the Ahmadiyya Movement into the future. Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din was so elected.

On the contrary, Maulana Muhammad Ali as the General Secretary of Ahmadiyya Movement was sending out several newsletters within the Ahmadiyya Movement, encouraging all members to remain united and steer away from any possible rift within the Ahmadiyya Movement. Whilst openly campaigning against the original faction led by Maulana Muhammad Ali, Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad did not disclose his secret agenda that he had always wanted the position of successor to the Reformer to be given to him (Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad).

He planned to model following the British Royal Family monarchy Line of Succession system, the position of Khalifa would become a family heredity and remain within his descendants forever into the future. Finally Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad gained control of the Ahmadiyya society, turning the society into an exclusive intolerant sect ruled by spiritual autocracy.

That point became the commencement of a very serious rift within the Ahmadiyya Movement as a society. Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad deliberately and wilfully continued with his false claim: Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad claimed that his father (Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad) did not know that he (Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad) was a prophet (*Nabi*) all along. This rift continued for quite a while into 1914. The headquarters of this misleading group, as led by Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, was established at Qadian (then under British Raj in India) and hence that group is better known as *Qadiannis*. That was when Maulana Muhammad Ali with his 57 close and deeply educated Muslim associates, decided to break away from such scandalous claims against Islam and which was seriously in breach of the Holy Qur'an (HQ 33:40).

This breakaway group under leadership of Maulana Muhammad Ali took a detour and registered a new body and called it the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore). The 57 persons became the first and original Trustees of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore). Hence, in 1914 at the moment of registration under New Religious Society Ordinance, which was then governed by the British in India, it was necessary to differentiate the newer breakaway group with (Lahore) as a suffix in brackets, since both groups were called Ahmadiyya.

The followers of Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) are accordingly (sometimes) referred to as "Lahoris" to differentiate them clearly from the group misled by Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad and who are better known as "*Qadiannis*." The position of Khalifa to this day has remained with the descendants of Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad and very obviously following the British Royal Family monarchy Line of Succession system, the

position of Khalifa²⁴ became a family heredity and remained within his descendants forever. Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad was certainly successful in that regard.

During the ensuing period 1914-1951, many newspaper articles, magazines and books were written by Maulana Muhammad Ali to both counter allegations by the *Qadianni* faction of continued prophets after Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and to widely and openly clarify to the world that no prophet of any description shall come after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh); and this closure of prophets shall remain till the end of this world. Maulana Muhammad Ali was mindful that rewriting the same points of arguments each time the Qadianni faction published articles against the Lahore faction, would be detracting him from continuing with his determined work in the correct propagation of Islam. In addition, Maulana Muhammad Ali continued with his work of translating all of the written works of every description of the 14th *Hijri* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. Maulana Muhammad Ali was aware of his age and the massive assignments of work yet to be done. That was most important and took highest priority in his life schedules.

In the early 1920s, Maulana Muhammad Ali distributed thousands of copies of the Holy Qur'an freely to many people in the English speaking communities. Later, after new editions were marketed, Maulana Muhammad Ali developed a scheme whereby 33.3% of whatever royalty he earned from his books would be deposited into a special trust fund and the whole purpose of that trust fund was ploughing proceeds back into the system so that expenses could be met for further publications of his books.

In addition, he paid out of his personal expenses plus donations received from other members of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) the cost of hiring professional translators, in translating the English version of the Holy Qur'an into several other mainstream languages.

During his life time, Maulana Muhammad Ali wrote 59 regular hard cover books and 92 paperback books in addition to administering the work globally of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore).

²⁴ It is very important to understand that the title of *Khalifa* is never applicable to successors of a *Mujaddid* but applicable only to successors of a *Nabi* and a *Rasul*. Accordingly, the first four *Mujaddid*²⁴ after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) were also regarded as *Khalifa* and widely accepted by all Muslims as *Khalifa* and as successors to the Holy Prophet. After the first four *Hijri*, the subsequent *Khalifas* (as *Mujaddid*) were widely disputed between Sunni and Shia Muslims. They were: Hazrat Umar ibn Abdul Aziz (b.682-d.720); Hazrat Imam ibn Idris Ash-Shafi (b.767-d.820) & Hazrat Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal (b.780-d.855); Hazrat Abu Sharh (912) & Hazrat Abul Hassan Asha'ri (b.874-d.936). Jurisprudence in Islam dictates that since the 14th *Hijri* Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised *Mujaddid* was not a *Nabi* or a *Rasul*, and then there definitely cannot be any *Khalifa* after his death.

In conclusion, the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) was first registered at Lahore (then under the British Raj jurisdiction in India) on 2nd May 1914 by Maulana Muhammad Ali BA, MA, LL B (b.1874-d.1951), with his 57 close associates, who were well educated and well versed on the teachings of the Founder, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (b.1835-d.1908), the proclaimed Reformer (*Mujaddid*) of the 14th Hijri.

Maulana Muhammad Ali reiterated numerous times that the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was a Reformer (*Mujaddid*) only and not a prophet (neither a *Nabi* nor a *Rasul*). After the death of the Reformer (*Mujaddid*) on 26th May 1908, the original teachings and works of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad continued quite correctly by his first successor to the Ahmadiyya Movement, Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din (b.1841-d.1914), who had assigned Maulana Muhammad Ali to translate the Holy Qur'an directly from Arabic into English. After the death of Maulana Hakeem Noor-Ud-Din in 1914, the original truthful members of the Ahmadiyya Movement had to take a detour and register a new body with a different name but continued the original work of the Founder the 14th Hijri Reformer Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the *Imam* of this period.

Maulana Muhammad Ali throughout his life lived exactly as required of any Muslim and very much according to the Hadith. He was the most perfect role model of his lifetime and he practised exactly as required of Muslims. Maulana Muhammad Ali was very much of a family man.

He was very humble and soft spoken and never spoke harshly at anybody in anger. Although Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad and the *Qadianni* faction wilfully gave him very difficult treatment at all times, with all sorts of false allegations and psychological blackmailing, he remained calm and composed.

Maulana Muhammad Ali treated every visitor to his home with absolute respect and whenever visitors came around meal times, he always invited them to stay back a little while longer for the meal.

Maulana Muhammad Ali believed and practised that the Almighty will take necessary measures with aggressors, as stated in the Holy Qur'an. Maulana Muhammad Ali was most truthful and followed all five pillars of Islam and he made *Tahajjud* prayers his daily ritual.

Whilst at home, he always helped his wife in some of the household work and took time to look after his children, whenever his wife was busy. When in the company of his children, he would become part of the children and busy himself in children's games.

Special thanks goes to Maulana Muhammad Ali, largely because of Maulana Muhammad Ali, the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) is the only Muslim body in the whole world,

which regards all past prophets²⁵ before Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) as all dead and none will return to this world; and that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the Last and Final Prophet and no new prophet will emerge after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) till the end of this world.

It is now 99 years since 1914 and the situation has not materially changed. The *Qadianni* groups is still insisting baselessly that the 14th *Hijri* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was a prophet (*Nabi*) as orchestrated by Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad (eldest son of 14th *Hijri* Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad); and the sheer truthfulness of the situation as succinctly and materially proven by Maulana Muhammad Ali from the *Lahore* group and directly from the Holy Qur'an: that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the last and final prophet and no prophet of any description would ever come to earth after the death of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Maulana Muhammad Ali has given the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore) the uniqueness both in character form and fundamentally correct principles.

This Ordinance from Allah has been sealed off by the verse in the Holy Qur'an at 33:40 as "*Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things.*"

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²⁵ Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) statement in *Hadith* No 21257 in *Musnad Ibn Hanbal* that there were over 124,000+ prophets since creation, commencing with Adam. Prophets were not limited to Israelites only and there is not a community which was denied their prophet. The Holy Qur'an certifies so. Generally, prophets come in two classifications. The first classification is called *Nabi* (in Arabic) and this refers to the bulk of all prophets (124,000+) whose teachings were systematically repetitive; and they rejuvenated the same messages over past generations of mankind. Some examples of *Nabi*-type prophets are: Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Aaron, Solomon and John the Baptist (peace is upon them). The second classification is called *Rasul* (in Arabic) and this refers to special prophets who are also *Nabi* but, who brought significant changes of improvement over the past messages; and they also superseded with new Scripture. Some examples of *Rasul*-type prophets are: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon them).