



PAN-AFRICAN NEWS



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2017 REVIEW OF THE YEAR

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PAAMA members during the
Jalsa 2017 preparation

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Quotation from the Holy Qur'an

"And hold fast, all together, by the rope of Allah and be not divided; and remember the favour of Allah which He bestowed upon you when you were enemies and He united your hearts in love, so that by His grace you became as brothers; and you were on the brink of a pit of fire and He saved you from it. Thus does Allah explain to you His commandments that you may be guided."

(Al-e-Imran, 3:104).



Sayings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

"Prophethood shall remain among you as long as Allah shall will. He will bring about its end and follow it with Khilafat on the precepts of prophethood for as long as He shall will and then bring about its end. A tyrannical monarchy will then follow and will remain as long as Allah shall will and then come to an end. There will follow thereafter monarchical despotism to last as long as Allah shall will and come to an end upon His decree. There will then emerge Khilafat on precept of Prophethood."

(Musnad Ahmad, by Ahmad bin Hanbal).



Writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

"This is the Way of God. And since He created man on the earth He has always been demonstrating this Way by helping His Prophets and Messengers and granting them success and predominance... He lets the seed [of truth] be sown by their own hands but He does not let it come to full fruition at their hands. Rather, He causes them to die at such time as apparently forebodes a kind of failure and thereby He provides an opportunity for the opponents to laugh at, ridicule, taunt and reproach the Prophets. And when they have done all they could do in the way of ridicule and reproach, then He reveals a Second Hand of His Power and creates such means by which the objectives which had to some extent remained incomplete are fully realised... I came from God as Manifestation of His Power and I am a personification of His Power. And after I am gone there will be some other persons who will be the Manifestation of the Second Power [of God]."

(Risala Al-Wasiyyat, Ruhani Khazain Vol. 20, pp. 304-306)



SUMMARY OF FRIDAY SERMON



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba) delivered a Friday Sermon on the 30th December 2016 in which he expounded upon the true Islamic way of celebrating a New Year. Huzur Aqdas admonished the members of the Jama'at to do self-introspection by asking ourselves the following pertinent questions:

- Have we fulfilled the pledge of not indulging in Shirk?
- Has the previous year been spent safeguarding against falsehood and treading on the path of truth?
- Have we kept ourselves away from such events that lead to ill thoughts?
- Have we protected ourselves from unchaste glances and are we still protecting ourselves?
- Have we tried to protect ourselves from civil strife and mischief?
- Have we safeguarded ourselves against all forms of maltreatment?
- Have we protected ourselves against treacherous acts?
- Have we protected ourselves from every kind of mischief?
- Have we safeguarded ourselves against all forms of disorder?
- Have we regularly offered Salah five times a day during the last year?
- Have we exerted ourselves to become regular in offering Tahajjud prayers?
- Have we been regularly invoking Durood on the Holy Prophet^(saw)?
- Have we sought forgiveness from Allah profusely?
- Have we been diligent in praising Allah?
- Have our hands and tongues refrained from harming others?
- Have we refrained from hurting others whether they were related to us or not?
- Have we pardoned and forgiven others during the past year?
- Has humbleness and modesty been a major part of our characteristics?
- Have we remained dedicated and loyal to Allah at all times of happiness, sadness, prosperity or poverty instead of being dismayed?
- Have we profoundly tried to follow the commandments of Holy Qur'an and the teachings of Holy Prophet^(saw)?
- Have we tried to achieve the high standards of good manners?

- Have we completely abandoned or even tried to restrict ourselves from arrogance and superciliousness?
- Has our daily conduct made us more religious and has it honoured and glorified our religion?
- Can each day testify that we gave precedence to our faith over the worldly affairs as we have pledged?
- Did we strive to progress in our love for Islam to such an extent that it was given priority over our wealth and over our honour and it was considered more beloved than our children?
- Have we progressed in compassion and kindness

towards the creatures of Allah?

- Have we reached our standard of obedience to the Promised Messiah^(as) to such an extent that all other relations become secondary?
- Did we pray to remain loyal and obedient to the institution of Khilafat?
- Did all the parents remind their children about the importance of Khilafat and guide them to remain loyal to it and did you pray that Allah may instil this in them?
- Did we pray regularly for the Khalifa of the time and the Jama'at?

"If the response to the above mentioned questions is in the affirmative then despite of some weaknesses, we would have gained a lot during this past year. But if most of the questions are answered in the negative, then it is a worrisome situation and we need to do some self-evaluation. And then pray during these last nights, make a pledge to ourselves and also pray at the start of the New Year that Allah may forgive any previous shortcomings, help eradicate our weaknesses and help us achieve the maximum (spiritually) in the coming year and be included among those believers who are forever ready to sacrifice everything for Allah, the Almighty."

(Friday Sermon, 30th December 2016)



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Message from President PAAMA UK

Dear Readers,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullah.

May the Lord of mankind open unto you all the gates of His mercy and may He so ordain that you are always accompanied by the supplication of His angels.

Since its inception through the instrumentality of the Divinely-guided institution of Khilafat, the vanguard of PAAMA has ever marched forward year after year. By the grace of Allah and by His grace alone, 2017 was no exception. It was indeed a most blessed year for the global PAAMA family and for PAAMA UK in particular; a year in which PAAMA made many strides, breaking new grounds on its remarkable journey.

In addition to holding regular flagship events which have now become permanent fixtures on the PAAMA calendar of events, we were able to hold historic events in the first ever PAAMA exclusive Ijtema and, of course, our first ever Africa Peace Symposium. Furthermore, for the first time in its history PAAMA was established outside of the UK in Italy, Belgium and the USA.

Highlights of all these events as well as the inaugurations of the chapters of PAAMA beyond the shores of the UK are catalogued in this special edition of Pan-African News, preserving for posterity the epoch-making progress made by PAAMA in 2017.

For the members of PAAMA worldwide, it must never be forgotten that all this progress has been enabled only by the perpetual and celestial guidance received from our Khalifas. It behoves us therefore in the words of the glorious Qur'an to "*hold fast altogether unto the rope of Allah*" that is Khilafat and be foremost in our loyalty and our allegiance, our devotion and our dedication to that most sacred and blessed institution. May Allah so ordain and bless us all profoundly.

Wassalam.

Yours humbly,

Tommy Kallon.

President Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK



Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

Message from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V for first PAAMA Ijtema

My Dear Spiritual Children of the Promised Messiah^(as)

By the Grace of Allah, Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK is holding its first ever National Ijtema. May Allah bless this Ijtema in every way.

My message to you is that you should remain connected to the Jamaat and Khilafat. You are most fortunate that as a result of your belief in the Promised Messiah^(as) you have been united in the blessed and ever-lasting institute of Khilafat. Your bond with this institute is the means of your spiritual progress. It guides you on the path of nearness to Allah and to attain His pleasure. It enables you to get pure and wholesome thoughts. It creates feelings of love and affection amongst your brethren. Those who maintain a contact of love, affection and sincerity with the Khalifa of the time, the bond of love and affection amongst them also grows stronger. In their hearts is an eagerness to serve their faith. They have a spirit to excel others in the doing of good works and their lives are moulded in winning the pleasure of God. Remember that your entire worldly and spiritual well-being has been interwoven in your connection with Khilafat.

Therefore, consider Khilafat a great divine bounty and hold fast by the rope of Allah. Watch my addresses and sermons on MTA and try to act with absolute obedience on the advice given by me. Mention the blessings of Khilafat regularly amongst those with whom you mingle so that the belief and significance of Khilafat always grows stronger in your hearts. It is because of this blessing of your bond with Khilafat that you are holding this Ijtema in an atmosphere of love and brotherhood. There may be many other organisations in the world but they do not have this atmosphere and these blessings. Therefore, be thankful to Allah the Almighty for this gift. Also pray for the Khalifa of the time and for the continuation of this blessing.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has said, "It is of no use to pledge Bai'at to me if it is not accompanied by good deeds... If your life and your death, your every action and movement ... are for God only and if, in any trouble or difficulty you do not put God to the test nor cut off your relationship with Him-rather, under these trials, you step forward towards God- then I truly say to you that you will become a chosen people of God.... Let the Greatness of God take root in your hearts; and acknowledge His Unity not just with your tongues but also with your actions, so that God, too, practically shows His Mercy and Kindness to you. Refrain from malice and treat human beings with true compassion. Adopt each and every path of righteousness for who knows from which of these paths you will be accepted."

May Allah enable us all to become truly devoted to Khilafat Ahmadiyya and may He enable us to progress in our obedience and our worship so that we may forever reap the blessings of Khilafat. May we continue to excel in good works and hold fast to the rope of Allah. Ameen.

Wassalam



MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD
Khalifatul Masih



Al-Masjid an-Nabawi

Jalsa Seeratun Nabi

28th January 2017

On Saturday the 28th of January 2017 the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK held a function to celebrate the life and character of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^(saw). This was PAAMA's first ever Jalsa Seeratun Nabi event held to highlight and celebrate the remarkable personality and excellent virtues of the Holy Founder of Islam^(saw).

The function took place in the Tahir Hall at Baitul Futuh and was chaired by PAAMA President, Tommy Kallon Sahib. After guests were seated the programme officially commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Ali Mwanda, followed by its English translation by Abdul Quddous Witol. A Qaseedah (poem in praise of the Holy Prophet^(saw)) was recited by Ishmael Baffour, with English translation by Ali Muhammad.

Humayon Jahangeer Khan Sahib next addressed the gathering on the topic of 'The Holy Prophet^(saw): The Liberator of Women'. After the break for Asr Prayers, the meeting resumed with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Abiola Osota Sahib and its translation by Ahad Bhunnoo Sahib. Hamza Ilyas Sahib then read out his own English poem 'Je Suis Muhammad' (I am Muhammad).



The concluding address was given by PAAMA President Tommy Kallon on "The Life and Character of the Holy Prophet Muhammad^(saw)".

First PAAMA National Ijtema

On Saturday 15th April 2017, PAAMA UK held its first ever National Ijtema at Baitul Futuh. The event which was well attended by nearly 400 PAAMA men, women, boys and girls from across the UK started with Tahajjud and Fajr prayers, followed by breakfast and registration. The formal proceedings then started by way of a joint Opening Session.

As is customary, the programme commenced with registration of attendees and an exhibition showcasing PAAMA activities and a display of various Jama'at literature.

After members and guests were seated the programme officially commenced with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Lamin Jawo

our knowledge and understanding of faith. The Session concluded with silent prayers.



After this the academic competitions commenced across all Tanzeems and ages groups: Lajna in the marquee, Nasirat in the mosque, with Ansar, Khuddam and Atfal remaining in Tahir Hall. These continued through to lunch and Zuhr prayers, following which we had a most enlightening discourse on the topic *Khilafat – the Rope of Allah* by Rasheed Baokye Sahib.

The sporting events commenced after lunch and delegates were enthusiastically engaged in various



Sahib and English translation by Fadullah Afolabi Sahib.

Inaugurating the event, President Tommy Kallon reiterated the blessings bestowed upon PAAMA by Huzur Aqdas and reminded delegates that the Ijtema should not be used as a means for idle chatter but used as a medium through which PAAMA members interact and get to know each other better, and, more importantly, seek to increase

sporting activities on the sporting grounds including football, Tug of war, 100 metres sprint, relay races, three-legged race and various other activities.

After Asr Prayers, the Closing Session, presided over by Respected Mansoor Shah Sahib, Acting Amir UK, commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an and its English translation by Hassan Mohamed Sahib.

Continued on page 14

**OVERALL
BEST
REGION**

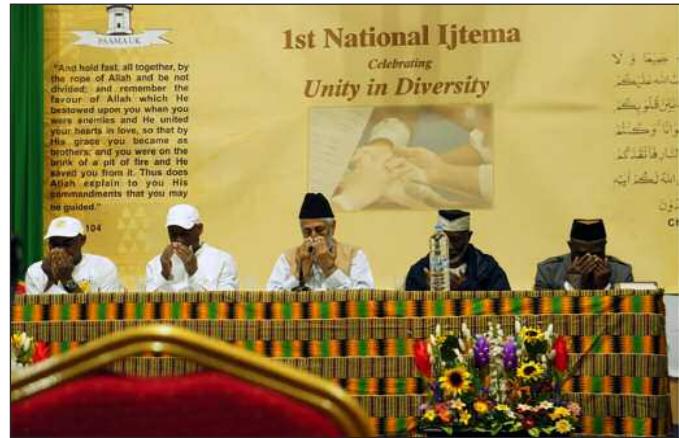
1. Midlands
2. London
3. West

PAAMA II TEMA PRIZE WINNERS - GENTS

COMPETITION	TANZEEEM	1st POSITION	REGION	2nd POSITION	REGION	3rd POSITION	REGION
ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS							
Tilawat	Atfal 7-9	Tahir Ahmad	North	Irfan Ahmad	West	Talha Ahmad	North
Tilawat	Atfal 11-15	Bilal Bonsu	Midlands	Nasir Ahmad	North	Kaleem-Ahmad Mensah	South London
Tilawat	Khuddam	Umar Sanda	North	Kamal Abdulai	West	Abdul Noor Wahab	West
Tilawat	Ansar	Saeed Ibrahim	London	Lamin Jawo	East London	Abdullah Sanogo	London
Adhan	Atfal 7-9	Tahir Arthur	North	Abdul Shaafih	North	Irfan Ahmad	West
Adhan	Atfal 11-15	Bilal Bonsu	Midlands	Nasir Ahmad	North	Kaleem-Ahmad Mensah	South London
Prepared Speech	Atfal 7-9	Talha Ahmad	North	Irfan Ahmad	West	Tahir Ahmad Konadu	North
Prepared Speech	Atfal 11-15	Asmaar Kallon	London	Bilal Bonsu	Midlands	Rafique Ishaque	London
Prepared Speech	Khuddam	Ismael Anason	West	Haseen Hashim	West	Israfeel Kusi	London
Prepared Speech	Ansar	Toban Ephram	Midlands	Saeed Ibrahim	London	Mojeed Bayo	North
Extempore Speech	Khuddam	Umar Sanda	North	Abdul Malik Wemah	London	Basim Ahmad	Midlands
Extempore Speech	Ansar	Hassan Mohammed	Midlands	Majeed Adebayo	North	Kemo Kasasamo	South London
Team Quiz	Atfal	London Region	London	North Region	North	Midlands Region	Midlands
Team Quiz	Khuddam/Ansar	East Region	East	West Region	West	Midlands	Midlands
SPORTS COMPETITIONS							
100 Metres Race	Atfal 7-10	Talha Ahmad	North	Rokibat Tijani	North	Tahir Attah	London
100 Metres Race	Atfal 11-15	Ata-Ur-Rahman	London	Nasir Ahmad	North	Omar Qainoo	West
100 Metres Race	Khuddam	Haseen Hashim	West	Ismail Anason	London	Israfeel Kusi	London
100 Metres Race	Ansar	Ahmad Owusu	North	Luqman Adarabioyo	North	Rashid Witol	London
Penalty Shoot Out	Atfal 7-10	London Region	London	Midlands Region	Midlands	North Region	North
Penalty Shoot Out	Ansar	South Region	South	West Region	West	East Region	East
4x100M Relay	Atfal 11-15	North Region	North	London Region	London		
4x100M Relay	Khuddam	London Region	London	West/North	Mixed		
4x100M Relay	Ansar	North + West	Mixed	London Region	London		
Football	Atfal 7-10	London Region	London	North Region	North		
Football	Khuddam	Midlands	Midlands	London Region	London		
Shot Put	Khuddam	Hakeem Bakare	Midlands	Shakeer Idris	London	Sadiq Usman	Midlands
Shot Put	Ansar	Rashid Witol	London	Nasir Yaqub	East	Orabiyi Razaq	North
Tug of War	Khuddam	Midlands Region	Midlands	Mixed Regions	Mixed		

**OVERALL
BEST
REGION**

PAAMA IJTEMA PRIZE WINNERS - LADIES							
COMPETITION	TANZEEEM	1st POSITION	REGION	2nd POSITION	REGION	3rd POSITION	REGION
Tilawat	Nasirat 7-10	Azimat Durujaye	North	Rahmat Bayo	North	Sakina Bonsu	Midlands
Tilawat	Nasirat 11-14	Selina Ahmed (Kallon)	London	Ryhana Ameen	West	Abidah Quansah	London
Tilawat	Lajna Under 25	Hibatu Rashid Gazal	South	Fatimah Hydara	Midlands	Mariam Adarabioyo	North
Tilawat	Lajna Over 25	Hafizah Ameen	West	G. Sadiq & Y. El-Aissaui	5th London	Mariam Bonsu	Midlands
Nazim/Qaseeda	Nasirat 7-10	Sakina Bonsu	Midlands	Nana Aisha Owusu	North	Mariam Bhunnoo	London
Nazim/Qaseeda	Nasirat 11-14	Selina Ahmed (Kallon)	London	Abida Quansah	London	Masroorah Ankromah	Midlands
Nazim/Qaseeda	Lajna Under 25	Fatima Hydara	Midlands	Hibatu Rashid Gazal	South		
Nazim/Qaseeda	Lajna Over 25	Tawakalliu Ahmed	London	Hafizah Ameen	West	Shahida Boakye	London
Prepared Speech	Nasirat 7-10	Azimat Durujaiye	North	Nana Aisha Owusu	North	Aisha Nana	North
Prepared Speech	Nasirat 11-14	Sahar Kallon	London	Selina Ahmed (Kallon)	London	Hania Arjaoui	London
Prepared Speech	Lajna Under 25	Matina Hakeem	North	Fatimah Hydara	Midlands	Hibatu Rashid Gazal	South
Prepared Speech	Lajna Over 25	Naeema Ahmad	South	Fakiha Abubakar	East	Amina Osman	Midlands
Team Quiz	Nasirat 11-14	Rayhana Ameen, Vielung Hashim, Sakeenah,	West	Abidah Quansah, Sahar Kallon, Fatimah Wemah, Aisha Ceesay	London	Sakina Bonsu, Mariam Hydara, Tanzilla Ofori, Rashida Aduboahene	Midlands
Egg & Spoon Race	Nasirat 7-10	Mariam Hydara	Midlands	Heera Yeko	East	Sakinah Hakeem	West
Egg & Spoon Race	Nasirat 11-14	Antul-Hafeez Mensah	South	Masroorah Ankromah	Midlands	Rayhana Ameen	West
Egg & Spoon Race	Lajna Under 25	Nadia Quansah	London	Maria Mina Mensah	South	Aisha Afolabi	North
Egg & Spoon Race	Lajna Over 25	Zainab Osota	South	Suhaila Saeed	East	Amina Bayo	North
3-Legged Race	Nasirat 7-10	Azimat Durojaiye & Nana Owusu	North	Herra & Henna Yeko	East	Salma Ankromah & Farida Bakare	Midlands
3-Legged Race	Nasirat 11-14	Antul-Hafeez & Nura Mensah	South	Aisha Ceesay & Fatimah Wemah	London	Faizza Ameen & Alia Abdul Lateef	East
50 Metres Race	Nasirat 7-10	Fatima Ceesay	London	Rakiba Tijani	South	Maimuna Hydara	Midlands
50 Metres Race	Nasirat 11-14	Mariam Nuhu	East	Rayhana Ameen	West	Hania Arjaoui	London
100 Metres Race	Lajna Under 25	Mariam Adarabioyo	North	Maria Mina Mensah	South	Fareeda Aduboahene	Midlands
100 Metres Race	Lajna Over 25	Zakia Abdul Haq	West	Fakiha Abubakar	East	Zainab Osota	South
Colour Ball Picking	Lajna Over 25	Mariyam Aduboahene	Midlands	Zakia Abdul Haq	West	Amina Adams	North
Lajna Tarlim Paper Award		Shahida Boakye	London	Jannat Kusi	London	Jamila Abdullah	West
Art And Craft		North		London		Midlands	
Exhibition		London		North		Midlands	



The Second and Third Prize distribution was done by Issah Wemah Sahib, former Chairman PAAMA UK, following which the Ijtema Report was presented by PAAMA President Tommy Kallon Sahib. In his report, he thanked Allah through Whose grace the Ijtema was being held and expressed gratitude to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih for his gracious permission to hold the Ijtema. He reiterated the theme of the Ijtema, Unity in Diversity, and expressed the importance of this theme as exemplified in PAAMA's various diverse backgrounds.

The reported attendance was 193 boys and men, and 160 ladies and girls, with 30 guests recorded making the total attendance as 383.

Next was the First Prize Distribution for academic and sporting events first on the ladies side followed by the gents with prizes given out by Mansoor Shah Sahib.

During his Closing Address Mansoor Shah Sahib, quoted the famed verse of the Holy Qur'an:

"O mankind, We have created you from a male and a female and made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognise one another. Verily, the most

honourable among you in the sight of Allah is he who is the most righteous among you."

(Al-Hujurat, 49:14).

Acting Amir Sahib reminded all that all humans come from the same origin and that the only reason Allah created differences in humans is to enable us to identify one another and nothing else. He reiterated that Khilafat is the unifying force that binds us together and ensures we have unity notwithstanding our diverse backgrounds.

At the end, President Tommy Kallon read out a Special Message from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih for the attendees of the first PAAMA Ijtema. In his message, Huzur Aqdas admonished all *"to remain connected to the Jama'at and Khilafat..."* to *"consider Khilafat a great divine bounty and hold fast by the rope of Allah..."* to *"be thankful to Allah the Almighty for this gift"* and to *"pray for the Khalifa of the time and for the continuation of this blessing."*

The event concluded with silent prayers led by Acting Amir, Mansoor Shah Sahib.

Pan-African Jalsa Salana Event 2017

Under the directives of Hazrat Ameerul Mumineen, Khalifatul Masih V^(aba), PAAMA UK held a Pan-African Evening event at this year's Jalsa Salana UK on Friday 28th July 2017. The event took place immediately after Huzur Aqdas' Inaugural Address in the main Jalsa Gah at Hadeeqatul Mahdi.

The function was attended by over 600 African Americans, Africans from Europe, delegates from Africa and the Caribbean, African delegates from Europe and Africans in the UK. In attendance were the Amirs of Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, The Gambia, Mauritius, Uganda, Benin, Missionary In-charge USA, Missionary In-charge Belgium and In-charge Central French Desk. Also in attendance were distinguished Tabshir delegates from Africa and the Caribbean.

In his Welcome Address, Tommy Kallon Sahib, PAAMA UK, gave a brief background and overview of PAAMA and what it stands for: *"to unite, empower and inspire the African Ahmadiyya Muslim diaspora to serve Islam, society and Africa."* He enumerated some of the achievements of PAAMA over the last 30 years, highlighting the expansion of the Association to the USA and Italy as the latest advancement of PAAMA and acknowledged the presence of Maulana Abdullah Dibba Sahib who is now President of PAAMA USA.

Maulana Abdullah Dibba Sahib then gave a stirring account of *The Establishment of PAAMA USA*. He paid special tribute to PAAMA UK President Tommy Kallon for nurturing him by giving him the opportunity to serve PAAMA UK as Vice President

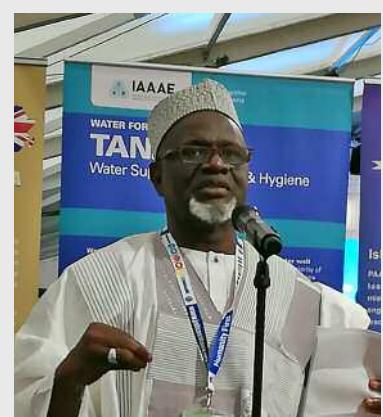
even though he was a Jamia Student at the time. He then recounted the story of the establishment of PAAMA USA and the emphasis Huzur Aqdas placed on PAAMA, including sending Tommy Kallon as Special Guest for the launch of PAAMA USA.

Maulana Muhammad Bin Saleh, Amir & Missionary In-charge Ghana, then spoke on *The Role and Vision of PAAMA*. He expounded on the objectives of PAAMA and the concept of Pan-Africanism, explaining that unity is vital to social and economic progress. Maulana Sahib also explained that unlike secular Pan-Africanist movements which tend to end in failure because they divorced God from their plans, PAAMA, under the guidance of the Divinely-guided Khalifa, was destined to succeed where secular movements failed.

This was followed by a Question & Answer Session. Among some of the questions asked were: "What role can PAAMA play in eradicating corruption in Africa" and "Can PAAMA participate in activism such as Black Lives Matter?" Amir and Missionary In-charge Uganda then led the gathering in Silent Prayers to conclude the official segment of the event.

Guests were then ushered to the European marquee for a sumptuous dinner.

See page 38 for photos of some PAAMA members during Jalsa



Post Jalsa Salana Reception

The traditional PAAMA UK Post-Jalsa Salana Reception, hosted in honour of Jalsa Salana delegates from Africa and other senior members of the Jama'at, was held on Sunday 6th August 2017. The event included a Merit Award Ceremony in recognition of the distinguished Missionaries and Waqfeen both of African and non-African origin who had served the cause of Africa and Africans. The event was blessed with the presence of the Beloved Khalifa of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim community, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, who presented the awards and had lunch with the attendees.

The first session of the event which was chaired by the Respected National President of the UK Jama'at, Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat, started with recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Toban Ephram and English translation by Mr Hassan Wahab. In his Welcome Address, the President of PAAMA UK, Tommy Kallon Sahib, apprised the attendees of recent achievements of PAAMA over the year, notably the launching of PAAMA Italy and PAAMA USA.

Amirs and National Presidents from Africa then presented brief updates on the progress of the Jama'at in their respective countries. The President of PAAMA USA, Respected Imam Abdullah Dibba, also gave a brief discourse on the launching of PAAMA USA.

In closing this session, Rafiq Hayat Sahib, remarked that from Ahmadiyyat's point of view, Africa must lead the way. Of the 600,000 Bai'ats gained by Jama'at

Ahmadiyya this year worldwide, a huge majority came from Africa. The first session of the event concluded with silent prayers after which attendees proceeded to the Fazl mosque to observe Zuhr and Asr prayers led by Huzur Aqdas.

The Second Session commenced after Zuhr and Asr prayers when the event was graced with the presence of Huzur Aqdas (aba), who presented the PAAMA Merit Awards for 2017 (see next page).

Following the Award Ceremony Huzur Aqdas (aba) led the traditional Silent Prayer after which lunch was enjoyed by all attendees. Songs of praises were presented at the end by the PAAMA Tirana team. The event was attended by over 500 people.



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Under the express guidance and instructions of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba), the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association had been established in Italy and the USA at the time of the Post Jalsa Salana Reception. Huzur Aqdas most graciously presented both Presidents with Certificates of Achievement.



In the absence of any representative from PAAMA Italy, PAAMA UK Vice President Ahmad Owusu-Konadu collected the Certificate on behalf of PAAMA Italy. President PAAMA USA, Imam Abdullah Dibba Sahib then received the Certificate of Achievement on behalf of PAAMA USA.

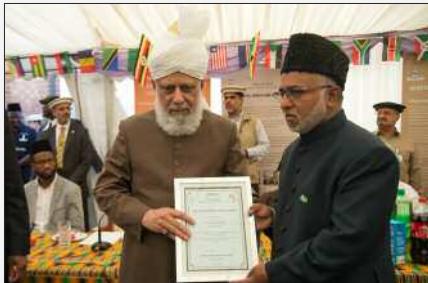


THE ABDUL WAHAB ADAM AWARD

Maulvi Dr. Abdul Wahab Adam was an Islamic scholar, Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Ghana. He was a member of Ghana's National Peace Council and the National Reconciliation Commission that was set up in 2002.



Maulana Abdul Ghany Jahangeer Khan Sahib of Mauritius who has served as a missionary for exactly 30 years – first in Zaire and then in Belgium as National President and Missionary In-charge; in France as Amir & Missionary In-charge, and currently in the UK where he heads the Central French Desk.



Maulana Hafiz Essan Secundar Sahib of Mauritius who has been a missionary for 30 years serving in Zaire, Rodrigues Island, and France; and as Amir and Missionary In-charge Benin for 7 years. He is currently serving as Missionary In-charge Belgium.



Maulana Muhammad Ali Kaire Sahib of Uganda who trained as a missionary at Jamia Ahmadiyya Pakistan and has since served the Jama'at in Uganda for 40 years as Regional Missionary, Naib Amir and presently as Amir and Missionary In-charge.

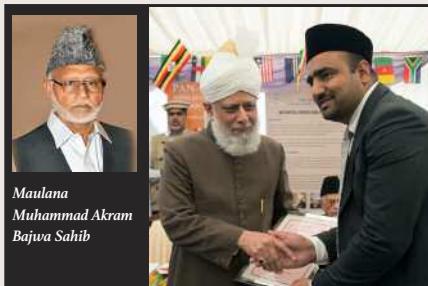


THE ABDUL RAHEEM NAYYAR AWARD

Maulana Al-Hajj Abdul Raheem Nayyar was a Companion of the Promised Messiah^(as), having taken the Ba'ait in 1901, and was a pioneer Missionary in West Africa.



Maulana Inayatullah Zahid Sahib who served the Jama'at as a missionary in Africa for 27 years in the Ivory Coast and Ghana; as Amir and Missionary In-charge The Gambia, and as Amir and Missionary In-charge Uganda for 7 years.



Maulana Muhammad Akram Bajwa Sahib who served the Jama'at in Africa for a total of 23 years as a missionary in Sierra Leone and Liberia and later as Amir and Missionary In-charge Liberia for 18 years. He is currently serving as a Missionary in Lahore, Pakistan. His son picked up the award on his behalf.



Bashir Ahmad Akhtar Sahib who served as an educationist in Sierra Leone for 21 years as a teacher and prominently as Principal Ahmadiyya Secondary School Bo for 11 years. Bashir Akhtar Sahib has also served as General Secretary UK for 12 years and is currently serving in the UK Jama'at History Dept.

Eid Milan Family Picnic

The PAAMA Eid Milan Family Picnic 2017 was held on Saturday 26th August 2017 at the Jamia Ahmadiyya UK complex in Haslemere. By the grace of Allah, it was a very well attended event with PAAMA members travelling from as far afield as Scotland and the South West of England to be in attendance. The total attendance was recorded at over 300, including PAAMA members, families and guests.

Following the registration of members upon arrival and a site tour of the Jamia Ahmadiyya UK Complex, the members were ushered into the main auditorium where a direct video link was set up to relay the address of His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba) delivered at the Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Germany. Members of PAAMA and their families had the blessing of listening to the words of wisdom imparted to the worldwide membership of the Community by His Holiness.

This was followed by a short break whereby members dispersed to complete the tour of the Complex and prepare for Zuhra and Asr prayers.

By the grace of Allah this year we were blessed with excellent weather befitting a picnic and

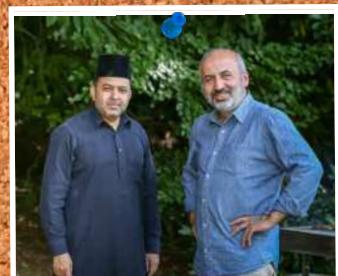
PAAMA members and their families took advantage of the glorious weather and made the most of it. By mid-afternoon the barbecue was in full swing with a giant bouncy castle and rides laid out on the grounds for the children to play on. The food was in abundance and of varied selection.

The wonderful weather made it possible for members to indulge in a variety of sports, including outdoors table tennis.

Football, which is a favourite sport, was also played including a penalty shootout competition which was one of the new additions in this year's sporting activities.

On the whole this was once again a remarkable, enjoyable and fun-filled event which saw further improvements on previous years.





AFRICA PEACE SYMPOSIUM

Unity in DIVERSITY



On Saturday 21st October 2017, PAAMA UK held its first ever National Africa Peace Symposium at the Baitul Futuh complex. The landmark event had as its theme “Unity in Diversity”. The Symposium sought to explore the unity that religion brings to our complex differences in all spheres of life, be they social, political or indeed religious. It also aimed to promote a deeper understanding of Islam and other faiths with a view to inspiring a concerted effort for lasting peace among the peoples of Africa. The event was attended by distinguished personalities from various walks of life including parliamentarians, diplomats, community and civic leaders, a 14-man delegation from Belgium and eminent members from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the UK.

The Symposium opened with a recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Brother Toban Ephram and an English rendition given by Brother Misbahudeen Adewale.

In his welcome address, the President of PAAMA UK, Mr Tommy Kallon, expressed his pleasure and delight in welcoming all distinguished guests. He further reiterated the mission statement of PAAMA as being to unify, empower and inspire its membership to serve the religion of Islam, the interest of society and the welfare of Africa. He restated the theme of the Peace Symposium as “Unity in Diversity” explaining that this theme truly underpins the objectives and essence of PAAMA. “We should celebrate our differences but not be defined by them”, he furthered. Mr Kallon seized the opportunity to record his gratitude to all guests who had travelled from far and wide around the UK, and from across Europe and other parts in Africa. In concluding President Kallon alluded to a quote by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) that “I firmly believe that if African countries and people unite together and fulfil the requirements of justice, then one day Africa will emerge as a true global power.”

This was followed by a video presentation encapsulating the services of various activities the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community undertakes in Africa through the International Association of Ahmadiyya Architects and Engineers (IAAAE) and Humanity First. These include the Water for Life

programme, building schools, libraries, science laboratories, hospitals, clinics and model villages; in this way, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community helps to improve the lives of ordinary people across the continent of Africa.

The first guest speaker for the occasion was the first black female Mayor of Merton, Cllr Marsie Skeete, originally from Guyana. She drew a direct correlation between the advancement of a nation and the peace in that nation. “In these modern times with all the trappings of modern technological advancement we do not seem to have time for acceptance, compassion and tolerance, which are the foundation of peace”, the Mayor further elaborated. She alluded to peaceful practices adopted by Mahatma Ghandi, Mother Theresa, and Nelson Mandela to further buttress her stand on the subject. She concluded with a quote by Martin Luther King Jnr: “Violence as a way of achieving radical justice is both impractical and immoral.”

The next distinguished speaker was H.E Julius Peter Moto, the High Commissioner for Uganda. He stated that peace is something we cannot talk about without planting good seeds politically and the African continent is overwhelmed with political refugees all over as a direct result of lack of good governance. He cited examples of countries in Africa whose populations have been displaced because of political unrest and that Uganda, which has enjoyed relative



peace, has been host to over 1.2 million refugees from South Sudan. In concluding he praised the great efforts made by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Uganda in building schools, hospitals, radio stations and erecting solar panels in various communities in the country.

The keynote address was given by the distinguished Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth office. In his speech he expressed the significance and relevance of the Commonwealth in modern times. To see communities celebrating their diversity but recognising their strength in unity is a laudable feat. Lord Ahmad went further to elaborate how the theme of the Symposium “Unity in Diversity” loudly resonates with his roles in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He appealed to the diverse gathering to work with him and the Commonwealth to see how we can mitigate the effects of climate change, how we can keep people safe from violent extremism, cyber- attacks, human-trafficking and modern slavery and how we can protect our shared values. He highlighted the important role that faith groups can play as important peace brokers, for example, the role the Catholic Church played in negotiating peace between the FARC guerrillas and the Colombian government and the role that faith groups play in Ghana to broker peace and maintain a peaceful co-existence between diverse communities.

The next speaker was the Deputy High Commissioner of Ghana, Mrs Rita Tani Iddi. She expressed her joy in attending the event and also relayed apologies sent by His Excellency, the Ghana High Commissioner to the UK in whose capacity she attended. Mrs Iddi also tendered greetings to PAAMA on behalf of the government and people of Ghana. She acknowledged the good work that the Ahmadiyya Mission is doing in her country in the areas of education, health, education, provision of social amenities as well as moral and spiritual guidance in the country. She noted that most of the mission’s projects were accomplished under the leadership and guidance of His Holiness Khalifatul Masih V. She recalled and acknowledged the various roles His Holiness played in various capacities in the development of Ghana. She related to the symposium’s theme “Unity in Diversity” in relation to life in Ghana where though the population is very diverse but they always try to get together to have dialogue and a common understanding. She concluded with a promise ensuring that the essence of the symposium’s teachings is passed on to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Ghana.

The next guest speaker was H.E Dr Justina Mutale, Founder and President of the Justina Mutale Foundation (a scholarship program for under-privileged young women) and African Woman of the Year 2012.

Continued on page 24

Message from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V for Africa Peace Symposium



To all the attendees at the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK Peace Symposium, Assalamo Alaikum wa Rehmatullah wa Barakatohu,

I am very pleased that the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK is holding its first ever Peace Symposium and I pray that the event proves to be blessed in all respects. I would also like to express my sincere regret that due to certain reasons I am unable to join you all this evening.

In today's world, such functions have taken on an even greater importance because the world

is passing through a period of increasing instability and conflict and, as a result, the peace of the world is lessening day by day. Indeed, it cannot be said that any Continent is free from the effects of this growing turmoil. Thus, I pray that Allah the Almighty grants wisdom to the people of the world so that instead of moving rapidly towards destruction and catastrophe, people come to realise the need to step back from the abyss and seek to build bridges of love and peace in society. However, this will not be possible until all nations and continents, whether it be North or South America, Australia, Europe, Asia and indeed all of Africa are willing to work together for the common good of mankind.

With the Grace of Allah, according to our limited resources, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is continually engaged in efforts to promote peace in the world and to unite mankind under a banner of love, peace and harmony. The very fact that the Pan-African Association is holding this Peace Symposium is an indication that upon every possible platform we are trying to develop peace and are striving to eradicate all forms of hatred and intolerance.

The African Continent is vast and its boundaries border with both Asia and Europe and so it is imperative that the African people realise their great status and importance to the rest of the world. Each African tribe or race and indeed each individual person must understand his or her responsibilities and duties to their nation and to the wider world. Sadly, even now, much of the world considers African nations to be poor, destitute and without value, however, I firmly believe that Africa has huge potential and a great status.

Yours is the Continent that was ruled by foreign nations for generation after generation and tragically they plundered Africa of its resources for their own benefit. Thankfully, and

with the Grace of God, Africa is now free from its colonial past and so it is the obligation of

African Governments and leaders to ensure that their nation's resources are utilised in the best possible way in order to benefit their nations and to help them grow and develop.

During the colonial era, Africa's oil resources had not been fully revealed but in recent times, new oil has been discovered, and there is better technology available to extract this natural wealth that God has bestowed upon the African people. It is my prayer that the African leaders invest every single penny derived from such wealth for the sake of the development of their nation and to help their people. This should be their objective and mission, otherwise whilst your Continent may have been liberated from the chains of colonialism it will continue to remain shackled by the chains of economic slavery. I pray that every African leader works to the best of his or her abilities and consider themselves to be servants of the nation and consider it their duty to be guardians of the future of Africa. I pray that the legacy they bequeath to the future generations is one of peace, prosperity and sustained development. Similarly, I urge the members of the public to elect leaders who they consider to be the most loyal, faithful and capable.

Furthermore, all people should play their respective roles in helping light the torch for a bright and progressive future for the African Continent. Alongside the economic development of your countries, it is essential that you maintain a spirit of peace and brotherhood within your nations and with your African neighbours and in this way Africa can set a glorious example of peace for the rest of the world to follow.

Tragically, in recent years, some extremist and terrorist groups, such as Boko Haram or Al-Shabaab, have gained influence in Africa. To eradicate them and to bring an end to their evil, both the African leaders and the people must work together to ensure that their countries develop and progress. In all dealings, you must show integrity and be just so that young people do not become frustrated, as it is frustration that invariably makes people vulnerable to radicalisation.

May Allah the Almighty bless the African Continent in all respects and may your nations remain free of all forms of slavery or colonialism forevermore. Rather than come under the rule of others, I hope and pray that Africa comes to lead the world, Inshallah.

Once again, I pray that the event is blessed in all respects. Long Live Africa!

Wassalam



MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD

Khalifatul Masih V



Rafiq Ahmed Hayat – National President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK



Tommy Kallon – President, Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA)



Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon – Minister of State for Commonwealth & United Nations



Councillor Marsie Skeete, Mayor of Merton



H.E. Julius Peter Moto – High Commissioner for Uganda



Rita Tani Iddi – Deputy High Commissioner of Ghana



H.E. Dr Justina Mutale – Founder & President of the Justina Mutale Foundation



"PAAMA's Mission Statement is to unite, empower and inspire its membership to serve the religion of Islam, the interests of society and the welfare of Africa."

Coming from a predominantly Christian community in Zambia that is relatively peaceful, Dr Mutale expressed her surprise at discovering the religious intolerance she is experiencing here in the West. She expressed alarm at the possibility of the human race (supposedly the most intelligent of God's creation) on the verge of destroying itself at the push of a button. Dr Mutale referred to her traditional belief in the philosophy of "Ubuntu"; a traditional belief in Southern Africa that we are humans because of other humans. She also highlighted the worrying prospect of the US threat to exit the United Nations

and the UK exiting the European Union, and yet these are institutions formed on the background of preventing world conflicts and crises. She appealed that as humans we need to go back to the golden principles of doing unto others as you want others do unto you, and seeing that no one wins in wars. She echoed that the only hope for humanity's survival is for peace to reign and concluded that we should go back to the principle of "Ubuntu".

A short video presentation followed chronicling the numerous trips and visits made by Huzur to various world legislative bodies including the European



Parliament, the UK House of Parliament, Canadian Legislative House and the United States Congress where he took the message of peace and Love for All Hared for None and to world leaders from the Far East to Europe, from North America to Africa discussing economic, social and political problems facing the world today.

Mr Rafiq Hayat, Amir UK, gave the Closing Remarks and delivered a message from His Holiness, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V. Before delivering his speech he acknowledged the great work done by President Tommy Kallon and his team in organising the Symposium. Hayat Sahib noted that it is only faith that can bring about peace because the fundamental principles of faith are based on morality, justice and fair play. This will only be possible when faith leaders come together and bring harmony to this world as exemplified through the work done by His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad.

Amir Sahib then read a message from His Holiness addressed to all the attendees of the Symposium as

reproduced on pages 22-23.

Amir Sahib concluded by calling on Africa and her leaders to take heed to Huzur's important advice and thereafter called on the gathering to join him in Silent Prayers. Following the official closing remarks of the Symposium, dinner was served to all attendees.

Overall the PAAMA UK Africa Peace Symposium was a watershed event in the history of PAAMA in various respects. The highly distinguished list of dignitaries and guests in attendance was an indication of the appeal the event had, not only to the members of PAAMA but to the rest of the British society across the board. With a recorded attendance of over 700, this was arguably one of the most successful events ever organised by PAAMA UK and the various post-event feedback received from attendees testified to that. The event was not only well attended but covered a theme which generated so much interest among not only attendees and the various speakers but also media outlets and the whole event was live-streamed by MTA International.

'Gathering of Africa's Best' Awards

PAAMA RECOGNITION AT GAB AWARDS

With the blessed approval of Hazrat Ameerul Mumineen^(aba), on Sunday 3rd December 2017 a PAAMA UK delegation consisting of President Tommy Kallon Sahib, Vice President Shafiq Kusi Sahib, External Affairs Secretary Ibrahim Asante Sahib, Head of Lajna, Faosat Sanni Sahiba and Lajna External Affairs Secretary, Naeema Ahmad Sahiba attended the Gathering of Africa's Best (GAB) Awards hosted by the Trumpet Media Group.

Ahead of the Awards ceremony, PAAMA UK President Tommy Kallon had been shortlisted as a Finalist for a GAB Award in the Faith category and by the grace of Allah, was a winner on the night being presented an Award of Excellence recognising his *"outstanding contribution to the promotion of the positive image of Africa and Africans around the world through Faith."*

In his acceptance speech, Tommy Kallon told the distinguished audience that services to Africa and Africans were in fact enshrined in the Mission Statement of PAAMA and that the Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community had so repeatedly urged the members of the Community to discharge the rights due to our Creator and to His creatures that we could not but respond to the call of duty. He quoted the words of Huzur Aqdas in which Huzur beautifully captured the true essence of Jihad as follows:

"Our Jihad is not a Jihad of swords, guns or bombs. Our Jihad is not a Jihad of cruelty, brutality and injustice. Rather, our Jihad is of love, mercy and compassion. Our Jihad is of tolerance, justice and human sympathy. Our Jihad is to fulfil the rights of God Almighty and of His Creation."

Separately PAAMA Lajna External Affairs Secretary, Naeema Ahmed Sahiba, who had also been nominated as a Finalist in the Energy category for her efforts with Africa Alternative Energy Initiative (AAEI), a company she founded that seeks to

provide sustainable clean and affordable energy access for the African continent, also won an Award of Excellence on the night, making it a truly memorable and blessed night for PAAMA.



Establishment of PAAMA Abroad

Under the guidance and tutelage of Hazrat Ameerul Mumineen, Khalifatul Masih V^(aba), PAAMA has for the first time been established outside of the UK – PAAMA Italy, USA and Belgium have now been set up. Under the directives of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba), President PAAMA UK, Tommy Kallon, attended and delivered the Keynote Address at the inauguration of all the three chapters of PAAMA.



Inauguration of PAAMA ITALY

The Inauguration event for PAAMA Italy took place in Parma, attended by the National President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Italy, Abdul Fatir Malik Sahib and the Vice President and Missionary In-charge, Maulana Ataul Wasih Tariq Sahib. The event was presided over by President PAAMA UK, Tommy Kallon Sahib.



After Tilawat and translation, the Opening Address was delivered by Respected National President, Abdul Fatir Malik Sahib, who gave a brief history of the Jama'at and the Pan-African Desk in Italy.

This was followed by Songs of Praise by PAAMA members after which Imam Ataul Wasih Tariq Sahib gave an address on “*The Moral Training of the Jama'at*”.

Tommy Kallon Sahib presented ‘*An Introduction to PAAMA*’, giving an overview of its history, aims, objectives and Mission Statement along with its

organisational structure and how it is run in the UK. This was followed by elections for the office of President PAAMA Italy.

During the break for Salat and lunch that ensued, as a means of creating in the members a greater attachment to Khilafat, they were encouraged to write letters to Huzur which Tommy Kallon Sahib brought back to the UK and handed in personally to Huzur Aqdas.

The Concluding Session was held wherein President PAAMA UK delivered the Keynote Address, reminding PAAMA Italy members of their responsibilities in light of the mission, aims and objectives of PAAMA; emphasising unity, greater attachment to the Jama'at, living up to the lofty expectations of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and resolving to discharge our duties to God and man.

The programme then concluded with Silent Prayers led by President PAAMA UK, Tommy Kallon Sahib.

Following the submission of the results of the election to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba), Huzur Aqdas most graciously appointed Respected Ibrahim Ismail Sahib as the first President of the newly established PAAMA Italy.





Inauguration of PAAMA USA

With the blessed approval of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba), PAAMA UK President Tommy Kallon Sahib attended the Jalsa Salana USA for the purposes of launching PAAMA USA. The event was held on Friday 14th July.

The event started with Tilawat and Translation following which Maulana Azhar Haneef Sahib, Naib Amir and Missionary In-Charge USA, who presided over the event, welcomed the members to the event and introduced both Imam Abdullah Dibba and Tommy Kallon as President PAAMA USA and President PAAMA UK respectively.

After this, Tommy Kallon gave "An Introduction to the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association" with an overview of its history, aims, objectives and mission statement along with its organisational structure and how it is run in the UK.

Imam Abdullah Dibba, President PAAMA USA, took to the dais to give a short address on the role and vision for PAAMA USA. Imam Dibba Sahib spoke about the time he served as Deputy President PAAMA UK while still a student at Jamia Ahmadiyya UK. He then introduced the members of the National Executive, Head of Lajna and Deputy Heads of Lajna as approved by Hazrat Ameerul Mumineen, Khalifatul Masih V^(aba).

Following the address of Imam Dibba, Vice President PAAMA USA, Alhaj Dhul Waqar Yaqub also addressed the attendees briefly.

In his Keynote Address, Tommy Kallon Sahib reminded members of their responsibilities to uphold piety and righteousness; they have to rededicate themselves to the lofty ambition of bringing hope, guidance and enlightenment to Africa; and they must leave no stone unturned in their efforts to further the mission of the Promised Messiah^(as) and to disseminate the message of the Holy Prophet^(saw).

Tommy Kallon Sahib also emphasised the need



for unity in diversity as we entered this glorious new era of PAAMA and closed by reminding the members that Khilafat truly is the source of all progress in this Divinely-commissioned Jama'at; that it is by seeking the pleasure of the Khalifa of the time that we will be seeking the pleasure of Allah; that it is by being foremost in our allegiance, our response, our obedience, our devotion and our service to Khilafat that we will continue to advance the vanguard of PAAMA.

The Chairman of the event, Imam Azhar Haneef Sahib, brought the event to a close by asking in turn each of the various sections of PAAMA - North

African Arabs, Mauritians, Caribbean, Indigenous African and African Americans - to stand. He then informed all of them that from now on there will be no individual nationalities within PAAMA; they must all must come together as one to fulfil our objectives.

The event concluded with Silent Prayers led by Imam Azhar Haneef Sahib.

Following the conclusion of Jalsa Salana USA, a meeting with some local PAAMA USA members was organised by Sadr Majlis Ansarullah USA, also serving as Sadr Baltimore Jama'at, Dr Faheem Younis Qureshi Sahib, at his residence. PAAMA Presidents UK and USA were able to meet and hold informal discussions with members of the newly established PAAMA USA.

At the end of this meeting, President PAAMA UK was presented with a token of gratitude for attending the launch event of PAAMA USA.



Inauguration of PAAMA BELGIUM

With the blessed permission of Huzur Aqdas, PAAMA UK President Tommy Kallon attended Jalsa Salana Belgium on 6-8th October for the purposes of the establishment of PAAMA Belgium and meeting new African converts in Belgium.

After the conclusion of the second day of Jalsa Salana, all members of African origin stayed in the main Jalsa Gah for the Inauguration of PAAMA Belgium. Lajna members were also able to participate. There were around 50 men and boys and around 20 ladies and girls in attendance at the event.

The event was chaired by President PAAMA UK, Tommy Kallon, and started with Tilawat by Ismail Secundar Sahib and translation by Ousman Maty Sahib. Imam Hafiz Essan Secundar Sahib then gave a brief welcome address and the purpose of the event.

Tommy Kallon Sahib presented *'An Introduction to PAAMA'* giving an overview of its history, aims,

objectives and mission statement along with its organisational structure and how it is run in the UK.

Following on from this, elections were held for the office of President PAAMA Belgium.

After the elections, President PAAMA UK delivered the Keynote Address offering some words of admonition to the members of PAAMA Belgium as they now embarked on a new chapter in their history, reminding them of their responsibilities in light of the mission, aims and objectives of PAAMA, emphasising unity, greater attachment to the Jama'at, living up to the lofty expectations of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih and resolving to discharge our duties to God and man.

This was followed by brief concluding remarks by Respected Amir Belgium Sahib who also led the assembly in Silent Prayers to bring the event to a successful and blessed conclusion.

Upon his return to the UK, Tommy Kallon Sahib submitted a summary of the election results to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V^(aba) who most graciously appointed Respected Mohammed Elghrazaoui Sahib as the first President of PAAMA Belgium.



PAAMA Funded Mosque in Africa

With blessed approval of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih^(aba), PAAMA launched an appeal to raise funds to build a mosque in Africa. It was the directive of Huzur Aqdas the PAAMA mosque should be built in Burkina Faso.

By the grace of Allah, the members of PAAMA from the UK and beyond responded magnanimously and against an initial target of £5000-10000, we had promises amounting to over £30,000.

Alhamdulillah, the PAAMA mosque in Burkina Faso was completed and named Masjid Nasir by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih^(aba). We proclaim the glory of Allah, celebrate His praise and affirm His Unity for this inestimable favour conferred upon PAAMA.

The mosque is prominently located on the main highway to the Ivory Coast in Banfora City, the fifth largest city in Burkina Faso; a location which attracts many visitors which in turn further promotes the

name and image of the Jama'at in the region.

With a capacity of 250 people, the mosque has one large 45-foot tall minaret, four small minarets and a dome. The flooring is tiled and is complete with electric fans on the ceiling, audio-video facilities and separate area for ablution. The total cost of construction is £15,250.

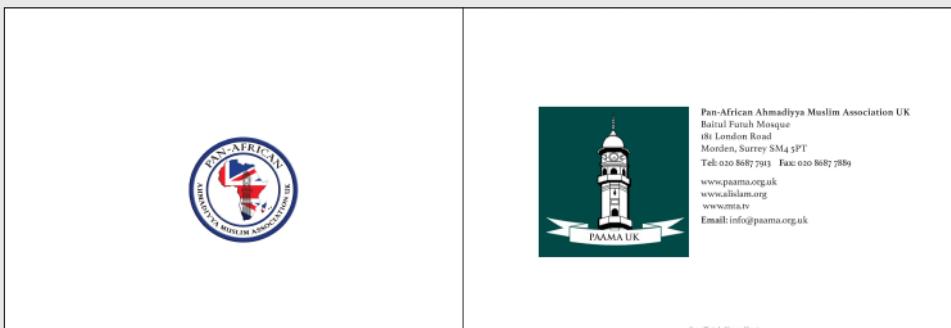
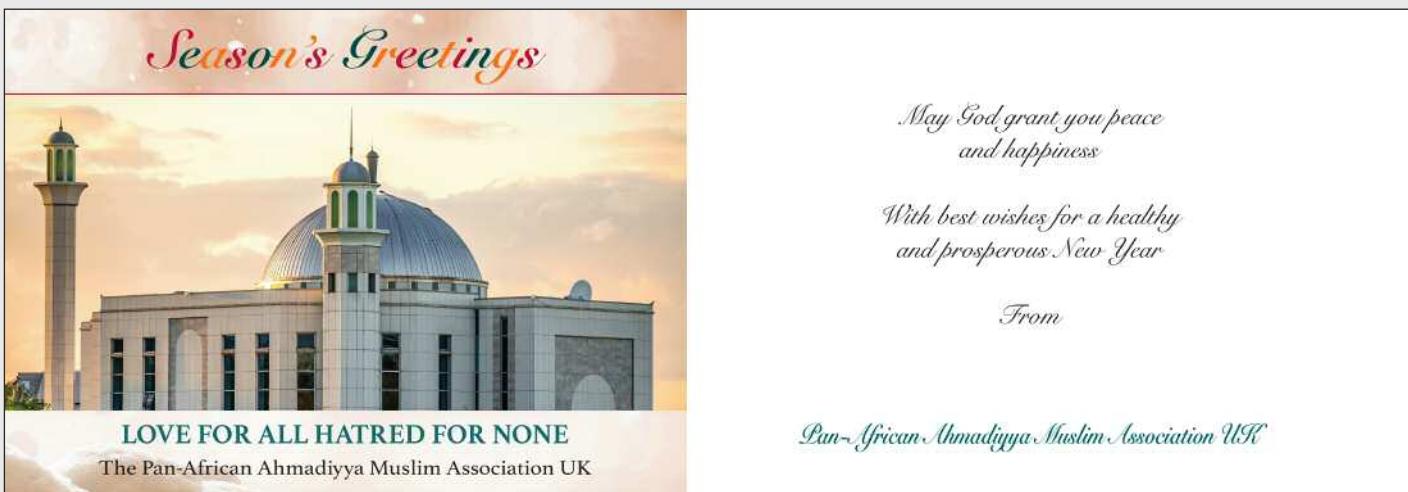
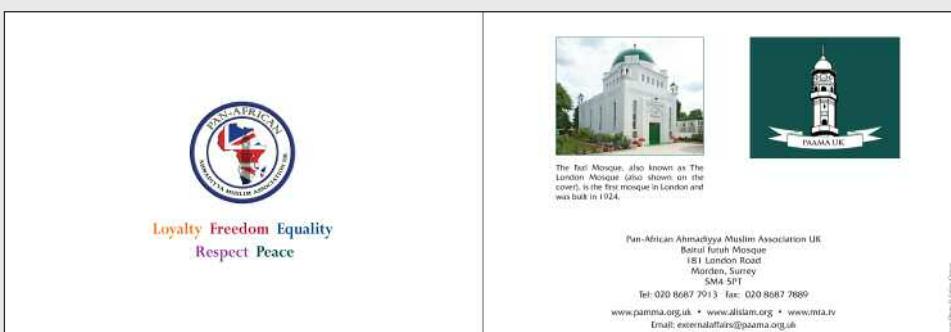
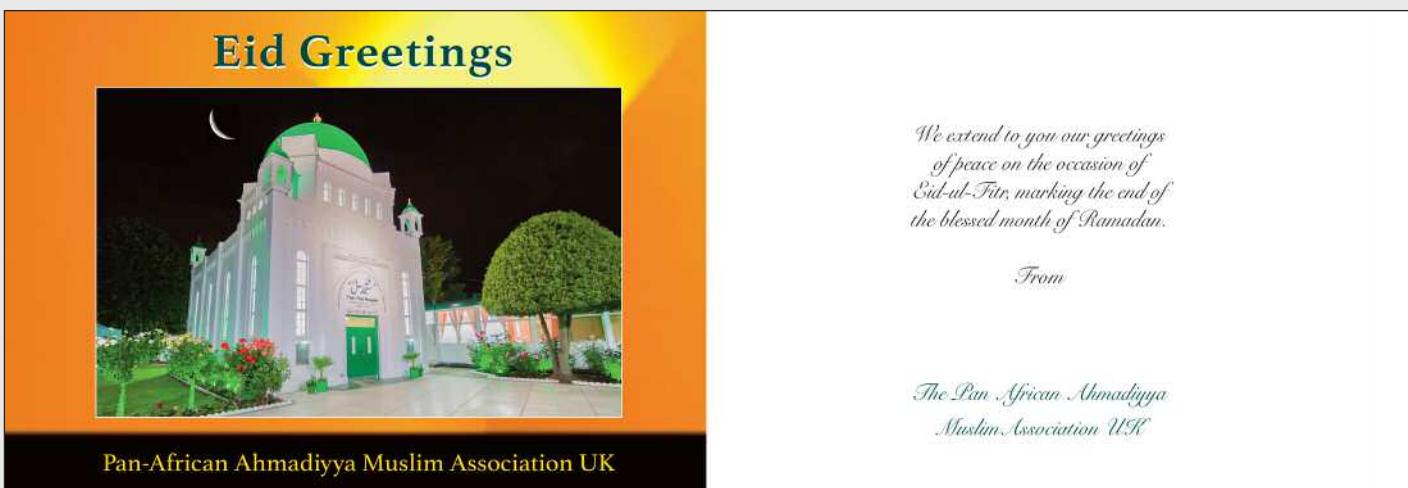
We take the opportunity to congratulate all members of PAAMA on this most tangible achievement, especially those who contributed towards the PAAMA Mosque Fund initiative be it by way of fundraising or through donations and pray that Allah blesses this mosque in every respect, that He abundantly reward the sacrifices of all those who made its construction a reality and that He enables PAAMA to accomplish more and greater projects in Africa in years to come. Ameen.



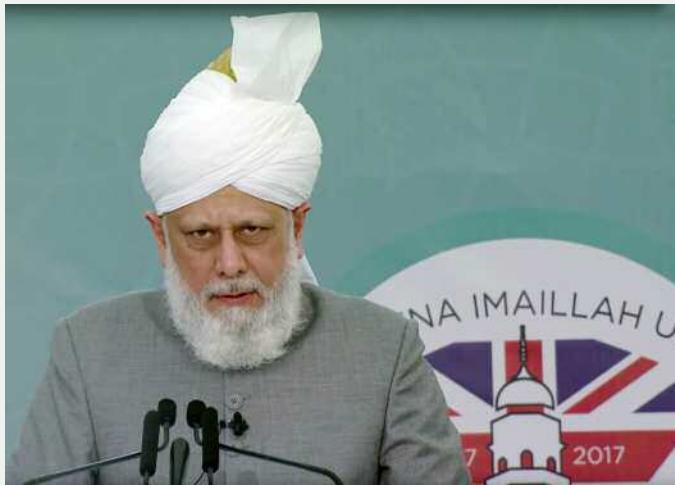
Masjid Nasir Burkina Faso

EID AND SEASON GREETING CARDS

2017: To build relations with external organisations and dignitaries, Eid and Season's Greeting cards were produced and distributed to Afro-Caribbean parliamentarians, ambassadors, high commissioners, faith and community leaders."



**Seasons
Greetings**



WOMEN are created equal to MEN

Extract from the Address by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V at the Concluding Session of the National Ijtema of Lajna Imaillah UK 2017

“As a result of understanding Islam’s true teachings, the members of the Jama’at, with the Grace of Allah, appreciate the very high status of women according to Islam, and it is a status that most non-Ahmadi Muslims, and the wider non-Muslim population, are not aware of and do not comprehend. Today, your Ijtema, which is purely for Ahmadi women and girls, is concluding and during the event, many activities and events have taken place in order to increase the religious knowledge, morality and spirituality of the participants. Furthermore, from an administrative perspective, this Ijtema has been organised and run by women from start to end, and they will have made a programme that is attuned to the needs and preferences of our ladies and girls. Hence, this Ijtema is a collective and practical demonstration of the great status bestowed upon women by Islam.

One allegation often levelled against our religion is that it discriminates against women or considers them to be less than men. However, this is in complete contrast to Islam’s true teachings. In chapter 4, verse 2 of the Holy Qur’an, the creation of the human race is mentioned and it states that Allah

created humankind from a ‘single soul’. Immediately after this, the Holy Qur’an states *Khalqa minha zawjaha*, which means ‘created therefrom its mate’. In the Bible, where the creation of man and woman is discussed, the concept of a ‘mate’ is also mentioned, however it goes on to say that a woman was created from the rib of Adam^(as). This is contrary to the teachings of the Holy Qur’an, which clarifies that women were not created out of the body of a man or from his rib. Rather, the Holy Qur’an testifies to the fact that men and women were created from a single soul and are of the same kind and species. Thus, where the Holy Qur’an says ‘created therefrom its mate’ it signifies that Allah Ta’alah has made men and women in the same way and it cannot be said that one is dominant over the other.

Furthermore, when Allah the Almighty has said *Khalqa minha zawjaha* that He has created woman in the same way that he created man, it becomes clear that Allah has made the hearts and minds of women in the same way that He has created the hearts and minds of men. There is no mention of a woman being created from a man’s rib, rather similarities and likeness are mentioned. Despite this, throughout history, there have been occasions where men have sought to prevent women from fulfilling their potential and responsibilities, whilst at other times, women have sought to stop men from fulfilling their duties and responsibilities. Whether due to a superiority complex or an inferiority complex, at times, men have considered themselves to be intrinsically different to women or women have considered themselves inherently different to men. However, the Holy Qur’an has categorically refuted this concept by saying that men and women are of the same kind. It has clarified that men and women have the same feelings and emotions, similarly as each man will be accountable before Allah for his deeds, so will each woman also be held accountable for her acts before God.”

(Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V – Address at the Concluding Session of the National Ijtema of Lajna Imaillah UK 2017. Quoted from ‘The Review of Religions’, November 2017 Edition)

PAAMA UK Lajna Updates 2017

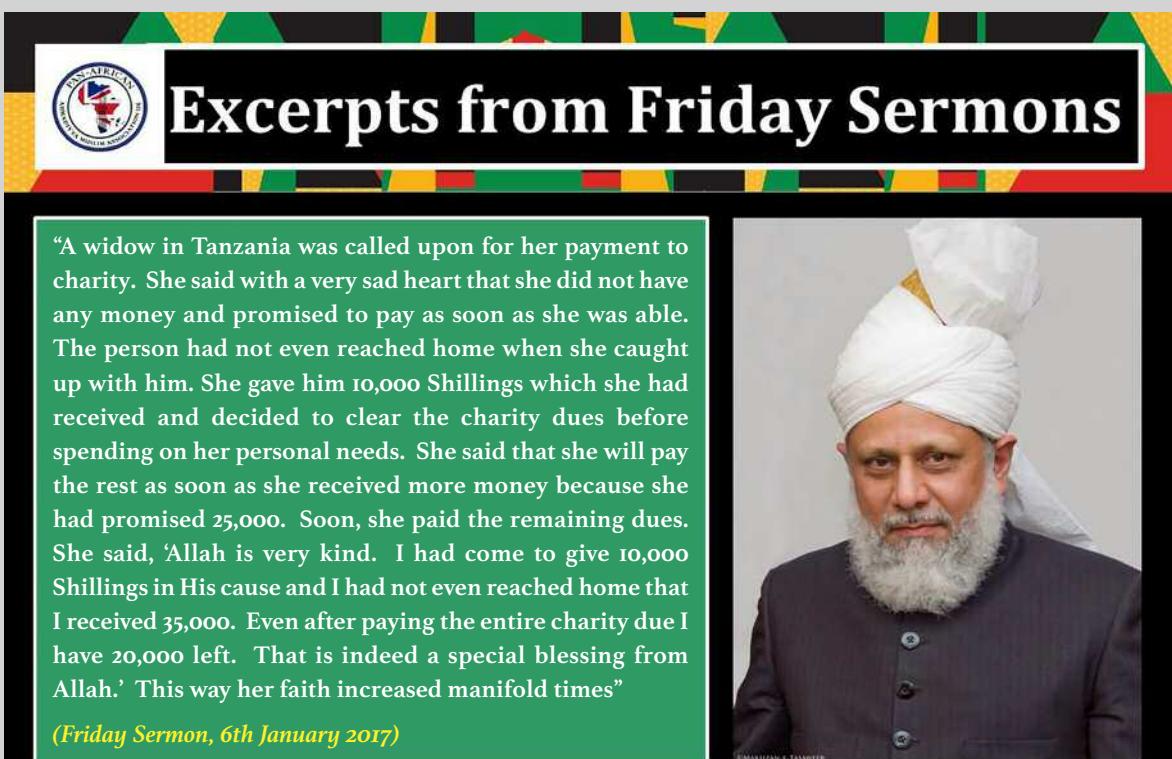
In November PAAMA Lajna members paid a historical first visit to the wife of our Beloved Huzur, Hazrat Appa Jan. It was an auspicious occasion and a truly memorable event for the 13 Lajna fortunate to be in attendance. A variety of topics were discussed including motherhood, African foods and Jama'at activities. The Lajna were finally blessed with the prayers of Hazrat Appa Jan.

In May this year, PAAMA UK Lajna organised a fun day trip to Rutland Water Park in Leicester. It was a fun filled day with lots of activities including boat rides, visiting nature reserves, excursions and of course lots of food!

Lajna PAAMA have also been involved in raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Research Coffee mornings, the Poppy Appeal as well as donating items to the homeless.



For regular doses of Excerpts from Friday Sermons, Wisdom of True Caliphate, African Proverbs and much more please follow us on social media: [@PAAMA_UK](#) for Twitter and Instagram, and [@PAAMAUk](#) for FaceBook.

A banner with a colorful African-themed border. It features the PAAMA logo on the left and the text "Excerpts from Friday Sermons" in large, bold, white letters on the right.

"A widow in Tanzania was called upon for her payment to charity. She said with a very sad heart that she did not have any money and promised to pay as soon as she was able. The person had not even reached home when she caught up with him. She gave him 10,000 Shillings which she had received and decided to clear the charity dues before spending on her personal needs. She said that she will pay the rest as soon as she received more money because she had promised 25,000. Soon, she paid the remaining dues. She said, 'Allah is very kind. I had come to give 10,000 Shillings in His cause and I had not even reached home that I received 35,000. Even after paying the entire charity due I have 20,000 left. That is indeed a special blessing from Allah.' This way her faith increased manifold times"

(Friday Sermon, 6th January 2017)

A portrait photograph of His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, the Caliph of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He is wearing a white turban and a dark suit.



@paama_uk



His Holiness
Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK



Love For All Hatred For None

Resolution of Condolence

The National Executive of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA) United Kingdom resolves to record its deepest condolences on the sad demise of Salma Ghani Sahiba of U.S.A, aged 83. *Innaa lillaahi wa innaa ilaihi raaji'oon.*

Salma Ghani Sahiba, a Christian convert to Ahmadiyyat in the 1960s, was among the early pioneers of Philadelphia Jama'at. She served Lajna Ima'illah as General Secretary in early 1960s and also as Local Lajna President for many years. Her greatest distinction was her 15-year tenure as Sadr Lajna Ima'illah USA during Khilafat-e-Rabia.

Salma Ghani Sahiba was a very humble and devoted person who always used to pray for the whole Jama'at and for the victory of Islam Ahmadiyyat.

Being the first and incumbent Head of Lajna PAAMA USA at the time of her demise, her death represents a loss to the entire PAAMA family.

By means of this resolution therefore, and on behalf of the membership of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association United Kingdom, we HEREBY:

1. Convey our condolences to PAAMA USA and the entire Jama'at Ahmadiyya USA;
2. Pray that Allah is pleased with the homecoming of Salma Ghani Sahiba and immerse her into His mercy and forgiveness;
3. Supplicate for the patience and solace of the bereaved family that they may bear this loss with steadfastness and submission to the decree of Allah.

This resolution of condolence is passed on 27th November 2017.

Signed by the President for, and on behalf of, National Executive of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK



Love For All Hatred For None

Resolution of Condolence

On the sad demise of Mariam Adomako Sahiba of Ghana, the National Executive of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association United Kingdom records its deepest sympathies by means of this Resolution of Condolence.

She was a convert from Christianity and though she was but two Muslims in her whole family, she remained a sincere Ahmadi Muslim, faithful to her pledge of allegiance till she was called to her Maker on the night of Tuesday 19th December 2017 at the age of 82. *Innaa lillahi wa innaa ilaihi raaji'oon.*

Her eldest son, Hakeem Mensah Sahib, General Secretary PAAMA UK, describes her as “a kind, loving, caring and compassionate mother” and as the mother of our General Secretary her demise represents a sad loss for the entire PAAMA family.

Through this Resolution and on behalf of the membership of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association United Kingdom, therefore, we HEREBY:

1. Submit our entreaties to Allah, the Gracious and Merciful, on behalf of the deceased that He is pleased to receive her soul into His forgiveness, mercy and loving care.
2. Convey our deepest condolences to Hakeem Mensah Sahib, his brother Mansoor Adomako Sahib also of PAAMA UK and all the family of Mariam Adomako Sahiba;
3. Pray that Allah grants all the bereaved family the comfort, patience and steadfastness to bear this enormous loss with honour, dignity and submission to His Will.

This resolution of condolence is passed on the 27th of December 2017.

Signed by the President for, and on behalf of, National Executive of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK.

SECULAR MATTERS

The Moon – The Earth's Companion

The Earth and Moon have been close companions for about 4.5 billion years. Although the Moon is much smaller than the Earth, it influences our planet in many ways and has fascinated humans for thousands of years.

Orbit and Phases of the Moon

The Moon takes 27.3 days to orbit the Earth but, by Allah's supreme design, it also exactly 27.3 days to spin once on its axis. As a result, it keeps the same side facing the Earth – the "near side".

For centuries, people have been fascinated by the way the Moon goes through a cycle of "phases" that

repeats itself every 29.5 days. These phases occur because we see different amounts of the Moon's sunlit side as the Moon orbits Earth.

Lunar Tides

Tides are created by the Moon's gravity pulling on the Earth's water. At any one time, there is a place on Earth that is nearest to the Moon and one that is furthest away. Here the seas "bulge" out, creating high tides. The bulges move around the Earth as it rotates.

Low tides occur twice a day when a place is at right angles to the Moon's gravity pull. High tides also happen twice a day when a place is aligned with the Moon.

ECLIPSES

Eclipses are among the most spectacular astronomical events that can be witnessed. They occur when the Earth, Moon and Sun all line up so that the Earth casts a shadow over the Moon or the Moon casts a shadow on Earth. The Sun or Moon appear to go dark to the people standing inside these shadows.

In 2017 there were two solar eclipses and two lunar eclipses that were visible partially or in full from different parts of the world on the following dates:

- Penumbral Lunar Eclipse – 11th February 2017
- Annular Solar Eclipse – 26th February 2017
- Partial Lunar Eclipse – 7th August 2017
- Total Solar Eclipse – 21st August 2017

LUNAR ECLIPSES

A lunar eclipse occurs when the Earth comes between the Sun and the Moon. This happens two or three times a year when the Moon passes through the Earth's enormous shadow. Surprisingly the Moon does not become completely black. Some Sunlight is refracted by the Earth's atmosphere and makes the Moon turn orange-red, like a red Sunset.

As per the diagram below, the Earth's shadow can be divided into two distinctive parts: the umbra and penumbra. Within the umbra, there is no direct solar

radiation. However, as a result of the Sun's large angular size, solar illumination is only partially blocked in the outer portion of the Earth's shadow, which is known as the penumbra.

A penumbral lunar eclipse occurs when the moon passes through the Earth's penumbra. The penumbra causes a subtle darkening of the moon's surface. A special type of penumbral eclipse is a total penumbral eclipse, during which the Moon lies exclusively within the Earth's penumbra.

A partial lunar eclipse occurs when only a portion of the moon enters the umbra. When the moon travels completely into the Earth's umbra, one observes a total lunar eclipse.

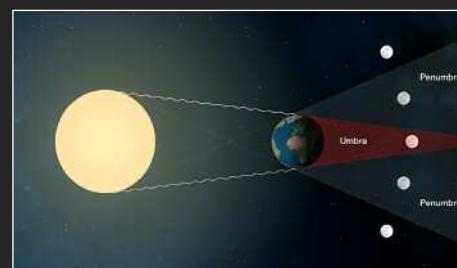


Figure 1:
Lunar Eclipse

SOLAR ECLIPSES

The Moon passes between the Sun and the Earth every month at "new Moon" but because its orbit is slightly tilted it usually does not pass directly in front of the Sun. Occasionally, however, it does move



directly in front of the Sun and causes a solar eclipse. Although the Sun is 400 times larger than the Moon, by Allah's grand design, it is also 400 times further away. As a result, when viewed from Earth the Moon's disc fits exactly over the Sun's disc during a total eclipse.

A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon com-

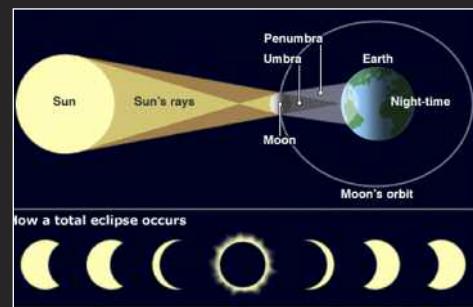


*Figure 2:
Sun's disc covered by
the Moon's disc*

pletely blocks the light from the Sun. All that can be seen is the corona (the Sun's atmosphere) as a shimmering halo of light around it. A total solar eclipse can be seen only from the centre of the Moon's shadow – the umbra. The umbra sweeps

across Earth during an eclipse, tracing a path of thousands of miles long but no more than 60 miles wide. Outside the umbra – the penumbra – the Moon casts a partial solar eclipse.

An annular solar eclipse occurs when the Sun and Moon are exactly in line with the Earth, but the apparent size of the Moon is smaller than that of the



*Figure 3:
Total Solar
Eclipse*

Sun. Hence the Sun appears as a very bright ring, or annulus, surrounding the dark disk of the Moon.

At Jalsa Salana UK 2017 Pictorial



UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATES
PAAMA National Ijtema	2 nd April 2018
Start of Ramadhan	17 th May 2018 (TBC)
Eid-ul-Fitr	16 th June 2018 (TBC)
Lajna Fun/Outing Day	7 th July 2018
Jalsa Salana UK	3 rd – 5 th August 2018
PAAMA Jalsa Reception	3 rd August 2018
PAAMA Post Jalsa Reception	12 th August 2018
Eid-ul-Adhia	22 nd August 2018 (TBC)
Eid Milan Family Picnic	25 th August 2018
MKA UK National Ijtema	21 st – 23 rd September 2018
Lajna Ima'illah UK Ijtema	28 th – 30 th September 2018
Majlis Ansarullah UK Ijtema	28 th – 30 th September 2018
Africa Peace Symposium	27 th October 2018



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