

Khilafat Centenary Ijtema and Sports Rally Report

Friday the 17th of October 2008 was a historical day for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Australia. The Annual National Ijtema of Majlis Ansarullah, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Majlis Atfalul Ahmadiyya took place for the first time together. Moreover, it was the Centenary year of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya, the 25th Annual National Ijtema (Silver Jubilee) of Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia and the 18th Annual National Ijtema of Majlis Ansarullah Australia, so members from all over Australia came to Sydney enthusiastically to become a part of this historical event. The Bait-UI-Huda Mosque had been ornamented and lit up beautifully prior to the event. The Ijtema was scheduled for 4 days commencing from the 17th of October 2008 and ending on the 20th of October 2008. Preparation for this event started in April 2008 with the formation of a joint Ijtema Committee representing all three organisations. Progress was updated in regular monthly meetings. The syllabus for various competitions was prepared and distributed to all Majalis well in advance as well.

Flag Hoisting:

The official inauguration of the National Ijtema commenced with the flag hoisting ceremony. The Australian, Ansarullah and Khuddam flags were hoisted at 2:10 pm by Maulana Mahmood Ahmad (Missionary In-Charge & Ameer), Dr. Taseer Bashir (Naib-Sadr Majlis Ansarullah), and Ehsan-UI-Haq Alvi (Qaid Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya QLD) respectively.

Day One

Opening Session:

The opening joint session of Khuddam, Ansar and Atfal was chaired by Choudhary Khalid Saifullah, Naib Sadr of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Australia. The program started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Mujeeb-Ur-Rahman Sanauri. Next, Dr. Taseer conducted the pledge for Ansar and Amzad Habib Khan (Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya) conducted the pledge for Khuddam. A beautiful poem was then recited from the writings of Promised Messiah (as) by Mudassir Mahboob. A special message from Huzur, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) was read out by Dr. Omar Shahab. In his message, Huzur (aba) prayed for the success of the Ijtema.

This was followed by Khalid Saifullah's opening address. He expressed his gratitude to Almighty Allah for giving the opportunity to celebrate the Centenary of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. It is the promise of Allah that He would bestow the good doers with the blessings of Khilafat. Hence, with the continuation of Khilafat, the Ahmadiyya Jamaat is celebrating 100 years of this divine manifestation. Signifying the importance of the Ijtema, the chairman said that it is a spiritual gathering where everyone meets each other, enrich themselves with religious knowledge through the competitions and improve their

physical conditions by participating in different sports events. The first objective is establishing mutual love and respect in addition to building tolerance, while discipline and obedience is the second objective. This kind of gathering motivates people to acquire knowledge. At the end of the Ijtema one should evaluate how much benefit one took out of it. The session ended with silent prayers led by Naib Sadr Sahib at 3:30pm.

The Ansar, Khuddam and Atfal then proceeded to break up into their own Majalis to participate in their own competitions.

Khuddam Events

The religious competitions started first with the initial competition for Khuddam being the recitation of the Holy Quran. The Hifz-e-Quran competition was held simultaneously in the Mosque Library. The Urdu speech and English speech competitions were held next. After this, the Bait Bazi competition was conducted, where the Ansar team also participated and this brought an end to the first round of religious competitions.

Maghrib and Isha prayers were then offered in congregation followed by dinner. The Election for Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia was carried out after dinner followed by the first session of Majlis-e-Shura. The table tennis competition brought an end to the first day of this historic Ijtema.

Day Two

The second day of the Khilafat Centenary Ijtema began nice and early with Tahajjud prayers at 4:20am followed by Fajr prayers and a dars. The second session of Majlis-e-Shura was then conducted where after breakfast was served for everyone.

Once the Khuddam and Ansar were energized after breakfast, the sports' competitions commenced. For the first time ever, Majlis Ansarullah had their own teams in the team sports events and competed with the Khuddam with great spirit. The soccer and volleyball pool games were held in the morning session with everyone having a break at 1pm for lunch and Zuhr/Asr prayers. The cricket pool games started after the prayers and the remaining volleyball pool games were completed as well. The initial rounds of the tug-of-war competition were held next and this brought an end to a long and tiring day of physical activities for the Khuddam and Ansar. Maghrib and Isha prayers were offered at 7:30pm followed by a well-deserved dinner for all the Ijtema participants.

Khilafat Centenary Mushaira:

One of the highlights of the Ijtema was the Khilafat Centenary Mushaira organised by Majlis Ansarullah Australia and this was the first of its kind held in Australia. Maulana Mahmood Ahmad, Ameer & Missionary In-charge Jamaat Ahmadiyya Australia was the chairperson for this occasion. The Mushaira was conducted by Dr Omar Shahab Khan and it began with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Tahir Majoka, followed by a nazm by Saqib Mahmood. By the Grace of Allah more than thirty Shoara-e-Karam (poets,

including Ansar, Khuddam & Atfal) took part. It certainly was a very historic occasion with both the participants and audience enjoying themselves until 11:30pm. In his concluding address, respected Ameer Saheb said that he was delighted to see such a large number of Shoara participate in the Mushaira. Ameer Saheb also appreciated the quality of couplets & nazms presented.

Day Three

The third day also commenced with Tahajjud prayers at 4:20am followed by Fajr prayers a short dars. The third and final session of Majlis-e-Shura was held next whereafter breakfast was served for everyone.

The soccer semi-finals were played at 6:45am with the remaining cricket pool games played after that. Individual sports competitions, which included 100-meter race, long jump, shot put, arm wrestling and 400-metre race were carried out next. At 1pm lunch was served and then Zuhr/Asr prayers were offered in congregation.

Session Two:

After the morning sports' session everyone made their way back into the mosque for the afternoon session. This was chaired by Nasir Kahlon, Naib Ameer of Ahmadiyya Australia Association. The session was commenced by the recitation and translation of the Holy Quran by Syed Tariq Ahmad. This was followed by two nazms, one by Mohammed Daud and the other by a Tifl, Talha Shafiq. Nasir Kahlon then delivered a speech on the topic of speaking the truth. He highlighted that falsehood and truth cannot exist together in someone's heart. He emphasized this point by quoting various verses of the Holy Quran, sayings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and the Promised Messiah (as).

At 3:40pm the next round of religious competitions started, which included the nazm competition, spontaneous speech competition and message relay. It was back to the sports again after this, where the volleyball semi-finals and the 3-legged race took place. Maghrib and Isha prayers were then offered in congregation, whereafter dinner was served for everyone.

Session Three:

The third session of the Ijtema started at 9:15pm and this was chaired by Amzad Habib Khan, the outgoing Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia. Mudassir Mahmood recited the verses of the Holy Quran with translation to begin the session. Tahir Ahmad, who is a Tifl, then presented a nazm in the most melodious tone. Next, Sadr Sahib delivered a speech that was quite emotional as his term as Sadr of the Majlis was coming to an end. He thanked God for giving him the opportunity to serve the Jamaat as Sadr Majlis for 4 years as well as thanking everyone who supported him and worked with him over the course of his leadership. He prayed that Khuddam continue to work for the success of the Majlis and cooperate with the new Sadr. He ended his speech by giving a humble advice to all Khuddam that since Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya is the back bone

of the Jamaat, time sacrifice is essential, while at the same time the work load needs to be shared among all the Khuddam.

The third day came to an end with the Centenary Khilafat Religious Knowledge Competition, where teams of three members from each Majlis including the Ansar team battled it out answering a wide range of religious knowledge questions.

Day Four

The fourth and last day of this historic Ijtema commenced once again with Tahajjud prayers at 4:20am followed by Fajr prayers and a short dars. After breakfast, the last session of the sports' competitions began. The cricket semi-finals were played first followed by the volleyball final. Tug-of-war semi-finals and final was held next, whereafter the cricket final and the soccer final were contested. After some intense competition on the sports field, lunch was ready for everyone at 1pm. Zuhr / Asr prayers were offered in congregation at 2pm and then it was time for the closing session of the Ijtema.

Closing Session:

The final session for Khuddam, Ansar and Atfal commenced at 2:45pm, which was chaired by Maulana Mahmood Ahmad Shahid, Ameer and Missionary In-charge of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association of Australia. Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia, Amjad Habib Khan and Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Australia, Amjad Khan were also present on the stage with Ameer Sahib. The session started with the recitation and translation of the Holy Quran by Hafiz Sohail Arshad Rana. The Ansar and Khuddam pledges were read out by the respective Sadrs of the Majlis with the audience recited the pledge after them. A nazm was then presented beautifully by Muzaffar Mustafa. A photo presentation set up by MTA Australia was shown on an overhead projector, which included a variety of photos taken during the course of the Ijtema. Then it was time for the prize distribution ceremony. Firstly, the Ansar prizes were given out by Amjad Khan, Sadr Majlis Ansarullah. The Atfal prizes were distributed next by Maulana Masood Ahmad Shahid from Queensland and finally the Khuddam prizes were handed out by Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Amjad Habib Khan. The Alm-e-Inami shield, which is given to the best performing Khuddam Majlis for the year was this year presented to Majlis Adelaide, with Majlis Al-Noor and Majlis Bait-UI-Huda from Sydney closely followed in 2nd and 3rd positions respectively. Different trophies were also given for the best performing Majalis in a number of various fields, such as finances, waqar-e-amal etc.

Since this year was the 25th year of the Annual Ijtema of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia combined with the Khilafat Centenary, all the previous Sadrs of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya were presented with a special shield each for their contributions, sacrifice and dedication to the Jamaat. The names of the Sadrs are as follows:

Abdul Aleem Khan
Tanveer Ayaz
Farhad Jan Khan
Ayub Maqbool
Firoz Ali
Omar Shahab Khan
Amzad Habib Khan

The concluding address of the session and the Ijtema was delivered by Ameer Sahib. His speech highlighted a number of different issues. He initially explained the relationship between man and woman and stressed that one should strive in making their house a heaven on earth. He also advised everyone that their correct income should always be declared, hence correct amount of chanda will be payed. One should pray to Allah to make him/her practice the proper teachings of Islam. Finally, he reminded the audience that they should start preparing for the Annual Jalsa Salana next year, which will be held in April 2009. Ameer Sahib ended his address by praying for all the participants and volunteers of the Ijtema as well as praising Amzad Habib, the outgoing Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya for his dedication and commitment during his tenure as Sadr. Silent prayers were led by Ameer Sahib at 6:30pm, which brought an end to this historic and most memorable Khilafat Centenary Ijtema and Sports Rally.

Ansar Events

Majlis Ansarullah Australia also held their respective religious knowledge and sports competitions as part of their 18th Annual National Ijtema. The organising team, the different competitions organised and the winners are all mentioned below:

The following Ijtema committee was formed after approval from Mohammad Amjad Khan, Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Australia:

- Dr. Omar Shahab Khan: Nazim-e-Ala Ijtema
- Malik Naeem: Naib Nazim-e-Ala Ijtema (Ilmi Competitions)
- Firoz Ali: Naib Nazim-e-Ala Ijtema (Sports Competitions)
- Dr. Taseer Bashir: Nazim Inspection
- Mohammad Sarwar Shah: Nazim Reception
- Ch. Nemat Ali: Additional Nazim Reception
- Mujeeb-Ur-Rahman Sanauri: Nazim Stage
- Arshad Mahmood: Nazim Finance & Nazim Registration

- Mohammad Yunus: Nazim Tarbiyat
- Munir Ahmad: Nazim Badges
- Anwarul Haq Muneeb: Nazim Prize Distribution
- Zafar Mustafa: Additional Nazim Prize Distribution
- Dr. Azhar Mahmood: Nazim First Aid
- Nazim Information: Mohammad Sadiq

Ilmi Competitions

Husn-e-Qiraat

Judges

1. Chaudhary Khalid Saifullah Khan
2. Nemat Ali
3. Tanveer Akhtar Khan.

Results

Tahir Ahmad Majoka – 1st
Naik Mohammad – 2nd
Rafique Ahmad Ghuman – 3rd

Hifze-Quran

Judges

1. Chaudhary Khalid Saifullah Khan
2. Nemat Ali
3. Tanveer Akhtar Khan.

Results

Naik Mohammad- 1st
Tahir Ahmad Majoka – 1st
Munawwar Ahmad Sharma – 2nd
Nisar Ahmad – 3rd
Mujeeb-Ur-Rahman Sanauri – 3rd

Combined Bait Bazi Competition (Ansar & Khuddam)

Results

The Competition was won by the Majlis Ansarullah Team:

Dr. Omar Shahab Khan

Naik Mohammad

Mushtaq Ahmad Jut

Urdu Speech Competition

Judges

1. Maulana Masood Ahmad Shahid Sahib, Murrabbi Silsila

2. Khalil Shaikh

3. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar

Results

Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Sanauri – 1st

Dr. Omar Shahab Khan – 2nd

Naik Mohammad – 3rd

English Speech Competition

Results

Dr. Omar Shahab Khan – 1st

Taffazul Hussain – 2nd

Naik Mohammad – 3rd

Urdu Ex-Tempore Speech

Results

Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Sanauri – 1st

Rafique Ahmad Ghuman – 2nd

Dr. Omar Shahab Khan – 3rd

English Ex-Tempore Speech

Results

Dr. Riaz Akbar – 1st

Dr. Omar Shahab Khan – 2nd

Naik Mohammed – 3rd

Nazm Competition

Judges

1. Chaudhary Saifullah Khan
2. Maulana Masood Ahmad Shahid
3. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar Khan

Results

Zafar Mustafa – 1st
Perwarish Hussain – 2nd
Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Sanauri – 3rd

Bait Bazi

Results

1st: Queensland -

1. Abdul Salam Aslam
2. Mushtaq Ahmad Jut
3. Shafqat Ali Gohar
4. Aijaz Ahmad
5. Munawar Ahmad Sharma

2nd: Victoria & Sydney combined -

1. Naik Mohammad
2. Nemat Ali
3. Tahir Ahmad Majoka
4. Rafique Ahmad Ghuman
5. Syed Sarwar Mustafa

3rd: Al-Sadaqat, Al-Noor & Castle Hill combined -

1. Dr. Omar Shahab Khan
2. Mahmood Ahmad
3. Zafar Naseer Mustapha
4. Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Sanauri
5. Dr. Azhar Mahmood

Religious Knowledge

Results

1st: Queensland –

Mushtaq Ahmad Jut
Abdul Salam Aslam
Shafqat Ali Gohar

2nd: Al-Huda -

Mujeeb-Ur-Rahman Sanauri
Dr. Azhar Mahmood

3rd: Al-Sadaqat -
Mahmood Ahmad
Dr. Omar Shahab Khan
Muhammad Yunus

Religious Knowledge Combined (Ansar & Khuddam)

Judge: Maulana Masood Ahmad Shahid
Conducted by Malik Naeem

Results

1st: Victoria –

Atif Majoka
Malik Imran Ahmad
Ali Majoka

2nd: Al-Noor –

Salman Yusuf
Kaleemullah Joyia
Muhammad Iqbal Bhatti

3rd: Australian Capital Territory –

Ali Bajwa
Kamran Ahmad
Zulqarnain Ahmad

Message Relay

Results

1st: Victoria Combined –

Naik Mohammad
Rafiq Ahmad
Tahir Ahmad Majoka
Mahmood Ahmad
Munawar Ahmad Sharma

2nd: South Australia –

Syed Ejaz Ahmad
Shaikh Khalid
Rana Badar Munir
Akhtar Cheema
Shaikh Mohammad Ashfaq

3rd: Queensland –

Abdus-Salam Aslam
Ejaz Ahmad
Mubarak Ahmad Nusrat
Mushtaq Ahmad Jat
Shafqat Ali Johar

Sports Competitions

The following sports competitions were held amongst members of Majlis Ansarullah during this annual event:

Tug Of War

Two teams were formed; including a combined interstate team formed with members of Majlis South Australia, Victoria and Queensland and a second team consisting of all Sydney Majalis. Best of three games were held in which the combined interstate team won by two games to one. 18 members took part in this competition.

Volleyball

The following three Majlis took part in the volleyball competition: Majlis South Australia, Majlis Queensland and a combined Sydney team.

The first game was played between Majlis South Australia and Majlis Queensland. Majlis South Australia won this easily by two games to nil in a best of three games' competition. The final was played between Majlis South Australia and the combined Sydney Majlis. After winning two out of the three games by a narrow margin Majlis South Australia were the winners of 2008.

Soccer

A seven-a-side soccer competition was held between a combined Sydney team and a combined Interstate team. It was a good effort from both the teams despite the three competitive matches played by most Ansar members against Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya prior to this. The Sydney combined team ended up beating the Interstate combined team by three goals to one.

Cricket

The competition in the final was tough and some very good catches, strikes and fast bowling were seen from both teams during the match. Malik Naeem (captain) and Omar Shahab Khan with the highest batting scores led their team to victory by 5 runs.

100 Metres Race – Under 50's

5 members took part in this race with the winner finishing in 14 seconds.

- 1st - Tasauwar Ilaihi from Majlis South Australia
- 2nd - Mujeeb-ur Rehman from Majlis Bait-ul Huda
- 3rd - Badar Munir from Majlis South Australia

100 Metres Race – Over 50's

- 1st - Mustaq Ahmad Jatt from Majlis Queensland
- 2nd - Mahmood Ahmad from Majlis Al Sadaqat
- 3rd - Rafiq Ahmad from Majlis Victoria

Table Tennis

A singles competition was held, in which 16 members took part. One game of 20 points was played in the pool rounds and the final was played with a best of 3 games to 15 points. After all the pool games and the semi-finals, a match was held for third place between Mohammed Sheik Khalil and Zafar Mustafa. This match was won by Mohammed Khalil Sheik from Majlis Castle Hill. The final was played between the defending champion Dr Azhar Mahmood and Malik Naeem. The singles champion for 2008 was once again Dr Azhar Mahmood from Majlis Bait-ul Huda.

Musical Chairs

32 members took part in this competition and the winners are as follows:

- 1st – Rafiq Ahmad Khokher from Majlis Bait-ul Huda
- 2nd – Naik Mohammad from Majlis Victoria
- 3rd – Mohammad Khalid Sheikh from Majlis South Australia

Wrist Wrestling

On completion of all round matches, competition was held for third place between Rafiq Ahmad from Majlis Victoria and Mustaq Ahmad Kharl from Majlis Queensland, with Mustaq Ahmad Kharl coming out on top. The final match was played between Mujeeb-ur- Rahman Sanauri of Majlis Bait - ul Huda and Mustaq Ahmad Jatt of Majlis Queensland. After 2 rounds of intense competition the game ended in a draw. Mustaq Ahmad Jatt was declared the winner after a toss of a coin.

One Kilometre Walk

This year 10 members participated in this competition and the winners as follows:

- 1st – Mahmood Ahmad of Majlis Victoria
- 2nd – Rafiq Ahmad Ghumman of Majlis Victoria
- 3rd – Tahir Ahmad Majoka of Majlis Victoria

Long Jump

The competition was held with a best of 3 jumps in which 11 members participated.

The winners are as follows:

- 1st – Tasawar Ilahi from Majlis South Australia - 4.36m
- 2nd – Badar Munir from Mjalis South Australia - 3.72m
- 3rd – Tahir Majoka from Majlis Victoria - 3.24m

Shot Put

This competition started with a registration of 12 members but before the finish of the first round of competition, 8 other members showed interest totalling the participants to 20.

This competition was held with the best of 3 attempts recorded.

- 1st – Tasawar Ilahi of Majlis South Australia - 8.85m
- 2nd – Taj Mohammad of Majlis Bait –ul Huda - 8.84m
- 3rd – Badar Munir of Majlis South Australia - 8.10m

Attendance

Ansar	Khuddam	Atfal	Total
155	322	118	595

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