

***Why does the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community intend to celebrate the completion of 100 years of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat in 2008?***

- To express our deep gratitude to Almighty God for this invaluable gift of Ahmadiyya Khilafat
- To engage in establishing the Unity of God all over the world.
- To fervently pray that this gift of the Ahmadiyya Khilafat remain with us forever.
- To have members who aspire to establish a living and loving relationship with God.
- To educate, especially our younger generations and also the world, on the necessity and blessings of Khilafat.
- To be deeply involved in much humanity based activities and their own international aid agency Humanity First that provides aid and assistance to those in need irrespective of race, religion or politics. Humanity First has been working on projects in many countries across 5 continents.
- To be able to offer to the world MTA International, a 24-hour free satellite service, which offers a variety of educational and religious programming.
- To be proud of their members who promote mutual love and respect. To be successful in reaching out to the broader community with messages such as **“Love of country is a part of faith”**. It abhors terrorism and strongly rejects violence. It teaches one to respect and obey the law of the land wherever one lives.
- To be the driving force for man to overcome ignorance, disease, hunger and immorality.
- To celebrate the Community's exponential growth in achieving 1879 missions, 14434 mosques, 64 translations of the Holy Quran, and over 40 hospitals and numerous schools established in 189 countries.

The Holy Quran says Khilafat is “Promised to those amongst the believers (who have quality faith) and who do good works ...” (24:56). This means Khilafat is bestowed upon the believers who are truly righteous and who do good works and thereby benefit the rest of mankind by their service and by ensuring that Khilafat continues.

**THE AHMADIYYA KHILAFAT  
HOLDS THE MOTTO:  
“LOVE FOR ALL HATRED FOR  
NONE”.**

**THE AHMADIYYA KHILAFAT  
FOSTERS THE TEACHING:  
“THERE IS NO COMPULSION IN  
RELIGION”**

**AHMADIYYA KHILAFAT INSTILLS  
THE MESSAGE “LOVE OF COUNTRY  
IS A PART OF FAITH” IN ITS  
MEMBERS**

**THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY  
DESIRES TO CELEBRATE ITS 100  
YEARS OF KHILAFAT WITH THE  
BROADER COMMUNITY. LET US UNITE  
OUR EFFORTS TO STRIVE FOR THE  
PEACE AND A BETTER WORLD!**

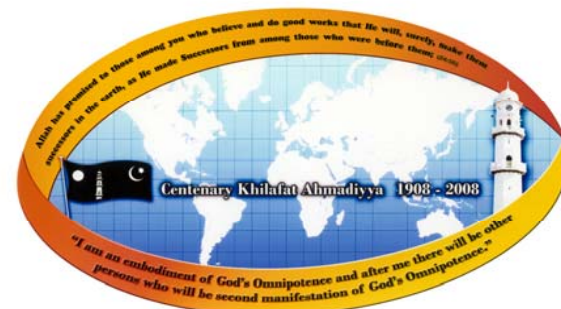
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# Khilafat

***(The Caliphate System)***

***The Successorship  
Of  
Prophethood***



**KHILAFAT IS THE SPIRITUAL  
SYSTEM OF LEADERSHIP IN  
ISLAM**

**What is the meaning of “Khilafat” (Caliphate)?** In Arabic “Khalifa” (Caliph) means “successor or deputy” of a prophet, and “Khilafat” (Caliphate) is the dominion of a Khalifa, or the institution that runs under the leadership of a Khalifa (Caliph).

**What is the purpose of a Prophet?** To bring about a change in the attitudes of people. This requires time and continuous effort, thus, a prophet sows the seed.

**What is the purpose of a Khalifa (Caliph)?** God Almighty chooses a Khalifa in order to complete the Prophet’s mission after his death. Thus, after the demise of Prophets Moses, Jesus and the Holy Prophet (peace be upon them all), Joshua, Peter and Abu Bakr <sup>ra</sup> were appointed as successors or Khalifas respectively.

**What is the Rightly Guided Khilafat?** After leading his followers for 23 years on ‘the straight path’ of Islam, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) passed away in 632 AD. His companions elected Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) as his first successor. Hadhrat Abu Bakr continued to uphold unity among the Muslims, leading them in following the principles of Islamic teachings in full obedience to Allah and His Messenger. After him, the next three successors – namely, Umar, Uthman and Ali (may Allah be pleased with them all) – were among the most devoted and closest companions of the Prophet. They carried on his mission under very difficult and complex circumstances. They led the prayers and imparted religious and spiritual knowledge to fellow Muslims, and maintained justice and piety in society. However, after the demise of the fourth Khalifa Hadhrat Ali in 661, the era of the *Rightly Guided Khilafat* was ended, and was replaced by hereditary monarchy.

**What are all great religions of the world awaiting for in the Latter Days?** The Promised One, as predicted in their Holy Scriptures.

**So, what is the dilemma?** Will the Promised One be Lord Krishna or Jesus Christ or Zoroaster or Buddha or Confucius or Lao-tzu or the Holy Prophet? All great religions are expecting a different person exclusive to their own religious order under a different name and title!

**And, what is the solution?** Once again, in this day and age, mankind finds itself at a crossroad. If steps are not taken to remove this confusion, it is quite possible that the present age will in the future be remembered as the Age of Unanswered Questions. In an attempt to find some of the answers to these questions, let us look at the greatest claim of this age: Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad <sup>as</sup> (1835-1908), who declared that he was the Promised Messiah and Mahdi and that his advent was in fulfilment of the various prophecies of all great religions regarding the Promised Reformer of the Latter Days. He Founded the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1889. This Community does not profess a new faith; rather it goes back to the original source of Islam - that is, the Holy Quran and the teachings of the Holy Prophet - for all its doctrines and tenets.

**How has the progress of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community continued?** After the demise of the Promised Messiah in 1908, difficulties mounted within the community and its enemies were in full hope that this community would be destroyed. However, just as with previous Prophets, God manifested His strong hand of might by sustaining and nurturing the community. The progress of Ahmadiyyat has been blessed by the ever-lasting second manifestation of God in the form of the institution of Khilafat – the spiritual system of leadership in Islam.

**What is the Ahmadiyya Khilafat?** The successors after the Promised Messiah <sup>as</sup> are known as the “Ahmadiyya Khilafat”, with the title “Khalifatul Masih”.



**Khalifatul Masih I Hadhrat Hakim Noor-ud-Din** (1841-1914) established the unity of the Community after the death of the Promised Messiah.

**Khalifatul Masih II**

**Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad** (1889-1965) is also known as the “Promised Reformer”. He established and promoted the Community spiritually and administratively.



**Khalifatul Masih III Hadhrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad** (1909-1982) offered great leadership and guidance when Pakistan declared the Community to be non-Muslim.

**Khalifatul Masih IV Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad** (1926-2003) introduced the first Muslim satellite television network. He established the headquarters in London.



**Khalifatul Masih V Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad** (1950-present) is guiding the Community through a time of great global scepticism and animosity towards Islam and Ahmadiyyat