

4th Annual Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sydney Ijtema Report

Day 1 – Session 1

By the Grace of Almighty Allah, the 4th Annual Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sydney Ijtema commenced on Friday, the 13th of June 2008 at 5:30pm with the offering of Maghrib and Isha prayers in congregation at Bait-Ul-Huda Mosque. This was a historic Ijtema as it was held during the Khilafat Centenary year, so there was an extra buzz and energy among the Khuddam participating in the Ijtema.

The first session was chaired by Sadr Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia, Amjad Habib Khan. It began with the recitation and translation of the Holy Quran by Ahmad Mirza. The Khuddam Pledge was read out by Sadr Sahib next with the Khuddam repeating the words after him. A nazm (religious poem) was then recited quite impressively by Mohammed Daud. This was followed by Sadr Sahib's opening speech. He started his speech by mentioning the historic nature of this Ijtema and how fortunate the members of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat were to be part of this. He advised all the participants of the Ijtema to cooperate with the Zaims, organisers and volunteers. Sadr Sahib reminded Khuddam about Huzur's (aba) pledge made on Khilafat Day this year and stressed that the Khuddam should not forget their promises and try their best to be good and pious Ahmadis. He also humbly urged Khuddam to learn in-depth about Ahmadiyyat to make one better and to spread the message of the true Islam to the World. Furthermore, he advised the Khuddam to stay away from the evils of society and to always keep good company. He went on further to insist that all Khuddam should safeguard this valuable treasure of Ahmadiyyat and not let the pleasures of the World destroy it. Finally, Sadr Sahib advised the audience to pray for the success of the Ijtema, to pray for the volunteers and participants and to pray that spiritual benefit is gained by attending the Ijtema. The session concluded at 7:35pm with Sadr Sahib leading silent prayers.

Dinner was served at 8pm where after the table tennis competition was held and this brought an end to the first day of the 4th Ijtema.

Day 2 – Session 1

The 2nd day of the Ijtema began before sunrise with Tahajjud and Fajr prayers at 5am. A dars (short talk) was then given by Aftab Ahmad Goraya on Namaz. The first competition of the Ijtema was the Message Relay that was held at 6:30am. Breakfast was served next and then the marathon race was conducted. Khuddam made their way back into the mosque at 9am for the start of the religious competitions. In this session, the Holy Quran Qirat Competition, the Hifz-e-Quran Competition and the Speech (Urdu and English) Competitions were held. The sports competitions began after a short break was taken for Zuhr/Asar prayers and lunch. The group games for soccer, volleyball and cricket were all played from 1pm to 5pm. Maghrib/Isha prayers were then offered in congregation at 5:30pm followed by dinner.

Day 2 – Session 2

The 2nd session of the 2nd day of the Ijtema began at 7pm and only consisted of two competitions, the nazm competition and the religious knowledge competition. The completion of these two competitions signalled the end of day two of the Ijtema. Khuddam were tired after a long day of mental and physical exertion and they all retired for an early start the next day.

Day 3 – Session 1

The 3rd and final day of the 4th Sydney Ijtema commenced with Tahajjud and Fajr prayers. Then a dars was given by Salman Yousuf on Khilafat. The Bait Bazi competition was held next, where after breakfast was served for everyone. As all the Khuddam were re-charged, the finals of the sports competitions began. The cricket final was held first followed by the volleyball final. The soccer final was played after this. The 100 meter race was next, then touch football, tug-of-war, long jump and finally shot-put. Zuhr/Asar prayers were offered in congregation after this intense session of sports and physical exercise, followed by a well-deserved lunch for all Khuddam.

Day 3 – Session 2

Before the start of the final session, the spontaneous speech competition was held at 2:30pm.

The final session of the 4th Sydney Ijtema was chaired by Ameer Sahib. It began at 3:15pm with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Atif Ahmad. The translation was read by Sharfraz Rahim. The Khuddam pledge was then read by Sadr Sahib with Khuddam reciting the words after him. Waqas Mansoor subsequently read a nazm in the most beautiful tone leaving the audience in a trance. Next, MTA Australia gave an up-to-date photo presentation of the Ijtema. Rana Ejaz, the Nazim-e-Aala of the Ijtema, then presented the 4th Sydney Ijtema Report. Sadr Sahib proceeded to give a brief report on the Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sydney as well as thanking all the volunteers, organisers and participants for their active role in the Ijtema. The prize distribution ceremony followed with the two ex-Sadrs of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Australia giving out the prizes. Atfal-Ul-Ahmadiyya also held their own separate Ijtema during these three days, so Dr. Omar Shahab Khan distributed the prizes to the Atfal. Firoz Ali Shah then distributed the prizes to the Khuddam. The big announcement of the winning Halqa was then made with Halqa Tahir of Majlis Bait-Ul-Huda coming out on top, with the Zaim of the Halqa, Sharfraz Rahim receiving the winning shield.

Finally, Ameer Sahib delivered his concluding address. He praised the winning Halqa and reminded the audience that there is always something to learn from these Ijtemas. He suggested that new members should always be involved every year instead of only the Aamla members and that records should be maintained properly at all times. He congratulated the Khuddam for a successful Ijtema and was very pleased that most Khuddam were sacrificing their time and money for the Jamaat. Ameer Sahib ended his speech by advising Khuddam to strictly follow the customs and traditions of Islam and he prayed that Allah may reward everyone for their

sacrifices. The historic 4th Sydney Ijtema came to a successful end by the Grace of Almighty Allah at 5:30pm with Ameer Sahib leading silent prayers.

The total attendance of the Ijtema over the three days was 339, which included Khuddam, Atfal as well and Ansar.