In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

The Centenary Message

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Today, one hundred years ago, in a small and unknown village of Qadian in Punjab, India, something astonishing happened. This event would change the course of history.

On that day appeared a religious leader who had received his mission directly from God to guide humanity as the Promised Reformer of the Latter Days. His name was Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835–1908), the founder of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. In a unique way, he founded a movement for all humankind. He resolved the religious contradictions and paradoxes that had dominated the world regarding the coming of the universal reformer.

Followers of all major religions—Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Zoroastrians, and Confucians—all awaited the coming of the Promised Reformer, whose advent had been foretold in their holy scriptures.

Jews awaited the Messiah to restore their kingdom; Christians claimed that Jesus' second coming would establish God's reign; Muslims believed that the Messiah and Mahdi would unite their strength and bring about a final renaissance; Hindus awaited God in the form of Krishna; and Buddhists expected the hopeful reincarnation of Buddha.

How could God possibly send several messengers again—each speaking on behalf of the same God, yet in ways that could only deepen divisions and ideological conflicts? These puzzling questions were answered when Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian appeared, divinely appointed to guide mankind.

It was revealed to him that all the prophecies about the Reformer's coming were true. But there was also an important clue: from the masses would rise one person in whom the qualities, roles, and spiritual powers of all the expected reformers would be united. He was the true servant of God clothed in the garments of His messengers and prophets.

He proclaimed that Almighty God had chosen Islam as the final and ultimate sign of His communion with mankind.

Thus, God's chosen servant, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, declared himself to be the world's Reformer, whose destiny was to grow in prominence within Islam, alongside the Prophet Muhammad—may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him—the last law-bearing prophet, with whom he was honored to share the title of prophetship.

This extraordinary claim astonished many: how could a lone voice from a small, remote village rise to such prominence? Some dismissed it as insignificant. Others opposed it fiercely with violence and mockery. Yet others joined the movement, recognizing it as a mighty divine storm destined to reshape human history.

His followers faced extreme opposition. They were persecuted for their faith and denied basic human rights. In some countries they were punished and persecuted simply for practicing their religion. Yet despite overwhelming resistance, nothing has been able to stop the progress of Ahmadiyyat, which continues to spread faster than ever before. All hostile efforts—whether from individuals, groups, or governments—have utterly failed in their attempts to wipe it out.

God fulfilled His promise to His servant Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who had been foretold in 1898 as one who would "spread to the ends of the earth." Today, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has been established in 120 countries, and its rapid growth is already covering the entire world. God has protected his followers, showered them with blessings, and granted them success.

Therefore, in 1989, Jama'at Ahmadiyya celebrated the Centenary Jubilee with gratitude to Allah.

This is therefore an appropriate moment to present again the new and living call to all nations of the world: to study Islam through the Ahmadiyya movement and to join this divine message.

The call to all mankind, and to everyone present, is to testify to the truth that the message of Ahmadiyyat is the Truth: it is Islam in its pure, original form.

In order for humanity to be saved, it must adopt this religion of peace. It must eliminate all hostile divisions and tear down the walls of prejudice, color, race, and creed that divide society.

Islam frees man from the chains of sin and strengthens his connection with his Creator. It is a simple religion, yet capable of adapting to the changing demands and challenges of the world.

Islam is about accepting other people, whether socially, politically, or economically. Its political philosophy does not allow lies or deceitful diplomacy. It believes in morality and encourages justice, fairness, and righteousness both toward friends and enemies, in all fields of human activity.

Islam does not permit spreading its message by force, nor does it condone rejecting the followers of other religions. Terrorism, whatever its purpose, is completely against the teachings of Islam.

The Ahmadiyya Community firmly believes that Islam is the cure for all of humanity's diseases and sufferings. Islam teaches that no person can live in peace with God unless they live in peace with themselves and with others.

This is the Islam to which I call mankind.

I am fully aware that in the eyes of many casual observers, Ahmadiyyat has not yet proven to be strong enough to bring about the great moral and spiritual revolution of humanity in our time.

But we trust in God. Though we may seem weak and humble, God, in His mercy, has chosen us as instruments to bring peace and equality to humanity worldwide.

Listen to what the Promised Messiah declared at the end of the last century through divine revelation:

"The time of great victory has come, and as a testimony of this proclamation there is another hand, unseen, that speaks and supports me. The world cannot see it, but I see it clearly. The heavenly spirit speaks through me and gives me the words of life. Heaven has urged me to rise from this worldly dust by God's command. Everyone denied forgiveness and salvation will see with their own eyes that these words were not mine alone. Do they not recognize the sound of this man's voice? Does not a living soul feel the call of heaven?"

Surely, many may respond with doubt to my message, wondering about my certainty and unshakable faith in the future greatness of Ahmadiyyat. The weaker believers in Christianity may have felt the same way in the first century of Christianity as some feel about me now. Then, too, people mocked, ridiculed, and rejected them. But I am absolutely certain that before the end of the next century, the dawn will rise when people will acknowledge the truth of our time, though today they respond with misunderstanding and doubt.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly urge you to accept the call of the Promised Reformer. In doing so, you will find peace and rest in your heart, a peace only possible in complete submission to the will of God.
May Allah bless you all.

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