Annual Convention of the
Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society USA

Reviving the True Spirit
of the Islamic Faith

Commemorating the Centenary Anniversary
(1917–2017)
of the first publication of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s
English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran

Presented by
Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society

Saturday August 12, 2017
10:00 am to 2:30 pm — Lunch provided
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place, Dublin, OH 43017
RSVP by August 1, 2017 to Fazeel S. Khan (fazskhan@aol.com or 216-288-0951)
Alhamdolillah! The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society held another very successful Annual International Convention in Dublin, Ohio from August 11-13, 2017.

As 2017 is the centennial (1917-2017) of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s English translation of the Holy Quran we felt it fitting to hold a symposium on this occasion drawing attention to the great influence this translation has had in making the Holy Quran relevant to solving problems of this modern age, and its profound influence on subsequent Quran translations. The theme of the convention was Reviving the True Spirit of the Islamic Faith.

Several weeks prior to the conference, a beautifully prepared invitation brochure stating the reasons for holding the convention and symposium, prepared by the secretary of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society, Fazeel S. Khan Esq., was posted on our website www.muslim.org and e-mailed to members and guests. The invitation brochure is reproduced below.

Guests and delegates from Nigeria, Australia, Egypt, India, Holland, Canada and the USA began arriving in the week before the convention. Delegates from Holland included brother Nur Sardar Sahib, his son, brother Ramon Sardar and brother Hans Drost with his wife and son, who are all dedicated members of the Stichting Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat. Brother Nur Sardar’s presence had a special significance for us, for although not in the best of...
health, he made this trip specially in deference to our wishes. Brother Hans Drost, a dedicated member of the Stichting Jamaat, is very active in their translation and publication activities.

Mr. Sadar ud Dean Sahukhan, Esq., president of the Australia Jamaat is another esteemed brother who regularly attends our conventions and benefits us with his learned lectures. Brother Lukhman Adebyi, President of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Nigeria, and his wife, Sister Ayesha, are among regular attendees who joined us again this year.

Other guests included: Professor Hussein Aly from Egypt, the translator of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s commentary of the English translation of the Holy Quran commentary and other books of Maulana Muhammad Ali into Arabic; Professor Shlomo from Israel, the translator of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s English Holy Quran translation into Hebrew; Anikat Sengupta from India, a PhD. student studying in Kansas, and Dr. Patrick Bowen from Colorado, who is a researcher/writer about Early conversion of Islam in America.

The Nation of Islam was represented by Minister Ishmael Muhammad, a scheduled speaker in the Symposium. Minister Ishmael Muhammad is based in Chicago and very kindly agreed to speak at the symposium about the importance of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Holy Quran translation to the African American community.

### Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society
#### 2017 Annual Convention Program

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10**

10:00 am – 1:00 pm: **Youth Classes**  
Masjid-ul-Urooj – 7089 Firenza Pl, Dublin, OH 43016

1:10 pm: **Lunch / 2:00 pm: Zuhr/Asr Prayers**

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm: **Classes by Dr. Mohammed Ahmad and Mr. Sadar-ud-Din Sahukhan**  
Embassy Suites – Conference Room III

7:45 pm: **Dinner**  
Conference Room III

8:45 pm: **Maghrib/Isha Prayers**  
Conference Room IV

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 11**

Noon – 1:00 pm: **Lunch**  
Embassy Suites – Conference Room III

1:10 pm: **Jummah Prayers – Khatteeb: Dr. Hussein Aly**  
Conference Room IV

6:00 pm – 6:50 pm: **Dinner**  
Embassy Suites – Salon III/IV

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm: **Presentations – Dr. Bowen, Mr. Sengupta, Mr. Adebyi and Mr. Sahukhan**  
Salon III/IV

9:00 pm: **Maghrib/Isha Prayers**  
Conference Room IV

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12**

5:30 am: **Fajr Prayers and Quran Dars**  
by Dr. Hussein Aly — Conference Rm IV

9:45 am – 2:30 pm: **Symposium: Reviving the True Spirit of the Islamic Faith**  
Salon I, II and III - Detailed Program of Symposium provided thereat

3:00 pm: **Zuhr/Asr Prayers**  
Conference Room IV

6:00 pm – 6:50 pm: **Dinner**  
Conference Room IV

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm: **Presentations – Mr. Noor Sardar, Mr. Hans Drost, Ms. Aafia Ahmad, Mrs. Lubna Ahmad — Conference Room III**

9:00 pm: **Maghrib and Isha Prayers — Conf. Rm IV**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

5:30 am: **Fajr Prayers and Quran Dars**  
by Mr. Sadar-ud-Din Sahukhan Conference Rm IV

9:30 am – 12:30 pm: **Youth Program, Report on Current Projects, Fundraising**  
Conference Rm III

12:30 pm: **Lunch**  
Conference Rm III

1:30 pm: **Zuhr and Asr Prayers**  
Conference Rm IV

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: **Picnic at Glacier Ridge Park**

**END OF CONVENTION — FAREWELL!**
Thursday August 10

The convention activities began with educational courses held at Masjid ul Uruj on August 10.

Ayesha Sahukhan from Canada conducted the morning youth classes. The main subject discussed was that of bullying in school, faced by Muslim children in the current anti-Muslim climate. Ayesha showed how the Quranic advice on patience and the example of the Holy Prophet Muhammad could be of great help in coping with this problem.

In the evening session, very informative and learned lectures were delivered by Dr Mohammad Ahmad and Mr. Sadar ud Dean Sahukhan.

Dr. Ahmad gave a motivating talk about the significance and necessity of the bayat in the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. Copies of his lecture were distributed among the audience after the lecture.

Mr. Sadar ud Dean Sahukhan talked about the need for the Holy Quran after the Torah and Bible. He presented a detailed analysis of how the Quran corrected wrong concepts in the Old and New Testaments regarding salvation and God’s relationship with humanity.

Attendees felt they had greatly benefited from the lectures and expressed their appreciation for the effort put in by the lecturers in preparing their presentations.

Opening of the convention, Friday August 11

The first full day of the convention commenced with the Jumma prayers in which Dr. Hussein Aly delivered an inspiring Khutba.

The Friday evening session, conducted by Fazeel S. Khan, Esq., began with the formal inauguration of the Convention.

The first speaker was Dr. Patrick Bowen, who gave a very interesting and detailed report about the influence of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement upon the early development of Islam and Islamic-oriented movements in the American and in particular among the African-American community.

Most of the information presented was new to the audience. We look forward to receiving additional reports on this subject from Dr. Bowen as his research progresses.

The second speaker was Mr. Anekat Sengupta, a Phd. student from the University of Kansas. He gave a very interesting account of evolution in the Holy Quran from the perspective of a trained biologist. In his talk, he demon-
strated the remarkable truth of relevant statements made in the Holy Quran.

The third speaker, Mr. Sadar ud Dean Sahukhan, President of the Australia Jamaat, delivered a learned and well-researched speech about the Truth of the Holy Quran. Brother Saddr-ud-Dean always imparts deep knowledge and research of the subject through his speeches.

The last speaker, Haji Lukhman Adebyi, President of the Ahmadiyya Movement Nigeria Jamaat, gave a brief history of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Nigeria. He showed copies of the book The History of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Nigeria, which was published last year, as last year was the centenary celebration of the founding of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Nigeria. He also gave an account of the dawah work being conducted by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Nigeria, and thanked the USA Jamaat for their donation of tens of thousands of copies of the English translation of the Holy Quran over the past several years.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed the speeches and expressed their appreciation for the knowledge shared with them by the speakers.

**Saturday, August 12**

The second day of the convention commenced with the Fajr prayers following which Mr. Sadar ud Dean Sahukhan delivered highly learned Dars which was greatly appreciated by the congregation.

The main symposium on the theme of the convention *Reviving the True Spirit of the Islamic Faith* was held in the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin, Ohio. Approximately 120 people attended the symposium. Most attendees were Christians and non-Ahmadi Muslims. The majority of attendees have personal relationships with Fazeel, who had also prepared an elaborate exhibit for the edification of symposium attendees in the foyer outside the lecture hall. The exhibit consisted of original manuscripts in display cases with notes detailing various stages of the production from the handwritten notes of Maulana Muhammad Ali through to the first printing of the book in England. In addition, posters with write ups and photographs about the history and impact of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Quran Translation and Commentary were displayed in the exhibition area along with copies of all translations of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Translation and Commentary of the Quran. The foyer was filled with people looking at the exhibits before the start of the symposium and during the lunch break.

The symposium began at 10:00 am. The symposium program is reproduced below:

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**Reviving the True Spirit of the Islamic Faith**

Commemorating the Centenary Anniversary (1917-2017) of the first publication of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran

**PRESENTED BY: LAHORE AHMADIYYA ISLAMIC SOCIETY**

**Saturday, August 12, 2017**

10:00 am: **Welcome / Quran Recitation** (10 min)
- Introducing Maulana Muhammad Ali and his English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran (15 min)
  - Fazeel S. Khan, Esq.
- Distinguishing Features of Maulana Muhammad Ali's Quran Translation and Commentary (40 min)
  - Dr. Noman Malik
- Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Quran Translation and Commentary and the African American Experience (20 min)
  - Minister Ishmael Muhammad
- Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Quran Translation and Commentary in the Academic Realm (15 min)
  - Prof. Fatima Rahman

12:00 pm: **Lunch** (by Embassy Suites)

1:00 pm: **Special Message from Congressman Andre Carson** (5 minutes)
- Personal Reflections: Arabic Translation (15 min)
  - Prof. Hussien Aly
- Personal Reflections: Hebrew Translation (15 min)
  - Dr. Shlomo Alon
- Continuing the Great Revival Initiative (20 min)
  - Mrs. Samina Malik
- Concluding Address: The Quran – A Great Spiritual Force (15 min)
  - Dr. Mohammed Ahmad
**Presenters at the Saturday Symposium**

Fazeel S. Khan, Esq. introducing MMA and his Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran

Minister Ishmael Muhammad detailing the influence of MMAs work on the African American experience

Dr. Noman Malik detailing distinguishing features of MMAs translation and Commentary

Professor Fatima Rahman explaining the influence of MMAs work in the academic realm
Presenters at the Saturday Symposium

Professor Hussien Aly reflecting on his work to translate into Arabic the commentary of MMA’s translation

Mrs. Samina Malik giving detailed information of the translation of the Holy Quran into different languages, and traveling around the world to propagate Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement

Dr. Shlomo Alon reflecting on his translation into Hebrew of the MMA Translation and Commentary

Dr. Mohammed Ahmad presenting his concluding address to the convention
Attendees were greatly impressed by information presented in the speeches and the exhibition of the works of Maulana Muhammad Ali and the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. They expressed their appreciation for the event to Fazeel and other organizers of the event.

The proceedings of the symposium may be viewed on youtube at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL411VBGtc_2QLC0avXO-U1wOq4Osq_xo.

Saturday evening session

The Saturday evening session commenced after dinner with Aafia Ahmad speaking about economic development in Islam. Her speech titled *Islamic Perspectives on Economic Challenges Faced by Developing Nations* was greatly appreciated by the audience.

She was followed by Nur Sardar Sahib from Holland who gave a very interesting historical account of the establishment of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Holland. Mr. Nur Sardar has perhaps the most knowledge about the establishment of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Suriname and Holland.

Next Mr. Hans Drost, also from the Stichting Jamaat, Holland, delivered a well-researched speech about the need to re-establish the Holy Quran as a resource for solving problems facing the world today. He was critical of those laws in the so-called *Shariah of Islam* which were contradictory to the intent and spirit of the Holy Quran.

The third speaker, Mrs. Lubna Ahmad, spoke about late Brother Muhammad Sadiq (Brother Sadiq). In her presentation, she recounted how he joined the Ahmadiyya Jamaat, and his devotion and commitment to the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. She also spoke about the Urdu *Khutbas* of Maulana Muhammad Ali which are being translated into English by Dr. Muhammad Ahmad.
Posters displayed at the Exhibit are reproduced below:
Exhibition at the Symposium
Exhibition at the Symposium
Exhibition at the Symposium
Exhibition at the Symposium
The Sunday morning session began with the Youth program conducted by Mrs. Zainib Ahmad. The children gave presentations on the theme of the convention: The Holy Quran. The audience was very impressed by the level of understanding of the subject displayed in their presentations. The children’s session concluded with a quiz competition conducted by Aafia Ahmad in which the children participated enthusiastically.

The Youth program was followed by a fund-raising session conducted by Mrs. Samina Malik. She gave a short review of the *dawah* and publishing work of the organization. The members, already inspired by the symposium about Maulana Muhammad Ali’s English translation of the Holy Quran, responded generously to her appeal, and $123,000 was raised in a short time. Alhamdolillah!

We thank Almighty Allah for another successful convention. Positive feedback from the Saturday symposium attendees has been very rewarding. It shows that the intent of holding this symposium to inform people about the significance of Maulana Muhammad’s English translation of the Holy Quran, his sacrifice in producing it and his passion for the spread of the Holy book has been achieved.

We would like to express our thanks to Fazeel for single-handedly organizing the convention, and to Sister Samina for arranging hotel accommodations and ensuring guests were made to feel comfortable.

We also thank all the rest of our members who have contributed in any way to the success of this conference.

We pray to Almighty Allah that He Grants us another opportunity next year to meet and hold a convention to highlight a topic which contributes to a correct understanding of Islam, and to renew our resolve to serve Islam and the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. Ameen!
Maulana Muhammad Ali was born in 1874 in the Punjab region of India. He was a brilliant student, achieving high distinction in his academic studies. He obtained a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics, then pursued a Masters Degree in English (while working as a Professor of Mathematics), and went on to obtain a Law Degree.

Maulana Muhammad Ali joined the Ahmadiyya Movement in 1897 after visiting Qadian (a small, remote village in India) and spending time there with the Founder of the Movement, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. He stated about this visit: “a new world opened before my eyes.”

In 1900, after completing his law degree and having already made plans for a law practice in Gurduspur, he decided to abandon his plans of a worldly career and instead devote his life to the cause of religion by remaining in Qadian with the Founder of the Movement.

It was there, in the rural and little-known village of Qadian, under the tutelage of the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement, that Maulana Muhammad Ali learned the beautiful truths of religion that would form the foundation of his literary accomplishments and revolutionize the presentation of Islam to the West, attracting and inspiring people the world over.
Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad passed away in 1908. He had expressed the desire to prepare an English translation and commentary of the Quran so that an authoritative presentation of the true spiritual principles contained in this scripture may be made available to the West.

A year after the Founder’s death, Maulana Muhammad Ali commenced translating the Quran into English and preparing a commentary in English to fulfill this objective.

This work took seven long years, from 1909 to 1916. It entailed exhaustive original research of meanings of Arabic words and verses. And it comprised deciphering the links between preceding and succeeding texts to show the inter-connectedness from one section to the next, thereby demonstrating how the Quran contains a continuous theme running through it.

It was during the period in which this work was being performed that Maulana Muhammad Ali and senior companions of the Founder of the Movement separated from Qadian and established the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement to continue the practical work initiated by the Founder of the Movement.
Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din was a close associate of the Founder and, along with Maulana Muhammad Ali, a founding and prominent member of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement. In 1913, he established the first Muslim Mission in Europe, at Woking, England (approximately 30 miles South-West of London)

The Woking Mission became the center of Islam in England from 1913 to the mid-1960s and a source of Islamic education for all of Europe and even distant places like South Africa and Australia. Muslim dignitaries (including religious and political figures, diplomats, writers, academics, leaders of business and industry) from around the world often traveled to Woking to visit the Mission.

The Woking Mission presented the broad, spiritual principles of Islam, without promoting any particular sect or school of thought, and focused on countering the deeply-entrenched misconceptions about Islam prevailing in the West. The Mission’s historic success in this regard was due to the literature produced by the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement and in particular the English Quran Translation and Commentary by Maulana Muhammad Ali.

It was in England in 1917 that the first edition of Maulana Muhammad Ali’s English Quran Translation and Commentary was first printed and distributed in large scale. It greatly influenced subsequent English translations by prominent Muslims, like Marmaduke Pickthall and Abdullah Yusuf Ali who were also associated with the Woking Mission.
The English Translation and Commentary of the Holy Quran by Maulana Muhammad Ali had a profound impact on the African American experience before and during the civil rights era. Influential figures such as Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X used the Maulana Muhammad Ali Translation and Commentary as a primary text to study the Quran.

The principles of peace, equality and justice as emphasized in the Maulana Muhammad Ali Translation and Commentary contributed to shaping an understanding of reforming society through nonviolent means. This understanding also aided in the struggle for the right to protest war on the basis of one’s faith.

A well-known example of this plight was the significant legal case concerning the boxer Muhammad Ali’s application for conscientious objector classification. His application was rejected and he was convicted for refusing to report for induction into the military during the Vietnam War. The boxer Muhammad Ali famously said: “War is against the teachings of the Holy Quran. I’m not trying to dodge the draft … I ain’t got no quarrel with them Viet Cong.” The United States Supreme Court ultimately reversed the conviction and held that the boxer Muhammad Ali’s beliefs “are surely no less religiously based” than those in previous cases, and that the “moral and ethical objection to war was as valid as religious objection, thus broadening the qualifications.”

What is relatively unknown is that Elijah Muhammad gave the boxer Muhammad Ali his name (formerly Cassius Clay) after Maulana Muhammad Ali.
Resounding Commendation
Past & Present

“Probably no man living has done longer or more valuable service for the cause of Islamic revival than Maulana Muhammad Ali of Lahore.” Marmaduke Pickthall

“The recitation of the Quran, Geeta and Bible every morning was a part of Gandhiji’s daily routine. Every day, he studied Muhammad Ali’s English translation of the Quran … Gandhiji used to read only the translation by Muhammad Ali (Ahmadi). This gave much publicity to his translation. Other public figures close to Gandhiji also started reading that book.” Reported in July 16, 2011 issue of Sahafat (Delhi)

“To deny the excellence of Maulvi Muhammad Ali’s translation, [and] the influence it has exercised … would be to deny the light of the sun.” Maulana Abdul Majid Daryabadi

“The English translation of the Holy Quran [by Maulana Muhammad Ali] is not the only book he has written, but it is the one by which he will perhaps become an immortal amongst those who have written about the Holy Quran … Maulvi Muhammad Ali has corrected the mistakes of the previous translators in scores of passages … There is no other translation or commentary of the Holy Quran in the English language to compete with Maulvi Muhammad Ali’s masterpiece.” Hafiz Ghulam Sarwar

Maulana Muhammad Ali’s translation “is the best in my estimation” Sheikh Hamza Yusuf

“Maulana Muhammad Ali’s Translation of the Quran was one of the first works that I had a chance to read. And I’ll tell you, his commentary alone should have been a book unto itself. That’s how insightful his writings were to me. They were inspirational. They were liberating. They removed from me what I felt were the burdens of religion. The burdens of the guilt associated with overly ritualizing the process and losing the connection with God. His translations were so relatable and digestible to me, they spoke to me in a profound way, in a different way. By presenting Islam as it truly is. As a holy, peaceful and tolerant faith. It gave me protection from the coercion of others. One of the main things that struck me as I thought about today, as I reviewed some of his works, was how timely and relevant they are today. How peaceful his interpretations were.” Congressman Andre Carson
The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society (the U.S. branch of the international Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement) strives to continue the great revival initiative started by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. This is done primarily through publishing literary treasures authored by Maulana Muhammad Ali. In the U.S., all major retail outlets carry its publications and many universities use them in religious studies classes. The English Translation of the Holy Quran by Maulana Muhammad Ali is probably the most accessible Quran translation/commentary anywhere in the country.

Internationally, the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society engages in a thriving translation and distribution venture. It has the Holy Quran Translation and Commentary by Maulana Muhammad Ali, and its other major publications, translated into a host of languages, including French, German, Italian, Dutch, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Chinese, Portuguese, Arabic, Tagalu, and others.

These translated works are largely placed into the hands of indigenous populations for free. The goal is to provide people with authoritative material in their own language about the true, peaceful and spiritual teachings of Islam. Relatedly, it is a concerted effort to rebut extremist ideologies that are causing havoc in the world today.