

Basharaat-E-Ahmadiyya

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SPECIAL EDITION

Maulana Muhammad Ali French Holy Quran Distribution Center Opens in Bamako, Mali



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Maulana Muhammad Ali French Holy Quran Distribution Center Opens in Bamako, Mali



Maulana Muhammad Ali Quran Distribution Center

Alhamdulillah! Sufi Cheikh Bilal Dialo, the head of the Sufi organization in Mali, has very kindly constructed a building for the storage of the French Holy Quran and other books of our organization which the USA Jamaat is donating to the Sufi organization. The building, which

is named the *Maulana Muhammad Ali Holy Quran Distribution Center*, is located opposite a small hospital run free for the benefit of people in the neighborhood by the Sufi Organization.

Inshallah, the first shipment of ten thousand French Holy Quran, which is in transit to Mali, will be delivered to the



Maulana Muhammad Ali Quran Distribution Center

Center in late June. A separate shipment of five thousand copies of the French Holy Quran has been sent directly to Sufi Cheikh Bilal Dialo's Sufi organization in Ivory Coast headed by Sufi Cheikh Bouyaye Konate. Sufi Cheikh Dialo will share part of the French Holy Quran shipment to Mali with Sufi organizations in Senegal and Burkina Faso.

Sufi Cheikh Dialo not only wants to use the building for storage of the Holy Quran, but he also wants to establish a Center for Quranic and Islamic studies in the building. He thinks very highly of Maulana Muhammad Ali's French Holy Quran translation and other books produced by him such as the Religion of Islam, and is very keen to utilize



Pallets in Printing Press ready for shipment



French Holy Quran Pallets loaded in Truck for Shipment

Containers loaded with the French Holy Quran locked and sealed for shipment to Mali and Ivory Coast.

them and other books of our Movement in the curriculum for these studies.

Samina had been in contact with Sufi Cheikh Dialo for a year before meeting him in December of 2018 when Samina and I visited the French-speaking West African countries of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Ivory Coast. Since then our relationship has flourished and strengthened. Samina has worked hard and diligently to build this relationship by keeping in close contact by phone and messages. Her sincerity in her dealings has resulted in a strong bond of trust and friendship.

We thank Almighty Allah, the most Merciful, for men like Sufi Cheikh Dialo and his followers like Sufi Cheikh Konate and Sufi Cheikh Sajdo who truly appreciate and value the literature produced by Maulana Muhammad Ali. Sufi Cheikh Dialo always mentions the name of Maulana Muhammad Ali

with great respect as *Cheikh Maulana Muhammad Ali*. May Almighty Allah Bless and Reward Sufi Cheikh Dialo for his efforts to spread the true, peaceful, and tolerant teachings of Islam in West Africa, and may Almighty Allah strengthen the bonds of friendship between us, so we can work unitedly for the benefit of the people of West Africa. *Ameen!*

Work in Ivory Coast

French Holy Quran Opening Event in the *Moulid Jalsa* in Ivory Coast

In March of 2019, Sufi leader Cheikh Bilal Dialo and his chief representative in Ivory Coast, Sufi Cheikh Konate invited Samina and me to attend a *Moulid Jalsa* in Abidjan, Ivory Coast beginning on April 17. Sufi organizations in West African countries hold *Moulid Jalsas* or conferences



Sufi Cheikh Bilal giving Quran lesson from the French Translation of the Holy Quran by Maulana Muhammad Ali.



Cheikh Konate on first day of the Moulid Jalsa

honoring the Holy Prophet on a regular basis. In these *Moulid Jalsas*, in addition to the Imams and the local populace in the host country, leading Sufi Cheikhs from neighboring countries also attend these gatherings.

One of the major events scheduled on April 19 in this *Moulid Jalsa* was the opening ceremony of Maulana Muhammad Ali's French translation of the Holy Quran, and the Sufi Cheikh leaders wanted us to attend as donors of the Holy Quran to the Sufi Organization.

The session of the *Jalsa* in which the opening of the French Holy Quran was scheduled began on Friday evening at about 8:00 PM. It was held in a school stadium which was packed with about three thousand attendees.

We had brought about 100 French Holy Quran with us to be distributed at the event. After the opening speeches, Cheikh Konate had the cases of the Holy Quran copies placed

in front of the dais. Samina then presented him with a copy of the, French Holy Quran which he kissed and held aloft for the people to see. He praised the Holy Quran and told the audience that soon thousands of Qurans would be arriving for free distribution in Ivory Coast. Samina was then asked to address the gathering. She gave a short speech highlighting the friendship and cooperation between our organizations to spread enlightened Islamic literature in the region. I also spoke briefly emphasizing the need to educate people about the peaceful, tolerant teachings of Islam. After the opening ceremony of the French Holy Quran, copies of the Holy Quran were distributed among the Sufi Cheikh leaders present at the ceremony.

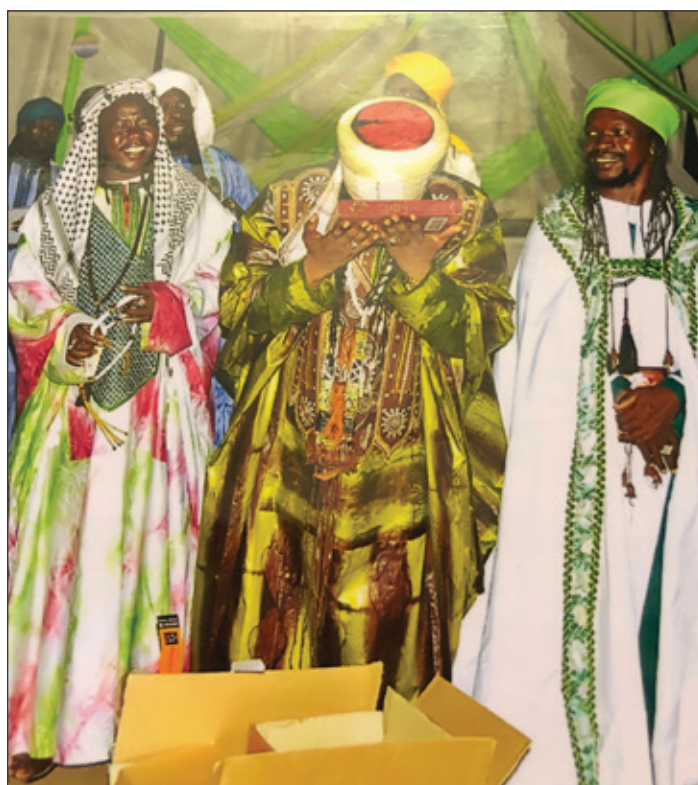
The *Jalsa* continued the next day, starting at 8:00 PM in the evening and ending at 3: AM the next morning. Samina and I attended the full *Jalsa* in which speeches and presentations were given by the Cheikhs attending the *Moulid*.



Jalsa Audience



Samina presenting the French Holy Quran to Cheikh Konate at the French holy Quran opening event at the Jalsa



Cheikh Konate kissing the Copy of the French Holy Quran at the Quran opening event



Cheikh Konate, surrounded by other leading Cheikhs, addressing the audience at the Quran opening.



Samina addressing the audience at the Quran Opening



Sufi Cheikh Konate at second day of Jalsa



Sufi Cheikh Konato addressing the audience



Sufi Cheikh Konato with other leading Cheikhs on dais



View of the guests in Pavillion



View of Jalsa Audience

Jumma Prayers

On Friday we attended the Jumma prayers in a schoolyard, as the local Sufi mosque was not spacious enough to accommodate the large number of people who had come to attend the Jalsa. The imam delivered a very learned khutba

about Peace in Islam. It was a joy to perform the Jumma prayers with people who have a very tolerant and peaceful Islamic viewpoint and show so much appreciation for Maulana Muhammad Ali's French Holy Quran translation and Religion of Islam.



Jumma Prayers in Schoolyard prior to Jalsa



Meeting Cheikh Konate after Jummah Prayers

Meeting with Cheikh Boikari Fofano

After the Jummah prayers, accompanied by Khalifa Daoud, we went to pay a visit to Cheikh Boikari Fofano, the President of the superior council of imams in Ivory Coast and Guide of the Muslim Community. When we visited Senegal in March 2019, we had met Cheikh Mohamed Lamine Ngom. He lives in Ivory Coast but has family ties with the Bamba sufi family in Senegal. He had recommended that we should meet with Cheikh Fofano when we are in Ivory Coast the next time. Cheikh Fofano is also a close relative of Khalifa Daoud.

When we were introduced to Cheikh Fofano, we found that he spoke fluent English. Cheikh Fofano had acquired this fluency in the United States where he had served as a prominent Imam in the Muslim community in the Washington DC area for several years. During his tenure as Imam, he was well known for promoting the peaceful and

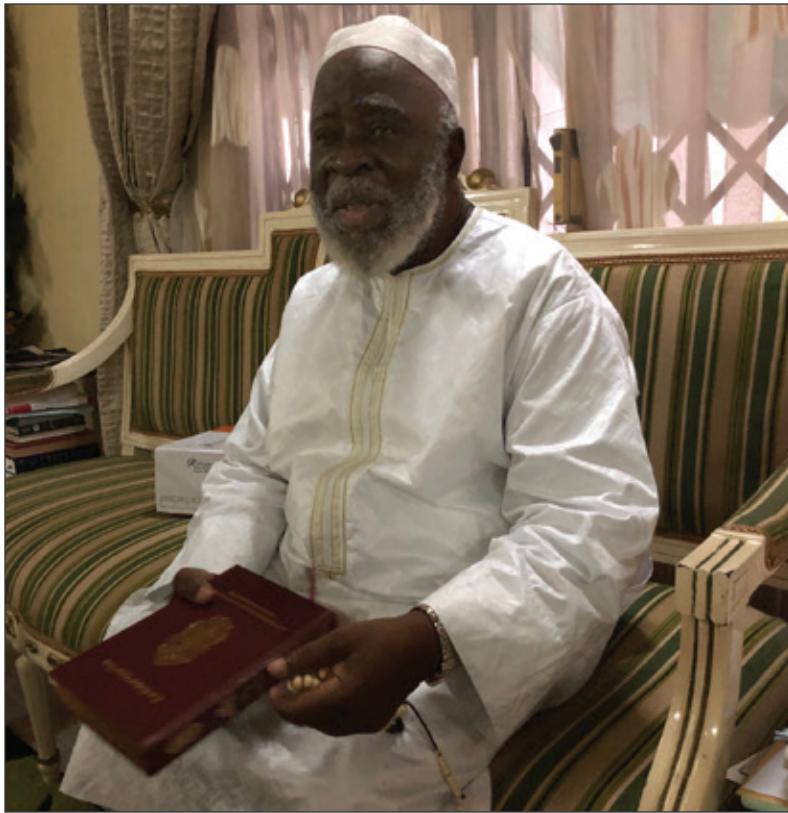
tolerant teachings of Islam and for his strenuous efforts to keep the Muslim community, especially those from West Africa, engaged with their faith and involved in religious activities. We were very favorably impressed by his liberal and tolerant views. In our discussions, Samina gave a short account of the history of the Ahmadiyya Movement and made it clear to him that the Lahore Ahmadiyya jamaat considered all those who took the Shahada (Kalima) as Muslims and also firmly believed in the absolute finality of prophethood, that no prophet, neither old nor new, could come after the Holy Prophet Muhammad. She also showed him the foreword by Sheikh Dr. Sayyed Tantawi, the late Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif in the *Religion of Islam* praising Maulana Muhammad Ali. He was very impressed by Sheikh Tantawi's testimonial. Samina then presented him with the French translation of the Holy Quran and the *Religion of Islam* which he was very pleased to receive. The time for Asr prayer came while we were there, and we all said the prayer in congregation before leaving.



Samina presenting the French Holy Quran to Cheikh Fofano



Samina showing Cheikh Fofano, Sheikh Tantawi's introductory note in the French Religion of Islam.



Discussing the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement with Cheikh Fofano



Samina and Noman with Cheikh Fofano



Khalifa Daoud and Noman



Cheick Abdoulaye R. M'Bengue, President of The Engineer's association of Ivory Coast

Meeting with Sufi Cheikh leader, Abdoulaye R. M'Bengue

On Sunday morning, a Sufi Cheikh leader, Abdoulaye R. M'Bengue, whom we had met at the *Moulid jalsa*, came to our hotel to collect a copy of the French Holy Quran. He had complained at the jalsa, that since he came late to the meeting, all the Qurans had been distributed and no copy was left for him. We then told him to come to our hotel and collect a copy from us. He is an engineer by profession and is the president of the Engineer's association of Ivory Coast. He was very happy to receive a copy of the French Holy Quran and wanted to meet us again. But unfortunately, he was going to Europe the next day to attend a conference, and by the time he returned, we would have left Ivory Coast. He said that we should

inform him the next time we were in Ivory Coast, and he would make sure to meet us.

Visit by Sufi Cheikh Konate

In the afternoon, the same day, Cheikh Konate came to see us at the Hotel. He was accompanied by Khalifa Daoud, family members, the local head of the Sufi Movement in Abidjan, and the head of the youth organization.

Cheikh Konate presented us with certificates of appreciation for our efforts in propagating Islam for which we thanked him. We had lunch together and had a very productive discussion with him about ways in which we could disseminate our literature in Ivory Coast and West Africa.



Samina and Noman receiving a Certificate from Cheikh Konate



Samina thanking Cheikh Konate for the certificate



Lunch with Cheikh Konate, Khalifa Daoud and members of the Sufi group.



Cheikh Konate with family and sufi group members visiting us at the Hotel.



L to R Khalifa Daoud, Samina, Noman, President of the Sufi Organization Youth and the local head of the Sufi Movement in Abidjan.

The next day, we had to catch the flight to Brussels in the afternoon. Cheikh Konate, members of his family, Khalifa Daoud and another Sufi member came personally to take us from the hotel to the airport. As we arrived early at the airport, we had another opportunity to talk with Cheikh Konate about the Quran shipment and the spread of our literature in West Africa. Both Sufi Cheikh Bilal and Sufi Cheikh Konate are very keen about utilizing our books to educate their members about Islam.

We thank Almighty Allah for opening so many venues for the spread of our literature in West Africa.

Sufi Cheikh Dialo had himself approached us about his wish to educate his community using our books. He has also provided us, free, a Center to store the books that we are sending to him. In this day and age, when there is so much prejudice against our literature due to a grave misunderstanding about the claims of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, a man sees the spiritual light in this literature and would like to spread it among his community; then how can we simply stand back and not help him? What answer would we give to Allah Ta'ala when we stand before Him? Each one of us will face this situation sooner or later. The

terms of the bayat we have taken are explicit on this point: *I will hold Religion above Worldly Affairs.*

I would like to tell you again about a dream of Maulana Muhammad Ali's in which he saw that he was packing his suitcase to go to Africa. Although, he did not personally visit Africa, Allah Ta'ala has fulfilled his dream by having his French Quran translation and Religion of Islam reach people in West Africa. May Almighty Allah help us all in this month of Ramadan to fulfill his dream by generously donating funds for the French Holy Quran shipments. May Allah Taala Bless and Reward Maulana Muhammad Ali for his great service to Islam. Ameen!

It would be a tragedy to miss this great opportunity to spread the correct, peaceful, and fraternal teachings of Islam in West Africa.

Funds are urgently needed to print the French Holy Quran, the *Religion of Islam* and other books of our Movement to fulfill the demand for our literature. May Almighty Allah open our hearts to donate generously for this great cause. Ameen!

Samina and I have funded the printing and shipping of the current shipment of Fifteen thousand copies (15,000) of the French Holy Quran and five thousand (5000) copies of the French *Religion of Islam* to Mali and Ivory Coast. Also, we both are funding the printing and shipping of forty thousand (40,000) copies of *Islam the Religion of Humanity, The Prophet of Islam, Introduction to Islam, and the Message of Peace*.

Inshallah, the next shipment to West Africa will be sent in December 2019. It will consist of twenty thousand French Holy Quran, and our eight major French publications viz. *The Religion of Islam, Manual of Hadith, Teachings of Islam, Muhammad The Prophet, Early Caliphate, Introduction to the Study of the Holy Quran, Living Thoughts of the Prophet Muhammad* and the *New World Order*. Ten thousand (10,000) copies of each title will be printed.

The projected cost for printing and shipping the 20,000 French Holy Quran is eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000).

The projected cost for printing and shipping the 8 major books will be sixty five thousand dollars (\$65,000).

The total projected cost for printing and shipping the twenty thousand French Holy Quran and the eight major books is one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. (\$150,000).

Alhamdulillah! Contributions for the project received so far are:

USA Jamaat Members

For the first shipment of the French Holy Quran, The Religion of Islam and booklets to Mali and Ivory Coast.

Samina and Noman Malik	\$70,000
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Second Shipment scheduled in December 2019 for which the printing will start in August 2019.

Mohammad and Lubna Ahmad	\$20,000
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Hamid and Munira Rahman	\$2,700
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Fatima Rahman	\$15,000
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Akram and Zainib Ahmad	\$750
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Naseera Ahmad	\$100
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Ayehsa Khalil	\$500
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Fazeel S Khan	\$3,100
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Waqas and Shena Ahmad	\$1,000
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Canada

Faizal Sahukhan	\$1,500
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Holland

Stichting Jamaat	\$5,570
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Jerell Sardar	\$1,114
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Noer Sardar	\$1,114
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Australia jamaat	\$10,000
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UK

Bano Anwar	\$500
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Donation received for the first printing and shipping:
\$70,000.

Donation received for the second printing and shipping:
\$62,948

Total donation needed for second printing and shipping is \$150,000

Therefore an additional **\$87,052** are needed to fund the second printing and shipping project.

May Allah Ta'ala Bless and Reward all those who have generously donated to this great Jihad with the Quran.

We pray that Allah Ta'ala opens the hearts of our members to contribute to this great Jihad with the Holy Quran Ameen! This is a wonderful opportunity for members to give *sadaqa jaariya* on behalf of their parents and loved ones who have passed away.

Please send your donations to Ahamdiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore USA
P.O.Box 3370, Dublin, Ohio 43016

For information to wire funds please contact Samina Malik at: aaiil@aol.com sanomalik@aol.com

Wassalaam
Noman Malik