



In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

..... **The HOPE Bulletin**

Health, Ongoing Projects, Education



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AAIIL Worldwide Edition

Editor: Akbar Abdullah

CALIFORNIA JAMA'AT PROJECT: APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL ANJUMAN, LAHORE

INTRODUCTION

While we have accelerated our efforts to ensure timely and comprehensive dissemination of news from the worldwide *Jama'ats* through the medium of the monthly *HOPE Bulletin*, Special International Editions and text and photographic supplements, we are, however, disappointed at the slow increase of new readers from the global *Jama'ats*.

In this regard, we appeal to our current members to provide us with the names of members who are not already receiving the *Bulletin*. We are aware that some of our readers regularly forward the newsletter to other members who are not on our mailing list. *Jazak Allah!* We will, however, be more than happy to issue the *Bulletin* directly to readers if their e-mail addresses are provided to us, thus ensuring that they receive it simultaneously with others on our mailing list.

When Hazrat Ameer was in Australia last year he learned that a large number of members there were not aware of this publication and were not on our mailing list. This could also be true of other *Jama'ats* around the world. In order to find a solution to this matter, I urge all Secretaries and Public Relations Officers of the global *Jama'ats* to send us a comprehensive mailing list (of e-mail addresses) of all their members. We will indeed be grateful for this assistance and cooperation.

JAMA‘AT NEWS

Amir Aziz, General Secretary, AAIIIL, on *Salana Duaiyya* 2007

Thanks for your mail and for the prayer. May Allah bless you and your whole family for the years to come.

With the blessings of Allah our annual *Duuiyya* was very successful in all respects. We prayed for the peace and prosperity of the whole world and for the members of our *Jammat*.

Keep on doing the good work you are already doing.

***Tabligh* by Nizam-ud-Dean, Masjid Noor, Suva, Fiji**

Assalaam alaikum wa Rahamat-wullahu wa Barakatahu.

I have received a copy of your email requesting information on how to join the Ahmadi *Jamaat*, Ahmadiya Anjuman Ishaat-i-Islam (Lahore). Please let me know what your address is and we will try to contact the nearest branch of our society who can then help you with further information and how you may be able to join the society. In the meantime, I wish to refer you to our *Jamaat's* website, which is <http://www.aaiil.org>. You will be able to access a lot of information here on what our society does and what it is. You can access a lot of our literature here, and even ask questions on matters that are of interest to you.

PRAYER & HEALTH NEWS

Mother of Jalal Ud Dean and Nizam-ud-Dean, Suva, Fiji

Nizam-ud-Dean gave the following health update on his mother:

“Thank you for seeking the prayers for my mother, Mrs Jinnat Dean. *Masha Allah*, she has been blessed by the prayers. Her greatest difficulty is her arthritis and the pain she has from it. Of course, at her age of 87, such things will come as well, we understand that. Also, she is heavily diabetic and needs insulin injections daily, both in the morning and evening. She is a heart patient as well. Considering all this, she has kept herself mobile and it is a blessing for all of us that Allah has preserved her.

Please express the heartfelt thanks from our family here and abroad for the prayers. Indeed, Allah *Subhan O'Tallah* says: ‘And when My servants ask thee concerning Me, surely I am nigh. I answer the prayer of the suppliant when he calls on Me, so they should hear My call and believe in Me that they may walk in the right way.’ (2: 186)

Indeed, Allah’s grace has preserved my mother and I thank all our brothers and sisters who have joined us in our prayers for her.”

Update on Akela Haroun, Florida, USA

Akela Haroun’s daughter, Rafeena, updates us with the latest condition of her mother:

“Thanks for all the prayers and well wishes. Akela is still pretty much in the same condition as her left side still not working properly; she has taken a great big step by moving to Florida with her

son and daughter. Here she will get family support that is so much needed in these times. We will try to do our utmost best to keep her in good health and to see what strides she will make now that she is among family nowadays.

We all appreciate again your prayers and continued best wishes for her good health; we will need those all the time. Akela says may Allah bless all those who pray for her and to answer their prayers and thanks all for enquiring about her.”

Latest on Saleena’s condition from Amir Aziz, Lahore, Pakistan

I am grateful to all members of the *jammah* who prayed for my daughter’s health. She is quite fine and recovering quickly. May Allah bless all members of the *jammah* worldwide for their kind prayers and well-wishes.....*Aameen*.

Update on the health of Shabir Buksh’s father-in-law in Auckland, New Zealand

My father-in-law is fine now with the help of all your prayers globally and with the blessing of Almighty Allah. We will also pray for Br Amir Aziz daughter for her speedy recovery.

Prayer Request from Hazrat Ameer, Lahore, Pakistan

Hazrat Ameer urged us to pray for the following ailing brethren in our global *Jama’ats*: Mary Ghaforkhan’s mother, Akela Haroun, Shahid and Dr. Zahid Aziz’s mother and their sister, Jalal and Nizam Ud Dean’s mother, brother Shabir Buksh’s father-in-law, Hazrat Ameer’s sister-in-laws Begum Nuzhat Saeed in Canada and Begum Sabiha Saeed in Pakistan, and for our revered brother, Mian Farooq Ahmad Sheikh of Pakistan.

Hazrat Ameer has also added to the list Amir Aziz’s daughter Saleena in Pakistan; Noer Sardar’s wife, Mrs. Lynn Sardar, of Holland; Usman in Pakistan, who has had further brain surgery; Abdul Salaam, and Boona, wife of Sulaiman Lala, the mosque’s caretaker at Lahore, both of whom have to be operated on for disc prolapse; Mrs. Sabah Adil, who is having a medical procedure done in Lahore; the mother of Muhammad Ali (Assistant *Imam* at the Berlin Mosque), who resides in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Hazrat Ameer says: “I pray along with you that Allah blesses all of them with long, useful and healthy lives ahead. *Aameen*.”

Obituary & abduction information from Lahore

Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Iلهi Rajoon.

We announce with heavy heart the sad demise of Br. Abdul Salaam, a cousin of Hazrat Ameer and caretaker of Rawalpindi Mosque, who passed away just before the *Salana Jalsa* after suffering a stroke.

We also are shocked at the sad news of the unfortunate demise of Abdul Bari, advocate in Peshawar, who was tragically killed while intervening while his son, Saqib Bari (who is still not free), was being abducted.

May Allah (*swt*) with His bountiful mercy rest the souls in peace of the above named brothers and grant them high places in *Jeannette-Firdouse*. *Aameen*. Please conduct *Salat-e-janaza ghaibana* in your congregations.

In Sarai Norang, Sahebzada Muzzafar was also abducted for ransom three months ago. He remains captured. Hazrat Ameer requests our readers to pray for all.

ALL ABOUT US

Life Sketch of Maulvi Abdul Karim Sialkoti (1858-1905)

[Researched and written by Choudry Masud Akthar, Secretary, AAAIL, Hayward, California, USA.]

Maulvi Abdul Karim Sialkoti (of blessed memory) was born in 1858. (Note: This year of his birth has been arrived at by working back from his age on his death in 1905.) After completing his *Madrassah* and schooling he was employed as a teacher in the District Board High School in Sialkot where he was teaching the Arabic and Persian languages. In addition, he was also the *Imam* and *Khateeb* in the Ahl-e-Hadith (community called Wahabis) Masjid in Sialkot City. He also knew English, which was a plus for an *Imam Masjid* in those days. He was an open-minded person who read religious literature of various sects and was in turn much influenced by the writings of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.

The publication of *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya* by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib proved a turning point in the history of religious debates as it contained incontrovertible proofs of the existence and unity of God, the excellences of the Holy Qur'an, the excellences of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be on him), and the excellences of the religion of Islam in comparison to other religions. Further, it carried a challenge and a prize of ten thousand rupees to anyone who could disprove any of the claims and proofs advanced in that book. The book was applauded by the '*Ulemas* of all sects including Maulvi Muhammad Hussain Batalvi, the Head of the *Ahl-e-Hadith*, who published a detailed review on it in his monthly *Ishaat-al-Sunnah*, which ran in many issues and in which he showered praises on both the book and its author.

Maulvi Abdul Karim also became a great admirer of Hadhrat Mirza Sahib and thereafter kept reading all his publications and would follow him wherever he went to deliver speeches or address congregations. We know that when Hadhrat Mirza Sahib started accepting *bai'at* from people in Ludhiana in the beginning of 1889 Maulvi Abdul Karim Sialkoti was present there at that time but did not take *bai'at* at that time. However, a few months thereafter he took *bai'at* at the hands of the Promised Messiah. By then *Fatah-i-Islam*, which contained the claims of Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib being the Promised Messiah and Mahdi whose advent was awaited by the Muslims, was published. The claims of being a *Mulhim Billah* and a *Mujaddid* had already been published in *Barahin-e-Ahmadiyyah*. Thus Maulvi Sahib came to the fold of Ahmadiyyat after being convinced of the truth of those claims.

After taking *bai'at*, Maulvi Abdul Karim frequently visited Qadian to spend time in the company of the Promised Messiah and to benefit from his spiritual and learned discourses. He made it a point to accompany the Promised Messiah wherever he went for dissemination of Islam and the true teachings of the Qur'an. We find him present in Ludhiana in July 1891 during the debate between Maulvi Muhammad Hussain Batalvi and the Promised Messiah; similarly in October 1891 during the Promised Messiah's speech in Jamia Masjid Dehli, and during the debates by the Promised Messiah with Maulvi Nazeer Hussain Dehli, and the written debate with Maulvi Muhammad Bashir Bhopali. He was one amongst those seventy persons who attended the first *Jalsa Salana* (Annual Gathering) which was held in Qadian from 27 to 29 December, 1891, and thereafter he accompanied the Promised Messiah on his visit to Lahore in January 1892 and his visit to Sialkot in February 1892. Finally by the end of 1892 he decided to migrate to Qadian permanently.

In Qadian he was accommodated in a room on the ground floor of the Promised Messiah's own home. He was assigned the task of translating into Persian the Arabic portion of *Aina-e-kamalat-e-Islam*, which the Promised Messiah was busy writing in those days. In addition, he was made *Imam* and *Khateeb* of Masjid-e-Mubarak, where he led daily and Friday prayers and also delivered *Kutbah-e-Jumu'ah* (Friday

sermons). His recital (*qiraat*) of the Qur'an was so beautiful and soul-stirring that those who offered prayers behind him would feel as if the verses of the Qur'an were coming afresh from the heavens. It may be noted that the Promised Messiah did not ever led the prayers as *Imam* during any daily or Friday prayers. However, he used to lead funeral prayers.

Maulvi Abdul Karim had a habit of asking questions about various religious matters such as teachings, beliefs, and practices. He would toss such questions to the Promised Messiah in the presence of many other persons. The Promised Messiah would give answers to such queries willingly and at times would explain details with quotations from the Qur'an, *Sunnah*, *Hadith* and books of *Fiqh* etc. This questioning by Maulvi Abdul Karim would result in the enlightenment of those who were present there. The Promised Messiah also wrote books based on some of the questions raised by Maulvi Abdul Karim.

The biographers of the Promised Messiah inform us that Maulvi Abdul Karim used to be invariably one amongst others who went with the Promised Messiah wherever he would go for religious debates and *tableegh* tours to various parts of the country. He earned the honour of being asked by the Promised Messiah to read his paper at the Inter-faith Conference at Lahore in 1896. The contents of the paper and Maulvi Abdul Karim reading with his beautiful delivery kept the audience spell-bound on 28th and 29th December 1896. This paper, "*Islami Asul ki Philosophy*," was adjudged to be the best paper read at the Conference and was published in English under the title *The Teachings of Islam*. It drew acclaims from many literary and scholarly persons in Europe.

From the above narration it is evident that Maulvi Abdul Karim was a sincere devotee of Islam and the Promised Messiah and was counted amongst the close circle of the scholars who had gathered around the Promised Messiah for the service of Islam.

Maulvi Abdul Karim was diabetic since his youth. As the years passed he became weaker and weaker and his eyesight was also failing. As a result he began learning the Qur'an by heart (committing to memory) the verses of the Holy Qur'an. He had gone to Sialkot a few days before Promised Messiah's visit and was present there during the latter's lecture. Maulvi Sahib remained in Sialkot for a few days where he had seriously fallen ill, but by the grace of Allah he recovered from his illness and returned to Qadian. In August 1905 a carbuncle appeared on his backbone between his shoulder blades. Dr. Mirza Yaqub Beg, who was later joined by Dr. Rashiduddin, Dr. Syed Muhammad Hussain Shah and Maulvi Nuruddin performed the surgery. The surgery had to be done six times. Due to his diabetic condition, the wound was not healing and the doctors were very worried. During his illness the Promised Messiah, in spite of his old age and many ailments, kept praying for his health whole nights and each hour would come by his bedside asking the doctors about his condition. The Promised Messiah, during this period, had received many *ilhamat* indicating the approaching death of Maulvi Sahib, one amongst which was "Forty-seven years," which happened to be the age of Maulvi Sahib at that time. Yet the Promised Messiah did not lose hope and kept praying incessantly. Ultimately the wound started healing and signs of recovery appeared so much so that Maulvi Sahib and the doctors thought that in a few days he will be able to walk and resume his normal activities.

Suddenly on the 10 October 1905 Maulvi Abdul Karim suffered an attack of pleurisy and high fever. His body temperature rose to 106 degree. This condition continued for one and half days and finally he passed away on 11 October 1905. The Promised Messiah, who had spent those sleepless nights in prayers for his recovery for over two months and had procured every kind of medicine and food required by the doctors for his treatment and recovery, submitted to the will of God and became composed and asked Maulvi Muhammad Ali and Dr. Yaqub Beg, who were weeping, to stop crying. *Inna illahi wa inna ilaih rajeoon*. The next morning the Promised Messiah led Maulvi Abdul Karim's funeral prayer and he was temporarily buried in general a graveyard of Qadian. During the *Salana Jalsa* of 1905 his coffin was dug

out and on the morning of 27 December 1905 once again his *janaza* prayer was led by the Promised Messiah and he was given the honour of being the first person to be buried in Bahisti Maqbrah (the Ahmadiyyah graveyard in Qadian). May Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and shower His choicest blessings on him. *Ameen*.

The Promised Messiah wrote a poem in Persian for Maulvi Abdul Karim's tombstone. The first verse of that poem reads:

Transliteration: *Kay Twan Kardan Shumaar-e-Khubi-e-Abdul Karim;
Ankeh Jan Daad Shujaat Bar Srat-e-Mustqeem.*

Translation: How can the excellence of Abdul Karim be counted;
The one who courageously gave his life on the straight path.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Promised Messiah by Captain Abdus Salam Khan

Dear readers of *HOPE*, peace be upon you.

I have been commissioned by the Editor of *HOPE*, Brother Akbar Abdullah Sahib, to write an article about the Founder, Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib, the *Mujjadid*, the Mahdi and the Promised Messiah, on the occasion of the centennial year, 2008, that marks his passing away in 1908. Let me recount for you what the Editor desires:

“I hope you have already started your paper. In writing your paper, please bear in mind what Hazrat Mirza Sahib told his followers then and what expectation he had envisioned from his followers on his 100th death anniversary. Your paper must be constructive and thought provoking but not controversial, and please ensure that Lahori doctrine is maintained throughout. Thanks for your contribution. Now if you would like to say the same thing in poetic form like Allama Iqbal did, you are most welcome to do so.”

This is a tall order indeed, but coming from a brother who is the offspring of one of our outstanding missionaries, the late Master Muhammad Abdullah of blessed memory, gives me a special sense of kinship for I am also a son of a Lahori missionary, and this leaves me no room but to comply with his request. In passing let me mention the stature that the late Master Muhammad Abdullah enjoyed in the eyes of our African American brothers.

To quote one of them who came to Lahore with Master Sahib in the eighties, “He doesn't say it but we know he is the promised one.”

I had planned to write a 20-page supplement for this purpose in order to do justice to it, but the Editor wants it in shorter form, so let me start off by way of a first instalment about what the Promised Messiah wanted us to be. He says:

“I pray a lot that my *Jama'at* may become like those who fear Allah, who are steadfast in their prayers, who, getting up at night, prostrate themselves and cry to Him, and who do not neglect the

duties laid upon them by Allah, and who are not niggardly, withholders of wealth, unheeding and the worms of the earth.

And I do hope that Allah will accept these prayers and would show me that the *Jama'at* I will leave behind are such people; that they are not from among those whose eyes commit fornication and whose hearts are worse than human excreta and who never remember they are going to die one day. I and my God are disgusted with them. I would be pleased a lot if such persons sever this bond of allegiance that they have sworn to me, because God wants to make this community a community whose model may compel people to remember God, a community that is ingrained with the highest levels of *taqwa* and self-purification, a community that has in fact given precedence to faith over the worldly interests.

As for those mischievous persons who, after pledging, while placing their hand under my hand, that they will give precedence to the faith over the worldly interests, revert to their usual mischief on returning home so that their hearts only care about this world, neither their eyes are chaste nor their heart; neither do their hands do anything good nor their feet move to do a good deed; they are like a rat who grows up in darkness, live in it and then dies in it. In the heaven they have been struck off the rolls of this Order of ours. They declare in vain that they are members of this *Jama'at*, for in heaven they are not considered as such." (*Tableegh-e-Risaalat*, pp. 41-42)

The above role model envisaged by the Promised Messiah was best exemplified by Master Muhammad Abdullah and his generation of spiritual stalwarts. May Allah grant us the chance to follow in their footsteps.

EDUCATION

Intelligence Test

During a visit to a mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criterion is that defines if a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub. Then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

Okay, here's your test:

1. Would you use the spoon?
2. Would you use the teacup?
3. Would you use the bucket?

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket, as it is larger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No," answered the Director. "A normal person would pull the plug and let the water down the drain."

PRAYER

[Courtesy Dr Khaliel Ghafoerkhan]

Saint Theresa's Prayer

May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

[Saint Theresa is known as the Saint of the Little Ways, meaning she believed in doing the little things in life well and with great love.]

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Appreciation for *Eid-ul-Fitr* photograph supplement

During our telephone conversation Hazrat Ameer praised the *Bulletin's* efforts on producing a delightful *Eid-ul-Fitr* 2007 photographic supplement. *Alhamdulillah!* All praise is due to Allah (and Allah alone).

While commenting on this subject, Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed wrote, "I have just gone through your pdf. It was as if I were there!"

Encouragement from Syed Nasir Ahmad, United Kingdom

Thanks for the beautiful edition of the *HOPE Bulletin*. The contents are quite informative and interesting. The photo of the inner side of the Ka'bah is really inspiring...

Will you kindly include my son Jawad Ahmad's e-mail address in your mailing list...

Comments from Robbert Bipat, SIV, Paramaribo, Suriname

Thank you for your information, especially the update on the *Salana Duaiyya* and the situation in Pakistan. I am also content with the presentation on heart diseases.

How is it with your health anyway? I hope, *Insha Allah*, that you are doing well. Could you add the e-mail of our president to your mailing list?

Thank you once again for the work of paramount importance that you are performing.

QUESTION & ANSWER

Question:

By some error I took all of the *Eid* photos in New Zealand on the video command of my digital camera. When I transferred the photographs to my computer I couldn't make copies of them for including in the *Eid-ul-Fitr 2007* photo supplement.

Is there any way I can convert these video photos into a regular photo? – *Editor*

Answer:

In my opinion this can be done only with video editing software. If you transfer the film to your PC, you have the option to save parts of the film of your choice as picture files, however, in a much lower quality than real pictures. – *Riaz Ahmadali*

Another option is to pause the video on your computer, and then screen capture it. – *Dr Mujahid Ahmad Saeed*

LESSON OF THE DAY

[Courtesy Dr Khaliel Ghafoerkhan]

- "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand.
- "Lollipop" is the longest word typed with the right hand.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt."
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
- The sentence, "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog," uses every letter of the alphabet.
- The words "racecar," "kayak" and "level" are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
- There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
- There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."
- "Typewriter" is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- Almonds are a member of the peach family.

- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches two to six years of age.
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you, eight abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- The cruise liner, QE 2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.
- There are more chickens than people in the world.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

HOPE MEMBER SERVICE

Recipe of the Month

Tomato Salad

Ingredients

- 3 tomatoes
- 1 small clove garlic
- Salt to taste
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 2 cucumbers, optional
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil

Method of Preparation

- Mash garlic and salt in a bowl.
- Add lemon juice, mixing well.
- Cut cucumbers and tomatoes into bit-size pieces.
- Add to garlic mixture along with onions and oil.
- Mix gently.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION

House of our beloved Holy Prophet (sas) and Syeda Khadeejah (ra)

[Courtesy Muhammad Ameen Sahu Khan]
(House of Syeda Khadeejah (*Raziallah anha*))



Entrance of Prophet's room



Guest Room



Mosque in guest room



The place where the Holy Prophet prayed

This is the house where prophet lived for 28 years



البيت الذي عاش فيه رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ثمان وعشرين سنة

The room of Prophet Mohammed with Syedah Khadeejah



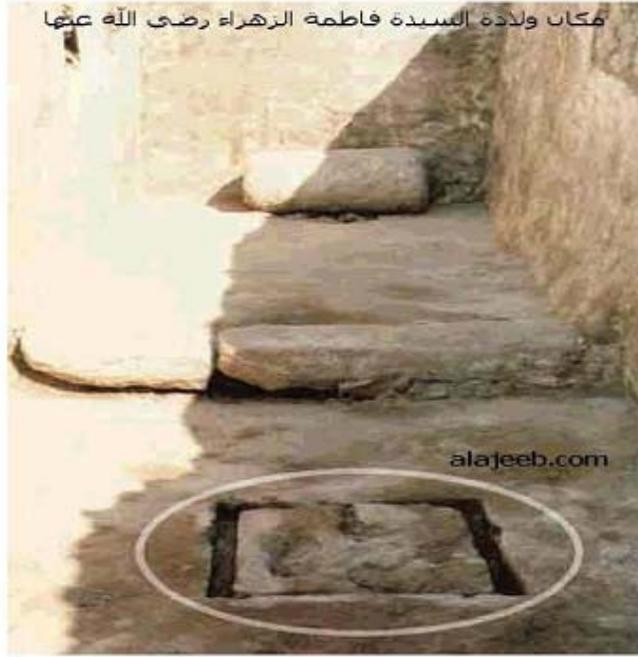
الحجرة التي كان يعيش فيها رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم مع أم المؤمنين خديجة رضي الله عنها

This was filled with water for WOZU (before prayer)



الحوض الذي وجد في حجرة التمير وكان يوضع فيه الماء ليتوضأ منه رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم

Please share with your brothers and sisters of Islam.



Birth place of Syedah Fatimah Zahra

Accompanied Attachment

We are pleased to reproduce in the accompanied attachment to this *Bulletin* a beautiful presentation of New Year 2008 greetings by Mudassar Aziz in which he depicts little kittens to convey his message. *Jazak Allah!*

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