My dear brothers/sisters-in-Islam,

Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmat Ullah!

This is to wish you and through you all our brothers and sisters in Islam and members of our Jama'at in your country, a very happy and prosperous New Year. We pray to Allah that He may grant you a long and purposeful life and continue to shower His blessings and countless bounties on all of us. Ameen!

I also take the opportunity of briefly reporting to you, the salient features of our Annual Jalsa that was held on 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th of December, 1982. We bow our heads before the Almighty Allah for His mercy and kindness in making the Jalsa a real success and for giving us another opportunity of participating in its deliberations. This was the 68th Annual Gathering of our Anjuman, which was attended by members of the Jama'at from all parts of Pakistan as well as foreign countries, and the atomosphere in "Darus-Salam" during these four days was pervaded with a spiritual tempo, which is the significant characteristic of this Jalsa. The members exhibit great devotion and sincerity of purpose in bearing discomforts of travelling in severe cold weather, and sitting the whole day long listening to religious discourses with rapt attention. Not only during the five daily prayers, but also during Tahajjud, which was a regular feature during these days, the cries of devout worshippers seemed to be ascending the heavens to beseech Divine help. The soul-stirring supplications of the Imam and the congregation in the morning prayer, included prayers for the material, moral and spiritual welfare of all members of our Jama'at and for the glory of Islam and its ultimate triumph over all other religions. The Dars-i-Quran, after the morning prayer, enriched the people with moral and spiritual truths of the Qur'an, and the thought-provoking and inspiring speeches made by various learned speakers further invigorated the audience.
The Ladies Session

The first day of the Congregation is always devoted to the Ladies Session exclusively. It was a very well-attended session, and the day-long meeting included a number of speeches made by highly educated ladies and recitations and poems by young girls. A special feature of the ladies annual gathering is an Exhibition of handicrafts, which is being regularly arranged every year for the last about half a century. The underlying idea of this activity is that our women-folk should spare a few moments out of their daily routine for the sake of their Religion and spend them in knitting, stitching and embroidering and making beautiful articles of daily use, which are sold at the Annual Jalsa in the form of an exhibition and the proceeds are donated to the funds of the Anjuman for the propagation of Islam. Young ladies and housewives also arrange tea-stalls, and sell candy, fruits and other eatables on the day of Ladies' Jalsa, and the income thus acquired is also diverted to the Anjuman's funds. The ladies were thus able to contribute Rs. 31,128.25 on this Jalsa.

The Men's Gathering

The men's Jalsa began on Sunday the 26th December, and was inaugurated by the Head of the Jama'at Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib. Hazrat Ameer welcomed the participants, thanked them for the trouble they had taken and invoked Divine blessings for their material and spiritual advancement and for the triumph of Islam and the solidarity of our Jama'at. He said that the opening chapter of the Holy Qur'an, Surah al-Fatihah, was the best prayer and most suitable for inauguration of any function, religious, cultural or social, and he would declare this Jalsa open with the recitation of Surah al-Fatihah and with inviting the attention of the audience to the depth of its meaning and the underlying heavenly light. He then raised his hands for prayer in which the whole congregation joined.

The first sitting was presided over by Mian Zahir
Ahmad, and illuminating speeches were made on the following topics: (i) "Extracts from the writings of the Founder of the Movement" by the Indonesian student Mr. Yatimin, (ii) "The ways and means of recognising the Imam of the age" by Sheikh Nisar Ahmad of Sialkot, (iii) "The distinctive characteristics of the Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement" by Chaudhri Fateh Muhammad Aziz, Advocate of Gujrat, and (iv) "The pattern of Islamic Society" by Mirza Muhammad Latif Shahid. The second sitting was held under the chairmanship of Sahibzada Muhammad Ahmad of Bannu, and the following programme was observed: Malik Zafarullah Khan of Rawalpindi emphasised that none can attain communion with God without devotedly following the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). (ii) Dr. Zahid Aziz of Nottingham (U.K) threw light on the present-day scientific inventions and the Divine Hand behind all progress, and how the Ahmadiyya Movement helped in its realisation. (iii) Raja Muhammad Bedar of Karachi stressed the need for vying with each other in the pursuit of good deeds. The Shubban al-Ahmadiyya or the Youngmen’s Organisation held their session in the evening under the chairmanship of their president Capt. Dr. Jameelur-Rahman, and excellent speeches were made by our youngmen—Mr. Zahid Janjua, Mr. Akhtar Ali Khan, Mr. Abdul Aziz and Sheikh Hafeez-ur-Rahman on subjects relating to Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement, and displayed great enthusiasm and love for religious knowledge.

We were also pleased and encouraged by the participation of brothers and sisters from abroad, who had travelled thousands of miles to participate in the Annual Congregation in Lahore. Dr. Zahid Aziz and Mrs. Razia Magenty from England, Maulana Abdur Raheem Jaggoe from Utrecht (Holland), Mr. and Mrs. Shams-ud-Din Ilahi Bakhsh, Mr. Ghaffar Hassan Mohammad and Mr. Jabbar Abdul Razzaq from Den Haag (Holland), Dr. Djuhan Effendi from Indonesia, and Raja Muhammad Yusuf Taseer and Khwaja Muhammad Sadiq from Kashmir (India) deserve special
mention. Most of them addressed the congregation and gave a heartening account of the progress made by their respective Jama'ats.

The first sitting on the second day was presided over by our esteemed brother Mian Sheikh Umar Farooq of Karachi. “Malfoozat” were presented by Mr. Zahid Janjua and an eloquent and inspiring speech on “The best nation of the world” was made by Mian Bashir Ahmad Minto of Rawalpindi. The General Secretary of the Anjuman then presented the Annual Report and gave a brief resume of the activities of the Central Anjuman, its foreign missions and branches all over the world, particularly the U.K., West Germany, Holland, California (U.S.A.), West Indies, Guyana, Suriname, South Africa, Indonesia, India and the Fiji Islands.

The financial statement was presented with the report and the total income and expenditure of the Anjuman during the year 1981-82 was reported to be 16,04,877.96 and Rs. 14,39,616.28 respectively. The main items of expenditure, besides the fixed routine expenditure, were as follows:

1. Translation of the Holy Quran into foreign languages 3,30,000.00
2. Financial help to the needy members of the Jam‘at 64,614.00
3. Missionary training 24,806.00
4. Free distribution of books 14,007.85
6. Subsidy to Light and Paigham-e-Sulh 1,29,429.00

The most important event and reportable item during the year, was the purchase of a spacious house in London as the headquarters of the London Mission, and its opening ceremony was performed by the Head of the Jama‘at. It was felt by one and all that the Anjuman’s house at 56, Longley Road, Tooting was not suitable for various reasons. The Central Anjuman and the London Jama‘at both felt the need of a better situated premises with more accommodation and
suitability for holding religious functions. The Central An-
juman had no funds for this purpose, still they had advised
the Imam of the London Mission and President and Secre-
tary of the London Jama'at to continue searching for the re-
quired house. When Hazrat Ameer Dr. Saeed Ahmad Sahib
visited the United States of America in 1981, the main pur-
pose of his tour was to interview University professors,
scholars and linguists with a view to selecting suitable per-
sons to whom the work of translating the Holy Quran into
different languages of the world could be entrusted. But all
the time he had on his mind how to meet the need of the
London Mission and how to get a suitable house for them.
The All-Powerful Allah, Who has control over every thing
and Who can create things from naught, heard his prayers
and made miraculous provisions. The Id al-Fitr of 1981 was
celebrated on the first of August in San Francisco, where mem-
ers of our Jama'at from all over the United States were
invited to celebrate this festival with the California Jama'at
and under the leadership of Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Sahib.
It was a wonderful function as reported in the “Newark
Times” and the weekly “Observer”. A meeting of the
Jama'at was also held in the evening in which Hazrat Doctor
Sahib made an appeal for donating funds for the establish-
ment of a suitable centre in London, and the gathering respon-
ded in a befitting manner. A sum of $ 40,000/- was col-
lected, which included a donation of $ 20,000/- from our
esteemed young brother Dr. N.I. Malik, who had already
promised to donate $ 50,000/- towards the Quran-translation
fund. May Allah reward him and the rest of our brothers
and sisters.

The first half of the year 1982 was spent in an inten-
sive search for a suitable house, and Allah again helped His
poor servants. A very suitably located, well-built and spacio-
us house was available at 15, Stanley Ave., Wembley, London
at about thirty minutes' underground train journey from
the Heathrow Air Port and the same distance from Central
London. This house was purchased for £ 61,000/- in June
1982, and the Imam was able to occupy it on the 2nd of
July. It was a matter of great joy and thankfulness to the Almighty and our U.K. Jama'at rejoiced to have a Mission House of their own choice. It was decided by them to request the Head of the Lahore Ahmadiyya community, whose prayers and endless efforts had made the acquisition of this property possible, to perform the opening ceremony of the Mission House. It was also decided to make it a grand occasion and invite Ahmadi Muslims from all over the world to witness this inauguration which was scheduled to be made on Friday the 27th of August.

Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib reached London on the 8th of August with a view to spending a few days in stabilising the Jama'at and meeting its members individually. The London Jama'at had also collected about £6,000/- for the house, and adding this to the collections made in America the year before, the amount was enough to make the deal and the rest of the price was taken as a loan from the Bank. Hazrat Ameer delivered an inspiring and invigorating Khutba for the Friday prayer on 27th August and declared the Mission House open and named it as "DAR-US-SALAM". His address was so efficacious that the audience presented a sum of £15,000/- to repay the bank loan. The ceremony was thus very joyful and auspicious. Among those who particularly travelled to London to attend this function were Maulana Muhammad Abdullah, Mr. and Mrs. Zafar Abdullah, Dr. Numan Ilahi Malik, Dr. Muhammad Ahmad and Mr. Jafar Hussain from the U.S.A. Mr. Noor Sirdar, Maulana Abdur Rahim Jaggoe, Mr. Ilahi Bakhsh, Mr. Abdul Sattar, and Mr. Murad Din from Holland; Dr. Muhammad Hassan, Haji Ajeob Ilahi Bakhsh, and Mr. and Mrs. Safdar Hakim from Suriname; and Doctor Allah Bakhsh, Dr. Nazir-ul-Islam, Begum and Mian Fazli Ahmad, Begum and Malik Ijaz Elahi, and Begum Hamida Rahman from Pakistan. We pray to the Almighty Allah that He may make this Mission House a beacon of light for the whole world and may the rays of the 'Sun of Islam' spread from here all over the world.

Hazrat Ameer, accompanied by Mr. Muhammad Anwar, visited Holland in the beginning of September and
stayed there for five days with them. His address on Friday, the 10th September, was particularly meant for the people of Europe, whose attention was invited to the role of the Ahmadiyya Movement and how it helped to counteract the vigorous strides of materialism and Godlessness. The Federation of Ahmadiyya Jama‘ats of Holland was addressed by him on 12th September in which he exhorted the audience to gird up their loins and work more vigorously for the fulfilment of the prophecies for the glory of Islam. Mrs. Zammurad Fazil and Maulana Jaggoe spoke on behalf of the Federation. Then Hazrat Ameer returned to England and was requested to stay in London till ‘Id al-Fitr and he returned to Pakistan after the ‘Id.

Translation of the Holy Quran

The Anjuman had decided in 1980 to get the English translation of Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali translated into at least three foreign languages during the next five years. Accordingly, Spanish, French, and Japanese were the three languages decided upon. The work on the Spanish translation was taken in hand in February, 1981, and it is now complete by the grace of Allah. The translator would be visiting Pakistan shortly to deliver the manuscript to the Anjuman. The French translator has finished the translation of the Introduction of the Holy Book and is now translating the text. All the necessary details have been settled with the Japanese translator, and he might have started the work by now. The possibilities of printing the Spanish translation are also being explored. The assiduous efforts of a few esteemed members of the Jama‘at, prompted by sheer love of the Holy Quran, deserve special mention in connection with the Spanish translation; and we thankfully acknowledge the help and cooperation of Dr. Numan Ilahi Malik, Mr. N.A. Faruqui, Mian Fazle Ahmad and another high-ranking member, without whose constant attention and practical help the noble task could not have been so easily accomplished. The work of translating the Holy Quran into Hindi and Kashmiri languages is making progress in Kashmir (India).
It would not be out of place to mention here that the English translation of the Holy Quran was printed in Pakistan for the first time during the year under report. The translation remained out of stock for about three years. This translation is very much in demand all over the world, and the Anjuman is contemplating to produce it on a much larger scale. The third edition of the Dutch translation of the Holy Quran was printed towards the end of 1981, and 800 copies have since been sold to our Jama'ats in Holland and Suriname.

The main objective of this Anjuman, as you all know, is the propagation of Islam, which is accomplished by translating the Holy Quran into various languages of the world as well as producing of healthy literature on Islam. Besides the work done at Lahore, our branches in different parts of the world are also producing valuable organs for the promulgation of Islamic teachings and the dissemination of Quranic truths. “The Islamic Review” is an eminent and prestigious monthly journal which is excellently produced at a very high cost by our friends in California. “The Islamic Guardian” of London, the “HAQ” of Suriname, the “Islamic Sunrise” of Guyana, the “Risala Ahmadiyya” in Dutch from Holland, and the “Paigham-i-Haq”, a bilingual monthly of the Fiji Islands, are also doing very useful service. Our Indonesian Jama'at is publishing five organs in the Indonesian language—three monthly and two quarterly magazines. Their names are “STUDI ISLAM”, “FATHI ISLAM”, “AN-NOOR”, “JIWA KHADIJA” and “SARTA KELUARGA GAI”. Two Urdu journals of Kashmir, the daily “Roshni” and the monthly “Ishaat-ul Haq” are also doing commendable service in their respective spheres.

The Cape Town Incident

We have a band of very zealous and devoted members in Goodwood, Capetown, (South Africa), who though small in number and not very well off, are rich in religious fervour and sincerity of purpose. They filed a Declaratory suit
in the proper court of law that since they are Muslims, they
can not be refused to bury their dead in a Muslim cemetery,
or enter a Mosque for prayers. The Court issued a tempo-
rary interdict in their favour in June 1982. However this
temporary interdict was discharged on 10th September, 1982.
But this was wrongly concluded to have declared the
Ahmadees in South Africa to be not Muslims, and the
Pakistani Press circulated this news under prominent head-
ings. The real suit is still pending in the Court, which has
not so far entered into the religious issue or declared the
Ahmadees to be not Muslims. Our brothers and sisters are
requested to pray to Allah to have mercy on His poor ser-
vants.

Work in Pakistan

Our normal activities in Pakistan continued as usual,
and the work of propagation of Islam and Ahmadiyyat was
carried on through correspondence and personal approaches.
Besides our two weekly organs in English and Urdu, tracts
and pamphlets are also published for free distribution. These
are supplied to all our branches according to their needs.
About eight hundred registered packets containing free liter-
ature and books were sent to people in different parts of the
world and queries of 397 people were answered. A religious
training course was arranged for youngmen at Lahore in
which 48 male participants and 9 lady students joined from
31st July to 14th August 1982. The Local Jama'at made a
successful campaign of holding regular Rabita meetings and
approaching members of the Lahore Jama'at. It has also
arranged a children's class in which about 30 children of 7
to 12 years of age receive religious education and participate
in healthy competitions every Monday of the month.

Hazrat Ameer's address

After the General Secretary's report, Hazrat Ameer
Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib addressed the gathering. He
said that the main objective of the Ahmadiyya Movement
was to spread the light of the Holy Quran and the sublime
teachings of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. He profusely quoted from the Holy Quran, and explaining verses from the chapter "The Light", he said that Islam is represented as a likeness to the Divine Light placed high on a pillar so as to illuminate the whole world. And the parable becomes clearer if the word *nur* (Light) be taken to refer to the Holy Prophet. Light emanated from him even before the light from on High came to him in the form of Divine revelation, so that when revelation came to him it was *light upon light*.

He referred to the mission of the Promised Messiah, who appeared at a time when the Muslims would have the letter of the law with them but would not be true to its spirit. A man would then he raised who, again receiving the light from the Holy Prophet, would spread the light of Islam in the world. The founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement was born in a small village, but he dreamed of standing on pulpits in London and explaining the beauties of the Holy Quran to the people around him, and catching white birds. He expressed the desire of preparing a commentary of the Quran in English and said it was his task and would be done by him or by one who is part of himself. The speaker explained how this dream was fulfilled, how the WOKING MISSION was established and how Maulana Muhammad Ali, Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din and Maulana Sadr-ud-Din had served the cause of Islam and how the Western world was blessed with the translation of the Holy Quran into the English, German, Dutch and other languages. He said, Islam was going to prevail over all other religions in this age, and this was to come about with the efforts of our small community. He then narrated a very interesting incident. The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan, he said, had received an offer from the U.N.O. in 1950, that if Maulana Muhammad Ali of Lahore would care to establish a branch of their missionary and religious activities in New York, they would provide all possible facilities, as they highly appreciated the type of work and looked upon it as
most conducive to the peace of the world. This is how the world looks upon the work of your Jama‘at, and he exhorted his people to make added efforts for the supremacy of Islam and for bringing the day of victory nearer. He then made an appeal for funds, which is a regular feature of our Annual Jalsa, and the response was beyond our expectations. The total amount collected was Rs. 3,71,097.00 which included a donation of over two lacs of rupees from the Chairman of the session Mian Sheikh Umar Farooq of Karachi. Falhamulillah.

The second sitting on that day was presided over by Maulana Muhammad Abdullah of California. He made a few remarks in the beginning and stressed punctuality and the need for cultivating good habits. Among the speakers were Mr. Yatimin of Indonesia, who spoke on the death of Jesus Christ; Sharif Ahmad of Peshawar gave a message to the future generation in the light of our Past; and Chaudhri Shukrullah Khan, Advocate explained at length that “We are Muslims by the Grace of Allah”!

The Evening Session was chaired by Mr. Ilahi Bakhsh of Holland, and the speakers were Mr. Hamid-ur-Rahman and Dr. A.K.S. Pasha. Mr. Rahman said that Islam had its own Economic Theory and it had clearly laid down its standards of good and evil, and lawful and unlawful. He discussed the prevalent systems of wealth and capital and compared them with Islam. Dr. Pasha said that he derived satisfaction of heart from reciting the Holy Quran. He explained the Surah al-Fatiha and said that it was the best prayer, which brings a person in communion with God in supplication, thanksgiving and adoration. The chairman described how our Jama‘ats were functioning in Holland, and conveyed the greetings of his countrymen to their brothers and sisters in Lahore.

The concluding Session

The third day of the Jalsa (28-12-82) had only one sitting, and it was presided over by Mr. Muhammad Yusuf Taseer, General Secretary of the All-India Ahmadiyya Or-
ganisation in Kashmir. Mr. Muhammad Azam Alvi gave his "Poem of the year", and the speakers were Masud Beg Mirza, Maulana A.R. Jaggoe, Mr. M. Y. Taseer and Mian N.A. Faruqui. The Holy Prophet’s birth-day was being celebrated in Pakistan on the 29th December. Our Anjuman however, decided to pay homage to the Holy Prophet Muhammad a day earlier, in the concluding session of the Jalsa. Mr. Masud Beg Mirza described various aspects of the Prophet’s life, and showed that he was the most successful of all the religious personalities of the world, the reformation brought about by him was universal and matchless and the teachings he left were unsurpassed and did not corrupt. The Holy Prophet combined in his person the high qualities and glories of all the previous prophets and prophethood attained perfection with his appearance. The speaker also informed the audience that 28th of December was the 50th death anniversary of Hazrat Kh. Kamal-ud-Din. He briefly described the services of the WOKING MUSLIM MISSION and the sacrifices made by Hazrat Khwaja Sahib and their impact on the Western world. The audience then prayed for the departed soul. Maulana Abdur Rahim Jaggoe from Utrecht, Holland said that he joined this Movement half a century ago and gave an account of the services he was able to render for the cause of Islam in various parts of the world. Mr. Taseer from Srinagar, Kashmir said how pleased he was to be able to visit Lahore and join this religious gathering. He described the good work that was being done by our Ahmadi brethren in Kashmir and emphasised the importance of visiting Kashmir.

Mr. N.A. Faruqui spoke on "The cry of a distressed heart" and started with reciting the verses of the Holy Quran about the prophet Job; and how the story related to the life of our Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He referred to the Promised Messiah’s lecture of 1904 on the subject of PRAYER, and said that crying for help is innate in man, and man must seek Divine help when he is afflicted with distress, just as a child cries to invite the attention of his mother. He described at length how
the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement cried to Allah for the successful completion of his Mission, and the importance he gave to prayer in all his writings and teachings. The speaker then referred to the wonderful literature produced by the Mujaddid of the fourteenth century and his disciples, and the great change that is brought about by it in the world of today. He then made an appeal for funds for the free distribution of a set of eight books which is very much in demand all over the world. Although the audience had paid more than three lacs of rupees a day earlier, yet they again cheerfully donated for this noble cause, and a handsome amount of Rs. 88,153/- was collected.

The Head of the Movement, Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan, then made his farewell speech and congratulated the audience on the very successful termination of the Jalsa and thanked the Almighty for His endless bounties. He exhorted them to keep on marching with faith, resolution and steadfastness. He particularly invited the attention of Shubban al-Ahmadiyya to the lofty goal before them and how faithfully and assiduously they should follow their ideas. Hazrat Ameer praised Allah again and again for the Divine help and for showing that He is with us, however humble and insufficient our efforts to His cause may be.

I hope this glimpse of the Annual Congregation 1982 will be a source of pleasure and satisfaction for you. We solicit your prayers for the achievement of the noble objectives set before us. May Allah help us to serve the cause of Islam with added strength. Please convey our assalamu alaikum and best wishes to all brothers and sisters in your country.

Yours Fraternally,
(MASUD BEG MIRZA)
General Secretary,
Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha’at-i-Islam,
Lahore-16

10-1-1983
Ameer-i-Qaum, Hazrat Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib, addressing the Opening Session of the 68th Annual Gathering of Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i-Islam, Lahore on 25th December, 1982 at Darus Salam, Lahore, Pakistan.