

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**INTERFAITH CONFERENCE
AT PROVIDENCE**

SPEECH OF

HAZRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH
Munir Ahmad Azim

(Summary of Speech)

*19 July 2015
(02 Shawwal 1436 Hijri)*

The Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al-Fatiha (The Opening Chapter of the Qur'an), and then said:

My dear brothers and sisters,
May the peace of God be upon you.



I most warmly thank you – guests and members of the Jamaat present – for answering the call of our religious society – Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam – and came today.

As part of the *Eid-ul-Fitr*, we Muslims, after a month of fasting and sacrifices (in many ways), we have a day of *Eid* (joy). The believer is happy (and grateful) for God Who has given him a month of fasting. Fasting, generally speaking applies not only to the religion of Islam, but to all religions (our Christian brothers and sisters, Hindus, Buddhists, and others) observe one form or another of fasting. All these religions

received also messengers of God who came preached – like Islam (because maybe some Muslims have not well explained what Islam represents) – peace and complete submission to God. And moreover, Islam advocates that its followers should have a firm belief in all the messengers, prophets, *Rishi*, Avatars, and Messiahs who came in the past in different religions, and who brought the message of God. But over time, the divine message has gradually been violated and you see that many innovations have penetrated the walls of the authentic religion (the true message of God). This has been recurrent ever since the creation of this universe, this earth, ever since God created man. For since the creation of man, God began sending His messengers and prophets. These elects of God came and received divine grace and transmit it to people... to humanity.

So for us Muslims, we must have a sincere belief in the advent of all the prophets of God, whether they are: Adam, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Krishna, Ram, or Buddha (peace be upon them all). And according to the teachings of Islam, with the advent of the founder of Islam, Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) we have receive the knowledge of the number of prophets who came from the creation of the earth; more than 124,000 prophets came before his coming (as a universal prophet and seal of the prophets). And all these prophets had already prophesied about the coming of the Holy Prophet of Islam, the founder of Islam. And all the prophets prophesied about the great religion that will come (that is to say, Islam). Certainly, Islam encompasses all the authentic teachings (*not interpolated by man*) of all the prophets (and religions).

So, if today we are here, in short, after a month of fasting spent in obedience to God, and the sacrifices we have made and which were permissible for us for eleven months except for this month (Ramadan) and that we have spent in prayer... Verily fasting begins very early in the morning, before dawn (with the meal before fasting) and ends until sunset (when we break the fast). And for the love of God and in obedience to His commandments, we agreed to sacrifice some things, like eating, drinking, etc. and in recognition of this fast, this sacrifice, every sincere Muslim receives God as reward because the reward of fasting, is God Himself. God certainly multiplies our rewards when we are obedient to Him. And one day when we leave this world for the hereafter, for all our good deeds, we will (*Insha-Allah*) receive our rewards.

With the coming of *Eid (Eid-ul-Fitr)*, this does not mean that the believer returns to his bad habits (such as smoking, drinking booze, playing the games of chance that many Muslims are unfortunately addicted to etc.). The reform as per the training he agreed to undergo for the cause of Allah (by controlling his passions, his ego) during the month of Ramadan, he must therefore maintain it for the rest of the year (the eleven months to come). Therefore, for the cause of Allah, for the sake of Allah, he agrees to undergo a reform during that month by agreeing to stay away from these negative things and he also agrees not to lie, and to manage his business honestly, and to remain faithful to all his canonical prayers in the mosque in congregation. In short, he agrees to do it all to reap the pleasure of God.

Despite the millions of Muslims who live in this world and who observed the fast, no one can say with certainty that his fasting was approved by God. Acceptance of fasting is only found in the hand of God. Only God is aware of it. It is God who knows who really observed fasting with sincerity. And we, humans that we are, as far as possible, it is our duty to beg for God's forgiveness. Without the help of God we are nothing. We can do nothing – neither make a step or two forward nor anything else – without His help. And if after a night of sleep, we can still open the eyes again in this temporary world (that is to say, without finding death), it is also a grace of God. Every deed a person does, he owes his gratitude to God.

So in the context of the month of Ramadan, after the observance of the prescribed fasts, God says that after the observance of fasting for a month, He gives us an *Eid* day, a day of contentment. And on this *Eid* day, the believer must show this joy by taking a bath and going to the mosque, praying and listening to the sermon, and giving thanks to God.

Thus, by the grace of Allah (God), the day following the *Eid-ul-Fitr*, our religious society has organized this conference today as part of the celebration of two *Eids*, two joys: the *Eid-ul-Fitr* and the centenary since the advent of the message of a reformer of God by the name of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) – of Indian origin – in Mauritius.

The Khalifatullah (atba) also explained that the arrival of a reformer is needed to maintain the authenticity of the original religion of God. Certainly, all the prophets of God are the elects of God whom we love, such as Krishna, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and the Muslim believer must necessarily believe in absolutely all the prophets of God if he really proclaims to be a Muslim.

In addition, the Messenger of God/ Khalifatullah (atba) has also focused the audience's attention on the fact that only a universal reformer must come to gather all religions, just like a Prime Minister is elected by man to represent them all, either for the Muslim, Hindu, Christian etc. Similarly the religion of Hinduism awaits the coming of Krishna, and Christianity awaits the second coming of Jesus etc. Therefore, there will be no unity of religion if indeed all these prophets come to raise the credibility of his respective religion/ message. Therefore, there should be only one prophet/ reformer/ Messenger/ avatar who comes to unite all religions in the worship of God. In truth, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) is a universal prophet. The (pure) teachings of all religions are included in the Holy Quran. Please note that we give our children beautiful names, even the names of all the prophets of all religions like: Abraham (Ibrahim), Moses (Musa), Jesus (Isa), Krishna (Krishan), etc. A Muslim is a Muslim when he believes in all prophets of God because without this belief, he cannot say that he is a Muslim.

So 1915-2015, it has been a hundred years since the message of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) – the second coming of Jesus son of Mary and Krishna – and originating from India entered our little island Mauritius. His message was spread to the four corners of Mauritius by our elders, pioneers of the message in Mauritius.

Mauritius is a small dot on the world map, and yet it is exceptionally beautiful because it holds in its midst the different cultures of all religions; it encompasses the identity of all the prophets who came in the past. And everyone respects the religion of the other, and all of us are certainly children (spiritually speaking) of God, and God loves us. That is why He sent a messenger, a prophet, a rishi, an avatar, a Messiah, to guide us.

Unfortunately, nowadays, be it at national and international level, the world has entered the era of darkness. Religion exists in name only. Mosques, temples and churches exist only as buildings. There are many people who attend them, yes, but after coming out from these places of worship (into this material world) faith disappears (and ascends to heaven). Prayer becomes a routine (done automatically, not with faith and sincerity). And they even avoid prayer and they are not interested to turn to God. They have no interest in spirituality. Had we *(the Khalifatullah (atba) speaks in general)* turned to spirituality, to God, then today we would not be in such difficulty. Our young people would not have drifted away... Education is something that is not acquired only in school but it begins at home. It begins with parents... These days there is no respect shown by young people to their seniors. They have fallen in terrible vices despite that here in Mauritius school education and transportation are free (for students).

The Khalifatullah (atba) then made the comparison between the past epochs and the current one and demonstrated how young people are not courteous/ cultivated as the young people of past years. Respect for others is absent. In the past, students knew the great value of a teacher, a Gurujee, an Ustaad, a priest, a Maulana etc.

If the teachings of religion are trampled to dust by man, and many innovations have taken place, and if everyone have withdrawn to their selected groups (i.e. people are not united), and religion is divided (into several groups/ sects) then imagine the deplorable situation that we witness today. So do you think God will let this situation like that? So God should definitely send someone to give His message to people. Happy is he who receives and drinks the divine water that comes from the sky. He shall certainly be safeguarded against hellfire. This water will certainly be purifying for him, as if he comes under the shower and takes a full bath (which cleanses him from all impurities). But if he stays away from the shower (tap water), how can he expect to be clean (with no dirt and sweat)? Similarly God sends His rain from the sky ***(when Khalifatullah (atba) speaks of water from the sky, by the grace of God, rain begins to fall outside)***. When rain falls, it verily falls for all, for plants, flowers, trees, and even weeds. That is to say, when God sends His blessings from heaven, He does not discriminate between good and bad people, people who believe or who do not believe in God, people who pray or do not pray God. That is why He is called: God (*Good Lord/Bondieu*). God is good and always will be. It is we humans, through the (bad) actions we do, are responsible for that but unfortunately we send the blame on God. God has not told us to do all these (evil deeds).

The Khalifatullah cites the example of the Government when it takes actions to prevent against accidents. It offers features and guidance needed on the road for people to follow and so that accidents are avoided. Therefore, it (i.e. the Government, particularly the Head of Government or the Commissioner of Police) is not responsible if a drunk driver does not respect the “No Entry” sign. It is the fault of reckless driver because he had to know his limitations and follow the directions. Similarly, God has placed in His book such commandments that man must respect.

Therefore, the world is riddled with various ailments. Shall God then let the people go adrift? No! He sends someone who comes from Him because He says (in His writings) that He does not punish a nation as long as He does not send a Warner, a messenger.

So in the Bible there are several prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah. Jesus Son of Mary (as) also warned us:

“So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)” (Matthew 24:15).

People shall not respect the sacred places. **Ponder over this:** When a Bollywood star or some other great personality comes to Mauritius, all seats of the halls/auditoriums are taken, all tickets – although exorbitant; Rs.1500-2000 – are sold out quickly, and people will lose time and money only to see a star, whereas when God sends His messenger, the latter does not ask for any salary (for this mission) but he spreads God’s message. So instead of listening, people turn their backs to him and disperse. All the prophets and messengers of God who came have gone through that same path, and have suffered the same dilemma. When he stands up to give the message, people feel tired and turn their backs to him (and the message). And they treat him a liar, a madman, and he goes through terrible trials and persecutions. **For example:** Jesus son of Mary went through innumerable torments at the hands of the children of Israel only because he proclaimed himself the Messiah. These people called him a liar and said that it was not him they were expecting. The one whom they were expecting was according to them still in heaven. They are still waiting for him (till now). Jesus had the time to appear and establish and propagate his mission but these people still remain in this ignorance. They (the Jews and others) have made him (Jesus) suffer a lot and even crucified him on the cross, leaving him for dead (but by the grace of God, he did not die on the cross). Even the prophet Krishna underwent many torments. If we cite the lives of all these prophets, then these stories are very touching. They were noble people whom God had sent. And whenever they give the message, people turn away from it. This is the work of Satan. He makes all material things (of this world) seem attractive to people so that they are attracted to that.

The prophecy (of Daniel) said that the Promised Messiah will appear after 1290 days.

So, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah and founder of Ahmadiyya Movement, published his titles and claims. This prophecy of Daniel applies directly to the arrival of the Promised

Messiah Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as). The latter actually quoted it, saying he came in fulfilment of this prophecy.

He said: *“In the book of Daniel the date of the advent of the Promised Messiah is given, it is according to this prophecy that God sent me... the period of the advent of the Promised Messiah is given in it as being 1290 days... Happy is he who shall wait ... As a result, your humble servant appeared in the fullness of time. It is strange indeed, and I consider it as a sign set by God, exactly in the year 1290 (of Hegira) I received the gift of divine revelation.”* (Haqiqatul Wahi, p. 199).

Now in the holy scriptures of Hindus (in the Vedas) there is also mention of the place where the reformer, that is to say, the second manifestation of Krishna shall appear.

1. **“Qadoum ou assiya akritam Indarasiya asti pawnoseyam”** (Sawkat 97, Mantra 3).

Translation: *The place where the Rishi will assert his bravery has been clearly designated as “Qadoum” (Qadian).*

Two things emerge from this verse: (1) the place where the *Rishi* will appear will be “Qadoum”; (2) his fame shall spread everywhere. Given his extraordinary work, who will not hear of his fame? (that is to say, everyone will hear it).

2. **“Ahmede hay patoushpari maya daham ritaysar jakwa bahaham sowariya ajania”** (Sawkat 115, Mantra 1).

“Verily, it’s Ahmed himself who, with intelligence, will inherit the truth brought by his spiritual father, and say: ‘O people, it is because of this truth that I have come among you as the sun. I adorn my words and I draw my strength from the teachings of my spiritual father.’”

Well! The *Rishi* who was to appear in the village of Qadian (*Qadoum*) and who actually appeared there according to the prophecies is Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani. It is he who has spread the teachings of his universal spiritual father, Hazrat Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him) because he came as his representative.

Oh Hindu brothers and sisters, has the time not come when Shri Krishna should make his apparition? Has sin not spread over the entire surface of the earth and the *Kalyug* (darkness) is everywhere? Shall God let the situation get worse and shall He not send His *Rishi* to unite all religions, having one leader who will lead them in the name of God to bring unity and to stop division?

As long as there is division, there will be no peace, there will be no unity. Each group/sect shall take themselves as more perfect, more superior while we should have consulted the Holy Book, the

perfect teaching of God. God has sent us these books through His messengers. And God will love us always and will continue to send us His messengers/ Reformers/ messiahs /rishis /avatars each time when man (the world) will be plunged into darkness.

Therefore, it is very important for us to keep well in mind these words, because it is true that we are celebrating a centennial event, commemorating the message of a Messiah (in Mauritius), but this celebration is being made not with arrogance and pride, but we want to share our joy and communicate his message with you because maybe you never received this message or heard about this messiah and reformer. Or maybe you've heard of him but have never taken his messages into consideration. Or maybe there are those who actually received the message but lent a deaf ear to it, like those people at the time of the other messengers who have turned their backs on divine message and have treated those messengers as liars. These types of people raise themselves as a vast wave of opposition and begin to criticize and create hatred in people's heart against the Chosen Man of God, and prevent the latter from spreading God's message (received from God through the revelations (which God communicates with him)), the divine signs and his mission in general.

Thus, no prophet, messenger, messiah, rishi, avatar will come who will have an easy mission (here, the Khalifatullah uses the phrase ***"will not walk on velvet carpet"*** as a parable to set the difficulty that all the messengers have to face when they proclaim their divine mission). There will be thorns all the time on his path. And people who believe in him will not be spared too. They will have to go through many trials and difficulties. Opponents will want to persecute and boycott them in many ways... They make these believers suffer various trials, so that they eventually become discouraged and give up on the truth, returning to their former condition/ religion and stand against the Messenger of Allah. You understand better now how Satan works?

Keep in mind that this world is temporary and that we must leave it one day. It is only our good deeds and obedience to our Creator that we will take with us and present before Him. Each thing/occurrence has a specific/determined/fixed time for it. Think over the fact that time spent since this morning will not return. So let us maximize the time we have in good works because we do not know how much time we have left before leaving this world.

Before concluding his speech, the Khalifatullah (atba) presented magazines on the Mauritius Ahmadiyya (Silsila) Movement's Centenary Jubilee to our brothers of Providence.