

*In the name of God, The Most Beneficent, Ever Merciful*

# **Al-Masjid Baet-ul-Jaamay** **“House of the Gatherer”**



## **Mosque** Inauguration

April 25, 2004

**Ahmadiyya Muslim Community**

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Chicago Jama'at

# Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



## Al-Masjid Baet-ul-Jaamay

- Total site area is five (5) acres
- Direct access from Route 53
- Men's prayer hall accomodates 600
- Women's prayer hall accomodates 600
- Future expansion capability
- Two multi-purpose rooms
- Two kitchen facilities
- Children's rooms
- 10 offices/conference rooms
- Parking accomodates 100 vehicles
- Building area: 21,000 square feet

### Project Architect

Nick Scarlatis, AIA, Scarlatis and Associates

### Project Engineers

James Koziol, PE, Koziol Engineering Services  
James Zografoos, PE, PECO and Associates  
George Popadopoulos, PE, Structural Engineer  
Rajesh Patel, PE, CRW Consultants

### Traffic Consultants

Gerald Salzman, Barton Aschman Associates

### Attorneys

Robert Gildo  
Terrence Hyten

By the Grace of Allah, the mosque has been completed through voluntary donations by individual members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

## Chicago Majlis-e-Amila Members

President, Falahuddin Shams

Vice President, Abdul Karim

General Secretary, Munawar Ahmad Khan

Secretary Tabligh (Propagation), Kaleem Malik

Secretary Taleem (Education), Atif Mian

Secretary Isha'at (Publication), Abdul Muhaimin Karim

Secretary Mal (Finance), Mansoor Ahmad Khan

Additional Secretary (Finance), M. Rafi Ahmad

Secretary Tehrik-e-Jadid, Mohammad Latif

Secretary Waqf-e-Jadid, Waseem Ahmad Nisar

Secretary Property, Ashfaq Ahmad

Secretary Public Relations, Daud Chaudry

Secretary Audio/Video, Shahid Bokhari

Secretary Tajneed (Census), Mansoor Kamal

Secretary Wassayya, Mahmood Ahmad

Secretary Ziafat (Hospitality), Adnan Baig

Zaeem Ansarullah, Masood Ahmad Qazi

Qaid Khuddam, Tayyib Rashid

Regional Missionary, Mubasher Ahmad

Additional Secretary Umur Amma (General

Affairs), Mohammad Munawar Arain

Newsletter Editor, Adnan Shams

## Mosque Project Committee

Falahuddin Shams. President

Ashfaq Ahmad, Project Manager

Munawar Khan

Umar Ahmad

Waseem Nisar

Mohammad Latif

Waheed Khan

Fateh Shams

Abdul Karim

Mansoor Khan

## Inauguration Souvenir Book

Mubasher Ahmad, Missionary

Adnan Shams

Hasan Hakeem



# Acknowledgment

**All praise belongs to Allah, Who gave us the opportunity to build a beautiful mosque, which is officially being inaugurated today. It is only through His Mercy and Grace that this kind of accomplishment takes place. We are thankful to Him and we pray that He accept the sacrifices and prayers of all who participated in the completion of this mosque.**

At this occasion, I would like to mention that it was Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV, the late worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, who personally took an interest in the mosque to be constructed at this location. In 1994, after the inauguration of Baitur Rahman Mosque, our National Headquarters in Maryland, Hazoor instructed the Amir Jama'at USA that it was now Chicago's turn. Further, in 1997 while he was visiting Chicago for the foundation laying ceremony, he met with the architect over his renderings and gave his comments and approval to proceed with the project.

It is also with great gratitude that I must mention the enthusiasm and vigorous work that our Late Amir Jama'at USA, Sahibzada M.M. Ahmad, did in reference to this mosque. He had to go through all the details with us whether it was financing arrangements for the mosque, approval of drawings at various levels or moving the project along. His guidance and keen interest in this project was a major factor in accomplishing the completion of this huge project. May Allah give him his reward and may he rest in peace in Paradise. After he became ill, it was our current Amir, Ahsanullah Zafar Sahib, who continued to support this project with the same vigor. It is our honor that he has agreed to

perform the inauguration of this mosque.

We witnessed many signs throughout this project. It was a miracle how the zoning process, which normally is the hardest part, became so smooth. Of course, there was opposition from some of our neighbors, but nothing compared to what other Muslim organizations have seen. At the same time, without our knowledge, the pastor from the Methodist church across the street, stood up in front of the zoning board and spoke in favor of this project.

I would also like to thank our members, who sacrificed for this project with their time, hard work and contributions. Ashfaq Ahmad sahib, the Property Secretary of Chicago Jama'at and the rest of the mosque committee worked hard and made themselves available when it was needed. May Allah reward them. May their sacrifices be accepted in the eyes of Allah. May future generations benefit from their sacrifices.

**We have a beautiful house of** worship now and it is our obligation to use it. I believe that we have provided the infrastructure for our next generation upon which they can excel in the propagation of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. I believe we have left them a legacy so that no matter how small the number of people, if they are determined, with the help of Allah, they can accomplish great things. I hope that Baetul Jaamay becomes a source of peace and tranquility, not just for its neighbors, but for the entire Chicagoland area. Inshallah.

Falahud Din Shams  
President Chicago Jama'at  
April 25, 2004

## From the Amir's Desk

*Bismillah* *Al-Rahman* *Rahim*

### Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Inc., USA

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: BAITUR RAHMAN MOSQUE

15000-GOOD HOPE ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MD 20905  
PHONE: 301-879-0110 FAX: 301-879-0115

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
RAIWAH, PAKISTAN

April 14, 2004

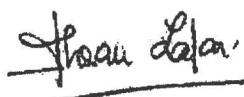
TO  
FALHUDDIN SHAMS SAHIB  
PRESIDENT JAMAT AHMADIYYA CHICAGO

The Greater Chicago jamat members, as well as the Ahmadies throughout America who have participated in the drive for the construction of the Chicago Mosque, are justly and deservedly happy on this occasion marking the completion of Masjid Al-Baetul Jaamay.

The purpose of Mosque(s) is the remembrance of Allah. In the process we also benefit in our communal activities, and come together, as well as fight extraneous and undesirable influences. In this age Hazrat Masieħ Mo'oud AS has taught us the (جملی) reflective aspects of Islamic teachings as would embellish our souls. We need to commemorate his teachings, that in humility lay the path to Allah's pleasure and nearness. Our struggle is to depict these teachings in our daily lives and practices, and thereby enhance our individual and collective character. This would be the excellent way to celebrate our new Ahmadiyya Mosque in Chicago.

May Allah bring each one of you near to Him. May He grant each one of you blessings as would be pleasing for others to see, and as would fill your hearts with the joys of His acceptance. Ameen.

Wassalam, Khaksar



Ahsanullah Zafar



# A message from Khalifatul-Masih V



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
مُحَمَّدٌ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ  
وَعَلَى عِبْدِهِ الْمَسِيحِ الْمَوْعُودِ  
خدا کے فضل اور رحم کے ساتھ  
هوالتأخير

## Message on the inauguration of the Baitul Jaama'y Mosque, Chicago

اسلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

I am very pleased that the Baitul Jaama'y Mosque in Chicago is to be opened on Sunday April 25, 2004.

We believe that the object of man's creation is that man should worship the One and Only God Who created him and to interact kindly with God's creation.

To achieve these grand objectives, mosques are built. A mosque is a haven for peace and a house for the worship of the One Omnipotent God Who has no equal and no partner. However, if we look around us, we find there are many other mosques but from their pulpits, messages of hate and an ill-understood concept of Jihad are implanted into the minds of impressionable youth. How can messages of hate go forth from houses which are meant to be havens of peace? Like all other mosques built by the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, and only recently, I had the pleasure to open 21 mosques during my one month tour of West Africa, this mosque is a symbol of true and everlasting peace. I emphasize true peace because true peace and contentment can only be found through a belief in a God Who is Living and Who responds to the prayers and supplications of man.

The second objective of man's creation is to help in whatever way possible to ameliorate the suffering of mankind. There are millions who go to bed hungry and yet we live in a society where obesity has become a serious health concern. We need to share the resources that we possess amongst those who lack resources and extend to them a warm welcoming hand of support.

*Continued on page 6*

# A message from Khalifatul-Masih V

*Continued from page 5*

Endless years of materialism, godlessness, injustice and a scant regard for human life have left mankind on the precipice of destruction. This destruction would be far worse than the destruction caused by the Second World War.

We have to return to our God and pray to Him alone because He alone can defer this impending calamity.

The Founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community said:

“The mission for which I have been appointed is to remove that growing gap in the relationship between God and His creation and replace it once again with the relationship of love and sincerity;

and by allowing the truth to manifest itself, cause religious wars to end and thus lay the foundations for peace;

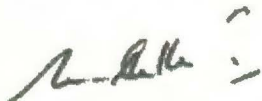
and disclose such religious truths as had become hidden from the eyes of the world;

and display an example of that spirituality that had become buried under the darkness of the pleasures of the self;

and by my condition rather than by word of mouth, I should tell and explain God’s powers that enter man and re-emerge as an urge drawing one’s attention or as a prayer.”

(Lecture Lahore p.47)

Allah help us to understand our responsibilities.



**Mirza Masroor Ahmad**  
***Khalifatul Masih V***



# The Ahmadiyya Community

**T**he Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is a religious organization, international in its scope, with branches in over 175 countries in Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Australasia, and Europe. At present, its total membership exceeds 200 million worldwide, and the numbers are increasing daily. This is the most dynamic denomination of Islam in modern history.

The Ahmadiyya Movement was established in 1889 by Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908) who was born in a small and remote village, Qadian, in the Punjab, India. He claimed to be the expected reformer of the latter days, the Awaited One of the world community of religions (The Mahdi and Messiah). The Movement he started is



*Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908) was born in a small and remote village, Qadian, in the Punjab, India. He claimed to be the expected reformer of the latter days, the Awaited One of the world community of religions (The Mahdi and Messiah).*

an embodiment of the benevolent message of Islam -- peace, universal brotherhood, and submission to the Will of God -- in its pristine purity. Hadhrat Ahmad proclaimed Islam as the religion of man: "The religion of the people of the right path" (98:6)

With this conviction, the Ahmadiyya Movement, within a century, has reached the corners of the Earth. Wherever the Movement is established, it endeavors to exert a constructive influence of Islam through social projects, educational institutes, health services, Islamic publications and construction of mosques, despite being bitterly persecuted in some countries. Ahmadi Muslims have earned the distinction of being a law-abiding, peaceful, persevering and benevolent community.

## The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam

was created under divine guidance with the objective to rejuvenate Islamic moral and spiritual values. It encourages interfaith dialogue, and diligently defends Islam and tries

to correct misunderstandings about Islam in the West. It advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths. It firmly believes in and acts upon the Qur'anic teaching: "There is no compulsion in religion." (2:257) It strongly rejects violence and terrorism in any form and for any reason.

More information regarding the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community can be found at: [www.alislam.org](http://www.alislam.org)



# His Holiness, Khalifatul-Masih V

*"...We have to work harder, unceasingly, for attracting worshippers to populate the mosque. I avail this opportunity to convey to you the same message. It is a perpetual message of lasting value, because the actual purpose of construction of mosques is to gather Allah's servants to worship Him sincerely and exclusively. The real beauty and grandeur of mosques is exhibited by the presence of worshippers."*

-- Remarks made by Khalifatul Masih V on the eve of the opening of the Baitul Fatooh Mosque, UK., Oct. 2, 2003

**H**is Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V, was born on September 15th, 1950 in Rabwah, Pakistan to Hadhrat Sahibzada Mirza Mansoor Ahmad and Hadhrat Sahibzadi Nasira Begam Sahiba.

He is the great grandson of The Promised Messiah a.s., grandson of Hadhrat Mirza Sharif Ahmad r.a, and maternal grandson of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II r.a.

In 1976 he earned his Masters of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from the Agriculture University Faisalabad, Pakistan.

In 1977 he devoted his life (Waqfe Zindagi) for the service of Islam and went to Ghana under the Nusrat-Jahan Scheme, which supports a large number of hospitals and schools in West Africa.

From 1977 to 1985 in Ghana, he was the Principal of Ahmadiyya Secondary School Sagala for 2 year, Principal of Ahmadiyya Secondary School Easarcher for 4 years, and was Manager of Ahmadiyya Agricultural Farm in Northern Ghana for 2 years during which he successfully planted and nurtured wheat for the first time in Ghana.

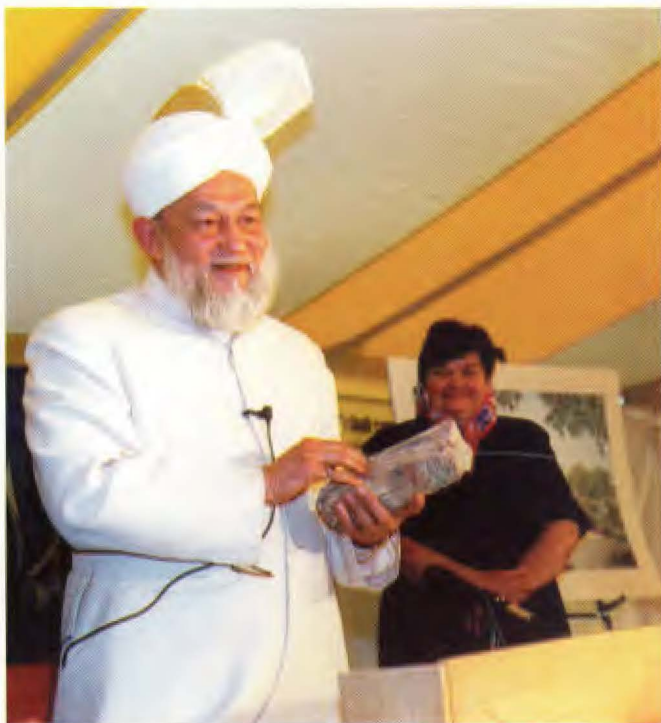
In 1999 he had the honor of becoming a prisoner in the name of Allah, in Rabwah, Pakistan. He was imprisoned on 30th April and was released on 10th May.

**On 22nd April, 2003** he was elected as Khalifatul Masih V (Fifth Successor to The Promised Messiah), after the demise of Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih IV, r.a.



*Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad,  
Khalifatul-Masih V*





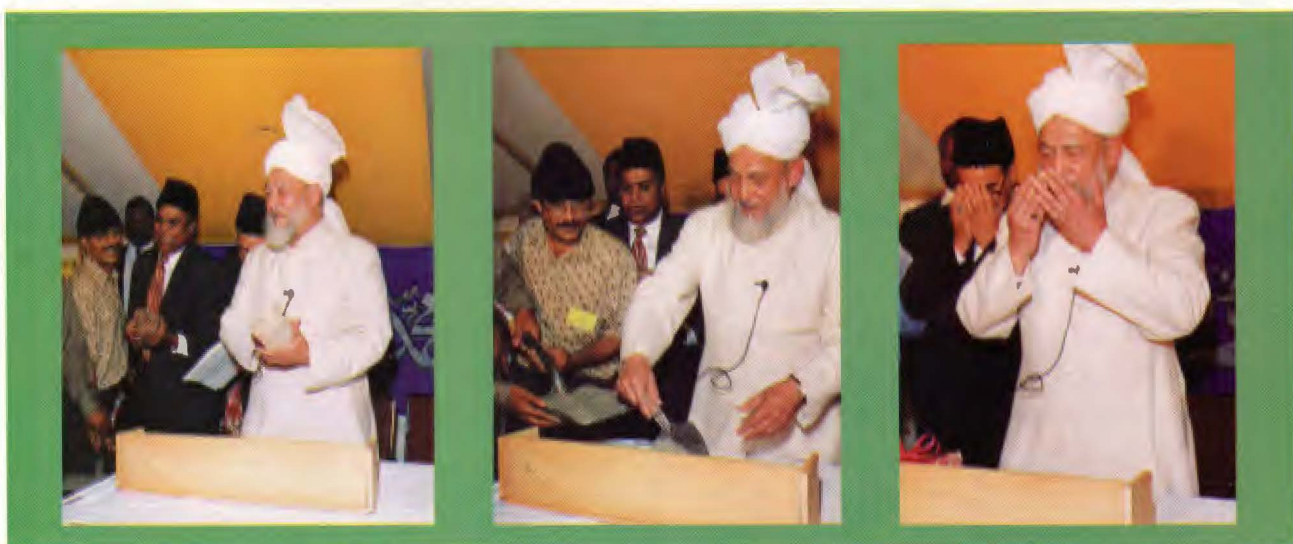
**B**y the Grace of Almighty Allah, the foundation stone of the Masjid Baet-ul-Jaamay was laid June 17, 1997 by the late Hadhrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

The \$3 million mosque is an architecturally unique facility that naturally blends in with the surrounding residential community. It's most striking feature is a minaret in Islamic mosque tradition.

The Chicago mosque planning committee worked under the guidance of President Falah-ud-Din Shams and Project Manager, Ashfaq Ahmad.

*"At this occasion, I would like to mention that it was Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV, who personally took interest in the mosque to be constructed at this location. Beginning in 1987, he instructed us and our architect extensively."*

Falah-ud-Din Shams, President







## Groundbreaking Ceremony

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in November, 2000 by members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Chicago. The ceremony was led by President Falah-ud-Din Shams and Regional Missionary Mubasher Ahmad, who led everyone in collective silent prayers for the successful completion of the new mosque.



## A Muslim missionary in America

**D**r. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, who came from India, was the first Muslim Missionary to America. His purpose, as a representative of the Ahmadiyya Movement In Islam, was to convert Americans to the religion of Islam.

On January 24, 1920, Dr. Sadiq left England on the S.S. Haverford, headed for the United States, where he intended to establish a mission. On board the ship Dr. Sadiq succeeded in converting six Chinese passengers to the Ahmadiyya Muslim faith.

When the S.S. Haverford arrived in Philadelphia on February 15, 1920, the United States Immigration authorities refused to allow Dr. Sadiq to enter the country. After the authorities had interrogated him for several hours and had established that Dr. Sadiq was a

representative of a religious group that practiced polygamy, they asked him to leave the United States. Dr. Sadiq refused to go and asked for an appeal to the Secretariat in Washington, D.C. He was confined to the Philadelphia Detention House until the decision of the appeal was reversed.



Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq

Mr. R. 1. Rochford, who was also in the Detention House, became Dr. Sadiq's first convert to Islam in the United States. During those weeks of confinement, Dr. Sadiq made nineteen other converts. These men were from Jamaica, British Guiana, Poland, Russia, Germany, Azores, Belgium, Portugal, Italy, and France.

After seven weeks of confinement, Dr. Sadiq was finally allowed to enter the United States in April of 1920. In October, 1920, Dr. Sadiq moved the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya mission to Chicago because of its central location. He purchased a house in an affluent area of Chicago, at 4448 S. Wabash, and converted it to a mosque. In July 1921, he published the first issue of the *Moslem Sunrise*. When Dr. Sadiq began his missionary work in the United States, most Americans had never heard of Islam or the name "Muslim," and had never seen a mosque. Today, Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States, with millions of converts to various sects.

The Ahmadiyya Movement In Islam is continuing its missionary efforts across the United States and around the world. It has established missions in 175 countries. It has chapters in more than 50 U.S. cities, where new mosques and mission houses have been established. Dr. Sadiq's work has grown from one small seed of faith into a tree whose branches are spreading from coast to coast.



# The purpose of a mosque

**M**uslims make use of mosques for purposes of congregational prayers but this is not due to any feeling that the sites of buildings of these mosques possess any peculiar sanctity for the purposes of divine worship.

A mosque is built to enable the Muslims of the neighborhood to assemble for the purpose of congregational prayers. Mosques facilitate the performance of collective worship and are used for other religious and social purposes also. No particular ceremony is required for consecrating mosques and dedicating them to the worship of God, as is the case with temples and churches. Any building that is used for the purpose of congregational prayers by the Muslims is a mosque.



No structural design has been prescribed for a mosque nor is a mosque divided into naves and transepts, nor does it possess anything resembling an altar. There are no pictures or images in a mosque nor relics of saints. The Muslims gather for divine worship in the simplest possible manner and Islamic religious services are free from all artistic and emotional distractions.

There is no music or singing, no temples dances, no priestly vestments, no burning of candles and no attempt to create an emotional atmosphere by the aid of organs or incense. The light inside a mosque is not dimmed artificially to create an atmosphere of awe and no images of saints divert the attention of worshippers from God. At the appointed hour the worshippers collect in the mosque and range themselves in rows to indicate that, having concluded their individual worship in their homes or in the mosque, they are now ready to offer collective worship to God.

Mosques are used not solely for the purposes of congregational and individual worship but for all kinds of religious and intellectual pursuits. They serve as schools and for the celebration of marriages, as courts of law and places of meeting where plans are settled for the social and economic progress of the community.

-- Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad (ra), The English Commentary on the Holy Quran, Vol. 1, pp. ccxiv. – ccxvi.



# The importance of mosques

**M**asjid is an Arabic word, which means a place where prostration is done before Allah Ta'ala (God Almighty) for His worship. The word Masjid (mosque) has been used many times in the holy Qur'an to convey these meanings.

A Mosque plays a pivotal role in Islam. It serves as a center for worship and the remembrance of Allah and is a center for learning and training for practical living. It is indeed an institution for the development of religious, spiritual and moral qualities of Muslims and provides knowledge and guidance for the welfare and betterment.

A mosque very effectively facilitates and promotes equality, kindness towards one another and brotherly love. It creates discipline and serves as a vehicle to end disorder and disorganization among Muslims. It is a sacred and blessed place where there is no distinction between the rich and the poor, a king or a beggar. And every Mosque that is built for the worship and remembrance of God Almighty becomes instrumental in the promotion of higher moral qualities among Muslims.

Any person who takes part in the construction and maintenance of a Mosque built to promote goodness and welfare of Muslims is given the following good news from the Holy Prophet: 'One who builds or participates in building Allah's House (a Mosque) in this world seeking only His pleasure, Allah builds a house for him in paradise.'

A Mosque is an effective means for the propagation and progress of Islam. Experience tells us that non-Muslims are deeply impressed when they see our Mosques and observe the manner of our worship in them. Syed Ammer Ali, a well known Muslim scholar referring to an English historian in his book, *Tanqeedul Islam* (Criticism of Islam) writes: "It is one of the superiorities of Islam that Muslims can worship any place on this Earth." (So whichever way you turn, there will be the face of Allah. (Al-Baqarah, 2:116).

Any place becomes sacred and can be considered a Mosque where you worship Allah. Whether at home or on a journey, a Muslim will pour his heart out before his Creator through simple but exciting expression when the prayer time approaches. His heart is satisfied in the short prayer service and whatever he recites during prayer expresses the Glory, the Mercy and the Blessings of Allah and his humility and dependence upon Him. A Christian cannot even imagine the pleasure of worship enjoyed in Islamic prayer.'

(Faslul Khitab, 2nd Ed., Part 2, page 117)

*Maulana Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad*



# History of Baetul Jamaay

*Compiled by Ashfaq Ahmad, Project Manager*

■February 1984: A five-acre parcel of land in Glen Ellyn, Illinois was purchased. A 90-year-old single family home was used by the Jama'at until construction began on the new mosque.



■1988: With the support and encouragement of the Late M. M. Ahmad Sahib, Amir Jama'at USA, President Falahuddin Shams Sahib and Property Secretary Ashfaq Ahmad started the process of getting the footwork done to build a mosque on the above parcel of land. Robert Gildo, attorney-at-law, was hired to represent the Jama'at in zoning matters pertaining to the mosque construction.

■1989: In order to submit our application for a zoning change, surveys were prepared, title documents obtained, site plans developed, along with building drawings, etc. These plans were submitted to the County at the end of the year to obtain the proper zoning for construction of a mosque.

■1990: A public hearing was scheduled by the County of Dupage. According to country officials more than 400 persons made telephone calls, sent faxes, and letters expressing their concern and opposition to the mosque project. The decision was made to withdraw the zoning permit request one day before the hearing because of heated opposition.

■1991-1992: Mosque plans were revised based on comments from area residents, concerned citizens and County officials.

■1993: The Jama'at devised a plan to involve area residents in an information session as part of its planning cycle. Residents living in the area of the planned mosque were invited to an informational breakfast meeting pertaining to the proposed mosque plans. In attendance there were more than

40 residents including the City of Glen Ellyn Planning and Development officials. The project engineer, James Zografoos, presented an overview of the project.

The residents were given assurances that their feedback would be incorporated into the mosque plans.

As a result of the meeting, the Jama'at obtained invaluable feedback and suggestions to improve the project. Over the course of the next few months, further changes were made to the plans based on the feedback obtained from the neighbors. The entrances and some building details were modified, landscaping enhanced, and privacy for the neighbors increased.

■November, 1993: The DuPage County Zoning Board of Appeals held a second public hearing on the mosque project. Engineer and Attorney, Falahuddin Shams Sahib, and Ashfaq Ahmad Sahib represented the Jama'at. In complete opposition to the first public hearing, there was not one objector to the proposed mosque project. The Pastor from St. Thomas Methodist Church, located directly across the street from the mosque site, was highly in favor of the project.

■1994: Dupage County Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend the granting of a zoning variance in a residential area for the construction of a mosque.

■1995: M. M. Ahmad Sahib, Ameer of the US Jama'at, who had been supportive of the mosque project from the beginning, informed the Jama'at



# Love For All, Hatred For None

that construction of the Glen Ellyn Mosque would be put on hold due to limited funds. As a result, Chicago Jama'at applied for and was granted a zoning extension for the mosque project.

■1995-1996: Meetings and discussions were held with the architect and engineers to develop the conceptual design into a detailed design. After a thorough review, the completed design plans were approved by the Chicago Majlis-e-Amila.

In April, the plans were forwarded to the Ameer for approval and a formal presentation was made to the National Mosque Committee. There was discussion and questions were answered to the satisfaction of all concerned. The Ameer gave his complete approval to proceed with the proposed plans.

The plans were then submitted to Khalifatul-Masih IV, in London, for his review, comments, and approval. Abdul Rashid Sahib, an architect in London, was appointed by Hazoor to review the plans. After many long-distance discussions and faxes, concerns with the plans were resolved, as advised by Hazoor. A formal approval was received from Ameer Sahib on July 3, 1996.

■1996-1997: Our engineers and architects developed detailed construction, electrical, plumbing, structural and site plans for the mosque. Upon completion, bids were obtained from approximately 10 contractors.

■June 17, 1997: By the Grace of God, the Ahmadiyya Movement, Chicago Chapter, held its foundation laying ceremony for the Glen Ellyn Mosque. Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih the IV, ra, who blessed us with his presence, presided over the ceremony. It was a historic occasion. The bricks used by Hazoor were collected from the original mosque purchased in 1922 by Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, first missionary to the USA.

All members, young and old were present, including Ahmadi Muslims from Detroit, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Zion, and St. Paul. The Honorable Beverly Fawell, State Senator for Glen Ellyn, was the guest speaker. Other notables included Honorable Thomas J. Walsh, State Senator, 22nd

District of DuPage County. Following the speeches, Hazoor laid the foundation stone of the mosque, and led a collective silent prayer.

Hazoor presided over a mosque committee meeting in which the project architect, Mr. Scarlatis, briefed him on the design and plans. Hazoor provided specific instructions, which were later incorporated into the plans.

■1997-1998: The plans were revised, based on instructions from Hazoor. They were further simplified, and the building down-sized from 36,000 to a 21,000 square foot building. Based on the revised plans, ten contractors were invited to place bids. Eight contractors submitted bids, which were reviewed and analyzed. Recommendations were made to accept the bid from Buildco, Inc.

■August 1998: Upon approval of headquarters, a contract to construct the mosque with Buildco Inc. was signed.

■November 20, 2000: After four revisions, and many months of work with DuPage County and the Illinois Department of Transportation, the building and site plans were approved for permit issuance.

■January 18, 2001: Building permits were issued by DuPage County Building Department.

■March 11, 2001: Due to excessive additional costs, a new construction contract was signed and executed with AKMA Construction Company and All Chicago, Inc. (a joint venture) to construct the building at a cost of \$2,400,000.

■March 23, 2001: Construction began and Hazoor named the new mosque "Al Masjid Baetul Jaamay."

■February 27, 2004: The mosque was completed, and a full certificate of occupancy was received.

■April 25, 2004: A formal inauguration ceremony of Al Masjid Baetul Jamaay took place. The inauguration was presided over by Dr. Ihsanullah Zaffar Sahib, Ameer, Jama'at USA, and attended by members of the National Majlis-e-Amila, Presidents of all Jama'ats, dignitaries, members of Chicago and other Jama'ats.



# Al-Masjid Baet-ul-Jaamay



*"I hope that Baetul Jaamay becomes a source of peace and tranquility, not just for its neighbors but for the entire Chicagoland area. Inshallah."*

Falahud Din Shams  
President Chicago Jama'at  
April 25, 2004

## **National Headquarters: Masjid Bait-ur-Rahman**

15000 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905  
Ph: 301.879.0110

## **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Chicago**

### **Sadiq Mosque**

4448 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60653  
Ph: 773.268.8281

2134-36 N. Van Buran Ave., Chicago, IL 60612  
Ph: 312.226.0500

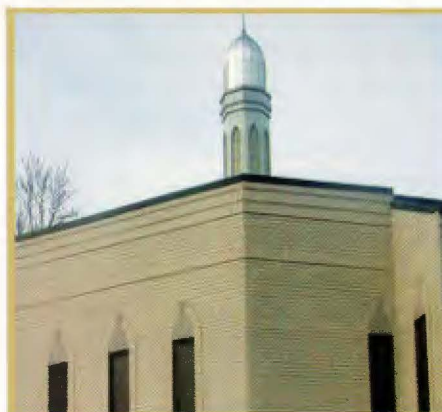
### **Masjid Baetul Jaamay**

2S 510 Rte. 53, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Ph: 630.790.4100

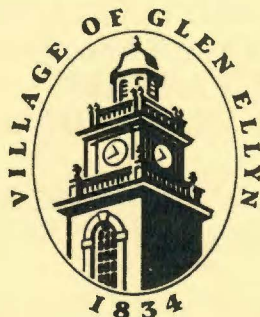
### **Zion Mission House**

2103 Gabriel Ave., Zion, IL 60099  
Ph: 847.746.5585

**For information on Islam: [www.AIslam.org](http://www.AIslam.org)**







## VILLAGE OF GLEN ELLYN *Proclamation*

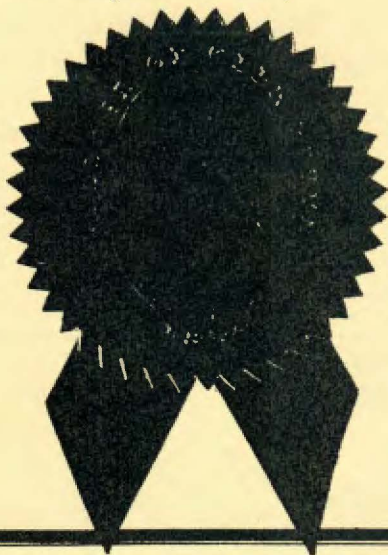
WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was established in 1889 by Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in a small Village, Qadian, in India; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, over the past 115 years, has grown to an estimated 2 million members, with branches in 174 countries around the world; and

WHEREAS, the movement is based on the essence of Islam – peace, universal brotherhood, and submission to the will of God – with the objective to rejuvenate Islamic moral and spiritual values worldwide, advocating tolerance, love, and understanding among followers of different faiths; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, April 25, 2004, the Chicagoland Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will gather in an interfaith celebration to inaugurate the Baetul Jaamay Mosque, to be performed by Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, Ameer of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREGORY S. MATHEWS, PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE OF GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS, on behalf of the Glen Ellyn Village Board and the residents of this community, hereby congratulate the members of the Chicagoland Ahmadiyya Muslim Community on the inauguration of their new house of worship and thank the Community for the honor of locating this beautiful mosque in Glen Ellyn.



*Gregory S. Mathews*  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

attest:

*Catherine O'Connell*  
VILLAGE CLERK

*April 25, 2004*  
DATE



# **PROCLAMATION**

## **CONGRATULATING MR. FALAHUDDIN SHAMS PRESIDENT OF AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT IN ISLAM CHICAGO**

**WHEREAS**, the Chicagoland Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will formally inaugurate its new mosque at an interfaith celebration on Sunday, April 25, 2004 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar, head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, will perform the inauguration; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadi Muslim, the first mission in the United States of America, was established in early 1920 in Chicago, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is a religious organization, international in scope, with established branches in 173 countries around the world in all four continents; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam membership, at present, is reaching 200 million worldwide, and the numbers are increasing day by day; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam was created under divine guidance with the objective to rejuvenate Islamic moral and spiritual values; and

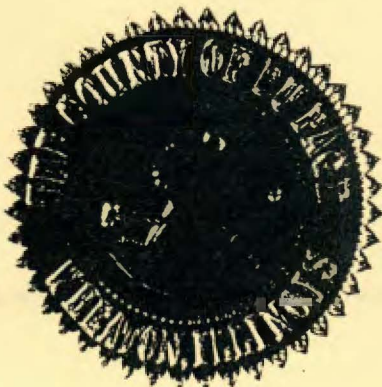
**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam encourages interfaith dialogue and tries to correct misunderstanding about Islam; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam firmly believes in and acts upon the Qur'anic teaching: "There is no compulsion in religion" and strongly rejects violence and terrorism in any form and for any reason; and

**WHEREAS**, Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, within a century, has reached the corners of the earth, serving humanity through social projects, educational institution and health services.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert J. Schillerstrom, Chairman of the DuPage County Board and Members of the County Board hereby congratulate Mr. Falahuddin Shams, President of Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam Chicago, on the inauguration of the Chicagoland Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's new mosque on April 25, 2004 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois and join them in their celebration of faith, diversity and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's values of peace and universal brotherhood.

Proclaimed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 2004 at Wheaton, Illinois.



Robert J. Schillerstrom, Chairman  
DuPage County Board

ATTEST:

Gary A. King, County Clerk





*In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful*

محبت سب کے لئے، نفرت کوئی کے لئے  
LOVE FOR ALL, HATRED FOR NONE

میں تیری تبلیغ کو زمین کے کناروں تک پہنچاؤں گا  
I SHALL CARRY YOUR MESSAGE TO THE CORNERS OF THE EARTH

# Inauguration of Al-Masjid Baetul Jaamay

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
3 PM

## Recitation of the Holy Qur'an

Arabic Recitation:  
English Translation:

Hafiz Mubarak Kukoyi  
Tayyab Rashid

## Urdu Poem

Recitation:  
Translation:

Munawar Arain  
Dr. Ahsan Khan

## Program

Message from the Supreme Head of Ahmadiyya Community  
(Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (atba)):

Hasan Hakeem

Welcome:

Falahuddin Shams  
(President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Chicago)

Comments:

Rev. Diana Facemeyer  
(Pastor, St. Thomas Methodist Church)

Proclamations from Glen Ellyn Village & DuPage County:

Daud Chaudhry

History of Mosque Construction:

Ashfaq Ahmad

Concluding Address:

Dr. Ahsanullah Zafar  
(Ameer Jama'at USA)