

Jalsa Salana Guatemala 2011

December 2 - 4 2011

Final Report

THURSDAY DECEMBER 1

Meeting with Former President of Guatemala:

Amir Guatemala Abdul Sattar Khan, Naib Amir USA Imam Daud Hanif and Brother David Gonzalez, met with former president of Guatemala (now currently serving his 3rd term as Mayor of Guatemala's capital, Guatemala City) Mr. Alvaro Arzú. Imam Daud Hanif spoke to the mayor about the Jamaat's goals, the nature of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and Humanity First's humanitarian relief efforts in Guatemala. Imam Sahib also presented Mayor Arzú with a copy of the Holy Quran and the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam. Imam Sahib thanked the mayor for his years of service to Guatemala and his great strides made to ensure peace and security for the nation. Mayor Alvaro Arzu appreciated the gift of the Holy Book of Islam and promised cooperation and support for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Guatemala.

National & International Guests:

Jalsa guests began arriving Monday, November 28th and remained through the week of Jalsa till Thursday, December 8th. From within the country, the following cities were represented: Puerto San Jose, Antigua, Mixco, Guatemala City, Xela and Huehuetenango. And international guests visited from Panama and the United States (Imam Daud Hanif of New York City, Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry, Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif and wife Naima Latif, Alhaj Jamil Choudhry, Aliya Amatul Latif – all of Central New Jersey, Amatul Rashid Jude, from Atlanta Georgia Jamaat, and Fazal Qureshi and wife Roohul Rehman of Orlando Florida Jamaat). In preparation for Jalsa weekend, formal Jalsa Guatemala invitation letters and cards were created and distributed to friends, family and international Jamaat members.

Press Conference:

On Thursday December 1, a press conference was held at the Holiday Inn, in downtown Guatemala City.

Jalsa Press Coverage:

<http://www.elperiodico.com.gt/es/20111205/pais/204585/>

Ahmadiyya, a peaceful wing of Islam, attracts Guatemalans

The mosque Baitul Awal welcomes believers of all religions who seek a pure encounter with God.

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[Enlarge Image](#)

Photo: elPeriódico

The same Imam Abdul Sattar Khan, president and spiritual leader of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community ("The most praise") of Guatemala recognizes that today Islam is associated unequivocally end terrorism policy immersed in Middle Eastern countries. But the work of millions of followers of the Prophet Muhammad (Mohammed) in Ahmadiyya, worldwide, tries to erase this stain.

In 1989, said Alberto Gonzalez, secretary general of the organization, began the movement in the country, which had emerged 100 years ago in India. "The aim was to restore the purity of religion and the true message of the Prophet which is peace and not hatred," he said. To date, the community has about 100 believers, all except the Imam Guatemalans, a native of Rabwah, Pakistan, who was a missionary in Spain before coming to Guatemala.

Some have adopted the Muslim religion, others, like Peña Montes family, residents of Zone 5, keep the Catholic faith, but regularly attend the mosque. "Here all are welcome, and as it is written in the Koran, there must be no compulsion in religion," said Gonzalez.

The community has mosques in Huehuetenango, Quetzaltenango, Escuintla and Sacatepéquez, Guatemala and has spread to El Salvador, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Chile and the Caribbean. "It was a good experience, Guatemalans are more open, friendly and able to take a place of worship for all," said the imam.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2

JALSA DAY 1

Congregational Tahajjud and Fajr prayers followed by Dars ul Quran were lead by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan.

The morning session began with Friday Sermon delivered in English by Imam Daud Hanif on the topic of the Appearance of the Promised Messiah (as), followed by the Spanish translation by Brother David Gonzalez. After Prayer and Lunch, Jalsa began with the Flag Hoisting Ceremony. Guatemala's flag was raised by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan and the flag of Ahmadiyyat, by Imam Daud Hanif.

Following this ceremony, the program opened with recitation of Holy Quran, 2:256, by Faiz Ahmed with English and Spanish translations by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif and Andres Gonzalez respectively. Alhaj Jamil Chaudhry recited a poem of the Promised Messiah (as). Next, Brother David Gonzalez welcomed guests to Jalsa 2011 with the following words:

Welcome Address by David Gonzalez (with English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif):

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Assalamu Aleikom rahmatullah wa barakata hu!

Dear brothers and sisters. We welcome you to Guatemala and our annual Jalsa Salana 2011!

It is an honor to be in your presence today. Our Jalsa Salana is small in numbers, but unlimited in blessings, since we are among the first determined seeds of a community that has begun to bloom. Just as the early Jalsas in Qadian or London were modest in numbers, we can see how, with Allah's blessings, these countries celebrate their Jalsas today with thousands of participants. May Allah make it so here in Guatemala.

And while it is a time to share and meet with local and foreign brothers and sisters, we must remember God much these days and ask that He, through his infinite Grace, grant us the strength and patience to change our lives and grow in spirituality.

My dear brothers and sisters, I ask that we unite in prayer during these blessed days of Jalsa, so that our Jamaát in Guatemala and around the world continues to increase each year, Insha Allah. We welcome you all as family and may the peace of God be with you.

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V's message to Jalsa Guatemala:

A message was received from Tabshir office in London with the following message from Huzur that was read out in English by Imam Daud Hanif and translated into Spanish by Brother David Gonzalez. This marked the opening of Jalsa Salana Guatemala 2011. Complete text of address is below:

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

Dear Members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaát, Guatemala
Assalamo Alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuhu!

I am very pleased that you are holding your Annual Jalsa Salana on 2nd, 3rd and 4th December 2011. May Allah bless your Jalsa with great success and may all of you receive great blessings from this unique spiritual gathering.

Remember, this is not an ordinary convention. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), has stated:

'The major aim of the Gathering is that the sincere members of the Jama'at should be able to derive religious benefits and at the same time they should acquire more knowledge and advance in their relationship with Allah. One advantage is that by meeting various friends, the circle of brotherhood will broaden and it will strengthen their mutual ties.' (Asmani Faisla)

During the period of the Jalsa, you should not indulge in idle talk, but you should remain engrossed constantly in prayer and *Istighfar*. You should listen attentively to the various speeches by members and scholars of the Jamaát, increase your knowledge and strengthen your faith and understanding of the teachings of Islam.

This Community that Allah initiated through the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) has been given the distinction that it was joined to the early Muslims. This is not an ordinary distinction or indeed an ordinary Community. Hundreds of thousands of pious-natured people departed this world in the hope of finding this era. Each one of us who associates himself or herself to the Ahmadiyya Community should reflect over these matters. The Companions of the Holy Prophet (*peace and blessings of Allah be on him*) took his Bai'at and by virtue of his moral training they forged a connection with Allah of such magnitude that Allah stated in the Qur'an:

'And of men there is he who would sell himself to seek the pleasure of Allah; (Ch.2:v208).

Allah keeps a most benevolent eye on His servants and is exceptionally Compassionate to those who are every ready to put His commandments in practice. People who abide by His commandments endeavour to emulate Divine attributes at the human level - and they are kind and gentle to Allah's creation. Such are the teachings of true Islam; they link man with Allah and then guide man towards the service of mankind. This is the path that the Companions (*may Allah be pleased with them*) followed and this is what the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) came to teach us.

Counselling his Community, the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) wrote:

'O my Jama'at, may Allah Almighty be with you. May that Mighty Benefactor prepare you for the journey to the hereafter as the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) remained prepared. Bear in mind that this world is nothing. Cursed is the life which is only for this world and unfortunate is the person all whose grief and sorrow is for the world. If there is such a one in my Jama'at, it is in vain that he considers himself to be in my Jama'at, for he is like a dry branch that will not bear fruit. (Tadhkirat-ush-Shahadatain, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 20, p.63 – Essence of Islam, Vol. IV, pp. 277 – 278)

In this regard, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has emphasised:

'The purpose of their joining the Movement and establishing with me a relationship like that of a disciple is that they should achieve a high degree of piety and righteousness. No wrongdoing or mischief should ever come near them. They should offer the five daily Prayers regularly and with congregation, and should not lie nor hurt anyone by their tongues. They should not be guilty of any kind of vice and should not let even a thought of mischief, wrongdoing or transgression pass through their minds. They should shun every type of sin, offence, undesirable speech and action, as well as all egoistic passions and unruly behaviour. They should become

pure-hearted, harmless and meek servants of Allah Almighty, and no poisonous germ should flourish in their beings. [Essence of Islam, Vol. IV, pp. 349 – 250]

This is the noble call of the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) – but unfortunately, despite his virtuous teachings, the members of his Jama'at are facing more and more opposition and enmity and threats and violence from the fanatical elements in some countries.

We should not be disheartened because we are already aware of the history of all prophets, which shows that difficulties and troubles were inflicted on them and their followers, so much so that the Holy Prophet of Islam (*peace and blessings of Allah be upon him*), the beloved Prophet of Allah Almighty, for whom the entire universe was created, along with his followers, also passed through such trials and tribulations. So whenever the Jama'at Ahmadiyya goes through such a phase of intense persecution, we should draw inspiration for steadfastness and devotion from the life of the prophets and especially that of the Holy Prophet (*peace and blessings of Allah be upon him*).

We should also have firm faith in that that these periods of extreme difficulty will lay the foundations of forthcoming victories. Such periods of difficulty also provide us with the opportunity to gain further nearness to Allah Almighty, by offering supplication and lamentations before our Lord and to continue to strengthen our bond with The Divine.

Our reliance is solely on Allah to come to the aid of the persecuted members of the Jama'at and it is for this reason that I have directed you to offer two daily *Nawaffil* prayers and also to keep fast for one day in the week. I draw your attention again for the need of extraordinary prayers beseeching Allah's Protection and Help. The fervour and intensity of your supplications should be such that they tear through the heavens and shake the threshold of the door of Allah.

I also advise you to remain attached and loyal to the blessed institution of Khilafat. Today, the task of revival of Islam can only be performed by adhering to the system of Khilafat. Therefore, you should always endeavour to uphold this noble institution and ensure that your future generations always remain within the blessed guidance and protection of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. May Allah enable you to do so.

May these heartfelt prayers of the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) be with you all. May Allah bless your Jalsa Salana with every success and may all of you be infused with a new spirit of faith and *Taqwa* to enable you to go forth and serve the Jama'at and the cause of Islam and humanity, with renewed energy and fervour. May Allah bless you all.

Yours sincerely

Mirza Masroor Ahmad
KHALIFAT UL MASIH V

The Example of a True Ahmadi by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan (with English translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif):

After Huzur's message to Jalsa Guatemala was read and translated, Amir Guatemala detailed the characteristics of an Ahmadi Muslim. Mainly, obedience to the Holy Quran, the Holy Prophet (saw), and Khilafat. He stressed, an Ahmadi must exhibit a strong connection to prayer and a deep seeded love for Allah, a trustworthy and honorable character and a charitable and giving nature, willing to make sacrifices in the way of Allah. In their homes, Ahmadi Muslims treat spouses and family with respect and compassion. He ended his address with a prayer that Allah establish the supremacy of Islam throughout the world and draw the hearts of humanity to the worship of One God.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3

Jalsa Day 2

Congregational Tahajjud and Fajr prayer was held with Dars ul Quran lead by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan.

The morning session opened with recitation of the Holy Quran (16:126-129) by Alhaj Jamil Choudhry with Spanish and English translations by Andrés Gonzalez and Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif.

Conditions of Bai'at by Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry (with Spanish translation by Mario Gonzalez):

The first speech of the morning was delivered by Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry, of Central New Jersey Jamaat, who detailed the importance of each bai'at condition and the need for each Ahmadi to look seriously at applying these conditions to their everyday lives.

The Truth of the Promised Messiah (as) By David Gonzalez (with English translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif):

David Gonzalez highlighted the many proofs of the veracity of the Promised Messiah (as), debunked false claimants, and explained the need for an in-depth study of his works and life so each Ahmadi can be firm in his/her faith and spread the message of Ahmadiyyat effectively.

Q&A session:

A lively question and answer session was held in Spanish and English with questions ranging from purdah and women in Islam to Ramadan, the significance of Wudu and certain Salat postures, and the meaning of Ahmadiyyat.

Saturday's Afternoon Session:

After Prayer and Lunch, the Afternoon Session began with Holy Quran recitation by Faiz Ahmad with Spanish and English translations by Tifl Jorge and Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif, respectively.

The Need for Khilafat by Imam Daud Hanif (English with Spanish translation by Mario Gonzalez):

For the first speech of the afternoon, Imam Daud Hanif explained the need and importance of Khilafat according to the prophecies of the Holy prophet Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and how through this divine institution mankind can find peace.

Spending in the Way of Allah by David Gonzalez (with English translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif):

Next, David Gonzalez highlighted the importance of spending in the way of Allah and the financial system Ahmadiyyat has laid out. He detailed the various departments and schemes, and the integrity and character of people working in this capacity. He juxtaposed the Jamaat financial system with plighted systems that lack Divine support

and oversight and ended by encouraging Guatemala to participate in system of chanda and other Jamaát schemes to reap the many blessings Allah has promised.

Lajna Handicraft Activity:

Sister Roohul Rehman from Orlando Florida Jamaát, conducted a handicraft activity with local Lajna members during free time on Saturday. Sisters cut and made circular scarves out of pre-existing scarves or fabric they brought from home. In addition, Amir Guatemala gave gifts of scarves to all local Guatemala Lajna members.

Bai'at Ceremony:

On Saturday Dec 3rd, new member, Sister Alma Rodenas, signed bai'at and Imam Daud Hanif, Amir Abdul Sattar and David Gonzalez officiated the ceremony. Sister Alma has been attending Baitul Awal mosque every juma since her first visit to the mosque during this past Ramadan. She was introduced to Ahmadiyyat by another active new convert Alejandra Giron, and had been drawn to Islam years earlier by the beauty of the Adhan/Call to Prayer. Alma has been active in inviting her friends and family to hear the message of Islam and usually is accompanied by her two nieces. Lajna president Marta Maria Gonzalez and other sisters warmly welcomed her to the community and the ceremony was accompanied by many tears and duas.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

Jalsa Day 3

Congregational Tahajjud and Fajr prayers were offered, followed by Dars ul Quran lead by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan.

The last session of Jalsa opened Sunday morning with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Brother Fazal Qureshi with Spanish and English translations by Tifl Yusuf and Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif, respectively. Alhaj Jamil Choudhry recited a beautiful poem of the Promised Messiah and Brother David Gonzalez gave another welcome address. Next, Amir Guatemala gave a talk about the Life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw).

The Life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad by Amir Abdul Sattar Khan (English by Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry):

Amir Sahib highlighted the peaceful compassionate nature of the Holy Prophet throughout his life, before Islam and afterwards. He related various accounts of his propensity to overlook great injustices and wrongs and instead choose mercy and forgiveness. From attempted murder plots, to wars, to persecution and boycotts his gentle and loving nature overshadowed the most negative circumstances.

Women in Islam by Mario Gonzalez (English Summary by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif): Brother Mario Gonzalez spoke about the status of women historically, and how up until today, many women are still are no enjoying equal rights. He highlighted the Islamic teachings about the many roles women play and their spiritual equality, along with the rights and status of dignity and respect awarded them by Islam. He condemned the abusive and subjugating practices of some Muslim nations towards their women as hypocrisy and a disregard for the true teachings of Islam.

Summary of Sunday's Humanity First Updates:

Humanity First Guatemala was introduced to Sunday's attendees by David Gonzalez, Executive Director of HF Guatemala, with translation read by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif. Updates include:

- 2nd successful year of eye surgery clinics in Chichicastenango and San Juan Sacatepéquez. The most recent eye camp was expanded to include not only cataract surgeries but also an Optometry clinic with free eye exams and eye glasses.
- Since 2010, Humanity First Guatemala has built close 100 rural water wells in Masagua. Each water well is hand dug by hired local villagers. In this way, Humanity First is able to invest in the local community it is serving and promote self-sufficiency.
- This month, Humanity First Guatemala will establish a certified, Ministry of Education approved, computer technology lab in San Juan Sacatepéquez. They will award more than 500, full-tuition, scholarships for students, and offer 19 courses which include basics such as Microsoft Office and advanced courses such as C++. HF Guatemala looks to open doors to students this February - God willing.

In the upcoming year, Humanity First Guatemala plans to expand the scope of medical services and include dental and general surgery clinics.

Final Jalsa Address by Imam Daud Hanif (with Spanish translation by Mario Gonzalez):

Imam Daud Hanif explained in detail, the essential principals for the establishment of world peace. He said God has provided complete guidance through His prophets and finally through the Holy Quran to achieve this goal. In the latter days God has sent The Promised Messiah and Imam Mahdi for the re-establishment of peace in this very disturbed world. Mankind has severed its relation with the Creator and this is the main cause of all the troubles and problems its remedy is that they should return back to Him and establish their relation with Him. For this purpose God has sent him to show the way. Follow this path you will have permanent peace. Those who heeded his message and became his followers achieved peace. This message of peace is being conveyed the world over and will succeed in due course. He also warned that if mankind did not return to God then they are heading towards great destruction. In conclusion Imam quoted from the present supreme head of our community Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmed Khalifatul Messiah V, (May Allah strengthen him). “Those countries who want to be the standard-bearers of peace should sit down together and work how the world can be saved from destruction. When thinking of that, they should remember their Creator and then think for the betterment of His creation. But remember that the path which the world has chosen today, the effect of instability will not be confined to just one country but will spread all over the world. It is quite possible that we will witness many examples like Hiroshima and Nagasaki even worse.”

Q&A Session:

Another spirited Question and Answer session was held immediately after the concluding session. One interesting question pertained to the rights of women particularly relating to abuse and coercion. Along with mentioning this was totally against Islam, a local Guatemalan Ahmadi attorney also added that similar laws restricting women’s rights have existed in Guatemala until recently, to highlight the point that it is not Islam but culture that oppresses women.

During this session, two non-Muslim guests thanked Jamaát Guatemala for sharing this

message of Ahmadiyya and Peace. A Mayan tribal leader, attended along with a delegation from members of his community, made mention of the similarities that exist between Islam and his faith. He also thanked Jamaát Guatemala for inviting them and for advocating for peace.

Closing:

The Jalsa concluded with a Final Dua/Prayer for Peace lead by Imam Daud Hanif and an open air lunch on the mosque grounds.

Comments:

A cross section of society attended the final day of Jalsa, including judges, attorneys, teachers, business professionals, and the general public. Jamaát Guatemala circulated a guest book for written feedback and comments. Guests wrote about the hospitality, the beauty of the mosque, the humble and welcoming Jamaát members and the inspirational speeches and discussions. A few comments are included below:

“When we entered the mosque Baitul Awal, I felt as if I had entered Alhambra in Spain.”

“The members of Jamaát Guatemala are being trained both for service to mankind and the Creator. During Jalsa I observed men, women, youth, and children busy in the service of guests day and night.”

“...the program was very punctual and...I enjoyed each and every moment, with appealing speeches from Amir sahib and Daud Hanif sahib.”

One American guest remarked that aside from Jalsas in Rabwah and Qadian, they have never seen such exemplary hospitality and service as here in Guatemala.

A local Guatemalan family wrote (in Spanish) that they enjoyed the Islamic message of peace. The whole world is waiting for peace and it’s possible for everyone if they accept the teachings of spiritual peace. The world deserves a better future and the answer is Islam.

Tour of Antigua:

After the final Jalsa lunch, local Jamaát new member Alejandra Giron arranged two private minibuses to take Jalsa guests on a tour of nearby charming Antigua (the old capital of Guatemala). May Allah reward her generosity.

Complete Jalsa Program below:

23rd JALSA SALANA 2011



Mezquita Baitul Awal, Guatemala

FRIDAY, 02 of December 2011

01:00 - 02:00	Friday Sermon, Jumah, Asr
02:00 - 03:00	Lunch
03:30 - 03:40	Flag Hoisting Ceremony Flag of Guatemala raised by Imam Abdul Sattar Khan, Amir Guatemala and Flag of Ahmadiyyat raised by Imam Daud Hanif, representative of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih V
03:40 - 03:45	Recitation of the Holy Quran by Faiz Ahmad, Spanish Translation by Andrés González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif Poem by Alhaj Jamil Chaudhry
03:45 - 05:30	Welcome Address by David González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
	Inaugural Address / Message from Khalifatul Masih V, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, read by Imam Daud Hanif representative of Khalifatul Masih V, Spanish translation by Mario González
	The Example of a True Ahmadi Muslim, by Imam Abdul Sattar Khan, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
05:30 - 06:20	Adhan, Maghrib, Isha
07:00 -	Dinner and Free Time

SATURDAY, 03 of December 2011

4:30 - 5:30	Tahajud, Adhan, Fajr and Dars ul Quran
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast
09:30 - 09:45	Recitation of the Holy Quran by Faiz Ahmad, Spanish Translation by Andrés González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif Poem of the Promised Messiah by Alhaj Jamil Choudhry
09:45 - 10:15	Conditions of Bai'at by Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry, Spanish Translation by Mario González
10:15 - 10:45	The Truth of the Promised Messiah (as) by David González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
10:45 - 11:00	Refreshments
11:00 - 12:30	Question and Answer Session moderated by David González
12:30 - 02:00	Adhan, Duhr, Asr
02:00 - 03:00	Lunch
03:00 - 03:15	Recitation of the Holy Quran by Faiz Ahmad, Spanish Translation by Andrés González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
03:15 - 03:45	The Need for Khilafat by Imam Daud Hanif, Spanish Translation by Mario González
03:45 - 04:15	Spending in the Way of Allah by David González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
04:30 - 05: 00	Refreshments
05:30 - 06:20	Adhan, Maghrib, Isha
07:00 - 08:00	Dinner and Free Time

SUNDAY, 04 of December 2011

4:30 - 5:30	Tahajud, Adhan, Fajr and Dars ul Quran
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast
09:30 - 09:45	Recitation of the Holy Quran by Fazal Qureshi, Spanish Translation by Yusuf, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif Poem of Promised Messiah (as) by Alhaj Jamil Choudhry
09:45 - 10:35	Welcome and Brief Introduction to Islam by David González
10:35 - 11:10	The Life of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) by Imam Abdul Sattar Khan, English Translation by Dr. Imtiaz Chaudhry
11:10 - 11:50	Women in Islam by Mario González, English Translation by Alhaj Jalaluddin Latif
11:50 - 12:30	Humanity First Guatemala by Executive Director David González
12:30 - 01:10	Final Address by Imam Daud Hanif, Spanish Translation by Mario González
01:10 - 01:40	Question and Answer Session moderated by David González
01:40 - 01:50	Prayer for Peace by Imam Daud Hanif, Spanish Translation by Imam Abdul Sattar Khan
01:50 - 02:00	Lunch

MONDAY DECEMBER 5

Meeting with Governor:

On Monday, December 5th, Amir Guatemala Abdul Sattar Khan and Naib Amir USA Imam Daud Hanif along with Brother David Gonzalez attended a meeting with Mr. Marvin Francisco Barrios de Leon - Governor of Sacatepéquez. Imam Daud Hanif presented the governor with a Holy Quran and the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam in Spanish and expressed willingness of Guatemala Jamaát to offer its services cooperation to the authorities whenever the need arises. The Governor was very pleased to receive the Holy Quran and he too reiterated his government's support for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Jalsa Guatemala Translation Team:

This year, live translations were not given. David Gonzalez, Mario Gonzalez, and Aliya Latif translated speeches in advance and in writing to be read out by translators.

Jalsa Site Preparations:

The mosque and surrounding property was repainted, and the clinic updated in preparation for Jalsa guest housing. Clinic bathrooms were renovated and showers installed where they were lacking and the mosque signage was also updated. Local Jamaát members worked diligently to ready the mosque site for Jalsa.

Ziafat Team:

Lajna President Marta Maria Gonzalez along with a small staff of helpers prepared all the meals, and organized all the refreshments for the entire Jalsa weekend, May Allah reward them all abundantly.

Jalsa Transportation and Hospitality:

Jalsa transportation team members Luis Boche and David Gonzalez transported /arranged airport pick up and drop off for all guests and helped coordinate in country travel. All members of Jamaát Guatemala worked tirelessly to provide an extremely high level of hospitality and care to the guests of the Promised Messiah. In addition, Sadr MKA Faiz Ahmad and local khadim deserve mention for their diligent work leading up to and throughout, Jalsa weekend.

Prayers are requested for Jamaát Guatemala and all those involved in the preparation, planning and execution of this blessed event.

Wasalam and Requesting prayers,

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