

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Ever Merciful

JALSA SALANA USA



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America

63rd JALSA SALANA USA

will be held on
July 01, 02, & 03, 2011
at

**PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (Insha'Allah)**
2301 N. Cameron ST, Harrisburg, PA 17110
<http://www.pafarmshowcomplex.com/>

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JALSA SIGNIFICANCE - In the words of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him)

“It is essential that those who are able to afford to travel should attend the Jalsa which is in so many ways a source of blessings. They should not mind minor losses in the way. God gives ample rewards to sincere believers at every step and no hardship or trouble goes to waste (it is definitely rewarded by God). I should like to make it clear that this Jalsa must not be taken like other gatherings. This is a special event that has been based on the succor of God.” (Ishtihar, 7 December 1891)

“The 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 nearness to God. One advantage is that meeting their friends will broaden their circle of brotherhood and it will strengthen the mutual ties.” (Asmani Faisla)

“I pray to God that He may be with those who are coming to attend the Jalsa and that He may grant them great rewards and He may show mercy and His grace. O God! O You who are the Greatest Granter, the Benevolent and Merciful, and the Remover of hardships, do respond to all these prayers of mine and grant us victory over our opponents, with great shining signs, for You have the power to do whatever You like.” (Ishtihar, 7 December 1891)

JALSA INFORMATION

Nazim Information: Awais Butt,

Email: naziminfojalsa@gmail.com , *Phone:* 802-473-1040

JALSA REGISTRATION

<https://member.ahmadiyya.us>

Instructions for USA Ahmadi Muslims

1. Please login to start the registration process.
2. If you do not have your login information, please send an email to jalsausa@jalsasalana.org and provide the following information:
 1. Head of family's first, middle and last name,
 2. Physical Address and Email Address,
 3. Phone number, and
 4. Head of family's member code.

You can register your guests using the registration form.

Please bring your permanent member id card when you come to the Jalsa Gah. This will expedite the member queues at the entrance. If you do not have a member id card, you can request one after you login

JALSA PROGRAM

PROPOSED SPEECHES

FRIDAY OPENING SESSION: [theme – current challenges for Islam & Ahmadiyyat]

1. Welcome Address (Amir sahib)

Brief opening remarks to welcome members/guests and set the tone for the Jalsa

2. The Holy Quran on Trial: Our Verdict

To explain the comparative superiority of the Holy Quran to other scriptures and the supremacy of the Islamic Shariah to other Divine or man-made codes of life in light of recent allegations and attacks, including the incident of burning the Holy Quran in Florida and the attempted banning of Islamic Shariah in Oklahoma. To exhort members to more fully and openly practice Quranic teachings in their daily lives as Huzoor advised in order to show non-Muslims the social and moral order cultivated through the Holy Quran. To discuss the relevance of the Holy Quran as it relates to the complexity of modern life. How can this scripture resolve many of the longstanding problems in American society and enable the nation to reach its fullest potential?

3. Civic Order: the Ideals of Islamic Governance

To address the ongoing social and political unrest in Muslim nations that has led to revolutions, civil disorder, bloodshed and warfare. What is the ideal form of Islamic governance which would enable Muslim nations to avoid such conflicts and clashes? What are the duties of citizens, rulers and governments? Are citizens allowed to protest, and if so, how? What should be the response of rulers and the state to citizen dissent? As Islam is a universal religion, how will these principles apply to all nations on earth, especially Western nations which accept peaceful protests, marches and demonstration as a norm and right? To reaffirm the Jama'at's position that acceptance of the Imam of the Age is the only real solution to the disunity and disorder in Muslim nations.

4. 'Salat – the Ultimate Pillar of Islam'

To emphasize the importance of Salat (Prayer) in the life of a Muslim, and the great benefits which one gains through its practice, alone and in congregation. Muslims gradually lost sight of the spirit of Salat centuries ago, and turned it into a ritual practice, devoid of real life and expectation of Divine communion. The Promised Messiah (as) came to reverse this trend. As a Jama'at, we need to insure that our practice of Salat remains at the highest standard. Huzoor has repeatedly exhorted that prayer is the only solution for the difficulties which the Muslim World and Ahmadiyya Jama'at currently face. He further advised that EVERY Ahmadi should offer two 'nafl' daily to seek Divine Help and Protection for the Jama'at and members worldwide, and for the guidance of the Muslim Ummah and mankind.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION: [theme – contemporary issues for youth]

1. Science vs. God - the Great Debate

To refute the allegation that religion can no longer keep pace with the progress of modern science or answer scientific and philosophic objections against God and religion [see Time magazine article]. To credibly argue that science and God are in harmony, and in fact, that science is not only of God but also a wonderful means to discover His existence and hidden glory in all creation. To combat the potential negative influences of Western education on our youth, as the Promised Messiah warned: "The philosophy and science of this age run counter to spiritual aspirations. The influence they exert is bad to an extreme...The Being and Existence of God are not serious propositions with them. A great many are anti-religious...and born and bred (Muslims) become hostile to religion. College-going young men, even before they

are out of college, say good-bye to their faith and their duties towards the faith.” [see Victory of Islam, p.3] To encourage members, especially youth, to take up the mantle of Dr. Abdus Salam and Prof. Saleh M. Alladin to study and research in order to advance the Islamic view that science and religion are congruous, and that scientific discovery substantiates the existence of God.

2. Maintaining Morality in the Online World

To share the clear instructions and directions of Huzoor concerning how Ahmadis should take precautions in using social media (facebook, chat rooms, twitter, etc) and the internet (emails, websites, search tools, jama'at communication, etc). To explain the risks in failing to observe modesty, chastity and decency in online activities, and in surfing the internet without limits. Although Islam encourages seeking knowledge and supports the development and use of technology in all fields, youth specially are vulnerable to harm owing to innocence and ignorance if they use the internet without proper guidance. To encourage members to use Jama'at based webpages as their personal “start-up” home page and to focus more attention to gain advantages from Jama'at websites and services such as alislam.org, mta.tv, mkausa.org, jama'at Youtube and twitter, etc.

3. Ahmadiyyat – the Right Choice

To explain and present personal experiences in life which reassured him of the truthfulness of the faith (Islam) and sect (Ahmadiyyat) to which he belonged. To address the struggle of Ahmadi youth, particularly those born into the faith as well as converts, who perhaps fail to connect with the jama'at beyond familial, cultural or ritual bonds; or who maybe consider themselves Ahmadis only by birth, not by search or choice; or who possibly never explored or researched the basis of Ahmadiyyat and thereafter re-affirmed and personally recommitted to the faith upon attaining maturity and independence from parents. To detail not only the rational and scriptural basis for Ahmadiyyat, but the practical, moral and spiritual advantages that help a youth in America to pass through all the stages of life and achieve stability and success in life and advance along the spiritual path of Divine nearness.

4. Miracle of the Messiah: Words to Capture Hearts

In his book, “Izala-i-Auham”, the Promised Messiah (as) spoke of a vision in which he said that his writings would be published and would attract people in Europe and America to accept the message of Islam/Ahmadiyyat. His special Divine mission, mentioned clearly in ahadith, was to break the cross and kill the swine, which represent the erroneous religious teachings and moral diseases of Christian nations. Yet he was guided and gifted to perform this task with words calculated to win hearts, not just debates. It is one of his ‘miraculous achievements’ which proves his truth as a messenger of God. Thus, to remind members that these are the best words to share with others, particularly those residing in Western nations, when inviting them to God and to Islam/Ahmadiyyat rather than one’s own compositions or thoughts. To encourage all to read his books constantly in order to keep his arguments and points fresh in mind so as to be more effective in tabligh. To share some examples of how his writings impressed people in the West to accept Islam and/or reject the false notions of Christianity. Importantly, as Huzoor requested last year, to appeal to members to substantially increase subscriptions to the Review of Religions, the English magazine which the Promised Messiah (as) started to propagate his message to the West, and to give it to as many others as possible.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION: [theme – Celebrating the American and Islamic Concept of Freedom]

- 1. The Islamic Concept of Freedom: The Prophet Mohammad (sa)'s Example**
- 2. Promoting International Religious Freedom**
- 3. Protecting Freedom in America**
- 4. ‘A New Nation, Conceived in Liberty’:150 Years Since the Gettysburg Address**
- 5. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA: “Promoting Peace and Liberty”**

SUNDAY FINAL SESSION: [theme – moral and spiritual advancement]

1. Guarding against Harmful Trends

In the context of Western culture, philosophy, manners and ways, to explain the Islamic concept of Innovation (bida'at) and why it is important to avoid it. To explore the dangers of some typical trends which society either promotes or fails to prohibit, but which Islam disapproves and denounces. Given societal freedoms and norms, to highlight that a Muslim has to remain conscious of his/her identity at all times and in all settings and circumstances – like a true 'muttaqi' – and maintain the integrity of the unique Islamic model of life. This is particularly true during social functions and interactions, whether amongst only Jama'at members or in mixed public settings with non-Muslims and non-Ahmadis, such as wedding ceremonies.

2. Zikre-Habib – Truthfulness in all Matters

To share anecdotes of the Promised Messiah's high standard of honesty, truthfulness and transparency in his dealings with others as taught in Islam and as exemplified in the life of his beloved Master, the Holy Prophet (saw), who was known as 'al-ameen', the trustworthy, and 'al-sadiq', the true. To explain how honesty attracts the Pleasure and Mercy of Allah and purifies and elevates the spirit to experience Divine communications such as true dreams or visions and revelations of the highest degree, and also how straightforward dealings allows one to avoid disputes, conflicts and many difficulties in life. Whether justified or not, members often complain about a lagging standard of honesty in the US Jama'at, particularly when people are seeking and contracting 'rishtas', and they even express a lack of respect for officials who presumably fall short of the mark. Thus, the Promised Messiah's example is extremely important at this time to direct all toward the great moral virtue of truthfulness.

3. How to Establish a Living Relation with Allah

To discuss the real purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah to bring 'Iman' (faith) back to the world from the Pleiades (surayya) and to show mankind the way to recognize and reconnect with His Creator. To show how Islam, as taught through Ahmadiyyat, enables someone to establish a personal living and loving relationship with God (Allah), more so than any other faith in this age. To give examples of the Companions and followers of Hadhrat Ahmad (as) who have achieved this lofty goal of life, and whose ranks we may still join and enjoy the blessings of Divine communion and union.

4. Closing Address (Amir sahib)

To highlight the activities and accomplishments of the Jama'at during the past year and to direct members towards collective projects, goals and moral and spiritual areas to improve in the year ahead so that all leave with a more uniform vision and plan.

JALSA ACCOMODATION

• HOTELS •

Hotel	Address	Phone Number	Distance from Jalsa Gah
Staybridge Suites	920 Wildwood Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 233-3304	0.44 miles
Crowne Plaza	23 South Second Street, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 234-5021	2 miles
Econo Lodge	150 Nationwide Drive, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 545-9089	2 miles
Red Roof Inn	400 Corporate Circle, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 657-1445	2 miles
Hilton Harrisburg	1 North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 233-6000	2 miles
Days Inn	3919 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 233-3100	3 miles
Hilton Garden Inn	3943 Tecport Drive, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 635-7299	4 miles
Homewood Suites	3990 Tecport Drive, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 909-4663	4 miles
Holiday Inn Express	4021 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 561-8100	4 miles
Wyndham	765 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 558-9500	5 miles
Hampton Inn	4230 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA	(717) 545-9595	6 miles

Note: The above is a list of hotels near Jalsa Gah to aid your search. Other hotels can be found. Please note that transportation shuttles will ONLY be available to hotels WITHIN 10 miles of the Jalsa Gah. Please use search sites such as Expedia and Priceline for best rates for the above hotels.

• Hotel Accommodation Contact Info •

Primary Contact
Luqman Mahmood
 Nazim Accommodation - Hotels
Primary #: (571) 239-4665
Email: manimahmood@gmail.com

Please leave a voice mail with a call back # if the phone is not answered

We look forward to serving you and please remember to pray for a successful Jalsa Salana 2011.

JALSA TRANSPORTATION

• Jalsa Transportation Instructions and Information •

Transportation from the Airport:

- Harrisburg International Airport (MDT) is the preferred Airport for this year's USA Jalsa Salana. The Jalsa Gah is approximately 20 minutes away from Harrisburg Airport.
- Transportation 'From' and 'To' Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) will be provided. However, the shuttle frequency from this airport will be lot less due to the distance from Jalsa Gah and BWI. Travel time between BWI and the Jalsa Gah is expected to be 2-3 hours approximately. Please plan additional time into your trip to reach the Jalsa Gah while requesting Transportation service from BWI.
- ALL transportation needs from the Airports should be sent via email using the 'Transportation Service Request Form'. It is very important that we receive complete information with the required fields to provide you with the service with minimal delays. You can include a copy of your itinerary along with the below form.
- ALL requests should be submitted prior to **June 24th, 2011.**

- Please plan ahead and make arrangements with Zahid Yousaf (703-786-4245) well in advance.

Transportation from the Harrisburg Amtrak Train Station:

- Any request for pick-up service from Harrisburg Amtrak Train Station should be directed to the Transportation Department. Due to the rare nature of this type of pick-up request, it will be addressed per need basis.

Transportation from the Airport to Hotels:

- Members who are arriving at either Harrisburg Airport or BWI will be provided transportation to their respective hotels.

Transportation from the Hotels to Jalsa Gah:

- Members staying in the hotels will be provided transportation to the Jalsa Gah.
- Please call the Transportation Department 30-45 minutes before the scheduled pickup from hotel in order to confirm transportation from the hotel to the Jalsa Gah.

• Transportation Department Contact Info •

Primary Contact
Zahid Yousaf
 Nazim Transportation
Primary #: (703) 786-4245

Email: jalsatransportation@gmail.com

Please leave a voice mail with a call back # if the phone is not answered

Secondary Contact
Kashif Baloch
 Naib Nazim Transportation
Primary #: (703) 994-8248

We look forward to serving you and please remember to pray for a successful Jalsa Salana 2011.

• Transportation Service Request Form •

- Please complete this form and email to jalsatransportation@gmail.com
- ALL fields with (*) are required
- Please indicate total number of members who will require transportation 'From' and 'To' the airport
- Please choose Harrisburg International (MDT) as your preferred airport as it is only 20 minutes away from Jalsa Gah.
- The Transportation Team will also provide shuttle service from Baltimore-Washington International (BWI), as an alternate. However, as the travel time to Jalsa Gah is expected to be 2-3 hours, please plan your trip to arrive as early as possible in order to attend Jummah Prayers and the First Session. The shuttle service will be available starting Thursday, June 30th noon. The last shuttle will leave Jalsa Gah at 12pm Noon, on Monday, July 4th. Due to the distance and high traffic from BWI to Jalsa Gah, you may have to wait at the airport for an extended period of time.
- Transportation arrangements will be made available from the Harrisburg Amtrak Train Station as well. Please specify this clearly on the Request Form.
- ALL transportation requests must be sent via fax or email using this form and confirmed by June 24th, 2011.
- ALL pick-up request will be confirmed via phone or email by the transportation team few days prior to your arrival date

*Name: _____

Jama'at: _____

*Cell Phone No: _____

Home Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

*Arriving Airport: _____ *Airline: _____ *Flight No: _____

*Departing Airport: _____ *Airline: _____ *Flight No: _____

*Do you need Transportation "To" and "From" Hotel: _____

*If yes, name of Hotel: _____

*Total Number of Members Requiring Transportation: _____

Please email this completed form to JalsaTransportation@gmail.com

JALSA ETIQUETTES

The **Promised Messiah (AS)** has prayed for all participants of the Jalsa - past, present and future - in the following words: *"I pray to God that He be with all those who are coming to attend the Jalsa. May God grant them great rewards, may He show Mercy on them and remove their hardships and sorrows. May He let them have what they desire and raise them on the Day of Resurrection along with those to whom He has shown Mercy and His Grace. 'O God, O You who are the great Granter, the Benevolent and Merciful, the Remover of hardships, do listen to all these my prayers and grant us victory over our opponents with great glaring signs, for You have the power to do whatever You like. Ameen."* (December 7, 1892)

This is no ordinary gathering. There are many benefits of the Jalsa to the participants. Members should utilize this opportunity to renew their personal faith and spirituality, meet and establish friendship with other members of the community, welcome new members into the fold of the community and remember those who have passed away in the previous year and pray for them.

Jalsa participants should:

- Pray for safe travel of all members to and from Jalsa.
- Try to portray the true and beautiful image of the Jamaat to outsiders, especially our neighbors.
- Cooperate with Khuddam on duty to help you park in appropriate spaces.
- Register as soon as you come to Jalsa and put on your name badge.
- Notify security about any suspicious characters not wearing a badge.
- Offer Salat in congregation at designated times.
- Observe proper mosque etiquette when in the prayer area.
- Listen quietly during recitation of the Holy Quran.
- Not disturb others by talking among yourselves during the formal sessions.
- Attend Jalsa sessions in marquees at proper times.
- Not visit the dining tent or stalls during formal sessions.
- Not waste food and keep the dining area clean.
- Keep the bathrooms clean and report any non-functional bathrooms ASAP.
- Be courteous to fellow attendees of the Jalsa.
- Show respect to your elders and act in a kind manner to those younger than you.
- Not waste time in idle gossip but spend their spare time in remembering Allah.
- Wear Islamic clothing. Men and women should cover their heads.
- Women must observe Purdah and men must observe "Ghaz-e-Basr"(lowering of the eyes).
- Men should not crowd near the women's entrance.
- Families should fix their meeting points beforehand to avoid crowding in these areas.
- Make sure that children as well as teenagers are at their best behavior.
- Mothers should come prepared and bring formula, supplies and diapers etc for their infants.
- Constantly pray for the success of the Jalsa.



All members are requested to please pray for the success of Jalsa Salana and also for the safe travel of all members who will come to receive the blessings of Jalsa Salana