

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Prayers and Peace upon His Noble Messenger ﷺ

# Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center

CALIFORNIA, U.S.A

A non-profit, non-political organization

Special  
3rd Conference  
Special  
3rd Conference  
Edition

IECRC Newsletter

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## IECRC Newsletter Editorial Board

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IECRC welcomes its  
3rd Annual  
Conference attendees

Issue 8

### Inside this issue:

Purpose of Conference	4
Speaker Biographies	5
Hayward Mayor's Message	6
Shaykh A. H. M. Dehlawi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ	7
Naat Shareef	8
Tradition of Urs	9
A Prayer from the Heart	10
Dr. Qadri Receives National Award	11
Dr. Qadri Conducts Seminar at KU	11
IECRC Ghaus-e-Pak (ra) Mehfil	12
IECRC A'laa Hazrat (ra) Conference	12
IECRC Announcement	13
IECRC Services & Community News	14
Blank Page for Conference Notes	15
IECRC Productions	16

## CELEBRATING THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD ﷺ : Creating Spiritual & Social Harmony for Humanity

Allah, Most Glorified and Exalted is He, has created His vast worlds with a special design. Furthermore, He Almighty has sent revelations since the beginning of humanity's sojourn on this earth to make us aware of His Intent, and to guide us to submit to His Design. In the Islamic perspective these revelations have culminated with the Crown Jewel of creation, the Seal of Prophethood: The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and prayers of Allah be upon Him). The onus is upon us to learn about the Divine Intent and Design, and then acknowledge it, and submit to it to create harmony within ourselves at an individual as well as societal level.

In the Islamic perspective, the Best of creation, for whom Allah Almighty created the rest of creation, is the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The great Muslim scholar, Allama Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Abi Bakr al-Qastallani, (d. 1517 CE / 923 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) writes in his famous *Mawahibul Laduniya* that when Prophet Adam (peace be upon him) was taken to see the skies and heavens after his bodily creation, he saw the Holy Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ Blessed Name with Allah Almighty's Name everywhere and he asked Allah ﷻ: "Who is Muhammad ﷺ?" Allah ﷻ said,

"He ﷺ is that progeny of yours that if it wasn't for Him ﷺ, I would not have created you." Furthermore, Hazrat Imam Abul Fadl Abd ar-Rahman Jalal ad-Din as-Suyuti (d. 1505 CE / 911 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) writes in his *Khasaais-e-Kubra* narrating from the famous Hadeeth books of Tibrani, Hakim, and Bayhaqi that Hazrat Adam ﷺ advised his son Hazrat Sheesh ﷺ saying that he saw the Name Muhammad ﷺ on the chests of the virgins of Paradise, the pupils of the angels, and the leaves of Tooba (one of the gardens of Paradise), and that he too should make mention of Him ﷺ abundantly because the angels are always mentioning Him ﷺ.

Allah ﷻ says in His Noble Quran:

**"He only is the First and He only the Last, and He only is the Evident and He only the Concealed; and it is He Who knows all things."** [57:3]

These words expound glorified praise of Allah ﷻ. However, these verses are also explicit praise and greatness of the Master of the two worlds as appointed by Allah ﷻ: Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ. The great Muslim scholar of the Indian Subcontinent, Hazrat

Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi (d. 1642 CE / 1052 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) comments on this verse in his famous *Madarijun Nubuwwat* that Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ is the First of all creations that Allah ﷻ brought into existence (*Awwalul Kaaenaat*). He quotes the following famous Hadeeth in his aforementioned book, as do Imam Qastallani رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ and Sheikh Ismail Haqqi (d. 1724-5 CE / 1137 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) in *Mawahibul Laduniya* and *Roohul Bayaan* respectively:

**"Awwalu Maa Khalaq Allaahu Noori" - "The first thing Allah ﷻ created was my Light."**

The great Andalusian scholar Qadi 'Iyad ibn Musa al-Yahsubi (d. 1149 CE / 544 Hijri) records in his renowned book *Ash-Shifa* the narration of Hazrat Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that some Companions came to the Holy Prophet ﷺ and asked, "O Messenger of Allah! When did you receive Prophethood?" To this the Holy Prophet ﷺ replied:

**"Kuntu nabiiyyun wa Adamu bainar roohi wal jasadi"**

**"I was a Prophet when Adam was between spirit & body."**

Imam Suyuti رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ also records the above Hadeeth in his *Khasaais-e-Kubra* quoting from Tibrani, Hakim, and Bayhaqi.

There is another famous Hadeeth recorded in the Masnad of Hazrat Syed Abdur-Razzak رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, who was the teacher of Hazrat Imam Bukhari رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ: on the authority of Hazrat Jabir رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ who said, "O Messenger of Allah ﷺ! May my father and mother be sacrificed over you! Please tell me, what did Allah ﷻ create before everything else?" The Holy Prophet ﷺ replied:

**"Yaa Jabir Inna Llaaha khalaqa qablal ashyaa'i Noora Nabiiyyika min Noorihii"**

**"O Jabir! Before everything else Allah ﷻ created your Prophet's light with His Light."**

Amongst the numerous

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scholars who cite this Hadeeth, it is established as sound and authentic by Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi رحمته اللہ علیہ in his *Madarijun Nubuwwat*, by Imam Qastallani رحمته اللہ علیہ in his *Mawahibul Laduniya*, by Imam Bayhaqi رحمته اللہ علیہ in his *Dala'il ul-Nubuwwat*, and Imam Ibne Hajar Makki رحمته اللہ علیہ in his *Afzalul Qura'*.

The Master of the two worlds, the Holy Prophet ﷺ was also the first to affirm Allah Almighty's Lordship on the Day of *Mithaaq* when Allah ﷻ took the primordial covenant from all the souls as stated in the Holy Quran: "**Alastu bi rabbikum**" [7:172], i.e. "**Am I not your Lord?**" The first soul to respond was that of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. [*Mawahibul Laduniya, Madarijun Nubuwwat, Khassais-e-Kubra*]

The leader of the Hadeeth scholars, Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlwai رحمته اللہ علیہ further states in his *Madarijun Nubuwwat* upon the authority of Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib (may Allah ennoble his blessed countenance) that the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

**"14000 years before Adam was created, I was a light in front of my Lord."**

The learned Shaykh continues in his magnificent book that when Hazrat Adam عليه السلام was created, Hazrat Muhammad's ﷺ Light was put in his loins. When this light was placed there, Hazrat Adam عليه السلام heard a voice of bird in his loins and said, "O Allah! What is this voice?" The answer came, "**This is my Beloved's ﷺ glorification of Me.**" The Shaykh writes that Light (*Noor*) then shone brightly on Hazrat Adam's عليه السلام forehead and overpowered all the other lights that were given to the other Prophets (may Allah be pleased with them all). The angels and jinn were then commanded to prostrate (out of respect and not out of worship) in front of Hazrat Adam عليه السلام and they all did except Satan (*Iblees*) and he became humiliated.

Imam Fakhruddin Razi (d. 1210 CE / 606 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) says in his famous commentary on the Holy Quran "*Tafseer-e Kabeer*" that Adam عليه السلام was made the object of prostration because "*Kaana fi jahrtihi noori Muhammad sallallahu alayhi wa sallam*", i.e. in his forehead was

the light of Hazrat Muhammad (prayers and peace of Allah be upon Him).

In *Roohul Bayaan*, the famous Quranic exegesis by Sheikh Ismail Haqqi رحمته اللہ علیہ, he writes that Hazrat Adam عليه السلام saw that angels come behind him and say "*Subhaan Allah*" and when he asked about it, Allah ﷻ said that they are performing pious visitation (*ziyarat*) of the Light of the Holy Prophet ﷺ that is within him. This light shone on Hazrat Adam's عليه السلام forehead like the sun and the angels respectfully did its *ziyarat*. Then Hazrat Adam عليه السلام expressed intense desire to see the Light as well. The Light then shone in his nails and he kissed it saying "*Qurratu' aynee bika yaa Rasool Allah*" ﷺ, i.e. "My eyes are cooled by You, O Messenger of Allah ﷺ." Verily the Holy Prophet ﷺ is the Light of Allah ﷻ and His Light has encompassed all the worlds.

It is therefore a matter of immense honor, splendor and magnificence that this Light was sent from the celestial to the terrestrial realm. And this moment of blessed arrival (*zuhoor mubarak*) is one of great joy and gratitude for the believers who celebrate it with much fervor and devotion. Seerat Ibn Ishaq, one of the earliest recorders of the Holy Prophet's ﷺ life reports that when Hazrat Amina (may Allah be pleased with her), the Holy Prophet's ﷺ blessed mother was pregnant with Him ﷺ, someone came to her and said "Do you know that you are pregnant with the Best of Gift-Givers (*Khayrul An'aam*) ﷺ?" Due to this, she was free from all the normal pregnancy conditions such as nausea and experienced no pain during delivery. He ﷺ was born completely clean, His umbilical cord cut and He ﷺ was already circumcised. Imam Qastallani رحمته اللہ علیہ also quotes Seerat Ibn Ishaq in his *Mawahibul Laduniya* reporting that at the time of delivery a voice came to Hazrat Amina رضی اللہ عنہا saying: "Allah Almighty, who is One in His Essence, Attributes, and Names desires protection for Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ from the evil of all enviers. Tie this *ta'weez* (protection) on his arm." When Hazrat Amina رضی اللہ عنہا (who was asleep when she heard this) awakened, she found these words on a golden plate near her head.

During the time of the Holy Prophet's ﷺ birth, the night was going out and the day was coming in – it was dawn on a Monday. Allama Qastallani رحمته اللہ علیہ writes in his *Mawahibul Laduniya* that Hazrat Amina رضی اللہ عنہا relates that during the time of her delivery, she saw a small group descending from the sky who had three white flags. They put one in her courtyard and one on the roof of the Holy Kaba and one on *Bayt-ul-Maqdas*. She continues that during that beautiful night, the stars were coming close to her, which filled the world with light. The doors of the sky were opening and she was alone. She says that suddenly she saw a white bird that massaged its wings on her heart, which removed her nervousness and delivery related symptoms. She looked intently and saw in front of her a pure white cup. She drank from it thinking it was milk, and it was sweeter than honey. Then, a few women came to her. One said she is Maryam, the mother of Prophet Isa (peace be upon him), the second said she is Asiya, the wife of Pharaoh, the third said she is Hajra, and the rest were virgins of Paradise (*hooris*). They said to Hazrat Amina رضی اللہ عنہا, "We have all come to serve you." She saw that a white silk sheet was between the sky and earth. A caller said, "Cover Him ﷺ from the eyes of this world." Women were descending from the sky, who had white cups in their hands. Then, she saw a white cloud with green birds whose beaks were like red rubies. Seeing this her body began to perspire, and her drops of sweat had the odor of musk. She saw that the west and east, the earth and the sky had all lit up. She could see the castles of Syria and the necks of the camels of Basra. She relates that the center of this light was coming from her. It was announced in the universe that Muhammad ﷺ is born. The scholars have also reported that Hazrat Amina رضی اللہ عنہا said that when she gave birth to the Holy Prophet ﷺ, she found Him prostrating with His index finger pointed towards the sky, reciting the prayer:

**"Yaa rabbee hablee ummatee"  
"O My Lord! Help my nation!"**

The Allama continues that a white cloud came and made Him ﷺ disappear from

*(continued on next page)*

Hazrat Amina رضي الله عنها and a voice was heard to make Him ﷺ travel the wests and the easts of the earth and take Him ﷺ into the waters so that the creatures of the ocean can recognize His blessed name. When He ﷺ was returned back to Hazrat Amina رضي الله عنها, she found Him ﷺ like the full moon and He ﷺ emanated the scent of musk.

There are many narrations regarding the year of His ﷺ birth but the most famous narration has been quoted in the *Mawahibul Laduniya* that He ﷺ arrived into this world on a Monday on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Rabi'ul Awwal in the first part of daybreak. It was neither in Muharram, Rajab or Ramadan which are considered special months in Islam. Imam Qastallani رحمته الله writes that this is because it may be made clear that the Holy Prophet ﷺ honor is not due to the time of His arrival, but indeed, an ordinary time became honored by Him ﷺ. It is known that there is a moment during the blessed day of Friday (*Jumu'ah*) that is a moment of acceptance of prayer, so what does one say of the moment when the Holy Prophet ﷺ was brought into this earth - this is no doubt the moment of acceptance of prayers. The Imam writes in his *Mawahibul Laduniya*, proving the superiority of this night over all other nights:

1. *Laylat-ul-Qadr* is considered great because the angels descended on this night whereas on the night of *Milad*, the Prophet ﷺ Himself came [and the angels are His servants].
2. *Laylat-ul-Qadr* is specific to Muslims in that if they seek forgiveness Allah Almighty will forgive them, whereas the night of *Milad* is for all humanity, as He ﷺ is a Mercy to all the worlds. [21:107]

It is the consensus of the *Ahl-e-Sunnat wal Jama'at* scholars that the Holy Prophet ﷺ is alive in His Blessed grave and hears us and is aware and a witness to our actions. He ﷺ returns our salutations. It is not only permissible but highly recommended to seek His help (*Istimdaad*) in resolving our problems. The following narration is a proof of this often misunderstood concept:

"The people of Madina were once in a severe drought. They came to Hazrat Aisha رضي الله عنها and asked for a method to remove this hardship. She رضي الله عنها said to turn towards the Holy Grave of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and make a vent in it towards the sky to the extent that there is no barrier between the vent and sky. They did this and it rained to the extent that grass grew and the camels were completely satiated." [Mishtakul Masabih, ad-Darimi]

Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi رحمته الله quotes a Sahih Muslim Hadeeth in his *Madarijun Nubuwwat* that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said: "Ask". He رحمته الله explains that this is comprehensive and according to him one can and should ask anything from the Holy Prophet ﷺ. The Holy Prophet ﷺ is also *Hazir* and *Nazir* as explained by Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi رحمته الله in his book *Takmeel-ul Iman*:

"The Holy Prophet ﷺ is resting in the Pure Garden, and by the Command of Allah is witnessing all of the universe; He ﷺ can go wherever He ﷺ wants."

The great Shaykh رحمته الله also documents Imam Ghazali (d. 1111 CE /505 Hijri, may Allah have mercy on him) in this book clarifying the above mentioned concept of *Istimdaad* as follows: "Those whose help one sought when they are alive, one can seek their help after their departure from this realm." In another book by the immense Shaykh, *Jazbul Qu-loob ilaa Diyaarul Mahboob*, he narrates a Hadeeth that the Holy Prophet ﷺ prayed by the *waseela* (connection) of Himself and those Prophets who came before Him. This proves *tawassul* in both the life of and after life of the pious personality. And above all, Allah ﷻ commands in the Holy Quran to seek a *waseela* to Him ﷻ [5:35]."

It is indeed an honor to be of the *Ummat* of this truly awesome personality. This is why fasting and worshipping on this blessed day of His arrival, and all supplications in those blessed moments are ac-

cepted by Allah ﷻ. Imam Qastallani رحمته الله says that those who love the Holy Prophet ﷺ always celebrate His birth, organize special gatherings, feed people and give charity on the night of His Birth. They express their happiness and read the events around His Birth. The reading of this *Milad Shareef* is a source of freedom from calamities and difficulties. The hearts' desires are fulfilled through its blessings, which results in an inner harmony which then permeates the society. May Allah send his special grace & blessings upon those who have established the blessed night of the birth of the Holy Prophet ﷺ as Eid. Aameen. □

### Syeda Zille Humma Qadri

*Syeda Zille Humma Qadri was born in Lahore, and received her primary and secondary education from Karachi, Pakistan. She received her Bachelors in Chemistry from PECHS Women's College. She continued her Islamic education at the Islamic Missionary University in Karachi where she studied Hanafi Fiqh, Science of Hadeeth, Tassawwuf, History, and other Islamic topics.*

*Syeda Qadri delivered her first lecture at the age of 9 years on the topic of Allama Iqbal (may Allah be pleased with him), which began her career as a public speaker. She is the recipient of many awards and trophies in literary endeavors throughout her school and college life. She has participated in and conducted literary debates and trained numerous youth in the area of public speaking. Her articles have also been published in Dawn & Jang, two of the largest newspapers in Pakistan.*

*Currently, Syeda Qadri is a research scholar for IECRC. She conducts monthly spiritual and educational gatherings for women and children and is a guest speaker at various religious events.*

*She is an active mother of 3 young children and lives with her husband and children in Hayward, California.*

## PURPOSE OF 3RD ANNUAL NATIONAL MILAD SHAREEF CONFERENCE

### *Celebrating the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him): Creating Spiritual & Social Harmony for Humanity*

Harmony can be explained as “a pleasing combination of elements in a whole.” Additionally, the concept of justice (*‘adl*) in the Islamic paradigm is to give everything its due, i.e. to place everything where it belongs. To facilitate the return of everything to its true position is to contribute towards a just, and therefore harmonious society. This applies at both the individual as well as societal levels, creating both spiritual and social harmony, respectively.



Justice includes the recognition and realization of the status of every member of creation. In the Islamic worldview this status is God given. We demand our rights from one another and deliver our responsibilities towards one another through the Divine Court. Every soul is created with a dignity that has the right to be upheld and not abused and trampled upon. And every soul has the responsibility to not encroach on the rights of others. As Allah Almighty says in His Noble Quran:

**“... indeed the more honorable among you, in the sight of Allah,  
is one who is more pious among you ...” [Al-Quran 49:13]**

In the Islamic paradigm there are some very special souls who have been granted special nearness to the Divine, by the virtue of which they guide and help the rest of creation. These are called *Awliya*, Friends, or Saints of Allah Almighty. To recognize their status is to submit to God’s Design. The greatest of the *Awliya* are the Prophets (*Ambiya*) including Prophets Adam, Abraham, Noah, Moses, Jesus and the leader and Seal of Prophethood: the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him, and all the Noble Prophets). With the conclusion of the Prophethood in the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE, the responsibility of Prophetic endeavor was placed on the shoulders of pious personalities who renewed the faith of the believers and continued to interpret the comprehensive and complete message brought by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) and make it applicable to dynamic living conditions.

The teachings of these noble Saints address the mind, body and soul of the individual, as well as the bonds and ties between individuals that creates a society. Their prescribed ways heal broken relationships and enhance healthy ones.

At the IECRC we believe that the modern world has gone awry due to a disconnection with the personality and message of these great souls whose lives are a reflection of the Divine. The celebration and commemoration of the Days of the *Awliya* has been a traditional practice in Islamic history in order to remember their lives and contributions. The *Milad Shareef* (Honorable Birthday) of the Holy Prophet is the acme of such celebrations as it places into focus the Crown Jewel of Creation, the Most Beloved of the Almighty: the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). It is a gathering of gratitude and reflection.

We hope that you will appreciate our humble efforts to contribute towards a return to harmony in people’s understanding of the world and its spiritual structure as presented by Islam. We believe this is beneficial to humanity at large as the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) who referred to all the other Prophets (peace be upon them all) as brothers, is a “Mercy to the Worlds.” □

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri

لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ  
عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Indeed there has come to you a Noble Messenger from among you - your falling into hardship aggrieves him, most concerned for your well being, for the Believers most compassionate, most merciful.

[Al-Quran 9:128]

Narrated Hazrat Aisha رضي الله عنها: Allah's Apostle (prayers and peace be upon Him) used to treat with a Rugya saying, "O the Lord of the people! Remove the trouble. The cure is in Your Hands, and there is none except You who can remove it (the disease)."

[Sahih Al-Bukhari]

"Kam abra`at wasibam bil lamsi raahatuhu

How many a time did Your Blessed Hand cure the diseased

Wa atlaqat aribam mir ribqatil lamami"

And exorcise trapped Jinns and

How many a time did You guide the lost one?

— Imam Shareefuddin Al-Busiri (may Allah be pleased with him)

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### Dr. Usha Sanyal Queens University of Charlotte, NC

Dr. Usha Sanyal is Adjunct Lecturer of History, Politics & Religion at Queens University of Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Sanyal received her PhD in History with Distinction from Columbia University, New York. She received her Masters in Southeast Asian Studies (History and Anthropology) from the University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom and BA (Honors) in Sociology, with a minor in Economics from Delhi University, India. Her PhD Dissertation Title was "In the Path of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him): Maulana Ahmad Riza Khan Barelwi and the Ahl-e Sunnat wa Jama'at Movement in British India, c. 1870-1921" (May God have mercy on all our scholars).

Dr. Sanyal is the author of two books, the more recent of which is titled *Makers of the Muslim World: Ahmad Riza Khan*. Published by London's Oneworld Publications in 2005. She has also written *Devotional Islam and Politics in British India: Ahmad Riza Khan Barelwi and His Movement, 1870-1920* published by Oxford University Press in 1999. She has also authored many articles on Tasawwuf and the history of the Ahle Sunnat movement.

Dr. Sanyal has knowledge of French, Spanish, Hindi, Urdu and some Arabic and has traveled widely including Laos, Argentina & Pakistan. She has been awarded numerous fellowships including Visiting Research Fellow by the Center for the Study of American Religion, Princeton University, and Honorary President's Fellow by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University. She has taught at various universities such as University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; and Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA. She is a member of the Association of Asian Studies (AAS), and Independent Scholars of South Asia (ISOSA), an organization affiliated with the American Association of Indian Studies (AIIS) in Chicago.

Dr. Sanyal lives with her husband and children in Charlotte, North Carolina.

### Rev. Kelly Dahlgren Childress M.Div., M.A.

Spiritual Care Coordinator and Chaplain,  
Kaiser Hospital, Hayward, CA

Rev. Childress received her Masters degrees from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA. In 2002 a portion of her MA

Thesis, "Genetics, Disability, and Ethics: Could Applied Technologies Lead to a New Eugenics?" was published in the Journal of Women and Religion, vol. 20.

Prior to attending seminary and becoming a health care chaplain, Rev. Childress was a political activist working on a variety of justice issues. She has just been elected to serve on the Overview Board for Justice and Witness Ministries of the Northern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ, and will be a contributing editor in Kaiser Permanente's Provider's Handbook on Culturally Competent Care in Women's Health.

*IECRC thanks our eminent speakers for taking time out from their busy schedules to deliver their important message to us.*

# MESSAGE FROM THE HAYWARD MAYOR



## CITY OF HAYWARD HEART OF THE BAY

May 31, 2005

Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center  
2505 Technology Dr., Suite #2-01  
Hayward, CA 94545

### **Welcome Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center Attendees!**

Greetings,

On behalf of the Hayward City Council and all the residents of our area, I extend a most cordial welcome to all of you.

As Mayor of the City of Hayward, I congratulate the Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center on the occasion of its 3rd Annual National Conference to be held on June 19, 2005, at Centennial Hall in Hayward, California.

I am pleased that you have chosen Hayward as the site for this special event. Hayward's diversity makes it an ideal location for creating spiritual and social harmony worldwide.

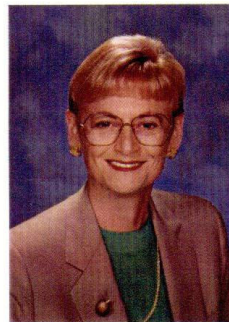
I encourage all residents of Hayward to learn more about the Islamic culture. I am confident that this conference will educate many about the Islamic people by celebrating Islamic heritage and culture.

I wish you a successful event.

Sincerely,



Roberta Cooper  
Mayor



**OFFICE OF MAYOR ROBERTA COOPER**

777 B STREET, HAYWARD, CA 94541-5007

TEL: 510/583-4340 • FAX: 510/583-3601 • TDD: 510/247-3340

It is Allah Almighty's Blessed Manner to take humanity out of polytheism, disbelief and misguidance through His Noble Prophets (may Allah Almighty be pleased with them all). These holy personalities transport humanity in moments to a state where human thought reaches after many stages of development.

Prophethood was sealed with the Master of the two worlds, the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. No new Prophet will come after Him ﷺ. However, in order to continue the Prophetic endeavor, immense personalities rose to the occasion who we know as the Noble Friends or *Awliya* Allah. These are those great individuals for whom the spread of the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ was their life's purpose.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ said:

***"No doubt Allah ﷻ raises for this Ummat someone at the turn of each century to renew the Deen for it."***

[Abu Dawood]

The 11<sup>th</sup> century Hijri renewer (*Mujaddid*) and preserver of the *Deen* of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, famous scholar of Islam, leader of the scholars of Hadeeth (*Muhadditheen*), Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi (d. 1642 CE / 1052 Hijri, may Allah be pleased with him) is one such great personality of the Islamic world who needs no introduction.

He was the true pioneer in the Indian Subcontinent in the dissemination of Hadeeth literature. Along with commentary on Hadeeth, he authored many books, the most distinguished of which is the *Madarijun Nubuwwat*. Originally written in Farsi this magnum opus has been translated into other languages and is a pivotal reference point for modern scholars on the subject of life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

This leader of the Ahle Sunnat interpretation of Islam was born in Dehli in 1551 CE / 958 Hijri. His ancestry hails from originally from Bukhara and includes the names of Agha Muhammad Turk Buk-

hari, and Sultan Muhammad Alauddin Khilji, who migrated from Bukhara to Dehli. His father, Shaykh Saifuddin Dehlawi a very pious personality was a spiritual disciple (*mureed*) and Khalifa of the Qadri Spiritual Order (*silsila / tareeqa*) of Shaykh Amanullah.

He read the entire Quran in 3 months from his father. At the age of 13 he had completed studying books on Islamic Creed (*Aqaid*) and at the age of 18 had gained all the Islamic knowledges. He had a phenomenal memory. He would narrate his childhood weaning experience as though the incident had occurred yesterday. He studied inheritance laws, logic, and theology under various teachers. He spent 21-22 hours everyday studying and completed all of his education in 7-8 years. He would present his thoughts to his teachers who would remark that they are benefiting from him! He was also blessed to learn the internal knowledges from his father.

It was the time of Akbar during the Mughal rule in India, which was a time of great dishonor of Islam. The Mughal king tried to influence the Shaykh رحمته but the latter's heart was filled with the love of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the king did not succeed in their ill-intentioned efforts. The Shaykh, however, was so disheartened that he left India for Hijaz, where he studied famous texts such as Bukhari, Muslim, Mishkat Shareef and Tasawwuf books under Shaykh Abdul Wahhab Muttaqi رحمته. He gained much intellectual and spiritual knowledge and achieved high spiritual stations under this Shaykh.

Shaykh Abdul Haq رحمته arrived into Madinah by the permission of his Shaykh. He stayed there for about a year. While in the lighted city of Madinah, he respectfully walked its streets bare-foot and had the vision of the Holy Prophet ﷺ 4 times.

He loved to worship and be engaged in spiritual exercises. His first *bai'ah* (spiritual contract) was with his father. In 1001 Hijri he took *bai'ah* with Hazrat Musa Pak Shaheed Multan رحمته. In Makkah he took *bai'ah* with Shaykh Abdul Wahhab Muttaqi رحمته in the Qadri, Naqshbandi, Shadhili &

Madaniya Spiritual Orders. He then returned to India where he was honored by the *bai'ah* of Hazrat Khwaja Muhammad Baqi Billah رحمته of the Naqshbandi Spiritual Order at the spiritual command of Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani رحمته.

Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi's رحمته age was one of darkness where the "*Mehdavi Tehreek*" of Mohammad Jondpuri was at its peak. Jondpuri used to spread the audacious and false claim that he had reached the state of perfection of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and that this was available to all worshippers, that they could reach his state through worship (may Allah protect us!) Such outrageous beliefs were challenged and proved false by Hazrat Shaykh رحمته and his towering contemporaries: Shaykh Ahmed Sirhindi (Mujaddid Alf Sani), Ibn Hajr Makki, Hazrat Ali Muttaqi (may Allah have mercy on them all). They preserved the Sunnah and great status of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and spent their lives doing so.

This was a critical period in Islamic history where Akbar, the Mughal king, had ruined the name and message of Islam. He made fun of Prophethood of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the Prophetic Ascension (*Mi'raj*). The sun was worshipped four times a day. Marriage to polytheists was allowed. He named his distorted innovation as *Deen-e-Ilahi*. During this dangerous time, Hazrat Shaykh رحمته raised his voice and started to write against these misguidances to the vizirs and high people in the king's court. These letters proved to be very effective. These letters spoke of the love of the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

This was also a time when Hadeeth had almost disappeared in Subcontinent. By Allah Almighty's Grace the Shaykh رحمته revived this fundamental Islamic Science and began to teach Hadeeth as a mission. He established a Dar-ul-Uloom where all the Islamic Sciences were taught. He spent the rest of his life writing and teaching. Today, all of his writings are regarded with much esteem and respect all over the world. He wrote on every topic in Islam: *Tafseer*, *Logic*, *Tajweed*, *Tasawwuf*, *History*, *Khutbat*, *Hadeeth*, *Ikhlāq*, *Makatib*, *Aqaid*, *Grammar*, *Poetry*, and more. He has written 60 books the most famous of which are:

*(continued on next page)*

## NAAT SHAREEF

### Translation

*Husn Kaa Payker Hain Vo ﷺ, Rahmat Kaa Daryaa Hain Vo ﷺ  
Saansen Jin Se Zinda Hain, Baqaa-e-Zindagi Hain Vo ﷺ*

He ﷺ is the model of beauty, the ocean of mercy  
Through which breath is sustained, He ﷺ is that Sustainer of life

*Aap Key Noor Se Roshan Huwa Aalam Saara  
Noor-e-Khuda Hain, Khuda Ki Roshan Daleel Hain Vo ﷺ*

Your Light illuminated all the worlds  
You ﷺ are the Light of Allah, the luminous proof of Allah

*Aap Ki Rahmat Ney Kiya Sayraab Roo-e-Zameen Ko  
Rab Ki Rahmat Hain, Ramatul-lil-Aalameen Hain Vo ﷺ*

Your mercy satiated the earths  
He ﷺ is the mercy of the Lord, He ﷺ is the mercy to the worlds

*Yai Asmaan, Ye Baadal, Ye Zameen Ki Bahaaren  
Zinda Hain Jin Key Dam Se Sab, Jaane-Aalam Hain Vo ﷺ*

These skies, these clouds, the spring of this earth  
Are alive through whom, He ﷺ is that life of the world

*Is Zameen Se Arshe-Ilahi Tak, Parhtey Hain Sab Salle 'Alaa  
Muhammad ﷺ*

From earth till the Divine Throne, all read  
"Salle 'alaa Muhammad ﷺ"

*Izzat-o-Azmat Aur Toqeer Ki Miraj Hain Vo ﷺ*

He ﷺ is the acme of respect, honor & veneration

*Kahaa Jin Ko Haq Ney Haazir-o-Naazir, Mubashir Aur Siraj-  
An-Muneera*

Whom Allah referred to as Present & Witnessing, the Giver of  
good news, the Light and Enlightening One  
He is *Yaseen, Taha, Muzammil & Mudassir* ﷺ

*Yaseen-o-Taha, Muzammil-o-Mudassir Hain Vo ﷺ*

*Rahey Salaamat Iman Apna, Ho Dast-e-Pak-e-Nabi ﷺ Hasil  
Hai Ye Tamannaa-e-Qalb, Zindagi Ka Haasil Hai Vo ﷺ*

May our faith be intact, may we acquire the Pure Hand of the  
Messenger ﷺ

*Syeda Zille Humma Qadri*

This is the desire of the heart, this is the achievement of life  
(Prayers and Peace Be Upon Him and His Family)

## SHAYKH ABDUL HAQ MUHADDITH DEHLAWI رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ (continued from previous page)

1. *Ash'aatul Ma'at* (Commentary on Mishkat Shareef; Persian)
2. *Madarijun Nubuwwat* (Comprehensive Seerat; Persian)
3. *Akhbarul Akhyar* (Syed Tazkirah, Information on the scholars of India; Persian)
4. *Jazbul Quloob fi Diyaril Mahboob* (Tareekh-e-Madina, History; Urdu)
5. *Zaudatul Aasar* (Manaqib on Ghaus-e-Pak رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ; Arabic)
6. *Takmeelul Iman* (Beliefs of the Ahle Sunnat; Farsi)
7. Commentary on Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani's رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ *Futuhul Ghayb* (Farsi)
8. *Masabt bi Sunnah* (Compilation of Hadeeth related to Muamalat in the 12 months; Arabic)
9. *Fahras At-Tawaaleef* (Arabic)
10. *Marajul Bahrayn* (Tasawwuf; Farsi)
11. *Tauseelul Mureed ilal Muraad* (Tasawwuf; Farsi)

If one includes his magazine publications, then there are 116 in total.

The blessed Shaykh رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ loved the Holy Prophet ﷺ. He would go into a state of ecstasy upon hearing His Blessed Name. The following is a translated excerpt of a *Naat* he wrote in Farsi:

"Recite *Naat* of the Holy Prophet ﷺ, but since you cannot do justice to this topic, suffice with mentioning His Beauty.

O Messenger of Allah ﷺ, I am distressed due to the separation from your beauty, grant your Vision and have mercy on the life of this lover.

The darkness of showing off has darkened the world. Please come and enlighten it with your Light."

The sun that had enlightened the air of India passed on to the Divine Realm on 21 Rabiul Awwal, 1052 Hijri at the age of 94

years. Indeed to Allah we belong and to Him is our return. The great scholar and Saint rests in Delhi and his blessed grave is a place for pious visitation. Through his writings Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlawi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ clarified the high status and station of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and said that His love is the life of the Deen. His contributions to the renewal and preservation of the essence of Islam are undeniable. We pray that Allah Almighty gives us the Divine Guidance to benefit from the works of this great Friend of His. Aameen. □

### Syeda Zille Humma Qadri

*Syeda Qadri is a research scholar for IECRC. She conducts monthly spiritual and educational gatherings for women and children and is a guest speaker at various religious events. She is an active mother of 3 young children.*

# IECRC wishes Eid Milad-un Nabi ﷺ to everyone in the Greater Bay Area, around the United States and the world!

## TRADITION OF URS

The following is a listing of the *Urs Mubarak* dates of some of the great scholars and Saints of the Islamic tradition in the respective Islamic months. *Urs* means happiness. It is generally observed on the day that a Saint passes away into the Divine Realm. Although it may seem outwardly contradictory to the novice observer; to the Saint, his or her separation of soul from the earthly body represents the truest moment of happiness as it is a freedom from the imprisonment of this ephemeral world and a return and re-union with the Divine. As the Prophetic tradition says:

*"The world is a prison for the believer."*

It is to remember their lives, sacrifices, and contributions; to be inspired by them, and to send tokens of gratitude in the form of special prayers that we remember the days of our Noble *Awliya* (may Allah have mercy on them all). This is the second part of a 4 part series that will span the entire Islamic calendar, insha Allah. Please be aware that there are varying narrations as to the exact dates of the *Urs*. We have made attempts to present to you the most well known dates. May Allah Almighty forgive us for any mistakes.

### 4. RABI-'UTH THANI

3rd: **Umm-ul Mu'mineen Umme Salma**  
Year: 63 Hijri / 682 CE  
Resting in: **Medina Munawara**

7th: **Imam Malik bin Anas**  
Year: 189 Hijri / 805 CE

Resting in: **Medina Munawara**

10th: **Hazrat Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal**  
Year: 241 Hijri / 855 CE  
Resting in: **Baghdad Sharif, Iraq**

11th: **HAZRAT SHAYKH ABDUL QADIR JILANI (GHAUS-E-PAK)**  
Year: 561 Hijri / 1166 CE  
Resting in: **Baghdad Sharif, Iraq**

14th: **Imam Abu Hamid Muhammad al-Ghazzali**  
Year: 505 Hijri / 1111 CE  
Resting in: **Tus, Iran**

16th: **Haji Ali Baba**  
Year: 835 Hijri / 1431 CE (approx.)  
Resting in: **Mumbai, India**

18th: **Mehboob Elahi Khwaja Nizamuddin Aulia Chishti**  
Year: 725 Hijri / 1325 CE  
Resting in: **Delhi, India**

18th: **Mawlana Abdur Rahman Jaami**  
Year: 898 Hijri / 1492 CE  
Resting in: **Herat, Afghanistan**

22nd: **Hazrat Muhiuddin Ibn-Al Arabi**  
Year: 638 Hijri / 1240 CE  
Resting in: **Damascus, Syria**

### 5. Jamaad-ul Awwal

7th: **Hazrat Shah Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlvi**  
Year: 1052 Hijri / 1642 CE  
Resting in: **Delhi, India**

22nd: **Hazrat Sayyad Ahmed Kabir Rifaai**

Year: 578 Hijri / 1183 CE  
Resting in: **Basra, Iraq**

29th: **Hazrat Khalid Bin Walid**  
Year: 21 Hijri / 642 CE  
Resting in: **Homs / Emesa, Syria**

### 6. Jamaad-uth Thani

5th: **Mawlana Jalal-ud-Din Rumi**  
Year: 672 Hijri / 1273 CE  
Resting in: **Konya, Turkey**

9th: **Hazrat Qazi Iyad ibn Musa al-Yahsubi**  
Year: 544 Hijri / 1149 CE  
Resting in: **Marrakesh, Morocco**

11th: **Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar**  
Year: 73 Hijri / 692 CE  
Resting in: **Medina Munawara**

22nd: **Amirul-Muminin Hadrat Abu Bakar Siddiqui**  
Year: 13 Hijri / 634 CE  
Resting in: **Medina Munawara**

May Allah Almighty be pleased with them & have mercy on them all! Aameen.  
□

## A PRAYER FROM THE HEART

### Translation

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Chunn jeah sohna noori mukhra vekha ja*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Wasta mein panwann - sohney nabi tay khuda da*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Jadoon da tuu tuur giyoon sadey koloon duur way*

*Dil wala shisha sada hoya chuur chuur way*

*Teray jeah huun koi deinda naheen dilasa*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Ker ker gallan assee teri yaan paiy jeen dey gee*

*Lang diyaan gharrian jeenwain saal tey maheney gee*

*Merrjawaan ghee jay chettie aayoon na ta biba*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Mukh tera waykian ho gia zamana eyyn*

*Terey bahjoon khali khali lagey aastana eyyn*

*Apnay ka buteraanoo chog aa kay tuum chuga ja*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Teri yaan juda yaan huun jaliyaan naa jaan diyaan*

*Sukh chain naal huun neendraan be bhajj giyaan Muur chetti*

*watnaan nuun - Sahnoo barra tarsi liya*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Uunj bhanwein aakiyaan tuun duur pea dissein tuun*

*Apnay mureedaan diyaan dilaan which wassein tuun*

*Ishq wali piyaas sadey dilaan de bujah ja*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

*Dilaan which ishqaq da boota laan waliya*

*Zahid jaey aasi noo seenay laan waliya*

*Sha Allah teri khair hooway - Ayho mangaan mein duaa*

*Ik varee aa ja - Ik varee aa ja*

Zahid Chaudhry Qadri

Please come back one time

Please come back and show us your beautiful face

I beg you for the sake of Nabi Allah ﷺ

Ever since you have gone far away from us

The glass of our hearts has shattered into pieces

No one comforts us like you used to

We live our lives talking about you

Moments pass like months and years

I will die if you do not come back soon my *murshad* (spiritual guide and savior)

It seems like ages since I have seen your illuminating face  
(*chehra mubarak*)

Without your presence (physical), *aastana* seems empty

Please come back and feed your pigeons like you used to

You being away is becoming increasingly unbearable

My peace and tranquility have run away along with my sleep

Please return to your home soon - You have made us very thirsty

Even though you seem out of our sight

You live deep inside the hearts of your followers (*murideen*)

Please come and quench the thirst of our thirsty hearts

Oh *murshad* (spiritual guide), plant the love of Allah ﷻ and Nabi ﷺ in our hearts.

Oh *murshad* (spiritual guide), you have held tight to a sinner like Zahid close to your heart

May Allah protect you - This is all I pray

## DR. QADRI RECEIVES PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH AWARD

Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri received the prestigious National Education & Research Award in May 2005, a distinguished Government of Pakistan honor given by the Pakistan Education Forum, Islamabad, Pakistan. This was the 10th award given by the PEF and the first time that it has ever been received in the field of Social Science.

The recipient of this award is chosen from amongst all the professors from all the universities in Pakistan.

Dr. Qadri's untiring work in the area of education both within the secular and Islamic spheres earned him this deserving lifetime achievement award. IECRC congratulates him on this great accomplishment, alhamdulillah.



## DR. QADRI CONDUCTS IECRC SEMINAR AT UNIVERSITY OF KARACHI



### KARACHI: Interaction between Muslims, West urged

KARACHI, April 20, 2005: Speakers at a seminar on Wednesday stressed the need for closer interaction between academic circles of Muslim countries and the West in order to remove misperceptions regarding Islam. They said it was extremely unfair and unjust to accuse the Muslims of being involved in terrorism across the world. They further held that a few groups were using the name of Islam for their political motives.

The seminar on 'Western perceptions of Islam and global terrorism' was organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Karachi at the Arts Auditorium in collaboration with the Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Centre, USA.

The Vice-Chancellor, University of Karachi, Prof. Dr. Pirzada Qasim, presided over the seminar while Prof. Dr. Manzoor Uddin Ahmed, former Vice-Chancellor of Karachi University was the chief guest.

The speakers included Prof. N. Basic from

the University of BIHAC, Europe, Prof. Woldesemayat Habte from the University of Michigan, USA, Prof. Dr. Tanvir Khalid and Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri. Prof. Qadri has completed his postdoctoral research on 'Western perception of Islam and global terrorism' from the USA.

The Karachi University Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Pirzada Qasim, said it must be communicated to people around the globe, particularly the academic circles of the West, that there was a need to create awareness about Islam among the people, and this could be done efficiently by the academics, he added.



He said it was imperative to tell people that whatever was being done in the name of Islam was not necessarily approved by the Quranic teachings.

Former Karachi University Vice Chancellor Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed said it was essential to look for ways and means to eliminate terrorism without violence. "Terrorism can't be dealt with violently; you must choose some other options."

He said Islam did not permit terrorism in any form, which was called '*Fasad Fil*

*Arz'* (violence on the face of the earth) by the Quran.

Prof. N. Basic said efforts should be made for converting the violent groups into political entities.

He said mostly terrorism was spared while using the name of marginalized groups in order to gain economic resources. "The concept of aggression for the sake of territories has ended and now terrorism is used for economic objectives."

The Chairperson of the Department of Political Science, Prof. Tanvir Khalid, in her welcome address said terrorism had become a subject of debates worldwide, as governments were striving hard to ensure security of their citizens.

She said instead of counter terrorism such moves should be opposed, which might prove to be counter-productive. She further said that freedom movements must not be viewed as terrorism.

Dr Ahmed Qadri said Islam meant love and peace, and it preached tolerance. "It is impossible to derive any other meanings of Islamic teachings," he said, adding that Islam did not allow war of aggression against any nation.

"How can a Muslim kill human beings in the name of Islam when Islam prohibits the killing of innocent people in the strictest sense," he added. — APP □

Reprinted from DAWN: The INTERNET Edition <http://www.dawn.com/2005/04/21/local16.htm>

## IECRC OBSERVES ANNUAL GHAUS-E-PAK ﷺ MEHFIL

IECRC observed its annual *Mehfil Ghaus-e-Pak* ﷺ on Sunday, May 22, 2005 at the Munoz Hall in Fremont, California. This spiritual and educational gathering was conducted as an *Urs* celebration to remember the life and contributions of the Crown of the Saints (*Sultan-e-Awliya*), Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (1077/8 - 1166 CE, may Allah be well pleased with him). *Urs* is the day that a pious personality leaves this earth and moves onto the Realm of Divine Beatitude.

Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (may Allah be pleased with him) is one of the greatest scholars of the Islamic tradition, and the fountainhead of the Qadri Spiritual Order, which emanates from the spiritual springs of Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib (may Allah ennoble his countenance), which in turn emanates from the Best of creation: our Beloved Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The great Shaykh ﷺ rests in the city of Baghdad, Iraq. His blessed mausoleum is a place of pious visitation from devotees around the world.

The program included alternating *Naats*, *Manqabats* and speeches on the life and contributions of Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani famous as *Ghaus-ul-A'zam* (may Allah be well pleased with him). The term *Ghaus-ul-A'zam* means "The Greatest Helper". Mr. Ayyaz Yousaf Qadri, Managing Director of IECRC explained how the beseeching of "help" from a non-Divine source is very much rooted in the Islamic tradition and not polytheistic as some people construe it to be. In the Islamic tradition, the Absolute Source of everything is Allah Almighty, however He ﷻ has created a world of means and ways. Mr. Sharaaz Khan Qadri, spearheading IECRC's efforts in the Sacramento area, also expounded on this concept that if people believe that medication cures their diseases and are not consciously aware of the reality that it is Allah Almighty Who does the healing and the medication is a means to that end, then that in essence is polytheism (*shirk*). In a similar manner, Allah Almighty has chosen some of His human creation as His Close Friends (*Awliya*), and they are a means of healing

and approach to the Divine.

Syeda Zille Humma Qadri also delivered a most informative and enlightening lecture on the life and miracles of this great Friend of Allah Almighty. She also detailed his literary contributions both in the prose and poetry. One of the very famous poems written by Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani ﷺ, the *Qaseeda Ghausia* (originally in Arabic) was also recited to give the audience a flavor of the depth of the gnosis of this awesome personality. *Manqabats* (poetry in praise of a Saint) were recited by several talented community members.

Being a Sunday, the program culminated in the weekly *Dhikr*, followed by the *Salam-e-Raza*, prayers and the *Langar-e-Qadriya* feast. □

## IECRC OBSERVES 1ST ANNUAL A'LAH HAZRAT ﷺ CONFERENCE

IECRC conducted its first annual conference on the great scholar and Saint of the 20th century CE: Hazrat Imam Ahmed Raza Khan Afghani Bareilvi (1856 - 1921 CE, may Allah be pleased with him) on Sunday, May 8, 2005 at the Munoz Hall in Fremont, California.

No star shines as brightly in the sky of 20th century Islamic spiritual revival than the name of Imam Ahmed Raza Khan ﷺ. Universally conferred with the title of A'lah Hazrat ﷺ, this great personality of the Indian Subcontinent arose to restore, preserve and promote the true light and spirit of Islam, which is founded in none other than the great love, honor and respect for the Best of Creation, the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ - Mercy to the Universe.

The program included alternating *Naats* and speeches on the life and works of this great contributor to the Islamic intellectual and spiritual tradition. Enlighten-

ing and informational speeches were given by Maulana Zubair Naqshbandi of the Bay Area, and Mr. Sharaaz Khan Qadri, Director of IECRC of Sacramento. A comprehensive talk on the life of this great personality was also given by young Ms. Oraiba Malik of Baypoint, California.

A'lah Hazrat ﷺ was astonishingly well versed in more than fifty branches of learning, pertaining to Ancient, Current & Oriental Sciences and left contributions in all these academic disciplines. However he is probably best remembered for his *Kanz-ul-Iman*, a beautiful rendering of the Holy Quran into the Urdu language. This mammoth endeavor is a very distinguished contribution to scholarship as it maintains the key element of the Islamic spirit - *adab*. A'lah Hazrat's ﷺ choice of words when translating the Arabic verses of the Holy Quran are very careful and conscientious and therefore deliver the highest honor and respect for Allah Almighty and His Beloved Prophet ﷺ. Another labor of love that

stands out amongst A'lah Hazrat's ﷺ ocean of writings is his *Salaam-e-Raza: Mustafaa* ﷺ *Jaane Rehmat pe laakhon salaam*, which holds the distinction of being the longest salutation to the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in any language. It is a pearl in the *Hadaiq-e-Bakhshish*, an anthology of his poetry.

Heart-warming *Naats* were recited by adults and children alike that were written by A'lah Hazrat ﷺ. The entire program was compered by Mr. Ayyaz Yousaf Qadri, Managing Director of IECRC, who provided valuable information about the history of the Subcontinent during the time when A'lah Hazrat ﷺ lived and struggled for the cause of Truth.

The afternoon concluded with the weekly IECRC *Dhikr* program which included the *Salam-e-Raza*, prayers for the community, and dinner (*Langar-e-Qadriya*). □

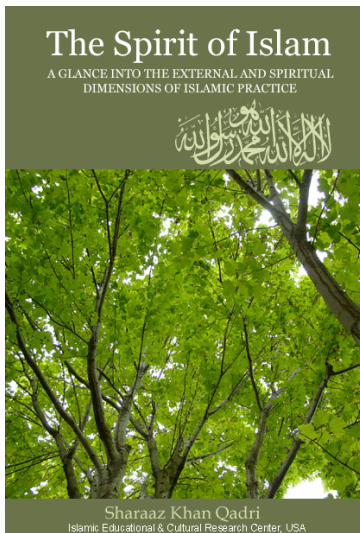
# GYARWEEN H SHAREEF

Women & Children gather on the 11th of every Islamic month to honor and remember the life and contributions of Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (may Allah be well pleased with him)

Please call 510-475-7867, 916-687-7868 or 408-629-6524 if you would like to participate.

## IECRC ANNOUNCEMENT

### IECRC's Newest Publication:



*The Spirit of Islam* sets out to explain the pillars of Islamic practice with a fresh perspective. Outward practice of the pillars and inward aspects are elucidated with stories from the Holy Qur'an, the life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him and his family), Companions of the Prophet (may Allah be pleased with them), the Awliya (Friends/Saints) of Allah, and a small amount of folk tales. References used in this book include famous and authentic books such as *Qisas al-Anbiya* of Ibn

Katheer (may Allah have mercy on him), the *Ihya Ulum ad-Din* by Imam Ghazali (may Allah have mercy on him), the *Shifa* of Qadi Iyyad (may Allah be pleased with him), *Kitab Sirr al-Asrar* of Shaykh Abdul Qadir al-Jilani (may Allah be pleased with him), among others. The style of this is bound to keep you interested and longing for more. The book will be beneficial and enjoyable to both Muslims and adherents of other faiths.

### About the Author:

Sharaaz Khan Qadri was born and raised in South Africa and later migrated with his parents to Karachi, Pakistan, where he received his secondary education and learned the Urdu language. Mr. Qadri traveled to the US to study Computer Science, from where he received his Bachelors.

He pursued his Islamic education, studying Islamic jurisprudence in the Maaliki School of Thought from Mauritanian scholars, Shaykh Khatri and Shaykh Abdullah, and Shaykh Hamza Yusuf Hanson. Mr. Qadri studied Qur'anic Tajweed, and Aqidah in Damascus under various teachers and completed the Arabic program at University of Damascus, Syria.

Sharaaz Khan Qadri has spiritual khilafat in the Qadri, Chishti, Naqshbandi, Suharwardi, and Rifa'i spiritual orders at the blessed hand of Dr.

Mohammad Ahmed Qadri, under the aegis of whom he has also studied Aqidah, Hanafi Fiqh, Science of Tasawwuf, Methodologies of Tafseer of Quran, and the Science of Spiritual Healing through apprenticeship.

Mr. Qadri is one of the directors of the Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center (IECRC). Mr. Qadri conducts bi-weekly community gatherings and spiritual and family counseling for the Sacramento community.

Mr. Qadri is a professional Curriculum and Instructional Designer. He lives in Sacramento, California with his wife and four children. He has been living in the US for the past 18 years.



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## IECRC COMMUNITY SERVICES

### IECRC Counseling Centers

IECRC conducts Spiritual Counseling sessions every other Sunday between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM at **Munoz Hall, 109 J Street, Fremont, CA 94536**. (Please call 510-732-6786 or 408-835-7786 for exact dates.)

The Spiritual Counseling & Healing Center is unique in that services are provided free of charge to all people, irrespective of their color, creed, race, and religion. The center serves people who come from all over the USA and abroad. Services are provided for all types of ailments that range from benign aches and pains to severe conditions such as cancer and psychological ailments. Alhamdulillah, by the Mercy and Power of Allah Almighty, patients with depression, migraine, hyperactivity and other serious illnesses have received benefit from our center. Alhamdulillah, two more branches of this center operate in the greater Bay Area:

**Sacramento Branch:** Please call 916-687-7868 for details.

**San Jose Branch:** Please call 408-629-6524 for details.

This Sunnah (practices of the Holy Prophet ﷺ) of Spiritual Healing in Islam is conducted through the recitation of the Holy Quran and *du'as* (prayers). Unfortunately, these days there are many people who misuse this practice; we advise our readers to be cautious. There are many Hadeeth (sayings of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ) related to this dying Sunnah, which can be found on the IECRC Web site ([www.iecrcna.org](http://www.iecrcna.org)).

### IECRC Weekly Dhikr Gatherings

IECRC conducts weekly Dhikr sessions every Sunday at 6:00 PM at **Munoz Hall, 109 J Street, Fremont, CA 94536**.

The evening comprises of:

- Quran Recitation
- *Naat-e-Rasool* (poetry in praise of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ)
- Educational Talk on different Islamic topics
- Dhikr (collective recitation of Allah's Beautiful Names)
- Salaam (salutation) on the Holy Prophet ﷺ
- Fatiha (recitation of the Holy Quran over food)
- Dinner (the continuing tradition of *Langar-e-Qadria*)

Similar Dhikr sessions are conducted in the greater Bay Area in:

\* **Sacramento on every other Sunday evening.**

Please call 916-687-7868 for details.

\* **San Jose on every Friday at 7:30 PM.**

Please call 408-629-6524 for details.

As Allah Almighty says in His Glorious Quran:

*"Only in the remembrance of Allah is the solace of hearts."* [13:28]

This spiritual gathering is a comprehensive solution to modern man's many ailments of stress, depression and anxiety. To learn more about the importance of Dhikr, please visit our website.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Condolences:** *"To Allah we belong and unto Him is our return."*

Great grand-daughter of Amina Behen passed away in South Africa. She was 13 years old. Please do *Isaal-e-Sawab* for her.

**Prayers:**

We solicit your deep and sincere prayers for the respected and beloved mother of our dear Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri who is very ill in Pakistan. May Allah Almighty by the Waseela Mubarak of His Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) grant her a speedy recovery, long life with complete health and well being. Aameen.

Also please make dua for: Amina Behen (South Africa), Brother Saleh (South Africa), Auntie Khadijah (South Africa),

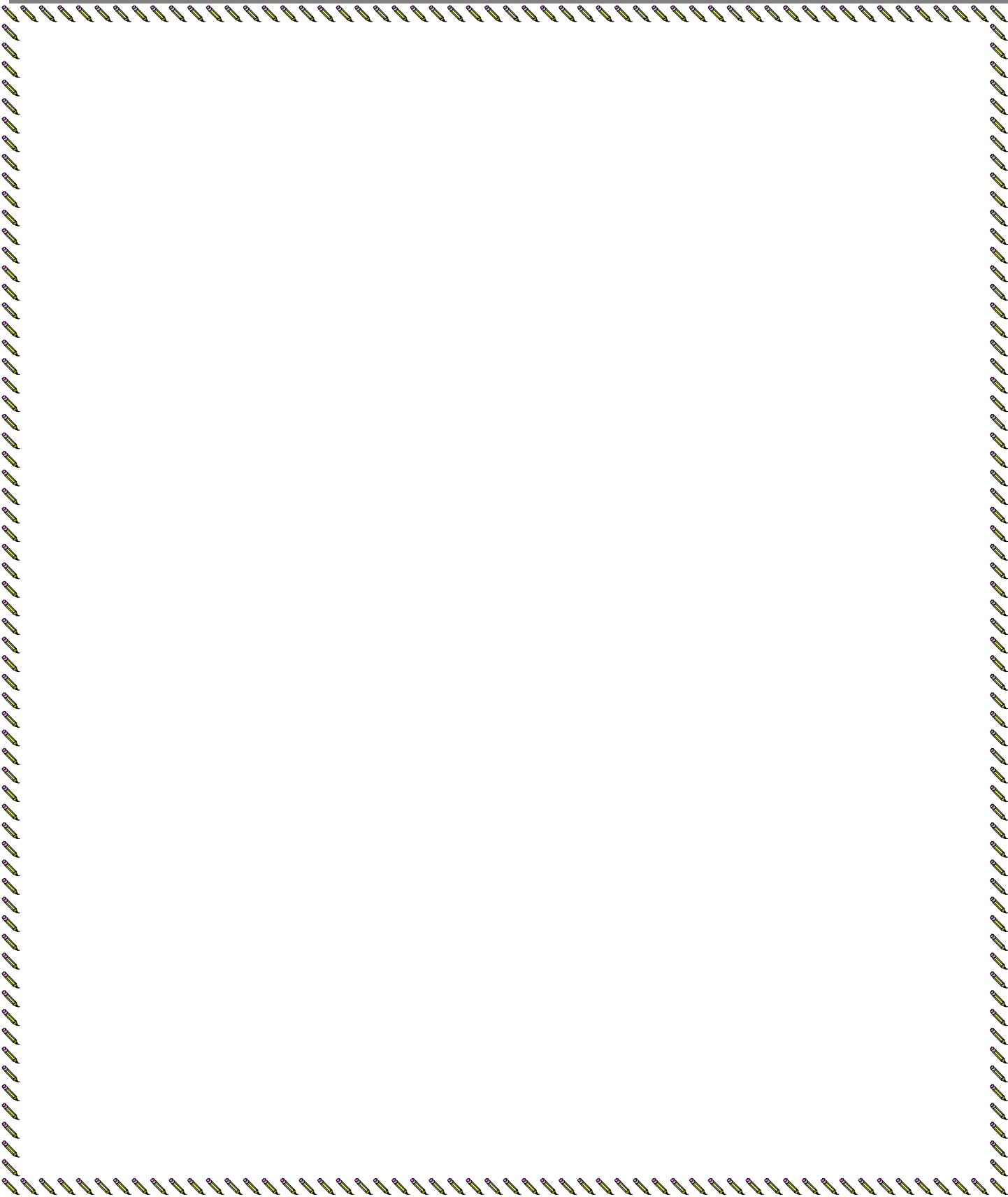
Mother of Shapara Ahsan (Colorado), Abdullah Sai, Jamshed Khala and family, Shareen Behen, Nayab, Sister Ayman, Sister Muneera and family, Fouzia and family (Colorado), Shapara (Colorado), Grand Mother of Sharaaz Qadri: Rahila Behen (Pakistan), Mohammad Ali and Rizwana, father of Ahmed Shareef Bhai, Jamila Behen and family, Taskeen Behen, Seema Dawood,

**Births:** Musarrat and Shakeel announce the arrival of baby Mohammad Afan. Nasreen and Nyaaz announce the arrival of baby Zara Nyaaz.

**Weddings:** Kashif and Nausheen, Qasim with Afiya, Hashim with Humayra. We wish them all the best as they begin their new lives together.

**Acknowledgements:** IECRC would like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions: The Fatany family, Mary & Mustafa Ahmed of Landmark Signs, Brother Shabbir (England), Ruslan Moore of Al-Baz Publications, Ashiyana Behen, Layla Behen, Sabir Chishti Sahab, Sister Rana Sartaj, Sister Aysha Ali, Wali Bhai & Hameeda Behen, Yusuf Bhai, Mumtaz Behen, Malik Bhai & family, Izad Bhai, Sultan Bhai & Maimuna Behen, Mohammad Rocka & family, Abdul Bashir Bhai & family, Sultan Jabbar, Arshad Khan, Altaf Chaudhry, Mohammad Amin & family, Chaudhry Bashir & family, Irfan Ali, Ahmed Shareef, Shahid Hussain, and last but not least Shafiq Siddiqui and Sister Tanzeela of PTV Prime. May Allah Almighty bless them all!

# NOTES FROM 3RD ANNUAL NATIONAL MILAD SHAREEF CONFERENCE



## IECRC PUBLICATIONS

The following are IECRC publications by Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri and his research staff:

1. **Blessings on the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:** The Meaning, Relevance & Importance of Sending Blessings and Greetings on the Best of Creation ﷺ
2. **Reviving Love for the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:** The Solution to the Contemporary Muslim Condition
3. **Living in the Abode of Peace and Purification** (co-authored by Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda)
4. **Islamic Treatment of Jinn, Magic & The Evil Eye** (co-authored by Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda)
5. **Quranic Therapy: Heal Yourself Part 1**
6. **Quranic Therapy: Heal Yourself Part 2**
7. **Ramadan: The Month of Patience, Empathy & Self-Purification**
8. **Peace & Tolerance in Islam**
9. **The Muslim World: Hope in the New Millennium**
10. **The Science of Dreams**
11. **The Spirit of Islam:** A Glance into the External and Spiritual Dimensions of Islamic Practice (Sharaaz Khan Qadri) - NEW!

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*For any financial concerns or questions related to IECRC, please email us at:*

*[info@iecrcna.org](mailto:info@iecrcna.org)*

*Thank you for your support!*

## IECRC AUDIO PRODUCTIONS

The following speeches by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

### English

- 1 Love of the Holy Prophet ﷺ
- 2 The Islamic Culture
- 3 The Concept of Spiritual Healing
- 4 Quranic Therapy - Heal Yourself (also available in print & CD)
- 5 Heal Yourself in the Light of Quran & Sunnah (also available in print & CD)
- 6 The Philosophy of Love with Allah in Tasawwuf/The Necessity of a Spiritual Guide
- 7 What is Tasawwuf: An Answer by Hadrat Ali bin Uthman al-Hujwari (may Allah be pleased with him) known as Hazrat Data Ganj Buksh
- 8 The Concept of Jinn in the Light of Quran and Sunnah
- 9 Islam and Soul Orientation (Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed)

### Urdu

- 1 *Ishq-e-Mustafa ﷺ aur Munafiqat*
- 2 *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ka Jawaz / Madina-e-Munawarra ke Naam*
- 3 *Durood-o-Salam Maulana Qasim Nanotvi Dar-ul-Uloom Deoband aur Maulana Mohammad Zakarya Tableeghi Jamaat ki Nazar Mein*
- 4 *Durood-o-Salam Ki Fazeelat*
- 5 *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ Tareekh key Ainey Mein*
- 6 *Allama Iqbal (rahmatullah alayh) ka Hadrat Bilal (radiallaahu anhu) ko Salam*
- 7 *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ Sawal/Jawab*
- 8 *Allama Iqbal ka Shikwa aur Jawab-e-Shikwa (side A) / Allama Iqba aur Ishq-e-Mustafa ﷺ (side B)*
- 9 *Karamat-e-Awliya*
- 10 *Ey Iman Walo – CDs 1 & 2 (Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Qadri) - NEW!*

The following *Naats* are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

- 1 *Allah-hi-Allah* – Sufiana Kalam recited by Zahid Chaudry Qadri (Punjabi)
- 2 *Yaadey Madinah* – Naat recited by Syed Mansoor Shah (Urdu)
- 3 *Zikr-e-Rasool ﷺ* – Naat recited by Naveed Iqbal Rahmani (Urdu)
- 4 *Guldasta-e-Naat* – recited by various Naat reciters (Urdu)

IECRC's CD Releases:

- 1 *Allah Kay Naamon Se Apna Ilaj Kijiye* – Dr. M.A. Qadri (Urdu)
- 2 *Arabic Qasa'id* - Shaykh Hisham Kabbani and His Ensemble
- 3 *Hamd-o-Naat* - Mehdi Hassan
- 4 *Aqeedat Kay Phool* - A collection of Hamd and Naat from Various Reciters (Urdu)
- 5 *Hamd and Naat* - Imani Rasheed (English)

To obtain any of the above cassettes, CDs or books, please contact IECRC through telephone, email or written correspondence.

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**Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center, P.O. Box 1646, Union City, CA 94587, USA**

**Phone: 510-732-6786**

**Email: [info@iecrcna.org](mailto:info@iecrcna.org)**

**Website: [www.iecrcna.org](http://www.iecrcna.org)**