

In memory of the late
Begum Razia Madad Ali



قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَ
مَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝

***"Say: My prayer and my sacrifice and my life and my death
are surely for Allah, the Lord of the worlds" (6:162).***

Remembrance

**For presentation to the children of
the late Begum Razia Madad Ali**

**Prepared by:
The HOPE Bulletin Team
Chicago, Illinois, USA**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of *The HOPE Bulletin* Team, I render my sincere gratitude to the many brothers and sisters of the worldwide *Jama'ats* who provided their valuable information for the preparation of this booklet.

I am particularly grateful to: Br. Riaz Ahmadali for designing the cover, adding the Arabic lettering and photo-sizing; Sister Mary and Br. Khaliel Ghafoerkhan for providing memorable photographs of Marhooma; Dr. Zahid Aziz for writing an inspirational article and submitting some very thoughtful material on the family history as given in the Preface; Dr. Mujahid Ahmad Saeed for providing family photographs, drawing the family tree, adding Arabic script and converting the material into a print-ready format.

Finally I have decided to dedicate this booklet to Hazrat Ameer, Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Pasha Sahib, my mentor, who taught me to strengthen my faith, and who continues to inspire me in my work.

Akbar Abdullah

PREFACE

Begum Razia Madad Ali Marhooma's father was Dr. Mirza Yaqub Baig (1872-1936), who joined the *Jama'at* in its early days in February 1892. His father was Mirza Niyaz Baig (d. 1918) of Kalanur (District Gurdaspur, now in India). Their ancestry can be traced to the time of the great Moghul emperor Akbar who was in Kalanur when he ascended to the throne in 1556. It was by Akbar's orders that the ancestors of this family settled in Kalanur and were granted a large estate there.

After Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig accepted Ahmadiyyat, along with his brother Mirza Ayub Baig (d. 1900), their father was very impressed by the new-found dedication to religion of these two young men, and he too joined the *Jama'at* in 1893. In fact, Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig preached Ahmadiyyat to his father in long letters, and when one such letter was read out to Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah said: I wish my sons were like this. The Promised Messiah has mentioned Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig and his father Mirza Niyaz in some of his books with praises.

Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig was survived by two sons and five daughters. Only one daughter, Zakia, now remains.

Two older sisters of Razia Begum Marhooma were married to sons of Maulana Ghulam Hasan Khan of Peshawar, a prominent Ahmadi. This gives them a connection to the family of the Promised Messiah since a daughter of Maulana Ghulam Hasan was married to the Promised Messiah's middle son, Mirza Bashir Ahmad (father of the late M.M. Ahmad, the Qadiani *Jama'at's* Amir in the U.S.A. who died in 2002). Thus, Razia Begum Marhooma's sister's husband's sister was a daughter-in-law of the Promised Messiah and mother of M.M. Ahmad.

Marhooma herself leaves two daughters and two sons, who are in order: Mrs Sabiha Saeed (wife of Hazrat Ameer Prof. Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed), Mrs Fauqia Aziz of the U.K., Mr Irfan Ali, living with his family in the family home in Lahore, and Mr Imran Ali living in Liverpool, U.K.

Marhooma had four grandsons and five granddaughters. She also had two infant great-granddaughters at the time of her death.

Zahid Aziz

INTRODUCTION

Akbar Abdullah

“O soul that art at rest, return to thy Lord well pleased, well pleasing. So enter among My servants and enter My garden” (89:27-30).

I extend to the members of the surviving family my most heartfelt sympathies on the death of a legend, the late Begum Razia Madad Ali, who passed away in Lahore, Pakistan on Saturday 8 July 2006.

I met the *Marhooma* for the first time at a convention in the USA, and during that brief encounter I was immensely impressed by her knowledge of the *Deen*, her oratorical skills, and her superb command of different languages. Her role as Central Anjuman’s emissary for participating in international conventions, and her tremendous accomplishments in forging bonds of unity amongst the global *Jama’ats* and the Centre, are commendable feats among her many achievements.

From a telephone interview with Hazrat Ameer I learnt that the late Begum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba returned to Allah at the age of 88 years. The *Marhooma* is survived by two daughters, Begum Sabiha Saeed (Hazrat Ameer’s wife), and Begum Fauqia Aziz (wife of Dr Zahid Aziz of the UK); two sons, Irfan Ali (in Lahore, Pakistan), and Imran Ali (in the UK); nine grandchildren, and two great-granddaughters.

According to Hazrat Ameer, Begum Razia Madad Ali graduated with a Master of Arts degree in Psychology. Her exceptional position as one of the most outstanding senior teachers at Lahore Teacher's College was enough for many to appreciate her talents, warmth and generosity of spirit. The *Marhooma* was also very dedicated to *Jama’at* affairs and actively represented the ladies of the *Jama’at*. During the Annual Convention, and on many other occasions, not only would she speak in the ladies section but she would often address the men’s section as well. In her position as an emissary of Central Anjuman she travelled to many parts of the world, and participated in conventions in Canada, Guyana, the Netherlands, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Hazrat Ameer further reiterated that being a teacher was an important aspect of the Begum’s life that influenced her children to pursue higher education and be successful in their own lives. In her adult years she dedicated her life to the service of the *Jama’at*, unselfishly serving, with energy and stamina, to further the cause of Ahmadiyyat.

There was an enormous gathering that joined in her *janaza* prayers. The *Masjid* was overflowing with members and friends of the family who came from all the *Jama’ats* in Pakistan to bid farewell to this great lady by participating in her *janaza* and internment. Begum Razia Madad Ali

was privileged to know many non-Ahmadi friends who admired her, as evidenced from scores of them joining her *janaza* prayers at Darus Salaam.

All of us share the grief of the surviving family, and I know the *Marhooma* will always remain very much alive in the memories of all of us who loved, respected and treasured her contributions. The *Jama'at*, which bears such a great loss, will always remember her and feel very fortunate to have known her for all these years. May Allah (*swt*) in His bountiful mercy and graceful compassion grant her a special abode in Heaven, *Jannate-Firdous*. *Ameen*.

Some members of the worldwide *Jama'ats* have suggested that we remember and honour Begum Razia Madad Ali in a special way, so we have decided to compile this memorial paper in tribute to that great lady of our *Jama'at*, the late Begum Razia Madad Ali. It includes thoughts and memories from members around the world and photographs taken during her tours.

“Memory is the only friend of grief.” – Dumer Godden.

We begin this tribute with the formal announcement by Central Anjuman on the passing away of Begum Razia Madad Ali and this is followed by a poem by Hazrat Ameer, son-in-law of the late Begum.



Announcement from Central Anjuman

Dear Members,

Assalaam-o-Alaikum Wa Rakhmatullahi Wa Barakaato Hoo.

It is with deep sorrow that I have to inform you that Baigum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba, mother-in-law of Hazrat Ameer Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed, expired at 4 o'clock this morning.

Allazeena iza asabat hum museebatun qaloo Inna Lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon. "Who, when a misfortune befalls them say: Surely we are Allah's and to Him we shall return" (*Al-Baqarah*, 2:156).

She was eighty-eight years old. Hazrat Ameer got a call last evening that she was not well and went over to take care of her. He was by her side when she breathed her last. Two daughters, Sabiha Saeed (Hazrat Ameer's wife) and Fauqia Aziz (wife of Dr Zahid Aziz of the UK), two sons, Irfan Ali (Lahore, Pakistan) and Imran Ali (UK), many grandchildren and two great-granddaughters survive her.

Marhhomah was the daughter of Hazrat Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig Sahib, a very close companion of Hazrat Masih-i-Mauood and a founding member of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-i-Islam Lahore. He had the honour of being Hazrat Sahib's physician during his last illness in Lahore in May 1908. Baigum Razia Madad Ali, popularly known as Razia Aapa, became an active member of the *Jama'at* at a young age and continued this interest until the end. She travelled widely to promote goodwill and unity in the *Jama'at* and represented the Central Anjuman in conventions in the UK, the Netherlands, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname and Guyana where Ahmadi brothers and sisters still remember her with affection. In her passing away, the worldwide Lahore Ahmadiyya *Jama'at* has suffered an irreparable loss and we are going to miss her for a long, long time.

May Allah *Ta'ala* raise the departed soul to the highest pedestal in *Jannat ul Firdaus* and grant patience and fortitude to the bereaved family to bear this loss. *Aameen.*

Namaaz-i-janaazah will be held at 5:30 pm, after *Asr* prayers today, and she will be buried in the Darus Salaam graveyard. You are requested to arrange for *dua* and *ghaaibaana namaaz-i-janaazah* in your respective *Jama'ats*.

Seeker of your prayers,
Lahore Ahmadees Moderator
Mohammad Saeed

Poem by Hazrat Ameer

In Memory of Razia Apa

Risen to the heights of your dreams.
As you always had the will to rise.
Zestfully you lived your life,
In your dealings you were loving, wise.
Always had prayers on your lips,

All benefited from your care.
Patiently you endured all trials
Always giving, willing to share.

TRIBUTES FROM MEMBERS WORLDWIDE

AUSTRALIA

Nur J. Alam

I met Aunty in January 1978 on my first trip to Pakistan. The ladies of the Anjuman had given a party so that I could meet them and others. The party was held at Mrs Fazal Ahmad's residence. I remember Aunty very well - she was a very fine individual - not just personal appearances but she used to glow from the inside. Her kindness and consideration for a total stranger was impressive. She was humble but not afraid to speak her mind. Everyone respected her greatly. Aunty was an outstanding individual and although I met her briefly that time, I carried away a lasting impression. May Allah grant her a place in His Garden, *ameen*.

Both my parents remember the late Begum Sahiba very well and with a great deal of fondness. They first met her in 1979 and were much taken by her bearing and warmth. Mrs Madad Ali had just returned from England to Pakistan. She was a fine looking woman, intelligent and generous towards others in thoughts and deeds. May Allah bless her and her family, *ameen*. As my parents were leaving, she gave them a set of silver buttons to give to me as a gift from her. I still have them after 27 years.

We would like to say to her family that they should be very proud of their mother as she was an exceptional human being. May Allah give them patience and courage to bear their loss. However a person remembered with love is never really gone.

Allah Hafiz.
Nur

CANADA

M. Yaseen Sahu Khan, Vancouver, B.C.

I was plunged into an ocean of grief when I heard of the death of my dear Khaala Jan, Mrs. Razia Madad Ali, a sincere, honest, learned and truly highly respected and honoured personality. “*Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Ilehi Rajeeon*” (2:156). Surely we are Allah’s and to Him we shall return.

Her passing away is not only a profoundly tragic loss to the parent body of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman at Lahore, but to the entire *Jama‘at* (branches) the world over and also to those who are not within the fold of Ahmadiyyat, as she has been able to champion the cause of the noble religion of Islam based on the Glorious and Bounteous Quran, the *Sunnah* of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and the teaching of the *Mujaddad-e-Azam*, the Masih Maoud, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib, within and to many countries outside of Pakistan.

Having been born and raised in a God-fearing, noble and righteous family, Khaala Jan had acquired glimpses of such noble qualities as: the patience of Job, the meekness of Jesus, the daring of David, the courage of Hazrat Umar and the wisdom of Solomon.

At all her deliberations, especially on religious topics, she being a very fiery and courageous speaker used to speak up very eloquently with full force and substance that the audience was kept spellbound and paid rapt attention to every word that proceeded out of her mouth. I have noticed that during all her speeches and presentations there has always been pin-drop silence. For her, everything had time, place and measure. She was loving, merciful, forgiving, yet stern and firm whenever circumstances warranted.

I most sincerely express heartfelt sympathies to her very near and dear ones on the very sad bereavement and pray to the Almighty Allah to pour down upon them patience and grant them the strength and courage to bear this irreparable loss. (*Ameen.*)

May I in all earnestness say that as my Khaala Jan was a staunch and dedicated Muslim. I have full confidence that the Quranic verses:

“O soul that art at rest, return to thy Lord well-pleased, well-pleasing. So enter among My servants and enter My garden” (89:27-30), is applicable to her.

Death of a person is just a fulfilment of Allah’s promise as we gather from His Words in the Glorious Quran:

“Every soul must taste of death, then to Us you will be returned” (29:57).

“Surely we are Allah’s and to Him we shall return” (2:156).

For my dear deceased Khaala Jan and all those who are believers and do good deeds, Allah has promised:

“And certainly the Hereafter is greater in degree and greater in excellence” (17:21).

“And Allah promised to those who believe and do good deeds, for them is forgiveness and a mighty reward” (5:9).

I hope that we will seek guidance through patience and prayer and also pray most fervently to the most forgiving, most merciful Allah to grant the departed soul a place in *Jannat-ul-Firdouse*. (*Ameen.*)

FIJI ISLANDS

Jalal-ud-Dean

Assalaamu'Alaikum Wr Wb

It is indeed with deep sadness that we've received the news of the demise of Begum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba: "*Inna Lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.*"

My mother (who is 85+), my son, Noor-ud-Dean, and my daughter, Zakia Nisa Dean, and I extend to the bereaved family and the extended families our most sincere and heartfelt sympathies.

From the accounts we have heard of Begum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba, she was not just a mother; she was an institution in Islam and indeed a role model to many of our Muslim women - Lahore Ahmadi or otherwise.

Arrangements are being made for her *Janaza Gaibana*.

GUYANA

Mansoor Baksh, Guyana

I certainly can say something about our late Razia Apa. My impressions about her are so deep that a book would not be enough to express my great admiration and love for her. The late Begum Razia Madad Ali was a personal friend of my late mother. They met many times on Conventions and they maintained contact by letter. (That started long before I ever dreamt of being involved with the Anjuman. I joined fulltime at 18 years of age.) I cannot put my hand on any picture of the late Begum Razia. What I do know is that she was well loved by many over here and news of her death has caused great sorrow for those who knew her.

She was a like a mother to me while I was in Pakistan, but I can say that for many of the graceful and pious ladies in that country, where the nation takes pride in offering their excellent hospitality. However, her love for Ahmadiyyat, her knowledge of Islam and her dedication for

the cause gave her a distinction above all others. I treasure the memories of my many visits to Model Town and spending time with her and Irfan (her son).

She was no doubt one of the pillars of the Movement and she has earned the respect and admiration of members internationally. I pray sincerely for her. May Allah bless her and all our devoted workers who have gone to the hereafter with *Jannatul Firdouse*. *Ameen*.

GERMANY

Muhammad Ali

About our very respected elder, Auntee Razia Madad Ali Sahiba, I must say that I personally never got an opportunity to meet her. But I heard her name from my mother, always with great respect. My mother respected her a lot like one of her elders and from my mother I always heard how good she was and how inspiring she was for the *Jama'at*. I pray that Allah may grant her a place in *Jannat-ul-Firdaus* and patience to all family members and make us to follow in the footsteps of these great people. *Ameen*.

Wasalam.

Muhammad Ali

HOLLAND

A.S. Abdul Santoe

It is with feelings of great grief that I have learned of the sad demise of Begum Razia Madad Ali Marhooma. I vividly remember her when she visited Holland to attend *jalsas* here. Begum Razia Madad Ali's vision on Ahmadiyyat and social attitudes in our communities are still remembered. On occasion, I still refer to her as a glowing example of the position women can have in Islamic society not only scientifically but in practice in the community as well. I also recall her care and concern for visitors attending *jalsa* in Lahore.

Passing away at the blessed age of 88 and leaving behind such heritage, we can only thank the Almighty for enriching our community with such esteemed personality.

Dear Hazrat Ameer Sahib, with deepest feelings of sympathy - also on behalf of all members in Holland, UK and Germany, I sincerely condole our dear lady Begum Razia Madad Ali. Fresh is still my memory of her, you, Bibi Sahiba and all other members of the bereaved family as well as the whole *Jama'at* on the passing away of Begum Razia Madad Ali. *Inna Lillaahi was inna Ilaihi Raaji'un*. May Almighty God grant her forgiveness and the choicest places in His *Jinnatul Firdaus*. May Allah (*swt*) also give *sabar* and solace to the bereaved family. *Innallaaha ma'as-saabireen*. *Ameen*. *Wassalam*

Hikmat Mahawat Khan

We are very sorry to hear about the demise of the mother-in-law of Hazrat Ameer and please record our deepest sympathies on the passing away of her who has left her immediate and extended family to meet her Maker. *Inna Lillahe was inna Elaihi Rajeoon*. May the Merciful Allah have mercy on her dear departed soul and give courage in adversity to both the surviving family members.

Please convey our deepest sympathy and condolences to Hazrat Ameer and all the other members of his family.

We pray that all the relatives of the deceased are granted strength by Allah to bear this loss. Hope the abode of the Hereafter is a place of greater happiness for the departed soul and that those left behind can follow the good examples in the life of the departed. May their lives be devoted to the service of Islam and the *Jama'at*.

Wassalaam.

Hikmat Mahawat Khan on behalf of ULAMON Board and Members

INDONESIA

Prof. F. Ahmadi

Dear brother Dr. Zahid Aziz,
Assalamu'alaikum wr. wb.

I just open my email and we (I and my wife) were shock to know that your mother in-law, Mrs. Razia Madad Ali, had left us. Especially my wife, she still remembers when she visited *marhomah* in her house during our last *duayya* in December 2005, she was hugged warmly by *marhoomah*.

"Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rojiun"

Allow us to express our condolence on the passing away of your mother in-law, Mrs. Razia Madad Ali and may Almighty Allah grant her forgiveness and mercy and a peaceful resting place in Heaven and grant strength and protection to the bereaved family. *Ameen*.

Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb.
Ahmadi and Wiratni

NEW ZEALAND

Abid Raza

On behalf of myself and my family and all the members of the Ahmadiyya *Jama'at* in NZ I offer our heartfelt sympathy and deepest condolence to Hazrat Ameer Sahib, Dr Zahid Aziz and their respective wives, children and extended families on the passing away of Baigum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba. *Allazeena iza izabat hum museebatun qaloo Inna Lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.* May Allah *Suhanatalla* have mercy on the dear departed soul and raise her to the highest pedestal in *Janatul Firdaus* and grant patience and strength to the bereaved family to bear this great sad loss. *Ameen.*

We will offer *Namaaz - janaaza ghaibana* and pray for the dear departed soul on Friday 14th before *Jumaa'a* Prayers.

PAKISTAN

Ejaz Sayal, Pakistan

We all feel very lonely while thinking of Aunti Razia's absence in this temporary world. But this all is by Allah's order. May Allah Almighty grant her the best places in the Heavens. She was not only a *buzurag*; rather she used to be like a frank and sincere friend. She had a special and unique personality among all in the *Jama'at*. It's a great loss for the family and the *Jama'at*. But Allah Almighty is so generous that He will fill this gap, *Inshallah*. May Allah bless her soul with lots of mercies and grant all of you patience.

May Allah be with you all.

Ejaz - Abrar & family, Lahore

SURINAME

Mary and Khaliel Ghafoerkhan

The very first time we met our dear "Apa" Razia was in 1979 when she came to Suriname as a member of the delegation from Pakistan to take part in the International Ahmadiyya Convention organized by the Board of the SIV under President Mr H. Niamut to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of our Anjuman.

Mr N.A. Faruqui, Colonel Latif, Maulana Hafiz Sher Mohamed, Mr and Mrs Zafar Abdullah, and Dr Noman Malik were also members of the delegation, headed by Hazrat Ameer (the late) Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan Sahib.

During the Convention, Professor Madad Ali also gave a lecture and we still remember how impressed we were listening to her very inspiring and professional speech delivered in beautiful Urdu.

Later that night Khaliel and I went to meet and compliment her. We were both so proud of her and took a liking to this first Pakistani sister we were meeting, and we had great admiration for her spontaneous and down-to-earth personality.

Two days later I met Apa Razia at a ladies meeting at the home of our aunt, (the late) Boeboe Gafoeran Mohamad-Ajoeb, where we discussed many issues concerning women. It was there that Apa Razia advised us to form a ladies association and educate ourselves in our religion. Years before, we did have a very active ladies association but at the time we were not organized. So we took her advice and got organized. Meetings and courses like performing *Salaat* and *Ghusl* were given at Boeboe Gafoeran's home.

In those days our Jama Masjid was still under construction.

The next time we met Professor Madad Ali was in March 1986 in Georgetown, Guyana. Like her, we – SIV Board members and spouses – had gone there to attend the inauguration of the Masjid Darus Salaam.

Apa Razia was supposed to come to Suriname after the festivities in Guyana when calamity struck. We had already returned home and that night we had invited guests like Maulana Bedar and Zafar Abdullah for dinner at our house. After dinner I called Guyana to find out when Professor Madad Ali would travel to Paramaribo when Maulvi Rashid's wife gave us the sad tidings of the assassination of Maulvi Anwar. I cannot express our grief to receive such horrible news. Apa Razia also decided then not to come to Suriname but to return to the States.

In 1989 Professor Razia Madadali was again a member of the delegation from Pakistan participating in the festivities around the 60th Anniversary of our Anjuman and in the International Ahmadiyya Convention of the SIV.

Mr R. Pierkhan was then the President of the SIV and Dr Ghafoerkhan was the Vice-President.

This time, being part of the organization, I met Apa Razia and all other delegates daily and we had many long conversations. There was another sister from Pakistan here, Mrs Zakia Sheik (President of the Ladies Association in Lahore), and looking at the way our activities were planned, both of them remarked: "You here are the real Ahmadees!"

I enjoyed talking to and looking after our guests. To name a few more: Mr. Aziz Ahamad and Mr Chaudry; Mr Alim Shah and Maulvi Rasheed from Guyana; Dr and Mrs Djajasugito from Indonesia; Mr and Mrs Sahukhan from Canada; Mr Shahid Aziz from England; and Mr and Mrs Enayat Mohammed, Dr Aziz, Dr Hamza Rafeeq and Maulana Kemal Hydal from Trinidad.

During the Convention we also had a ladies programme. Professor Madad Ali was our keynote speaker and again she gave a fantastic talk. She had high esteem and praise for people working for the cause of Allah, especially writers and translators.

When I told her that my younger sister, Shelley Karamat Ali, had already translated seven books for the Al-Qalam Foundation, books like *The Teachings of Islam, Muhammad the Prophet, The Living Thoughts of the Prophet*, etc. she appreciated that so much that she gave me a *salwaar-kameez* set as a present to Shelley who was not there that evening for she was still busy with the translation of the speech of one of the speakers that night. Other sisters received nice *dhuppattas* from Apa and were also very happy with their gifts.

On the programme also was a “Cultural Night at the Riverside” with a barbeque and music. It was really fantastic. I am sure Brother Shahid Aziz still remembers that night and can tell you more about it. Apa Razia and the other guests also enjoyed the food and the *mahaul*.

In 1996 we were very happy to meet Apa Razia again at the Ahmadiyya Convention in Columbus, Ohio. We had a lovely time together there and when Fauqia, wife of Brother Zahid Aziz, arrived there Apa Razia introduced her to me saying: “This is my daughter Fauqia and I would like you to take her as your younger sister and stay in touch with her.” I regret to say that only every now and then do we have contact with Brother Zahid but I will try to stay in touch with Fauqia too.

The last time we saw Professor Madad Ali was in Lahore when Khaliel and I attended the *Salana Jalsa* in 2002. She was not too well then, being down with the flu, but still came to the ladies *Jalsa*. After my speech she came up to me and embraced me. She didn’t know that we had come for the *Jalsa* and was indeed very happy to see me. For me it was also a great moment to meet my *Apa* after so many years and also to visit her at home for tea.

Together with Brother Ahmadi, Sister Wiratni, their son Dodi, and their sister-in-law from Indonesia, we spent the whole afternoon with Apa Razia, her husband, her son and grandchildren eating, joking and exchanging gifts.

When we received the news of her passing away it really grieved us that we were so far away. But we read *Ghaibana Janaza* for her on Friday, July 14th in our Jama Masjid in Paramaribo.

I will always remember this big sister of mine. I admired her great personality, her eloquence while speaking, especially in Urdu, and her no-nonsense style.

She was my role model. I learned a lot from her. Once, when Khaliel said to her “*Khuda Hafiz*” she corrected him saying: “You must say ‘*Allah Hafiz*,’ for that is His name. What is ‘*Khuda*’?”

We will always remember the love we shared and the good times we spent together and we pray that Allah will grant her a very nice place in His *Jannat-ul-Firdaus*. *Ameen*.

Our prayers are also for the bereaved families. May Allah grant them strength and forbearance to overcome their great loss.

Riaz Ahmadali

It is with great sadness that we have read about the death of Aunty Razia Madad Ali. *Inna lillaahi wa inna ilaihi raji'oon.*

I can remember meeting her twice in Suriname; I think it was around 1980 and 1989, during the international conventions in Suriname.

The first time she stayed a few days at my family's residence in the Saramacca district in Suriname, together with the late Hazrat Ameer, Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan. The second time, my wife Sharda (not yet then my wife) and I were both involved in the *nazam* group which performed during the convention. After some time I heard from others that Aunty Madad Ali considered us a very good couple to be together for life, despite the fact that we had no such intentions yet. I don't know if Aunty pronounced some "secret blessings" in our favour, but in 1994 Sharda and I got married, and with the blessings of Allah we are now both involved in the propagation of Islam (together with our friends Reza, Irshaad and others).

On behalf of my family I would like to offer our condolences to the family of Aunty Madad Ali. My father, Basharat Ahmad Ali, asked me to offer condolences from him and my mother to the family as well.

May her soul rest in peace.

THAILAND

Shaukat A. Ali

We are shocked and deeply distressed to receive this very sad news of the death of Begum Razia Madad Ali Sahiba. *Inna-lillaahi wa Inna Ilaihi Rajioon.*

With the goodness of her heart and the sterling work that she has been doing throughout her life, I have no doubt that Compassionate and Merciful Allah will reward her with an abode in the highest pedestal in *Jannatul Firdause* and our prayers are for this to be the case. *Aameen.* I also know that she will remain "alive" among the living as her work will be there to remind us of her presence.

I have known Begum *sahiba* for about two decades and she had always encouraged me to continue with what I have been doing and had given her blessings and prayers for the efforts which I have been putting in the cause of propagation activities. Being the daughter of one of the close companions of Hazrat Masih Mauood and a founding member of AAIL Lahore, she had taken very keen interest in the affairs of the *Jama'at* and had continued to take a very active role in the activities. During the last *Duaiyya* in December last year, when she saw me she again put her hand on my head and complimented me on my work and again encouraged me to continue with the activities.

I know you were all very close and dear to her and I do not have words to comfort you on this untimely and very great loss to all of you and to your families in particular and the *Jama'at* as a whole. May Allah (*swt*) grant you all the strength and forbearance to accept His will and let us all pray for the departed soul and seek the blessings of Almighty Allah for her and for us to try and take a chapter from her life's work so that we can also seek the pleasure of Allah. May Allah grant all of you *sabr* and solace. *Aameen*.

“O soul that art at rest, return to thy Lord, well-pleased, well pleasing, so enter among My servants, and enter My Garden!”

Wassalam.

Shaukat, Zohra, Zakeeya, Zahid and Wareesha

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Ashraf Ali

Assalaam-O-Alaikum!

I have been trying to find some info regarding our sister's visits to Trinidad. It appears that she passed through on her way from Guyana or Suriname on more than one occasion. She visited my home on her way back to Pakistan (I live very close to the airport). Her short visit with us was so intense and impressionable that Nafiesa and I felt compelled to visit her on our trip to Lahore. That visit would always remain in our memory because of her tremendous personality and the warmth she exuded. We remember that visit also because of the hospitality of her children, Irfan and Fauqia, may Allah bless them all.

Ashraf

UNITED KINGDOM

Dr Mujahid Ahmad Saeed

Nani, You will be Remembered....

“Muji!” With such love would Nani (the late Mrs Razia Madad Ali) call me and with such affection would this nickname of mine emanate from Nani's heart each time she would see me. My ears will always reverberate with the memories of her voice.

Nani is the Urdu term for one's maternal grandmother, and this is what I grew up calling her. She truly taught me the meaning of the sweetest word in the Urdu language, *Nani*.

Ever since she has passed away, it is amazing how I have come to realise how much I had learnt from her, and the impact she had on my life. Small things, that usually go unnoticed, remind me of her. Only then does one realise how ones *buzurgs* (elders) shape our souls, and only then do we realise their departure for the Hereafter is an unfathomable loss.

Remembrance of Allah was her hobby and favourite pastime. There is not a single day I can remember when she hadn't woken up for her *Tahajjud* prayers. Each night she had a ritual of setting her alarm clock, but in the latter years I remember her saying to one of her Ahmadi cousins how Allah had destined for the elderly to suffice with a few hours of sleep each night and thereby Allah's blessings were such that the elderly were allowed greater time for praying through the night!

I can also not recall a single day when I did not find her sitting on her dining table contemplating on the translation and commentary of the Holy Quran, as if the *Bayan-ul-Quran* was her *sahaylee* (girlfriend). Meticulously reading, pondering over and then neatly committing her thoughts to paper and thereby creating notebook upon notebook of her reflections on the Holy Quran. This is the treasure-trove she has left behind for the family.

I can also not remember a single *Jumma* at the Darus-Salaam (Lahore), where, sitting on the male side of the mosque, I couldn't tell she had just entered the mosque. Readers will be astonished how; well, she would enter the mosque and in her own loving way say, '*As-salaamu Alaikum....*' to the female members present on the side of the mosque opposite to ours. This would always bring a smile of amusement to my face. I can't stand thinking how much I will miss her the next time I visit our Mosque at Lahore.

Each *Jalsa* she would leave her house worried she had not prepared enough for her speech; and each time she would return home having won everyone's soul with her soul-inspiring speeches. Such was the impact of her speeches.

In her youth at school and college she was the best debater, a skill that allowed her to become the 'first female Ahmadi *mubaligha*' – a feat she was proud of. Abroad, she would invite open sessions with the members of the community and respond to their questions on an extempore basis. Such was her grasp over the knowledge of the Quran, *Hadith* and literature of Ahmadiyyat.

Although an Ahmadi, her non-Ahmadi neighbours loved her so dearly that she would be asked to raise her hands and pray for them all whenever the neighbours collected to remember a deceased, or when celebrating *Eid*, etc. The warmth she demonstrated in her human relations was unparalleled.

Generosity knew no bounds: Although a pensioner, she would give away in hundreds/thousands of Pakistani rupees during the Annual *Jalsa* and would only need an excuse to donate in Allah's way. Supporting the needy, the orphans, the widows, the students of little means, and the list goes on.

Each time one of us would give a speech or participate in the *Jalsa* proceedings it was customary for a cheque to come from the female side of the mosque with a message that ‘Begum Razia Madad Ali is donating’ such and such amount ‘to the *Jama‘at* with prayers for her grandchild.’

I have never met a lady of such piety in the entire *Jama‘at*. This is an irreparable loss and a void that no one can fill. Please forgive me if this is conceived as an exaggeration by her eldest grandchild.

She would always request me to pray that she departs from this world without being dependant on anyone. Allah fulfilled her wish.

She was full of warmth, and her hugs and kisses will never be forgotten.

If only I can stand up to the high esteem she held me in.

‘Surely we are Allah’s, and to Him we shall return’ (Holy Quran, 2:156).

Dr Zahid Aziz

The late Mrs Razia Madad Ali was one of the daughters of Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig, a close, senior-most follower of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad from the earliest days of his mission. Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig also acted as medical doctor to Hazrat Mirza *sahib* and other prominent figures in the Movement including Maulana Nur-ud-Din. In fact, he attended to both the Promised Messiah and Maulana Nur-ud-Din in their final illnesses. When the A.A.I.I. Lahore was founded in 1914, Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig was among its leading founding figures. When he died in 1936, Maulana Muhammad Ali said of him:

“When the foundations of the Anjuman in Lahore were laid, there was no building, no office, and no missionary. The sacrifices that the Doctor Sahib made in those days, it is entirely beyond my power to describe them; only Allah knows them and only He can reward him, *and also have mercy on his progeny because of his sacrifices*. Then, in those circumstances, when he was being transferred from Lahore in the course of his employment he resigned from his job, fulfilling his pledge of giving priority to religion over worldly gain. He dedicated himself to the service of the faith. He donated his valuable property for the offices of the Anjuman, and till today the offices are in that building.”

Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig gave this as his last advice to the *Jama‘at* sometime in the 1930s:

“All friends should try to show what qualities they gained by accepting Ahmadiyyat. Nothing is gained by mere talk and mere claims. Like the Companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, make your lives a notable example and a guiding light for the propagation and service of Islam, from which others too find the right way and they become convinced of the truth of the Promised Messiah by seeing your sincere intentions and good deeds.”

These principles of her father guided the late Razia Madad Ali in her life. She was born around the year 1919, and in the days when few men received any schooling, let alone women, she went to college and obtained a Master's degree in Psychology from Government College, Lahore. She then taught for a long time, till retirement around 1980, at the well-known Lady McLagan teacher training college, her specialty being in Child Psychology.

Apart from her academic subject, she had a deep interest in the study of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. She was an avid reader of any Islamic literature, which she would read with great care and concentration, and write down comments about it. She studied the Holy Quran every day, went through the Urdu translation and commentary by Maulana Muhammad Ali, *Bayan-ul-Quran*, and made written notes of her study in her diaries (many of which we now possess). In particular, she tried to understand and explain the Quran in the light of her knowledge of psychology, and vice versa.

She was a regular speaker at the Annual December Gatherings in Lahore, not only in the women-only sessions, but in the general sessions as well where she would come to the podium on the men's side of the mosque to make her speech. Not only was she a speaker, but what is perhaps even more difficult, she listened with rapt attention to the speeches of others, absorbing every word.

She had held positions in the Women's association at the Central Anjuman, and was very active in social and charitable work in the *Jama'at*. Till the end of her life, she not only herself provided financial assistance to the poor, particularly for their education, but moreover she acted as organizer and a channel of distribution through whom many people donated for the relief of the poor. All this charity work was voluntary and by her own volition. She kept a written account to show donors, even her near and dear ones, of how their donations had been distributed. She urged others to spend in the way of Allah, both for charity and for *Jama'at* work.

Neighbourliness, so strongly taught by Islam, was part and parcel of her character. Any good she could possibly do to a neighbour she was keen to do. She would often quote a saying of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, according to which your neighbours are not just limited to the people living next door but stretch a long way beyond that. She organized meetings of women of the neighbourhood for religious and charitable purposes.

Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig, her father, had laid much emphasis on friendship and fairness towards people of other religions. His religious mentor, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, instructed him thus when he qualified as a medical doctor in the 1890s:

“You are a doctor of people's bodies, not their souls. Equal in your eyes should be the man who worships God day and night, and the man who curses and abuses God day and night.”

The doctor sahib later wrote:

“I acted on this all my life. I treated Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, and atheists all equally. So people of my beliefs as well as those who opposed my beliefs all had confidence in me, and I was liked by all of them.”

Being her father's daughter, Mrs Razia Madad Ali followed this advice also and always extended her friendship and kindness to people of all religions and sects. She too was liked and loved by people belonging to different religions, who have been deeply grieved by her passing.

She used to recall that the leading Muslim figures of the Punjab were friends with her father, despite the bitter hostility against Ahmadis. She remembered accompanying him, as a teenager, when he visited Dr Sir Muhammad Iqbal. In the 1930s Iqbal was publicly denouncing Ahmadis as a danger to Islam, but privately he respected Dr Mirza Yaqub Baig as being a staunch Muslim and valued friend.

She performed the *Hajj* in 1970, and later in the 1970s she started visiting *Jama'ats* abroad, especially at the encouragement of the late Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan who had undertaken the task of revitalizing the *Jama'ats* outside Pakistan. She visited the U.K., Suriname, Trinidad, Guyana, Canada, U.S.A. and Holland, and addressed many functions and conventions of the local *Jama'ats*. She gave advice and guidance to *Jama'ats* on ways of their social development and the bringing up and nurturing of the children and youth. In 1986, she flew from England with our late *Imam*, Muhammad Anwar, to attend the convention in Guyana. This was the visit near the end of which Mr Anwar was tragically assassinated by a fanatic.

When visitors from *Jama'ats* abroad came to Lahore, she often invited them to her house and they were keen to see her. On her passing away we have received heart-felt messages of grief from people who knew her in so many countries.

It may be mentioned that her husband, Prof. Madad Ali, who died in November 2005, while not being an Ahmadi, facilitated her *Jama'at* work and visits abroad. Without his co-operation she would not have been able to make such a great contribution. He held all the late Heads of our *Jama'at* in the highest regard: Maulana Muhammad Ali, Maulana Sadr-ud-Din, Dr Saeed Ahmad Khan and Professor Asghar Hameed.

Not keeping good health recently, she passed away in Lahore on Saturday 8th July, 2006, in the early hours, Pakistan time. *Inna li-llahi wa inna ilai-hi rajiun*. May Allah grant her His protection, forgiveness and mercy and make her join His most righteous servants. May we follow in the path of goodness along which she walked till the end. *Ameen*.

Ross Mahmood

Begum Razia Madad Ali
An indefatigable follower of the *Masih-i-Mauood* in her lifetime
and now a member of Hazrat Sahib's *Jamaat* in Paradise

Inna Lillahi wa inna elaihi raaji oon.

It was doubly a great shock to me and my wife as only in December 2005 we had gone to pay our respects and say our condolences for Mr Madad Ali, at her home in Model Town, Lahore. At that time she seemed to be recovering well from the grieving process. Fauqia and Sabiha were there, too.

I remember her as a great Ahmadi and a beautiful relationships builder. Many years ago Janji (Hazrat Dr Saeed Ahmad sahib) was staying with my mother and us in London. He was on tour of the western *Jama'ats*. Some news, of troublesome nature, came from the Centre and once during a discussion he told me of what a great support she has been to him during the troubled times after he became the *Ameer* of Hazrat Sahib's *Jama'at* – it was then I realized the eagerness and the passion of this Ahmadi – our dear departed Begum Razia Madad Ali - may God shower her with His mercies and grant her an honorific place in Paradise, *ameen*.

Whenever she was at the Darus Salaam, our London Centre, her talks would bring a breath of fresh air to the UK *Jama'at*, and with a wonderful enthusiasm she would meet and greet all.

She and my mother, Razia Faruqui, daughter of Dr Basharat Ahmad, were young girls around the time my *khalu*, Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali, made the eventful and memorable *hijrat* from Qadian to Lahore.

In the annals of our *Jama'at* this *hijrat* is considered akin to that of the Holy Prophet Muhammad's from Makah to Madina and that is why Lahore is known as *Madina-tul-Masih*. It was from here the work of *Masih-i-Mauood* - which is *Ishaat-i-Islam* - the propagation of Islam – continued and spread to the far reaches of the Earth.

The stalwart and unflinching support of her father, Dr. Mirza Yaqub Baig sahib, Khawaja Kamal-ud-din sahib, Dr Basharat Ahmad sahib, Maulana Yaqub Khan sahib, and many others played a crucial role in establishing the true successorship of the *Masih-i-Mauood* at Ahmadiyya Buildings, Lahore.

My mother used to tell me that those were heady times in Lahore.

Paigham-i-Sulah, the famous Urdu weekly, was starting to be published; translation of the Holy Quran was being written and reviewed by the second *Ameer*. Our other literature and books were in the making and missionaries were being prepared.

Hazrat Maulana Yaqub Khan sahib took the reins, as Editor-in-Chief, of the English weekly, *The Light*.

Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ali's famous heart-wrenching appeals for funds for the establishing and running of the Woking and Berlin mosques and the sending of missionaries to far and distant lands were the high-point of many a *Salana Jalsa* - the Annual Gatherings.

It was those times and the fervor of her saintly father which inculcated in her the missionary zeal which saw her as an orator and the Central Anjuman's ambassador in our time.

May Allah in His infinite mercy grant her forgiveness and bestow upon her the best of places in Paradise, *ameen*.

Seeker of your prayers,
Ross Mahmood
Trustee, Ahmadiyya Anjuman Lahore Missions International (AALMI)
London, July 2006

Syed Nasir Ahmad

My dear Brother Akbar,
Assalamo Alaikum.

Thanks for providing us with up-to-date details about the demise and burial of the late Begum Razia Madad Ali. She was a very learned and devoted Ahmadi. Her departure is a great loss to the family and the Movement. May Allah bless her and grant her peace and comfort in the hereafter.

Yours sincerely,
Nasir Ahmad

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Captain Abdus Salam Khan

In Memoriam ... Mohtarma Razia Madad Ali The Last Light of a Vanishing Milieu

Although Dr Zahid Aziz's comprehensive and excellent article on our dear departed sister, Razia Madad Ali, leaves not much room for further comment, I shall confine myself to capture the ethos of the particular milieu (1914 onwards) in which she was born (1919) and grew up, a milieu that took shape around the towering personalities that took a brave stand against the new-fangled doctrine of *Takfeer-e-Ahle-Qiblah* (branding a Muslim as a *Kafir* if he did not believe in Hazrat Mriza Sahib), and a "Divinely Ordained *Khilafat*" that came away from Qadian and pitched their tents in Ahmadiyya Buildings (a 300 square yard locality of Lahore).

I am amazed how closely these elders' migration from Qadian over a point of doctrine resembles the great exodus of migrants who left Europe in sailing ships four centuries ago and headed for America seeking freedom to practice their faith, throwing away the yoke of feudal and monarchical Europe's oppressive and suffocating atmosphere. Just as they founded a great and brave "New World" under One God, based on democracy, justice and equality, so did these Ahmadi elders establish a new democratic and liberal society based on democratic and liberal principles. Not for them the system that emerged in Qadian, the unquestioned obedience to an omnipotent "Divinely Ordained" *Khalifa*, who could do no wrong. Not for them the bowing and kissing of the "Blessed Hand" of Hazoor; not for them the branding of all non-Ahmadi Muslims as *Kafirs*. Nay, though they started from scratch, they laid the foundation on solid Islamic principles of democracy and egalitarianism, and declared that anyone who called himself a Muslim was a Muslim and a brother!

Muhammad Ali, whom they chose as their *Amir* and President of the Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at-e-Islam, was just one among the equals. During executive committee meetings he would face scathing criticism with a smile and always bowed to the will of the majority. A spiritual giant, subject of 37 revelations of the Promised Messiah, the spiritual and administrative pivot around whom the entire Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement revolved, who single-handedly produced a body of Islamic literature that still guides millions of Muslims around the world, who was recognized by the United Nations and who offered his movement patronage, was such an unassuming person that a stranger would have a hard time spotting him in a gathering. Whenever Father would visit Allama Iqbal, he would always ask about Muhammad Ali's welfare and would request Father to carry his request for prayers to the latter.

Muhammad Ali's six daughters – my cousins – along with the daughters of Dr Muhammad Hussain Shah, Dr Ghulam Muhammad, Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din, my maternal aunts, Hamida and Mahmooda Khala (daughters of Dr Basharat Ahmad, author of *Mujaddid-e-Azam*), and my sister, Zahida, were Razia's peers and playmates and formed the "A" team of the Lahore Ahmadis, most of whom went to college and to become emerging lights of Lahore society. Each one of them went on to found a family and to become a source of inspiration for scores of younger girls. They were adorned with both the Eastern cultural tradition as well as modern education. They represented a beautiful and charming synthesis of the East and the West. Razia was one of the remaining icons of this vanished blessed milieu. Her departure symbolizes the beginning of the end of this inspiring "A" team of Ahmadiyya Buildings, Lahore. May her soul rest in peace!

Masud Akthar

We were highly grieved on hearing the news of the passing away of Begum Razia Madad Ali. Probably no other lady amongst the present womenfolk of the Ahmadiyya Movement comes even near to her qualities of mind and spirit, much less to speak of replacing her. She had inherited the passion for the predominance of Islam over other faiths, and education, from her very worthy father, the late Dr Mirza Yaqub Beg, of blessed memory, who was one of the founding fathers of both the *Anjuman Himayat-e-Islam*, which was engaged in establishing schools and colleges for facilitating the education of the Muslim masses, and the Ahmadiyya Isha'at-i-Islam whose mission it was to achieve the predominance of Islam and to produce

valuable literature on Islam and the dissemination of the teachings of the Quran and Islam in the Western countries, to opening missions in Europe and Asia.

Begum Razia Madad Ali, along with Mrs Akthar Malik, the late Mrs Zakia Sheikh, the late Mrs Nasira Malik, and Mrs Tahira Fazl-i-Ahmad, all the daughters of the late Maulana Muhammad Ali Sahib, were amongst the first of a few of those Muslim ladies who obtained college education in an era when Muslim ladies, as a result of the *fatwas* of the Muslim *Ulemas* of India, were not allowed entry in the mosques even for Friday prayers. Thus she was one amongst the pioneers of the educated Muslim ladies in the Province of Punjab. I have vivid memories of those days when as a five-six year old child I used to see a *tonga* (horse cart) carrying these *burqa*-clad girls in their teens leaving at Ahmadiyya Buildings at Brandreth Road for taking them to Lahore college for women at Hall Road, Lahore. The others were married after graduation (B.A) but Begum Razia Madad Ali went on to complete her education by obtaining a Master's degree from the University of Punjab. She chose to become an educationist and became a professor in a girls' college.

She was a leader of the feminist in her own way and in her own right. She was not the political socialite but believed in rendering honest and devoted services for the emancipation of the womenfolk and for rendering devoted selfless services for the cause of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. She was an inspiring leader and remained President of the *Anjuman Khawateen-i-Ahmadiyya* for many years. Through her inspiration many Ahmadi ladies became active participants in the *Anjuman-i-Khawateen*. She was honest to the core and never hesitated to utter what was in her mind. She was a solid, devoted and learned worker for the cause of Islam and Ahmadiyyat and shunned publicity and never uttered even a word in self-praise nor did she trumpet her services to the cause of Islam and Ahmadiyyat. This honourable attitude won her the respect of everybody and gave her a motherly place of honour amongst the younger members of the Ahmadiyya Movement. May Allah rest her soul in eternal peace. (*Ameen.*)

Fairuz Maida Abdullah

Razia Madad Ali was the ultimate feminist. She was a gentle soul who was intelligent, well read and articulate. She had an excellent command of Islam as well as Christianity and Judaism. She knew how to get her point across without offending someone who had a differing opinion. She was strong in her convictions yet tactful in conveying them. She was a consummate diplomat. She was my role model.

I was fourteen years old when I met Mrs. Madad Ali. I was learning about Islam and was full of questions. I was perplexed by why Islam allowed men to marry up to four wives when the purpose of Islam was to liberate society from misogynist tribal customs. No matter whom I asked or what I read I could not find an answer that satisfied me, that is, until I asked Mrs. Madad Ali. She paused for a bit, smiled and stated that marrying multiple women was allowed but not recommended. She explained that in times of war women who lost their husbands were not able to support their families and may have turned to prostitution in order to survive. Men were allowed to take on multiple wives to safeguard the dignity of women. Although I have read much on this topic, Mrs. Madad Ali's logical explanation has always resonated with me. Those are my best memories of her. Mrs. Madad Ali was a Muslim woman who used her knowledge of history and religion, not fear or ignorance, to convey Islam to others.

In February 2005 I visited Pakistan with my parents. My biggest regret was not being able to see Mrs. Madad Ali prior to leaving. However, my mother was able to visit with her after I left. Mrs. Madad Ali was so happy about my marrying a convert to Islam. She gave my mother a prayer rug as a wedding present. My husband and I pray on this rug everyday. She is never far from my thoughts and always with me in spirit.

Reflections on 'A' Team of Lahore by Capt. Abdus Salam Khan Arnold Toynbee's views on Ahmadis

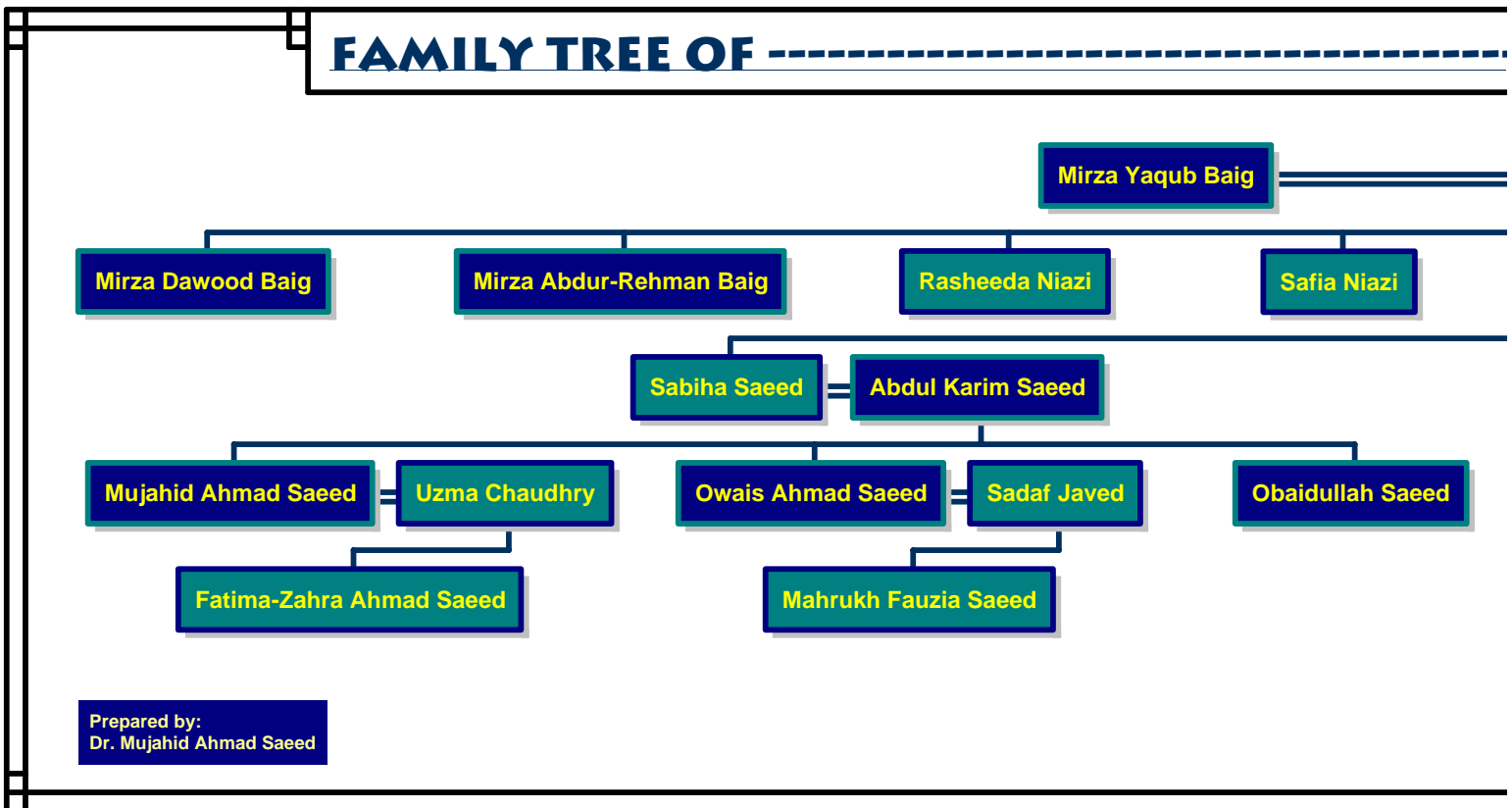
Arnold Toynbee, in his 'Challenge and Response' theory of history, in which the invading culture poses a threat for the decadent culture, states that there are three kinds of responses to this challenge. Citing the example of the response of the Muslim world to the onslaught of the modern Western Materialistic challenge, they respond in three ways:

“The zealots, taking their ancient weapons, climbed the hills and start a resistance to fight the new culture: he cites the tribal Pathans as an example. The conformists, surrendering to the dominating values of the invading culture become 'more English than the English, abandoning their own values. I think Sir Syed and his school of thought could be a good example of this surrender. The third response is to absorb the good points of the invading culture whilst retaining one's own values.”

He cites the Ahmadis as an example of this response.

I was reminded of this when I was writing a eulogy for the late sister, Razia Madad Ali. She and her peers, who I had termed the 'A' Team from Ahmadiyya Buildings, Lahore, rose to the Western challenge by adopting the good points of the West. They readily accepted the idea of getting a modern college education and learning the latest Western scientific knowledge, abandoning the *burqa* and appearing in public with an uncovered face (something unheard of in the prevailing culture of the twenties and thirties of Lahore) but adopting a very circumspect Islamic mode of dress by wearing a coat and a head covering, whilst still maintaining all the Islamic values. This 'A' team proved itself to be a watershed in the history of the role of women in Islam.

Left half of tree. See next page for right half.
(Males are in blue, females in green.)



Right half of tree. See last page for left half.
Males are in blue, females in green.

