

This is an account of the life of the great Son of man before whom the progressive people of Europe, America, Australia, New-Zealand and South Africa knelt down in ob-  
 eissance. Again how did Jesus of Nazareth fare in his personal life ? A handful of Jews, Pharisees and Gentiles, seizing hold of him placed on his head, a crown of thorns, spat on his face beat him with sticks, and in the end put him to the cross by the orders of a Roman magistrate ; where according to Christian accounts, he gave up the ghost lamenting :

“My God, my God, why hast  
 Thou forsaken me” ?<sup>1</sup>

All his disciples who numbered only twelve deserted him and some of them did not even hesitate to curse him so that they may save their own skins. If a religion with such a humble beginning can today dominate the entire world, why can not the Ahmadiyya Movement, particularly, when at the death of its Holy Founder, no less than four hundred

(1) Matthew 27:46

thousand persons subscribed themselves in loyalty to his service and some of his votaries suffered death by stoning because of their faith in him and gave up the ghost chanting His praises rather than turn away from their duty in devotion to their Master. It is evident that the ascendancy of Ahmadiyyat is synonymous with the supremacy of Islam, for, the Ahmadiyya Movement is not something foreign to or separate from Islam ; on the contrary, it has been raised to serve and strengthen Islam to faith taught by Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of God be on him). So ponder well and understand and be not of the doubters,

**The fourth possible cause is lack of  
 appreciating the difference between  
 Jalal and Jamal.**

The fourth possible reason for such mis-givings is a lack of understanding, on the part of the people, of the difference between the Divine attributes of Majesty (*Jalal*) and of Beauty (*Jamal*). They are unacquainted with

the Divine laws that work out the progress of the dispensations of Jalali and Jamali reformers in different ways. That is why such people, finding the other arguments unanswerable, generally express their misgiving that the brotherhood founded by the Holy Prophet (peace of Allah be on him and His blessings) spread over about one third of the known civilized world in the short period of fifty years, but that Ahmadiyyat is still the target of the kicks of every Tom, Dick and Harry after a lapse of some seventy years and there is no sign yet of its world-wide ascendancy. It should be noted in this context that the Holy Prophet (peace be on him and blessings of Allah) is the Master and Sovereign whereas the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) is his servant and naturally, therefore, there must be a difference between the master and the servant and this distinction is well known and well understood by every true Ahmadi and,

in fact, all Ahmadis feel genuine pride in it. Besides this misconception has arisen on account of a failure to appreciate the difference between the dispensation of Majesty (Jalali) and dispensation of Beauty (Jamali). One who has made a careful study of Divine dispensation must be well aware that spiritual reformers fall into two categories. To the first category belong the reformers who are sent with a new Law, as, for instance, Moses and the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace of Allah be him and blessings) who were sent, in their own appointed time, with the law of Torah and the Holy Quran, respectively. The second category of reformers comprises such as are given no new law; that are in fact raised to serve existing *shariat* and to consolidate it, as for example, the Messiah Jesus Christ (peace be on him) and the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement, who were not given a new law but were sent to serve the Mosaic and Islamic Sharia, respectively.

The law-bearing Prophets are called *Jalali* Reformers, for in order to consolidate and enforce the new law, they are granted temporal power in addition to the gift of prophethood, for the obvious reason that law cannot be enforced without it. Such Prophets are, in addition to being teachers in religious questions, wisdom, spiritual disciplines and inculcation, also temporal sovereigns of their people and empowered to legislate and punish offenders and lawbreakers, in the course of their own lives. And accordingly as circumstances require, they have to go to war against their enemies; and in normal conditions, their policy is based on the complex principle of counsel and penalty. But, as against this, the *Jamali* Reformers, raised to serve an existing Sharia are not granted temporal power in the initial stages. Instead, they work in a peaceful setting through reason, argument and heavenly signs, with

humility. Their policy is normally based on the dual principle of good counsel and forgiveness, as was the role of the Founder of Christianity, in the Mosaic dispensation and that of the Promised Messiah, Founder of the Almadiyya Movement, in the Islamic dispensation.

#### The rate of progress in the two systems.

In respect of *Jalali* Prophets (the Prophets of majesty) the way of Allah is that they appear like the flash of lightning and the clap of thunder and in the twinkling of an eye dominate their sphere of world. For, it is necessary, in their case, that in their limited life-time, they should consolidate and enforce the Law they bring. But the advent of the *Jamali* Prophets (the Prophets of beauty) is like a delicate and soft stalk which grows slowly from a stem to a plant and from a plant to a sapling and from a sapling to a giant tree. In illustration of

this the Holy Quran says:

“Muhammad the Prophet of Allah and the companions with him are in their majestic glory like unto a stone which is hard on the unbelievers breaking into pieces whatever it strikes against, but between themselves they are tender and generous. This similitude concerning them is found in the Torah (the old Testament). But their similitude in the Evangel (the new Testament) is that of a new grown stalk which puts forth its soft petals and then gradually grows firm and thick and then balances its weight firmly on its trunk; its growth pleases the husbandmen but the unbelievers gnash their teeth at its sight.”<sup>1</sup>

In this verse, a marvellously graphic picture of the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) two advents

(1) Sura Fa'ih

has been drawn. The first advent, made in his own august person, was a majestic (*Jalali*) appearance in glory like that of the bearer of the Torah when events justified the simile of a stone hard on the disbelievers crushing whatever it hit and the defensive push of the Muslim arms shattered the encmies into bits and in an incredibly short time the followers of our master the Holy Prophet (may my life be devoted to his service) overran the greater part of the then known world. As against this, his second advent which was ordained to take place in the latter days according to the Quranic prophecy through a deputy reflecting his spirit and attributes, was to be a *Jamali* appearance of grace, clemency and beauty which has materialized in the soft manner of the bearer of the Evangel, like a slow-developing stalk.<sup>1</sup> The heavenly

1. i.e. Muhammad the Prophet of Allah (blessings of Allah be on him and His peace) will bring up a future people in the disciplines of Shariat (through a deputy reflecting his attributes and spiritual powers)

husbandmen are happy at the slow but sure growth of this stalk but the disbelievers are gnashing their teeth, fearing lest this stalk should grow into an enormous tree overshadowing them all. Incidentally, it should be noted that, according to the law of nature, a slow-growing object survives long. The second round of Islam's prosperity will therefore, by the grace of Allah, be long-lived, even eternal.

In short, it is the way of God that the Majestic (*Jalili*) dispensations come like lightning and thunder and in an instant dominate the whole scene, as happened during the time of Moses (peace be on him) and in the day of our Holy Prophet peace of Allah be on him and His blessings); and in respect of dispensations of *Jamali* (beauty) the way of God is that they grow gradually and reach their zenith in the fullness of time, as it happened in case of the Messianic dispensation of Jesus and as it will happen in the case with the Ahmad-*iyya* Movement. There is thus no analogy

between the two and little justification therefore to judge the progress of the Founder of the Ahmad-*iyya* Movement and his community by the yardstick of the rapid rise of the Holy Prophet (peace of Allah be on him and His blessings) and his companions, which flashed across like lightning. The two are designed to pursue different methods and different courses and their cases are not identical. The progress of the Ahmad-*iyya* Movement can however be compared to the rate of progress of Christianity, for, both movements are *Jamali* in character and their expansion has to be necessarily gradual according to the set way of Allah. There is before us the history of Christianity: how it had to go through a long chain of travail and trials from its beginning during the first three hundred years of its course: so much so, that during their long early period, Christians had to take shelter in dark and narrow catacombs, suffer-

ing diverse hardships and persecution. But when this tender stalk started growing and the hour of Christianity's ascendancy struck, those who had hitherto been trampled under the feet of the people became rulers of empires and currently held the position of world leadership. Could one give so judging things by their apparent features, imagine, on seeing Jesus in his day or his followers in the course of the first three centuries of Christianity? Certainly not?

Dear friends, why do you then entertain doubts about the ultimate ascendancy and supremacy of the Ahmadiyya Movement. You should be grateful to God for, He is favouring you with a far greater success and far greater prosperity at a much quicker pace than was granted to the people of Jesus; and this is solely due to the blessed name of the Holy and exalted Muhammad (peace of Allah be on him and His blessing) for, in him, is

centred every hope and "on him is our utter dependence." ~~Indeed through hardly seventy~~ years have passed after its advent and the offshoots of this Divine commune have already spread out far, in most countries of the world. Everywhere, in England, in Germany, in the Netherlands and Sweden, in Switzerland and Spain, in the two Americas; in Nigeria, in Ghana, in Liberia and Sierraleone, in Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, in Mauritius, in Israel, in the Levant, in India, in Ceylon, in the Malayas and in Indonesia, in Borneo and the Philippines, etc. The workers of the Ahmadiyya Movement are engaged in the spread of Islam and are labouring for its renaissance day and night and the activity and influence of these Missions of Islam is posing a challenge to Christianity and to polytheistic forces and an atmosphere of appreciation of the beauties of the role of Islam is

1. This is part of an hemistich of a couplet of the Promised Messiah, Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement. He says "As Messiah, I too should have faced the Cross, had there not been the name of Ahmad on whom I am utterly dependent".







of their posterity will also perish and they too will not see the son of Mary descending from heaven. Then God will create restlessness in their hearts: that the day of the glory of the Cross had passed away and *the world had taken another shape* but Jesus son of Mary had still not come down from the sky. Then all the wise people will discard this belief and the third century from today will not have completed when all those who had been waiting for Jesus, both Muslims and Christians, will despair of his coming and, entertain misgivings and shall give up their belief and there will be only one faith in the world and one Preceptor. I came only to sow the seed. That seed has been sown by my hand. It will now grow and

blossom forth and none dare retard its growth”<sup>(1)</sup>

Explaining further this unparalleled ascendancy, the Promised Messiah has said :

“God the Excellent has informed me again and again that He will grant me great glory and will instill my love into the hearts of people and will cause my movement to spread in the entire world and will make my sect supreme above all other sects and members of my sect shall attain to such excellence in knowledge and learning that by the light of their truth and by the dint of their arguments and signs, they will confound all. Every nation will drink of this fountain and this Movement will grow and prosper, so that finally it will encompass the whole world.

(1) *Tuḥfat-ut-Tuḥ-Shahadain* pp. 64—65

### Many obstacles will be encountered

and many trials will come. But God will remove all of them from the way and will fulfill His promise. And God spoke to me saying: "I will shower blessings after blessings on you so much so that kings (and heads of states) will seek blessings from thy clothing." So O ye who hear, remember these words and keep these prophecies secure in your boxes, for, it is the word of God which must one day come to pass".

Finally giving a picture of the world-wide ascendancy of Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement, he says:

"I saw a river like vast ocean which is zigzagging in its course, like a snake, flowing from the West to the East and then suddenly changing its direction, it started moving in the

opposite direction, from the East to the West."<sup>1</sup>

This is the ultimate picture that has to take shape through the Ahmadiyya Movement when, in a manner of speaking, the entire face of the world will be changed and the peoples of Europe and America will surrender to the beauties of Islam and there will be *a new earth and a new heaven* and this world-wide revolution will be achieved through spiritual forces.

Can a true Ahmadi ever entertain, ever for a moment, the least doubt about the forthcoming ascendancy and victory of Islam and the Ahmadiyya Movement in the face of these powerful prophecies emanating from the Creator, Master, Lord of the world the world, the All-Knowing and Almighty God, only out of fear of existing environmental dangers and the current prosperity and progress of Europe and America and Russia? The undou-

(1) *Tasharah*, p. 646.

bied truth is that which the divinely inspired Messiah has proclaimed :

"This is indeed the decree of Heaven and must come to pass in any case."<sup>1</sup>

#### *Tadbir and Taqdir*

But this divine decree naturally lays great responsibility on the shoulders of all Ahmadis and indeed on all true lovers of Islam as well—that they should day and night work most diligently, devotedly and selflessly for the propagation of the truth and shirk from no humanly possible sacrifice so that, as in all divine plans *Tadbir* (human effort) should combine with *Taqdir* (Divine decree) to bring about the above mentioned phenomenal change.

"And our last word is that all praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Universe."

(1) *Tazkhirah*, p. 442.

#### REWARD

Those who are not familiar with Divine dispensations and have little knowledge of the ways of God about their ultimate ascendancy, are apt to wonder how the Ahmadiyya Movement will, with its present humble position and comparatively slow rate of progress as compared with secular organizations, attain its objective of world-wide spiritual conquest. They should know that the progress of Divine Movements is, as a rule, slow in their initial stages and except to those who are gifted with keen perception and insight, the tree that the seed is designed to develop into, is seldom discernible in the incipient seedling. This brief treatise furnishes the answer to the question set out above. I appeal to all sensible and good-natured persons to be in foremost in accepting and in coming forward in support of the Truth that has manifested itself through the Ahmadiyya Move-

ment for the final triumph of Islam. Their lack of support will not of course do any harm to the Truth, but by holding back they will only shut the door of God's blessings upon themselves while those who extend their support to it will earn great reward with little effort. For, as the Promised Messiah, the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement, has said :-

' You are offered a great reward as a free gift for your help and support, O brother. The triumph of Truth is decreed by Heaven ; it must come about in any event'.

Mirza Bashir Ahmad,

Rabwah,  
October 4, 1957.