

# PAN AFRICAN AHMADIYYA MUSLIM ASSOCIATION (PAAMA)

**Sadr:** Tommy Kallon



Alhamdulillah the Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association enjoyed immeasurable blessings from Allah this year. The association was enabled to progress in religious and social activities throughout the year across the country. The main highlights of the year included a peace conference with Shia Muslims, Ta'lim and Tarbiyyat forums, Seeratun Nabi Jalsas, Eid Milan family picnic and PAAMA Lajna Day events. The association also undertook a number of initiatives including the launching of Maulana Nayyar award scheme and a number of successful charity fundraising campaigns. The most important highlight was the achievement of 10 Bai'ats.

## **NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Eid Milan Family Picnic 2015 - 9th August 2015**

The Eid Milan family picnic is the main highlight of PAAMA national activities. It focuses on the educational, moral and physical training of members of the association as well as promoting social integration and strengthening the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood of its members. The event takes place at the Jamia Ahmadiyya UK premises. Members listen to scholarly speeches, have a tour of the premises and engage in a number of sporting activities which the venue provides. Parents and children gain insight into the lives of the devotees of Ahmadiyyat Jama'at.

### **Pan-African Evening Event at Jalsa Salana 2015**

PAAMA held its second Pan-African evening event at this year's Jalsa Salana UK to host delegates from Africa, Africans across Europe and African American delegates. The attendance this year far exceeded last year's attendance of 450. The theme for this year's event was "Celebrating the Centenary of Ahmadiyyat in Mauritius and Africa" as it coincided with the centenary celebration of Mauritius Jama'at.

### **Post Jalsa Salana Reception 2015**

Over the years, PAAMA UK has hosted an annual Post Jalsa Salana UK Reception in honour of Jalsa

Salana delegates from Africa and other senior members of the Jama'at. This year's customary event was held on Sunday, August 30th at Fazl Mosque, London.

In addition to The Abdul Wahab Adam Merit Award launched last year, this year's event also heralded another merit award which recognises the efforts of missionaries of non-African origin whose services and devotion have enhanced the cause of Islam Ahmadiyyat in Africa. With the guidance of Huzur Aqdas<sup>(aba)</sup>, the award was named 'The Abdur Raheem Nayyar Award', in honour of the late missionary's pioneering services in more than one African country.

## **REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Tarbiyyat and Sanat-o-Tijarat Workshop - PAAMA London Region**

The PAAMA London Region organised a Tarbiyyat forum and Business Workshop on Sunday 27th December 2015 at the Salat center of Peckham Jama'at, The Hollington Youth Center, Camberwell in London. By the grace of Allah, it was successful and well attended.

### **Eid Party with Communities together – Midlands Region**

The Midlands Region of the Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK in conjunction with St Mathew's Church Wolverhampton, organised an Eid Party on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The aim of the event was to extend hands of hospitality and to promote community cohesion. The welcome address was followed by distributions of Eid gift and guest remarks.

### **Midlands Region – Talim and Tarbiyyat Forum**

On 28th March 2015, members of PAAMA, UK Midlands Region converged at Darul Barakat, Birmingham, for a Tarbiyyat and Ta'lim Forum.

Most of the selected topics were addressed as open discussions, which enabled participants to exchange very solid views on pertinent issues. During a discussion on the importance of prayers,

## Mauritius Ahmadiyya Centenary Commemorative Event



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On Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2015 the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK held a function to celebrate the centenary of the inception of Ahmadiyyat in Mauritius and Africa. The function took place in the Tahir hall of Baitul Futuh and was chaired by Respected Amir Sahib UK was well attended by Senior Jama'at officials including Naib Amir and Missionary In-charge Maulana Ata ul Mujeeb Rashed Sahib, Naib Amir Mansoor Shah Sahib, General Secretary Rana Mashood Sahib as well as National Secretaries and Regional Amirs.

In his keynote address Amir Sahib praised the Mauritius community for their dedication and hard work. He also made reference to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V's visit to Mauritius where Huzur Aqdas<sup>(aba)</sup> had praised the Jama'at of Mauritius and fervently prayed for them. Amir Sahib said it was during his visit to Mauritius that Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV<sup>(ru)</sup> announced the beginning of the 24-hour broadcast of MTA. Amir Sahib also commended the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association for their continuous progress over the years through the efforts of the previous and current administrations.

participants stressed the importance of performing Salat as one of the key factors of every Muslim's faith.

### Midlands Region Peace Conference with Shia Muslims

The Midlands Region of the Pan-African Muslim Association (PAAMA) UK, following consultation with PAAMA National President, Tommy Kallon Sahib, Regional Amir, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Khan

Sahib and Regional Missionary, Maulana Abdul Ghaffar Sahib, invited their Shia Muslim counterparts to a Peace Convention aimed at promoting mutual understanding between the two communities and seeking ways to work together to promote peace in society.

The event was held at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Darul Barakat Mosque in Birmingham on 30th May 2015.

The head of the Shia Muslim delegation, Shiekh

Muhammad Amin Evans, applauded the initiative as a milestone in establishing peace and harmony between the two communities. He also highlighted the fact that the event did not only serve as a platform to elucidate certain misconceptions but it also manifested that the two Communities share a lot more in common than meets the eye. For his part, Regional Missionary Maulana Ghaffar Sahib reiterated that inculcating peace and harmony within and between local communities is tantamount in ensuring a more tolerant and peaceful world order.

#### **LONDON REGION – NASIRAT FIELD TRIP East Region – Talim and Tarbiyyat Forum PAAMA EAST REGION TALIM AND TARBIYYAT FORUM**

PAAMA East Region held its maiden programme, a Ta'lim and Tarbiyyat Forum at Baitul Ahad, Newham, on the 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2015.

In total 53 members attended the event including members of the PAAMA National Executive and members from London Region. Lajna recorded 22 attendees and the men recorded 31.

#### **PAAMA East Region Seerah Nabi Forum at Baitu-ul Ahad**

PAAMA East Region held a Seeratun Nabi Forum to mark the life history of the Holy Prophet Muhammed<sup>(pbuh)</sup>, on the 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 at Baitul Ahad Mosque. The forum was addressed by two speakers on two perspectives of the Holy Prophet (SA): 'The Prophethood of Rasulullah, Mohammed (SA) and "Prophet Mohammed (SA) a Mercy to Mankind". The forum was well attended with one invited guest in attendance. Some members were given 'Life of Muhammed<sup>(pbuh)</sup> and other Jama'at literature.

#### **LAJNA HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **London Region – Nasirat Field Trip**

The London Region of PAAMA Lajna organised its first ever field trip for the young girls on 5th April 2015. The day involved trips to two very dynamic museums, the Albert and Victoria Museum and the Science Museum in London.

The children's excitement and enthusiasm during the tour of both museums prompted for the extension of the tours. They also exhibited very interesting ideas and creative talents.

The Head of Lajna PAAMA UK, Mrs Faosat Sanni Sahiba, highlighted the fact that the trip embodied several underlying benefits for Lajna as it served as a platform to realise one of Lajna's aims of building good relationships amongst Nasirat members at a tender age.

The heads of the Tarbiyyat and Internal Affairs departments also expressed their gratitude to all the accompanying ladies, other Lajna members and parents of the girls for the success of the day.

#### **PAAMA Lajna Day**

The Lajna of the Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA), celebrated a PAAMA Lajna Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016 at Baitul Futuh. This was the first national event held by the women's wing of PAAMA and the theme of the event was "History of Ahmadiyyat in Africa".

After the welcome address by the Head of PAAMA Lajna representatives from Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Uganda gave a brief history of the introduction of Ahmadiyyat in their respective countries. After the speeches the PAAMA Nasirat presented display and Tirana which was followed by an interactive session on women's health with Dr. C. Mungalsingh (Geriatrics Registrar, Kings College Hospital) with the theme, 'Aging Gracefully'. The session was very educative and exciting.

The morning session concluded with an address by the special guest, Mrs Amtul Wadood Cheema, Lajna National Secretary for Waqfe Jadid & Tahrike Jadid, UK, who represented the National Sadr, Lajna Imaillah. She commended the PAAMA Lajna for their efforts and commitment and urged them to make effort to integrate and take up active role in the wider Jama'at.

The final session of the day involved a prize distribution. The categories were the 'Best performing Region and runners-up' and the 'Outstanding Nasrat Award and runners-up'.

Mrs. Khadijah Mensah, General Secretary, PAAMA Lajna, UK, gave the vote of thanks and silent prayers was led by the Head of Lajna, PAAMA, UK to conclude the event.

Among the highlights of the event were also an Art and Design Workshop and Fundraising for the building of a mosque in Burkina Faso, an initiative of PAAMA UK. Over £400 were raised for the fund.