

Messages from His Holiness
Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad
*Khalifa and Worldwide Head of the
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community*



On the occasion of the Pan-African Peace Symposiums 2017 & 2018
hosted by the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK
at the Baitul Futuh Mosque, London.



Message from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

Message from His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifa and Worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for Pan-African Peace Symposium held on 21st October 2017

To all the attendees of the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK Peace Symposium,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu.

I am very pleased that the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK is holding its first ever Peace Symposium and I pray that the event proves to be blessed in all respects. I would also like to express my sincere regret that due to certain reasons I am unable to join you all this evening.

In today's world, such functions have taken on an even greater importance because the world is passing through a period of increasing instability and conflict and, as a result, the peace of the world is lessening day by day. Indeed, it cannot be said that any continent is free from the effects of this growing turmoil. Thus, I pray that Allah the Almighty grants wisdom to the people of the world so that instead of moving rapidly towards destruction and catastrophe, people come to realise the need to step back from the abyss and seek to build bridges of love and peace in society. However, this will not be possible until all nations and continents, whether it be North or South America, Australia, Europe, Asia and indeed all of Africa are willing to work together for the common good of mankind.

With the grace of Allah, according to our limited resources, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is continually engaged in efforts to promote peace in the world and to unite mankind under a banner of love, peace and harmony. The very fact that the Pan-African Association is holding this Peace Symposium is an indication that upon every possible platform we are trying to develop peace and are striving to eradicate all forms of hatred and intolerance.

The African continent is vast and its boundaries border with both Asia and Europe and so it is imperative that the African people realise their great status and importance to the rest of the world. Each African tribe or race and indeed each individual person must understand his or her responsibilities and duties to their nation and to the wider world. Sadly, even now, much of the world considers African nations to be poor, destitute and without value, however, I firmly believe that Africa has huge potential and a great status.

Yours is the continent that was ruled by foreign nations for generation after generation and tragically they plundered Africa of its resources for their own benefit. Thankfully, and with the grace of God, Africa is now free from its colonial past and so it is the obligation of African Governments and leaders to ensure that their nations' resources are utilised in the best possible way in order to benefit their nations and to help them grow and develop.

During the colonial era, Africa's oil resources had not been fully revealed but in recent times, new oil has been discovered, and there is better technology available to extract this natural wealth that God has bestowed upon the African people. It is my prayer that the African leaders invest every single penny derived from such wealth for the sake of the development of their nation and to help their people. This should be their objective and mission, otherwise whilst your continent may have been liberated from the chain of colonialism it will continue to remain shackled by the chains of economic slavery. I pray that every African leader works to the best of his or her abilities and consider themselves to be servants of the nation and consider it their duty to be guardians of the future of Africa. I pray that the legacy they bequeath to the future generations is one of peace, prosperity and sustained development. Similarly, I urge the members of the public to elect leaders who they consider to be the most loyal, faithful and capable.

Furthermore, all people should play their respective roles in helping light the torch for a bright and progressive future for the African Continent. Alongside the economic development of your countries, it is essential that you maintain a spirit of peace and brotherhood within your nations and with your African neighbours and in this way Africa can set a glorious example of peace for the rest of the world to follow.

Tragically, in recent years, some extremist and terrorist groups, such as Boko Haram or Al-Shabaab, have gained influence in Africa. To eradicate them and to bring an end to their evil, both the African leaders and the people must work together to ensure that their countries develop and progress. In all dealings, you must show integrity and be just so that young people do not become frustrated, as it is frustration that invariably makes people vulnerable to radicalisation.

May Allah the Almighty bless the African Continent in all respects and may your nations remain free of all forms of slavery or colonialism forever more. Rather than come under the rule of others, I hope and pray that Africa comes to lead the world, Insha'Allah.

Once again, I pray that the event is blessed in all respects.

Long Live Africa!

Wassalam.

Mirza Masroor Ahmad

Khalifatul Masih V

Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Message from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

Message from His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifa and Worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for Pan-African Peace Symposium held on 28th October 2018

Distinguished Guests,

*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu.
(May peace and blessings of Allah be upon you)*

I am very pleased to learn that the Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK is holding its Annual Peace Symposium for the second time. I pray that Allah the Almighty blesses this event in all respects and I hope that all of the participants recognise that establishing peace in the world is the single greatest challenge facing mankind today.

In recent times, we have seen tensions between different groups and communities within nations rising and increased division within society. This has led to conflicts and wars in some countries, whilst the far-right has resurfaced and its dangerous resurgence shows no sign of abating. Similarly, at an international level, hostilities are intensifying and threaten to boil over at any time. Several countries have acquired nuclear weapons that have the potential to wipe away nations at the push of a button. If, God forbid, such arsenals are ever put to use the catastrophic effects will last for generations and will result in children being born with mental and physical disabilities for many decades to come.

Moreover, the collateral damage that is seen in war-torn countries is causing death and misery beyond comprehension and is a grave stain on humanity. The infrastructure in those nations, such as Yemen, where air strikes and heavy bombardment have occurred has been destroyed. Hence, where people are dying directly from bomb attacks and warfare, millions of others, including babies and young children, women and elders, are dying from famine, malnourishment and disease.

In light of the perilous state of the world, it is the urgent need of the time that people and nations set aside their vested interests and focus all their energies upon establishing peace through justice, compassion and mutual respect. A spirit of selflessness and a genuine desire to alleviate the suffering of others must overcome the selfish greed that has taken root in so much of the world.

Now is the time to put aside our differences and for all people, whether religious or not, whether rich or poor, to come together and recognise the fact that we are all part of the same human race and united as such.

The African Continent and its people, whether they live in Africa or have moved abroad, have a great role to play in establishing peace in the world. Thus, never underestimate yourselves or the potential of the African people. God Almighty has given the African people many qualities and capabilities and so it is your duty to work hard and fulfil your vast potential. For this, you must always act with justice and serve your nations with integrity and work towards their continued development and advancement.

Recently, I sent a message to a similar event in Ghana where I said that I hoped the African people were the leaders in forming an alliance of peace. I hereby reiterate this message and I hope and pray that African people, wherever in the world they live, set a positive example for the rest of the world by establishing the highest standards of morality and justice. May the African people be the leaders in developing true peace in the world.

At the end, I pray for the success of the Peace Symposium and extend my best wishes to all of the participants.

Wassalam.

Yours sincerely,

MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD

Khalifatul Masih V

Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



PAN-AFRICAN PEACE SYMPOSIUM 2017



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