



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America



*Muslims who believe in the Messiah,
Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani^{ra}.*

Press Release

For Immediate Release:
February 7, 2015

Contact:
Salaam Bhatti
(717) 608-3837
salaam.bhatti@ahmadiyya.us
@Islam_Press

Distinguished Member of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Passes Away After Over Sixty Years of Service

***Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA mourns passing of al-Hajj
Rashid Ahmad American***

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA mourns the passing of its former President, al-Hajj Rashid Ahmad American, who passed away in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on February 7, 2015, at the age of 91. To God we belong and to God we return.

Rashid Ahmad was born in 1923 in St. Louis, Illinois. He became an Ahmadi Muslim in 1947. In 1949, he traveled to Pakistan to study Islam. During his time in Pakistan, he became fluent in Urdu and Punjabi. While there, he affectionately received the moniker of “American”, which he adopted to his name. Mr. Ahmad returned to America to share Islam with his family, friends, and community. After performing the pilgrimage to Mecca in 1998, he earned the title of *al-Hajj*, a performer of Hajj.

Aside from his involvement with the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, he was also a staple in his Milwaukee community. Mr. Ahmad regularly appeared on the TV program Islam Live on public TV.

“Rashid Ahmad American was a role model for thousands of people. His humble nature touched everyone and he will be greatly missed by friends, family, and our Community.” said Wasim Malik, Vice President Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, “We have the utmost respect for him and offer our heartfelt prayers for Mr. Ahmad and his grieving family. Members of our Community, young and old, will miss him dearly.”

Mr. Ahmad was a husband to the late Sara Qudsia and is survived by his second wife, Aziza Ahmad, six children (one predeceased him), twenty grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

A viewing will be held at the Milwaukee Mosque at 5600 West Fond Du Lac Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216 on February 10 at 1:00 PM. The funeral prayer will take place at 2:00 PM. Burial will take place at 3:00 PM at 13235 West Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005.

About Ahmadiyya Muslim Community:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a dynamic, reformist and fast-growing international movement within Islam. Founded in 1889, the Community spans 206 countries with membership exceeding 160 million. Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, established in 1920, is among the first American-Muslim organizations.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is the only Islamic organization to believe that the long-awaited messiah has come in the person of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908) of Qadian, India. Ahmad claimed to be the metaphorical second coming of Jesus of Nazareth and the divine guide, whose advent was foretold by the Prophet of Islam, Muhammad. The Community believes that God sent Ahmad, like Jesus, to end religious wars, condemn bloodshed and reinstitute morality, justice and peace. Ahmad's advent has brought about an unprecedented era of Islamic revival and moderation. He divested Muslims of fanatical beliefs and practices by vigorously championing Islam's true and essential teachings.

###