



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America

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

Press Release

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Muslims across U.S. commence a month of fasting in the wake of Hurricane Gustav

While Hurricane Gustav ravages the Gulf Coast, millions of Muslims across the U.S. commence the Islamic holy month of Ramadhan. For thirty days, Muslims abstain from food, drink and sex from dawn to dusk as a means of self-purification and heightened awareness of the poor and afflicted.

This year's Ramadhan bears special significance for American Muslims. "While our nation continues to endure the pangs of war, natural disasters and economic depression, we fast with fervent prayers for peace and prosperity," says Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA (AMC USA). "Our thoughts especially go to those affected by Hurricane Gustav."

As part of its efforts to raise awareness about the holy month of Ramadhan, AMC USA will host weekly dinners in 50 chapters across the country. "Fasting during Ramadhan is a fundamental pillar of Islam," says Dr. Rehmatullah, "We want to promote a greater understanding of our faith by breaking bread with our fellow citizens in faith."

About AMC:

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (AMC) is a dynamic, reformist and fast growing international movement within Islam. Founded in 1889, AMC spans over 180 countries with membership exceeding tens of millions. AMC USA, established in 1921, is the first American-Muslim organization.

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