

In commemoration of 50th Anniversary of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at Canada

Sahābiya of the Promised Messiahas

Hazrat Zainab Bibira

Wife of a well-known companion of the Promised Messiah^{as} Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Kareem Sahib^{ra}

Other Books in this Series by Calgary Region:

- Hazrat Asmā' bint Hazrat Abū Bakr Şiddīq^{ra}
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- Hazrat Ghulam Fāṭimah Begum^{ra} &
 Hazrat Maimūnah Begum^{ra}
- Hazrat Aziza Begum^{ra}
- Hazrat Sakinatun Nisa^{ra}
- Hazrat Sarwar Sultan^{ra}
- Hazrat Maimoona Soofia^{ra}
- Hazrat Umme Tahir^{ra}
 (Translated by Brampton Region)

An English Adaptation of an Urdu Book

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Foreword

By special grace of Allāh, 2016 is the year of the 50th anniversary of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at Canada. To commemorate this historical milestone, department of Ishā'at; Lajna Imā'illah Canada presents the second series of ten books on lives of Sahābiyāt. Three of these Sahābiyāt are from the time of the Holy Prophetsa and seven from the time of the Promised Messiahas. The first series of books on lives of Sahābiyāt was published in 2015. Alhamdolillah!

These books are part of an ongoing project to provide the stories of great Muslim women to English speaking children and youth. May Allāh make our humble efforts inspiring and beneficial to all our readers! Ameen!

My heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the dedicated team of Calgary Region! Under the passionate supervision of Mrs Amtul Qayyum Anjum Sahiba, Regional President, all team members worked with great enthusiasm and sincerity to accomplish this project. I am also grateful to Mrs. Naima Iqbal Sahiba, Local President Brampton Flower Town and her team for helping us passionately to accomplish the project on time. May Allāh reward all team members abundantly! Ameen!

Last but not least I am indebted to Mrs Amtul Noor Daud Sahiba, National President Lajna Imā'illah Canada and Abdul Noor Abid Sahib, Missionary Jamā'at Ahmadiyya for reviewing these books and giving valuable suggestions. Jazakum Allāh wa Ahsanal Jaza!

> Amtul Qudoos Farhat National Secretary Ishā'at Lajna Imā'illah, Canada

Message from Sadr Lajna Imā'illah Canada

It is the sheer grace of Allāh Almighty that once again He has enabled department of Isha'at Lajna Imā'illah Canada to publish the story books on Sahābiyāt of Holy Prophetsa and Promised Messiahas. In this effort Lajna Imā'illah Calgary has put forth an extensive contribution from translation to format and layout of the books.

The purpose of publishing these books is to bring the noble character of Sahābiyāt into the knowledge of our Lajna and Nasirat so that they may develop these characteristics within themselves. Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh Vaa has drawn our attention many times that we must build a relation with our creator. These Sahābiyāt had deep love of Allāh in their hearts. I hope reading about their lives would inshaAllāh create a desire in our hearts to gain nearness of Allāh as well.

I am thankful to National Secretary Isha'at Lajna Imā'illah Canada Dr. Amtul Qudoos Farhat Sahiba and her team of Lajna members of Calgary for working hard on this project. I pray that may Allāh accept their humble efforts and reward them abundantly Ameen!

I hope and pray that these books will be beneficial for children inshaAllāh!

May Allāh accept this humble effort of Lajna Imā'illah Canada and enable us to further excel in our abilities Ameen!

Amtul Noor Daud Sadr Lajna Imā'illah Canada August 24, 2016

Message from Sadr Lajna Imā'illah Calgary Region

By the Grace of Allāh the Almighty we are celebrating 50 years of the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamā'at Canada, and the department of Ishā'at Lajna Imā'illah Canada is progressing by leaps and bounds. When I first saw the short Urdu books on the lives of the Sahābiyāt, I had a strong urge to obtain, read and translate them into English for our next generations. National Sadr Sahiba's gracious acceptance to assign this task to us made this wish come true. I am thankful to Respected Amtul Noor Daud Sahiba, National Sadr Lajna Canada, and Respected Amtul Qadoos Farhat Sahiba, National Secretary Ishā'at, for giving Lajna Imā'illah Calgary the opportunity to translate some of these Urdu books.

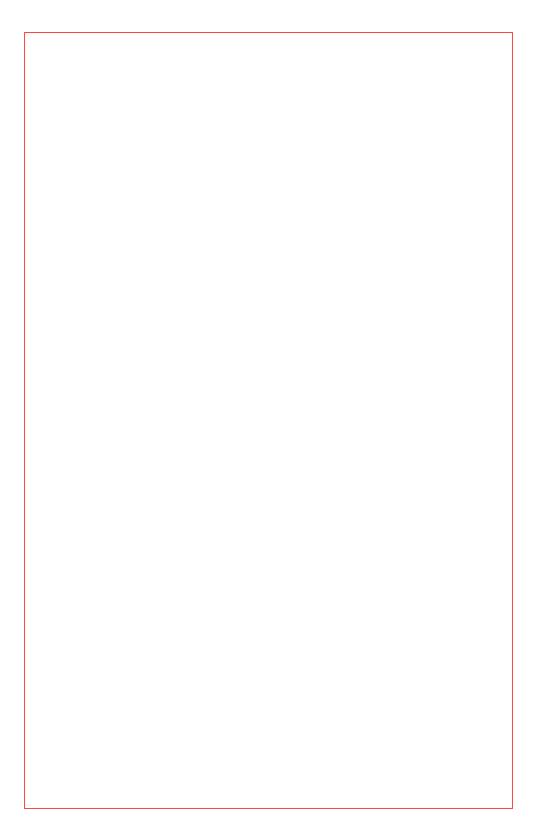
I am thankful to our Calgary team who helped in making this possible and who worked expertly on the translation, editing and graphics. May Allāh the Almighty accept this effort of our entire team, whose names are included with each of the 10 books in this series which have been translated by Lajna Imā'illah Calgary. My special thanks go to Khalida Noori Sahiba, Asma Chuadhry Sahiba, and Sehar Malik Sahiba for their untiring and valuable input throughout this endeavour.

May Allāh accept our humble efforts, and May He help our youth understand and follow the excellent example of the Sahābiyāt and live their lives according to the true teaching of Islām. Ameen.

Amtul Qayyum Anjum Sadr Lajna Imā'illah Calgary Region Sahābiya of the Promised Messiahas

Hazrat Zainab Bibira

Wife of a well-known companion of the Promised Messiah^{as} Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Kareem Sahib^{ra}



In the name of Allāh, the Gracious, the Merciful

Hazrat Zainab Bibi^{ra} Known as "Maulviani"

Dear Children!

God Almighty has blessed our dear Promised Messiah^{as} with a very pious Jamā'at. Thousands upon thousands of people have devoted their lives to the service of Jamā'at Ahmadiyya. Amongst his followers are people from various parts of the world, but his companions from the province of Punjab, India are quite prominent. People from the cities of Kapurthala, Delhi, Lahore and Sialkot are particularly noteworthy.





Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^{as} The Promised Messiah and Mahdi 1835-1908

Sialkot is the city where the Promised Messiah^{as} lived for a few years prior to receiving the message of being the second coming of the Messiah, and he named it his second home after Qadian.

Several righteous people came forth from this town to join the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at. Amongst the several men and women who took the pledge of allegiance were Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib Sialkoti^{ra} and his first wife Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} - famously known 'Maulviani'¹. She was, along with her husband, the recipient of multiple blessings and God's bounties. Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} had the fortune to pledge allegiance at the blessed hands of the Promised Messiah^{as} himself, and she bore her oath with utmost care, loyalty and piety.

Family Background

Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} elderly relative, Itter Singh Sahib, resided in Choharkana². His family belonged to the Rajput caste. To earn himself a living, he would travel to Kashmir and work for a 'Nawāb'³. Eventually, he came to accept Islām because of this man. Upon converting, he changed his name from Itter

¹ 'Maulviani' - the wife of an Islamic scholar

² Choharkana - now known as Farooqabad in Pakistan

³ 'Nawāb' - a wealthy Muslim landlord

Singh to Itter Baab. Itter Baab was respected by all who knew him for his greatness of character and personality. After some time, he moved to Sialkot, where Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} paternal great-grandfather Muhammad Hayat arranged his sister's marriage to Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib's^{ra} great-grandfather. Thus, both families came to be related. Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} father belonged to the Hanfi caste and was a steadfast man. He used to work in the city of Quetta first and then began his own business at a later time. It so happened that he was on a business-related trip to Quetta when he passed away on August 8, 1885.

Her mother's name was Hazrat Umrān Bibi Sahiba^{ra}, daughter of Abdul Raheem Sahib. He lived in Sialkot. Hazrat Umrān Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was the paternal aunt of Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra}. She had accepted the Promised Messiah^{as}.

There is no doubt that Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra} was the first one from Hazrat Umrān Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} family to pledge allegiance at the hands of the Promised Messiah^{as} in 1889. However, he was a companion of the



Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra}

Promised Messiah^{as} from before 1888. After his Bai'at, travelling to Qadian became a routine trip for him. (1)

'Maulviani'

Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was born around 1859/60. She was married to Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib Sialkoti^{ra} in 1883-84. This is how she came to be known as 'Maulviani' - wife of an Islamic scholar.

Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib Sialkotira

Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib Sialkoti^{ra} was born in 1858 and passed away in October, 1905. He was fortunate enough to spend the last 14 years of his life in the company of the Promised Messiah^{as}, serving the Jamā'at. He was also blessed enough to be the first person to be buried in the Bahishti Maqbarah ⁴ in Qadian. The Bahishti Maqbarah was opened on December 26, 1905. Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra} was initially buried in a different graveyard, but a dream of Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} changed all that and he was buried in Bahishti Maqbarah. The Promised Messiah^{as} sometimes, based on the circumstances, would facilitate the fulfillment of

⁴ Bahishti Maqbarah - name of the graveyard in Qadian

certain individuals' dreams. When Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} saw a dream in which her husband came to her and said, 'Let my funeral prayers be read,' she told the Promised Messiah^{as}, and in trying to fulfill the dream, he led the funeral prayers a second time. He said, 'Funeral prayers are prayers still. It is better to fulfill this dream.'(2)

Bai'at

Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} took Bai'at⁵ a few years after Hazrat Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra} took the pledge of allegiance. The Promised Messiah^{as} had a logbook made specifically to keep track of those converting to Ahmadiyyat, the dates they took the pledge, and so on. In this



logbook, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was lodged as participant #238, having taken the pledge on February 7, 1892. (3)

Her brother Hazrat Munshi Muhammad Ismaʻīl Sahib^{ra} relates the following about his trip to Qadian: "I arrived in Qadian Darul Amān for the very first time in 1893. My sister and I came to

⁵ Bai'at - the oath of allegiance

stay at Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I's^{ra} house, which was under construction at the time. After this, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} stayed with Hazrat Maulvi Sahib^{ra} in Qadian, and continued to do so with the utmost patience even after his passing. Where Hazrat Maulvi Sahib^{ra} was a devout Ahmadi and partook in Tablīgh extensively, his wife was no less. It is because of her that I came to accept Ahmadiyyat."

Living in the House of the Promised Messiah^{as}

Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra} lived in the upper portion of the Promised Messiah's^{as} house in a room that connected to the upper balcony of Masjid Mubarak. Underneath this room was the blessed residence of the Promised Messiah^{as} himself. (4)



Masjid Mubarak, Qadian

Hence, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahibara had the fortune of residing in the blessed and pure home of the Promised Messiahas, known as 'Al-Daar'. Several times, women would come over with spiritual concerns and Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahibara, according to her knowledge of the matter in question, would either attend to those concerns herself or ask Hazrat Maulvi Sahibra and provide the women with answers. Similarly, when men would come to visit Hazrat Maulvi Sahib^{ra}, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} would be hospitable. While living in Oadian, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} spent her spare time serving the Jamā'at. She had a special love for, and relationship with, the female members of the Promised Messiah's family, as well as with those who were new converts to the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at. She would visit Hazrat Amma Jān^{ra} frequently and without any formality; hence, she also got the chance to uphold certain minor responsibilities around the house. Hazrat

Savveda Nawāb Mubarika Begum Sahibara was four vears old when Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was given the responsibility to wake her up for Tahajjud prayers. Sometimes, she would fall asleep repeatedly and Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahibara would persistently keep



waking her up. If the Promised Messiah^{as} ever happened to witness the above mentioned, he would simply say, "It's alright if you can't wake up, just recite the Tasbīh & Tamhīd while lying down." (5)

Once. the Promised Messiah^{as} was composing a poem for the book, (Qadian) قادیان کے آربہ اور ہم Kay Arya Aur Hum), in which one of the couplets ended with the Urdu word ~ ('this' in English). Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahibara went to the Promised Messiahas due to another task, but the



In Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} words "taught," or "parhaya" in Urdu, the Promised Messiah^{as} had found a rhyme for his verse of the

couplet.(6) He immediately composed the remaining verse using this rhyming word. Thus, the Prophet of God found Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} innocent and simple words pleasing.

Closeness to Hazrat Sayyeda Nawāb Mubarka Begum Sahib^{ra}

Hazrat Sayyeda Nawāb Mubarka Begum Sahibara relates: "When I was a little girl, I was spoiled with a lot of love from my mother, brother, and most of all the Promised Messiahas. I would act like a spoiled child sometimes in my early years. Once, I had a playmate over who wouldn't listen to me. I was furious at her and decided not to talk to her. I then went up to my brother, Hazrat Mirzā Shareef Ahmad Sahibra, and told him not to speak with my friend either since she wasn't cooperating with me. A few minutes later, my brother forgot what I had just asked of him and I noticed him talking to my friend. I immediately screamed loudly, as a result, knocked myself over, fell and stopped breathing. Hazrat Amma Jān^{ra} heard the commotion and came running towards me. She picked me up, brought me back to my senses and asked me what happened. I began to recount the recent events and started crying soon after. Then, Hazrat Amma Jān^{ra}, due to the emotional stress of the incident, began to cry. Soon after, I noticed that Hazrat Zainab Bibi

Sahiba^{ra} who was standing behind Hazrat Amma Jān^{ra}, was also crying."(7)

This act of compassion is proof of Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} - the Maulviani's, love and reverence for the Promised Messiah's^{as} family.



Hazrat Nawāb Muhammad Ali Khan Sahib^{ra}

Since she lived in the same quarters as the family, she was often involved in some very important family matters. For instance, Hazrat Nawāb Mubarka Begum Sahiba's^{ra} marriage! Hazrat Nawāb Muhammad Ali Khan Sahib^{ra} was a loved companion of the Promised

Messiah^{as}. After the death of his first wife, the Promised Messiah^{as} wanted him to get

remarried. But, God had other plans for him already. His daughter Hazrat Bo Zainab Begum Sahiba^{ra} was of a marriageable age and her Nikah was arranged with the Promised Messiah's^{as} son, Hazrat Sahibzada Mirzā Shareef Ahmad Sahib^{ra}. Due to these proceedings, Hazrat



Hazrat Sahibzada Mirzā Shareef Ahmad Sahib^{ra}

Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} went to Maleer Kotla to visit Hazrat Bo Zainab Begum Sahiba^{ra}. Hence, she became the one to convey Hazrat Nawāb Muhammad Ali Khan Sahib's^{ra} message of proposal for Hazrat Nawāb Mubarka Begum Sahiba^{ra} to the Promised Messiah^{as}. Their age difference was a substantial number and it caused some hesitation at first, but thanks to Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} efforts, this match also came to be a successful one. (8)

Sincerity to Khilāfat

On May the 26th 1908, when the Promised Messiah^{as} passed away, and the foundations for the first Caliphate were being laid, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} did not only step forward to pledge allegiance to the first Caliph of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at, but also fulfilled



Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I^{ra}

her promise steadfastly. Then, after the passing of the First Caliph, when some individuals began to question the validity of the Caliphate system itself, Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was quick to grasp the strong anchor of guidance bestowed upon the Jamā'at in the form of the Second Caliph of the Ahmadiyya Jamā'at. Her love and her unquestionable belief in Khilāfat can be seen in the following anecdote, related by her brother

Hazrat Munshi Muhammad Ismaʻīl Sahib Sialkoti^{ra}:

Hazrat Munshi Sahib^{ra} had been praying intently. On the first day, he saw a vision in which it was raining and he was walking along the street holding two umbrellas over his head. He noticed he was walking alongside two women. Suddenly, the umbrellas broke and

flapped shut. The two women began to walk away when he called out, "Wait a minute, I can fix this umbrella." He began to try to salvage the broken umbrellas but they wouldn't allow themselves to be set in the right spokes. He related this dream



to Hazrat Akbar Shah Khan Najeeb Abadi Sahib^{ra}tutor of the Boarding house and said that according to his understanding the two shadows under the umbrella in the vision represented the Promised Messiah^{as} and Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh I^{ra}, who had passed away, and the spokes of the umbrella represented Khilāfat, which was what the Jamā'at had to carry itself forward on. At this, Hazrat Khan Sahib^{ra} asked him, "Who were the women in the dream?" Hazrat Munshi Sahib^{ra} admitted that he did not know at the



Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh II^{ra}

time. When he went he saw home. daughter and sister, Zainab Hazrat Bibi Sahiba^{ra}, waiting for him. They told him that they had just arrived from completing their Bai'at to Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh IIra and that if he chose not to do so as well, they

would sever all ties with him. Hence, Hazrat Munshi Sahib^{ra} was finally able to tell Hazrat Khan Sahib^{ra} that the women in the dream were his sister and daughter. (9)

This dream is a great example of the character of Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra}. We see how fearlessly she accepted her faith and did not let any personal relationships or worldly obstacles stand in the way of her steadfastness. Thus, she also became a source of guidance for her brother, who then felt spiritually uplifted and confident in the system of Khilāfat.

Death and Burial

Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} was blessed with a status in this world that no one else perhaps can compete with. She was not only fortunate

enough to have had the chance to live at the Promised Messiah's^{as} residence, but was also buried a few spaces away from the Promised Messiah^{as} in her final resting abode. (10) She was one of the first women to become a $M\bar{u}s\bar{\imath}$; her Wasiyyat number is 1699. She passed away at the age of 62 in September, 1921, was buried temporarily in Sialkot, and moved to Bahishti Makbarah Qadian permanently in April, 1922.



Bahishti Maqbarah, Qadian

She lived for 15-16 years after the death of her husband, Hazrat Maulvi Sahib^{ra}, and had no children. (11) She was so blessed that her passing was also a sign of the truth of the Promised Messiah^{as}. The Promised Messiah^{as} relates, "I saw that there are three graves next to the one of Maulvi Abdul Karim Sahib^{ra}, and one of them

bears a red cloth." The third grave mentioned in this vision turned out to be where Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba^{ra} came to be buried in the Bahishti Maqbarah.(12) One must marvel at the fact that Allāh had blessed her so much! She was buried in the same section of graveyard where the Promised Messiah^{as} was buried, next to her husband. Her husband was buried in grave number 4, and she in 5.

(13) رعا کہی ہے وفا کہی ہے

Translation: This is the prayer; this is the faithfulness (13)

We pray that Allāh Almighty elevates Hazrat Zainab Bibi Sahiba's^{ra} soul in the Hereafter and forever blesses her with His Mercy. Ameen!



References

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- 5- Mohsināt Ahmadi Khawateen ki Sunehri Khidmāt, p. 20
- 6- Seeratul Mehdi Part 3, p. 243
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- 8- Ashāb-e-Ahmad Volume 2, p. 227
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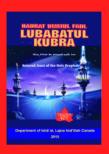


Acronyms and Meaning of Salutations

Name	Salutation in Arabic with English Meanings	As Superscript
The Holy Prophet Muhammad	Sallallaho `alaihe wa Sallam (May peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him!)	Muhammad ^{sa}
The Promised Messiah	`Alaihis-Salaam (Peace be upon him!)	Messiah ^{as}
The Companions (males)	Radhi-Allaho `anho (May Allāh be pleased with him!)	Abu Bakr ^{ra}
The Companions (females)	Radhi-Allaho `anha (May Allāh be pleased with her!)	Khadija ^{ra}
Hazrat Musleh Mau`ud	Radhi-Allaho `anho (May Allāh be pleased with him!)	Musleh Mau`ud ^{ra}
Hazrat Khalīfatul- Masīh III, IV	Rahimahullaho Ta`ala (May Allāh have mercy on him!)	Khalīfatul-Masīh IV ^{rh}
Hazrat Khalīfatul- Masīh V	Ayyadahullaho Ta`ala (May Allāh be his Helper!)	Khalīfatul-Masīh V ^{aa}

Series on Sahābiyāt of the Holy Prophet^{sa}

Following books on the Sahābiyāt of the Holy Prophet^{sa} were published by the Department of Ishā'at, Lajna Imā'illah Canada in 2015.

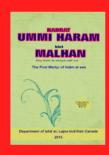


















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