

Talim-ul-Islam College—a historic perspective

Dr. Muhammad Sharif Khan
ALDAN, Piladelphia, PA 19018,USA

In 1897 there were two primary schools for boys in Qadian: privately run Arya School in Arya Mohalla, and the other government run school near Ratti-Challa. The teaching staff of both schools consisted of prejudiced Hindus who would let no occasion go to lecture against Islam and criticize Hadhrat Messiah-a-Maud (*Alah-a-salam*), his mission and companions. Innocent Ahmadi students were obliged to attend these schools and hear their blasphemous lectures. When this state of affair was brought to the notice of Hazrat Messiah-a-Maud (*Alah-a-salam*), Hazoor was much grieved. He sought help from Allah by prayers and supplication and consulted his companions. At last Hazoor (*Alah-a-salam*) announced: “Now it has become imperative on us to start an Islamic school of our own.” Accordingly on 15th September 1897, Hazoor moved the Jamaat to establish an exemplary Islamic educational institution, to protect Ahmadi youth from Christianity, atheism and filth of western culture. Hazoor at another occasion said: “I am striving day and night by using different means so that people may believe in true God and get blessed by the light and guidance from Heaven, since it is the only aim of my life. In addition to these means there is another way to achieve our goal, by establishing our own school for our children, where they may read about Islam as well as current branches of knowledge. So they will know how beautiful Islamic teachings are. They will themselves realize how blasphemous people have distorted and falsify facts to hide the beauties of Islamic teachings. They will also learn how to subjugate other branches of knowledge under Islamic teachings. Now it is the appropriate time that a Middle School is started in Qadian, as soon as possible.”



**Founder Patron Hazarat
 Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as)**

Hazoor (*Alah-a-salam*) appointed a school committee headed by Maulvi Hakim Noor-ud-Din (razi Allah anho) to visualize the managerial needs, suggest syllabus and chalk out rules and regulations for running the institution. At another occasion Hazoor (*Alah-a-salam*) presented his motive in the following words: “In



**Hazrat Hakim
Noor-ud-Din, khalifa I
Founder member**

establishing this school I have only one motive that religion be preferred over worldly affairs. The syllabus should include Islamic as well as modern subjects, so that worldly knowledge may serve religion.” At another occasion Hazoor said, “Our motive in establishing this school is not that to prepare a stuff that after doing F.A. or B.A. may run after patty worldly jobs. I actually want that they spend their lives in service of religion, it is why I think opening of school is imperative.”

Madrissa Talimul Islam, Qadian

Hazoor named the primary school “Madrassa Talim-ul-Islam.” It was inaugurated on 1st January, 1898, in two rooms of the guest house (*langar khana*). Within span of three years it was upgraded to the level of High School. Several qualified Ahmadi teachers who left their jobs with lucrative salaries working in well known institutions, dedicated their lives to serve in the school. In answer to the call from Hazoor they sacrificed amenities which were available to them in bigger cities, and preferred to spend their lives in humble village environs of Qadian, at very small salaries.

In short time the school was upgraded to higher levels (see Table 1). It attracted students from far and wide because the school was known for its high level of teaching techniques employed by its dedicated, kind and qualified staff. It drew Muslim and Hindu students from all over India, belonging to different creeds and backgrounds and no fee was charged from the students.



**Hazrat Maulvi Sher
Ali (rz), Headmaster,
Principal (1898-1903)**

Soon problem of finances to run the school followed heavy enrollment. However, flow of donations came in response to the appeals made periodically to the Jamaat members. By the Grace of Allah Almighty, in a short span of time the school ranked among the best institution of the region and was well placed on strong financial footing. The students, who passed out the school, were well versed not only in modern knowledge, but also had good knowledge of their religion. They knew how to protect themselves from vices and filth of western society and preserve their culture. In practical life they proved noble and peaceful, hardworking citizens.

Talim-ul-Islam College

The high school was upgraded to college level to accommodate the boys who passed out from school, so that they may spend as much time as possible in simple pure environments of Qadian, and have enough time to inculcate in their practical lives the good education and moral training they had received, in the school.

Inaguration:

The inauguration ceremony of College was held on 28th May 1903. Hazoor (*Alah-a-salam*) because of indisposition could not grace the occasion. He designated Hadhrat Maulvi Noor-ud-Din (rz) to preside over the ceremony, and graciously promised to pray for the college in the *Baitul Duaa* at the inauguration time.



Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan

Financial problems:

Jamaat's monitory resources were already hard squeezed by the expenditures on publication of literature, running of the guest house (*langar khana*), school and Jamia Ahmadiyya and salaries of preachers (*mobalagheen*). However, continuous prayers and periodic reminders to the membership of the Jamaat, ensured continuous flow of funds. Now that college expenditure was also added up, administration's concern grew two fold. The severity of financial situation was such that Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Sahib, manager, appealed that every branch of the Jamaat to adopt one student by paying 3 to 5 rupees per month (0.2-0.5 \$) as scholarship. Majority of the students appearing in the

university examinations were unable to pay their registration fee of 20 rupees, for which appeals for contributions were also launched!



**Hazrat Mufti
Muhammad Sadiq
Sahib, Manager &
(Headmaster 1898-1903)**

College results were promising, and left well placed renowned colleges of the region far behind, college pass percentage in 1905 was 75 % compared to university 38 %.

Closure of the college:

Fast progressing Talim-ul-Islam college Qadian was suddenly stopped from functioning because of the implementation of “University Act 1907, clause, 21” which laid down strict conditions for affiliation with the university: necessitating that the college to have (1) strong financial background, (2) well paid trained permanent staff and (3) permanent building of its own. Clearly Talim-ul-Islam College, at that time did not meet these criteria. So regretfully closure of the college was announced in 1905.

Table 2. Comparison of education systems of Pakistan and United States	
Pakistan	American & Western
School	School
Kachhi (one year)	Ist year kindergarten, 1 st Grade
Primary school (5 years), 1-5 th class	Primary school (5 years) 2 nd -5 th grade
Middle school (3 years), 6-8 th class	Secondary school (7 years), 6 th -12 th grade
High school (2 years), 9-10 th class (entrance)	High school (2 years), 9-12 th grade
College:	College
F.A. (Intermediate) 2 years, 11-12 th year	Under graduate school, 2 year, Associate
B.A. (Degree, graduate) 2 years, 3-4 th year	Bachelor, 4 years (+ major)
M.A. (Post graduate) 2 years, 5-6 th year	Master, 2 years
Ph.D. 3-5 years (Thesis)	Ph.D. 3-6 years (Thesis)

Reopening of the college

Closure of Talim-ul-Islam College, Qadian, apparently was a set back to Jamaat's efforts to provide its youth with a standard educational institutions. However, Jamaat continuously strived to get the college reopen as soon as possible.

Within few months of assuming office of Khalifa, Hadhrat Mirza Bashir ud Din Mahmood Ahmed (rz) Khalifa II, called an advisory committee (*majlas shura*) comprising of Jamaat representatives from all over India. The college issue was discussed and deliberated. Hazoor summed up the proceedings in his speech to the delegates on 13th March 1914:

“No doubt, we need our own college, as it was desired by Hazrat Messiah-a-Maud (*Alah-a-salam*) and Khalifa-tul-Messiah I ^(rz). Character of youth is shaped at college age. To make lives of our youth useful and functional, they should spend as much time as possible in religious atmosphere prevailing in Qadian. To achieve this goal we really need to re-open the college. I invite you all to join me in prayer for Allah's help and deliberate how to consolidate our efforts.”

It was the period when Jamaat setup was being organized, administrative offices were broken in different departments (*nazarats*). Moreover, Jamaat's attention was mainly focused on printing literature and distribution of it, and exploring means and ways to propagate message of Islam within and out of the subcontinent. Foreign missions were being planned. These crucial issues preoccupied Jamaat's attention for the next 29 years. However, during this long period Jamaat's finances were consolidated, that placed Jamaat at a strong financial footing. Meanwhile, lot of building work was going on around Qadian: buildings for Noor Hospital, Jamia Ahmadiyya, Talim-ul-Islam High School, and Nusrat Girl's High Schools were nearing completion.

Now Jamaat was set in every respect to reinvigorate its efforts to reopen the college. However, immediate impetus was provided when a member drew Hazoor's attention to this issue during 33rd *Majlas shura* (consulting assembly). Hazoor immediately moved the motion in the assembly and appealed for donations. It was a miracle of faith enhancing to witness, how donations and pledges came pouring as if a branch laden with ripe fruits was shaken! Within an hour several thousand rupees were collected in cash, and several thousands were pledged. Hearts of members were filled with feelings of thankfulness for Kindness and Mercy of Allah the Almighty.



Mirza Bashir Ahmad
Sahib (rz)

Hazrat Mirza
Bashir-ud-Din Mahmood
Ahmad (rz)
Khalifatul Messiah II

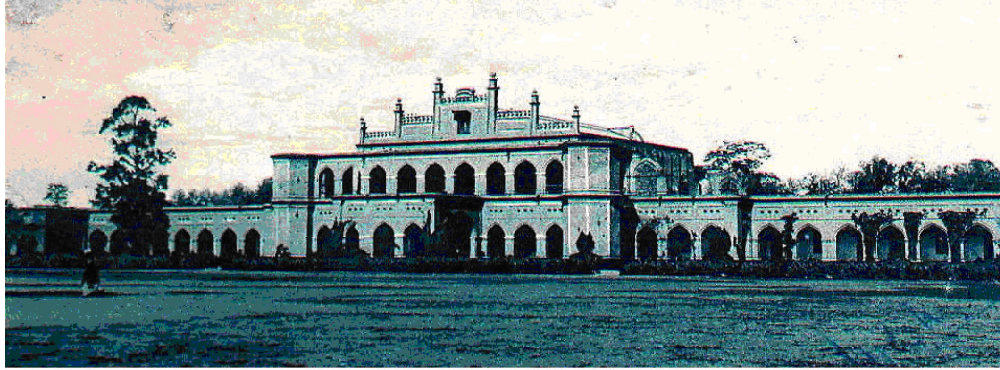
The college committee presided over by Mirza Bashir Ahmed sahib M.A. (rz), expedited its efforts to seek approval from the university. University inspection team visited Qadian, and surveyed available facilities, strongly recommending opening of the college. For time being it was decided that building complex of Talim-ul-Islam High School was to be used for the college, and high school would shift in its new building, which was almost nearing its completion.

Inauguration of Talim-ul-Islam Inter college at Qadian

The inauguration ceremony of the college took place on 14th June, 1944 in the spacious school hall, presided over by Hazoor Khalifa-tul-Messiah II (rz) and Hazarat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (rz) M.A. Oxen, principal designate, took the office. Hazoor delivered a thought provoking address mainly addressed to teachers.

Salient points of the address are:

- 1). Main focus in the inception of this institution is to spread education without consideration of financial position, creed and cast of the students. Without education, cultural and economic condition of people cannot be up lifted. As human beings it is our duty to make education easily accessible to every human being. Doors of this institution are open for students coming from all religions and every strata of life.
- 2). It is wrongly believed that education negates religion. We are not ready to believe that God's actions negate what He says. Questions raised at God's existence or truthfulness of prophets, or Islamic ideology, are all based on wrong interpretation of the facts. Mostly such questions are raised from college or university teachers.



Talimul Islam College, Qadian (former Talimul Islam High School, Qadian)

One of our motives in establishing this college, is to have a team of professors who may counter such wrong interpretations by using their knowledge of some branches of knowledge that lead to wrong conclusions.

3). People readily get impressed by new ideas or theories as are propounded, without considering their logical base. For example for the last one hundred years Darwin's theory impressed human minds widely. It impressed every branch of knowledge. Though the theory was not propounded against religion, but people gave it turn towards religion. Now the very foundation of this theory is shattered by mathematical calculations and advances in other sciences. Similarly Newton's theory of gravity is proven wrong by Einstein's theory of relativity.

4) Religion does not need science to prove its authenticity nor we need proof of God's existence. Holy Prophet Muhammad never studied science. One can get to God without studying philosophy or math. Science, philosophy and math, as far as God is concerned, are no more than theories based on thoughts and conclusions of individuals, which may prove wrong or right after passage of time. Scientific conclusions are ever changing with the passage of time, but ethics of religion are eternal and have never changed from Adam (as) to Holy Prophet (saw) to Messiah-a- Maud (as).

5. Every prophet supported his predecessor, none of the prophets from Adam to Messiah-a-Maud can be cited who disowned his predecessor, however, every scientist negates his predecessor scientist, pointing out his faults and shortcomings. We do not need to prove authenticity of Islam, Islam is as clear and bright as it was at first day.

6. When Holy Prophet (saw) announced that he is messenger of God, at first people said, it is impossible that Islam will prevail, and declared it will soon die its own death. However, when Islam prevailed and destroyed big Empires of Roma and Persia around it, and within no time it spread to whole of the Middle East, historians started saying, oh, those empires were already at the verge of self destruction, which favored victory of prophet Muhammad (saw). Similarly when Hazrat Messiah-a-Maud (as) claimed to be ordained by Allah, people started saying he had no chance to survive, his movement will die itself within days. But Ahmadiyyat progressed day by day in front of their eyes. Before that no body knew where about of Qadian, the birth place of Ahmadiyyat.

Ahmadiyyat started spreading around Qadian, than in different parts of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan; outside India to Afghanistan, Iran, Bengal, Assam, England, Germany, Hungry and so on, and now it is fast spreading to the four corners of the world. The opponents now have started saying: ok, what if some mad people have accepted Ahmadiyyat. Soon the opponents will see Ahmadiyyat has spread throughout the world. Then they will start saying: so what if Ahmadiyyat has prospered. It is the time when Europe is tired of its filth of its society, human mind is baffled does not find respite anywhere, and science has transgressed human reasoning becoming a bundle of hotchpotch and incompressible thoughts negating each other. It is why European mind has accepted Ahmadiyyat.

7). So the task what we expect from our professors is already being carried out by angles. If professors would work honestly, they are sure to succeed. Our prayers are with them that they may succeed in doing this noble task.

8). The seed we are sowing today, would grow into a big tree, people will be obliged to sit under its shade, otherwise they will be roasting their head in the heat of sun of ignorance, and they will never find rest in the world.

9). College uniform should be affordable to everyone. Similarly simple sports should be introduced in the college, like foot ball and athletics, which are not detrimental to health like hockey.

10. Our students should act on the teachings of Ahmadiyyat, and they should impress on other students that no action will be tolerated which is against religion in this college. This college is established to support religion. Any time we will feel that college is not performing its purpose, we will thing thousand times better to close it.

11. It should be a hall mark of our college, that whosoever finishes his education from this institution he has strong belief in God, and safeguards basic values of good conduct, and has strong belief in supremacy of religion, even though he is a Hindu, Sikh or Christian.

Normal college activities

College started with intermediate classes. Soon there was need to upgrade it to the degree level and B.A., and B.Sc, classes were started. Well equipped Chemistry and Physics laboratories were made available to science students. Normal college activities were soon started in full swing, under the able guidance of its learned principal. In a short period of time, the college showed phenomenal progress in academics as well as in extra curricular activities, not equaled by any educational institution in the region. Religious education was imparted along customary subjects. College students were privileged to attend *Dars-a-Quran* and question answer meetings (*Majalis Irfan*) by Hazrat Khlifat ul Messiah, and offered prayers in historic mosque *Masjid Noor*. They would frequently meet companions (*sahaba*) of Hazarat Messiah-a-Maud (as) and request them for prayers.

After Asar prayer, every student was supposed to take part in a game of his choice. Regular speech contests and debates were held under college union, students enthusiastically took part in all these activities.

Results and reports on morals state of the students were regularly posted to their parents.

Hostel accommodation

Majority of the students came from outside Qadian. Darul Anwar Guest House, was used as hostel for some time, until “Fazal-a-Umar Hostel” building was available in 1944. The superintendent, Chaudhary Muhammad Ali sahib, tutors, and proctors supervised regular participation of residents in prayers, *daras* and study during study time from 8 to 10 pm daily. Parents were reported regularly covering their ward’s academic and moral activities.

Summer recess of 1947 and partition of the subcontinent

In an office order issued on 30th June, 1947, Talim-ul-Islam College was notified by the principal to remain close for summer recess from 1st July to 27th September, 1947. Meanwhile partition of the subcontinent, into India and Pakistan, as two sovereign states, took place on 14th August 1947. So that 30th June, 1947, proved to be the last working day of the college in Qadian.

Most of the college officials and students migrated to Pakistan, however, few were directed to stay back, to help protect college equipment from looting and destruction by the refugees that were pouring into Qadian from surrounding areas. They were also to supervise safe evacuation process and migration of women and children to Pakistan.

Muhammad Munir Khan Shami, a Talim-ul-Islam College B.Sc. student, who was at guard duty was martyred by a band of Sikh looters.

Inna lillahay wa inna alaihay rajaoon

Talim-ul-Islam College, Lahore

Majority of migrant Ahmadi families stayed in Lahore, few moved with their relatives in other cities. Hazarat Khalifa tul Messiah II stayed in Lahore, to look after interests of Jamaat, as Lahore was the capital city and different offices were easily approachable from there.

Most of Hazoor Khalifa-tu-Messiah’s time was consumed in solving problems concerning settlement issues of migrant families. However, he was keenly interested to get the college reopen as soon as possible. College Principal Mirza Nasir Ahmad Sahib, who stayed back in Qadian, was summoned to migrate and instructed to expedite efforts to find a suitable building to reopen college. Dr. Abdul Wahad, director Fazal-a-Umar Research Institute and Chaudhary Muhammad Ali superintendent were to assist him, in the quest.

Hazoor’s strong determination to reopen the college

A college committee was reorganized to consolidate efforts to locate a suitable building, and suggest ways and means to generate necessary funds for running the college. Financial position of Jamaat was already debilitated, because of relocation jobs and trades of most of the members had adversely been affected. The committee was reluctant to recommend appealing members of Jamaat for funds, and were unanimous to

recommend to put off college issue for time being. The committee presented its apprehensions in a meeting with Hazoor. Members present were Mian Bashir Ahmed Sahib, M.A, Abdul Rhim Darad sahib and Chaudhary Muhammad Ali sahib.

On hearing committee's concern, Hazoor became emotional and said enthusiastically in a loud voice: **“You are worried for funds! I am worried about our youth. The college will reopen and will never closed.”** Hazoor told Chaudhary Muhammad Ali sahib: “Speed up your efforts to find a suitable place for the college where ever under the sky in Pakistan, grab it and start the college.” Prof. Mian Aatur Rheman and Sufi Bashart ur rhemana sahib were called from Qadian. They were instructed to bring with them the lists of articles necessary to setup science laboratories.

The committee visited different buildings in Lahore, Aimen Abad, Gujranwala, Kot Shera, Rawalpindi, Lyallpur, and Sangla Hill. Moreover, Jamaat members in Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan were requested to locate some suitable building in their area.



Hadrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad ra
Khalifa tul Messiah II, founder patron

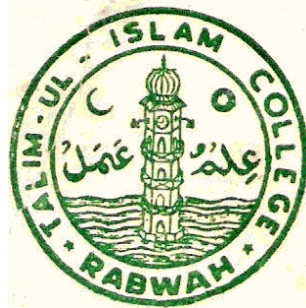
Meanwhile, college office was opened temporarily in a room in Cement building, close to the Jodha Mal building, Lahore, displaying on a placard “Office of Talim-ul-Islam College.” The office superintendent, Abdul Rheman Junaid Hashmi sahib, and two of his colleagues, started enrolling students, while sitting at mats at the floor of the office, since chairs were not available. Sixty students were enrolled, mostly old students from Qadian. The College shifted temporarily in different buildings: Sikh National College, Khalsa Hostel and Janj Ghar buildings in Sant Nagar, Lahore, vacating every building because of unsuitability.

At last Settlement Department of the Government allotted a dilapidated building at 37 Canal Park, Lahore. Probably the building was used as a stable or a dairy form, indicated by its low roofed narrow barrack-like rooms. All the 60 students sat at mats in two rows, facing each other to attend classes. Same room served as class room, mosque, as well as hostel to rest at the same mats for the night.

At last debilitated building of D.A. V. College, in civil lines, Lahore, was vacated and allotted for the college. Though the building was built on a college style with several rooms, however all were in very bad shape, totally damaged by refugees who stayed there

for some time. Furniture and library books etc., were burnt to provide fire for cooking. Heaps of debris were accumulating in the rooms, door panes and windows were broken, piles of rubble and glass pieces were scattered every where. Jamaat spent large sums of money on removal of the litter making rooms inhabitable. Thousands of rupees were spent to purchase laboratory equipment and books for the library, while science laboratories of M. A. O. and F.C. colleges were also used for experiments. A part of college building was refurbished to be used as hostel to accommodate 50 residents, eight in a room.

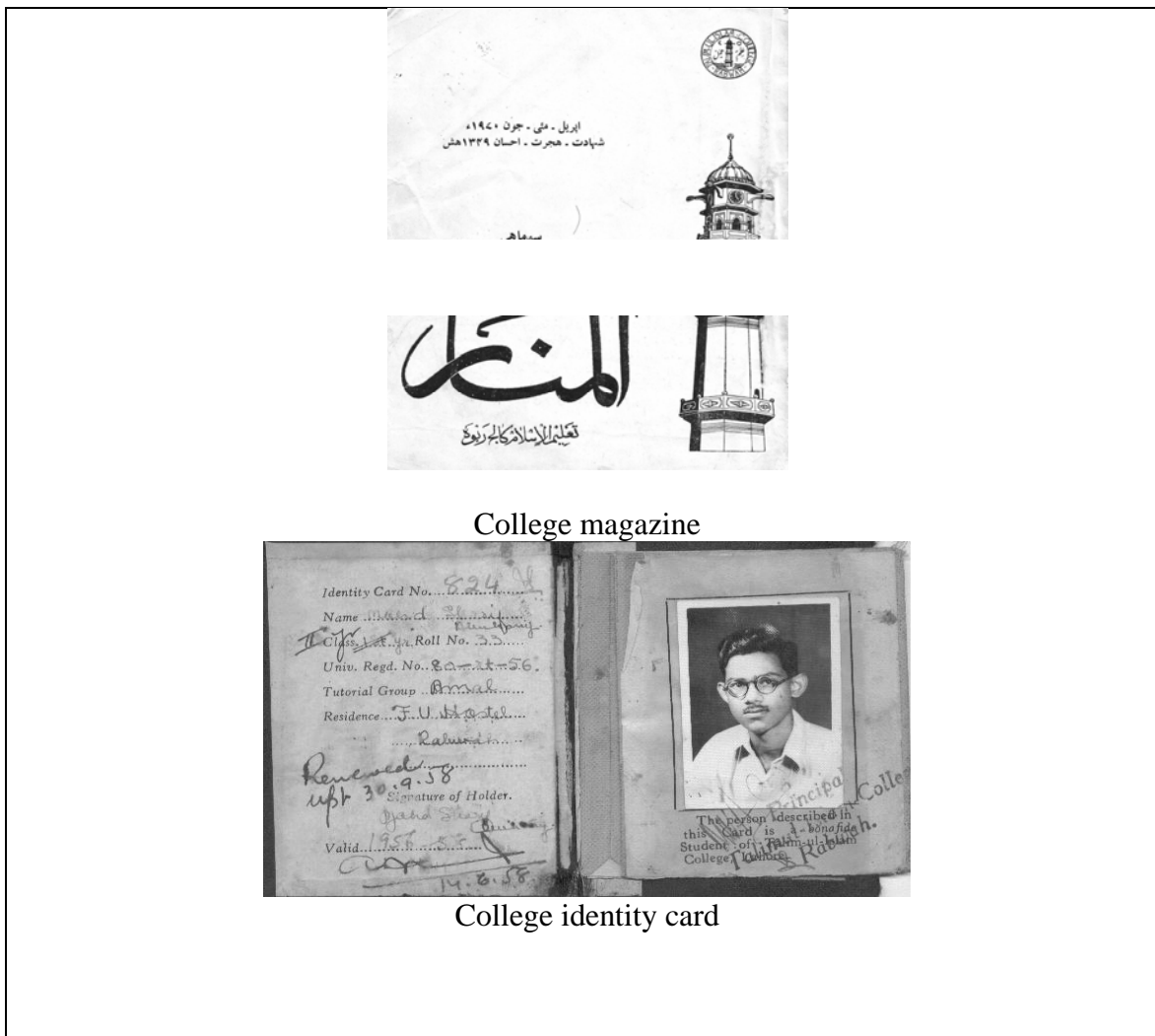
College souvenirs



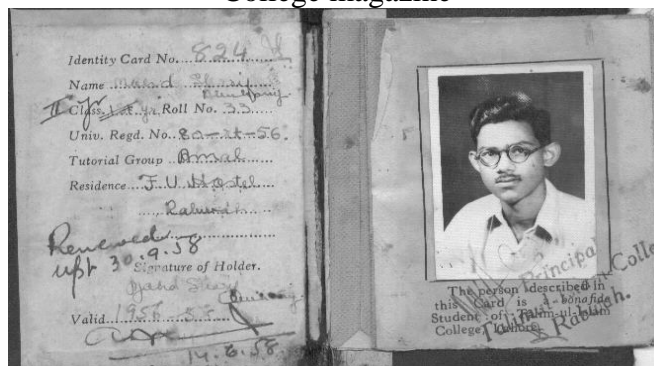
College emblem



Talimul Islam College flag



College magazine



College identity card

Remarkable academic progress: Despite these difficulties, shortages, and shamble state of college building, number of students rose from 60 to 267 within a year. The library was established with latest editions of books on different subjects. College results were remarkably good, college average for B.A. was 83.3% compare to university 39.8%. Within a year Talim-ul- Islam College stood neck to neck with topmost colleges in Lahore.

Extra curricular activities soon gained momentum: College union, Arabic, Economic, Science, Photographic, and Radio societies were active. Students participated in university officers training core. Talim-ul-Islam College students formed 80% of the squadron who presented guard of honor to then visiting Emperor of Iran.



Hazarat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, M.A. Oxen, Principal

Foot ball, volley ball, badminton and swimming teams won honors for the college, rowing team was top most in the competition held under Punjab Rowing Association. In a short span of time Talim-ul-Islam College created a respectable place among colleges not only of the city, but also of the region. Under the able guidance of the principal, the Economic society started publishing a series of booklets under the title “Young Economist,” later in 1950 it was replaced by “Almanar” as regular college magazine. Almanar soon was acknowledged a standard publication. Principal’s message at the eve of the publication of the first issue of Almanar was:

“With trust in God and Faith in the ultimate triumph of your mission, march on!”

First convocation of Talim-ul-Islam College, Lahore

Hazarat Khalifa tul Messiah II kindly graced the first Convocation of the college on 2nd April, 1950, and delivered a learned and thought provoking presidential address carrying important message to the students leaving the college.

Salient points of the convocation address

- Don’t think that you have finished your education; rather you have started it now. Continue increasing your knowledge by further study. You see there is nothing at rest in nature, so never be at rest. From now on you should readied yourself for a continuous and constant struggle, as Holy Quran teaches us. Continue trying to step forward and forward.
- Always keep seeking help of Allah Almighty, to enable you to do correct deeds at correct time by using correct means, leading to correct and higher and higher results.
- Remember! You are not only responsible for yourself; rather you are responsible to keep up good name of this institution, where you have been educated. You are responsible for your family that supported you with money. You are responsible for your country that, directly or indirectly, provided you with the means to get higher education. Also, your responsibility is towards your religion, because it guided and encouraged you to acquire knowledge.
- Your Alma matter expects that you will use your knowledge in a better way. It should not be your only motive to get university level education, rather consider it the first step to achieve your goal in life. The degree that university has awarded

- you, is in itself of no value, rather you make it valuable by your subsequent deeds and actions.
- The degree that you have been awarded is just an estimation of your education level, it may be correct or incorrect. It is university's estimation that you have acquired that much knowledge which your degree indicates. It does not mean that actually you have that much knowledge, unless you prove in your future life, that you have more knowledge than the university estimated. It will establish credibility and stature of your university. If a degree holder falls short of the estimated value of the degree, naturally people will think that the university erred in estimation of degree of your knowledge.
 - Remember universities do not shape students; rather students establish credibility of their universities and shape them. In other words degrees do not make a student creditable. You should keep increasing your knowledge; never think that your college education is the last fruit of your studentship. Rather you should consider it a seed for furtherance of your education. Employ all of your energies to make your education as fruitful as possible, so that credibility of the degrees that you are receiving today is increased, and your nation takes pride in you.
 - You are citizens of a newly created country. She is rather a small country among big countries of the world. Your country is not rich; rather is a poor country. You are habitual of living in peace and tranquility under foreign rule. Now you are to change your habits, understanding and consciousness. You would have to work hard to establish credibility and honor of your country in the world.
 - You are the introduction of your country, and are to establish its honor among rest of the countries. It is really a hard work and to establish honor is even harder, for which nature has designed you.
 - You are the first generation of a newly established country. Your responsibilities are greater than citizens of already established countries. They have inherited well established morals and legacies from their ancestors. Your condition is different, you are to establish your country as well as your traditions, which will be refined by future generations, making your nation more and more majestic and honorable.
 - People of established countries are descendents of already well established nations, comparing to them, you are the fathers of the generations to come. Peoples of established countries trace foot steps of their ancestors and go on progressing. You are to keep in view your coming generations, while establishing bright legacy of your own.
 - It is a tough but magnificent task entrusted to you. If you will sacrifice your self, only then you will be successful to establish Pakistan on sound base. You will be remembered with love and honor that no body in future will share with you.
 - In short I say on to you: "March towards your new goal with determination, perseverance, and courage. Always keep in mind that for courageous young men there is first goal, also a second goal and a third goal, but no last goal! When their life ends and they return to their Creator successful and honored, they receive acknowledgement only from Him. He is the only one to justly reward for one's services.
 - So, O you the Allah's chosen young men! Courageous solders of Islam! O you the pivots of your country's expectations! O dutiful sons of your nation! March

forward, your Allah, your religion, your country, and your nation are all looking at your future with love and expectations!”

(Translated from report published in Al Fazal (Rabwah) 15th March 1950)

Anti College forces

While Talim-ul-Islam College authorities were infusing their students with advice to participate in nation building, service to humanity, and were being calling them for selfless devotion to their nation and country, the bad thinking anti Jamaat forces were moving at their own destructive agenda. They could not digest Jamaat’s contributions to the services of humanity and started a series of intrigues against Jamaat, and tried their best, day and night, to get cancelled allotment of D.A.V. college building. They did every thing to get stop Talim-ul-Islam College from working. Their satanic minds tried continuously making issues, never wanting to let the college function normally. They tried their utmost to get Talim-ul-Islam College uprooted from the locality and get it moved to some smaller remote building.

Jamaat Ahmadiyya spent thousands of rupees and several hundred hours of man power to renovate the debilitated D.A.V. college building proper enough to house one of the fast progressing institution of the region. The staff and students of Talim-ul-Islam college were sincerely serving the community irrespective of race and creed, showing best results in academics and sport. However, despite these unstable conditions around, the college progressed rapidly by the Grace of Allah Ta’la, number of students jumped to 500 within a short period of time.

First All Pakistan Inter collegiate debate

Despite all around anti Talim-ul-Islam College turbulence, the college rapidly progressed in curricular as well as extra curricular activities. First all Pakistan inter college debate was held in February, 1950. Teams of Talim-ul-Islam College speakers took part in debates held in other colleges around. Despite anti Talim-ul-Islam College slogans and hooliganism during debates, college teams brought every year honors to the college.

Talim-ul-Islam College Lahore, during turbulent year 1953

The year 1953 is remembered in history of Pakistan, as a year of wide spread political turmoil in which city of Lahore was specially involved. Political issues were turn into anti Ahmadiyya movement by politician and mullahs.

Homes and businesses of several Ahmadies were looted, several were beaten in the presence of police, who stood enjoying the destructive scenes. Right from top to tail whole of the government was mute and acted as paralyzed. Despite appeals of help by Ahmadies, nothing was done, as if government approved what Mullah’s were doing.

An Ahmadi Talim-ul-Islam college F.Sc. student Jamal Ahmed, who was passing by, was martyred by an unruly anti Ahmadiyya mob while passing by Bhati Gate, Lahore.

Inna lliahay wa inna alahay rajaoon

The lawlessness continued for several days until Marshal Law was promulgated by General Muhammad Azam Khan to control the situation. Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Principal Talim-ul-Islam College was arrested at a patty pretext to please Mullahs.



College staff welcoming release of Mian Nasir Ahmad sahib, Principal

Talim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah

Since migration from India, Jamaat had been looking hectically and praying to seek help from God for guidance to get a suitable site to establish Jamaat's headquarters in Pakistan. At last present site at the right bank of River Chenab was decided upon, and the land was leased from the government. The new city was named "Rabwah" (the resting place of Prophet Jesus and his mother Marry, after their migration from Palestine to Kashmir). Rabwah rapidly grew into a bustling international town with a population of 50,000.

Hazoor (rz) wanted the college to be shifted to Rabwah as soon as possible, where already foundations of college buildings were laid. As soon college and hostel buildings were completed, college was immediately shifted from Lahore.

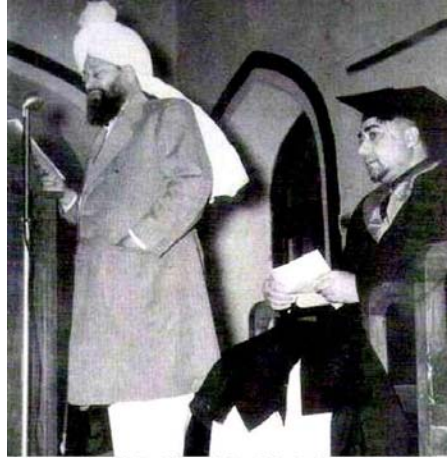


Talim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah

There was no underground water at the college site, so water for use in college and hostel was supplied through a 2000 feet long underground pipe from another location.

Inauguration of Talim-ul-Islam College at Rabwah

The inauguration ceremony of Talim-ul-Islam College at Rabwah was performed on 6th December, 1954. Hazoor Khalifa-tul-Messiah II graced the occasion.



Inauguration of Talim-ul-Islam College Rabwah, 6th December, 1954.

Sardar Hamid Ahmad (2nd year) recited from Holy Quran, Muhammad Aslam Sabar (1st year) and Prof Nasir Ahmad Khan read poems appropriate to the occasion.

Hazoor (rz) in his presidential address, outlined college charter. Salient features of which were:

- You have been admitted in Talim-ul-Islam college with a view that you wish to learn religion along with other branches of knowledge. I know 30-40 percent of you are non Ahmadies. Some of you may have come here because cost of education here is much lower comparing with other colleges, or that you live close to Rabwah.
- You should bear in mind, while in this college, learn about Islam. When I say learn Islam, I don't mean that you learn about the teachings of Ahmadiyyat, though we believe there is no difference between Islam and Ahmadiyyat. Ahmadiyyat is actual Islam. If you see some difference between the two, than learn only that which you consider Islam.
- There are several sects like Dau Bandies, Sunnies, Agha Khani, Jamaat Islami, who consider their Islam different from that of other, each consider it self acting on true Islam. You may belong to whatever sect, we are interested that your actions should be according to what you believe.
- We expect each of you should worship according to his belief. If any professor compels you to say your prayer after an Ahmadi Imam, fight him, otherwise report to me.
- If any student is found failing to pray according to the teachings of his religion, college authorities will remind him to do so.
- College authorities believe, reminding a person to pray and abide by his religious teaching, is not interfering in his religion. Hypocrisy is not to be encouraged and tolerated in this college.
- No strikes, staying away from classes and demonstrations at any pretext are to be allowed in this institution. Doors of college authorities will remain always open for dialogue, if ever there arises such a situation.

Fazal-e-Umar Hostel

After college inauguration ceremony Hazoor visited recently completed Fazal-e-Umar hostel building, to inaugurate it. He went round the building, instructing the engineers at some points.

Hazoor signed the guest book, expressing his feelings in following words: “Allah Almighty, through His Grace and Kindness has given us a college, despite we lacked means and resources, He gave us home when we were homeless. We pray as Allah has given us knowledge in this world, we may be given knowledge of hereafter as well. He gave us a good house in this world we may be given a good house in Paradise as well. Students of this college may lead lives according to the will of Almighty, and perform their duty honestly, presenting an example of extreme self sacrifice.”

Four wings of spacious building of “Fazal-e-Umar hostel,” housed students coming from different parts of the country. There were above fifty cubicles and dormitories available. Professor Chaudhary Muhammad Ali sahib, long time superintendent, and Professor Seed Ullah Khan as tutor, managed the hostel affairs. Hostel mess was controlled by a mess committee elected from senior hostlers. The hostel wing were supervised by a proctor appointed from senior class.

Hostel common room was the most visited place in evenings, where Urdu and English news papers, and facilities for indoor games were provided. Annual indoor game competitions, followed by annual dinner and entertainment program, were memorable annual regular hostel events. Cordial and friendly atmosphere prevailed in the hostel, if there was any disagreement among hostlers (very rare) superintendent would solve it amicably.

Fazal Umar hostel had international residents, coming from different countries, mostly from Indonesia, Somalia, Nigeria, Ghana, and Mauritius.

Old student's contribution to the service of the college

Ahmadi students were encouraged to dedicate their lives for service in college and other institutions run by Jamaat, after completing their education. There is a long list of Talim-ul-Islam College old students who later served on the staff of the college from 1954 to November 1965 (Table 3).

Name	Subject	Name	Subject
Massod Ahmed Atif	Physics	Aziz Ahmed Tahir	Economics
Mubark Ahmed Ansari	Chemistry	Muhammad Arshad	Physics
Zafar Ahmed Vaince	Economics	Abdus Samee	Physics
Hameed Ullah	Mathematics	Muhammad Sharif Khan	Zoology
Khursheed Ahmed	English	Abdul Shakoor Aslam	Botany
Rafiq Ahmed Saquib	Chemistry	Abdul Rashid Ghani	Mathematics
Kanwar Adrees Ahmed	English	Rashid Ahmed Javeid	
Kanwar Adrees Ahmed	English	Ijazul Haq Qureshi	History
Chaudhary Hameed Ahmed	English	Muhammad Arshad Tirmazi	English
Khwaja Manzoor Ahmed,	Biology	Abdul Jalil Sadiq	English

Muhammad Sultan Akbar	Arabic	Muhammad Akram	
Nasir Ahmed Perwazi	Urdu	Abdul Rashid Fauzi	History
Munawer Ahmed Shamim	Political Science	Chaudhary Anwar Hassan	Islamiyyat
Saeed Ullah Khan	Statistics	Mirza Anas Ahmed	Philosophy
Muhammad Aslam Qureshi		Muhammad Aslam Sabar	Arabic
Muhammad Ahmed Anwar	D.P.I., Islamiyat	Sajjad Imam	Persian

Extra curricular activities

Talim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah, was known all over Pakistan, because of its arranged annual regular activities. Heavy cash prizes and gold medals were awarded to the participants, that attracted heavy participation from all over Pakistan.

- **Inter College Debates:** Drew participants from all over Pakistan. Talim-ul-Islam College had a strong acclaimed debating team, that regularly brought honors.
- **All Pakistan Urdu Conferences:** First all Pakistan Urdu Conferences was held in 1964, second in 1967. Speakers from different universities and college from all over Pakistan participated. Main papers read in the 1964 conference were published in 1964 in a booklet "Zak ray Urdu."
- **All Pakistan Basket Ball tournaments:** A series of eight annual All Pakistan Basket Ball Tournaments were hosted by college from 1961 to 1985. Renowned teams from all over the country participated. In 1961 tournament, Indian Basket Ball team participated in the tournament. Giving chance to the college team to play with renowned teams from within country and outside.
- **All Pakistan rowing competitions:** Annual rowing competitions were held at the Chenab River, participated by teams from all over Pakistan. Talim-ul-Islam College rowing team retained Punjab University championship for several consecutive years.

College maintained its own fleet of boats at Chenab river, looked after by a paid person.

- **Excellent results:** College results were always above university average. Almost each year one or two college students topped inter and university exams. Almost every year 4-8 students came up to the merit of professional colleges, and were admitted in engineering and medical colleges.

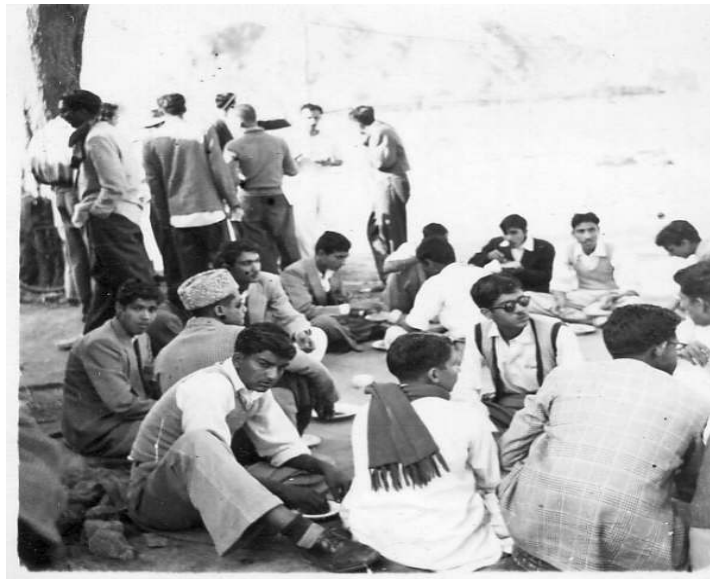
Table xx: Following list provides a glimpse into remarkable academic performance, since college shifted to Rabwah					
Year	FA/FSc	BA/BSc	MA/MSc		
1955-56	Munawer A. Seed	Ijazul Rheman III			
1957-58		1) M. Sultan Akbar I (Arabic) 2) Intikhar			

		A. Shahab English I			
1960-61	1) Hamid Ahmad Khan (FSc I) 2) Qureshi Ijazul Haq (FA I)	Syyed Amin I (Physics)			
1961-62	Ijaz ul Haq Qureshi I Ata ul Majeeb Rashid				
1962-63	-	Ijaz ul Haq Qureshi I			
1963-64	-	Qureshi Ijazul Haq BA I	Ch. M. Sadiq MA I Nasaruddin MA II Basharat Rheman MA II		
1964-65			Ch. M. Sadiq I		
1965-66			<u>Arabic</u> 1) Qureshi Maqbool Ahmad I 2) Ataul Mujeeb Rashid II 3) Syyed Abdu Hayee III <u>Economics</u> Anayat ullah Mangla I		

- **Subject societies:** Elections of subject societies were held each year during September after summer recess. College Union was the largest and was known as “Qaid-a-Azam Society.” Every week Thursday after noon was reserved for subject society meetings. Students read papers on different aspects of their subjects. While societies would hold their meetings at the right bank of Chenab River once a month, enjoying lunch and boating in the river.

Following two photographs show how whole heartedly students participated and enjoyed these river side trips.
 (From the recollections of the author (with checkered coat) at the riverside annual meeting of Biological Society, 1957).

It was a fine Thursday, December after noon, 1957. Biological Society Talim-ul-Islam Rabwah was having its Annual meeting and diner at the familiar right bank of the Chenab River, away from the shade of mighty "banyan tree", under meager shade of a "Kikar," far right side (Pic.2).



Pic. 1. Society members seen eating meal, talking and gossiping. Several long lost faces are recognize able, few I met ever since. I am sitting (checked coat, back to the camera). Dr. Nasser Ahmed Bashir, Professor of Biology is seen leaving the area in focus (far right, hand in pocket), close to the service area.



Pic. 2. A scene from a short play presented at the occasion.

Note the two characters (village elders) sitting on the cot and the broken pitcher lying in front. Questioning the pitcher why it drowned "Heer". Humorous questions and answers were enjoyed by the listeners. There are several recognize able faces. Capped man on the cot is Master Matee Ullah Sahib, at that time was Biology Laboratory Assistant (younger brother of Prof. Seed Ullah Khan Sahib).

Far back, perched on a small bench are (from left to right) Prof. Rafiq Ahmad Saquib (Lecturer Chemistry), Dr. Naseer Ahmed Bashir marhoom (President Biological Society), and Dr. Naseer Ahmad Khan marhoom (Head Physics Department). Facing camera (shading eyes) Muhammad Sharif Khan.


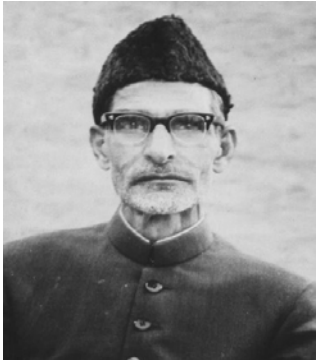

Proctorial system






A strong proctorial system headed by Prof. Sufi Basharat Rheman sahib, was active to maintain law and order and preserve calm atmosphere in the college premises when college was in session. Proctors would patrol college campus regularly during periods, keeping an eye on the miscreants.

Tutorial system

An efficient tutorial system was in place. Students with roll number having same last digit, from first to fourth year, were grouped together, supervised by a senior teacher-the tutor. Group elections for president and secretary were held at start of college session, under the supervision of the tutor. Weekly group meetings were held under group office bears presided by the president, every Thursday in 4th period. Student would put their problems before the tutor who would help solve them, they would read essays etc. the tutor would convey special college announcements to the group members and advise them accordingly. Proceedings of the group meetings were like mini college union.

Some well known teachers of Talim-ul-Islam College Rabwah

 <p>Professor Sufi Bsharat Rhaman</p>	 <p>Professor Habib Ullah Khan</p>	 <p>Professor Dr. Syeed Sultan Mahmood Shahid Dr. Syeed Sultan Mahmood Shahid</p>
---	--	--

 <p>Professor Chaudhary Muhammad Ali</p>	 <p>Prof. Dr. Nasir Ahmad Khan</p>	 <p>Professor Dr. Nasir Ahmad Khan Perwaiz Pwerwazi</p>
 <p>Prof. Abdul Rashid Ghani</p>	 <p>Professor Muhammad Aslam Sabir</p> <p>Professor Muhammad Aslam Sabir</p>	 <p>Professor Mubark Ahmad Ansari</p>

Post graduate Degree college

Scheme to bifurcate Talim-ul-Islam college into Inter (old campus) and Post graduate college (new campus) was launched during 1961-62. The degree and post graduate classes were to be shifted in a new building, about one mile from the old campus. Latest equipment for Physics and Chemistry Laboratories were purchased, mostly imported from England, West Germany, America and Yugoslavia. As Physics wing was completed postgraduate M.Sc. classes were shifted in 1967. Yet Chemistry, Botany and Zoology wings were under construction, when nationalization of the college took place, and all further development was halted.

Visiting dignitaries

Several national and international reputed personalities, well known in their fields were invited, from time to time, to speak to the students at topics of their research interest. The speakers included world renowned scientists, thinkers, news paper editors, educators, university chancellors, head departments and well known poets. The long string of questions from students that followed each speaker indicated the interest and attention they paid to their learned discourses.

The scholars came from different universities and colleges from within Pakistan and outside, from Italy, USSR, America, Turkey, Egypt and UK.

Principal Mian Nasir Ahmad sahib elected as Khalifatul Messiah

Ahmadiyyah conception of Talim-ul-Islam system of education is of an international scope. The Kholafa-a-Ahmadiyyat have been taking deep interest in development and execution of this divine idea, and kept the institution in their supervision, so that it stands to its standard. Especially Hazrat Khalifa tul Messiah III Mirza Nasir Ahmad (ra), who has also been long time Principal of the institution, worked hard and dedicated twenty one precious years of his life, from 1944 to 1965. He placed the system on strong foundations by implementing its basic concept in letter and spirit. With the Grace of Allah Ta'la, and invocations of Hadhrat Misseh-a- Maud (as) and spirituality of Hadhrat Musleh-a-Maud the college attained high position in short span of 21 years. Hazoor placed it on strong foundations by continuing with the method of teaching and guidance that is a beautiful amalgamation of body, spirit, knowledge and practice. It is really a beautiful mix of religious guidance to tackle worldly affairs for centuries to come.



**Right: Incoming Principal: Qazi M. Aslam
Left: Founder Principal: Hazrat Mirza Nasir
Ahmad (Khalifa tul Messiah III)**

Hazoor established an exemplary Islamic school based on exemplary education and guidance system that stands on five pillars:

Firstly he invoked determination in teachers that they should put up all of their sincere efforts and interests as a father would do, to work for the betterment and growth of their students, by sharing pain and happiness of each individual student.

Secondly, he guided students and teacher to abide by Islamic teachings and always avoid wrong politics by not participating in strikes and other western bad tactics. It is why that Talim-ul Islam-College in Qadian, Lahore and Rabwah remained aloof from political upheavals, that went all around in the country.

Thirdly, a coherent atmosphere was maintained with no distinction of religion and nationality, cast and creed. Every student whatever may be his religious sect, political

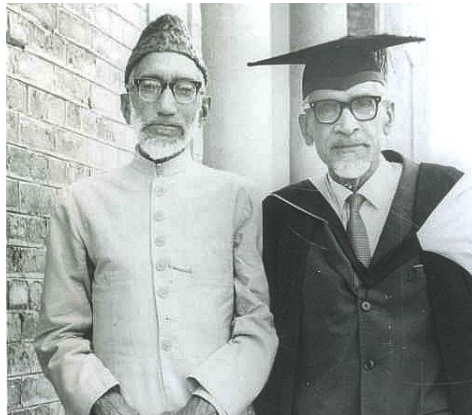
aptitude, was entitled to get his rights as a student, remaining in defined rules and regulations.

Fourthly, no distinction between poor and rich students was made, all students were equally treated according to college code of conduct.

Fifthly. The Principal did his best to educate and coach the students. He always prayed for the betterment of the college and students. He inculcated spirit of praying in members of the staff for their students and college, knowing that apparent care and schooling of the students is not enough.

In his farewell address after assuming office of Khalifatul Masih III, Hazarat Mirza Nasir Ahmad sahib said:

" I have brought up this college as my own child and it will always remain dear to my heart."



Mian Ataurhunan (Vice Principal) Qazi M. Aslam (Principal) 1969

Nationalization

In 1973 all private educational institutions were nationalized in a bid to have a political control on their students and staff. The parent managing bodies were dissolved. Government imported principals and lecturers from outside. These people had no affiliation and bond with the institutions; they were always after their salaries and private tuitions. An already efficiently working educational system was turned upside down, similarly teaching ethics of the teachers changed. Instead of teaching subjects for which they were hired, they would lecture on religious matters, creating hatred among different religious sects. The institution which had never been closed in protest participated freely in calls for strikes and remained closed for weeks. Lecturers used students to press college authorities to concede to their demands. Hooliganism and lawlessness, fights among student groups became daily affairs, mostly students came carrying weapons. Calm and serene college atmosphere long vanished. Staff visited college at leisure, often showing their face to become entitled to draw their pay-checks.

Once acclaimed best college building in the region was now in shambles, despite government had spent millions of rupees on repairs, which were embezzled by corrupt officials. The repairs made would not stand use of some weeks.

The college once known for its good results, excellence in sports and good conduct of staff and students, was now known by negative aspects of all these good attributes. College results had fallen bellow university average, in several subjects it was consistently zero. Very rarely a lucky student qualified to get admission in a professional college.

Old renowned Talim-ul-Islam College now remains in the university records and in the minds of its old students who once brought laurels to their Alma mater.

Let us pray for good time to return soon, when the college comes again under the control of its parent body, and attain its lost status by coming in forefront to serve the nation in a befitting manner.

Though past never returns but good wishes and prayers for the best are never wasted and it is said “history repeats itself.”

References

Khan, Muhammad Sharif (2006). Talim-ul-Islam College-a historic perspective. Al-Nahal, 17(1):26-47.

Khan, Muhammad Sharif (2007). Nazam-a-Talim-ul-Islam. Part I. Alfazal International 30 March-6 April.

Khan, Muhammad Sharif (2007). Nazam-a-Talim-ul-Islam. Part II. Alfazal International 6 April-12 April.

Rashid, Abdul Architect (?). *Mari Pasandida Basti Qadian Darul Amaan*. Publisher unknown, pp. 189-192.

Sadiq, Mufti Muhammad (?) *Zikr-a-Habib*. Publisher not mentioned. Vol. 1: 1-429.

Shahid, Dost Muhammad (?) *Tarekh a Ahmadiyyat* Vol. 10. Publisher ?

Zafar, Burhan Ahmed (?) *Markz-a-Ahmadiyyat Qadian*. Zafar and Sons, Mohalla Ahmadiyya, Qadian. 84-102.

.....
September 10, 2007