Ahmadiyyat is the divinely promised revival of Islam prophesied in the Holy Quran (9.33; 62.4) and by the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace be on him.

Ahmadiyyat is True Islam
It sets forth the essence of Islam, shorn of all encrustations that have through the centuries been gradually patched upon the body of Islam and have defaced and defigured it, and debased Muslim society. It does not depart from Islam in the least nor does it add one iota to the doctrines or teachings of Islam. Yet it is a fresh presentation of Islam, and more particularly of the wisdom and philosophy that underlie its doctrines and teachings, based upon and deriving entirely from the Holy Quran and the pronouncements and practice of the Holy Prophet of Islam. It is not a new religion nor is it an innovation. It sets forth only that which has been inherent in Islam from the very beginning, but which had been overlaid in the last few centuries or the need of which had not yet arisen.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian
Recipient of Revelation
In the early eighties of the nineteenth century, a devoted follower of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace be on him, announced that he had been a constant recipient of divine revelation for some years and that God had informed him that the day of the renaissance of Islam was about to dawn and this revival would be brought about through him. This voice was raised by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, a small town situated in a corner of the most backward province of India, lacking all facilities for communication with the rest of the world. He belonged to a noble house of ancient lineage, whose fortunes were now at an ebb. He had not received much formal education but had made a deep study of the Holy Quran and of the scriptures of other faiths and was richly endowed with knowledge of the profound eternal verities.

Promised Messiah and Mahdi
In 1889 he claimed that he was the Reformer of the fourteenth century of the Islamic era and was the Mahdi and the Promised Messiah, whose advent in the latter days had been predicted by the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace be on him. He also claimed, under divine direction, that in his advent the prophecies handed down in all the great faiths of the appearance of a great teacher in the latter days. In March 1889, he laid the foundation of the Ahmadiyya Movement. His claims aroused bitter opposition on the part of the religious leaders of all principal faiths.

Opposition and Condemnation
His claim of being a recipient of revelation in an age steeped in materialism made him an object of ridicule in the eyes of the worldly. Orthodox Muslim divines condemned him as a disbeliever and an apostate whose assassination would be an act of the highest spiritual merit.

Ahmadiyya Community
He led a wholly blameless, pure and beneficent life, which followed in the minutest detail the pattern that had been established by the Holy Prophet, peace be on him. He founded a community, the members of which are required to illustrate in their daily lives all the social, moral and spiritual values inculcated by Islam, of which the highest example was furnished in the life of the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace be on him. They are drawn from every walk of life and are practical men pursuing the whole range of beneficent activities according to the teachings of Islam.

They do not reject the normal values of life and have set enviable examples of full, successful and highly beneficent lives. The distinguishing feature of their lives is the upholding of the moral and the spiritual above the material and the physical in a pattern of beneficent co-ordination. As taught by Islam, they believe that the faculties and capacities bestowed upon man by God Almighty are a precious bounty and must be beneficently developed and exercised at their proper time and occasion and are not to be suppressed or stultified. The moral and spiritual code to which they seek to conform imposes no handicap upon them. There have, by the Grace and Mercy of God, appeared among them, persons possessing high eminence in almost every sphere of human life.

Conflict between Spiritual and Material Values
The world today presents an ironic spectacle of the highest progress in science and technology, beyond's man's wildest dreams of even half a century ago, on the one side; and the rapid deterioration of moral and spiritual values on the other. This rift is widening daily, particularly in the West, and if it is not drastically narrowed and then eliminated at an early date, it would bring about universal disaster which might involve the end of civilisation as it is conceived today. At the root of the trouble is the utter lack of moral and spiritual leadership among the so-called advanced sections of humanity which have, in many cases, become completely alienated from God. Belief in the possibility of communion with God, which is the very essence of spiritual life, has disappeared. Such halting and sporadic effort as is put forth towards the stimulation of moral and spiritual values is based on human speculation and is not derived from divine direction. This tendency is patent even among Muslim divines. There is a failure to recognise that the only way of deliverance is through the establishment of man's relationship with God. Today the only claimant of such a possibility is the Ahmadiyya
Movement which furnishes practical illustration of the truth of its claim. It is only through experience of such relationship that a person can arrive at absolute certainty of faith in the Divine which can work the needed moral and spiritual revolution in the life of man. This is the challenge that the Ahmadiyya Movement presents to an incredulous world. It is the challenge of a revived, resurgent and invigorated Islam.

True Salvation
Islam is the distilled essence of all truth. There is not a single fundamental verity that is not comprised in the Holy Quran. It requires faith in all the Prophets and in the revelations that were vouchsafed to them. It is thus a universal possession and a perfect guide. Any one who makes it the law of his life and conforms to it down to the least particular, beholds God in this very life. This is true salvation and there is no other salvation beside it. That is the perfect fulfillment of life here and hereafter.

The Ahmadiyya Movement was founded 95 years ago. Today its branches are strung around the globe. It already enjoys the allegiance of more than ten million people drawn from all regions of the earth and comprising all races and colours. Its membership is rapidly increasing all over the world.

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