## For further information about our community visit our websites at

### www.alislam.org

(the official website of our **global** community) www.**ahmadiyya**.org.nz

(the official website of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at New Zealand) <u>www.LoveForAllHatredForNone.org</u> <u>www.mta.tv</u> or AsiaSat 3S at 105.5' East, Freq. 3760 H, SR 2600, FEC 7/8 (the website and our 24-hour global television station)

Email: info@ahmadiyya.org.nz

### Address:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at New Zealand Inc. Bait-ul Muqeet 20 Dalgety Drive, Manukau Central 2104 P.O. Box 97617 Manukau, Auckland, New Zealand

### Telephone

(09) 267 0570

Fax (09) 267 0577

In New Zealand our community holds Religious Founders' Day every year to promote religious harmony among the followers of different religions. It also holds walkathons to raise funds for different charities in New Zealand. It has published the Maori translation of the Holy Qur'an, the Islamic Scripture.

NZ Regd. Charity: CC27705)

# Loyalty

## Freedom

Equality

Respect

Peace

## **ISLAM:** A fresh perspective

Since its inception in 1889, the **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community** has been leading a global effort to revive the true, peaceful message of Islam as taught by the Holy Prophet Muhammad *(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)*.



This revival of the true Islamic teachings was initiated by the founder of the community, Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be upon him), who said:

The founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

"The mission for which I have been appointed is to remove that growing gap in the relationship between God and His creation and replace it once again with the relationship of love and sincerity; and by allowing the truth to manifest itself, cause religious wars and discord to end and thus lay the foundation for peace."

He claimed under Divine guidance to be the Promised Messiah and the Imam Mahdi, the advent of whom was being awaited in this age by all major religions.

With this desire for peace, our community has grown and is now established in more than 195 countries with a following of 160 million.

As Muslims it pains us when the noble religion of Islam is maligned by the actions of extremists. We therefore continuously seek to clarify the true teachings of Islam, to speak out against injustices, suicide bombings and terrorism. We are clear and firm in our belief that Islam is a religion of peace – as the word 'Islam' means 'peace' – and any actions that do not promote peace find no support whatsoever in Islam. Our current spiritual leader (*Khalifa*), based in London, UK, remains devoted to peace and reminds us that:

"Islam teaches us to always be mindful towards God Who is our Creator and to always keep His memory fresh in our hearts and to deal with His creation with love, affection, harmony and tolerance."

#### Loyalty • Freedom • Equality Respect • Peace

As Ahmadi Muslims, we believe that we must abide by these values in our daily life as they help foster a sense of unity, cohesion, harmony and peace the world over.

### **Some Key Islamic Principles**

Belief in One God

All prophets and all religions were sent from the same source – the One God Who is the Creator of all and Who continues to communicate with mankind. In Arabic He is called Allah but whatever term is used in various religions according to Islam they all refer to the same single God.

Belief in all prophets

God sent His prophets to guide people to Him and to create peace amongst mankind. Islam requires Muslims to believe in all prophets without exception and to refer to them with respect and honour.

- Belief in all Divine teachings
   All Divine religions were true at their sources. However, over time their teachings were eroded and forgotten, but God continued to send prophets to guide people back to Him.
- No compulsion in religion

Everybody is free to believe, practise, preach and follow any faith of his or her choice.

Equal rights for all

Men, women and people of all races stand equal in the sight of God. Only righteous deeds elevate one person above another and this opportunity to excell over others is open to all.

Protecting the sanctity of life

Islam emphasises the sanctity of life and unequivocally rejects violence and terrorism in any form (including suicide bombings) and for any reason. All Muslims must promote peace at every level and shun hatred and discord.

### Our motto is: Love for All Hatred for None

We serve humanity in many ways including a wide range of activities that provide disaster relief, medical facilities, energy, education and self-help programmes across the world.

"...I must say that every Ahmadi who lives in Great Britain is an extremely loyal citizen of the country and loves it; and this is because of the teachings of our Prophet [Muhammad] (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who instructed us that love of one's country is an

integral part of one's faith." Address delivered at the House of Commons, Oct. 2008 by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad Head of the worlwide Ahmadiyya Muslim community. "The Khalifa's emphasis on peace and tolerance stands in striking contrast to the firebrand radicals that make the news pages."

The Times, June 2008.