



# Ansar Connection

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We are the Helpers of Allah.

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## New York Majlis participates in African American Day Parade

*By: Ali Murtaza Sahib (New York Majlis)*



The Pan-African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA) made a prominent and impactful appearance at the 54th African-American Day Parade held on September 17, 2023, in New York City. The parade, spanning from 113th Street to 136th Street, celebrated African-American culture, history, and achievements. PAAMA's participation showcased its commitment to fostering unity, diversity, and religious harmony within the African-American community.

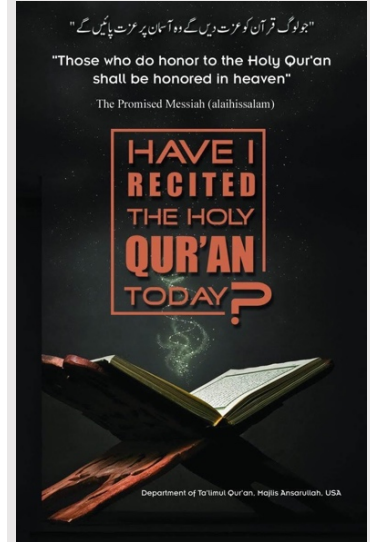


Our marchers displayed the banner of "Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Since 1920" in front of our parade vehicle decorated with the PAAMA USA, our late widely popular brother Ahmad Jamal, Sister Malika and Mufti Muhammad Sadiq (ra) banners. This along with our "Love for All, Hatred for None", and "Islam the original Soul food" banners were very well received by the thousands of on lookers lining the 23 blocks along the parade route.



Brother Rafique Friend even shared a handshake and photo with the New York City Mayor, Hon. Eric Adams. This procession was further embellished by our slogans of "Allah hu Akbar", "Lailahaillallah Muhammad Rasullallah" and "Ahmadiyyat since 1920 and we're still here" which generated more interest from the on lookers. These slogans were further paraphrased by the grandstand MC who broadcasts live via a popular radio station called WBL5 which airs to 5.5 million listeners. The parade was also live streamed via 3 streaming outlets that reaches millions.

Daen passed out over 2,000 flyers. More could have been done with more



Daen. However we pray that this meager effort will be blessed by Allah and keeps the flame of Ahmadiyyat burning in the Harlem, New York Community.

## Remembering Al-Haj Jameel Ghauri

*By: Junayd Latif, Daud Ahmad, Zakee Darr, and Waleed Ahmad (Zion, IL)*



On Monday October 23rd, 2023, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Zion helped lay to rest a long-time pioneer member of the Zion Jamaat and servant to the Racine Community, Al Hajj Jameel Ghuari. He passed away peacefully at Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee, late Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

**From Allah we come and to Allah do we all return. May Allah the Almighty grant him peace and provide his family comfort and support.**

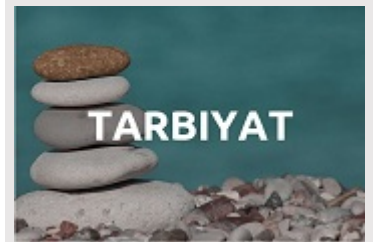
Below we will share some key moments of his truly remarkable life.

Al-Haj Jameel Ghauri was born Charles "Chuck" Chambliss on November 24, 1952, to the late Charlie and Annie Mae (Lindsey) Chambliss, he graduated from Washington Park High School as one of its top Basketball players and went on to play at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. He eventually was able to travel overseas to play professionally in Scotland, Japan, Canada, and the Philippines.

He was raised in a very religious family and grew to be someone who was always curious about faith. While at Parkside he met Muslims and was interested in Islam but due to their ill conduct, he didn't pursue it, but remained interested. When he later went to Scotland to play, he had more time and less distractions and decided to go on a spiritual quest. During this time, he also studied Buddhism, but the attraction to Islam remained the strongest. Eventually he looked up the local mosque in the phone book and called. It happened to be an Ahmadi Mosque and the 1st mosque built in England and the phone was answered by Bashir Ahmad Orchard, the 1st European to accept Ahmadiyyat. Brother Bashir invited him to come and meet with him, which he did, and continued to do so. He would go to practice in the morning, and then catch the train to go to the mosque in the afternoon and stay until after Isha. Eventually Brother Jameel accepted Ahmadiyyat. It is at this time that Brother Jameel received his name from Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih III (RA) and made his Hajj in the early 1980s.



With basketball as his craft and Ahmadiyyat as his foundation he was able to travel the world and enhance the lives of young people. Some of his personal athletic accomplishments include being a stand-out player at Park High School, then

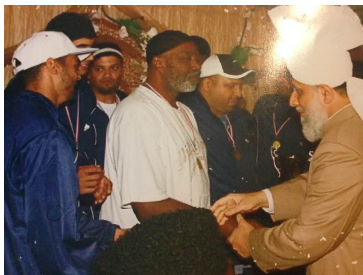




playing at UW-Parkside and later competing at a professional level in Scotland, Japan, Canada, and the Philippines. After returning home he served as Director of the Bray Center, a community center in inner city Racine where he shared his knowledge and experience about the game of basketball with others. He trained countless athletes, some of whom made it to the professional level, and for some it just kept them out of trouble.

By the grace of Allah, Brother Jameel held some local Zion Jamaat Amila positions as well as holding some Amila positions with Majlis Ansarullah Zion.

In 2015 and 2016 Jameel organized and ran the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Urban Youth Basketball camps at the Bray Center. In 2016 Jameel arranged for the community's international sports tournament (MIST) to be held at the Bray Center. In 2018, Al Hajj Jameel along with Daud Ahmad of Racine were invited to the MIST Tournament in Miami to hold a spiritual training session about dealing with the ills of Western society as requested by the organizers. His passion for faith and basketball allowed him to touch countless lives and leave behind a legacy of family and service that can serve as an example for all those aspiring to serve their communities. At different points he held leadership positions in his local chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, serving the jamaat as a local elected official and Majlis Ansarullah as well.



During his life, Bro. Jameel met and interacted with many famous people, but made it clear that these meetings paled in comparison to meeting the Khalifa of the time, and had the honor of meeting Khalifatul Masih III, IV, and V on several occasions.

He is survived by 3 sons, Myron McNutt, Sharif Chambliss, Isiah Scales and his daughter Huriyyah Ghauri and many grandchildren. Also surviving are his 3 brothers Donald Robinson, Carl "Trick" Robinson and Mark Chambliss and his Ahmadiyya Muslim Family.

May Allah Grant him forgiveness and peace and allow his good deeds to continue to be a source of blessings for all that he has impacted, Ameen!

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**Send us your stories of brotherhood, Ijtima memories, or any other inspiring experience that we can share with Ansar brothers via this e-newsletter.**

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