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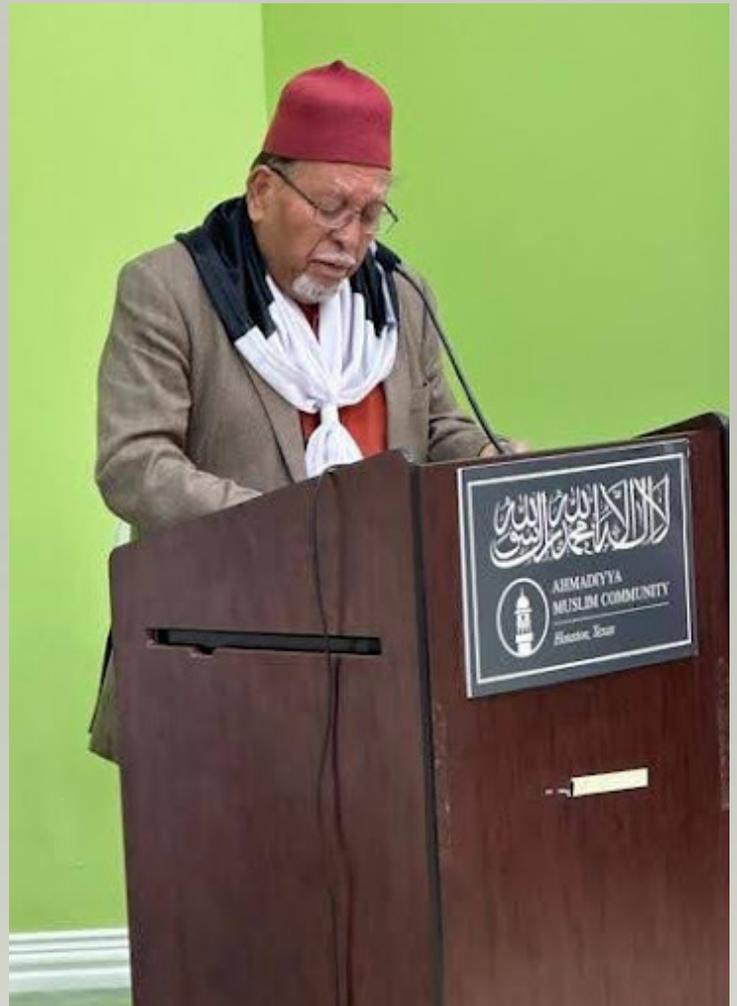


Remembering Late Jamil Mohammed Choudhry Sahib of Jacksonville, Florida



This special issue of *Ansar Connection* honors the memory of Jamil Choudhry Sahib, a beloved member of our US Jamaat who passed away shortly after being interviewed for this feature. Known across the U.S. for his melodious recitation of Nazms at Jamaat and Ansar events, Jamil Sahib left an indelible mark on all who heard him.

Most recently, he was a member of Jacksonville, FL Jamaat, and previously served the Central Jersey Chapter as Secretary Finance, Secretary Taleemul Quran and Waqf-e-Arzi.



Family and Spiritual Heritage

Jamil Sahib, one of twelve siblings, was born in Qadian on February 4, 1944 to Choudhry Wazeer Mohammad and Hameeda Begum. He belonged to the distinguished family of Hazrat Mian Imamuddin (ra), who was his maternal grandfather. Jamil sahib's maternal uncle Maulana Jalaluddin Shams, one of the earliest missionaries, was honored with the title "Khalid-e-Ahmadiyyat" by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (rz), alongside Maulana Abul Ata Jalandhari (ra) and Maulana Abdur Rahman Khadim (ra).

His sister, the late Amtul Majeed Choudhry Sahiba—affectionately known as Appa Jaan by the Jamaat community in Islamabad UK—had offered to dedicate her life to the services of Jamaat after she retired from serving as a school principal in Nigeria. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV kindly approved her dedication, and she came to London to lead the *Review of Religions* as Managing Editor. "Majeeda street" was named in Islamabad UK in honor of her services. His younger brother, Halim Chaudhry Sahib, currently serves as President of the Baltimore Jamaat.

Jamil Sahib's ancestors, known as the Sekhwani brothers—Maulana Mian Imamuddin, Mian Jamal-ud-din, and Mian Khair-ud-din—had a close bond with Hazrat Masih-e-Maud (as) even before the establishment of Jamaat. They were included in the 313 blessed companions that Hazrat

Masih-e-Mauood (as) listed himself. During the construction of Minaratul Masih, Hazrat Masih-e-Mauood (as) announced that names of donors who contribute 100 rupees or more would be written in a prominent place. These three brothers were among those donors. They were also among the first few members who joined the Wasiyyat scheme established by Hazrat Masih-e-Maud (as).

Migration and Early Struggles

During the 1947 partition, his family's migration to Pakistan was marked by turmoil. His father arranged for him and his three sisters to be transported to Lahore on an army truck. A cousin, Fazil Sahib, recognized them upon arrival and took them to join family members who had already reached Lahore. They eventually took shelter in Jaswant building, a safe haven for about twenty Ahmadi families for many years to come.

Meanwhile, their family home in Qadian was attacked by Sikh militants. His mother was cooking when the attack occurred, and his elder brother Choudhry Khalil Ahmad had a confrontation with the intruders. Fortunately, the family survived and later reunited in Lahore.

Jamil Sahib recalled the memory with emotion, emphasizing that those who endured the partition and restarted their lives were later

blessed with abundant signs of Allah's protection and grace.

1953 Riots and Divine Protection

In 1953, fierce riots targeted Ahmadis in Lahore. Protestors declared their intention to attack Jodhamal, Jaswant, and Ratan Bagh (where Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (rz) resided) –buildings known to house Ahmadi families. Jamil Sahib's father, fearing for their safety, gave each child some money and asked them to escape if necessary. The day before the planned attack, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (rz) delivered a moving Friday Sermon and assured members not to worry, saying, "I see that Allah is running toward us." That night, martial law was declared, preventing the attack. SubhanAllah!

Education, Career, and Service Abroad

Jamil Sahib pursued his education in Lahore and then attended Talim-ul-Islam College in Rabwah. After graduation, he joined Bank of America (Lahore). He was married in 1974, during a time of unrest and anti-Jamaat violence.

He later moved to Kuwait in 1980 to work for a local bank. Following guidance from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ra), he and his family migrated to Canada in 1989 intending to start a business. Soon after migrating to Canada, the invasion of Kuwait took place followed by the Gulf War, but the prayers of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (IV)

saved the family from this turmoil. -The move to Canada proved challenging in securing a stable income, and in 1993, he moved to Dubai to work at Al-Mashreq Bank. As his children entered critical educational stages, his family moved to the U.S., and in 1999 he transferred to Al-Mashreq's New York branch, working there until his retirement in 2010.

A Turning Point and His Legacy

During a visit to London, Jamil Sahib and his wife sought guidance from Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ra) regarding their children's upbringing and education. Huzoor advised them to move from Kuwait to Canada—a major life decision. They followed Huzoor's instruction without hesitation, and Jamil Sahib often referred to it as a turning point that shaped their family's future.

When asked for advice on how to lead a good life, he said: **“Always maintain a strong relationship with Jamaat and Khalifa-e-Waqt, and ask Allah for anything you want in life.”**

Jamil Choudhry Sahib passed away on February 9, 2025, at the age of 81 and is buried in the Moosi section of Maqbratus Salam, Sykesville MD. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, eight grandchildren and five siblings. May Allah bless his soul and elevate his status. Ameen.