

Resources - Difference between Ahmadi Muslims from other Muslims

1. A fundamental Muslim belief is that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the 'Seal of the Prophets', as mentioned in the Qur'an (chapter 33, verse 40) and the Hadith (sayings of the Prophet Muhammad), and agreed upon by Islamic scholars of all sects and throughout the ages.
2. Most Sunni and Shi'a Muslims understand this to mean that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the last and final messenger, after whom there will be no more prophets.
3. Ahmadi Muslims also believe that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the last prophet to bring a law and scripture, and that no other religion will be revealed after Islam. In addition, they believe their 19th century founder Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was the Mahdi and Promised Messiah, and a prophet who followed the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad did not change, add to or subtract from the teachings of Islam.
4. Many Sunnis and Shi'as do not agree with the claims of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, and therefore may not regard his followers as Muslims.
5. Ahmadis identify as Muslims, and like other Muslims also believe in the Qur'an, six articles of faith and Five Pillars of Islam.

Resources Continued - The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has “A” Committee representation on Croydon SACRE. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is the largest organised international Muslim community that is led by a single spiritual leader (The Caliph). Ahmadi Muslims follow the same holy scriptures and teachings as other Muslims. The key difference is that Ahmadi Muslims believe that the Promised Messiah (also referred to as the Mahdi in some texts) of the latter days has arrived. His name was Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and he established the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in 1889. It is a revivalist movement that has no new religious laws or teachings as it seeks to rejuvenate the true Islam as taught by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Other Muslims are still waiting for a reformer to come.

As with all other Muslims, Ahmadi Muslims believe in the ‘Five Pillars of Islam’ including the shahada (La ilaha illallah Muhammad ur rasul Allah - I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, that Muhammad (pbuh) is the messenger of Allah), praying 5 times a day, fasting in Ramadan, performing Hajj and giving to charity. They have the same 6 key beliefs including belief in Tauheed (the oneness of God ~~Allah~~), Holy Books, Prophets including (Prophet Muhammad pbuh), angels, the Day of Judgement and believe in the Divine decree. They follow the same holy scripture (The Holy Qur’an), and accept that Islam is the final and perfect religion for mankind. They also believe in Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) as “Khataman Nabiyyeen” (the ‘Seal of the Prophets’) as he was the one who was the best model for mankind who brought God’s final and perfect message for mankind.

Ahmadi Muslims also follow the Islamic sources of guidance and jurisprudence – which is sourced from three main authorities:

1. The Holy Qur’an;
2. The Sunnah (practice of the Holy Prophet(pbuh)); and
3. The Hadith (sayings of the Holy Prophet(pbuh)) as given in the authentic books of Hadith such as Sahih Al Bukhari, Sahih Al Muslim, Sunan Abu Daud, Tirmidhi, Ibne Maja and Nisai

The community is now established globally in more than 200 countries with membership in the tens of millions. Its UK headquarters are located at the Baitul Futuh Mosque, Morden, Surrey. After the demise of their founder in 1908, the community has been led by a system of Khilafat (Caliphate) or Spiritual Leadership and the current Caliph is Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, who is the Fifth Caliph of the community. He is based in the UK and under his leadership, the community has now built over 20,000 mosques, 500 schools and opened numerous hospitals and clinics worldwide. The community has translated the Holy Quran into 78 languages including Braille and established the world’s first 24 hour satellite television channel, Muslim Television Ahmadiyya International that broadcast from London. In 2015 it launched London’s newest Muslim radio station, the Voice of Islam, that broadcasts on DAB digital. The community is highly organised and in the UK alone has 147 branches from Scotland to Cornwall. It has a strong focus on education for girls and boys. One of its members was the Pakistan’s first Noble Laureate (Professor Abdus Salam) and another served as President of the UN General Assembly and President of the International Court of Justice.

The community actively engages its members in serving humanity and working on charitable and social projects. In the UK it raises more than a million pounds each year for British charities including the British Heart Foundation, Save the Children and many local charities. It also has its own humanitarian charity called Humanity First that provides disaster relief, solar energy, water and training to people across the world, regardless of their belief. The community has been in the UK since 1913. In 1926 it built the Fazl Mosque, London’s first mosque (in Southfields) that is also known as The London Mosque.

In 2003 it built the Baitul Futuh Mosque in Morden, which is the largest mosque in western Europe. The community has a very strong focus on peace and lives by its motto of Love For All hatred For None and its mosques also play a valuable role for the wider community. The community runs an international peace campaign to promote awareness of Islam’s message of peace. The community categorically reject extremism and terrorism in any form and more than a century ago its founder emphatically declared that an aggressive “jihad by the sword” has no place in Islam. It promotes interfaith dialogue, respect for all faiths, and the separation of mosque and state. It has no political or worldly ambition and seeks bring people closer to God and to inspire people to serve humanity. Further details about the community can be found online at <https://www.allislam.org/question/difference-between-ahmadi-muslims-others/>, www.AhmadiyyaUK.org, www.allislam.org, www.mta.tv, <https://voiceofislam.co.uk/> and can be contacted by email at enquiries@ahmadiy