



Minhaj-Ul-Quran International

A Brief Introduction

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Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri

A man of manifold and staggering achievements, Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri is the founding leader of Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI), an organization with branches and centres in more than 90 countries around the globe, working for the promotion of peace and harmony between communities and the revival of spiritual endeavour based on the true teachings of Islam.

Shaykh-ul-Islam was born to the great spiritualist and intellectual of his time ash-Shaykh Dr Farid-ud-Din al-Qadri, in the historical city of Jhang, Pakistan on February 19, 1951. Since his birth had been foretold through a spiritual dream to his father, he was educated from the young age in both the Islamic and secular sciences simultaneously, imbued with the belief that his entire life would be devoted to the renaissance of Islam. Although he had already started his religious education under his father two years earlier, his formal classical education was initiated in Madina Munawwara at the age of 12, in Madrasa al-‘Uloom ash-Shar‘iyya which was situated in the blessed house of Sayyidina Abu Ayyub al-Ansari, the first residence of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) after his migration.

By the time he had received a First Class Honours Degree from the University of the Punjab in 1970 he had also completed his Classical Islamic Studies, having spent over ten years under the tutelage of his father and other eminent Shuyukh of his time and achieving an unparalleled

understanding of the classical *shari'a* sciences and Arabic language. He earned his MA in Islamic Studies in 1972 with the University of the Punjab Gold Medal, achieved his LLB in 1974 and began to practise as a lawyer in the district courts of Jhang. He moved to Lahore in 1978 and joined the University of the Punjab as a lecturer in law and completed his doctorate in Islamic Law. He was also a member of the Syndicate, Senate and Academic Council of the University of the Punjab, which are the highest executive, administrative and academic bodies of the University.

However within a short span of time he emerged as the country's leading Islamic jurist and scholar and revivalist of the Islamic ideology. He was appointed as a Jurist Consult (legal adviser) on Islamic law for the Supreme Court and the Federal Sharia Court of Pakistan and also worked as a specialist adviser on Islamic curricula for the Federal Ministry of Education of Pakistan. At various times between 1983-1987, he was offered the positions of Senator for the Upper House of Parliament, Federal Minister for Religious Affairs, Federal Minister for Education and the Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs. He was also nominated as Ambassador for Pakistan as well as offered the post of Justice of the Appellate Sharia Bench, Supreme Court of Pakistan and the position of a member of the Islamic Ideology Council of Pakistan (highest constitutional body for Islamic legislation). All of these positions were offered by the then president of Pakistan. However Shaykh-ul-Islam refused to accept any of these due to his lifelong commitment to serving Islam, Muslim *Umma* and humanity at large.

In the 1980s, a number of historical judgments in the legal and constitutional history of Pakistan were passed by the Federal Sharia Court and the Appellate Sharia Bench,

Supreme Court of Pakistan as a result of Shaykh-ul-Islam's juristic arguments, documented in the Pakistan Legal Decisions (PLD) and Pakistan Legal Judgments (PLJ). In particular the Federal Sharia Court passed a judgment denying the legal position of *rajm* as a *hadd* of *shari'a*, in which almost all well known *'ulama* and senior renowned classical scholars of the country had appeared before the court giving their arguments. In a review petition Shaykh-ul-Islam presented his arguments before the court against the judgment for three consecutive days. As a result, a landmark decision was passed by the full bench of the Federal Sharia Court of Pakistan overturning their prior judgment and the *rajm* was judicially re-accepted as a *hadd* of *shari'a*.

In another case the Blasphemy Law protecting the esteemed station and reverence of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) was also passed for the first time in the history of Pakistan after Shaykh-ul-Islam presented his arguments to the court, over a period of three days, culminating in an Act of Parliament. Another landmark and famous enactment of Parliament concerning *ad-diya* (blood-money) of a murdered woman resulted after Shaykh-ul-Islam presented arguments in the President House of Pakistan during a special legislative session chaired by President Zia'ul-Haqq. This session was attended by all federal ministers, secretaries, governors of all provinces, all judges of the Federal Sharia Court and Appellate Sharia Bench of the Supreme Court, members of the Islamic Ideology Council, selected top ranking classical scholars and Shuyukh belonging to all schools of law. Shaykh-ul-Islam presented arguments in favour of equality of rights of women concerning *ad-diya* for eight hours followed by a question and answer session. This was a unique and unprecedented event in

the judicial and legislative history of Pakistan. As a result of his arguments the discrimination clause was removed and women were given equality of redress. This shows the amount of concern that Shaykh-ul-Islam has for the respect and safeguarding of women's rights in Islam. Moreover during the 1980s hundreds of un-Islamic clauses from the old civil and criminal laws of Pakistan, which had existed since the period of colonial rule were, amended according to Islamic principles upon the juristic recommendations of Shaykh-ul-Islam.

He is also a former Professor of Islamic Law at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, and the youngest person ever to have been awarded a professorship in the history of the University. Shaykh-ul-Islam has also previously held the position of the Head of the Department for LLM in Islamic Legislation.

With his learned instruction and creative interpretation of Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri has provided refreshing perspectives of the role of Islam in the contemporary world. Unfortunately, in the past several decades, the universality of Islam has been obscured by stereotyped conservatism. With his progressive ideas, advanced contemporary world vision and deep classical insight, he is performing a historical role in the renaissance of Islam. He is beyond any doubt a refreshing tide for the anguished mind.

He is today's most prolific and accomplished author, teacher, and reviver of classical Islamic sciences and Islamic authority, hence the title "Shaykh al-Islam", meaning the "Authority of Islam". He is the pre-eminent Islamic jurist and expert in Islamic legal affairs in the Islamic world.

He has delivered over 5000 speeches in last about three decades. They are available on audio cassettes, VHS, DVDs and CDs at all the Minhaj-ul-Quran centres in the world as

well as online. He has authored a thousand books of which 360 have been published in Arabic, Urdu and English languages. These works may be classified into the following categories.

- Works on Qur'anic *Tafsir* (in number totaling 80 works)
- Works on Hadith compilation and the science of Hadith (in number totaling 75 works)
- Works on Islamic '*Aqida* (in number totaling 100 works)
- Works on the Biography (*Sira*) of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) and his virtuous characteristics (in number totaling 60 works)
- Works on Islamic Law and Jurisprudence (Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh)
- Works on Islamic Political and Economic Systems
- Works on *Tasawwuf* and Spirituality
- Works on Human Rights and Modern Sciences
- Miscellaneous current subjects

The following 50 are among the hundreds of his most notable and recent works:

1. *Irfan al-Qur'an*: A modern scientific, lucid, literary, exegetic and comprehensive translation of the Holy Qur'an (Urdu and English versions).
2. *Tafsir Minhaj al-Qur'an (al-Futubat al-Madaniyya* — 14 volumes U.P.)
3. *Tafsir Sura al-Fatiha* (partly published, totaling 7 volumes), the largest available publication on this subject.
4. *Kashf al-Ghita 'an Ma'rifat al-Aqdam l'il-Mustafa (Tafsir* in the Arabic language on the excellence of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).

5. *al-Minhaj as-Sawi*: A collection of Prophetic traditions (*ahadith*) compiled in the pattern and style of Imam Nawawi's *Riyad as-Salihin* and Khatib Tabrizi's *Mishkat al-Masabih*.
6. *Jami' as-Sunna fima Yahtaj Ilayh Akhir al-Umma* (a comprehensive compilation of 25,000 *ahadith*, totaling 20 volumes in printing process)
7. *Muqaddima Sirat-ur-Rasul*: Two large volumes preface to *Sirat-ur-Rasul* analogous to *Muqadimma Ibn Khuldun*.
8. *Sirat-ur-Rasul*: Largest-ever biography of the Holy Prophet written in 12 volumes (Urdu).
9. *Mawlid an-Nabi*: The Birthday of the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace), the largest-ever written work on the subject, consisting of approximately 1100 pages.
10. *Hidayat al-Umma 'ala Minhaj al-Qur'an wa's-Sunna* (2 volumes — another collection of 2200 *ahadith*)
11. *Majmu'at al-'Aqa'id* (25 volumes — An unprecedented compendium on Islamic Faith and Theology)
12. *al-'Ata fi Ma'rifat al-Mustafa* (4 volumes — collection of 5,000 *ahadith* on the subjects of the excellence, habits, morals, specialties and miracles of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) on the pattern and style of *ash-Shifa* of Qadi 'Iyad UP)
13. *al-Badra-ut-Tamam 'ala Sahib-id-Dunuww wal-Maqam* (Virtues of Greetings and Salutations on the Holy Prophet [blessings and peace be upon him])
14. *Kitab at-Tamhid* (a detailed treatise on the concept of the unity of Allah amounting to 2 volumes)
15. *Kitab ar-Risala* (2 volumes — a detailed treatise on the excellence of Prophethood and highly esteemed

station of the holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him)

16. *Kitab as-Sunna* (2 volumes — a comprehensive treatise on the authority, science and compilation of *hadith* and *sunna*)
17. *Kitab al-Bid'ā* (a comprehensive work on the concept of “innovations” in Islam)
18. *Islamic Penal System and Philosophy* (Shaykh-ul-Islam's doctoral thesis)
19. Islamic Concept of Law
20. Islamic Concept of Crime
21. A Comparative Study of Islamic and Western Concepts of Law
22. Islam and Criminality
23. Legal Character of Islamic Punishments
24. *al-Hukm ash-Shar'i* (a book on *Usul al-Fiqh* [Islamic jurisprudence])
25. *Sources of Islamic Law*
26. *Philosophy of Ijtihad and the Modern World*
27. *Ijtihad — Meaning, Kinds and Scope*
28. *Jurisprudential Methodology of Islamic Research*
29. *Islamic Concept of State*
30. *Qur'anic Basis of Constitutional Theory*
31. *The Constitution of Madina* (A detailed exposition of the first ever written constitution in human history)
32. *Khilafa and Democracy* (a voluminous work on the subject of Islamic Political System U.P.)
33. *Islamic Economic System, its Origin and Development*
34. *Qawa'id al-Iqtisad fi'l-Islam* ([Arabic] Principles of Islamic Economics)
35. *Qur'anic Philosophy of Change* (2 volumes)
36. *Islamic Economy and Interest-free Banking*

37. *Qur'anic Philosophy of Rise and Fall of the Nations*
38. *Islam — A Religion of Balance and Moderation*
39. *Human Rights in Islam*
40. *Islam on the Rights of Women*
41. *Islam on the Rights of Children*
42. *Islam on the Rights of Senior Citizens*
43. *Islam on the Rights of Non-Muslims*
44. *Islam on the Rights of the Disabled*
45. *Islam and Science*
46. *Qur'an on Creation and Evolution of Man*
47. *Qur'an on Creation and Expansion of the Universe*
48. *Islam on Prevention of Heart Diseases*
49. *Spiritualism and Magnetism*
50. *Islam in Various Perspectives*

Shaykh-ul-Islam, Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri has received a large number of authorities (*asanid*) and permissions (*ijazat*) for the transmission of knowledge of *hadith*, *tafsir*, *fiqh*, *tasawwuf* and other classical Islamic sciences from numerous great pillars of the Muslim world, widely acknowledged as the fountains of Islamic knowledge in the last century back to the classical scholars and great Imams of *hadith* of the past up to the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him). He has gathered together the various fields of classical Islamic knowledge especially the knowledge and authorities of *hadith* from famous centres of Islamic learning across the globe. These include Authorities of the great Shuyukh of Makka and Madina, great Shuyukh of Baghdad, Syria, Lebanon and Tarabulus, al-Maghrib and Mauritania, Yemen, and India and Pakistan. Most prominent of these Shuyukh include:

- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Tahir 'Ala'-ud-Din al-Jilani al-Baghdadi al-Afandi

- ash-Shaykh al-Mu‘ammar Diya’-ud-Din Ahmad al-Madani (died at the age of over 100 years)
- ash-Shaykh Dr Farid-ud-Din al-Qadri (father of Shaykh-ul-Islam)
- Muhaddith al-Haram ash-Shaykh ‘Alawi ibn ‘Abbas al-Maliki al-Makki (father of ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Muhammad ibn ‘Alawi al-Maliki) (He had *sama*‘ from him in 1963.)
- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid ‘Abd al-Ma‘bud al-Jilani al-Madani (died at the age of 165 Years)
- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Muhammad al-Fatih ibn Muhammad al-Makki al-Kittani (Damascus)
- ash-Shaykh Husayn ibn Ahmad al-‘Usayran (Lebanon — died at the age of 100 years)
- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Muhammad ibn‘Alawi al-Maliki al-Makki
- al-Muhaddith al-A‘zam ash-Shaykh Sardar Ahmad al-Qadri (Faisalabad)
- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Abu al-Barakat al-Muhaddith al-Alwari (Lahore)
- ash-Shaykh as-Sayyid Ahmad Sa‘id al-Kazimi Amruhi (Multan)
- ash-Shaykh ‘Allama ‘Abd-ur-Rashid Ridwi
- Dr Burhan Ahmad Faruqi

Minhaj-ul-Quran International

In order to promote and propagate true Islamic teachings and philosophy, revive Islamic sciences and for moral and spiritual uplift of Muslim *Umma*, dissatisfied with the existing religious institutions and organizations and their narrow-minded approach, Dr Qadri founded Minhaj-ul-Quran in

1981 and established its headquarters in Lahore. Vigorously pursuing its well-defined objectives and spreading its comprehensive and all-encompassing sphere of activity, including welfare, education, promotion of love culture and spiritual uplift all over the world it is probably one of the largest non-political, non-sectarian non-governmental organizations in the world. Since its establishment on 17th October 1980, it has rapidly grown and within less than 30 years its organizational network has expanded to more than 90 countries worldwide. Minhaj-ul-Quran is unmatched for its rapid growth and no contemporary religious or political organization or movement has spread worldwide in such a short span of time.

Major Objectives of MQI

Elaborating the aims and objectives of MQI the founding leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri stated:

“The primary aim of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International is to bring about a comprehensive and multidimensional change in the society which at the same time ends the academic and ideological deadlock and revive, once again, the exterminated moral and spiritual values (of Islam), and also exalt the Muslim *Umma* to an admirable and respectful status among the comity of nations by a continuous struggle based on glorious foundation laid down by the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) on the universal principals of Love, Peace and Knowledge.”

Minhaj-ul-Quran is not a movement based on just imaginary and impracticable ideology and philosophy but, on the contrary, is based on a comprehensive and practicable ideology. Its leadership has not only introduced the ideology

but also provided a detailed strategy to be practically put into practice. Moreover, it aims at reviving the true values and principles of Islam, eliminating the social, cultural, ideological, moral, spiritual, economical, legal and political decline of Muslim *Umma* in particular and the whole mankind in general. Love, peace, harmony, universal brotherhood, justice, equity and prosperity lie only in the revival of these values. With this well-defined goal fixed the MQI has laid down four major objectives to achieve.

- *Da'wa* and Propagation of True Islamic Teachings
- Reformation of the Moral and Spiritual Affairs of *Umma*
- Revival of Islamic Sciences
- Promotion and Renaissance of Islam

The Distinctive Characteristics of the MQI

The MQI holds strong discrimination from its contemporary religious organizations and parties in several different ways. It is unique and different from every other organization by virtue of its constitution, programme, establishment, span of work, field, work style, and over and above all, its objectives. It can be distinguished from other organizations on the following five basic discriminatory grounds:

1. All-embracing and all-encompassing struggle
2. Sincerity of faith and devotion, and spiritualism
3. Piety
4. Changing the society for good
5. Universalism

Stages of the Minhaj-ul-Quran Movement

The struggle of Minhaj-ul-Quran International has been classified into stages inevitable for its expansion and development:

1. First stage of MQI struggle is 'Propagation' in which the ideology of MQI is introduced to the people through *Da'wa*. The whole world is breathing heavily under the threats of terrorism and bloodshed. The idiosyncrasies of extremism, fanaticism and radicalism generate terrorism. Unfortunately Islam is being presented as responsible for all terrorism around the world. MQI is taking practical measures to present to the world the true Islam through preaching inter-faith dialogue and harmony, striving for promoting culture of tolerance and moderation and promoting the cause of human rights, justice and equity at global level. MQI's *Da'wa* programme encompasses all these aspects and gives a call for global peace, security, love and harmony among the communities inhabiting the earth. Following are the different modes of its *Da'wa* work.

- a. Call for affiliation with Allah Almighty.** This target is achieved through the following:
 - i. Remembrance of Allah Most High
 - ii. Ardent love for Allah Almighty
 - iii. Godwariness
 - iv. Obedience to Allah Most High
 - v. Worship and Devotion
- b. Call for linking up with the Holy Messenger of Allah** (blessings and peace be upon him). This target is achieved through the following:
 - i. Ardent love for the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).

- ii. Obedience to and follower-ship of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).
 - iii. Observance of polite manners and submissiveness for and veneration of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).
 - iv. The gnosis of the exalted station of the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).
 - v. Supporting the (*din* of) the Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).
- c. Call for turning towards the Holy Qur'an.** This target is achieved through the following:
- i. Developing a link with the Holy Qur'an based on love.
 - ii. Abundant recitation of the Holy Qur'an.
 - iii. Meditating and contemplating the Holy Qur'an.
 - iv. Following the commands and injunctions of the Holy Qur'an.
 - v. Preaching the commands and injunctions of the Holy Qur'an.
- d. Call for seeking knowledge.** This target is achieved through the following:
- i. Promotion and publication of knowledge.
 - ii. Honouring and practicing knowledge.
 - iii. Attaining modern disciplines.
 - iv. Setting up learning associations.
 - v. Awakening awareness and cognizance.
- e. Call for brotherhood and fraternity.** This target is achieved through the following:
- i. Love and Forbearance.
 - ii. Moral Beauty

- iii. Protecting and safeguarding human rights.
 - iv. Mutual help and cooperation.
 - v. Eschewing sectarianism
- f. Call for collective struggle and interests.** This target is achieved through the following:
- i. Consultations and obedience to the leader.
 - ii. Calling for righteousness.
 - iii. Discipline and organizing.
 - iv. Steadfastness
 - v. Altruism and Sacrifice
- g. Call for consolidation.** This target is achieved through the following:
- i. *Da'wa*, preaching and publicity.
 - ii. Reasoning for true application of Qur'an and Sunna to modern life
 - iii. Reviving and promoting *din*.
 - iv. Attaining to peace and security.
 - v. Restoration of Islam's identity.
- 2. In the second stage**, 'Organization', all those who join the MQI and get ready to work for the MQI objectives are put into organizational structure. They become regular members and are tasked to discharge their *Da'wa* responsibility according to the instructions laid down by the central leadership. The work at this stage is successfully carried out by setting up branches and centres on national, provincial, district, city and town levels in and outside the country.
- 3. Third stage** concentrates on 'Education and Training'. All the members and workers known as Rufaqa' attend training sessions and camps where love for peace and justice, human dignity and equity is spiritually injected into their

souls so as to bring them inner peace. That in turn brings about outer peace in the society at large through their pious and superbly moral behaviour towards their fellow human beings irrespective of colour, race or creed. These training programmes are centrally controlled under direct guidance from Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri. The MQI leadership believes that it is hard training that guarantees achieving the calculated results. The training programmes emphasize inculcating spiritual values and higher morality equipping the workers with personalities that spread love and peace through their natural behavior and style. The education and training sessions are held according to the following schedule:

- i. Daily sessions of remembrance of Allah at unit level.
- ii. Weekly sessions of Salutation on the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him).
- iii. Weekly educational assemblies at sector level.
- iv. Monthly training camps at tehsil level.
- v. Quarterly training camps at district level.
- vi. Bi-annual three-day retreat (*itikaf*) at divisional level.
- vii. Annual ten-day retreat (*itikaf*) at central level
- viii. Monthly Irfan-ul-Qur'an session
- ix. Ten-forty-and-sixty day learning courses

4. Forth stage 'Implementation' signifies the struggle for the practical realization of social, welfare, cultural, legal, educational, religious economic and political vision and ideology of MQI. In this stage, using all the training obtained the members of MQI lead by example by taking an active part in the society to carry out social and moral reform. This

struggle comprises two phases: formative phase and completion phase.

- i. The formative phase comprises all those activities and practical steps and measures that are essential to mobilize the masses towards achieving the goal.
- ii. The completion phase consists of measures to attain the results and put the plan into action.

5. Fifth stage ‘Reformation’ refers to consolidation of results achieved by MQI and transforming them into actual and permanent change thus achieving reformation and renewal of the systems. This reformation focuses its advancement in the following directions:

- i. Ideological Reformation
- ii. Religious Reformation.
- iii. Educational Reformation.
- iv. Moral and Spiritual Reformation
- v. Social and Cultural Reformation.
- vi. Societal and Institutional Reformation.

The MQI forums

Under the umbrella of his nascent organisation, Minhaj-ul-Quran, Shaykh-ul-Islam established the *Jamia Islamia Minhaj-ul-Quran* in Lahore on 18th September 1986, now known as College of Sharia and Islamic Sciences (COSIS), an institute of Islamic Studies which would provide scientific, modern and progressive subjects alongside traditional, classical Islamic sciences, a blueprint for the mass educational system that was to follow. Thousands of students have graduated from this institution by now, hundreds of which are scholars engaged all over the world in spreading Shaykh-ul-Islam’s message of peace and modern scientific vision of Islam under

his advice and continuous guidance. Various other wings of Minhaj-ul-Quran were established, including **Minhaj-ul-Quran Youth League (MYL)** on 30th November, 1988, **Mustafawi Students Movement (MSM)** on 6th October, 1994 , **Pakistan Awami Lawyers Movement (PALM)** on 20th February 1997, and crucially, the **Minhaj-ul-Quran Women League(MWL)**, the first of its kind associated with any religious organisation in Pakistan on 5th January 1988, promoting the rights and interests of women in a strongly male-dominated society with full participation of the womenfolk. The **Minhaj-ul-Quran Ulama Council** is another most dynamic forum of MQI that liaise with the religious scholars and authorities for coordination and organizing various programmes in order to work for greater harmony and unity among different religious sects of the society. This forum has proved instrumental in bringing about inter-sect harmony and cohesion and diluting and removing tensions if any.

In a country with a literacy rate of under 50%, Dr Qadri considered education to be a priority and established the **Minhaj University Lahore (MUL)** chartered by the Government, to provide higher education that would be accessible to the poor also. A remarkable large-scale education project, the **Minhaj Education Society (MES)** then followed in the early 1990s which established hundreds of educational centres throughout Pakistan, accessible to both low income families and females. In the field of social welfare and disaster and poverty relief, Shaykh-ul-Islam formed a new sister organisation in 1989, later to be known as the **Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF)**, which has benefited victims of natural disasters such as the Tsunami affecting Indonesia; the Bam earthquake, Iran; the South Asian earthquake in

Pakistan, as well as various developments and educational projects in Pakistan and other underprivileged countries.

When the Minhaj-ul-Quran International started its operations across Pakistan for the revival of Islam, the Muslims living in the foreign countries in general and Pakistani expatriate community in particular got attracted due to its efforts for establishment of peace and inter-faith harmony. The *Da'wa* work of Minhaj-ul-Quran International was started long before its organizational and administrative network was established. In order to communicate its message effectively across the five continents of the world, the **Directorate of Foreign Affairs (DFA)** was established in 1985 for better coordination. It is the result of untiring efforts of this Directorate that this network has spread across 90 countries of the world. This Directorate is ever busy strengthening and consolidating this network in foreign lands.

Farid-e-Millat Research Institute (FMRI) housing a huge reference library, a Research Hall, composing section and record room is a unique set-up that provides research assistance to Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri in his multiple projects in progress simultaneously. This institute was established on 7th December, 1987. A team of twenty highly qualified and skilled research scholars work tirelessly on various projects under the most enlightening guidance of Shaykh-ul-Islam.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran Press and Publications Department is tasked with the publication of books of Shaykh-ul-Islam and works in close collaboration with FMRI. It has so far published about 360 voluminous books of Shaykh-ul-Islam and sold hundreds of thousands number of copies of each book through its sale system in country and abroad. Its responsibilities also include timely printing of

calendars, diaries, posters, portraits and other material of any kind related to printing. All the books of Minhaj Education Society are also produced by MQI Printing Press. It is a self-sufficient set-up equipped with modern printing machines, folding and stitching machines and plate-making facility along with binding machines ensuring high quality products. The department also has its art and graphics section manned with most skilled designers. They produce designs of titles of the books, posters of Minhaj-ul-Quran for various programmes, titles of journals, advertisements, calendars, diaries, brochures and invitation cards.

Production Department: The main responsibilities of this department include recording of all the lectures delivered by Shaykh-ul-Islam, their editing and production on DVDs, VCDs, ACDs, video and audio cassettes, protection of master copy and their ordering in addition to fulfilling all demands of the MQI sale centres. The master copies of all his addresses have been saved in a specific order. The activities of the department include audio/video recording, editing, preparation of documentaries and liaison with cable TV and other TV channels. Special CDs and DVDs are prepared for and delivered to TV Channels and cable networks. The Art and Film branch of the department is dedicated to design advertisements and make documentaries of different departments of MQI besides making documentaries on Shaykh-ul-Islam.

Shaykh-ul-Islam has dedicated the entire income from the sale of his books and recorded lectures to Minhaj-ul-Quran International forever and does not charge even a penny in the form of royalty.

Minhaj-ul-Quran International is busy on strong footing in the spread of Islamic teachings and safeguarding the faith

of youth. A vast network of computer systems has been put in place to interlink various offices and departments of the Central Secretariat of Minhaj-ul-Quran International. With a view to linking up various dispersed Islamic nationalities into one coherent whole and showing the true face of Islam, **Minhaj Internet Bureau (MIB)** has been established. The www.minhaj.org is the very first central website of Minhaj-ul-Quran International containing complete introduction of MQI, its organizational structure, branches and departments. News and information regarding various activities being performed at the Central Secretariat or inside or outside of Pakistan are regularly posted on this site.

The Central Secretariat of MQI

The Central Secretariat of MQI came up at 365-M Model Town Lahore in mid 1980s. Spread over more than 8264 square meters this is a state-of-the-art headquarter of MQI, a nucleus of all the organizational features and management functions of planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and controlling activities. It has offices for central leadership of MQI and for its various other directorates and forums like Planning, Construction, Administration, Research, Communication, Production, Event Management, Media, Membership, Public Relations, Human Resources, Press and Publications, *Da'wa*, Training, Education, Magazines and Periodicals, Audit and Accounts, Finance, Minhaj-ul-Quran Women League, Minhaj Youth League, Minhaj Ulama Council, Mustafwi Students Movement, Minhaj Welfare Foundation, Minhaj Education Society, Gosha-e-Durood, and the Directorate of Foreign Affairs through which the Secretariat is linked up with all the overseas MQI Organizations and Formations. Apart from these Directorates

the Secretariat also provides administrative and financial support to its chartered Minhaj University Lahore (MUL), College of Sharia and Islamic Sciences (COSIS), the Minhaj College for Women and the Tehfeez-ul-Quran Institute. This grand administrative and organizational set-up runs the MQI affairs all over the world through a grand body of leadership and supervision rooted deeply into a foolproof decision making system that enables it to function smoothly and ensure productivity at all levels.

The MQI Supreme Council is the elite body governing the affairs of Minhaj-ul-Quran International all over the world. The ultimate authority is vested in the President Supreme Council. The Secretary Supreme Council coordinates functioning of the Supreme Council and enjoys the administrative authority of the Secretary General or the Nazim-e-Aala MQI assisted by five Deputy Secretaries General or the Naib Nazim Aala. Central Amir-e-Tehreek is the custodian of MQI Constitution and supervises monitoring and evaluation, audit, complaints and accountability departments along with Ulama and Mashaikh. He is assisted by Naib Amir-e-Tehreek in supervising these activities.

The Decision Making Phenomena

The MQI's decision making phenomena are interlaced in a most refined hierarchy of the decision making bodies representing all levels of the MQI organizations existing around the world. The Supreme Council is the Final Authority of MQI headed by the President Supreme Council, Sahibzada Hasan Mohi-ud-Din Qadri responsible to the Patron-in-Chief MQI Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri. The General Council MQI comprises all the Nazims or heads of the directorates and forums and the senior

appointment holders of the organizations at Tehsil level. It is headed by the Patron-in-Chief MQI or President Supreme Council in his absence. The decisions of the General Council are carried by two-third majority vote. The 63 member upper house of consultation (Markzi Majlis Shura Khas) is the policy making body of MQI led by the Patron-in-Chief. Nazim-e-Aala MQI conducts its affairs as Secretary. It takes the decision by simple majority vote. The members of lower house of consultation (Markzi Majlis Shura Aam) include all the provincial, divisional, tehsil level umara, nazims and heads of forums. It is also headed by the Patron-in-Chief. All policies pertaining to field organizations and its workers are put up in Majlis Shura (Aam) for its sanction and approval. It has the accountability power to scrutinize and take disciplinary action against irregularities at all levels including Central Executive Council (CEC) and Central Working Council (CWC).

The Central Executive Council (CEC) is headed by Nazim-e-Aala and all Naib Nazims Aala, all Central Nazims, Umara and Nazims Provinces and Azad Kashmir, Heads and Secretaries of forums in the country are its members. It prepares proposals for Majlis Shura, Supreme Council and General Council and may recommend amendment in the MQI constitution. It has also the powers to approve annual budget of all forums and their projects. All Directorates of the Central Secretariat and field organizations in the country are responsible to CEC for their smooth functioning and productivity. The CEC meets quarterly. The Central Working Committee (CWC) comprises heads or nazims of all directorates in the centre besides editors of the Magazines and periodicals and presidents and secretaries of all in-country forums. It is headed by Nazim-e-Aala. It works on

behalf of CEC and uses its powers and authority. Majlis-e-Muntazima is another decision making body that works as the representative of CWC in disposing off the day-to-day matters of the central secretariat. Still higher to Majlis-e-Muntazima is the Review Council enjoying the power to review and decide matters put up as appeal against decisions taken by Majlis-e-Muntazima.

This huge organizational set-up generate colossal amount of work in the form of periodical meetings of General Council, Majlis-e-Shura, CEC, and other bodies. These meetings and well stipulated programmes under various directorates require conference halls. To cater for this significant requirement the Central Secretariat has an air-conditioned Conference Hall that can accommodate about 200 participants. The lighter programmes including morning assemblies are generally conducted in this hall. For larger programmes, however, where number of participants exceeds 200, a newly constructed commodious Suffa Hall is used for the purpose. The Library Hall of the FMRI is another facility that is used for such programmes.

Achievements

In less than three decades, the Minhaj-ul-Quran International has made tremendous achievements in various fields of work. Taking its work span, time span and geographical work span, the results achieved so far are dazzlingly astonishing. Detailed information in this regard requires volumes of written work. We can have only the synopsis of the MQI performance in terms of solid results it has produced under the most dynamic and galvanizing leadership of Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri.

1. In a short period of 28 years the MQI has established its educational, welfare & organizational set-up outside Pakistan in 74 countries with 69 educational and cultural centres while number of its membership network over the globe has risen to 93.
2. The MQI Organizations at tehsil level and union council have been set up in all the four provinces of the country and Azad Kahsmir.
3. Its registered membership has gone as high as seven hundred thousand worldwide.
4. Struggling hard against ignorance and pursuing the target of establishing 1000 schools and colleges in the country the Minhaj Education Society has by now set up 572 schools including 42 colleges and IT Centres imparting education to 120,000 students through 5000 teachers all over Pakistan. Another hundreds are in the making.
5. It has established one chartered university as well, the Minhaj University Lahore (MUL) which is placed in 'W' grade, the highest rank granted by the Higher Educationn Commision of Pakistan. MQI has a well chalked out plan to raise one chartered university in each of the provinces and one in Azad Kashmir in addition to one international university.
6. There are 3000 libraries/CD exchanges and mass education centres being run in the country under the auspices of MQI.
7. Its organizational network ever expanding and deepening to the UCs level, 250 monthly Irfan-ul-Qur'an gatherings have been set up by its Da'wa Directorate where renowned scholars of MQI deliver talks on the Qur'anic guidance in removing difficulties

and issues of the modern age. Similarly the Da'wa Directorate is also running 25 Irfan-ul-Qur'an courses and 123 Irfan-ul-Qur'an Circles at different places.

8. The Minhaj-ul-Quran Women League closely following its laid down targets has set up 150 Irfan-ul-Qur'an circles. They are also functioning to provide Qur'anic guidance to the womenfolk.
9. Over 40,000 men and women attend the annual Collective Itikaf in the sacred month of Ramadan at Township Lahore every year. They are imparted training in spiritual elevation, character building, moderation and tolerance techniques directly by Shaykh-ul-Islam.
10. Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri has, over the years, brought about a culture of love for the Beloved Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him). Pursuing this objective he promoted hymnody (sessions of chanting Na'at, the poetic eulogies to glorify the Holy Prophet [blessings and peace be upon him]) and Sama' gatherings in the holy month of Rabi-ul-Awwal (the month when the Prophet Muhammad [blessings and peace be upon him] was born). One of the salient features of this culture is serving common man with Ziyafat-e-Milad (extended meals) within the first 12 days of Rabi-ul-Awwal. The celebration consists of daily gatherings at the MQI headquarters where recitations of the Qur'an take place along with the Na'at sessions followed by food served to every participant. An open invitation is served to everybody rich or poor to attend the Ziyafat. When food is served everybody sits and eats together, breaking barriers of wealth and poverty,

removing all inhibitions and uniting people under the supreme banner of mercy of the Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

11. The annual International Meelad Conference is held at Minar-e-Pakistan Lahore on the 12th night of Rabi-ul-Awwal and lasts till the early morning of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal for the celebration of Milad-un-Nabi (blessings and peace be upon him). This event has become a regular feature for last two decades. Hundreds of thousands of people from all around the world attend the gathering. Rejoicing on the occasion, all these participants are served with Ziafat, the grand extended food. The night commences with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an, followed by Na'at chanting to glorify the Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Then Shaykh-ul-Islam delivers a lecture, followed by invoking greetings and salutations upon the Beloved Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him). This is one of the largest gatherings of the Muslim Umma around the world telecast live on satellite channels for the benefit of all the Muslims around the world.
12. The most soothing feature of this culture of love for the Holy Prophet is invoking durood, blessings, and salutations, on the Messenger of Allah. For this purpose, Gosha-e-Darood has been set up at MQI Markaz Lahore. About nine billion (9,00,00,00,000) times salutations have been invoked on the Holy Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) at this Gosha-e-Darood so far. Following the line, Durood circles have come up in thousands in streets of the towns where the salutations are invoked on the

Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him and give him peace) and are deposited with the central directorate.

13. Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri has authored 1000 books out of which 360 books have been published. His works are being translated into different foreign languages as well such as English, Arabic, German, Danish, Korean, Norwegian etc.
14. 5000 lectures by Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri have been delivered and are available on audio video cassettes and different CD formats. Over a 1000 lectures have been produced on CDs and DVDs and are available on all the Minhaj-ul-Quran sale centres around the world. His lectures sold so far run in millions.
15. Fighting poverty in the country Dr Qadri formed a new sister organisation in 1989 for social welfare and disaster and poverty relief, later to be known as the Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF), which has benefited victims of natural disasters such as the Tsunami affecting Indonesia; the Bam earthquake, Iran; the South Asian earthquake in Pakistan, as well as various developments and educational projects in Pakistan and other underprivileged countries. Aid worth crores of rupees has been distributed so far among the victims.
16. The construction of a huge four-storey orphanage known as Aaghosh to house 500 orphans is underway at Township Lahore. Already commissioned, Aaghosh is functional providing children with the umbrella of love, care and education to foster them into useful and balanced citizens.

17. Minhaj Welfare Foundation arranges scholarships for those poor and needy students who are otherwise very intelligent and competent but due to lack of resources cannot get education. Under Minhaj Welfare Foundation, Student Welfare Board was established for this purpose. Scholarships are given to poor and needy students for secondary and higher education. The students benefiting from this scheme are in thousands studying at Minhaj schools and colleges. Millions of rupees have been spent on thousands of students so far. A large number of donors are given direct access to the schools to monitor progress of their respective donees.
18. Eid Gift and Ration Scheme was started by MWF to provide relief to the destitute. Under this scheme, ration, sweet and food stuff are distributed among the poor on the occasions of Eids including Meelad-un-Nabi (blessings and peace be upon him). Millions of rupees have also been distributed among the sufferers of drought in the province of Baluchistan. The plans for provision of ration on permanent basis were also launched incurring huge budget.
19. The total number of Minhaj Free Clinics and Blood Banks throughout the country is 102. The establishment of this network has cost Rs. 76, 62,546 and thousands of people are benefiting from this.
20. There are around 6 million blind people in the world today. The number of blind people in Pakistan is also increasing. Keeping this situation in view, Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF) started holding free eye surgery camps in the backward and far-flung areas of Pakistan. According to the prevalent concept of eye-

camp in Pakistan, it is getting oneself checked up by a doctor one day and getting a prescription of medicine. Whereas annual free surgery eye camps are held under the banner of Minhaj Welfare Foundation benefiting thousands of patients each year.

21. Arrangement of collective marriages by the Minhaj Welfare Foundation has become a feather in its cap for last few years. Collective marriages are also arranged not only in Lahore but also in other cities of the country. The branches of Minhaj Welfare Foundation undertook this project with great zeal and determination. The marriages of 270 girls have been arranged by Minhaj Welfare Foundation. One marriage costs rupees one hundred and twenty five thousands. The cooperation of local wealthy individuals extended to the Minhaj Welfare Foundation is a sign of trust in the organization.
22. More than half of Pakistani population is deprived of clean drinking water today. Unclean water is available for drinking at most of the places giving birth to fatal diseases. Given this growing need of clean drinking water, Minhaj Welfare Foundation has installed 1500 water pumps across the country costing Rs. 7 million. The water pump installation campaign has covered numerous districts in all the four provinces of the country.
23. The MWF has arranged Free Legal Assistance for the exploited/abused women. This is to rehabilitate the women sent to prison for failing to pay the fines/penalties or for other reasons and provide them Free Legal Assistance. The objective is also to provide them legal cover at police stations for safe and fair

proceedings of their cases; develop a powerful, effective program to expose police atrocities and restrict injustice at police stations. In addition, women in Dar-ul-Amaan (House of Safety/Protection), Orphanage or Mental Hospitals are provided legal aid. The MWF works for creating awareness about the significance of Legal Assistance through seminars and presentations and struggles to remove social discrimination and ensure restoration of women's social status.

24. The MQI has launched sewing machine scheme as well to enable the poor women earn their living through sewing clothes. It is a very flourishing job within the Pakistani industry. A considerable number of people earn their living through this skill. Therefore, MWF launched a Sewing Machine Scheme to provide the destitute women with the machines. It facilitates them earn a respectable living and meet their basic domestic needs.
25. But great achievement is the change that has taken place in peoples' hearts and minds towards promotion of peace and harmony in the society. The MQI has considerably reduced sectarianism due to its dynamic struggle launched for this purpose. Inter-faith dialogue too has brought people of two faiths closer. The MQI has definitely achieved a degree of moderation, tolerance and promotion of human dignity and restoration of human rights and women rights through its *Da'wa*, Training and organizing programmes in progress in country and abroad. This is heartening to see that people have started

understanding the message of MQI and very bright prospects can be visualized in near future.

Invitation to join MQI

With this view we extend our most keen invitation to the people of all walks of life to come to us, inquire about our work and way to work, and once moved, join us in spreading the message of love, peace, harmony, and human dignity among all the classes of human society. Once you do it we are sure you will like it the most. It is only a matter of taking one step forward. So you are welcome.

Our Contacts

Central Secretariat:

365, M Block Model Town, Lahore, Pakistan

Office No: (+92-42) 5171 404, 5168 365

UAN: (+92-42) 111 140 140

Fax: (+92-42) 5169 114, 5168 184

URLs:

Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI)

www.Minhaj.org

Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF)

www.Welfare.org.pk

Minhaj Welfare Foundation UK

www.mwfuk.org

Minhaj-ul-Quran Women League (MWL)

www.MinhajSisters.com

Muslim Christian Dialogue Forum (MCDF)

www.MCDF.info

Minhaj Youth League (MYL)
www.Youth.com.pk

Pakistan Awami Lawyers Movement (PALM)
www.PALM.org.pk

Minhaj Overseas / Directorate of Foreign Affairs
www.MinhajOverseas.com

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www.Irfan-ul-Quran.com

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I'tikaf City
www.Itikaf.com

Minhaj University Lahore
www.MUL.edu.pk

al-Farghana Institute, Manchester UK
www.Farghana.org

al-Hidaya, UK
www.Al-Hidayah.co.uk