LAHORE AHMADIYYA ISLAMIC SOCIETY

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In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

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March 31, 2009

The Hashemite Royal Court His Royal Highness, Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad

RE: Official Endorsement of the Amman Message

Dear Royal Highness, Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad,

Assalamu aleikum! I pray this letter finds you in the best of health and iman.

It is with great pleasure that I submit this letter for your kind consideration. I am the Vice-President of the U.S. based Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society (originally known as "Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam, Lahore"). The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is an Islamic organization that publishes literature on Islam, the Holy Prophet Muhammad as well as comparative religious studies. These literary works have received worldwide acclaim for its authenticity as well as scholarship. Most of these works have been certified by Al-Azhar University. In fact, His Highness, the Grand Imam, Sheikh Muhammad Tantawi has written the Preface for the Arabic translation of one of our primary texts, "The Religion of Islam" by Maulana Muhammad Ali. In addition to publishing the original texts, we devote much of our time to having these works translated into various languages and distributed for free to people around the world. The objective is to provide people with access to authentic Islamic material so that they may study Islam for themselves in their own language and be able to fully comprehend their deen to the best of their abilities.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society fully recognizes the importance of unity among Muslims. The prevalent *fatwas* of *kufr* that are repeatedly declared over minor differences of opinion do nothing but cause damage to the progress of Islam. The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society firmly believes that anyone who recites the *kalima shahada*, "There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is His Messenger", must be accepted as a Muslim; as to whether he or she believes or practices correctly is a matter only between them and Almighty Allah (swt). We believe that Muslims must unite on this common ground and only then will it "*prevail over all religions*" (Holy Quran 9:33).

As for our beliefs, we firmly affirm:

"Allah - there is no god but He. His are the most beautiful names." (Holy Quran 20:8)

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"Say: He, Allah, is One. Allah is He on Whom all depend. He begets not, nor is He begotten, and none is like Him." (Holy Quran, Ch. 112)

Accordingly, we believe that that there is one, and only one, God Who is the Creator and Controller of the entire universe. He is unique in every respect, and there is nothing which bears any likeness to Him. He is the Knower of all things, and has full power over the whole of creation. He does not stand in need of anything at all, while everything is totally dependent on Him. He possesses all the perfect qualities, and man should worship Him, and Him alone.

We also firmly confirm:

"Say: O Mankind, surely I am the Messenger of Allah to you all" (7:158);

"Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the last of the prophets" (33:40).

"Certainly you have in the Messenger of Allah an excellent exemplar" (33:21).

Accordingly, we believe that the Holy Prophet Muhammad was the Messenger of Allah for all mankind, that he was the last of the prophets (after whom no prophet may appear), and that it is by following his blessed example that one may attain closeness to Almighty Allah.

Because the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society works throughout the world to spread the true, peaceful teachings of Islam, it sees first hand the great need of unity amongst Muslims. It is with this understanding that we are so pleased with the efforts of all who contributed to the creation of the Amman Message. We fully support the Amman Message and would like to officially endorse it and became an official signatory to it. We would further like to assist in spreading the Amman Message to Muslim communities around the world. We firmly believe that the Amman Message is an instrument that can help Muslims the world over to put the following Quranic injunction into practice:

"And hold fast by the covenant of Allah all together and be not disunited. And remember Allah's favour to you when you were enemies, then He united your hearts so by His favour you became brethren. And you were on the brink of a pit of fire, then He saved you from it. Thus Allah makes clear to you His messages that you may be guided." (3:103)

May Almighty Allah continue to bless you and reward you for your efforts in this regard and grant you many more opportunities to serve the cause of His *deen*. Ameen!

Wasalaam.

Samina Malik, Vice-President, Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society