

Islamic Educational and Cultural Research Center (IECRC)

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Imam-e-Ahle-Sunnat Maulana Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi ('Alaa-Hazrat) (may Allah be pleased with him)

Name: Mohammad Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi (may Allah be pleased with him)

Famous As: 'Alaa Hazrat

Birthplace: Jasoli, Bareilly Shareef, U.P., India

Birthdate: Monday, the 10th of Shawaal 1272 A.H. (14th June 1856)

Shaykh: Imam-ul-Asfiya, Shah Aale Rasool Mahrerwi (may Allah be pleased with him)

Tareeqat: Mainly **Qadri**, but granted permission for all Tareeqats

Famous Incident Before his Birth: A few days before the birth of Imam Ahmed Raza Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), his father, Allamah Mawlana Naqi Ali Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), had a wonderful dream. He immediately disclosed this dream to his father, Allamah Mawlana Raza Ali Khan (may Allah be pleased with him), who interpreted this dream by saying: "This is a sign that you are going to be the father of a child, a boy, who will grow up to be pious and knowledgeable. His name will gain prominence from East to West."

Famous Incidents During his Life: 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) was a child of 4 years when this incident took place. On that particular day, he was dressed in a long kurta. As he stepped out of his house, a few female prostitutes walked past him. In order to cover his eyes, 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) quickly held the bottom of his kurta with both his hands and lifted the kurta over his face. When one of the prostitutes saw what he did, she said, "Well! Young man. You covered your eyes, but allowed your satr to be shown." With his face and eyes still covered, the young 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) replied, "When the eyes are tempted, then the heart becomes tempted. When the heart is tempted, then the concealed parts become tempted." So shocked and affected was this woman on hearing such a reply from a child that she lost consciousness.

Another incident, which happened in the month of Ramadan, also shows 'Alaa Hazrat's (may Allah be pleased with him) piety and fear of Allah. Fasting was not fardh (obligatory) upon him because he was still a child, but on that day he intended to fast. It should be known that for a little child to fast in India during the summer season was very difficult. The average temperature on a summer's day rises to approximately 50 degrees celsius. On that day, the heat of the sun was intense. Hazrat Allamah Naqi Ali Khan (may Allah be pleased with him) took

his young son, 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him), into a room where sweets were kept. He closed the door and asked him to eat the sweets. 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) replied that he was fasting. His father then said, "The fasting of children is always like this. The door is closed and no one is looking. Now you may eat." On hearing this, the young 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) respectfully said, "Through Whose command I am fasting, He is Seeing me." On hearing this answer from a little child, tears began to flow from the eyes of Hazrat Allamah Naqi Ali Khan (may Allah be pleased with him). He then left the room with 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him).

'Alaa Hazrat Maulana Ahmed Raza Bareilvi (may Allah be pleased with him) delivered his first lecture at the age of 6 years. It was during the glorious month of Rabi-'ul-Awwal. 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) stood on the Mimbar (Pulpit) and delivered a lecture before a very large gathering which also consisted of scholars. His lecture lasted for approximately 2 hours. 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) spoke on the Wilaadat (Birth) of Sayyidna Rasulullah (peace be upon him).

Contributions: 'Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) was a genius & prolific writer. He wrote hundreds of books and treatises in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu on diversified topics such as Tafseer (Quranic Exegesis), Aqaaid (Beliefs), Hadeeth, Fiqh (Islamic Jurisprudence), Tajweed, Tasawwuf, Grammar, History, Poetry, Mathematics, Philosophy etc. From among his famous works is the *Kanzul Imaan* – a correct Urdu translation of the Quran. In this most unique and beautiful translation of the Holy Quran, he used only those words that are worthy of the Attributes and Qualities of Almighty Allah and of His beloved Rasool (peace be upon him). An English translation of this wonderful work is available at the IECRC website (www.iecrcna.org). From among his other works are:

- *Fatawa Radawiyyah* (12 volumes approx. 12 000 pages)
- *Husaamul Haramain, Ad Daulatul Makkiya Bil Madatul Ghaibiya*
- *Al Mu'tamadul Mustanad*
- *Al Amn o wa Ula*
- *Alkawkabatush Shahabiya*
- *Al Istimdaad*
- *Al Fuyoozul Makkiyah*
- *Al Meeladun Nabawiyyah*
- *Kanzul Imaan* (translation of Holy Quran)
- *Fauze Mubeen Dar Harkate Zameen*
- *Hidayake Bakhshish*
- *Subhaanus Subooh*
- *Sallus Say yaaful Hindiya*
- *Ahkaame Shariat*
- *Az Zubdatuz Zakkiya*
- *Abna ul Mustafa*

- *Tamheede Imaan*
 - *Angoothery Choomne ka Mas'ala*
- Etc.

He is also noted for his popular *salaam* known as “**Mustafa Jaane Rahmat Pe Lakhon Salaam**”, which is the longest *salaam* written in the honor and praise of the Prophet (peace be upon him in any language).

Deathdate (Urs): Friday, the 25th of Safar 1340 A.H. (28 October 1921) at Jummah Azan

Burial Location (Mazaar): Mohalla Saudagran, Bareilly Shareef, U.P., India

Famous Incident After his Life: At the time of the demise of ‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him), a certain Saint of Syria, dreamt of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) while he was in the Baitul Muqaddas. In his dream, the Saint saw many Sahaba karaam (radi Allahu anhum ajma'in), i.e. companions of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), seated around the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him). All of them seemed to be waiting for someone. The Saint says that in his dream, he asked, "Ya RasoolaLlah (peace be upon him)! Whose presence is being awaited?" The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) replied, "Ahmed Raza Khan." The blessed Saint then asked, "Who is Ahmed Raza Khan?" The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) answered, "An Aalim from Bareilly." When this Saint awoke, he immediately journeyed from Syria to Bareilly Shareef to meet ‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him), but to his dismay, he learnt that ‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) had already departed from this world.

It is said by those true lovers of ‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) that after he passed away he was spiritually transported to Madinatul Munawwarah to be close to the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him). They say this because once, ‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) personally said: "The time of demise is close and India is India. But, I do not even feel like passing away in Makkah. My desire is this: that I should pass away with iman in Madinatul Munaw'wara and then be buried with kindness in Jannatul Baqi. Almighty Allah is most powerful."

‘Alaa Hazrat (may Allah be pleased with him) had instructed his son that when he died and it was time to bury him, his grave should be dug as deep as his height. When his son inquired as to the reason for this, he said that he had read *salaam* on the Prophet (peace be upon him) standing up all his life and wanted to do the same after his death.

It is therefore apparent that great luminaries such as Maulana Ahmed Raza Khan Bareilvi (may Allah be pleased with him) spent their entire life in the cause of the Beloved Prophet (peace be upon him). He put such love for the Prophet (peace be upon him) in the hearts of people, both during his time and after his death, through his writings, that it is for such people that the Quran says “*radiAllahu anhu wa radu anh*” (*Allah is pleased with him and he is pleased with Allah*). May Allah ta’aala give us all the tawfeeq to follow in his footsteps. Ameen.

Information Source: <http://www.sarkaremadina.net/Articles/Aalahazrat/EnAalahazrat1.html>
<http://www.igra.net/Salaams/salaams7.htm>