

“The slim and handy book (published by Penguin) is a timely rebuttal to jihadist mentality and a guide to those who wish to understand Islam better.”
– *The Times of India (ST)*

To carry on his mission of peace, Maulana Wahiduddin Khan established Centre for Peace and Spirituality, CPS International in 2001 at New Delhi, India. As is apparent from its name, the organization aims to promote and reinforce the culture of peace through mind-based spirituality. Through the centre and its global partners, the Maulana has prepared a team of Ambassadors of Peace and Spirituality to spread the message of peace to the world. He has done this by re-engineering their minds, using the simple formula: “Change yourself through spirituality by living a God-oriented life and you will be able to change the world”. According to him, it is this team of individuals who are playing the role of ambassadors of peace and spirituality to the world to usher in a reign of global peace and unity.

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan envisages a peaceful world. His vision is that the message of peace and spirituality enters each and every home on the globe and re-engineers individual minds towards positivity. Maulana believes that when spiritual individuals such as these are collected in sufficient numbers, it will result in a peaceful society.

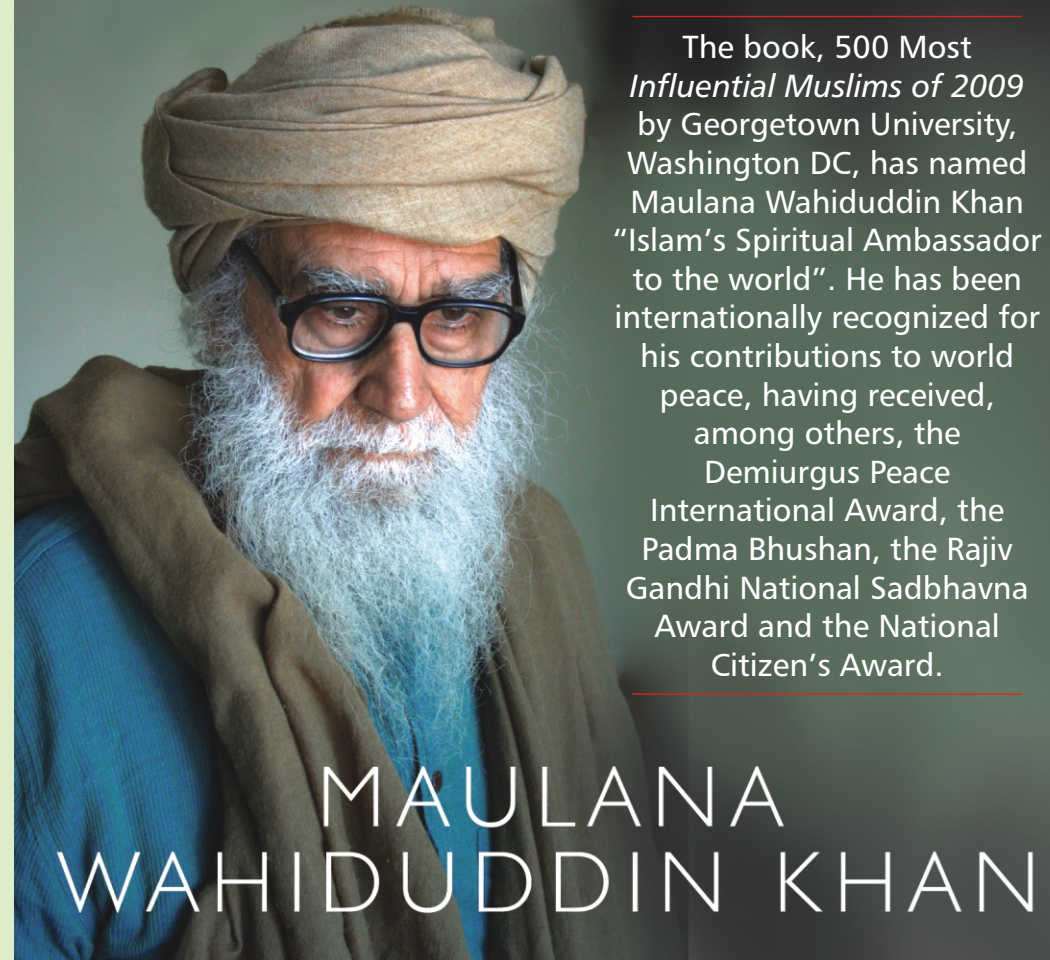
The Maulana through the ambassadors of peace – CPS International and its partners is carrying on his peace mission at a global level. Under Maulana’s patronage and inspired by his spiritual wisdom, the Ambassadors of Peace are undertaking peace efforts using every available medium such as one-on-one interactions, lectures, seminars, conferences; print material such as books, periodicals, leaflets, booklets; online material; audio and visual media such as radio, television and online broadcasts, etc.

In fact, the ambassadors of peace have made it their life’s mission to take the message of peace and spirituality to every corner of the globe so that it reaches each and every home to usher in an era of global peace and spirituality.

To find out more about Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, visit:
www.cpsglobal.org,
www.goodwordbooks.com and
www.alrisala.org.

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The book, *500 Most Influential Muslims of 2009* by Georgetown University, Washington DC, has named Maulana Wahiduddin Khan “Islam’s Spiritual Ambassador to the world”. He has been internationally recognized for his contributions to world peace, having received, among others, the Demiurgus Peace International Award, the Padma Bhushan, the Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhava Award and the National Citizen’s Award.

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan was born in Azamgarh (India) in 1925, and educated at an Islamic seminary. From his very childhood, he showed a voracious appetite for modern knowledge, spending entire days in the library. Well versed in both classical Islamic learning and modern science, his research led him to conclude that the need of the hour was to present Islamic teachings in the contemporary idiom. His life since then has been devoted to addressing the contemporary mind and presenting Islam to the world as a complete ideology of peace. Upholding Gandhian views, he believes that success can be achieved only through non-violent methods.

His first book, *Naye Ahad Ke Darwaze Par*, or 'On the Threshold of a New Era' was the result of his exhaustive study. He elaborated upon this in his next work, *Ilme Jadid Ka Challenge*, or 'Islam and Modern Challenges', which was later published as 'God Arises'. This book is accepted as the standard Islamic position on modern thought and has been incorporated in the curricula of universities in many Arab countries. It has been translated into various languages, such as English, Arabic, Malay, Turkish, Hindi, Malayalam and Sindhi. Its Arabic version has been published under the title of *Al-Islam Yatahadda* and has become popular in the Arab world.

The culmination of his research was his book, *Al Islam*, in which he presented the interpretation of the Islamic Scriptures in the modern idiom based on peace. He has since authored over 200 books on prophetic wisdom and peaceful co-existence in a multi-ethnic society giving the correct interpretation of the Islamic Scriptures such as *The Ideology of Peace*, *The True Jihad and Islam and Peace*. One of his recent books is *The Prophet of Peace: Teachings of The Prophet Muhammad*. Published by Penguin, the book is a timely rebuttal of jihadist mentality, offers a peaceful solution to the terrorism menace by giving the ideology of peace and is a guide for those who wish to understand Islam better.

Realizing the need for the correct translation and commentary of the Quran and Hadith, Maulana translated the Quran in Urdu along with the commentary entitled *Tazkirul Quran*. Its English version gives to the world a correct English translation of the Quran with an interpretation in the modern idiom.

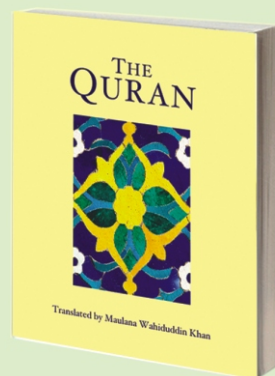
To give full expression to these positive ideas, he established the Islamic Centre at New Delhi in 1970. Subsequently, the organ of the Centre, *Al-Risala*, the monthly magazine was launched in Urdu in 1976. This journal, consisting almost entirely of his own articles, quickly acquired a wide circulation throughout the Urdu-speaking world, and has done much to make people understand the peaceful face of Islam, to awaken in Muslims a

new awareness of their social responsibilities and to promote positive thinking and action. The first issues of the English and Hindi versions of *Al-Risala* were launched in February 1984, and December 1990 respectively. The English version continues to be published under the title of *The Spiritual Message* till today.

Over a period of time, he began to write articles for various journals and he has since become a regular contributor to several national and international dailies and magazines.

Devoted to the development of a complete ideology of peace, he presents to the world the true face of Islam based, as it is, on peace, tolerance and co-existence and helps people understand their purpose in life by explaining the creation plan of God.

It is because of his advocacy of peace and his espousal of the cause of inter-faith that he is respected by all communities and in every circle of society.



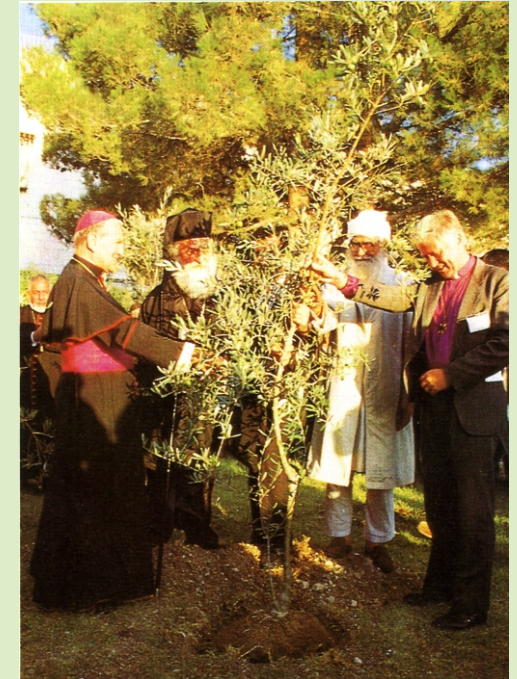
A new translation of The Quran by Maulana Wahiduddin Khan

As a special invitee to inter-religious conferences, in India as well as abroad, from 1967, he has been addressing public and private gatherings in order to advocate a policy, which based on peace and harmony. He is actively involved in serving the cause of peace and solidarity through interfaith efforts that aim to present to the world the peaceful, tolerant spirit of Islam.

The Maulana, who is well traveled, and the recipient of several national and International awards, has made a very great contribution to world peace in his tireless campaign to avert the danger of a nuclear conflict between various countries. To this end he put forward a proposal for a worldwide movement for nuclear disarmament at a peace forum held at Zug in Switzerland in 2002. On that occasion, he was awarded the Demiurgus Peace International Award by the Nuclear Disarmament Forum AG. The award was given to acknowledge his outstanding achievements in strengthening peace among nations and for his efforts to develop a complete ideology of peace and present Islamic teachings that addresses the present mind. He has also been awarded the title of Ambassador of Peace by the International Federation for World Peace, Korea.

Some of national awards that he has been honoured with are the Padam Bhushan, the Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavna Award, the National Integration Award, the Communal Harmony Award, the Diwaliben Mohan Lal Mehta Award, the National Amity Award, the Dilli Gaurav Award, the FIE Foundation Award, the Urdu Academy Award, the Aruna Asaf Ali Sadbhavna Award and the National Citizen's Award presented by Mother Teresa.

The book, *The 500 Most influential Muslims of 2009* by Georgetown University, Washington DC has named him "Islam's Spiritual Ambassador to the World." His approach, the book points out, is "popular among Indians, both Muslim and non-Muslim."



Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, third from left, planting an olive tree in Jerusalem during a peace conference of all religions in 1995.