

[Short video on the Nobel Prize as a minimum target \[2 min, in Urdu\], from His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community](#) |

**English rendition, and what I learned from the message of the Khalifa** | [Arfa Butt](#)

Dear Audience. My name is Arfa Butt, and I will present the gist from the Urdu language into English of what you just heard, which was a question-and-answer (QA) session with His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih the Fifth (aba [meaning may Allah strengthen his abilities), Worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, held at a meeting on October 7th, 2013, of Waqfe Nau in Sydney, Australia, for Lajna and Nasiraat (the latter referring to young girls). I will refer to His Holiness as Huzur, which means His Holiness. At the meeting, a young lady first asked Huzur whether “Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad (rh [meaning may Allah shines Mercy on his soul]) [referring to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih the Fourth] had said that Ahmadi children should have as their minimal landmark the Nobel Prize. In response, Huzur clarified that Hazrat Khalifatul Masih the Third (rh) had first encouraged this point. The Third Khalifa wished that by the time of the 100 years centenary of the Ahmadiyya Community, which was in 1989, there would be, not one, but one hundred Ahmadis at the scientific level of Ahmadi Nobel Laureate Professor Abdus Salam.

Huzur then went on to state that he had placed an even greater emphasis than his predecessors, the Third Khalifa and the Fourth Khalifa, for Ahmadi Muslim youth to engage in research and to consider the Nobel prize as a minimum target. The young lady next asked whether Ahmadi Waqfe Nau girls should pursue the Nobel Prize, to which Huzur remarked that indeed Waqfe Nau girls should go into research and should strive to win a Nobel Prize. The research could be in any one of a number of fields, including medicine and history. Young women who had the aptitude should take up the challenge to reach such heights.

Dear audience, note how Islam, in this message of the Khalifa of Islam, emphasizes the importance of pursuing education and research and the highest accolades in education and research (that is, the Nobel Prize) equally for both women and men. The interchange tells about gender equality, and it debunks the myth in the media and among ignorant clerics that men have a greater right to the highest realms of academic achievement. In fact, this QA took place with a group of Ahmadi Muslim girls.

I would also like to tell the audience that while this QA took place in 2013, in 2008, Huzur addressed another audience of Ahmadi Muslims with the same message of striving to win the Nobel Prize as a minimum target. In 2008, this same message was given by Huzur to a gathering of Ahmadi Muslims in the resource poor country of Ghana, in West Africa. The vision of the Khalifa, which are also his prayers, is that all Ahmadi Muslims of the world, whether black or white, whether from a rich nation or a poor nation, whether female or male, should have an equal opportunity to strive for and should be equally encouraged to reach the highest levels of science and technology, and through this vision, they should be enabled to lead the second Islamic Golden Age of science and technology.