

## Human Rights Activist - Founder of Humanity International Dr. Bashart Jamil Passed Away

By Nasir A. Jmail

*O, thou soul at peace!*

*Return to thy Lord, thou well-pleased  
with Him and He well-pleased with thee.*

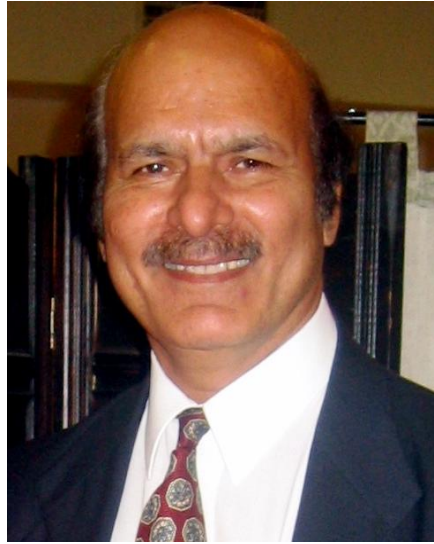
*So enter thou among My chosen ser-  
vants, and enter thou My Gardens!*

*(AlQuran 89:28-31)*

Family wishes to announce the sad demise of Dr. Basharat A. Jamil son of late Ahmad Din Jamil and Sardar Begum Jamil.

He is survived by widow Razia L. Jamil, three sons Irfan Jamil, Usman Jamil and Furhan Jamil. Daughters-in-law Vajeeda K. Jamil and Uzma K. Jamil, and a grandson Salman Ahad Jamil, and a granddaughter Amanee Zara Jamil. His siblings include four brothers Ahdul Hadi Nasir and Mubarak A. Jamil who both live in New York, Abdul Salam Jamil who lives in Houston Texas, Nasir A. Jamil living in Baltimore Maryland, and one sister Nasirah Din living in New Jersey.

Dr. Jamil was born in Pune, India in 1944. As an outstanding and bright student he graduated with distinctions from Talimul Islam College, Rabwah Pakistan where he earned BA degree. After graduating from University of The Punjab, Lahore Pakistan where he earned MA in mathematics in 1967, he proceeded to the United States where he was awarded scholarship for higher studies by Fordham University, New York. Subsequently he received a PhD in mathematics by City University of New York, New York, in 1976 for his work in Graph Theory under the supervision of renowned mathematician



Basharat A. Jamil PhD  
(1944-2006)

and scholar Dr. Alan J. Hoffman.

His thirty years of professional career included teaching mathematics at Queens College, Flushing, New York as adjunct faculty; at George Washington University, Washington DC as Associate Professor; and a distinguished career in the civil service as a mathematician at the Department of Defense's Defense Mapping Agency in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Jamil was an active member of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA. His humble services for his faith community and humanity will be remembered and cherished for long time to come. He inherited love of Jamaat and standing up for its honor from his father, late, Ahmad Din Jamil and mother Sardar begum Jamil.

Dr. Jamil was well connected and he developed personal friendships with high level politicians, staffers and diplomats in the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of State, the United Nations and elsewhere in

the Human Rights circles. He was a man of principle and he deeply influenced his circle of friends by his own example, strength of character, dedication to cause and passion for standing up for his community. He never hesitated to work these high level contacts and use their influence for a just cause. He always made himself readily available whenever and wherever his community wanted and needed his services.

In 1992, along with his colleague Dr. Daniel Aulicino, he founded *Humanity International* - a humanitarian organization—to take up humanitarian projects around the world without regard to race, religion and nationality. He dedicated his life in helping and serving fellow human beings with utmost dedication, humility, sincerity and diligence regardless of whether he knew them or not. He literally lived his life for others. He would not tolerate injustice in any form, and was always willing and ready to fight it all by himself!

Dr. Aulicino, who traveled with Dr. Jamil to many developing countries for Humanity International projects, remembers him as “very sensitive man and a very supportive friend”. Dr. Jamil’s sensitive spirit could be felt from his poetry, which was popular among his friends. He wrote some eloquent words in memory of his second son Salman Jamil, who died in 1999 when his motorcycle was hit by a truck in Baltimore area.

He used all his resources to fight the government sponsored persecution of Ahmadi Muslims during the most notorious regime of General Ziaul Haq. His persistent efforts in exerting high level of pressure by the U.S. Congress kept Ziaul Haq’s

heinous intentions and designs about the Ahmadiyya community in check.

Ambassador [Peter W. Galbraith](#), a senior Advisor to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1979-1993, was among those who came to know and respect Dr. Jamil's tenacity. In an email to Dr. Jamil's son, Ambassador Galbraith noted: "In the 1980s, he brought to my attention several cases of Ahmadi Muslims who were slated to be hanged by the Zia dictatorship, and thanks to his persistence, the Committee was able to intervene and save lives."

Dr. Jamil played a pivotal role in fighting for the human rights and religious freedom of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan. He developed an effective working relationship with a number of congressional leaders and staffers. He worked very closely with former Congressman [Tony P. Hall](#), Ohio, in passing of a congressional [resolution](#) addressing the persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan under the tyrannical rule of General Zia ul Haque.

Dr. Jamil was instrumental in policy shift at the State Department from its negative opinion in Ahmadiyya asylum cases into a positive one. His significant ground work in close association with [Karen Parker](#) J.D., a renowned practicing human right lawyer, subsequently paved the way for hundreds of asylum seekers to justify and win their asylum cases in immigration courts all over the United

States. Ms. Karen Parker in an email note upon his demise wrote: "I would hope that all Ahmadi take on the mantle of Basharat Jamil, who was so committed to the full human rights of his community, regardless of the country of residence."

Mr. [Steve Snow](#), Senior Policy Analyst, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom wrote: "I was privileged to know Basharat as my principal point of contact in the U.S. Ahmadiyya community when I was responsible for the Near East and South Asia in the State Depart-

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*Karen Parker*

ment's Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs in the mid-1980's. He was an invaluable source of timely and accurate information on the situation in Pakistan, particularly as regards Ahmadi issues. His example of commitment to human rights and religious freedom is a wonderful legacy for his family and faith community."

Dr. [Alan Hoffman](#), Professor Mathematics Department City University of New York, who supervised his PhD dissertation, recalled that "it was a joy to work with him: he was bright, energetic and mature."

He was a benefactor for many in the family and beyond. He was an obedient son, a wonderful husband, a loving brother, a caring uncle, an affectionate father, and a great and loyal friend who had a great sense of humor.

He had great love for poetry. Besides writing poetry himself, he had

hundreds of verses committed to memory. He would quote the most appropriate verse at the most appropriate time in his conversations. He was a regular participant in MAALA (Mid-Atlantic Association for Literature Appreciation) sittings that are being held at regular intervals since December 2004 in Baltimore area. Above all he was an avid Human Rights activist, and a philanthropist.

His funeral prayer was offered on Tuesday, November 21, 2006 at Masjid Baitur Rehman, Silver Spring, Maryland which. The following day, the burial took place at Maqbra-tus-Salaam in Sykesville, Maryland, and his final resting place was next to his beloved son the late Salman A. Jamil. May Allah the Most Merciful showers His Mercy upon the departed souls and elevate their status in the heaven. May Allah grant the grieved family the strength to bear their losses with patience and steadfastness. Amen.

Family wishes to extend its gratitude and thanks to all the well wishers who turned up in great number to express their sympathies and condolences and offered their support on this bereavement. In particular all Jamaats of Maryland including Baltimore, Virginia, and Washington DC as well as friends of the family exhibited their most generous support at this time of extreme grief and sorrow. Family thanks them all and prays that May Allah T'ala showers His blessings upon them and reward them all. Amen.