The True Portrait of Prophet Muhammad

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society (the U.S. branch of the international Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement) hosts a symposium each year devoted to a topic about Islam that is relevant to contemporary issues. With the recent controversies concerning the Charlie Hebdo cartoons of Prophet Muhammad and the subsequent “Draw Muhammad” contests emerging here in the United States, this year the focus will be on dispelling the misinformation about Prophet Muhammad upon which many of these depictions are based.

Who was Prophet Muhammad? What was his character? How did he live his life? Far from the images of a warmonger, or a man driven by sensual desires, or one in quest of temporal power, a review of Prophet Muhammad’s life from authentic records reveals a much different narrative. And by responding to the virulent criticisms made against him through peaceful dialogue, we intend to practically demonstrate Prophet Muhammad’s lessons on how to respond to abuse and ridicule. This, we believe, is of primary importance, as the violent reactions by some claiming to defend the honor of the Prophet were immeasurably more insulting to his image than any trivial cartoon or drawing.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement has been promoting an understanding of Islam based on its spiritual foundations, primarily through its world-renowned literature and historic missions, for over 100 years. In the spirit of this legacy of creating relationships of peace and tolerance, we invite you to join us for this year’s symposium.

We look forward to you honoring us with your presence!