

# Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

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## Responses to Information Requests

Responses to Information Requests (RIR) respond to focused Requests for Information that are submitted to the Research Directorate in the course of the refugee protection determination process. The database contains a seven-year archive of English and French RIRs. Earlier RIRs may be found on the UNHCR's [Refworld](#) website.

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12 February 2008

#### PAK102754.E

Pakistan: Procedures to obtain membership letters for individuals in Canada who claim to be of the Ahmadi faith; information individuals need to provide in order to receive such letters; the authorities who issue such letters  
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

In written communication to the Research Directorate, the Vice-President of the Canadian Branch of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam (AMI), stated the following:

An individual on arrival in Canada has to complete a registration form, which contains his full particulars [with] name, address, particulars of his Ahmadi relatives in Pakistan and Canada, names and addresses of Prominent Ahmadis in his family and his functions and responsibilities, if any, in the community. The individual is then interviewed by the President of the local Branch of the community in the area he is living. His registration form is then sent to the community's Head Office in Maple, [Ontario], where it is scrutinized. The individual is invariably again interviewed at the Head Office. In case of any doubt, the case is referred to our Headquarter in England and Pakistan for verification. The letter of certification that "the individual is a bonafide member of the Ahmadiyya Movement" is issued by the Canadian Head Office of the Movement located in Maple, [Ontario]. (26 Jan. 2006)

During a telephone interview, the General Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the AMI indicated that a record is created for each letter that is issued, and that these records can be searched using the name and the date of birth of the member (8 Jan. 2008).

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection.

### References

Amadiyya Movement in Islam (AMI), Canada. 26 January 2008. Written communication from the Vice-President.

\_\_\_\_\_. 8 January 2008. Telephone interview with the General Secretary.

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