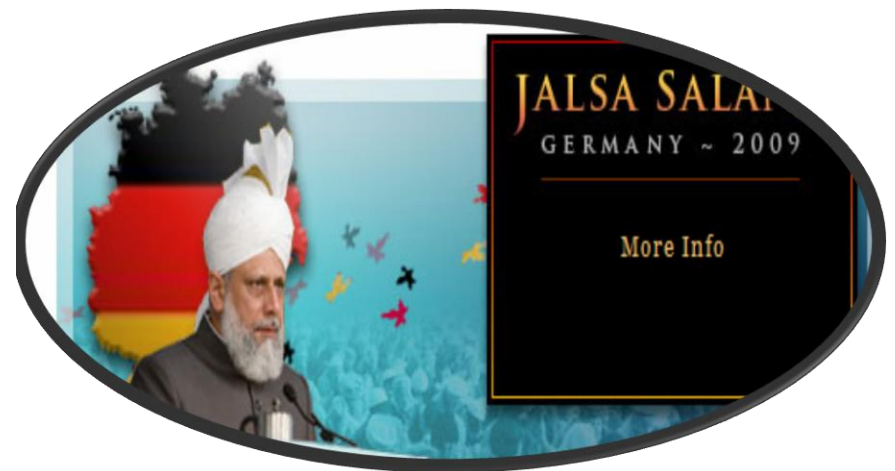


Friday Sermon Opening ceremony of Jalsa Salana Germany 14 August, 2009



NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon

Summary

- Huzur (aba) explained the objective of Jalsa Salana
- True cognisance of Allah
- Focus on *Astighfar* (seek forgiveness of God)
- Huzur (aba) urged people to self-reflect during the Jalsa days
- Guidance to volunteers
- Some golden rules
- The pledge of Bai'at should be abided by
- Namaz e Janaza

Huzur (aba) explained the objective of Jalsa Salana

To achieve
religious
benefits

Increase one's
comprehensive
of Allah

Enhance
sincerity, love
and ties of
brotherhood

Tabligh

Huzur (aba) urged to maximise the benefits that can be derived from the pious atmosphere of Jalsa Salana

- Focus to join in the congregational prayer of *Tahajjud*.
- This may, with the grace and mercy of God, make those who are not regular in offering *Tahajjud*, steadfast in offering this blessed prayer on a regular basis



Enhance the true comprehension of Allah with the important tools of prayers and remembrance of Allah

Worship of God facilitates Divine cognisance , which in turns

Draws one to respect the rights of others

Excels in true love for mankind

Increases the desire to spread the message of Allah

And prays for others fervently

True cognisance of Allah comes to pass with God's grace but in order to attain it, one has to make the initial effort.

Just as Hadith relates that God runs to those who walk towards Him, that is, the initial effort is made by man to seek God. In His infinite grace, God then augments our meagre efforts manifold.

God states in the Holy Qur'an in *Surah Al Ankabut*; **'And as for those who strive in Our path – We will surely guide them in Our ways...'** (29:70).

True cognisance of Allah

‘Those who strive in Our path’

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that God’s beneficence is granted to those who endeavour and strive in His way, who give alms and join among those who **‘strive in Our path’**. He said just as an ailing person tries all kinds of remedies to get better, similar effort should be made for spiritual illness. Such an effort may not be merely verbal, rather it should be real striving.

Huzur (aba) said we should be grateful that having been enabled to accept the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace), we are guided on the right path. It is now up to us to derive full benefit from this blessing. This would be real thankfulness

‘Those who strive in Our path’

The Quranic verse expresses God’s love for His servants just as the Hadith that relates God runs to those who walk to Him does. However, the words ‘those who strive’ in the Quranic verse make it clear that the initial effort has to be man’s.

The Arabic term *‘Jahadu’* in the verse signifies endeavour made with all one’s capacity to attain piety and then to continue in this assiduousness.

To attain the path of guidance it is conditional to be weary of wrongdoing just as perseverance is conditional.

‘Those who strive in Our path’

God has given man free will and has left Satan free. Satan tempts man to evil from every direction. God also states that evil has apparent comfort and ease.

However, when His servant makes an effort in His way, then God does not allow him to fall in the pit of fire. God reaches out like a loving mother and embraces His servant.

If there is ever any deficiency in relationship between Allah and a human being, it is always due to the negligence of man. It is for man not to be like a misbehaving, unruly child, and to be aware of his limitations --.

Huzur (aba) said, “Efforts to attain piety beget piety”

- With reference to those attending the Jalsa Salana and the striving in God’s way with prayers, Huzur said it is not sufficient to simply accept Ahmadiyyat.
- Fervent search for the path to nearness to God should be apparent in every action of an Ahmadi.
- Huzur (aba) said that to achieve nearness to Allah
 - alms should be given with sincerity
 - Salat should be offered with its dues
 - Fasting should be observed with its due obligation
 - Rights of relations and people should be respected
 - Trust should be honoured.

Focus on *Astighfar* (seek forgiveness of God)

Focus on *Astighfar* (seek forgiveness of God)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that *Astighfar* (seek forgiveness of God) is a means to attain God. He said the real significance of *Astighfar* is to plead to God that one's human failings are not made evident. God with His power covers them and saves us from natural weaknesses. It also signifies that God may cover any past sins.

Huzur said man should make great efforts against the assailment of Satan. By giving us the source of *Astighfar* God has promised us that whoever will make an endeavour and will persevere will be granted guidance. Fortunate are those who comprehend this and benefiting from the spiritual atmosphere of the Jalsa Salana, try and remove all their spiritual and moral weaknesses.

Huzur (aba) said the words of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) are replete with wisdom.

In explaining *Astighfar* the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said it is to plead to God that one's human failings are not made evident.

Indeed, if ever God created a perfect man, it was the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

Without doubt, frailty is a part of human nature

However, the advantage of *Astighfar* is that if a certain situations arise then, due to *Astighfar*, God gives the capacity to a person that the weaknesses are not made obvious to all.

Huzur (aba) said for example one feels anger when faced with an unfavourable situation. However, if a person is protected by the 'shield' of *Istaghfar*, then his or her anger is not exhibited out of place; it is never a rage.

Huzur (aba) said human nature is inherently pious. Just as Hadith relates that each child is born pure and is shaped by his or her environment. *Astighfar* develops pious nature and suppresses evil; God so enables a person that evil is not apparent. It is also most important to engage in *Istaghfar* for perseverance in piety.

Focus on *Astighfar* (seek forgiveness of God)

Huzur (aba) urged people to self-reflect during the Jalsa days

- Huzur (aba) urged people to self-reflect during the Jalsa days and pray that having being enabled to accept the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) they are also enabled to attain the standards that he expected from his Community.
- Huzur (aba) said may worldly greed not be our desire
- Huzur (aba) prayed that may we fervently wish to develop further in piety and seek God's help for this.



Guidance to volunteers

God had revealed to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace): 'People will come to you by every distant track... Do not turn away from people and be not tired of them' (Al-Hakam, Vol. X, No. 20, June 10, 1906, p. 1).

- Huzur (aba) said the volunteer workers at Jalsa should engage in remembrance of God while they are out and about, on duty and purify themselves in this spiritual atmosphere.
- Workers should extend extreme courtesy to the guests of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).
- It is also twice as pleasing for the guests and they should be thankful.
 - On the one hand they are enabled to attend the Jalsa in fulfilment of the aforementioned revelation
 - and on the other they have been the recipients of the prayers that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) made for those attending the Jalsa.

Some golden rules

- Huzur (aba) read a few extracts from the noble writings of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and said that if each person reflects on him or herself and advances in piety, this would lead the Community towards enhanced *taqwa*.
- Huzur (aba) read further advice of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) that we should not be hasty in publicising your brother's weakness.
- He (aba) also said that the Community should show such a model that even our enemies are forced to admit that that we are good people.
- He (aba) said God watches what the state of one's heart is, He is not interested in mere verbosity.
- Huzur (aba) said if each Ahmadi kept these advices in view and reflects over him or herself, without doubt these will be a source of reformation.



Huzur (aba) prayed that

- May God enable us to continue to absorb God's blessings, may He enable us to fulfil our pledge of Bai'at and as a result make us the recipients of the prayers of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).
- May the sparkle of the world and egotistic motives not take us away from those objectives which are destined in keeping a sincere link with the Community.
- Today the Malaysian Jama'at is holding their Jalsa Salana under extremely difficult situation, May they not face any trouble and are protected against the schemes of the enemy

The pledge of Bai'at should be abided by

- Huzur (aba) said those present at the German Jalsa should remember that their prosperity and peace of mind are due to God's grace and is by virtue of the blessing of being a part of the Community of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).
- The pledge of Bai'at should be abided by most sincerely
- It should be explained to the younger generation that everything they have is due to the Community and that they should never distance themselves from the Community or Khilafat.



Namaz e Janaza

- Next Huzur (aba) announced the sad news of the passing away of Taha Qazaq sahib, who was from Jordan.
- He was the son of the second Ahmadi in Haifa from where Ahmadiyyat had spread further. Huzur (aba) said he had a deep devotion with Khilafat, each action of his displayed his sincere commitment.
- He was a *Moosi* and up till now whatever Arabic translation of the *Tafseer e Kabeer* (Urdu Commentary of the Holy Qur'an by *Hadhrat Musleh Maud*) has been published, was funded by him.
- May God elevate his station in Paradise and grant him a place near His dear ones.
- Huzur (aba) said he would lead his funeral Prayer in absentia after Jummah.