



Friday Sermon Slides

2nd October 2009

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

Summary

- Believers, when faced with any kind of tribulations show patience and steadfastness
- Such trials are a source of greater strength in their faith
- Believers will be successful ultimately

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ
وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

Chapter 2 verse 154

O ye who believe! Seek help
with patience and Prayer;
surely, Allah is with the
steadfast .

Trials & tribulations of believers

The first verse describes two key characteristics of believers: they **exhibit patience** and seek help with Prayer at the time of adversity

Patience implies several meanings

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ

1. To refrain from whining and complaining in the face of hardship and endure the difficulty with fortitude

2. To remain steadfast and resolute

3. To remain firmly grounded in the commandments of God

4. To make every effort to shield oneself from what God has forbidden

The quality to face trials and tribulations with
strength, courage and resilience

To prostrate to God
with absolute conviction and firm faith

Steadfastness entails

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The second quality is that one should seek help with Prayer and supplication

Increases his fervour in the daily prayers

Increases his supplications

Pays closer attention to his duties of faith

Offers “*astaghfar*” (seeking forgiveness)

Focuses on remembrance of Allah

Offers *durood* (invocations on the Prophet (saw))

Offers *hamd* (invocations) and praise of Allah

Hence, a believer seeks help with Prayer at the time of adversity

Huzur (aba) explained the message

One should remember that all types of adversities are temporary.

When a believer hands over his trust and faith to God and relies solely on His existence, then in face of every trial he shall meet with success and his relationship with God will keep increasing.

The pre-requisite however is that one should truly discharge one's duties in the way of Allah and express absolute submission to His Will and exhibit all the qualities of steadfastness and perseverance.

In the wake of the new wave of persecution against Ahmadis in several Arab countries and in Pakistan, there are restrictions imposed on Ahmadis that they cannot offer their Jummah Prayers or even the five daily Prayers in congregation.

In such circumstances, God Almighty advises that a Believer should strengthen in his faith, become even more devoted to his worship and intensify his religious practices. When these requirements are fulfilled, the whole world will witness how God comes to the relief of His servants.

Trials & tribulations of believers

أَمَّنْ يُجِيبُ الْمُضْطَّرَّ إِذَا دَعَاهُ وَيَكْشِفُ
السُّوءَ وَيَجْعَلُكُمْ خُلَفَاءَ الْأَرْضِ أَأَلَّهُ
مَعَ اللَّهِ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَذَكَّرُونَ

Or, Who answers the distressed person when he calls upon Him, and removes the evil, and makes you successors in the earth? Is there a God besides Allah? Little is it that you reflect

Prayers can bring about a great revolution in the world

God accepts prayers in His servant's favour

Huzur (aba) explained that to seek Allah, purify yourself
Pray to Allah in your own language with humility and fervour
Once prayers reach a certain levels of vehemence and
humbleness, then Allah accepts these prayers

- The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that in order to receive the blessings of God Almighty, one should purify himself because God is Pure.

Huzoor (aba) said that the sacrifices of Ahmadis in Pakistan will not be wasted and shall bear great rewards not only for themselves but for the Jamaat as a whole.

Among the sufferers, there might be some who even lose their lives, but God Almighty says that the significance of the life of one who is martyred in God's way is not the same as that of one who lives an ordinary life.

Trials & tribulations of believers

وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ
اللَّهِ أَمْوتَ بَلْ أحيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا
تَشْعُرُونَ

And say not of those who are killed in the cause of Allah that they are dead; nay, they are living; only you perceive not.

Chapter 2 verse 155

Trials & tribulations of believers

Huzur (aba) said, nations who realize the significance of making such sacrifices never die.

At present, the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is under attack

The adversaries are mistaken that their malicious attacks will deter Ahmadis from their faith.

- We should remember that each drop of blood of every martyr offers new progress to the Jama'at.
- **Every Ahmadi martyred brings about an increase in the devotion and loyalty among the members of Jama'at Ahmadiyya.**
- Huzoor (aba) said that these antagonists can take the lives of Ahmadis, they can destroy our buildings, stop the construction of our mosques, but they cannot take our faith away.

Those who persecute Ahmadis should remember that the revolution brought about by the Reformer of the latter days i.e. the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) cannot be suppressed by inflicting loss of life or properties or bank accounts.

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ
وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ
وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ

And We will try you with something of fear and hunger, and loss of wealth and lives, and fruits; but give glad tidings to the patient

Chapter 2 verse 156

Trials & tribulations of believers

Huzoor (aba) then elaborated on the ways in which fear is inflicted upon Ahmadis: they are attacked physically, implicated in false court cases, subjected to discriminating laws and receive intimidating threats from lawmakers.

Who, when a misfortune overtakes them, say, 'Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return

الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمُ
مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا
إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) says that one should not regard hardships as something unpleasant – only he who is not a strong believer shall complain and whine when faced with hardships. Everything comes from God and to Him is the return, therefore loss does not despair a true Believer.

A believer always keeps in mind that even if all the blessings are taken away from him, such difficulties are only temporary.

The life on this earth is transitory and he shall return to his Creator, when he will be rewarded with greater blessings.

These beliefs strengthen his faith further.

Trials & tribulations of believers

There has never been an appointed prophet from God who has not been subjected to persecution and adversity. Look at the lives of Jesus (as), Moses (as) and Mohammad (saw). The results of these hardships however are always rewarding)

If the Sunnah (practice) of Allah Almighty was such that His chosen servants were offered ease and comfort and earthly favours, then what would be the difference between a Godly community and ordinary groups of people.

It is through trials and tribulations that God wishes to make a distinction between those who are weak and those who are strong in faith

The Promised Messiah (as) says regarding trials that

The Promised Messiah (as) says that hardships never concern him because he has complete faith in the Beneficence of God Almighty, who can change despair into hope, Whose favours are always within reach for those who make the effort. The intention of giving up a vice when one is faced with hardships becomes a source of true repentance for him. In such a case, the luminance of hope clears away the darkness of despair, and such a person advances towards spiritual progress.

أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ
مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ
وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ

Chapter 2 verse 158

It is these on whom are blessings from their Lord and mercy, and it is these who are rightly guided.

Believers will be successful.

Huzoor (aba) expounded upon the last verse, that these are the believers who will ever increase in their spiritual ranks and the adversaries will be in ruins.

▪ *Shahadat* of Mohammad Azam Tahir. He was a Moosi, a hospitable, God-fearing person, was also serving as Finance Secretary. Huzur (aba) referred to him as *Hum'aaray Pia'ray* (our loved one)

Two Ahmadi brothers were killed in a bomb blast in Peshawar, Ayaaz Ahmad (40 years of age, survived by two children and his wife) and Imtiaz Ahmad (30 years of age).

Mansoorah Wahab daughter of Amir of Ghana Jama'at Abdul Wahab Adam, also passed away due to kidney failure at the age of 28 years.

The sad news regarding demise of

An Ahmadi brother, Anwar Kahlon Sahib passed away on September 27th in Pakistan. He was the past Amir of UK under Khalifatul Masih IV and served the Jamaat in various capacities all his life.

Huzur (aba) prayed



- **May Allah save every Ahmadi from all trials and tribulations.**
- **If trials occur then Allah make us able to bear them with patience and fortitude.**
- **May Allah make every Ahmadi pray with extra effort**
- **Prayers for Pakistan**