

Today Hudhur (aba) delivered his Friday Sermon from Noor Mosque, Wigoltingen, Switzerland.

Friday Sermon Slides

April 23 2010

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„Liebe für alle,
Hass für keinen“

SUMMARY

One can become grateful servants of God when one has *taqwa*, an understanding of one's object of creation and makes an effort to attain it.

Hudhur (aba) directed Ahmadis emigrated to Europe to become *Abd e Shakur* [servant of The Most Appreciating God], for having peace of mind and economic well being because of blessing of Ahmadiyyat.

We should thus express our gratefulness by adopting an exemplary connection with Ahmadiyyat.

Hudhur (aba) said stop, think and reflect; if the worldly benefits are taking you away from religion then they are destructive and this is sheer ungratefulness of the blessings of God.

In the light of Qur'anic teaching, Hudhur (aba) emphasised the importance of adhering to the conditions of Bai'at.

Hudhur (aba) explained the ten conditions of bai'at, elucidating with greater emphasis conditions 1, 2, 8 and 10.

Gratefulness

- Hudhur (aba) said that true gratefulness develops when one has *taqwa*, an understanding of our object of creation and makes an effort to attain it.



European tour

- Hudhur (aba) expressed that it was important to talk again about gratefulness during the European tours because not all Ahmadiis make use of the blessings of MTA and listen to Friday sermon regularly.



Friday sermon

- Hudhur (aba) explained that every single Ahmadi is addressed in each of his sermons

Hudhur (aba) explained that gratefulness of God's grace is expressed as perfect obedience. It is to practice what God enjoins and to avoid what He forbids

- Hudhur (aba) explained that mere verbal professing is not sufficient
- A true believer expresses gratefulness by his/her every gesture and demonstrates an effort to adopt humility.
 - Humility comes from awareness that all blessings are from God.

لَبِّينُ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ

Chapter 14: Verse 8

'...If you are grateful, I will, surely, bestow more favours on you...'

Ahmadis who have come to live in Europe to become Abd e Shakur [servant of the Most Appreciating God]

Ahmadis in Switzerland

Ahmadis in Switzerland should be most grateful for peace of mind and economic well-being

Good health is a blessing of God, we should utilise it to worship Him and to serve religion.

He has given us abundance, prosperity, without being arrogant about it, we should spend in God's cause.

He enhances our capacities, grants us good health and bestows His nearness to an *Abid* (worshipper of God) and enables to attain the object of our creation.

Gratefulness to Allah

If we employ our God-given capacities and capabilities according to God's teaching then it is an expression of gratefulness.

وَمَا يَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَلَنْ يُكْفَرُوا بِهِ وَاللَّهُ
عَلِيمٌ بِالْمُتَّقِينَ

‘And whatever good they do, they shall not be denied its due reward; and Allah well knows the God-fearing.’

Chapter 3 , Verse 116

Gratefulness to Allah

Hudhur (aba) explained that true piety is attained when one associates with all one's being, one's capacities and blessings to God's grace.

إِنَّهُ لِيُوفِّيهِمْ أَجْرَهُمْ وَيَزِيدُهُمْ مِّنْ فَضْلِهِ
عَفُوًّا شَكُورًا

Chapter 35, Verse 31

‘In order that He may give them their full rewards, and *even* increase them out of His bounty. He is surely Most Forgiving, Most Appreciating.’

Hudhur (aba) explained that for God the term *Shakur* signifies that He likes and appreciates the humility, piety and worship of His servants. His mercy encompasses everything

How unfortunate if one leaves an Ever Merciful, Most Appreciating God for something else

Hudhur (aba) said settling in Switzerland is a blessing for Ahmadiis

They emigrated either because of persecution in their home-country or are economic migrants

This blessing is due to Ahmadiyyat.

We should thus express our gratefulness by adopting an exemplary connection with Ahmadiyyat.

If we do not appreciate our Community and do not pay heed to the word of the Khalifa of the time, we will be distancing ourselves as well as our children from God.

Hudhur (aba) said stop, think and reflect

If the worldly benefit is taking you away from religion then there is no blessing in it, rather it is destructive



This is being ungrateful and represents lack of appreciation of the blessings of God



It is a huge honour to take Bai'at of the Imam of our age, about whom the Holy Prophet (pbuh) spoke so affectionately and sent his greetings



An appreciation of this honour would make us *Abd e Shakur*



Sacrifice all
one's desires
over God's
commandment

Negate one's
own wishes

Consider God to be
Ever Present

Bai'at means selling
and it signifies a pledge
to

Bai'at

We have pledged allegiance to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and the Khalifa of the time in our *bai'at*.

وَأَوْفُوا بِالْعَهْدِ إِنَّ الْعَهْدَ كَانَ مَسْئُولًا

Chapter 17, Verse 35

‘....and fulfil the covenant; for the covenant shall be questioned about.’

Every one must self-reflect and self-examine that how well we are fulfilling our covenant of Bai’at!

Bai’at

First condition of Bai'at

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) took our pledge to abstain from all manner of *shirk* (associating partners with God) with sincerity of heart.

Hudhur (aba) expounded that *shirk* does not only entail worship of stone idols, some *shirks* are covert.

For example, disregarding Salat for the sake of one's employment/business

To give precedence to worldly matters over Salat implies that one considers one's business or employment as Razaq (the Great Sustainer) and not God

Hudhur (aba) said that such negligence is not an insignificant one; rather it leads one to destruction.



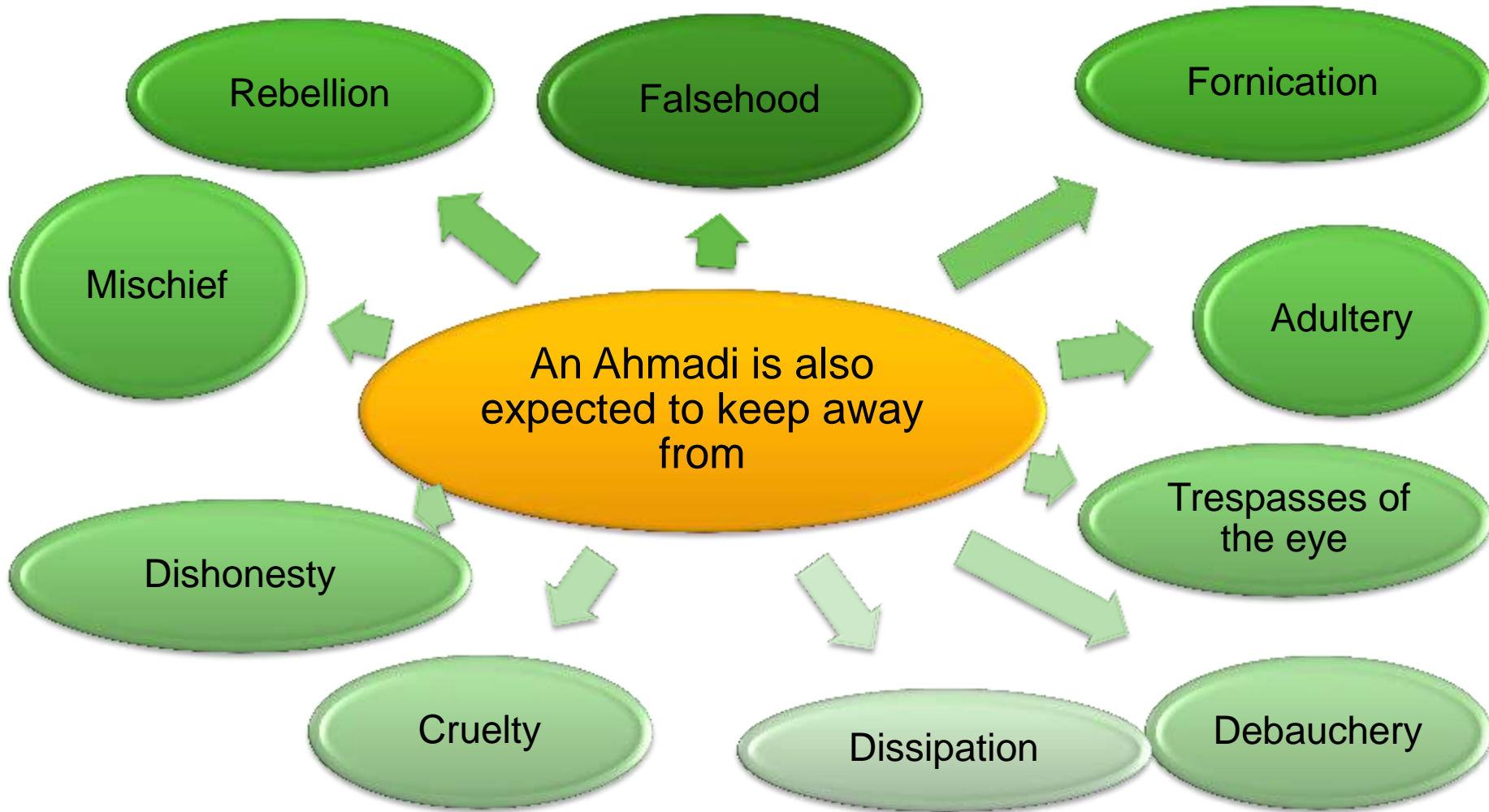
Chapter 63, Verse 10

‘O ye who believe! let not your wealth and your children divert you from the remembrance of Allah...’

Sometimes one’s children go against the word of God, in such instance complying with them becomes *shirk*.

To abstain from all manner of *shirk* with sincerity of heart

Hudhur (aba) said some people have become distanced from Ahmadiyyat because of their children



Second condition of Bai'at

Hudhur (aba) explained 2nd condition of Bai'at

Hudhur (aba) said that watching indecent and obscene programmes through the media constitute fornication and trespass of the eye and affect young people in particular.

Hudhur (aba) said all this starts in the name of freedom and open-mindedness and leads to much greater problems later on.

Hudhur (aba) further explained that the fornication of the mind and the eye can ultimately lead to committing this in reality.

Children should not be allowed to watch indecent programmes on the TV and careful eye should be kept on their internet use.

If parents do not have the knowledge of media then *Jama'at* and the auxiliaries should organise awareness programmes about these

Parents should give complete cooperation in this as any weakness on their part can be the cause of destruction.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ
نَارًا

Chapter 66, Verse 7

The greatest responsibility lays with the head of the household, the man. He should save his children from the Fire from which God has saved him

Hudhur (aba) said to young people that they should understand it is not the object of their lives to get involved in these frivolities.

: ‘O ye who believe! save yourselves and your families from a Fire...’

2nd condition of Bai'at.

Some gaping moral ills (which are not considered immoral in the West) are followed in the name of open-mindedness which are the pits of fire being called entertainment and freedom.

Oppression and
injustice

Hudhur (aba) said all Ahmadis should avoid oppression and injustice. There should be mutual affection within the Community while avoiding deception of all kind

Nizamam-e-Jama'at

The *Nizaam e Jama'at* (the administrative system) of the Community should be followed as it is created by Khilafat.

Nizaam e Jama'at

The beauty of our Community is with its *Nizaam e Jama'at* alone. Distancing oneself from it takes away the difference between us and the others.

2nd condition of Bai'at

If anyone has any grievance within the *Nizaam e Jama'at* they should write to the Khalifa of the time but no one is allowed to disregard the discipline of the Community.

Similarly the office-holders also have a responsibility to keep a department of justice and affection.

Then attention is drawn to Salat in the 3rd condition

- The fourth condition of bai'at is that one will not cause harm of anyone under the impulse of any passion.

No harm

Faithful

- Then one will remain faithful to God in all circumstances, in sorrow and happiness, in adversity and prosperity

- One should entirely give up pride and vanity and spend life in humility.

Pride and vanity

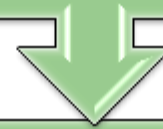
3rd, 4th and 5th condition of Bai'at

The 5th condition is that one will remain faithful to God in all circumstances, in sorrow and happiness, in adversity and prosperity

The 8th condition of Bai'at; Honour of Islam

Hudhur (aba) urged Ahmadis in Switzerland to raise awareness about Minarets by writing to newspapers, hold seminars in the name of honour of Islam .

One shall regard faith, the honour of faith, and the cause of Islam dearer to one than one's life, wealth, honour, children and all other dear ones.



The outside world is watching us for we claim to represent the true picture of Islam. Therefore it is our responsibility to maintain Islam's honour.



We can only do successful *Tabligh* if our own models are pious.

Another issue that has been raised in Europe is that of Purdah. Our ladies and girls should organise a campaign to write to newspapers.

The respect of an Ahmadi girl is tied with the respect of faith.

We should let the world know that Purdah is to uphold the honour of a lady.

Islam champions the dignity of women. Purdah is not oppression; it marks the distinction of Muslim.

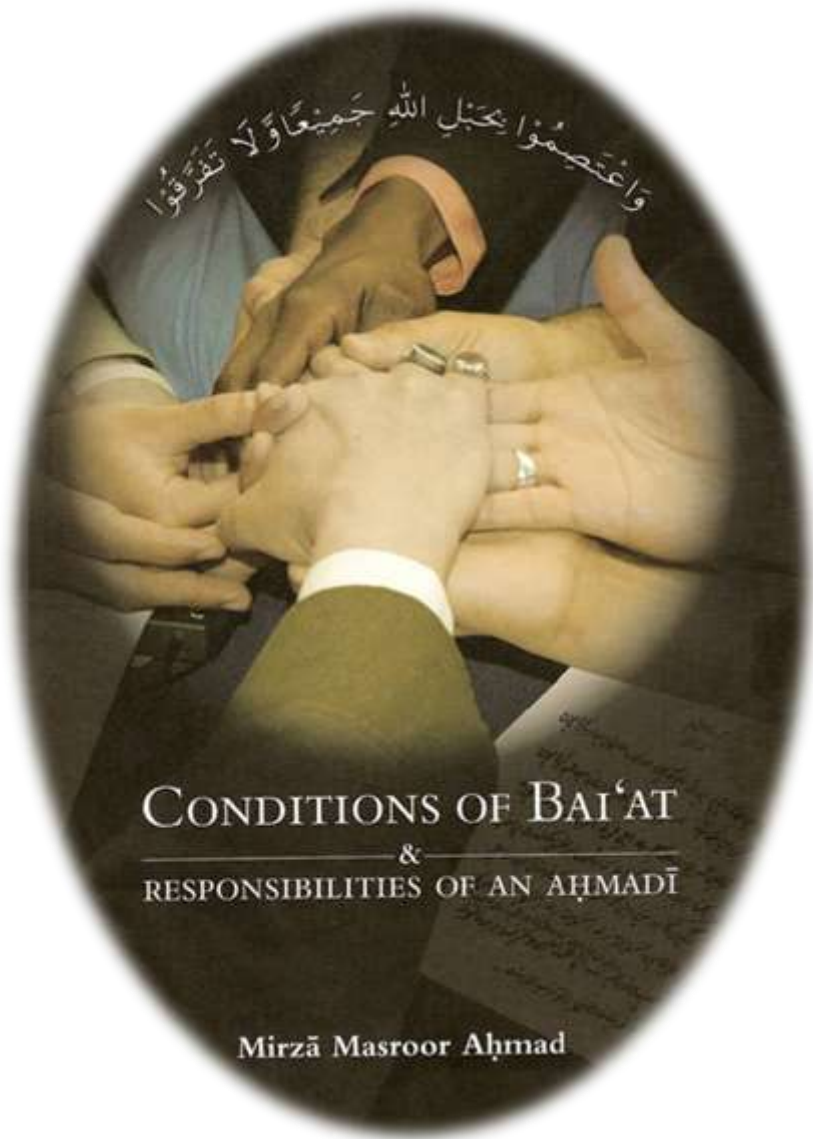
Hudhur (aba) said to Ahmadi girls that they should not feel any complex in this matter.

If by feeling uncomfortable in light of the negative propaganda they choose to abandon their Purdah then there can be no guarantee of their respect

Purdah and respect of Ahmadi girls

Hudhur (aba) related an incidence where Allah the Exalted saved the job of an Ahmadi girl who was given notice because she wore a Hijab to work. Hudhur (aba) said if one's intention is good, God helps.

The 9th condition of bai'at



The ninth condition of *bai'at* is that one will remain occupied in the service of God's creation and mankind.

Hudhur said this will be truly fulfilled when we try to bring the world closer to God.

10th condition of Bai'at

- The last condition is that one will keep a bond of devotion and obedience with the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) which will surpass all worldly relations and bonds

We need to attain a high level in following the teachings of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and display perfect obedience to Khilafat, the 'Second Manifestation'.

Hudhur (aba) said, again we need to reflect whether our relations and connections come in the way of our bond with the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

Complete obedience and loyalty to Khilafat alone will make us a bona fide member of the Community; otherwise, we will be simply donning a label.

However, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that one cannot fulfil the connotation of being his true follower unless one negates oneself in obedience to him.

He went on to say that this illustrates that God has willed to create a Community for him that will indeed negate itself in his obedience.

It would be ungratefulness to spend our lives just seeking the world

وَجَاعِلُ الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوكَ فَوْقَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ

Chapter 3 , Verse 56

'[God] will place those who follow you above those who disbelieve, until the Day of Resurrection.'

If we truly wish to form a bond with the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

- we will have to endeavour to fulfil his expectations

Parents should watch over their children and affectionately

- make them aware of the teachings of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)
- make the difference between Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis clear to them

The administration of the Jama'at and the auxiliaries

- should make practical programmes

Hudhur (may Allah assist him with His Mighty Help) prayed

May God enable every Ahmadi to be a true Ahmadi; one who always partakes a measure of God's grace.

