

A discourse on thankfulness

Friday sermon August the 6th 2010



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

SUMMARY

Hudhur (aba) said that all praise belongs to Allah that last Sunday the UK Jalsa Salana successfully concluded with His grace

Hudhur (aba) said the success of Jalsa Salana should draw the attention of believers to God's blessings; successful conclusion of all matters makes believers grateful to God.

Following praise and thankfulness to God, Allah also draws our attention to be grateful to one another. Therefore, Hudhur (aba) thanked various teams and attendees of Jalsa Salana and prayed for them

Hudhur (aba) gave the sad news of demise of Mustapha Bin Thabit sahib

Hudhur (aba) gave a discourse on thankfulness in his Friday sermon today.

Hudhur (aba) said all praise belongs to Allah, last Sunday the UK Jalsa Salana successfully concluded with His grace.

Our heads are bowed to God in gratefulness, indeed, should be bowed--

--for it is with His grace alone that everything concluded in such a fine manner.

Chapter 1, Verse 1

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

It is established in the very beginning of the Holy Qur'an that true believers start everything in the name of God.

So that God's help may be with them through out and they may remember Him.

The first verse of the Qur'an declares that the great Book is being read in the name of God.

Believers are enjoined to start everything in the name of Allah.

In the name of Allah...'

In the name of Allah

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In the name of Allah, the Gracious,
the Merciful.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ
الرَّحِيمِ

Chapter 1, Verse 1

The Divine attributes of Rahman (Most Gracious) and Raheem (Ever Merciful) are mentioned next.

Hudhur (aba) explained that by virtue of His quality of Rahmaniyyat Allah bestows His graciousness and puts all arrangements in place

By virtue of His Raheemiyyat, God's grace is manifested when a believer expectant of Divine succour supplicates for help, God manifests His support and help.

Rahmaniyyat and Raheemiyyat

Hudhur (aba) said that at Jalsa Salana we experienced manifestations borne out of God's Rahmaniyyat as well as Raheemiyyat and they generate thankfulness

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لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ
لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ

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

Comprehending Allah's Rahmaniyyat and Raheemiyyat makes us servants of the Most Appreciating God (Al Shakur) and we thus receive His beneficence at every juncture

In order to continue to experience these manifestations of Divine Rahmaniyyat and Raheemiyyat we need to carry on seeking His beneficence

Rahmaniyyat and Raheemiyyat

Hudhur (aba) said, with His blessings God removed some of our concerns and concluded the Jalsa amidst immense blessings.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that nothing in the spiritual or worldly realm can conclude without these two graces. He said if one pondered one would realise that both these Divine qualities are continually at work. Rahmaniyyat has been in action long before the creation of man. It facilitates and provides all the arrangements needed for man's existence which man cannot even conceive to attain through his own efforts.

Similarly, Raheemiyyat manifests itself when man employs his God-given capabilities to accomplish something. Raheemiyyat does not allow efforts to go in vain and they bear fruits.

Hudhur (aba) said the success of Jalsa Salana is not attributable to the planning and the hard work of the workers. Rather it should draw the attention of believers to God's blessings; successful conclusion of all matters makes believers grateful to God.

Such gratefulness is truly being servants of Al Shakur.

Rahmaniyyat and Raheemiyyat

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The Qur'an draws attention that it is the sign of true believers that they are grateful

It is thus God's grace that He facilitates man's spiritual and worldly progress.

When a believer experiences these blessings his or her gratefulness is increased

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَكَنُ فَضِيلٍ عَلَى
النَّاسِ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ
لَا يَشْكُرُونَ

Chapter 10, Verse 61

...Surely, Allah is gracious towards mankind, but most of them are not thankful...

Gratefulness

The best form of thankfulness is expressed by observing the prescribed Prayers, to supplicate God and to associate all good to His grace.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) explained that God has started the Holy Qur'an with the Arabic word '*Hamd*' (praise) in His glory as opposed to words *Madh* (applaud) or *Shukr* (thankfulness) because the word *Hamd* encompasses the other two words.

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Chapter 1 , Verse 2

All praise belongs to
Allah, Lord of all the
worlds

Praising God

Praising God is not simple thankfulness, rather it is a declaration that not only did God provide all the necessary arrangements for mankind with His grace, but He also rewards whatever effort is made by man, accepting prayers and bestowing grace

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Indeed thankfulness of God is not ordinary thankfulness

This is something we need to be always mindful of.

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the Holy Prophet (pbuh) said that one who is not grateful to people is also not grateful to God

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that dues of Allah cannot be discharged without discharging the dues of mankind

Thankfulness to people

Following praise and thankfulness to God, Allah also draws our attention to be grateful to one another

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) would be extremely grateful to anyone who served him in any capacity.

True believers should try and follow the great model of the Prophet (pbuh)

Waqar e amal

Many workers started their *Waqar e Aml* days before Jalsa and it is still being carried out in cleaning the site

Meals, accommodation & transport

Without exception the guests praised the services provided and were most impressed that volunteers belonging to diverse fields in life happily performed ordinary duties.

Jalsa attendees

Hudhur (aba) said, the Jalsa attendees also deserve thanks that they tried to fulfil the objective of Jalsa Salana

Thankfulness

May God make this noticeable enhancement in attention to worship, prayers and remembrance of Allah enduring.

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Jalsa Salana and MTA

Hudhur(aba) said MTA is run mainly by volunteers working with resolve for the past many years.

Hudhur (aba) said he thanked them all on behalf of the Jama'at as well as himself.

Hudhur (aba) also thanked the many volunteers working for MTA outside the UK.

Jalsa Salan and Alislam.org

Hudhur (aba) mentioned the Jama'at website alislam.org and said it too plays a significant part in showing Jalsa programmes



It is also run by a lot of volunteers who dedicate several hours to the site.



It is run from USA. Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah sahib, who is in-charge of the site told Hudhur that this year the site was availed of to such an extent [at UK Jalsa] that the service was effected



Hudhur (aba) said the alislam.org team should think about ways to improve the standard so that a maximum number of people can avail of the site.

Hudhur (aba) said this year there were some concerns about security which were removed by the sheer grace of God.

Neither was it an imaginary concern nor was it based on fear following the events in Pakistan, rather this was genuine concern

- An incident did take place and the facts tell that there was evil intent on part of whoever was involved. However, the security was alert and acted on time and thus God protected against all evil

All the workers of the security department are worthy of gratitude, some of them hardly took any rest.

Hudhur (aba) said security and Khidmat e Khalq departments worked very well but due to some misunderstanding in one or two incidents people got upset. Hudhur(aba) extended apologies to those families

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Hudhur (aba) praised the security

The efficiency of a Khadim on security duty was praised by Hudhur (aba) who followed Hudhur's instructions fully



Hudhur said this reminded him of an incident in Qadian in the days of the Ahrar mischief when Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) had said in his Friday Sermon that no one should be allowed entry in the Bahishti Maqbara without a specific code. One night he went there himself to check and he was stopped. He gave his name. The person said 'Hudhur, I have recognised you but I am commanded by you not to let anyone in without the code, therefore you cannot go in.' Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih II (may Allah be pleased with him) commended this.

Hudhur (aba) said sometimes incorrect estimates are made when new arrangements are put in place.

This year the entry points to the ladies arena were limited and women and children had to endure long queues.

The management is particularly apologising to mothers of young children and is also grateful to their cooperation

Hudhur (aba) said this incident also displayed that the patience and resolve of Ahmadi women is enduring

The resolve of Lajna

Here again one is inclined to the subject of praising God that He puts it in hearts that sacrifice is needed for the Jama'at. Hudhur (aba) said outside guests also remarked at the peaceful queues.

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Jalsa Salana and various departments

Transport,
Langer Khana
and health
and safety

- Hudhur said the transport arrangements were good
 - Langer Khana worked extremely well
 - All departments deserve gratitude.
- After the Jalsa, police noted the extraordinary peaceful manner in which everything was conducted.
- The Health and Safety people said they would present our exemplary work in their general report.

**We have to
move
onwards in
our progress**

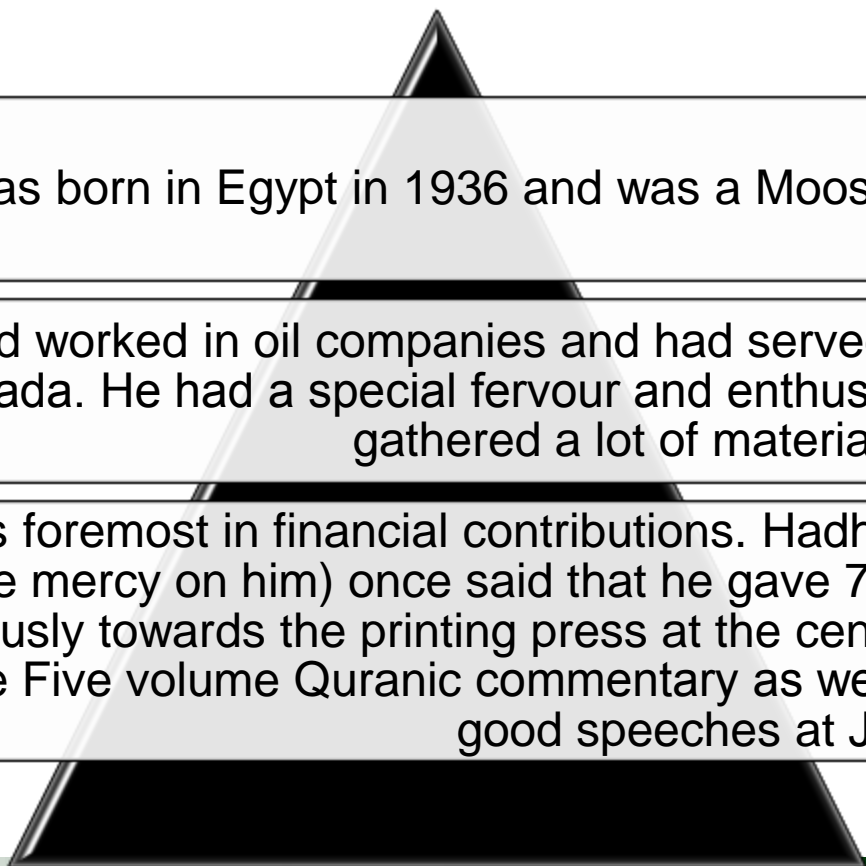
**The Promised
Messiah (on whom
be peace) said that
the progress and
change that could
be found in his
Jama'at could not
be found in anyone
else in the entire
world.**

Hudhur (aba) said we only look up to God, Him alone do we praise, Who covers our faults, grants us excellent outcomes and wipes out the plans of our enemy

God's grace showering down on those who attended the Jalsa as well as those who watched it on MTA

May God ever increase His grace on us and may we fulfil the good expectations of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

We have to move onwards in our progress and become those who truly praise God so that we may continue to be the recipients of His beneficence

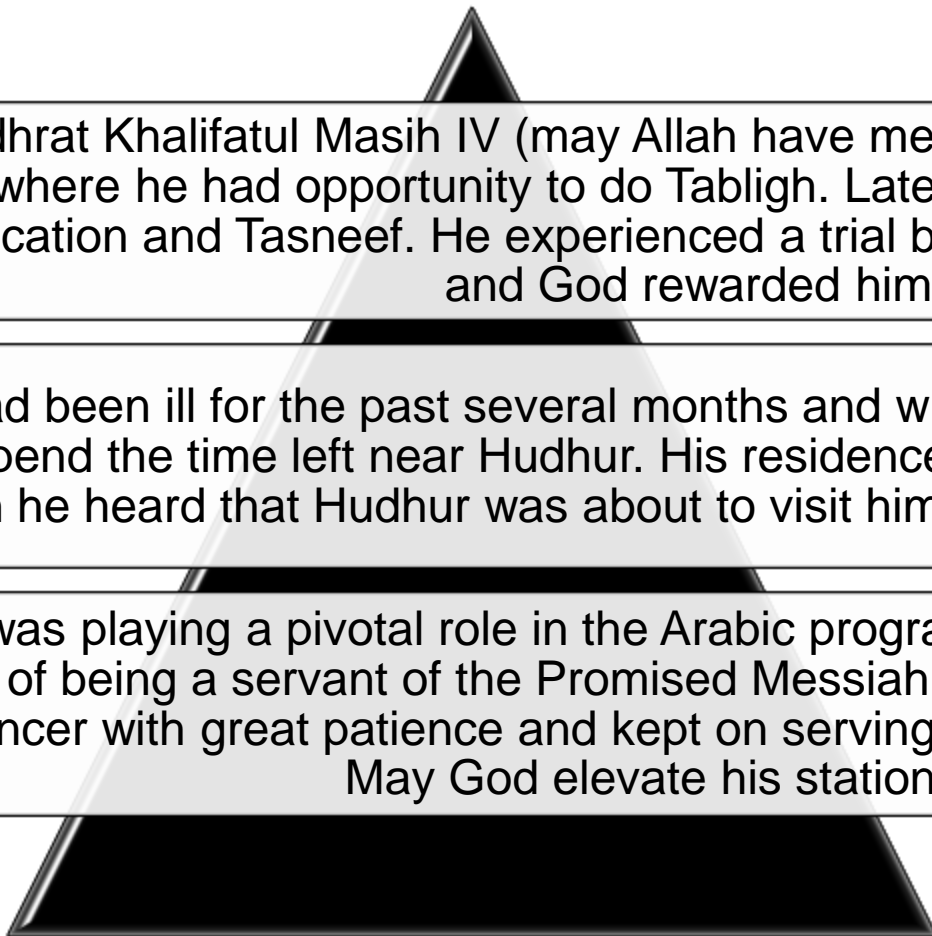


He was born in Egypt in 1936 and was a Moosi. He moved to Canada in 1971.

He had worked in oil companies and had served as national Tabligh secretary in Canada. He had a special fervour and enthusiasm for Jama'at work and had gathered a lot of material for MTA.

He was foremost in financial contributions. Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) once said that he gave 70% of his earning. He donated generously towards the printing press at the centre. He translated the first volume of the Five volume Quranic commentary as well as 'Deebacha'. He made very good speeches at Jalsa.

The sad of demise of Mustapha Thabit sahib



Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him) sent him to Ghana in 1983 where he had opportunity to do Tabligh. Later he came to the UK and worked in publication and Tasneef. He experienced a trial but did so with sincerity and loyalty and God rewarded him for this.

He had been ill for the past several months and wrote to Hudhur(aba) that he wished to spend the time left near Hudhur. His residence was in one of the guest houses. When he heard that Hudhur was about to visit him he quickly dashed to Hudhur first.

He was playing a pivotal role in the Arabic programme [on MTA] and truly paid the dues of being a servant of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace). He endured his cancer with great patience and kept on serving until such time that he was very ill.
May God elevate his station in Paradise.

The sad of demise of Mustapha Thabit sahib

May God elevate his station in Paradise.