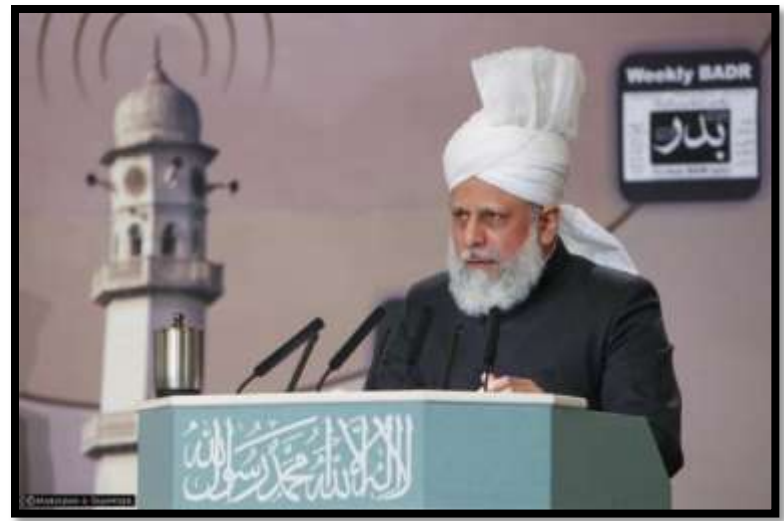


'Khaira Ummah'
(best people)



Friday Sermon Slides

February 4th , 2011

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

Summary

Hudhur gave a discourse on '*Khaira Ummah*' (best people) and the standard set by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him)

Prior to enjoining others to good, we have to bring ourselves in line with those who '**believe in Allah**'

Once we have associated ourselves with the Imam of the age to try and become '*Khaira Ummah*', we have to relinquish worldliness and give up self-created standards of piety

Hudhur (aba) gave a deep and detailed explanation of a hadith relating the signs of a hypocrite

Hudhur announced that he would lead funeral Prayer in absentia of Rasheed Ahmadi Butt sahib of Lahore who passed away on 18 October 2010 at the age of 71 years. He had been injured with a gun shot wound to his leg at Darul Zikr on 28 May 2010

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Hudhur (aba) said the subject-matter of this verse requires repeated reminding

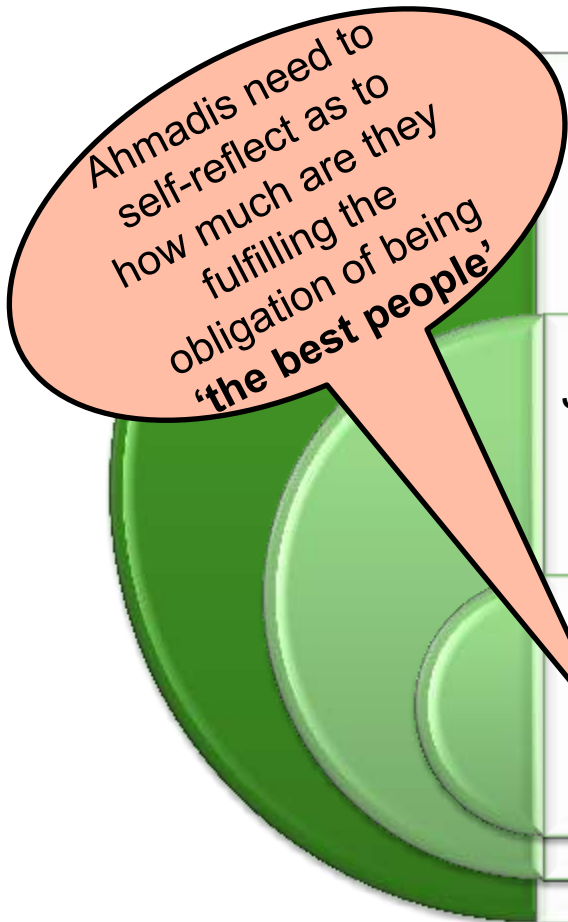
CHAPTER 3, VERSE 111

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ
تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ
الْمُنْكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ ۗ وَلَوْ آمَنَ أَهْلُ
الْكِتَابِ لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُمْ ۗ مِنْهُمْ
الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ۚ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿١١١﴾

You are the best people raised for the good of mankind; you enjoin what is good and forbid evil and believe in Allah. And if the People of the Book had believed, it would have surely been better for them. Some of them are believers, but most of them are disobedient.

The best people

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In this verse God had given a huge responsibility to those who believe to safeguard and strengthen their own belief as well as that of their next generation, and to advise good to all and sundry around them for the sake of God

Just as the early Muslims followed Qur'anic commandments and pronouncements of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) in order to seek God's pleasure

In the current age, this is the obligation of Ahmadis

The best people

Ahmadies need to self reflect based on standards set by the Holy Prophet (pbuh) regarding how much do their word and deed match, how much they, through personal practice and advice, are trying to save the world

All Ahmadis claim to accept the Messiah who brought faith back from the Pleiades

Allah the Exalted informed the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) 'I shall carry thy message to the ends of the earth' [Tadhkirah, p. 381]

We are fortunate that God took the responsibility to take the message of Islam through the Muhammadan Messiah Himself and allowed us to be part of this Divine destiny

The best people

Hudhur (aba) explained that in order to be part of the destiny associated with this revelation we need to create a revolutionary change in ourselves and become those who attain God's pleasure

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Understanding our obligation, and to attain God's pleasure,

- We should enjoin what is good and forbid what is bad
- We should draw attention towards paying the dues of mankind

We will only have any effect if we put our own internal system in order

Prior to enjoining what is good to others, we have to bring ourselves in line with those who **'believe in Allah'**

However, the first requirement is to self-reflect

The best people

The belief in God is true only when love of God and His pleasure take precedence over all other loves and pleasures, as the Qur'an states: **'...those who believe are stronger in *their* love for Allah...'** (2:166).

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The best people

In such a situation a true believer's foremost thought would be whether he or she has the quality that he or she is enjoining others or does he or she has the bad habit that he or she is forbidding others from?

Thus God would say that you declare My love but your heart is tarnished and you are saying something that you do not practice

Being '*Khaira Ummah*' is not just a declaration of faith

To be included in '*Khaira Ummah*' one has to enhance in love of Allah

As well one enjoins what is good and forbidding evil

God is the Beloved Who is '**the Knower of the unseen and the seen**' (6:74)

In such a situation it would be the internal system of a true believer that would bring him or her to the straight path

If someone's internal system is not effective, it is cause for concern

Every evil that we observe around us serves as a mirror, by looking into which we can assess if we have this particular weakness

But this mirror is only effective if love of Allah resides in our hearts

The best people

If love of Allah does not encompass everything we do, worldliness and society overawe us then the standards for good and bad become altered

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Hudhur said our Community has traditions which are established by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and his Khulafa in light of the teachings of Islam

Disciplinary action is taken from preventing some matters entering our Community because a true believer should only practice what is good

Without this, neither can he or she enjoin what is good nor can he or she forbid evil

Once we have associated ourselves with the Imam of the age to try and become '*Khaira Ummah*', we have to relinquish worldliness and give up self-created standards of piety

We will need to maintain those standards that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) taught the Community having received guidance from God and in light of the teaching of Islam

This is a very important point that every Ahmadi should understand

A recent incidence

Recently, some practices contrary to the teachings of the Community took place during a wedding in a Jama'at

Even those with religious knowledge, who serve the Community and know the traditions and teachings of the Community also participated in the wedding

They showed weakness and instead of preventing what was bad, they sat and observed all the absurdities

Rather than practice '**forbids evil**' they became part of it

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If an Ahmadi believes in the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) then he or she should not be intimidated by society, rather should give precedence to faith

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) prayed for his progeny and his followers to be spared the awe of Dajjal



If those living in the West are awed by *Dajjal*, then what is left?

It was submitted to Hudhur (aba) that as many people were involved in the incidence and action against so many people may create anxiety in the Jama'at. Hudhur (aba) responded to them that disciplinary action will be taken, regardless even if it means that some people may leave. They may leave, Hudhur (aba) did not care

A recent incidence

Only that will come to pass that Islam teaches us and what the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has taught us; to avoid evil and absurd practices

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A recent incidence

Conflict in word and deed is not liked by God or His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

Hudhur has said it before, as have other Khulafa, that if such weddings and functions are taking place in Ahmadi families, Ahmadis should simply leave

Otherwise, it is cowardice and is tantamount to aiding the bad practice

It is love of society overcoming love of God

May God enable every Ahmadi to understand this point

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Hudhur (aba) cited a Hadith which sets out the standard of a true believer. It states:

There are four traits which, when found in a person, make him an absolute hypocrite, and one who possesses one of them, possesses one characteristic of hypocrisy until he abandons it

These are:

- 1. When he is entrusted with something, he betrays trust*
- 2. When he speaks, he lies*
- 3. When he promises, he breaks promise*
- 4. When he argues, he uses abusive language*

Explaining, Hadhrat Syed WaliUllah Shah sahib wrote

The objective of including hypocrisy in discussing belief is the same

as including *kufr*, (unbelief) *shirk* (associating partners with God)

and all manner of immoderation and vulgarity

Hypocrisy makes belief defective

It signifies disparity between what is obvious and what is hidden, the outer and inner self

The words when lying, the acts when breaking promise and the intentions when betraying trust are all contrary to fact

To break a pact and to use abusive language is also contrary to fact

As is to verbally profess belief when there is none in the heart

Or if there is belief in the heart but is not verbally expressed

**In short, all that is
contrary to fact is
hypocrisy**

These ills can be seen quite a lot in these times
and some of us also suffer from some of them

Betrays
trust

According to the Holy Prophet
(pbuh) to have any one of these
failings involves a part of one's
heart in hypocrisy

Lies

Breaks promise

Uses
abusive
language

Hudhur (aba) said we should be mindful that
having accepted the Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) our standards should be far
greater than the other Muslims

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**For this the first step
is to reform one's
own self**

Be a trust of
national, personal
or communal
nature, we should
honour it.

At our place of
employment, no
matter what the
rest of the staff
does, our practice
should distinguish
us from others and
should be the best
possible

- Today an Ahmadi should be the greatest trustee of the trust that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) brought, that is, the message of Unity of God and honouring dues of God and dues of mankind

Trustworthy

Betrayal of trust is very high among other Muslims and it continues to increase

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Hudhur (aba) said it is the conflict between word and deed that is the hypocrisy

God has regarded falsehood equal to *shirk*

Rather than look at others, there is a great need to self-reflect

Today if Ahmadis do not undertake a *Jihad* against this, they would be instilling a blemish in their hearts that has no connection with the Community of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and Islam

The second sign of a hypocrite according to the aforementioned Hadith is that he is a liar

If, having claimed to accept the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace), who came to establish *Shariah*, falsehood remains a part of us, how could *Shariah* be established?

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The third sign of a hypocrite that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) gave is not honouring promises/pledges

Such is the state of the world, in trade, in everyday dealings and on national level there is so much dishonouring of promises that it is beyond belief

Some businessmen undertake breaking promises, falsehood and betrayal of trust just to make money

Hudhur (aba) gave the example of treaty of Hdaybiyyah as the standard of respecting pledge

We should keep the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) in view

He was 'Mercy for all the worlds', he dispensed mercy even in response to harshness

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) also demonstrated that he overlooked even when people were abusive to him to his face

The fourth sign of a hypocrite is that when he argues, he uses abusive language

May God keep every Ahmadi protected from the ills which destroy belief and societal peace

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Next, Hudhur (aba) gave correction of a reference from last Friday Sermon

Regarding the death of Abu Lahab, a tradition relates that seven days after the battle of Badr he died of the plague and his body gave off a foul stench and was thrown in a pit and covered with stones

Another tradition relates that his death was caused by a boil and his sons did not bury him for a couple of nights, until his body started decomposing at home and gave off stench after which he was buried

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The nikah of a son of Abu Lahab was performed with daughter of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) Umme Kulsoom

He went to see the Holy Prophet (pbuh) with the intent to create trouble and told him that he denied Surah Al Najm

Then, as a mark of insult he spat and divorced the Prophet's (pbuh) daughter

The Prophet (pbuh) cursed him and it was during the expedition that he then went on to that wolves tore him apart

Death of Abu Lahab

Hudhur (aba) said he usually cross checks the references or has them checked, however this was reference of a scholar from our literature that Hudhur took, but it was incorrect



He had been injured with a gun shot wound to his leg at Darul Zikr on 28 May 2010

- He had lost a lot of blood and had become weak at the age of 71

Through out his life he served the Community in many roles and was a devoted Ahmadi with a very sincere connection with Khilafat

- He used to associate all his successes to the prayers of the Khalifa of the time
- Hudhur announced that he would lead funeral Prayer in absentia

Rasheed Ahmadi Butt sahib of Lahore

May God elevate his status and grant steadfastness to his family

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