

# Elucidation of Freedom, Slavery and Islamic teachings



**Friday Sermon  
November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**



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# **SUMMARY**

Freedom from slavery as well as freedom of religion and conscience is a great blessing

Among all the Prophets, our Holy Prophet (pbuh) was the most brilliant star of freedom; he championed all forms of freedoms

Hudhur (aba) explained the Islamic teachings about the slavery

Hudhur (aba) analysed current unrest in some countries which is the result of not following Islamic teachings where dictators treated their public as slaves

These countries run a real risk of becoming slave of other nations; slavery of modern times

Hudhur (aba) prayed that May the world witnesses true freedom soon and is saved from the frightening consequence of rejecting Allah's prophet

Hudhur (aba) said today some African countries are commemorating golden jubilee of their independence

The Pan African Association of our Community is participating in this Jubilee celebrations

This association was formed in the time of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV (may Allah have mercy on him)

As requested, Hudhur Aqdas will speak at that event

## Golden Jubilee of African independence

Hudhur (aba) wished to speak with reference to freedom in his sermon

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Freedom from slavery as well as freedom of religion and conscience is a great blessing

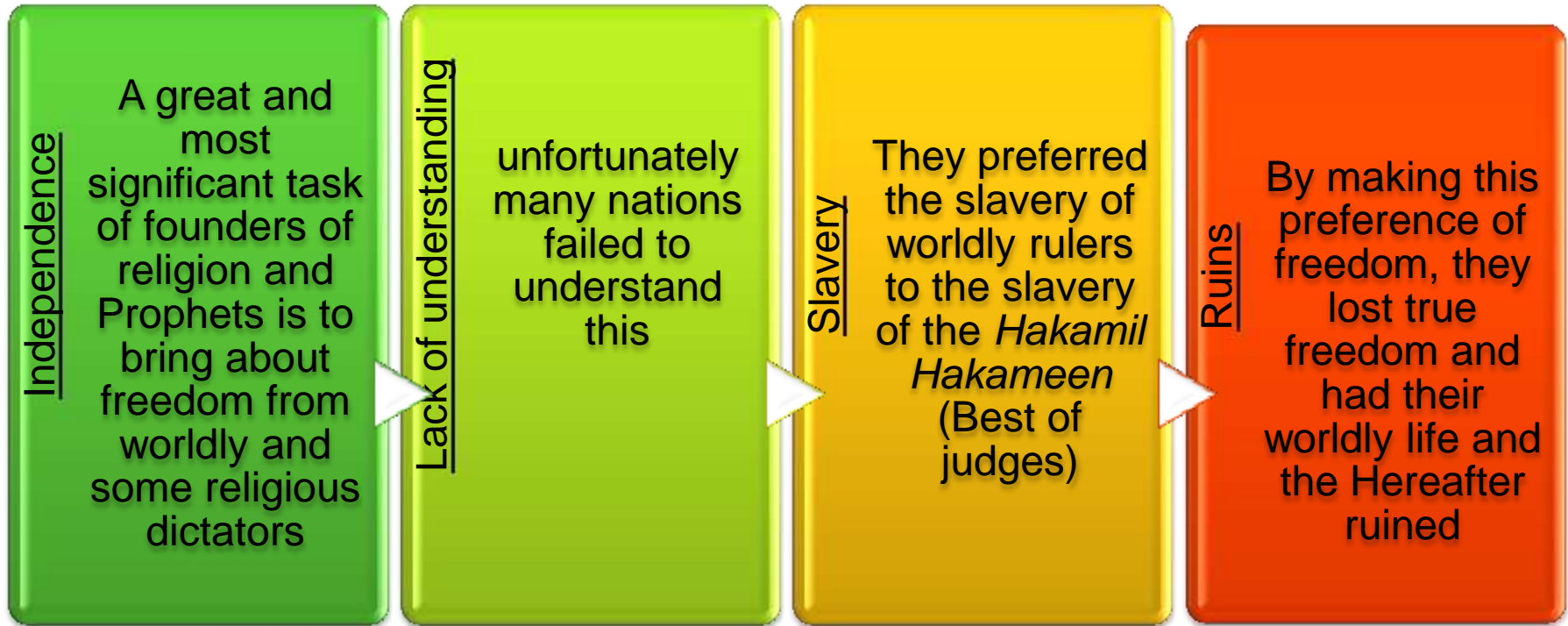
It is quite significant to celebrate independence as the continent of Africa was enslaved and subjugated for a very long period of time

May God make the independence they received fifty to sixty years ago enduring and may slavery never return to them

## Golden Jubilee of African independence

If African make the best use of its independence then it is not implausible that the continent of Africa will become a world leader in future

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## Independence and Prophets

Among all the Prophets, our Holy Prophet (pbuh) was the most brilliant star of freedom; he championed all forms of freedoms

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# Freeing of slaves and the Holy Qur'an

The perfect Book that was revealed to the Holy Prophet ( pbuh) expounds the subject of freedom with different references and forms

The Qur'an states: '***It is the freeing of a slave***' (90:14)

Part of another verse states: '***...and spends his money for love of Him, on the kindred and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer and those who ask for charity, and for ransoming the captives...***' (2:178).

Explaining the context, Hudhur (aba) said that in the preceding verses great virtue are described and freeing of slaves is one of them

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# Freeing of slaves and Hadith

*The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said: 'Whichever Muslim will free a slave will be granted complete salvation by God from the fire of Hell.'*

*The Holy Prophet ((pbuh) ) said that Muslims should free slaves at the time of solar eclipse*

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## Freeing of slaves and Hadith

*A Hadith relates that seven brothers shared a slave and one day one of the brothers slapped the slave in anger. When this matter was related to the Holy Prophet (pbuh) he told them to release the slave. He said they did not have any right to keep him as they did not know how to treat him well.*

*The teaching of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was to treat slaves benevolently. If work was hard, one was to share the task with the slave*

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# Freeing of slaves and Islamic teachings

The Qur'an teaches that if a Muslim kills another Muslim by mistake, he should free a slave as well as give blood-money. This is not limited to killing a Muslim

Among various punishments of swearing an oath by God and then breaking it, Islam cites freeing of slave as one penalty

If a disbeliever is killed by mistake with whose nation a pact has been made, a slave is to be freed in that instance as well

The different ways of bringing about freedom of slaves is borne of the fact that Islam wishes to gradually eradicate slavery which was a common practice before Islam

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Keeping slaves was an accepted practice and a status symbol at the time of advent of the Holy Prophet (pbuh)

Thus the teaching was revealed that true wealth of faith can be attained by freeing slaves

Following this commandment, Companions of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) released dozens and in some cases thousands of slaves

## Freeing of slaves and Islamic teachings

Those who had slaves to carry out tasks were enjoined to treat them like brothers, to clothe and feed them in the same manner as oneself

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# Freeing of slaves and the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (pbuh)

The blessed model of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) in this matter was that when after marriage Hadhrat Khadija (may Allah be pleased with her) gave all her slaves to him, he freed them all

Hadhrat Zaid was among these slaves. He was adopted by the Prophet (pbuh) as a son. When his real parents came to get him, he refused to go with them

Those who raise objections about the person of the Prophet (pbuh) cannot even come up with an example close to a fraction of his blessed model

The kindness and supremely excellent benevolence of the Prophet (pbuh) was such that Hadhrat Zaid preferred to stay with him to freedom

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An Italian professor writes that slavery has been around ever since human civilisation began and it remains

He remarks that the condition of slavery among Muslim nations is comparatively better

He writes that on reflection the Prophet of Islam (pbuh) made magnificent reformations in this matter

**Freeing of slaves and the Holy Prophet (pbuh)**

To demonstrate the benevolence of the Prophet (pbuh) the Italian professor cites him as saying

*'do not say he is my slave, rather say he is my son and do not say she is my female-slave rather say she is my daughter'*



Hudhur (aba) said the Ahmadis and the Jama'at in Africa where independence is being commemorated should spread this teaching so that people get to know the reality of freedom

Freedom is not established by commemorating jubilees

True freedom is achieved by understanding the ways which can be found in the blessed model of the Prophet (pbuh) and the Holy Qur'an

## True independence

The Italian professor cited Muslims not being enslaved, but in a true Muslim society no one should be enslaved

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# Slavery of modern times

The last advice of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), 'do not forget my teaching regarding observance of Salat and slaves.'

Hudhur (aba) said it is the misfortune of the Muslims that they have forgotten both the teachings

Public is treated like slaves by governments in the name of governance

In return public turns to unrest and riots

This gives outside powers an excuse to enter the country in the name of aid leading to a satanic whirl of slavery of the nation

Attempts of the public to free themselves of the slavery of their own leaders, end up in indirect slavery of outsiders

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The masses have misunderstood the situation

Public having left the slavery of one, are entering into the slavery of another..

This is because the rulers do not abide by the advice of the Holy Prophet (pbuh)

The national revenue will still not be used for the welfare of the masses. Poverty and low standard of living existed among the masses before and it will continue to exist

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## Slavery of modern times

The current revolutionary situation in some Muslim countries from which those with vested interests are benefitting would have never arisen if the governments had given the masses their due rights and had protected their freedom

# Slavery of modern times

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The religious leaders too have taken advantage of the naïve public

They have introduced wrong customs and wrong interpretations to the masses

The clergy have enslaved people by giving false beliefs in the name of religion

This will not end until they accept the one sent by God in the current age, who came to establish human values, to free people from all kinds of burdens and shackles and only spoke of one kind of slavery, that of God and the Holy Prophet (pbuh).



# Slavery of modern times

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) wrote:

‘Remember that a Muslim should be ever ready to discharge the rights of God and the rights of mankind. Just as one verbally regards God One and without any partner in His Person and His attributes, one should also demonstrate this by practice and should treat His creation with kindness and compassion.’

He also said: ‘Until your dealings with each other are not in order, your dealing with God cannot be in order. Although in both of these rights, God has the greater right, but to have clear dealing with His creation is akin to be a reflection of it. A person who does not have clear dealings with his brother cannot also pay the dues of God.’

Hudhur (aba) said the main thing here is to also consider others as one’s brothers

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# Slavery of modern times

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) also said:

'Each person in the community of our Holy Prophet (pbuh) was of pure nature. Each one of them had sacrificed their lives for faith.

Not a single one of them led hypocritical life. All of them paid the dues and rights of God and rights of mankind.'

Hudhur (aba) said only when faith is given precedence over worldly matters can one sincerely fulfil the rights of God

May God make these political, army and religious leaders understand that by putting the masses in the shackles of slavery they invite God's chastisement

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God states in the Qur'an that true believers are those who: **'And who are watchful of their trusts and their covenants,'** (23:9).

Each ruler will be asked whether or not he fulfilled the right of those he ruled over.

The rulers in most places plunder national revenue

The religious leaders have made faith a way of making money

The public too are not fulfilling their dues

Everyone is incurring God's chastisement by not honouring the trusts due to them

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## Slavery of modern times

The current riots are a logical conclusion of this and the on-going extremism, financial downturn, general disorder and disquiet are also an indication of a very worrying future

### Pakistan

- Qaid e Azam had declared at the time of independence of Pakistan that followers of all religions would have freedom in the country and all citizens were equal



### Ahamdis

- Ahmadis have no human rights such as vote or freedom of religion and expression in Pakistan



### Slavery

- We were liberated from the servitude of the British but the shackles of slavery of our own have become tighter still

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## Ahmadis in Pakistan

InshaAllah a day will come when this very humility and slavery of ours, will demonstrate true freedom to the world



One day people will attain a comprehension of the real freedom for the establishment of which the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) advent took place

May the world witness that freedom soon and is saved from the frightening consequence of rejecting those whom God sends