

Al Fatihah - the Essence of Qur'anic Teachings

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

SUMMARY

Hudhur (aba) said Surah Fatihah is read in every Salat and in Hadith it is also called Surah Salat

Hudhur (aba) (aba) expounded the second verse of the Surah: '**All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds.**' (1:2) in light of the august writings of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Hudhur (aba) explained that one cannot reach the profound meanings of these writings by listening to them once

In order to acquire a correct insight into the writings of the Imam of the age and to benefit from them it is important to study these as well

May God enable us to attain insight of Divine attributes in accordance to the wishes of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) so that we may mould our lives in line with God's commandments

The first half of Surah Fatiha cites God's attributes and the second half is comprised of prayers for His servants

Hudhur (aba) said Surah Fatiha is a Surah that is read in every Salat



Ahadith relate many names given to this Surah, one of which is Surah Salat



The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said that God states that He has divided Surah Fatiha half and half between Him and His servants

Surah Al Fatiha

Hudhur (aba) said each person offering Salat should ponder and reflect on the Divine attributes cited in the Surah to gain greater benefit and should also say the prayers therein with concentration to gain beneficence in every unit of every Prayer.

It should also be remembered that this Surah has a great significance with reference to the time of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Those Muslims who genuinely care say that in this time of wickedness and prevalent shirk (associating partners with Allah), a special person of God is needed to put an end to it

These Muslims should go ahead and search for this person, for he has indeed come

Time for a Messiah

That special person of God has come but because of their fear of the mullah, people are not prepared to accept him



Muslims should seek guidance from God
and give up their obstinacy

Hudhur (aba) said our task is to take the
message and we shall continue to do that

Likewise, those of us who associate ourselves
to this true and ardent devotee of the Holy
Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on
him) should try and increase our awareness
and spiritual knowledge

Surah Al Fatiha and the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

We should try and seek the beneficence of the subject
of Surah Al Fatiha

Surah Al Fatihah and the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Hudhur (aba) said today he will expound the second verse of the Surah: **'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds.'** (1:2)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has elucidated different subjects inherent in this verse in different ways

Without doubt reading and listening to these increases one's spiritual knowledge but one cannot reach the profound meanings of these writings by listening to them once

It is also important to study them. Then alone will we acquire a correct insight into the writings of the Imam of the age and will be able to benefit from them

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) briefly explains the verse 'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'All praise is due to the Rightfully Worshipped Being, Who combines in Himself the aggregate of all Perfect excellences and whose name is Allah.

-- In the language of the Noble Quran, Allah is that Perfect Being Who is rightfully adored, combining in Himself all perfect attributes, and free from every defect, the One without associate and the Source of all beneficence; -- Therefore, the name Allah has primacy over all the other names of which it is comprehensive.

The meaning of Alhamdu lillahe then is that every type of praise, whether relating to external aspects or internal realities, whether relating to inherent excellences or as manifested in natural phenomena, is due exclusively to Allah.. He has all the excellences that any one can imagine and He is Perfect in His Being, in His attributes and qualities, in every respect and is totally free from every defect and shortcoming.'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'Hamd is praise which is offered in appreciation of commendable action of one worthy of praise: it also means lauding one who has done a favour of his own volition and according to his own choice.

The true reality of hamd is the due only of the Being Who is the source of all grace and light and exercises beneficence deliberately and not in ignorance or under compulsion. All this is found only in Allah, the All-Knowing, the All-Seeing. Indeed He is the true Benefactor and from Him proceed all benefits from beginning to end, and for Him is all glorification, in this world and in the hereafter and all praise that is bestowed on others reverts to Him.'

Explaining, Hudhur (aba) said the foundation of everything that a person does is God-given ability, thus all praise reverts to Him.

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'Hamd is verbal praise which is offered to honour a mighty and noble being for His acts of beneficence. Perfect praise is the exclusive prerogative of the Lord of Majesty. The ultimate goal of every kind of glorification, be it in a small or a large measure, is our Lord Who guides the misguided and exalts the lowly and is the object of praise of all who are praiseworthy.'

Hudhur (aba) said in summary 'Hamd' also indicates that perfect praise belongs to God and He also gives perfect praise and it is the task of a Momin to seek insight of God's 'Hamd' and come in His refuge

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

Since the idolators used to praise their idols without any justification, preferring the use of the word hamd for them, believing them to be sources of favours and bounties --. In these words Allah reproaches the idol-worshippers, the Jews, the Christians and all those who associate partners with Allah, as if He was saying: Why do you glorify your associate-gods -?

Are they your lords who sustain you and your children? Or are they the compassionate ones who treat you mercifully, ward off calamities and avert evil and affliction, safeguard the good that has been your lot, or wash off the dirt of your sufferings and cure you of your diseases? Or are they the lords of the Day of Judgment?

Nay, Allah alone sustains and shows mercy by granting happiness in full measure and by the grant of means of guidance and by answering prayers and by deliverance from enemies and He shall certainly reward those who work righteousness.'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'The Fatihah also warns that whoso perishes for lack of his cognition of Allah, the Supreme, through his misconduct or by taking some other than Him as his god, in truth perishes because of his disregard of His excellences, --

Be sure that all Providence belongs to Allah and all Rahmaniyyat belongs to Allah and all Rahimiyyat belongs to Allah and all sovereignty belongs to Allah on the Day of Judgment. Withhold not, therefore, your obedience from your Sustainer and be of those who submit themselves wholly to the One Lord.

This verse also connotes that Allah, the Supreme, is far above every suspicion of weakness or shortcoming, --.'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'The word alalameen encompasses all that is found in the world, of the groups of the guided as well as the parties of the misguided and the lost. At times, the alam (realm) of misguidance and disbelief and transgression and excess flourishes -- The world becomes dark like the blackest night --. Then Allah initiates another alam (realm) and the earth is replaced with another earth -- and men are granted perceiving hearts and eloquent tongues to render thanks to Allah for His bounties. --. It is at this moment that Divine compassion and His eternal favour urge that a person be raised in heaven, who should dispel darkness--.

Then an Imam (leader) descends from the Rahman (the Gracious One) to fight the armies of Satan and these two forces join battle - - --. That Imam dominates the enemy and lends constant support to the rightly guided, -.'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

'In the phrase Alhamdu lillahe, Muslims have been taught that when they are asked: Who is your Lord? Each one of them must say: My Lord is the One to Whom all praise is due and there is no excellence or power but is found in Him in perfection. Be not, therefore, of those who are apt to forget.'

'This chapter begins with Alhamdu lillahe --. This is inspired by the purpose that the worship of Allah, the Supreme, must be characterized by the fervour of the soul and a strong inclination, animated by love and ardour, -- It is obvious that comprehensive praise is inspired by two qualities, the perfection of beauty and the perfection of beneficence. If a being combines both these excellences, the heart melts and yearns for him with fervent devotion..'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

His perfection of beauty is because in Him all excellences are found as well as the aggregate of all perfect attributes. For the perfection of beneficence of God the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has expounded four main principles.

- His first beneficence is that He is Rabb (Lord), He creates and He sustains.
 - His second beneficence is His quality of Rahmaniyyat by virtue of which He grants capacities to every living thing and makes arrangements for their survival, among these mankind has been given the largest share.
- His third beneficence is His quality of Raheemiyyat through which He accepts prayers and good works and keeps one protected from calamities.
- His fourth beneficence is that He is Master of the Day of Judgement by virtue of which He dispenses His grace and dispenses it as He pleases.

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

Hudhur (aba) said when a person truly recognises God, he or she then attains an insight of Rabbil Aalameen.

'Allah, the Holiest, has indicated in His word Lord of the worlds (Rabbil Aalameen) that He is the Creator of everything and is praised highly in the heavens and in the earth and that His praise is celebrated constantly by His servants who are ever occupied with His remembrance. There is not a thing but celebrates His praise and glorifies Him all the time. When one of His servants discards his own desires-- , he glorifies Him all the time loving Him with all his heart, even with all the particles of his body.'

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

Aalameen covers, with the exception of the Creator Himself, every existing thing, whether in the realm of spirits or in the realm of bodies, whether of earthly creation or like the sun, the moon or other celestial objects, all of them being aalameen abiding under the providence of the Lord.'

God is the Lord of the entire universe. He is Rabbilalameen, the Lord of the Universe and as He has provided all the material means for the physical requirements of all kinds of creatures collectively, without discrimination, like food-grains, air, water, light and other things, so has He raised, time and again, reformers for every people, to warn and guide.

'All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds'

There is yet another direction in the word hamd, and that is that Allah, the Exalted and Lord of blessings, says: O My servants, know Me through My attributes and recognise Me through My excellences. I certainly do not suffer from any defect or shortcoming. -- For those who make a covenant with Allah in perfect sincerity, binding themselves fast in perpetual obedience to Him, and cleanse their minds of all rancour and ill-will, are admitted through the portals of this Surah and are endowed with inner sight.'

Hudhur (aba) said having taken the Bai'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) this is the station we should try and look for. Ways to deliberate on Surah Fatihah and deliberate on the Holy Qur'an can indeed be attained through the guiding principles of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).



May God enable us to attain insight of Divine attributes in accordance to the wishes of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) so that we may mould our lives in line with God's commandments.

Fateh Begum sahiba, wife of the late Maulana Ahmad Khan Naseem who was the additional Nazim Islah O Irshad in Rabwah. She passed away on 3 February. She was a very pious, prayerful lady who was regular in her Salat and Tahajjud. She had a most sincere connection with Khilafat and was a Moosia. She was a most caring person who gave whatever she had to the needy and deprived. One of her sons is Naseem Mahdi sahib, our missionary in USA. Certainly his mother's prayers had worked for him, may he continue to be the bearer of her prayers. May God elevate her station.

Hakim Bibi sahiba, wife of Maulwi Ghulam Rasool sahib, mu'allim Islah O Irshad, Pakistan. She passed away on 9 February. She was a very pious and prayerful lady who lived a life of dignity in spite of financial adversity. She was very self-respecting person. She leaves behind three sons and two daughters, one of her sons is Mubarak Ahmad Zafar sahib, additional Vakeel ul Maal in London.

Sad news