

Salat and God-Consciousness

Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



Friday Sermon May 18th, 2012

SUMMARY

Today Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih delivered his Friday sermon from Nunspeet, Holland at the occasion of Jalsa Salana

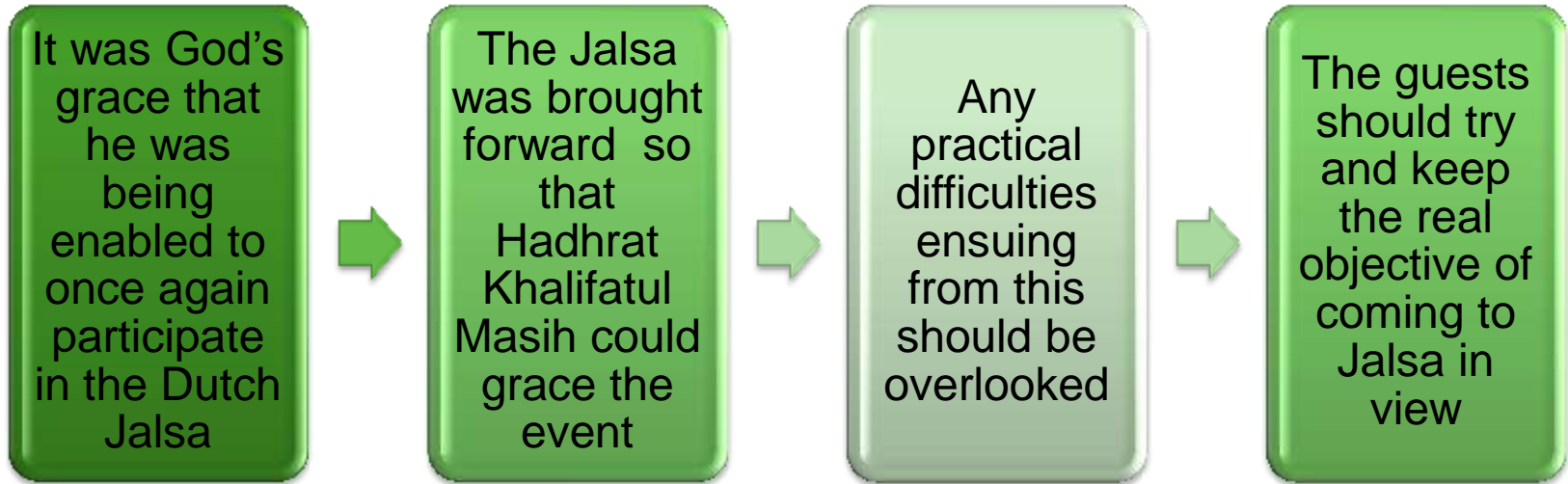
Hudhur (aba) said that the guests should try and keep the real objective of coming to Jalsa in view

The objective of coming to Jalsa, as expounded by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is the same as the objective of the Bai'at

Therefore, we should pay the dues of God or pay the dues of mankind/creation, such deeds alone will gain acceptance with God

Among the dues of God, the most important is Salat

May all the attendees of Jalsa spend the three days in prayers and everyone be enabled to bring about pure changes in them



Jalsa Salana Holland

May God always enable all workers to serve selflessly and grant them the best reward. May He cover any shortcomings

Jalsa Salana Holland

The objective of coming to Jalsa, as expounded by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is the same as the objective of the Bai'at

It is stated in the Qur'an: '**...for verily, exhortation benefits those who would believe.**' (51:56)

Jalsa is also held as a reminder of fulfilling the pledge of Bai'at

By listening to exhortations at Jalsa, one is to draw attention back to one's religious condition

Jalsa should be attended with the idea that by spending two to three days in a spiritual atmosphere one is renewing one's pledge of Bai'at so that one may develop in Taqwa (righteousness)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that the objective of Bai'at was to cool off the love of the world and to inculcate the love of God and His Prophet (pbuh) and to espouse such a condition that the journey to the Hereafter is not unpleasant. Love of God and His Prophet (pbuh) overrides all other loves when one is aware of what God and His Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) want. Mere knowledge of this is not enough one should also put these matters in practice and should constantly endeavour to attain this objective. Then alone the journey to the Hereafter will not be unpleasant

One day or the other everyone has to leave this world

Fortunate are those who leave with God's love and pleasure

The objective of Bai'at

The incentive to adopt piety and abandon evil becomes strong when one is certain that one day one will be answerable to God for one's deeds

The Qur'an states: 'O ye who believe! fear Allah; and let every soul look to what it sends forth for the morrow. And fear Allah; verily Allah is Well-Aware of what you do.' (59:19)

Thus, God has clearly stated that one's faith is perfected when one becomes purely His

Man tries in every way to excel in the world, in terms of employment, trade, acquiring property, worldly education of children etc

God states what have we sent forth for the morrow?

Therefore, we should pay the dues of God or pay the dues of creation, such deeds alone will gain acceptance with God

Indeed, God is aware of the intention behind every deed of ours and He is aware of every deed of ours

The objective of Bai'at

All our deeds will be there before God

Among the dues of God, the most important is Salat

After belief in Him, God has ordained that the second significance is that of Salat

However, there is also a warning for some worshippers: **'So woe to those who pray,'** (107:5) That is, those worshippers who offer their Salat devoid of Taqwa

He is All-Knowing and All-Aware and knows full well with what state one offers one's Salat

Importance of Salat

He rejects Salat which is devoid of Taqwa

We should offer our Salat with fear of God for it is the very objective of our creation

Importance of Salat

While it is pleasing that women are more inclined to offer Salat and it is hoped that this would inculcate the habit in children as well,

it is of concern that men who are named Qawwam (guardian) are indolent about Salat

If the mosque or Salat centre is at a distance then congregational Salat should be offered at homes

This fills homes with blessings

Congregational Salat is offered during Jalsa

In order to attain the objective of attending Jalsa this should be made a regular feature of life

Importance of Salat

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that the significance of Jalsa was that firstly people become totally inclined towards the Hereafter.

They should inculcate fear of God and become exemplary for each other in terms of worship, temperance and mutual love. They should develop truthfulness and generate fervour for religious activities

Religious activities entail financial giving for the publication of religion, attention towards building mosques, planning Tabligh and to give one's time for this cause

When we listen to speeches at Jalsa and our attention is drawn towards attaining our objective, we should make it a permanent part of our lives

You may prosper

We live in a society where a large number of people deny the existence of God and this world is considered everything

God states: '**... So fear Allah, O men of understanding, that you may prosper.**' (5: 101)

Prosperous are those people, who not only fear God but are people of understanding, who do not consider worldly wishes to be the all and end all and thus do not destroy their everlasting life

Indeed, it is sensible to sacrifice this world to attain the pleasure of God

You may prosper

Indeed, it is sensible to sacrifice this world to attain the pleasure of God and this should be the objective of a believer's life



The way to do this is thus explained: **'And this is a Book which We have sent down; it is full of blessings. So follow it, and guard against sin that you may be shown mercy;'** (6:156)



If we wish to be recipients of God's grace we have to follow the Qur'an and this obeisance signifies Taqwa and it draws God's grace



Those who abide by Taqwa enjoy limitless fruits of their efforts

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that man's spiritual beauty is in adopting Taqwa

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that man's spiritual beauty is in adopting the delicate, fine ways of Taqwa. He said that all the limbs should take one towards piety and all the hidden capabilities should be used for the sake of God. One should try to protect oneself from Satan and be conscious of paying the dues of mankind. And this leads one to spiritual beauty

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) also said: 'To become truly righteous it is necessary that a person abandoning utterly such outstanding vices as adultery, theft, trespass, hypocrisy, self-esteem, scorn of fellow beings, miserliness, should eschew all low morals and should make progress in high moral values.

He should behave towards his fellow beings with politeness, courtesy and sympathy and should cultivate true fidelity and sincerity towards God Almighty. He should constantly seek occasions of beneficent service. He who combines all these qualities in himself is alone righteous.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that man's spiritual beauty is in adopting Taqwa

The possession of any one of these qualities would not entitle a person to be accounted righteous unless he possesses collectively all of them. It is only these concerning whom it is said: '...on them shall come no fear nor shall they grieve.' (7:36) What more would they need? God Almighty becomes their guardian as it is said: '...And He protects the righteous.' (7:197).

In another Hadith it is stated that God Almighty becomes their hands with which they grasp, and becomes their eyes with which they see, and becomes their ears with which they hear and becomes their feet with which they walk.

In another Hadith it is stated that God has proclaimed that he who bears enmity towards a friend of Mine should become ready to contend with Me. Still another Hadith declares that when anyone attacks a friend of God, He pounces upon him with the fierceness with which a tigress pounces upon one who seeks to deprive it of its young.'

The majority of the people attending the Jalsa are those who have migrated from Pakistan because they were not even allowed to practice their religion there

Prayers should be made for the Pakistani Ahmadis that may God make events take a favourable turn for them and they have religious freedom

Another big responsibility on the Pakistani Ahmadis abroad is to come forward for religious activities

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Islam in Holland

Holland is a small country and here a politician has made a lot of effort to bring Islam in disrepute

Had Ahmadis carried out a sustained and campaign of Tabligh here they could have not only refuted the negative views about Islam but would have also highlight the excellences of Islam.

Our objective

A huge objective of the advent of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is to propagate that Shariah which the Holy Prophet (pbuh) brought

Wherever in the world the Jama'at has done Tabligh, with the grace of God pure-natured people are drawn to it

It is our task to take it to the world

It our task to inspire belief in God among them

We need to remember the promise we make after taking the Bai'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) to make pure changes in ourselves

Self-reflection should be done in the three days of Jalsa and promise should be made that from now on full effort will be made to discharge the right of God, the right of brother, the right of society and the right of this country which has given freedom



This can be done by propagating the beautiful teaching of Islam. Men, women, the young and the elderly, everyone should take part in this



Prayers should be made for this, when prayers are made **God shows signs**

Self-reflection during Jalsa Salana

May God enable everyone to do this, may all the attendees of Jalsa spend the three days in prayers and everyone be enabled to bring about pure changes in them.

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih announced that he would lead funeral Prayer in absentia of a very sincere worker, Nasir Ahmad sahib who was the former auditor and officer Provident Fund, Sadr Ahmadiyya, Pakistan. He passed away on 13 May after long illness. He was 74. He had served the Jama'at in various capacities. He was a Moosi and had paid off his dues. He leaves behind a widow and two daughters. May God elevate his station in Paradise

A sad news