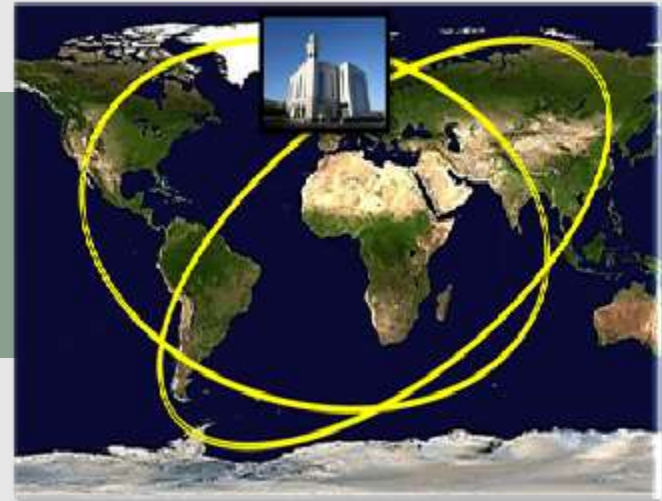


THE ESSENCE OF THE BLESSED MONTH OF RAMADHAN



SERMON DELIVERED BY HADHRAT
MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD (ABA);
HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM
COMMUNITY



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE
GLOBE

July 4th, 2014

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

Summary

O ye who believe! fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous.’ (2:184)

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said that fasting is a shield and it is a strong fortress against fire.

Fasting promotes righteousness; God’s favour and grace on mankind is that to facilitate spiritual progress, He puts Satan in fetters, i.e. curbs the power of evil during Ramadan.

Remember, Khilafat cannot be established through oppression, it is established through Divine help and succour.

If the Muslim Ummah understood the reality and became helpers of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) all the restlessness in Muslim countries and people would be removed.

Blessings of Fasting

Fasting leads to righteousness

Righteousness is for our own good

Muslim Ummah and Khilafat

Responsibilities of Ahmadis

Righteousness is the key

Prayers

'O ye who believe! fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous.' (2:184)

It is merely with the grace of God that we are able to see another month of Ramadan in our lives; a month of limitless blessings.

God states that fasting is made obligatory in this month; this is not to simply remain hungry from morning till the evening....

.... but so that righteousness is enhanced.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: 'A person who keeps fast should always have it in view that fasting does not simply signify remaining hungry. Rather such a person should engage in remembrance of God so that he can attain devotion to God and is able to forsake worldly desires.'

He said: 'Fasting signifies this alone that man gives up one kind of bread, which is for physical sustenance and takes the other kind of bread which is a source of contentment for the soul. People who fast only for the sake of God and not as a mere ritual should stay engaged in *hamd* (glorification of Allah) *tasbih* (saying SubhanAllah) and *tahlil* (saying *la ilaha illa Allah*/there is no god but Allah) to have the other kind of sustenance.'

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Indeed, true believers should engage in hamd and tasbih during Ramadan more than before and raise their standard of worship in order to attain the beneficence of the sacred month.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said that fasting is a shield and it is a strong fortress against fire.

However fasting becomes a shield only when during a fast everything man does is for the sake of God, his night and day is spent in remembrance of God and he treads the path of righteousness.

God states that when a person fasts with this mind set and also pays the dues of mankind his fast becomes for God and God is the reward for the fast.

Blessings of Fasting

We should understand the essence of the spirit of Ramadan, which can bring about a permanent spiritual transformation in us.



While fasting, we gain true insight into the concept of righteousness and make this a permanent part of our life.



Attainment of righteousness should be our prime objective when we are fasting; thus if someone shows aggression towards us in Ramadan, we should quietly turn away saying we are fasting.



We should be mindful that retorting back does not enhance us in honour, rather honour is in gaining pleasure of God.



We should be mindful as to who is honoured by God. As it is stated: **'...Verily, the most honourable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you...'** (49:14)

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An extract of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) which would shake anyone with fear of God reads:

'Only that person is honourable in the sight of Allah the Exalted who is righteous. God will only save the community of the devout and will ruin the other. This is a sensitive aspect and two cannot be together It is essential that the righteous is upheld and the wicked is ruined. Since God knows who is righteous in His sight, it is a grave cause for concern! Fortunate is the righteous and wretched is one who comes under [God's] curse.'

This is a matter of great concern.



It is vital to be honourable in the sight of God, ...



... only then we will be regarded as a true member of this pure Jama'at.

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Fasting promotes righteousness.



God's favour and grace on mankind is that to facilitate spiritual progress, He puts Satan in fetters, i.e. curbs the power of evil during Ramadan.



However, if during Ramadan one remains entangled in the web of one's selfish desires and not make righteousness as one's priority, then fasting will not benefit such a person.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has said that it is duplicitous not to break away from such false webs after coming into his Bai'at. Outwardly announce to have adopted righteousness but have foulness in heart!

Only God can decide who is righteous; therefore, the only recourse is repentance, istighfar (seeking forgiveness from Allah), tasbih and hamd.

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However, our God is Loving, He states that during Ramadan, the spiritual camp, He comes very close to man to enhance man's spiritual reformation..

- During this month acts of virtue for the sake of God reap manifold reward as compared to ordinary days.
 - Rise, and enhance your practices for good in accordance with the commandment of God.
 - Rise, and attain true insight and perception of giving precedence to faith over worldly matters during this month, making this the objective of life
 - Always keep this in view: '**...and barter not My Signs for a paltry price...**' (2:42).
 - This means do not seek worldly desires over faith as in comparison to faith, this world counts for nothing.

These are the thought processes which will help us attain the true benefit of Ramadan.

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God does not simply command righteousness, He informs us that righteousness is for our own good. These benefits are

If we follow Shariah, then God will become our Friend; worldly people cannot benefit us in any way!

God states that He loves those who do righteous deeds for His sake: what more could one want after receiving God's love?

Out of His love, God grants them the blessings of this world and the Hereafter!

God states that the worldly people cannot attain the ending of the righteous people.

It is stated:
'Verily, they will not avail thee aught against Allah...'
(45:20)

'...verily, Allah loves the God-fearing.'
(3:77).

Blessings of Fasting

Today Ahmadis are persecuted in Pakistan and other countries.



God promises those who show patience and seek only His help that He will make them successors in the earth.



Indeed, sacrifices will have to be made which will lead to success and will enhance levels of righteousness and give the glad-tiding of: '**...and the end if for the God-fearing.**' (7:129).

If the Muslim Ummah understood the reality and became helpers of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) all the restlessness in Muslim countries and people would be removed.

There is no one to advise these young men that what they do is not piety, it is not Jihad, and in fact it is far-removed from righteousness.

Indeed, God has described believers as those who are: '**...tender amongst themselves...**' (48:30)!

God would never make the ending of such people good and would never make such cruel people successors in the earth!

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Huzoor said that last Friday he was interviewed by a TV channel and he told them that the rightful Khilafat is already established.

Khilafat cannot be established through oppression, it is established through Divine help and succour.

If only the Muslim Ummah also understood this, their mutual fighting and power struggle would stop.

We need to also pray for the Muslim Ummah during Ramadan; because of them the anti-Islamic factions are getting opportunities to bring Islam and the Holy Prophet (pbuh) in disrepute.

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Recently, in light of this furore over Khilafat, a religious studies professor made some offensive statements about Khulfa e Rashideen and the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

These people who are anti-Islam and harbour rancour about the Holy Prophet (pbuh) have released a new film about the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and Hazrat 'Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) in Washington and Berlin.

Huzoor has instructed the German Jama'at about it and Huzoor said USA Jama'at should also make full efforts to respond within lawful means.

However, Huzoor said that every Ahmadi's should offer this prayer in abundance. **'Holy is Allah the Praiseworthy, Holy is Allah, the Great. Bless O Allah Muhammad and the people of Muhammad.'**

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These people assume they can, God forbid, make the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) a target of derision.

Their life in this world and the Hereafter will be ruined but they cannot foresee their ending.

God states such people reach bad endings.

Every Ahmadi in the world should fill the air today and during Ramadan with Durood. While this is our response to the attacks of the enemy, this will instil righteousness in us which gives us the glad-tiding of good ending.

The enemies of Islam will be reduced to smithereens and will be blown away while success and good ending will be for the truly righteous. InshaAllah!

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Muslim Ummah needs to understand that satanic forces trick them.

They are aware that in reaction to such films the Muslim world will come into the grip of a wave of indignation; there will be rioting and disturbances.

These will provide further fodder to those powers to bring Islam in disrepute.

These satanic forces have created a satanic whirlwind and there is no one to pull Muslims out of it.

Alas, Muslims reject the only way out that there is for them!

We should pray that Muslims come to their senses and accept the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and experience Islam's triumph.

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Meanwhile Ahmadis should not be simply content that they have accepted the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and are connected to Khilafat.

We need to enhance our level of righteousness while fasting.

In order to become a true servant of God, righteousness is the key.

Ramadan is a great source of progressing in righteousness and one should fully avail of it.

Blessings of Fasting

Sometimes people do not give importance to some commandments due to worldly gains.

Fasting leads to righteousness

Wealth, children, business and other worldly pursuits appear attractive to them and take them away from righteousness and morality.

Righteousness is for our own good

They forget that all provisions come from God; He is the fountainhead of all wealth.

Muslim Ummah and Khilafat

Wealth attained by unfair means eventually becomes a source of evil.

Responsibilities of Ahmadis

God says that the righteous are given provision from God from ways and means beyond imagination.

Righteousness is the key

Prayers

It is stated: '**...And he who fears Allah — He will make for him a way out,**' (65:3).

'And will provide for him from where he expects not. And he who puts his trust in Allah — He is sufficient for him. Verily, Allah will accomplish His purpose. For everything has Allah appointed a measure.' (65:4)

Blessings of Fasting

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Righteousness is the key

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that it is a favour of God that He liberates a righteous person from what is abhorrent in the world and Himself provides for such a person. God makes a way for a God-fearing person in time of every trouble and provides for him from where the person could not even imagine.!

Some may say that disbelievers have great wealth and they live a life of luxury. However, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said they may appear happy outwardly but in fact they are embroiled in a state of vexation. Such people then look for ways to achieve inner peace and tranquillity as drug addicts do. If a person is truly righteous he will have inner peace even in scarcity.!

Ahmadis should try and instil these values during Ramadan where worldly pleasures are only restricted to what is permissible. Indeed, wealthy righteous people spend their wealth for the pleasure of God.

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Huzoor quoted an incidence from the life of Sir Chaudhry Zafrullah Khan Sahib.

Once a wealthy political leader, who when visiting London with his family used to book an entire wing of a hotel, visited London by himself but still booked the entire wing. He said he had the money to pay for it so he could not confine himself to one hotel suite!

When he found out that Chaudhry Sahib was staying at the mission house, the wealthy politician enquired, why, specillay when Chaudhry Sahib could afford to live in luxury!

Chaudhry Sahib told the politician that he saved his money for the education of students and helping the poor and needy.

He added that the peace of mind this gave him could not be achieved by a worldly person and said that he prayed the wealthy politician would also find out about this peace of mind

These were people who were successful in worldly terms yet they were disinclined towards worldliness. It is such righteous people who have been given the glad-tiding of paradise in both this world and the Hereafter.

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May God enable us to derive beneficence from this Ramadan and we acquire and maintain high standards of righteousness in our life.

May we partake of paradise in both the worlds and may our ending be good and we become true models of Islam.

May we refute and rebound every attack of enemies of Islam with our words and practice and our devout prayers.

Today only the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is going to contend with anti-Islamic satanic forces.

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**Blessings of
Fasting**

Muslim masses do not grasp that the opponents are attacking Islam internally by promoting sectarianism and externally by attempting to slander the character of the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

**Fasting leads to
righteousness**

Our advice has no impact; we are sincerely concerned for Muslim Ummah but they are against us!

**Righteousness
is for our own
good**

We need to pray for mercy for the Muslim Ummah and also pray for those Ahmadis who are being persecuted.

**Muslim Ummah
and Khilafat**

More than anything we should pray to attain true righteousness in this Ramadan which will lead to failure of the opponents of Islam.

**Responsibilities
of Ahmadis**

May God bring about a true revolutionary change in us during Ramadan!

**Righteousness
is the key**

Prayers

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