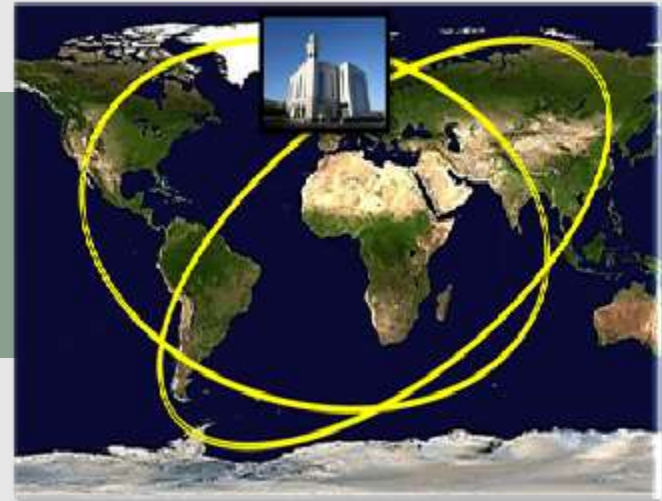


# THE MERCIFUL AND FORGIVING GOD



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



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE  
GLOBE

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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

# Summary

Allah, the Exalted, says, **“O My servants despair not My mercy. I am the Master and possess the Power to forgive your sins and wrap you in the raiment of My Mercy.”**

The Islamic philosophy is that no one, no person is beyond reformation.

Forgiveness causes previous sins to be washed away and also grants strength to resist the temptation to commit sins in the future.

Forgiveness comes with true repentance; Repentance has three conditions.

1. To get rid of wicked thoughts 2. Remorse. 3. A firm resolve

**A message of  
mercy and hope**

**God is most  
Merciful**

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**Conditions of  
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**The Promised  
Messiah (as)  
says**

**Funeral prayers**

After tashhud, ta'awwuz and recitation of Sura Al-Fatiha, Huzur Aqdas (may Allah strengthen him with His Mighty Help) recited the following two verses of the Holy Quran and gave their Urdu translation:



**Say, "O My servants who have committed excesses against their own souls! despair not of the mercy of Allah, surely Allah forgives all sins. Verily He is Most Forgiving, Merciful. And turn ye to your Lord, and submit yourselves to Him, before there comes unto you the punishment; for then you shall not be helped. [39:54-55]**

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These verses have a beautiful message for every such person who wishes for God's Mercy and Forgiveness for having committed sins and is fearful of His punishment.



Allah, the Exalted, says,  
**"O My servants  
despair not My mercy.  
I am the Master and  
possess the Power to  
forgive your sins and  
wrap you in the  
raiment of My Mercy."**

What a beautiful message and how it lifts our hopes and does away with hopelessness.

Hopelessness is a sin; as hopelessness often becomes the cause of weakness and leads to failures.

But hopelessness and failures cannot approach the one who comes under the Mercy of Allah, the Exalted.

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This message is a message of life for all who have become spiritually dead and are caught in the clutches of Satan.

How Lovely is our God Who says repeatedly to those who believe in Him:

**“Despair not of the mercy of Allah;” [12:88]**

**“none despairs of Allah’s mercy save the unbelieving people.” [12:88]**

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So if you claim to have  
faith, always be hopeful of  
receiving the Mercy and  
Forgiveness of God.

You have succumbed to  
sinful behaviour because  
of human weakness, but  
you have not gone astray;  
all is not lost.

Allah, the Exalted, says:  
**'And who can despair of  
the mercy of his Lord  
save those who go  
astray?' [15:57]**

So certainly for repenting  
sinners, there can be no  
message more comforting  
and more sympathetic.

Our God also says to us  
that He does not punish  
us immediately for our bad  
deeds, but rather:

**And thy Lord is Most  
Forgiving, full of mercy.  
[18:59]**

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And why? Because  
**Your Lord has taken it upon Himself to show mercy.. [6:55]**

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So He forgives those evil deeds that you do  
out of ignorance.

So you should turn your attention towards  
reforming yourselves and you should know  
that God is indeed Most Forgiving and Ever  
Merciful.

And not only this that He is Most Forgiving  
and Ever Merciful, but He says: **My mercy  
encompasses all things...**[7:157]

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This Mercy reaches even those who do not believe; He can  
and does forgive all sins.

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The Islamic philosophy is that no one, no person is beyond reformation.



No matter how far gone the situation of a person may be, reform is still possible.



Everyone can be reformed.



Everyone can gain benefit of the Mercy of God Almighty so long as he tries truly to purify his heart and actions.

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Allah, the Exalted, is the Master. He forgives. This attribute of His encompasses all His other attributes. He forgives and He shows Mercy.

This is His Mercy that despite the innumerable excesses and wrongs committed by man He does not hurry to punish.

But, yes, it is true that because of committing excesses beyond the limit and then being obstinate, Allah, the Exalted, says that you will receive punishment.

But even then Allah, the Exalted, is so Gracious, that a time will come when this punishment (the Hell) will become empty. This is how expansive and unlimited God's Mercy is.

## How Forgiving is the God of Islam?

The Holy Prophet (sa) said that among the Children of Israel there was a person who had committed 99 murders and then he started out to ask about repentance. He came upon a hermit, a monk and asked him whether he could now repent? This hermit said no, there is now no way to repentance. This man killed him also. He kept asking about this after that as to whether repentance can be achieved or not even after all these things and a man told him to go to a certain place. But as he was going there he died and before breathing his last, and as he fell, he turned his chest towards the direction of this place he was heading towards. The angels of mercy and the angels of punishment arrived and started to dispute about the fate of this man. Allah, the Exalted, ordered the angels to measure the distances to both these places from where the man had died. And it turned out that the man had died just a tiny distance closer to the place towards which he was travelling to achieve repentance than the place from which he was going away. So Allah, the Exalted, forgave him for this reason.

[These examples are being given so that we may be informed about the Mercy of God which has been in existence from the beginning and shall remain forever.]

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The Holy Prophet (sa) that he said concerning His Lord, the Exalted, that He says:

O son of Adam, you do not pray to me and yet entertain hope also. So I say, with the sole condition that you do not associate partners with me, I will forgive all other sins and shortcomings, even though your errors be the size of the entire earth.

I will come and meet you with my forgiveness that is greater in expanse than the earth.

And if you have committed errors so tall as to reach the heavens, and you ask for My forgiveness, I will even forgive you such large errors and will not care an iota's worth.

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A narration about God's Forgiveness during the month of Ramadhan reads as follows:

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said that Allah has made the keeping of the fasts in the month of Ramadhan obligatory upon you and I have initiated its establishment for you.

So whosoever, keeps these fasts with the intention of winning reward from Allah and having full faith – he will become as free of sins as the day his mother had given him birth. He becomes like a newborn child.

Our God is more loving and forgiving towards us even than our own parents. And our God is He Who comes running towards us so that He may forgive the sins of His servants.

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Salman (ra) narrates that the Holy Prophet (sa) addressed us on the last day of the month of Shabaan and said: O people, a grand and blessed month is about to commence. In it is a night which is better than a thousand months. Allah has made the keeping of the fasts of this month obligatory upon you, and made its nights for offering the voluntary prayers.

This is the months whose first ten days are mercy, its middle ten days are for forgiveness and its last ten days are for attaining safety from the fire of Hell.

And anyone who feeds one who is fasting in this month shall be given such a drink from my reservoir that he will never experience thirst till the day he enters Paradise.

In other words  
the forgiveness  
causes  
previous sins to  
be washed  
away and also  
grants strength  
to resist the  
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So it is clear that Allah, the Exalted, is making arrangements for us at every step that take us to Paradise.

We are passing through the month of Ramadhan these days and the second ten days of Ramadhan is coming to an end and the third period of ten days is about to commence tomorrow or the day after.

And this period is full of blessings from this point of view also that, as stated in the hadith, there is a night in this period that is the Night of Destiny, the lailatul qadar.

This night is a great means for seeing the signs of the acceptance of prayer, and drawing a servant of God as close as possible to God.

So let us take particular care to perfect our prayers and worship in this last ten day period of Ramadhan.

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To try to remove one's own bad habits, to safeguard oneself from committing sins in the future, to achieve permanent salvation from the fire of Hell, an effort is needed. For every thing an effort has to be made.

May this Ramadhan become a milestone for us forever keeping us away from evil and forever become the means to take us towards every good and righteous deed.

Such hate may grow in our hearts for evil that we may never again even think of approaching these evil deeds.

May our attention become diverted towards true repentance, such repentance that will forever continue to become a means of drawing us nearer and nearer to God Almighty.

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How can one gain true repentance which should always keep us away from sin? The Promised Messiah (as) says concerning this:

*Taubah [repentance] is, in reality a most potent stimulant and a source of great help for the attainment of high morals."*

*If we are to acquire high morals and excellent conduct and draw near to God Almighty then it is repentance alone which comes in handy for the purpose.*

*It is with repentance that one advances and makes progress. This is the thing that assists in the task.*





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...person who wants to bring about a change and acquire the correct morals, it is incumbent upon him to repent with a true heart and sincere motivation.

It should be borne in mind that there are three conditions for repentance, ... The first condition is to get rid of wicked fancies which arouse evil propensities. Fancies have great influence. Every action is preceded by a fancy. The second condition is remorse. The third condition is a firm resolve that he will not revert to those vices. If he adheres to this resolve, God will bestow upon him the strength for true repentance and he will be rid altogether of his vices which will be replaced by good morals and praiseworthy actions.

This is a moral victory. It is for God Almighty to bestow the power and strength for it for He is the Master of all power and all strength,

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And to effect a true repentance first cleanse your mind of the bad thoughts. First there develops a taste for the evil in one's mind, then a person goes and commits that evil deed.

So the very first practical step that one has to take in order to save oneself from an evil deed is to purify your mind of these evil thoughts and temporary pleasures.

Then the second condition the Promised Messiah (as) informed us of is that you should awaken your good and righteous conscience and think what evils you are getting involved with.

Develop in your hearts a sense of remorse. Only then will you be able to avoid this evil.

The third condition is that you should have a strong and firm resolve that I am not going to even go near this evil. And when you will be making an attempt to save yourself from this evil constantly,

then true repentance is granted and he is saved from evil deeds and bad habits

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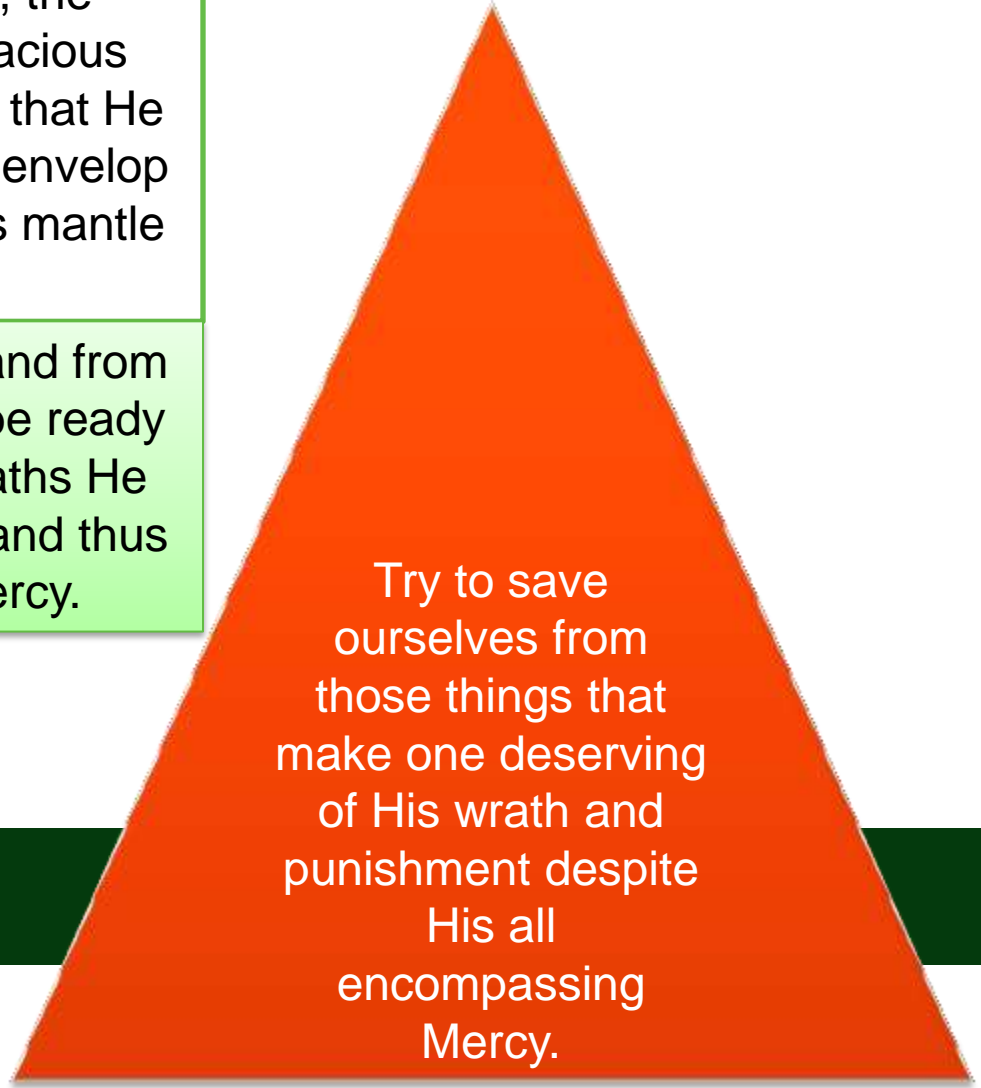
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As I said, Allah, the Exalted, is so gracious upon His servants that He is always ready to envelop His servants in His mantle of Mercy.

Does this not demand from us that we should be ready to walk upon the paths He has laid out for us and thus benefit from His Mercy.



Try to save ourselves from those things that make one deserving of His wrath and punishment despite His all encompassing Mercy.

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May our repentance be true repentance and we remain ever in prostration in front of Him.

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Cleanse your actions and be ever involved in the remembrance of Allah ... Just as wild animals who run to save themselves when they become even a little bit lazy get trapped by the hunter similarly one who becomes forgetful of the remembrance of Allah, he becomes prey to Satan.

Forever keep repentance alive and never let it die because ... keep repentance active always so that it should not become useless.

If you do not turn to true repentance then its case will be like that of the seed that is planted on a rock but if you employ true repentance then its case is like that of the seed that is planted on the best soil and yields fruit at its appointed time.

These days anyone trying to achieving true repentance faces a lot of difficulties. The attractions of the world and its temptations hinder us.

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**The Promised Messiah (as) says:**

**“The weapons through which we  
are going to achieve  
predominance are Istighfar,  
Taubah, knowledge of the faith,  
keeping the greatness of God in  
our mind and offering the five  
daily prayers regularly.**

**Salat is the key to the acceptance  
of prayers. When you offer the  
salat, make prayers during it, and  
do not be heedless and safeguard  
yourself from every evil whether it  
be related to the duties owed to  
God or to His creatures.”**

**May Allah make us among  
those who offer true  
repentance and may we  
forever continue to inherit  
the favors and grace of  
Allah. And may He make us  
beneficiaries of all the  
blessings associated with  
this blessed month of  
Ramadhan. Aameen.**

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**Muhammad  
Imtiaz  
Ahmad  
Sahib**

He was martyred on July 14, 2014; shot in the head by assailant on motorcycle.

The family of this martyr was introduced to Ahmadiyyat in 1935 through his grandfather.

He served as President of his Halqa [local area]. Secretary Tehrik-e-Jadid. Secretary Islah o Irshad. Qaid Khuddamul Ahmadiyya

He spoke softly and possessed a simple, cool temperament and he was ever ready to forgive.

On the day of his martyrdom,, he had prepared packages of rations for the needy by mid-day and had delivered them to seven houses.

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## Martyrs of Ahmadiyyat

He was a moosi by the Grace of Allah, the Exalted. His father Mushtaq Ahmad Sahib is alive. He leaves behind his wife Jamila Imtiaz Sahiba and three sons: Jazib age ten years, Abdul Kauser age nine years and Muhammad Abdullah Umar, seven months..

The second funeral in absentia is that of Mukarram Naseer Ahmad Anjum Sahib who was a lifelong devotee and was a teacher at Jamia Ahmadiyya in Rabwah.

He had passed his metric exams in 1981 and then he dedicated his life and arrived at Jamia for studies. He completed his BA in the Jamia and then upon completing his Jamia studies he did an MA in Arabic studies. He had also done a course in Russian. In 1988 after getting his Shahid degree he entered the field of actions. He stayed in different Jama'ats. In 1990 he was appointed to teach Comparative Religious Studies in Rabwah and he kept serving in this capacity till the end of his life. He served for almost 26 years after leaving Jamia.

Despite his young age he was considered an authority in the field of Comparative Religious Studies by the Grace of Allah, the Exalted. He possessed deep knowledge. Apart from teaching at the Jamia he was blessed to serve in many other offices. He was one of those in Qaza whom Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV had appointed and remained in that post till his last breath. In Khuddamul Ahmadiyya he served on several different positions. One beauty of his character told to us by his family was that he could not tolerate hearing anything against the System of the Jama'at. If any of his children would say anything against any officeholder of the Jama'at he would try to make him understand and if anyone would try and say something against some officeholder or against some decision he would try to explain and make the person understand. He was blessed to join the Jalsa Salana UK and he addressed the Jalsa in 2010 also. He had written to me this time also that I have applied for a visa which was rejected but he applied again.

He had an extraordinary love and connection with Khilafat and he was among the true sultanan naseera - the mighty helpers. He possessed a great zeal for preaching wherever he would go and he had a great mastery over this field and he could make even very great people accept his argument based on his proofs etc. His daughter Khadija Maham has written he possessed ardent love for the Promised Messiah (as) and stressed intensely the need for reading of the books of the Promised Messiah (as). He was compiling a dictionary of the books of the Promised Messiah (as) and was always desirous that this valuable treasure should reach to the people. He was writing a dictionary of the difficult words so that the people could take benefit of the books of the Promised Messiah (as). He had just started this work.

Mubashar Ayaz Sahib has written that he was a good speaker. He participated in the Rah-e-Huda and many other MTA programs and would always give very solid and well founded replies. May Allah have mercy on him and elevate his station in Paradise and may He bestow upon the Jama'at many more such learned and practicing devotees. Aameen.



The third funeral in absentia is that of Mukarram Sahibzada Mirza Anwar Ahmad Sahib who was the son of Hazrat Musleh Maood (ra) and that of Hazrat Umm-e-Nasir. He passed away last Monday. Inna lil-lahay wa inna elaihay rajayoon.

He passed his metric exams in 1944 and upon the wish of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II entered the Agricultural College and then the arrangements for the rudimentary building of Daruz Ziafat which was in front of Masjid Mubarak was given to him by Hazrat Musleh Maood (ra).

The beginning work of the current Daruz Ziafat also were carried out during his charge. He served as Afsar Langar Khana till 1982/83. Then he served as Naib Nazir Umoor-e-Aama. He was married to Sahibzadi Sabeeha Begum Sahiba. He has three daughters and one son. From among the marriages of her grandsons that Hazrat Ammajaan participated in, his wedding was the last in which she had participated.

Dr. Noori Sahib writes that I was able to serve him for the last thirty years and found him to be extremely noble, hospitable and loving person. Hospitality was his prominent trait. Another prominent trait of his was that he possessed an extraordinary talent for humor...

Dr. Noori writes that he would frequent Tahir Heart Institute to assist the poor and he would leave monies for the purpose with me.

He was the brother of our mother and had a close relationship on that account and so frequented our house very often. He maintained this relationship and then after Khilafat he kept up a very strong relationship with me also. He would call many times here to express this connection and relationship.

May Allah also have mercy on him and forgive him and elevate his station in Paradise and bestow upon his progeny also a strong connection of loyalty with Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. Aameen. His wife is also quite ill. May Allah have mercy upon her and bestow His Grace upon her.

As I said, after the Jumu'ah prayers, these funeral in absentia prayers will be offered.

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