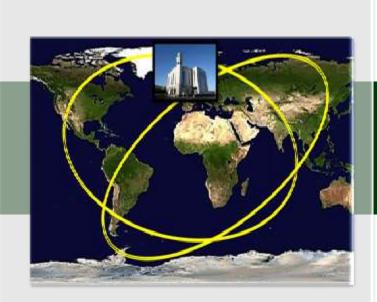
SEEK ALLAH THROUGH OBEDIENCE TO THE PROPHET(SAW)



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



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE

August 15th, 2014

Summary

God states in the Holy Qur'an: 'O ye who believe! respond to Allah, and the Messenger when he calls you that he may give you life...' God sends His Prophets to give spiritual life to people. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) was given the complete and perfect teachings in the Holy Qur'an and he was the practical example of how to put these teachings into practice. Prophets of God should be followed both in word and spirit to attain spiritual life. It should be remembered that those who accept the prophets of God also have to give sacrifices, at times, they have to sacrifice physical life for the sake of eternal spiritual life. Ahmadiyyat is bound to triumph; May God always keep us as a part of the flourishing tree and may our belief be as strong as rocks and may we always fulfil our responsibility!

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) was given the perfect teachings

The Promised
Messiah (as) has
been sent to
revive the
teachings of Islam

By accepting prophets one need to give sacrifice

No sacrifice is in vain

Ahmadiyyat is bound to succeed and we should play our role in it

God states in the Holy Qur'an: 'O ye who believe! respond to Allah, and the Messenger when he calls you that he may give you life...' (8:25).



Indeed, God sends His Prophets to give spiritual life to people.



The Holy Prophet (pbuh) was given the complete and perfect Shariah in the form of the Holy Qur'an and he was the practical example of how to put these teachings into practice.



Hazrat 'Aishah once said that he practiced whatever the Holy Qur'an teaches.

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Prophets of God are role models and follow God's commandments.



Prophets of God should be followed both in word and spirit to attain spiritual life.



It is essential to follow the Holy Prophet (pbuh) in order to attain love of God.



Since true spiritual life can only be attained through love of God!

Unless Muslims truly accept what the Holy Prophet (pbuh), who announced: '...If you love Allah, follow me: then will Allah love you ...' (3:32) they cannot be regarded as true followers and true believers.

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Indeed, as Hazrat 'Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) said that the whole life of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was the expression of the practical teachings of the Holy Qur'an.

The Holy Qur'an which states that even the enmity of a people should not incite you to act other than with justice

The Qur'an states do not shed blood without reason

The Qur'an states that dues of mankind should be paid

The Qur'an states that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was mercy for all the peoples without distinction of religion and race

Thus the Holy Qur'an refutes all the wrong acts of some Muslims these days.

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Prophets of God come to give life...

... but the practices of Muslims today is focused on ending innocent human life.

The 'manifest misguidance' which is apparent from the acts of Muslims today was also rampant in the time of the advent of the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

He was sent to reform and to give the lifeinfusing message of Islam.

And now in order to spread this message the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has been sent and **Ahmadiyya** Muslim Community is now taking this message further, as is its responsibility.

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The Holy Prophet (pbuh) foretold that there will come a time for his followers when their religious leaders will be the worst of all creations!

And that will be the time when the Promised Messiah will descend.

We observe that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) claimed that he had brought life-giving water and those who accepted him attained the spiritual life that the water gave.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: 'The verse: '...And among others from among them who have not yet joined them...' (62:4) means that there are only two parties who will attain guidance and wisdom after manifest misguidance .. Firstly, the Companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) .. [and] The other party ... is the party of the Promised Messiah..'

'... this party has been given a measure of the blessing of being likened to the Companions. ... as the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) saw the miracles of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and witnessed the fulfilment of his prophecies, so will these people.

.... Thus, exactly this is what happened nowadays'

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He also said: 'Everyone has personally witnessed the spread of the plague and restrictions placed on going to Hajj. Introduction of the railways ...and the camels made redundant, all these were the miracles of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) .. This is why Allah the Exalted termed this latter-days party as '...from among them...' so that it may indicate that they are like the Companions as far as observance of miracles is concerned. Think about it!'

'...There are many reasons for our community to be likened to the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them).

They witness <u>miracles and signs</u> just as the Companions did,

they are <u>suffering</u> from the grief of derision, mockery, cursing and all manner of hurt, abuse and cutting off of ties in the way of God as the Companions did.

They continue to attain pure life from God's evident signs, heavenly succour and teaching of wisdom, just as the Companions did.

Many among them weep during Salat .., just as the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) wept'!

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The Promised Messiah's (on whom be peace) claim that he had come to give life to the world ... Now it is only possible to understand Word of God through the Promised Messiah whose task it is to disseminate knowledge of the Holy Qur'an.

People are attaining spiritual life through him, the way to gain spiritual life.

After fourteen hundred years, he demonstrated how to become a perfect follower of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) whose beneficence continues to this day.

Sadly, those who raise objections against Islam do not look at Islamic teacgings, and only publicise the wrong actions of Muslims adding to anti-Islam propaganda.

The media does not cover the facts about the peaceful message of Islam in the same way as it covers negative news about Islam, which makes sensational news.

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Huzoor said recently he was interviewed by a BBC correspondent. And explained that the beautiful teaching as presented by the Jama'at is the true teaching of Islam and this is why hundreds of thousands of people are joining the Jama'at.

They did not broadcast everything Huzoor said and chose to transmit a selection of Huzoor's remarks that people are joining because they find out the true teaching of Islam attractive and the message of Islam life-giving.

There is no flaw in the teaching of Islam and the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), they are both complete and perfect.

The fault lies with the religious scholars who mislead people and those who follow them.

It is a great favour of God on Muslims that He sent His Prophet in this age and revived its teaching so that we may continue to receive spiritual life.

It is a Divine promise that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) will triumph and his followers will make tremendous progress.

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It should also be remembered that those who accept the prophets of God also have to give sacrifices.

They make any kind of sacrifice readily because they know their sacrifice would never go in vain..

They are even prepared to sacrifice their physical life for the sake of spiritual life.

There were people in the time of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) who sacrificed all they had in order to safeguard their spiritual life.

Even today there are hundreds of thousands who happily sacrifice their sentiments, wealth, relations and even life;

... they have understood the value of giving preference to their spiritual lives to their physical lives.

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Usama ud Din Sahib from an Arab county accepted Ahmadiyyat and his whole family turned against him and his wife left him with his four children! He is under immense pressure to renounce Ahmadiyyat, but stayed firm on his Bai'at. He says that he realised the reality of exclusion!

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said that Islam began in a state of exclusion and will ultimately be excluded again. <u>Thus blessed</u> are the excluded.

In a region of Tanzania, east Africa, 90% of people who worshipped at a village mosque became Ahmadi. They were excluded from the mosque, the local police officer harassed them and imprisoned them on false charges. With God's grace they stayed firm of faith although times were extremely difficult.

In Burkina Faso, west Africa, five hundred people accepted Ahmadiyyat; their relatives who lived in nearby villages organised social boycott of the new Ahmadis. They were excluded from the Mosque, and the opposition is intense. Yet, with the grace of God, these new Ahmadis safeguarded their faith.

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As the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said everyone has to go through hardships.

It is indeed Divine succour which prepares one for sacrifice and grants resolve and fortitude.

It is also the way of the world that in order to attain any objective one has to work hard and sacrifice.

Indeed, for higher objectives greater sacrifice is needed.

Sacrifice for eternal spiritual life is continuous, however, at times God confers in amazing ways on those who are ever ready for sacrifices without any sacrifice.

God gives without measure and even rewards good intention.

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A Persian king with his minister once saw an old farmer who was planting fruit tree and asked him why was he planting the tree as he is unlikely to benefit from its fruit;

The farmer replied, 'We benefited the fruits of labour of those, who planted trees before us and our next generations will eat the fruit of the trees we plant!'

The king was impressed and signalled to his minister to give a bag of gold coins to the farmer as a reward.

The farmer said, 'Others have to wait for their trees to fruit, but my tree has given fruit even while it is being planted.'

This impressed the king again and he signalled his minister to give another bag of gold coins to the farmer.

Upon this the farmer said, 'A tree fruits only once a year, but my tree has given fruit twice already.'

Impressed yet again, the king signalled the minister to give the farmer yet another bag of gold coins and added, 'let us leave or this farmer may take all our coins by his wisdom!'

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While worldly kings confer on others, they are also afraid of their treasures diminishing.

However, our God continues to confer and after granting spiritual life grants eternal life.

And for this sacrifices like the sacrifice of the old farmer planting fruit tree are needed.

We will need to make sacrifices the fruits and benefits of which are not instant and apparent but have great hidden benefits.

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Followers of Prophets of God also give sacrifice based on these principles and they and their communities are successful while the others are disgraced by God.

The disciples of Jesus (on whom be peace) were persecuted for three centuries; they endured cruelty with patience and fortitude; at times they had to hide in the caves to safeguard their faith.

We too have to safeguard our faith and strengthen it like a rock in the face of difficulties

The task of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) is to infuse new spiritual life into us and to strengthen faith.

In face of such hardship, have absolute faith that the perfect belief will triumph; the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) will succeed.

Each one of us should realise that they have to be a part of this triumph and in spite of all difficulties make efforts for our own lives and for the lives of others.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) wrote: 'The days are approaching, nay they are near at hand, when only this religion shall be spoken of with honour and respect. God shall grant this religion and this Movement His choicest blessings and unprecedented success and frustrate the designs of all those who seek to destroy them They jeer at me now but their jeering shall cause no harm, for there has not been a Prophet who has not been jeered at. It was, therefore, incumbent that the Promised Messiah be also jeered at '



',... as God Almighty says: 'Alaş
for mankind! There comeş
not a Meşsenger to them
but they mock at
him.'(6:31).

It is, therefore, a Sign from God; because every Prophet has been mocked at.
Who would laugh at a person who comes down from heaven with a host of angels?

Even from this one could understand that the story of Messiah coming down from heaven is no more than a myth.

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'Remember very well that no one will descend from heaven. All our opponents who live today shall die and none of them shall ever see Jesus son of Mary coming down from heaven: ... and then their third generation shall also die and they too shall not see the son of Mary coming down. Then God shall cause great consternation in their

hearts, yet the son of Mary

has not come down.'

'Then in dismay the wise among them shall forsake this belief and three centuries from now shall not have passed when those who await the coming of Jesus son of Mary, whether they be Muslims or Christians, shall relinquish altogether this conception.

Then shall prevail only one religion over the whole world and there shall be only one religious Leader.'

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'I came only to sow the seed which has been planted by my hand. It shall now grow and flourish and there is none who can hinder its growth.'



May God always keep us as a part of the flourishing tree and may our belief be as strong as rocks and may we always fulfil our responsibility!