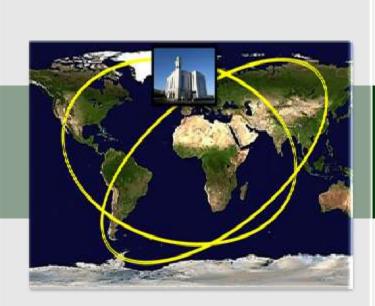
FAITH AND GOOD DEEDS



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



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Summary

A person's faith is like a root of a tree, and his good deeds are like the water and nutrition to nurture this tree. Therefore, without good deeds no faith can survive, no matter how deeply rooted. A truly faithful person can be likened to a lush green tree that gives shade in the heat, flowers to please the eye and fruit for nutrition i.e. he can be seen to be beneficial to humanity. Thus, if the real and true teachings of Islam were acted upon we would never see the pain and suffering that is being inflicted upon each other in the Muslims world. May Allah make us like those true believers who are known by virtue of their faith and good and virtuous deeds and become those who attain the nearness of Allah, the Exalted.

September 19th 2014

True faith inspires loves of humanity

A true believer is beneficial to humanity

The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

The Promised Messiah (as) says,
"In the Holy Quran, Allah, the

Exalted, has placed good, virtuous conduct along with faith. And good, virtuous conduct is that in which there is not the least bit of discord. Remember that the actions of man are always set upon by thieves - what are these? These are ostentation, ...and conceit,...

Good, virtuous conduct is that in which there is not even the thought of any kind of excess or wrongdoing, or conceit, or ostentation, or arrogance or dispossession of the

rights of human

beings.

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"Just as man is saved by his good deeds on the day of Judgment, he is saved in this world in the same way, meaning that good conduct has value here in this world also."



The Promised Messiah (as) says,

"if there is even one person of good, virtuous conduct in the house, that house remains safe. So you should know that so long as you do not do good deeds only your belief will not help."

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)



You should attend to your actions with a determined resolve, and a solid and binding pledge."

Then likening faith to a tree the Promised Messiah (as) goes on to say that even the very best tree needs nurturing. In the same way, faith needs to be nurtured with good deeds; otherwise one can not be called a momin, a true believer.

Just as a tree, no matter how strong its roots may be, if it is deprived of nutrients, it dies. Without good deeds or actions, a man's faith dies.

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The example of a true believer is that of a beautiful green lush tree, which, at the appropriate time, becomes laden with flowers and fruits. Which affords shade on a hot day. A true believer provides benefits to the world.



Those who claim to have faith, they should ask themselves if they are like a beautiful tree or like a beautiful garden that is proving of benefit to the world?



And are people drawn towards it in their droves by seeing the beauty of their faith and deeds.

The intensity with which some Muslim extremist groups are perpetrating their extremist acts, the people of the world are shunning them and running away from them.

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The faith which the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa) had brought had succeeded in drawing even its bitterest enemies towards itself and made them into its best devotees.



The effect of the teaching of the Holy Prophet (sa) was such that when a Muslim government, decided to leave a captured territory where the majority of the people were Christians and Jews -



- the Christians and Jews bade farewell to the Muslim army for the benefits that Muslim rule brought to them.



The Christians and Jews valued those Muslims because with their faith their every deed and action was beneficent.

So empty declarations of faith serve no purpose until virtuous conduct is not visible with all its beauty and splendour and believers are not proving of benefit to the people.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

This is why Allah, the Exalted, has commanded every Muslim to not only be of strong faith but also to undertake good and virtuous deeds - making the two conditional one upon the other.



And to attain this status, Allah, the Exalted, sends His Prophets to His people.



This condition is born within the believers at such a time when they develop a connection with the Prophet of the Age.

Today a large group, in the name of the religion and of faith, is terrorising the world and the non-Muslim world is becoming fearful of Islam because of them.

Today it is the duty of every Ahmadi to present a true picture of these good and virtuous deeds because he has accepted the Imam and Prophet of the Age.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

The Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (as) is indeed that tree planted by God Almighty whose roots are strong, branches are lush green and beautiful and its fruits draw the attention of the world towards itself.



As we believe in the Imam of the Age, it is our duty that along with having strong faith, we become like the green and lush branches, the beautiful leafs, the beautiful flowers and fruits that adorn those branches which should be of benefit to the world.



Otherwise, being perfect in faith and belief without actions is of no benefit.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

We can discharge the obligation that is upon us by virtue of being Ahmadis when we manifest our good and virtuous deeds to everyone.



We can become the people who show the beauty of Islam by our good and virtuous actions.



We should be not be like those who are involved in any kind of discord and disputes, gossip, slander or backbiting, belittling others, be devoid of mercy and those who follow good with taunt and injury.



We should instead be those who demonstrate the highest good morals.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

Then Allah, the Exalted, says that those who, along with faith, had done good and virtuous deeds,



shall receive such great and best rewards as are beyond your power of comprehension.



shall be bestowed with pure provision by God Almighty - provision that is for this world and also for the Hereafter.



shall be in peace, shall suffer from no kind of worry or preoccupation and shall not have fear of this world

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

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Those who believe and do good deeds
— the Gracious God will create love in
their hearts; a deep love and profound
connection.



They will establish an unbreakable and eternal bond of mutual love with God.



There is no one more successful that a person who has attained a bond of indestructible love with God.



The love of God, drives such a person to do all he can to be of benefit to others out of love for humanity

Thus, a true believer can never even think that he should inflict pain and suffering upon another human being.

Thus, if the real and true teachings of Islam were acted upon we would never see the pain and suffering that is being inflicted upon each other in the Muslims world.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

We should be those who love Allah, the Exalted and we should be the ones who win the love of God also.

Our priority should be to love humanity and win the attention of humanity, because without doing this we cannot fulfil the purpose of entering into the Baia'at [Oath of Initiation] of the Promised Messiah (as).

We should perform such good and virtuous deeds as are in accord with the will and pleasure of Allah, the Exalted and which should be such as save the world from pains and suffering.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

True faith



Today, it is the responsibility of the servants of the true

servant of the Holy Prophet (sa) that along with making

firm the roots of their faith they do good and virtuous

These deeds would attract and pull the world towards the beauties of Islam and which should be the source of benefit for the world.



We should be those who love Allah, the Exalted and we should be the ones who win the love of God also.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)



God Almighty has decided to make this Jama'at into a very special Jama'at and any person who in reality is not in the Jama'at cannot remain in the Jama'at by simply acquiring the name. A time shall come upon him sooner or later that he shall be separated from it. So, as far as is possible, make your actions subject to the teaching which is being given



Actions are like wings and without actions a man cannot fly upwards to attain spiritual advancement and he cannot achieve those lofty objectives which Allah, the Exalted, has placed below these good and virtuous actions.



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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

Then speaking on how Satan misleads and how he keeps on hounding the believers, and for this reason every believer needs to safeguard his faith and good and virtuous deeds from the attacks of Satan, the Promised Messiah (as) says:

It is necessary that
everyone should have
the fear of God and the
fear of God will make
him inherit many
virtuous deeds. ... In
reality good and
virtuous deeds are
those that are free of
every type of discord
and corruption...

Satan is always lying in wait to ambush in order to mislead man, and to pervert or corrupt his actions so much so that even in virtuous actions he wishes to mislead and misguide him. And he makes plans to create some kind of discord or disorder.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

Then drawing attention towards the doing of good and virtuous deeds, the Promised Messiah (as) said:



Understand that until you carry out good and virtuous deeds just believing does not bestow any benefits. A doctor writes a prescription and gives it to the patient ... but if he does not make use of the medicines prescribed what benefit will he derive from the mere written prescription that he has with him?

Those who, by entering into this Movement, establish a relationship of fellowship and discipleship with me ... They may be such as never lie. They may not hurt anyone with their tongue. They may not be guilty of any kind of evil. ...They should abstain from all manner of sins, crimes, inappropriate actions and inappropriate speech, And become the pure hearted, harmless and humble servants of God Almighty. And may no poisonous matter may remain in their being whatsoever.

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The sayings of the Promised Messiah (as)

Thus these are the admonitions that we need to keep in our view at all times.

By adhering to good and virtuous acts we will fulfil the purpose of our having entered in the Baia'at of the Promised Messiah (as).

May Allah make us like those true believers who are known by virtue of their faith and good and virtuous deeds and become those who attain the nearness of Allah, the Exalted.

After the Jumua prayers I shall lead the funeral prayers of Respected Rashid Ahmad Khan Sahib, son of Respected Late Iqbal Muhammad Khan Sahib. He passed away at the age of 91. Inna lillahay wa inna elaihay rajayoon.

He was born in India, Agra and obtained his early education in Qadian and then came to England in 1955. He kept working in British Railway as Chief Engineer and retired in 1980. When Islamabad was purchased in 1980 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (ra) appointed him as Caretaker there where he served with great zeal. He was from among the earliest residents of Islamabad. He was a sincere man. His father, Iqbal Muhammad Khan Sahib was from Gujranwala. He is survived by his wife and a son Shamim Ahmad Khan.

May Allah elevate his station in Paradise. Bless him with forgiveness and bestow upon his son also to maintain a relationship of sincerity and loyalty with the Jama'at. May Allah bestow patience upon his wife and son also. 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.