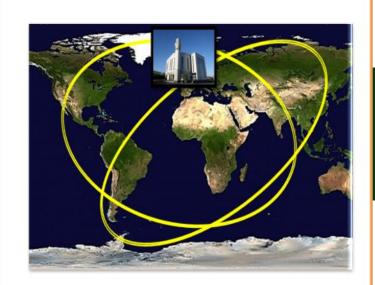


Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba); Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



relayed live all across the globe

Summary slideThe Workings of Missionaries and Office Holders

Huzur delivered his faith-inspiring Friday Sermon on the importance of missionaries and life devotees.

The need for cooperation and understanding between missionaries and office holders.

The vital need for all to walk hand in hand to help towards a united endeavour to help the progress of the Jama'at.

Through the grace of Allah the Almighty Jamia Ahmadiyya has been established in several countries throughout the world.

In recent days a joint convocation ceremony took place with students from Jamia Ahmadiyya UK and Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada.

These graduates are such that they have chosen to dedicate their lives for the service of the faith, despite growing up in a western environment.

The majority of them if not all are part of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme.

Aside from Rabwah and Qadian, Jamia Ahmadiyya are established in the UK and Germany, where students from European countries have the opportunity to study.

The Jamia Ahmadiyya in Canada is officially recognised as an educational institute and as a result students from other countries are eligible to attend. There is a Jamia Ahmadiyya in Ghana, where this year the Shahid [Final year] class will graduate. Also there is a Jamia Ahmadiyya in Bangladesh and the the Jamia Ahmadiyya in Indonesia has been extended to incorporate the Shahid [a seven year degree in order to become a missionary course.

When these young missionaries begin their fieldwork they have certain questions in their minds and the reason why they must be addressed here is so that the office bearers of the Jamaat understand that it is important for them to work with mutual harmony, i.e. the Missionaries and the office bearers should cooperate with one another; especially presidents and Ameers

On occasions disagreements can occur which are often a result of some misunderstandings and they can cause friction between the two parties.

In an open gathering a Sadr may demand answers from the missionary in a manner that is inappropriate. It is possible that the missionary may dislike this conduct & may even answer back.

The
Workings of
Missionaries
and Office
Holders

I would like to remind the Missionaries that they must always obey those who are placed in authority over them & they must demonstrate a high standard of obedience by remaining silent.

I would like to remind the Sadraan & Umarah that it is their responsibility to show respect & for them to ensure other people show respect to the missionaries. They should work together as one in matters of righteousness and piety.

It is observed that in minor misunderstandings between the president, missionary and office holders, satan enters the fray to try and shake the foundations of righteousness of everyone concerned.

Those whom the president and missionary are meant to help reform, try to create a wedge between these two and incite them against one another by telling them that they have been wronged by the other.

Ultimately this tension causes anxiety amongst the people.

The Promised Messiah (as) said that no community can remain a community who are always trying to devour, back bite and find faults against one another.

He said we should become as one as our strength lies in our unity. And that we should increase our scope of morality, which can be achieved by spreading more love, brotherhood and compassion.

Huzur said that missionaries and office holders should adopt the habit of covering the faults of others and showing mercy and forgiveness and they should be role models.

Huzur clarified that by presenting these extracts he does not, God forbid, infer that there are widespread disputes in general in the Jamaat between the missionaries, and the presidents and *Ameers*. This is absolutely not the case.

Ultimately they should understand that they have a mutual objective and need to work in parallel to fulfil their responsibility to train and help reform the members of the Jama'at.

As the Promised Messiah (as) once said

work that can be accomplished with two hands can never be replicated by using just one hand.

Our success lies in our mutual cooperation and working together to a common goal.

A missionary's role is to help train and reform the Jama'at and so a missionary's level of righteousness should be at a higher level than the members. Setting this standard will naturally form a level of respect for missionaries amongst the general membership. The *Ameer* being the administrative head within his country is tasked with ensuring the system and administration runs smoothly and is the Khalifa's representative in this respect. The missionaries role is to strive for the religious and spiritual betterment of all members and is the representative of the Khalifa in this perspective.

Huzur said he will once again reiterate that it is the obligation of all *Ameers*, presidents and office holders to show respect themselves and instil respect in the Jama'at for all missionaries and life devotees (*Waqif-e-Zindagis*).

This will also inspire the youth to wish to dedicate their own lives to the services of the faith.

We need many more missionaries and life devotees and so it is absolutely imperative that we establish a respect and regard for them in the hearts of all.

Huzur said to young life devotees & missionaries currently serving that regardless of whether the world shows them respect or not.

The
Workings of
Missionaries
and Office
Holders

If an office holder does not treat them right then instead of expressing this to other people,

a missionary should submit his problems to God in prayers.

Huzur addressed missionaries and office holders and said that if they expected the members in their homes to refrain from speaking ill about office bearers,

then missionaries and office holders would have to first ensure back-biting of officials is not occurring within their own houses.

All office bearers, particularly
Presidents and National
Presidents, must always treat
the members of the Jama'at
with great love and affection.
They must remember that this
office is purely due to the
blessings of Allah the Almighty
and they have no rightful claim
to it.

According to the Ahadith, the Holy Prophet (sa) would always greet people with a smile thus the noble example of the Holy Prophet (sa) should always be kept in mind

Some people complain that their affairs are sent to the Jamaat administration but months pass by and they do not receive any update of its progress.

Maters should not be unnecessarily prolonged and should be resolved as quickly as possible. If a certain case requires more time then the concerned parties should be updated of the progress and their queries should be acknowledged.

The Holy Prophet (sa) once stated that Allah the Almighty will never let a person enter heaven who is made responsible for people and yet is neglectful of his duties.

The Holy Prophet (sa) on another occasion stated that on the Day of Judgement, a just ruler will be the most beloved and closest to God Almighty and an unjust ruler will be the worst in the eyes of God Almighty and will be kept furthest from Him.

The reason why Hazrat
Musleh-e-Mau'udra
established these auxiliary
organisations was so that
every member of the Jama'at
could be reached out to.

Office bearers should display the most courage and even if a complaint is made against them, they must not seek to exact revenge and instead they should assess themselves whether or not that flaw is found in them and reform themselves.

Every member of the Jama'at should also try and increase their level of *Taqwa* [righteousness] as they too have been instructed to help one another in righteousness and piety

The Holy Prophet (sa) stated on one occasion that He will bestow His mercy on the Day of Judgement upon those who love one another for His sake.

Huzur prayed that may Allah the Almighty enable everyone to fulfil their responsibilities which have been placed on them after joining the Jama'at of the ardent devotee of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and may they live up to the expectations he has from them.