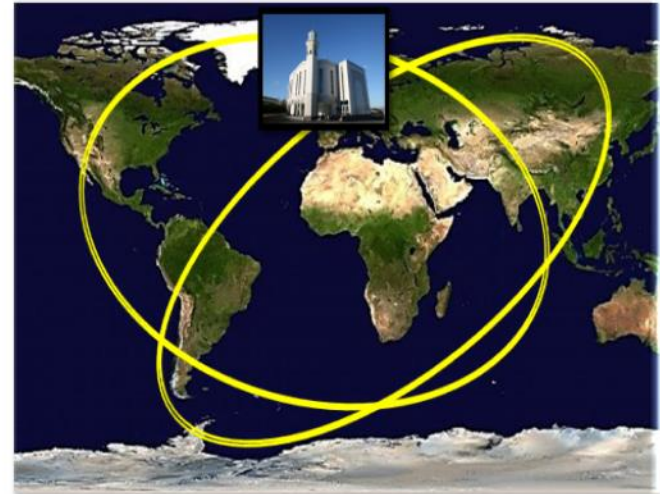


# Men of Excellence



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




**relayed live all across the  
globe**


August 30<sup>th</sup> 2019

# Summary

## Men of Excellence



Huzoor (ABA) continued the accounts of the Badri companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)  
[those companions who took part in the Battle of Badr].



Huzoor (ABA) mentioned about Hazrat Utbah (ra) bin Mas'ood and Hazrat Ubadah (ra) bin Samit



Huzoor (ABA) Explained the Status of Ashab-e-Suffah



Huzoor (ABA) lead the funeral prayer of Tahir Arif Sahib.

August 30<sup>th</sup> 2019

The title of Hazrat Utbah (ra) bin Mas'ood Huzali was Abu Abdullah. He belonged to the tribe of Banu Makhzoom. Hazrat Utbah (ra) bin Mas'ood was a confederate of the tribe of Banu Zuhrah.

His father was Mas'ood bin Ghafil and his mother's name was Ummi 'Abd bint Abdi Wudd. Hazrat Abdullah (ra) bin Mas'ood was his brother.

He was also among the first converts to Islam in Mecca and he participated in the second migration to Abyssinia.

Hazrat Utbah (ra) bin Mas'ood was among the Ashab-e-Suffah

Hazrat Utbah bin Mas'ood passed away in 23AH during the Khilafat of Hazrat Umar (ra) bin Khattab and subsequently, Hazrat Umar (ra) led his funeral prayer.

### Ashab-e-Suffah

Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (ra) explains.

They were a group of devoted, destitute, homeless, Muhajir (immigrant) Muslims who lived a corner of the Prophet's Mosque. They spent their lives in the company of the Holy Prophet (sa), performing worship, and reciting the Holy Qur'an.

These people possessed no means of permanent subsistence. The Holy Prophet<sup>(sa)</sup> would take care of them personally. As a matter of fact, at times, the Holy Prophet<sup>(sa)</sup> would himself starve and send whatever was in his home to the Ashab-e-Suffah

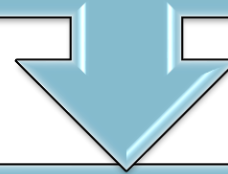
The Ansar would also remain engaged in their hospitality in as much as possible, despite all this, they lived in a state of adversity and had to starve frequently.

This state continued for many years until some found work, due to the expansion of Medina, and others began receiving support from the National Baitul-Mal (treasury).

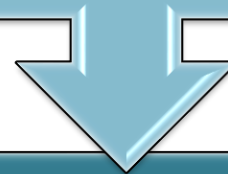
## Ashab-e-Suffah

Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (ra) explains.

Ashab-e-Suffah spent their days and nights in worship as well as learning and teaching the Holy Quran, therefore, most of them were called *Qaris* [people who recite the Qur'an].



A *Mu'allim* [religious teacher] had been appointed for them. They were sent to various places to spread the message of Islam.



Later on, many of these companions were appointed to many important offices, meaning that the Ashab-e-Suffah did not continue to remain sat there, in fact they were appointed to important offices.

### Ashab-e-Suffah

Hazrat Abu Huraira (ra) served as the governor of Bahrain and Medina.

Hazrat Sa'd (ra) bin Abi Waqqas served as the governor of Basra and he laid the foundation of the city of Kufa.

Hazrat Salman Farsi (ra) served as the governor of Mada'in.

Hazrat 'Ammar (ra) bin Yasir also served as the governor of Kufa.

Hazrat Ubadah (ra) bin Jarah served as the governor of Palestine.

Hazrat Anas (ra) bin Malik served as the governor of Medina.

Hazrat Zaid (ra) bin Thabit was appointed the supreme judge during the Khilafat of Hazrat Umar (ra).

# Ashab-e-Suffah

The Holy Prophet (sa) stated about the Ashab-e-Suffah

***‘There are Glad tidings for this group of poor Muhajireen! For on the Day of Judgment, you shall enter paradise with a perfect spiritual light half a day before the wealthy people and this half of a day is equivalent to 500 years.’***

In short, these *Ahl-e-Suffah* were astonishingly devoted people.

# Ashab-e-Suffah

The Promised Messiah (as) states  
“The people of Suffa in time of the Holy Prophet (sa), were extremely honorable and firm in their faith. Their example of sincerity and devotion is a model [for everyone to follow.]”

The Promised Messiah (as) states  
***“Allah the Almighty has also revealed to me that He shall also grant me individuals like them.”***



# Men of Excellence, Hazrat Ubadah (ra) bin Samit

Hazrat Ubadah (ra) bin Samit was an Ansari Companion. He was the leader of the Banu Auf bin Khazraj clan of the Khazraj tribe of the Ansar.

Hazrat Ubadah bin Samit's father's name was Samit bin Qais and his mother's name was Qurratul Ain bint Ubadah.

He took part in all the battles alongside the Holy Prophet (sa) including the battles of Badr, Uhud and Khandaq.

Hazrat Ubadah (ra) passed away in Ramla, Palestine, in 34AH.

He was a brave and valiant soldier. He and his companions had many conquests and he was the group of five people who collated the Holy Quran during the lifetime of the Holy Prophet (sa).

# Men of Excellence

## Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

Huzoor (ABA) mentioned respected Tahir Arif Sahib and lead his funeral prayer.

***“Surely to Allah we belong and to him shall we return.”***

He was suffering from cancer and endured this illness with great patience and steadfastness. He passed away in the UK on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

# Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

Respected Tahir Arif Sahib was born on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1952. His family was originally from Sialkot, however they later moved to Sargodha.

Respected Tahir Arif Sahib's father, respected Chaudhry Muhammad Yaar Arif Sahib, was a missionary of the community. His father had the opportunity to serve in the UK as a missionary and served as the Deputy Imam of the London Mosque and also as the Naib Wakil-ul-Tabshir in Tehrik-e-Jadid, Rabwah.

Maulana Muhammad Yaar Arif was an excellent debater and considered among the top scholars of the Jama'at.

Respected Tahir Arif Sahib initially worked as a government official at a very high post. After his retirement, Huzoor (ABA) appointed him as the President of the Fazl-e-Umar Foundation a few years back. Thus, these days he was rendering his services for the Jama'at.

# Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

Tahir Arif Sahib was a very intellectual person and had a great passion for learning. He attained an MA in Economics from the Punjab University and also did his LLB as well from there.

Thereafter he acquired his LLM from the London School of Economics and by the grace of God Almighty, he had the honour of attaining a Mark of Honour from the London University.

After completing his education in London, he returned to Pakistan and passed the CSS and began working as a civil servant for Pakistan.

He became the Inspector General of the Police and was also appointed in the FIA [Federal Investigation Agency] and in the Immigration Intelligence Bureau.

To attain such a high position even after the laws had been enacted against Ahmadis in Pakistan, indeed testifies to his extraordinary abilities.

# Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

He had a great passion to read the books of the Promised Messiah (as). He used to make notes and would then discuss the subject matter with his friends and colleagues.

He regularly recited the Holy Qur'an and would ponder deeply over its meanings. He was very regular in waking up for the Tahajjud prayer. He was always ready and willing to serve the Jama'at.

He was extremely well-read, in both religious and secular studies, and was very intelligent. He would share his thoughts in matters related to the Jama'at which would be extremely beneficial.

He was a person who possessed very sound opinion and thought.

# Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

He had a great sense of honour for Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya and was a very sincere and courageous Ahmadi.

All his life, he strived to remain as a Sultan-e-Naseer [a great helper] of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya and serve the Jama'at with utmost loyalty.

He had great love and respect for those who served the Jama'at and the life devotees.

He would always be ready and willing to help Ahmadiis who had a genuine need. He held a very high post, therefore he tried to help other Ahmadiis, who genuinely were in need, as much as he could.

Huzoor (ABA) said that, he was also my class fellow and I knew him from my days of college. By the grace of Allah the Almighty, he had a passion for knowledge even then and was also a very skilful debater and would take part in the debates held in college. I had noticed that even at that time he had a lot of religious knowledge.

# Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

His service for the Fazl-e-Umar Foundation started in 2014 when Huzoor (ABA) appointed him as its director. After the demise of Chaudhry Hameed Nasrullah Khan Sahib in 2017, who was then serving as the President of the Fazl-e-Umar Foundation, Huzoor (ABA) appointed Tahir Arif Sahib as its new President.

He continued to serve in this capacity till his demise. Prior to coming to the UK for his treatment, around 3-4 months ago, he continued to fulfil his duties for the Fazl-e-Umar Foundation with great effort. During his tenure, a lot of progress was made.

He counted that great honours of his life were that he was an Ahmadi and a class fellow of the Khalifa of the time which he said was a great honour for him.

Huzoor (ABA) said that when Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (rh) appointed me as Nazir-e-A'la, he showed me great respect and courtesy and after I became Khalifa, his level of sincerity and loyalty increased even greater than before by the grace of Allah the Almighty.

## Men of Excellence Respected Tahir Arif Sahib

He was a very experienced writer and also a poet. He authored several books and two books containing a collection of his poems; one in the Urdu language and the other in Punjabi. In addition, there are two other notable books, on the life of the Holy Prophet (sa) and the other book is about Pakistan, titled, "Pakistan Manzal Ba Manzal".

He leaves behind his wife, Anisa Tahir Sahiba and a son, Asfandyaar Arif Sahib and three daughters, Tayyiba Arif, Aziza Aauj and Binaa Tahir Arif. Two of his daughters are married and one of his daughters and son are not married yet.

May Allah the Almighty grant him His forgiveness and mercy and elevate his station. May He also enable his progeny to remain attached with the Jama'at and Khilafat whilst displaying perfect loyalty.