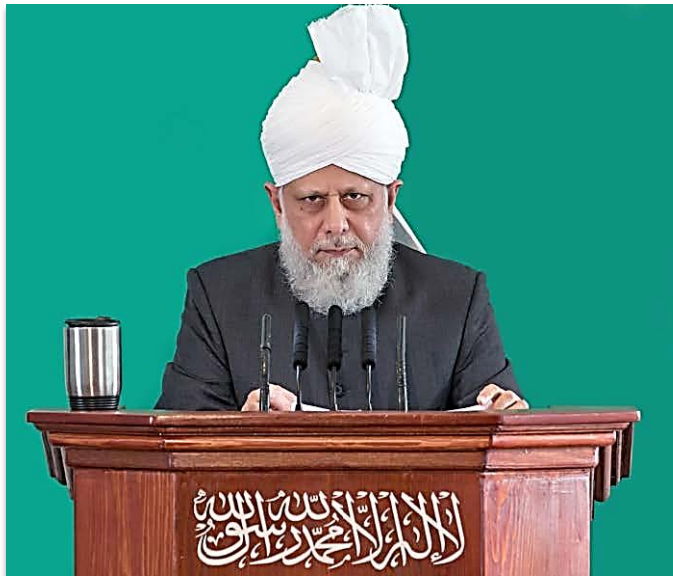
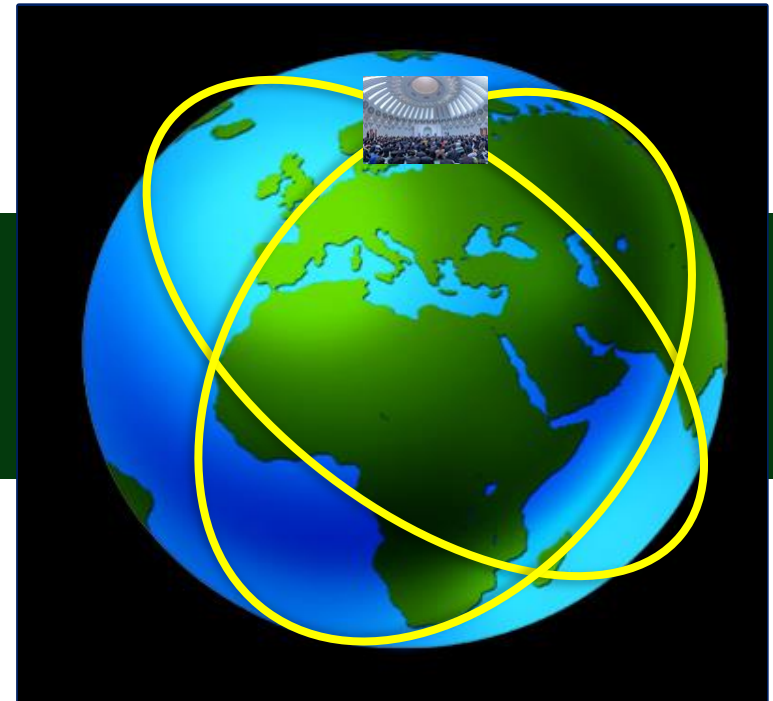


Men of Excellence: Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra)



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



relayed live all across the globe

11th March 2021

Men of Excellence: Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra)

The hardships which presented themselves after Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) became the Caliph.

Grief resulting from the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa).

The Holy Prophet (sa) had sent this army to Syria in preparation to battle the Romans, for fear that they may attack the Arabs.

People were becoming apostates.

Those who were opposed to Zakat.

11th March 2021

His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) said that he would continue mentioning the hardships which presented themselves after Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) became the Caliph.

His Holiness (aba) said that the first difficulty was the grief resulting from the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa). Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was perhaps his closest companion and knew him from his childhood.

He was extremely loyal and faithful and loved the Holy Prophet (sa) a great deal, thus he truly experienced this grief as well. His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) quoted the Qur'anic verse:

'And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels shall not harm Allah at all. And Allah will certainly reward the grateful.' (The Holy Qur'an, 3:145)

In this way, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) not only helped give solace to the Muslims, but he also reaffirmed the unity of God.

Men of
Excellence:
Hazrat Abu
Bakr (ra)

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The Holy Prophet (sa) had sent this army to Syria in preparation to battle the Romans, for fear that they may attack the Arabs. Thus, Hazrat Usama (ra) was sent along with his army two days before the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa).

The Holy Prophet (sa) instructed that if they gained victory, then they should only remain there a short while, and that he should send informants ahead of the envoy. The Holy Prophet (sa) also granted Hazrat Usama (ra) a flag.

The army assembled outside of Madinah, and all Companions including the elders were called to join.

Men of
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Men of
Excellence:
Hazrat Abu
Bakr (ra)

Despite his weak health, the Holy Prophet (sa) insisted that the army should proceed.


As the army prepared, Hazrat Usama (ra) would visit the Holy Prophet (sa) but due to weakness he would not be able to speak,

and would place his hands on Hazrat Usama's (ra) head so as to signal that he was praying for him.

His Holiness (aba) said that when the Holy Prophet (sa) passed away, this army returned from just outside of Madinah where they had been preparing.



However, after the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa), people were becoming apostates and the Jews and Christians perceived the Muslims to be weak and fewer in numbers.



People said to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) that this was due to the fact that they thought the army of Hazrat Usama (ra) was all that was left of the Muslims, who numbered around 3,000.

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Thus, it would be better not to send this army forward. However, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) remained resolute in his decision.

He said that his first act as Caliph could not be to call back the army which had been commissioned and sent by the Holy Prophet (sa) himself.

He said that even if he faced grave danger, he would stand by this decision.

Thus, he upheld the decision made by the Holy Prophet (sa) and said that all those who had been instructed by the Holy Prophet (sa) to be part of this army should return to the army.

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Bakr (ra)

His Holiness (aba) said that when the army reassembled outside of Madinah, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) went and inspected the army. He requested Hazrat Usama (ra) to leave Hazrat Umar (ra) with him in order to assist him in various matters.

Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) then advised the army of ten things;

Not to be dishonest
Not to steal from the spoils
Not to break their oaths
Not to mutilate bodies
Not to kill children, the elderly or women
Not to cut or burn date or fruit trees
Not to sacrifice animals except to eat them
If they came across any priests or monks then they should leave them be
If they were offered food by others, they should take the name of God and eat it
Then Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) advised Hazrat Usama (ra) to do exactly as he had been instructed by the Holy Prophet (sa).

His Holiness (aba) said that the fourth challenge faced by Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was that of those who were opposed to Zakat.

Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) conferred with some of the elder companions regarding whether action should be taken against them. Some advised to include them among the apostates, some advised to take strict action against them, while others advised to try and make them understand so that they begin giving Zakat again.

Hazrat Umar (ra) said that the Holy Prophet (sa) had been instructed to fight until people declared that there is no God but Allah, after which their lives and wealth would be safe, except that which is due. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said that he would fight against those who withheld Zakat as that is rightful wealth which is due. Upon this explanation, Hazrat Umar (ra) accepted and agreed with Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

Men of
Excellence:
Hazrat Abu
Bakr (ra)

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His Holiness (aba) said that he will lead the funeral prayer in absentia of the following deceased member

Men of
Excellence:
Hazrat Abu
Bakr (ra)

Syedah Qasirah Zafar Hashmi

His Holiness (aba) prayed that may her progeny carry on her virtues, and may Allah grant her forgiveness and mercy.

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