

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā'at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

On 13 January 2012 Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh V ایده اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Bait-ul- Futūh, London.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ recited verses 3–4 of Sūrah Hud and read the translation which is as follows:

It teaches that you should worship none but Allāh. I am to you a Warner, and a bearer of glad tidings from Him;

And that you seek forgiveness of your Lord, *and* then turn to Him. He will provide for you a goodly provision until an appointed term. And He will grant His grace to every one possessed of merit. And if you turn away, then surely, I fear for you the punishment of a colossal day. (11:3-4)

Afterwards he said: Disorder reigns over the world today because human beings have forgotten the purpose of their creation, turned away from their Lord, and are not ready to strive towards attaining His nearness, whereas the only way to protect themselves against this disorder and attain His grace is to sincerely turn towards Him and establish a permanent relationship with Him.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said that the best example for us to follow, in order to achieve this purpose, is that of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم, peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him. It is only through him that we can find our Lord, since all his words and deeds are acts of worship. Therefore, we ought to strive toward this.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said that the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام was a perfect follower of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم, peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, and was, therefore, able to demonstrate the true meanings of worship.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said that in order to obtain the best standards of worship, we need to constantly seek forgiveness from God for our sins, which can best be done only when we sincerely follow the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم, peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, and when we keep away from leading a sinful life.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said that we need to always seek Allāh's forgiveness for our wrongs and also seek His help. We need to pray to Him that He may save us from all such desires and passions as might invite His displeasure and hinder our progress to Him. We ought to remember that true repentance can never be attained by merely reciting of a few prayers. It has to be achieved through a change in our conduct.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said that to seek constant forgiveness from God for one's sins improves one's spirituality and strengthens the soul. The meaning of true

forgiveness therefore is to overcome evil influences that might impede one's spiritual progress and one's journey to God.

Hudūr ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ related a few incidents from the lives of the companions of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام whereby the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام enjoined them to say *Istighfar*, the prayer for seeking Divine forgiveness for one's sins and for the obtainment of good deeds. The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام advised them to be consistent with their supplications to God so that God may bestow on them patience and steadfastness. For this purpose, he told them, it was necessary to seek Allāh's help, for without His succor they could not achieve any good. The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام told them that the best way to relieve themselves of their worries was to recite *Istighfar*, for it is the key to progress. He said that we need to be vigilant lest our wrongs weigh heavier than our good deeds and make us punishable in the sight of Allāh. In short, he said, turning towards Allāh and seeking His forgiveness was the best and the most trusted method to obtain Divine pleasure.

Hudūr ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said that the disorder and chaos that we witness today in the world is a result of the wrongdoings and misdeeds of worldly-minded people. We, therefore, need to pray that God may protect us from this chaos.

Hudūr ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said that reciting *Istighfar* helps us fulfil the purpose of our creation, and enables us to tread the path that can bring us closer to God. May Allāh help us and enable us to act in accordance with His will. *Āmīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Hudūr ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 18 January 2012