

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

On 17 January 2014, Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Continuing with the subject of practical reformation from the previous Friday Sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In order to remove impediments and obstacles that hinder one’s progress towards practical reformation, one needs to strengthen one’s will power, remove his shortcomings with respect to knowledge and improve the capacity to perform good deeds.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Will power is a relative term when used with reference to performing good deeds. We need to know what the term stands for in the context of faith. From the standpoint of faith, will power means the strength of one’s faith, which means that the ability to perform good deeds improves when one progresses further in faith. If faith is strong and one has a sincere relationship with God, Divine grace and help keep removing hurdles hindering one’s progress towards practical reformation, thus helping one to easily overcome one’s moral weaknesses.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Those who believed in the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم in his time set up extraordinary examples of practical reformation and strength of faith. Before, they were involved in numerous kinds of misdeeds: some were thieves and robbers and some were steeped in sins such as adultery and fornication. There were those who proudly married their own mothers and divided them between themselves like inherited property. There were some who killed their own daughters and were gamblers and drunkards who proudly competed with each other in drinking. However, these people were completely transformed when they came to believe in the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم. A revolution completely transformed them. They became so strong in faith and will power that when a companion of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم announced on behalf of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم that God had declared wine to be unlawful for the believers, they immediately broke their wine containers. Consequently, in many homes where wine parties were in full swing at the time, the containers were broken with such speed that the streets of Medina flowed with wine. Such was the resolve and will power of the blessed companions of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Those who are blessed with an extraordinary share of will power are the champions of the spiritual world. Satan lays down his arms before them and mountains of hardship yield to their courage.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Examples of such courage and valour can also be found among the companions of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام. They broke *Hukkas*

and shunned smoking when they came to know that the Promised Messiah ﷺ did not approve smoking. Similarly, they eschewed all immoral acts after believing in the Promised Messiah ﷺ. Some of the companions, who were habitual drunkards before they believed in the Promised Messiah ﷺ, gave up the evil habit immediately after they embraced Ahmadiyyat.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: These are the examples we ought to follow. We should shun evil practices bearing in mind that God and His prophet ﷺ, peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him, has forbidden us to engage in them. Also, there is need for all Ahmadīs to shun the society where such evils are rampant lest one is drawn towards them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Perfect knowledge enables one to improve one's capability to act righteously. If man is properly informed of sinful acts and made aware of the resulting Divine wrath, he can refrain from committing sinful acts.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The third reason of moral weakness in man is the lack of ability to act piously. This happens for a number of reasons. There are people whose moral weaknesses result from the imperfection of their faith. There are some who have faith and knowledge, yet their ability to perform good deeds is badly undermined by certain other factors. Such people need an external remedy and support to help them recover from their moral weaknesses. The administrative set-up of the Jamā'at, office-bearers and auxiliary organizations should help such people with their efforts for practical reformation. However, if the office-bearers of the Jamā'at and auxiliary organizations themselves have moral weaknesses, how can they be of any assistance to other members of the Jamā'at?! Therefore, every Ahmadī and every office-bearer of the Jamā'at should make sure that a substantial effort is made towards practical reformation, so that with each passing moment we get closer to God.

Towards the end of the Friday Sermon, Huzoor spoke of Arsalan Sarwar Sahib, son of Muhammad Sarwar Sahib of Rawalpindi who was recently martyred in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke of the family background of the deceased and his services for the Jamā'at and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Jumu'a Prayer.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 23 Jan. 2014