

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,
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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

The importance of hospitality in the context of Jalsa Sālāna UK 2015, and exhortation regarding the responsibilities of the volunteers.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ said, “Whoever believes in God and the last day should honour his guests.”

Volunteers should raise their character and their morals to higher standards and their example should be such as to remind the guests that they are attending a religious gathering.

On 14th August 2015, Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: By the grace of Allāh, Jalsa Sālāna UK starts from next Friday. Volunteers and workers are working tirelessly and selflessly in preparation for the Jalsa, and these include men and women, young and old. This extraordinary zeal for serving the guests of the Promised Messiah ﷺ is such as cannot be witnessed anywhere other than in the Jamā‘at of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

As is customary, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave some instructions to the workers regarding hospitality. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that Allāh teaches us the importance of hospitality by relating the episode of Hazrat Ibrahim عليه السلام and his guests. The first thing Hazrat Ibrahim عليه السلام did after greeting his guests with salutations of peace was to have food prepared for them. The Qur’ān also speaks of his concern that that his people should not harm them. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that any harm that comes to the guest is a source of embarrassment for the host. This is why Islām has stressed that guests should be honoured.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in the Holy Prophet ﷺ we see the quality of hospitality at its highest and he also taught his Companions the ways of hospitality. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited various episodes that highlight the high examples of hospitality shown by the Holy Prophet

صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم and the Companions. The Holy Prophet ﷺ said that whoever believes in Allāh and in the last day should honour his guests. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it is among the duties of those who entertain guests at their homes that at night instead of wasting time in frivolous talk they should spend most of the time in remembering Allāh and His Prophet.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that these days in addition to Ahmadīs there are also many non-Ahmadī guests who come to attend the Jalsa. Therefore the volunteers in every accommodation should show such examples that the guests may realise that they have come to a religious gathering and not some worldly fair. They should also raise their character and morals to the highest standard. In their free time they should discuss religious matters, this will also have an impact on the guests. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ understood the importance of this. While they fulfilled their obligations with regard to hospitality they also did their best to fulfil the spiritual, religious and intellectual needs of their guests so that when they return home they can train others accordingly and are able to spread the message of Islām in their areas. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the departments of *Tarbiyyat* and *Da'wat Ilallāh* are also a part of our institution, therefore it is the duty of the volunteers to serve this spiritual food both to Ahmadīs and to non-Ahmadīs. Appropriate arrangements should be made for this as well.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some faith-inspiring examples of the hospitality that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام set for us and the teaching he gave us in this regard.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that under the Jalsa arrangements there is a general menu and then separate food is also prepared for people who come from certain countries or those who are unwell, and there is no harm in this. But these special guests also be served the general menu so that they know what the other participants of the Jalsa are eating. Some of them even love to eat that food.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the department of hospitality is a very important department of the Jalsa. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the various responsibilities of this department and said that if it works smoothly all other arrangement will run smoothly as well. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that may Allāh enable all the workers to fulfil their duties in an amicable manner and may the Jalsa be blessed in every aspect.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today is the 14th of August which is celebrated as the independence day of Pakistan. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) appealed to all Pakistani Ahmadīs to pray for the true independence of their country, for its security and integrity, and for freedom from tyranny.

At the end of the sermon Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Kamal Aftab Sahib of Huddersfield, UK and Muhammad Naeem Awan Sahib of Germany and his son. Huzoor (May Allāh

be his Helper) led the funeral prayer in absentia of the deceased after the Jumu'a prayers.

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: 20 Aug. 2015