

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,
.....

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

The foremost commandment is to worship God. Worship should be the prime focus of a believer. Ḥuzoor’s instructions for life-devotees and office-bearers.

For the acceptance of prayers, it is essential to abide by God’s commandments. This is the true faith.

Ḥuzoor’s (May Allāh be his Helper) exhortation regarding fulfilling our obligations to God and man, living up to our responsibilities, and avoiding anger, thinking ill of others and backbiting.

On 24th June 2016, Ḥazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque, London.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Last Friday I said that for the acceptance of prayers it is essential to accept and abide by God’s commandments. The Holy Qur’ān contains all prohibitions and exhortations, those who abide by them will find the required guidance. They will see the signs of acceptance of prayers and of nearness to God. They will practice the highest morals and exhort others to fulfil their obligations as well. In Ramaḍān we should make a greater effort towards self-training in order to draw closer to God.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said there are many divine commandments, and we should always keep reminding ourselves of these. The basic commandment is to worship God. However, some life-devotees and learned office-bearers do not pay due attention to this. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that this world should not be your sole objective. A believer’s primary concern should be to fulfil the purpose of his creation, which is to worship God. All life-devotees and all office-bearers should be a model in this regard. They should see to it that the changes brought about by the training of Ramaḍān should become part and parcel of their lives.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Ḥādīth also speak of fulfilling our obligation and duty to ourselves, but we should be moderate in this. These obligations are part of human nature, therefore it is necessary to fulfil them. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it is not right to be always engrossed in worship, because your own self and your wives and children also have a right over you. The purpose of man’s creation is to recognize his Creator. Each of us should see to it that our mosques continue to be full even after Ramaḍān. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that man’s excellence is that he should be engaged in his worldly affairs without forgetting God. There is no celibacy in Islām, hence we have to fulfil all our obligations but give priority to our faith. The Holy Qur’ān teaches us to safeguard our prayers and particularly the prayer that comes in between other engagements and for which we have to make effort, for finding time for it.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Holy Qur'ān also commands us to fulfil our pledges, and this includes both pledges made to God and to man. As Aḥmadīs we have to live up to the pledge of Bai'at to the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and the pledge to follow the teachings of Islām. We also have to fulfil the pledges we make to one another. If we understand this, our society can be rid of all disputes. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that these days there are increased incidents where people forego their pledges on account of worldly greed. While this brings a bad name to the Jama'at, it also imperils our faith. We must not kill the truth. Even if a child tells you something true, you have to accept it. No enmity should dissuade you from justice. We should seek forgiveness for our sins with all humility lest we are taken to account for some hidden sins.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that a pious person is he who controls his anger. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that one who forgives is given a divine light. One who gives in to anger cannot utter words of wisdom. He is deprived of the fountain of spiritual insight. Anger and wisdom cannot coexist. Anger diminishes our powers of reflection. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that we should use our abilities in a moderate manner. We should not talk in anger even to the enemy. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while following Allāh's commandments raises our moral standards, they also enlighten our minds. There are two habits that make a man unbalanced: thinking ill of others and anger. A believer should therefore avoid thinking ill of others and becoming angry. Thinking ill of others makes a man blind and casts him in the dark pit of destruction. If you find yourself thinking ill of someone, you should offer *Istighfār* constantly and pray to God to be saved from this sin. Another evil that a believer must avoid is prying into other people's affairs. The third evil is backbiting, which is akin to eating the flesh of one's dead brother. The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said that a believer should never backbite others.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that if we wish to draw closer to Allāh in this Ramaḍān, we should also strive to avoid these evils and try to follow Allāh's commandments to the best of our ability. May Allah enable us to become His true servants and follow His commandments.

At the end of the Sermon, Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the tragic martyrdom of Chaudhary Khaleeq Aḥmad Ṣāḥib of Karachi and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 30 June 2016