

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

The importance of hospitality in the context of Jalsa Sālāna UK and the responsibilities of the workers.

While other people seek leisure in their holidays, Aḥmadīs choose to serve the guests.

Serving humanity is the hallmark of every Aḥmadī volunteer, and this spirit should always be kept alive.

On 5th August 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: Jalsa Sālāna UK starts next Friday and guests from all over the world have started arriving to attend this event. Men and women, old and young, from the length and breadth of UK offer their voluntary services for this occasion. As the Jalsa's demands keep growing, there is need for even more volunteers. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that looking after the Jalsa guests has become a part of every Aḥmadī's nature. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about a clip on YouTube where a young man was asked what he was paid for his work, and he replied that he only worked to win Allāh's pleasure. This should be the attitude of every Aḥmadī in every country, whether Africa, Indonesia, Oceania, or any developed country of the West.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while most people's priority during the holiday period is to travel and seek pleasure, Aḥmadīs volunteer themselves to serve the guests of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. With regard to Jalsa Sālāna UK, the work has to be done on temporary basis and has to be completed within a timeframe of 28 days, hence there is a need for many volunteers to complete the work in this limited time. Considering the nature of the work, this time period is very short and some work is started much earlier, so that some workers have to volunteer up to two months of their time.

Reminding old and new workers of their responsibilities, Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Some people have a lot of zeal to work, but sometimes on account of their dispositions they say or do things that hurt a guest's feeling. These reminders help the volunteers to be wary of such lapses. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I have no doubt at all about the spirit of the workers, they are indeed full of zeal and devotion to serve.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah عليه السلام used to take great care to provide facilities to his guests. Allāh had informed the Promised Messiah عليه السلام of this beforehand that he should neither tire nor be impolite to his guests on account of their large numbers. Today, in keeping with this Divine command, the servants of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام are serving the Jalsa guests selflessly and tirelessly.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Non-Aḥmadī guests are impressed by the volunteers, in particular child volunteers. The spirit of service to humanity is and should be the hallmark of every Aḥmadī volunteer and should always be kept alive.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that according to a Ḥadīth even to greet a brother with a smile is a form of charity. Thus hospitality and cordiality together merit greater divine reward. To show someone the way is also a form of charity. Volunteers of the concerned department should guide the guests to their accommodations. Officials in charge of serving meals should remember that cordiality is the right of the guest and the duty of the host. Inappropriate conduct or remarks by the host can easily hurt the feelings of the guests. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the story of a Companion of the Holy Prophet ﷺ who fed a guest and himself went without food, and said that this is the spirit with which one should serve these guests remembering that they are the guests of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that some volunteers take their friends to the food marquee reserved for non-Aḥmadī guests. When such discrimination was once perpetrated in the time of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام, God told him that an act of hypocrisy had been committed that night. Everyone should be treated cordially, sacrifice should be made to whatever extent possible, and everyone should try to do full justice to their duty.

With regard to security, Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) urged both workers and guests to be vigilant. At the end of the sermon Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may enable everyone to work in the best manner possible. May Allāh protect the guests, make the Jalsa successful in every way and save us from the evil designs of our opponents. May the workers set ever higher standards. When workers serve with such a zeal, Allāh looks upon them with love and compassion.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Khalid Mahmoodul Hassan)

Acting Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 11 August 2016