

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President

Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Extracts from the Friday Sermon delivered by *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allah be his Helper) on 04 May 2018 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.**

**The Chief of the Martyrs, the Lion of God, the Lion of the Prophet, Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) bin Abdul Muttalib.**

**Our Imam, by *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allah be his Helper), says:**

The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says: At the time of the advent of the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him), such was the state of the Arab people's culture and spirituality and morals that warmongering, adultery, and looting were a norm and no one had any relationship with God nor possessed any higher morals, and everyone was arrogant like the Pharaoh. But once they accepted Islām, they were imbued with such love for Allāh and such unity that each of them was ready to die in the path of Allāh. They demonstrated through their actions the true spirit of their Bai'at. The example shown by the Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) was without parallel. Allāh says in praise of the Companions:

مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ رِجَالٌ صَدَقُوا مَا عَاهَدُوا اللَّهَ عَلَيْهِ فَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ قَضَىٰ نَحْبَهُ وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ يَنْتَظِرُ وَمَا بَدَّلُوا تَبْدِيلًا

***“Among the believers are men who have been true to the covenant they made with Allāh. There are some of them who have fulfilled their vow, and some who still wait, and they have not changed their condition in the least. (33:24).”***

Therefore these good deeds and sacrifices are an example for us to follow. Today I will speak about Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) bin Abdul Muttalib. He is known by the title of the Chief of Martyrs. He was also given the titles of Lion of God and Lion of the Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him). He was the son of the Chief of the Quraish Ḥaḍrat Abdul Muttalib (May Allah be pleased with him) and the paternal uncle of the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat Hamza's (May Allah be pleased with him) mother Hala was the maternal cousin of Ḥaḍrat Amina (May Allah be pleased with him), the Holy Prophet's mother. He was two years or four years older than the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him), according to various Traditions. He was also the foster brother of the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him). He accepted Islām in the sixth year of the Prophethood during the time of *Dar-e-Arqam*.

**How Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) embraced Islām**

Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (May Allah shower His mercy upon him) has described this event in the light of historical records as follows: One day the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) was sitting on a stone between the two hills *Safa* and *Marwa* and pondering over ways to establish the Oneness of God, whereupon Abu Jahl came along and started verbally abusing the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) for continuing to preach his message. The

Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) listened quietly to all his abuse and did not utter a single word. When Abu Jahl was tired of all his abuse, he came forward and slapped the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) on his face. But the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) still did not respond and kept sitting where he was. It so happened that Ḥaḍrat Hamza's (May Allah be pleased with him) house was right across from where all this was happening and one of Ḥaḍrat Hamza's (May Allah be pleased with him) maid was watching all this happening. When Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) returned from hunting in the evening and entered his house valiantly while holding his bow and arrows in his hand, the maid stood up and said angrily, "Are you not ashamed\_\_you who pretend to be so brave?" Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) was taken aback and asked what was wrong. She then told him how the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) was sitting out there when Abu Jahl came along and started abusing him and even slapped him, and yet the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) uttered not a word. Hearing this, Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) became furious and was overcome by his sense of family honour. Therefore, without giving himself any rest, he went towards the *Kaaba*. After performing a circuit of the *Kaaba*, he went to the place where Abu Jahl was telling his tales to the people. Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) took out his bow and hit it hard on Abu Jahl's head and said: You are telling people how brave you are, and how you beat Muḥammad (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) and yet he did not utter a word and how you disgraced him, now I will disgrace you and let me see if you have the courage to speak before me. Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) then announced his belief in the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him). He said to Abu Jahl: You only abuse the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) because he says that he is the Prophet of God and that angels descend upon him. Listen, then, from today I too affirm Muhammad's religion and I say what he says. Come and fight with me if you have the courage. And thus Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) embraced Islām. This gave strength to the faith of *Meccan* Muslims. Sir William Muir too admits that Muḥammad's mission was further strengthened when Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) embraced Islām.

### **Hazrat Hamza's self-respect and prayer the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) taught him**

After hearing from the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) that one should preserve one's self-respect, Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) always acted accordingly. At the time of the *Hijra*, Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) suffered financial setback like most of the migrants. Ḥaḍrat Abdullah bin Amr (May Allah be pleased with him) relates that during those days Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) came to the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) and asked for some service he could perform so as to gain a source of income. The Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) said: Do you prefer to preserve your self-respect or to kill it? He said, I would prefer to preserve it. The Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) said: Safeguard your self-respect. Then he told him to focus on prayer and taught him some special prayers to offer. He told him to always pray

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِاسْمِكَ الْأَعْظَمِ وَرِضْوَانِكَ الْأَكْبَرِ

**"O my Lord, I beseech you invoking your Great Name and your Great pleasure."**

**Ḥaḍrat Hamza's (May Allah be pleased with him) Martyrdom's incident, at the hand of Wahshi Bin Harb, is related in Bukhari as follows:**

Ḥaḍrat Jafar bin Amr (May Allah be pleased with him) relates that he was traveling with Ubaidullah bin Adi bin Khayar and when we reached Hums, he asked whether I wanted to meet Wahshi bin Harb Habshi and ask him about the incident of the martyrdom of Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him). I said yes. We inquired about his whereabouts and were told that he will be sitting under the shadow of his palace like a great water sack. We went and stood before him and greeted him, and he responded to our greeting. He said: Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) had killed Tu'aima bin Adi bin Khyar at the Battle of *Badr*. My master Jubair bin Mut'im said to me: If you kill Hamza in retaliation for the killing of my uncle, I will set you free. Then when we saw that the battle of *Uhad* is coming, I also went out with people to fight. When both sides had lined up facing one another, Sabā came out and challenged anyone to fight him. Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) accepted this challenge and said, "Sabā, do you fight with God and His Messenger?" Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) then attacked him, struck him down and killed him. Wahshi said that he then sat under a rock waiting to ambush Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him). When he came near me, I hit him with a spear. I then pressed it under his belly and it came out on the other side. This was his last breath.

**The title of "The Lion of God" and "The Lion of the Prophet"**

Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) was martyred in the battle of *Uhad* in the 32<sup>nd</sup> month of the *Hijra* at the age of 59. It is related that Hind, the wife of Abu Sufyan, had accompanied the troops to the battle of *Uhad*. After Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) was martyred, the infidels started mutilating the bodies of the Muslim martyrs, such as cutting of their noses and ears etc. They also took out Ḥaḍrat Hamza's liver which Hind started to chew, but threw it away when she couldn't swallow it. When the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) heard of this, he said: It has been forbidden that fire should taste any of Hamza's flesh. The emotions expressed by the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) when he saw Ḥaḍrat Hamza (May Allah be pleased with him) body are related in *Seerat Ibn Hasham*. It is written that when the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) stood before Hazrat Hamza's body, he said: I shall never be pained more than the pain I feel today on your account. I have never witnessed such a painful spectacle. He then said: Gabriel has given the glad tiding that Hamza has been declared as the Lion of God and the Lion of the Prophet in the seven heavens.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 09 May 2018