

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 *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 18 January 2019 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Our Imām, *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper), said:

Today I will speak about *Ḥaḍrat ‘Amir Bin Fuhairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

***Ḥaḍrat ‘Amir Bin Fuhairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him):**

His title was *Abu ‘Amr*. He was among the first people to accept Islām and did so before the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) entered *Bait Arqam*. He used to graze *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) sheep for pasture at the time of the migration to Medina. He had been a slave and much hardship was inflicted upon him by the disbelievers after he accepted Islām. Later, *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) purchased him out of slavery and set him free. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) established brotherhood between him and *Ḥaḍrat Harith bin Aus bin Mu‘āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him) after the migration to Medina. *Ḥaḍrat ‘Amir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) participated in the Battles of *Badr* and *Uhud*. He was martyred at *Bair-e-Maunah* at the age of 40.

The account of the migration according to *Ḥaḍrat Ayesha* (May Allāh be pleased with her):

Ḥaḍrat Ayesha (May Allah be pleased with her) relates: One afternoon we were at *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) house when someone told him that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was coming with a piece of cloth covering his head. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) reached the door he asked for permission to enter. *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) invited him in and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, “Send out those who are with you.” Whereupon *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, “My mother and father be sacrificed for you. I only have your own family with me, *Ayesha* and her mother *Umme Romān*.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, “I have been given permission to migrate.” *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, “Let me go with you.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, “Yes, you will also accompany me.” Thereafter, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) went to a cave in the mountain of *Thaur* and hid there for three nights.

Ḥaḍrat Abdullah bin Abu Bakr (May Allāh be pleased with him) would go and stay with them in the night. He was a clever and brilliant young man and would inform the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) of any plots

being hatched against him by the *Quraish*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*'s (May Allāh be pleased with him) servant 'Amir bin *Fuhairah* would also graze the goats nearby, and when night came he would take a goat to the cave and they would get fresh milk for the night. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had hired a guide to show the way. He belonged to *Banu Abd bin Adi* tribe and was an expert at navigating the terrain. He was a disbeliever who followed the religion of the *Quraish*, but the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) trusted him. They gave him two of their camels with the promise that he would bring them to the cave of *Thaur* after three days. Then 'Amir bin *Fuhairah* and the guide joined them and they took the path that followed the coast.”

How Suraqah followed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him):

Suraqah bin Malik bin J'osham relates: “I took hold of my spear, left my house from the back, and got on my horse. I then galloped the horse until I almost overtook the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). But my horse suddenly stumbled and I fell. I stood up and lowered my hand into my quiver and drew out a random arrow to discern whether I would be able to capture them or not. The omen I received was not the one I desired. But, despite that, I mounted my horse and galloped very fast until I reached so close to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) that I could hear him recite the Holy Qur'ān. But suddenly the front legs of the horse got stuck in the sand and it threw me off. Once again I drew lot with my arrows and again got the omen I disliked. Thereupon I called to them and said, ‘You are at peace.’ Now that my intention was pure, the horse carried me on. When I reached them, I told the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) about his people's malicious plans and that they had put a bounty on his head.”

The incident of migration according to Ḥaḍrat Musleh Mau'ud (May Allāh be pleased with him):

The time came when *Mecca* was almost empty of Muslims. Only a few slaves, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) himself were left in *Mecca*. When the *Meccans* saw that their prey was getting out of hand, they called a council and decided that assassinating the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was the only way. But, by God's doing, the date they had chosen for his assassination was the same when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was to migrate. At the very moment that people were gathering around the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) house with the intention of assassinating him, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was leaving his house with the intention of migrating. Earlier that day, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had also been informed that he would accompany the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) in the migration, so he joined the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and they both left *Mecca* and took refuge in a Cave on a mountain known as *Thaur*, about four miles from *Mecca*.

When the *Meccans* learned that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had left *Mecca*, they gathered a group of fighters to follow them. They took with them a tracker who traced the footsteps of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) right to the mouth of the cave of *Thaur* and announced that

the two were either in that cave or they had ascended to heaven. When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) heard this being spoken outside, his heart sank and he said to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) that the enemy was about to enter the cave and find them. But the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "Grieve not, for Allāh is with us." Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allah be pleased with him) said, "I fear not for my own life, for I am but a common man. My only fear, O Prophet of Allāh, is that if any harm comes to you then spirituality and religion would be wiped off the world." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "There is no need to worry. We are not alone here, the Third One is God with us." Since the time had come for God to spread Islām and there was no more respite for the *Meccans*, Allāh caused the minds of the *Meccans* to be veiled and they started jesting with the tracker as to how someone could possibly be hiding in such an open place. And so they returned to *Mecca*.

After two days, as had been previously arranged, the two camels were delivered to the cave. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and the guide rode one of them whereas Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and his servant Ḥaḍrat *'Amir bin Fuhairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) rode the other one. Before heading for *Medina*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) turned towards *Mecca*, the holy city where he had been born and ordained and where his forefathers had lived from the time of Ḥaḍrat *Ismail* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and said with a sorrowful heart, "O city of *Mecca*, you are dearer to me than every other place, but your people won't let me live here." Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) also said with deep sorrow that these people had forced their Prophet out of the city, so they would surely be ruined.

When the *Meccans* failed to find the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), they announced that anyone who brought back the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) or *Abu Bakr*, dead or alive, would be awarded a hundred camels. This proclamation was also sent to all the neighbouring tribes, whereupon *Suraqah bin Mālik*, a Bedouin chief, set out in search of them. He found the travellers on the road to *Medina* and recognized them as Muḥammad and his companions. He then galloped his horse and was about to catch up with them when his horse stumbled and he fell off. *Suraqah* later accepted Islām.

Ḥaḍrat *'Amir bin Fuhairah's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) martyrdom:

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Ma'ud* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: Islām did not become victorious through the power of the sword, rather Islām triumphed through its superior teaching that penetrated into the hearts and brought about a moral revolution. One Companion relates that he became a Muslim only because of the following incident. "I was staying as a guest with the people who had treacherously killed 70 Muslim *Qaris*. When the Muslims were attacked, some of them climbed a hill while other remained standing where they were. But since the enemy was stronger in numbers and arms, and the Muslims were without arms, they were killed one by one. In the end only one Companion remained standing who had accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) in the migration and was the freed-slave of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). His name was *'Amir bin Fuhairah*. It

took many of the enemies to bring him down and one of them thrust a spear into his chest. As the spear penetrated his chest, he uttered the words

فُزْتُ وَرَبِّ الْكَعْبَةِ

“By the Lord of the Ka’bah, I have succeeded!”

I was astonished at these words uttered by a man who was alone, far from his family and kin, facing such a great calamity, and a spear being thrust in his chest. I wondered if the person was insane. I then asked other people why he had uttered those words, and I was told that the Muslims are indeed insane, because when they die in the way of Allāh they believe that He is pleased with them and that they have succeeded. These words touched me deeply and I pledged to visit their centre and learn about their religion. Thereafter I went to Medina and accepted Islām.”

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Allāh informed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessing be upon him) about 'Amir bin Fuhairah's martyrdom while he was far away. These Companions were embodiment of devotion and they showed fidelity at every step. May Allāh continue to raise their spiritual status. *Amīn.*

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 Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 23 January 2019