

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 7th June 2019 at Mubarak Mosque, Islamabad, Tilford UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today I will resume speaking about the Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) who participated in the battle of *Badr*. The first Companion about whom I will speak today is;

Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Tariq (May Allāh be pleased with him):

Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Tariq (May Allāh be pleased with him), also recorded as ‘Abdullah bin Tariq Balawi in some accounts. He belonged to *Baliyyi* tribe and was a confederate of *Banu ‘Abd bin Rizah* tribe. He was the stepbrother of Ḥaḍrat *Mu’attib bin Ubaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and they had the same mother. His mother belonged to *Banu Kāhil* branch of *Banu Uzrah* tribe. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Tariq (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Mu’attib bin Ubaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) participated in the battles of *Badr* and *Uhud* and both brothers were martyred at the *Rajī’i*. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Tariq (May Allāh be pleased with him) was among the six or, according to some accounts, ten Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) who were sent to the tribes of ‘Azal and *Qārah* in the month of *Safar* 3AH to teach them about Islām and the Holy Qur’ān. When these people arrived at the place called *Rajī’i*, which is a spring of water in the territory of *Hijāz* owned by *Huzail* tribe, the people of tribe revolted and besieged these Companions and attacked them.

Describing the events of *Rajī’i*, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: How could these ten or seven Muslims take on 200 heavily armed infidels? Therefore, they retreated to a nearby hill and made ready to fight. The infidels, for whom treachery was no big deal, told them that they would not be harmed if they came down. Ḥaḍrat ‘Asim said, “We do not trust your promises, and we cannot come down on this basis.” He then raised his hands and prayed, “O God, you can see the situation we are in. Inform the Prophet of our plight.” Thereafter ‘Asim (May Allāh be pleased with him) and his fellow Companions fought and were martyred. When seven of the Companions had been martyred, *Khubaib bin ‘Adiyy* (May Allāh be pleased with him), *Zaid bin Dathinah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and ‘Abdullah bin Tariq (May Allāh be pleased with him) were left, and the infidels wanted to capture them alive. They again promised that if they came down voluntarily they would not be harmed. At this point, the Companions were ensnared by their promises, but as soon as they came down the infidels caught them and tied them up with the strings of their bows. Thereupon the Companions said, “If such is your

keeping of promises, then who knows what you will do with us later.” Ḥaḍrat ‘*Abdullah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) refused to go with them, so they dragged him for a short while and then killed him and left his body there. According to one account, he managed to free his hands and tried to attack them when they hit him with a stone and martyred him. Thus ‘*Abdullah bin Tariq* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was killed at *Rajī’i* because he refused to go with the infidels and fought to the bitter end.

Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil bin Bukair* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil bin Bukair* (May Allāh be pleased with him) belonged to Banu *Sa’ad bin Laith* tribe. Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was initially called *Ghafīl* (the heedless one). But after he accepted Islām, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) changed his name to ‘*Aqil* (the intelligent one). In some historical records, his father’s name is mentioned as *Bukair*, while in others it is *Abu-Bukair*. Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat ‘*Amir* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Iyās* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) were all *Bukair*’s sons and all four were the first to accept Islām at *Dar-e-Arqam*. When these four brothers left for Medina, they took their families with them and no one was left in their homes. In Medina they all took abode with Ḥaḍrat *Rifā’ah bin Abdul Munzir* (May Allāh be pleased with him). According to some traditions the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) formed a bond of brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Mujazzar bin Ziyād* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Both of them were martyred in the battle of *Badr*. Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was aged thirty-four at the time of his martyrdom. *Ibn-e-Ishāq* writes that he does not know of any other four brothers participating in *Badr* except Ḥaḍrat *Iyās* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat ‘*Aqil* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat ‘*Amir* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

His father’s name is mentioned as *Haritha bin Sharahīl* other than *Haritha bin Shurahbīl*. His mother’s name was *Su’dā bin Thalabah*. He belonged to *Banu Quzā’ah*, an honourable tribe of Yemen. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was abducted as a child and sold as a slave to *Hakeem bin Hizām* for four hundred dirhams. Subsequently, *Hakeem bin Hizām* presented Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to his maternal aunt, Ḥaḍrat *Khadijah bint Khuwailid* (May Allāh be pleased with her). Later, Ḥaḍrat *Khadijah* (May Allāh be pleased with her) presented Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) along with all of her other slaves. According to one account, he was eight years old when he was bought and brought to Mecca. His father was extremely upset over his son’s disappearance. Sometime later when some men from *Banu Kalb* tribe came to perform Hajj at Mecca, they saw Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and recognized him. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) asked them to tell his parents that he is living with a respectable family of *Banu Ma’ad* near *Ka’bah* and that they need not to worry about him. When they went back and gave the news to his father, he at once set off for Mecca. He came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) and offered to pay

compensation for the return of his son. When Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was called and asked for his opinion, he refused to go with his father and his uncle.

Ḥaḍrat Musleh Mau'ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: When Ḥaḍrat *Khadijah* (May Allāh be pleased with her) gave all her wealth and all her slaves to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) after their marriage, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) came out to *Ka'bah* and announced that *Khadijah* had given him all her wealth and all her slaves, and that he was freeing all the slaves. Hearing this, all the slaves left, except *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) who later came to be known as the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) son. He came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and said, "You have set me free, but I do not want to be freed. I insist to stay and live with you." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) insisted that he should go to his country and meet his family now that he was free. But Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, "Because of the love and sincerity I have seen in you, you are dearer to me than anyone else."

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said to Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that his father and uncle had come to get him and that his old mother had gone blind due to grief, and that he had already set him free and was not his slave, so he should go with his father. But Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said: You have freed me, but I do not want to be freed. I consider myself to be your slave. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) again said that his mother was suffering and his father and uncle had come a long way and had undertaken a hard journey, so he should go with them. *Zaid's* father and uncle also tried to convince him but he refused to go with them. He said, "You are indeed my father and my uncle, but the relationship I have with Muhammad (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) can never be severed." He said that he was grieved to hear of his mother's suffering, but he could not live without the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). Hearing this, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) stood up and took *Zaid* to *Ka'bah* and announced, "O People! Bear witness that as of this day I free *Zaid* and make him my son. He shall be my heir and I shall be his." Hearing this, *Zaid's* uncle and father were much pleased and went back happy in the knowledge that he was living a happy and comfortable life. In short, it is a demonstration of the high moral standards of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) that when Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) expressed sincere devotion to him, he too reciprocated with an extraordinary favour.

Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: When Ḥaḍrat *Zaid's* father and uncle came for him, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that he was free to go, but Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* said, "I will never go. You are dearer to me than my father and uncle." Thereupon his father said angrily, "Do you prefer slavery to freedom? We have come to set you free and you say that you want to remain a slave!" *Zaid* said, "Yes. Because of the good qualities I have seen in him, I cannot give preference to anyone over him." Hearing this, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) stood up and took *Zaid* to *Ka'bah* and announced in a loud voice, "Today I free *Zaid* and make him my son." He was already

free, but now the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was announcing it publicly. He said, "Zaid will be my heir and I will be his." From that day on, Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) came to be called *Zaid bin Muhammad*. However, after the Hijrah, Allāh revealed the commandment that it is not permissible to take an adopted son as a real son, and so once again *Zaid* came to be called *Zaid bin Haritha*. However, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) continued to love his faithful servant as before and even after his death he continued to love his son *Usama bin Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him), who was born of his servant *Umm e Aiman* (May Allāh be pleased with her).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: What is special about Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is that he is the only Companion who has been specifically named in the Holy Qur'ān. According to one account, Ḥaḍrat *Zaid's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) elder brother Ḥaḍrat *Jabalah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates: I presented myself before the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and asked that I may be allowed to take my brother with me. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, your brother is before you, if he wants to go I will not stop him. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, O Prophet of Allāh, I will never give preference to anyone over you. Ḥaḍrat *Jabalah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says, "I then realized that my brother's opinion was better than mine."

Once Ḥaḍrat *Jabalah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was asked which of the two brothers was older. He said, "Zaid was older than me, only I was born before him." He meant that because of being first in accepting Islām, *Zaid* had gained superiority over him. Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates: *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him), the freed slave of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), was the first among the men to have believed and offered the Salāt.

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: Allāh blessed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) with people from every strata of society. *Uthman, Talha* and *Zubair* belonged to the elite families of Mecca, so that if anyone objected that only the lowest people of society followed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), these people were there to represent the higher strata of society. And if someone objected that he had gathered only the rich people and that the poor, who were in majority, did not accept him, then *Zaid* and *Bilal* were there to answer this objection. And if someone said that only the youth were attracted to him, then how come *Abu Bakr*, who was neither young nor inexperienced, came to follow him? Thus, the Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) were a living proof against any objections raised against him. This was a great blessing of Allāh upon the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him).

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: The four people closest to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) viz. Ḥaḍrat *Khadijah* (May Allāh be pleased with her); his wife, Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him); his paternal cousin, *Zaid* (May Allāh be pleased with him); his freed slave and *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him); his friend, believed in him because they knew that he would never lie.

Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) started spreading his message,

Ḥaḍrat *Khadijah* (May Allāh be pleased with her) was the first to believe in him and she did so without a moment's hesitation.

Historians are divided as to who among men was the first to accept Islām, whether it was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), or Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him), who was aged only ten at the time, or Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him), the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) freed slave; but in our view this debate is pointless. Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) were part of the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) household and lived with him like his own children. It was not even necessary for them to make a formal declaration of faith. Thus, their names need not to be included. Apart from them, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is unanimously accepted as the first among men to have accepted Islām. In any case, these three men and one woman were the first to believe in the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and in this regard they enjoy a very high status.

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: When, after the demise of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talib*, *Quraish* resumed persecution of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), he went to *Taif* accompanied by Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him). This was in the tenth year of the Prophethood towards the end of the month of *Shawāl*. He stayed in *Taif* for ten days and visited all the chiefs of *Taif* but no one accepted his message. But they feared that the youth might accept his message, and so they said, 'O Muhammad! Leave our town and go where your message is accepted.' Then they incited some of the mischievous youth to attack the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). They pelted stones at the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and injured him so much that he began to bleed profusely. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) tried and put himself in front of the stones that were aimed at the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and sustained several wounds to his head.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I will continue to speak about Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) in the next sermon, *Insha' Allāh*.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. *Hameedullah*)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 13 June 2019