

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadīyya,

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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 30th August 2019 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The first Companion of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) about whom I will speak today is;

Ḥaḍrat *’Utbah bin Mas’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

He was known by the epithet *Abu ’Abdullah* and belonged to *Banu Makhzūm* tribe. Ḥaḍrat *’Utbah bin Mas’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a confederate of *Banu Zuhrah* tribe. His father’s name was *Mas’ūd bin Ghafil* and his mother was *Umm-e-’Abd bint Abd-e-Wudd*. Ḥaḍrat *’Abdullah bin Mas’ūd* was his real brother. He was among the earliest converts to Islām in Mecca. He was also among *Ashāb-e-Suffah*.

With regard to *Ashāb-e-Suffah*, Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Ahmad* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: A shed was erected in the corner of the mosque that was called *Suffah*. It was for the poor migrants who did not have a home. They lived there and were, therefore, called *Ashāb-e-Suffah*. They lived day and night with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) and recited the Holy Qur’ān. They did not have any means of subsistence. Whenever the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) received a gift or something, he would set aside a portion of it for them. Sometimes he would himself go without meals and send them whatever food was available.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: They would spend their day with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) listening to his words and living in the shed, hence they were called *Ashāb-e-Suffah*. Most of them had a single sheet of cloth that they would tie on their shoulders to cover themselves. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Hurairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was one of them. He relates that he saw 70 people from among the *Ashāb-e-Suffah* whose cloth did not reach their knees. Often the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) would divide these *Muhajirīn* amongst the *Ansār* who would take one or two of them home and serve them food. Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Ubādah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a wealthy Companion who at times took up to 80 guests with him and served them supper. According to various narratives, the number of *Ashāb-e-Suffah* varied from 12 to up to 300 or 600.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had great affection for these people. Once a group from among *Ashāb-e-Suffah* complained to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) that the dates had burned their bellies, meaning that they had only dates to eat and nothing else. Hearing their complaint, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) addressed the people and said, "You say that the dates have burned your bellies, but do you not know that the dates are the staple food of Medina. By God, smoke has not risen from the house of the Messenger of Allah for one or two months."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: *Ashāb-e-Suffah* were extremely devoted people. They complained about the food but did not leave and stayed there faithfully. A teacher was assigned for them whom they would go to every night to learn. This is why most of them were called *Qāri*. They were sent to different places to teach the message of Islām. Later, many of these people held eminent positions. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Hurairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) served as Governor of Bahrain, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as Governor of *Basrah*, Ḥaḍrat *Sulaimān Farsi* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as Governor of Medina, and Ḥaḍrat *Ammār bin Yasir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as the Governor of *Kūfa*. All of them were from among *Ashāb-e-Suffah*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) also received the following revelation regarding *Ashāb-e-Suffah*:

أَصْحَابُ الصُّفَّةِ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا أَصْحَابُ الصُّفَّةِ تَرَى أَعْيُنُهُمْ تَفِيضُ مِنَ الدَّمْعِ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَيْكَ رَبَّنَا إِنَّنَا سَمِعْنَا
مُنَادِيًا يُنَادِي لِلْإِيمَانِ ذَاعِيًا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَبِرَّ الْجَامِنِينَ

They are the Company of the Lounge in the eyes of Allah. Do you realise how magnificent in status the Company of the Lounge will be. They will be very strong of faith. You will see their eyes shedding tears; they will call down blessings on you. They will supplicate: Our Lord we have heard a Caller, calling people to the faith [and a Summoner to Allah] and a lamp refulgent.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In *Sahih Bukhari*, Ḥaḍrat *'Utbah bin Mas'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) has been mentioned in the list of the Companions who participated in the Battle of *Badr*. He passed away in 23AH during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *'Umar bin Khattāb* (May Allāh be pleased with him) who led his funeral prayer.

Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah bin Sāmit (May Allāh be pleased with him);

He was an *Ansāri* Companion. His father's name was *Sāmit bin Qais* and his mother's name was *Qurrat-ul-Ain bint 'Ubādah*. He participated in the first and second *Bai'at* at *Aqabah*. He was the chief of *Banu Auf bin Khazraj* clan of *Ansār's* tribe *Khazraj*. One of his sons was *Walīd* whose mother was *Jamila*. The second son was *Muhammad*, born of *Umm-e-Harām*. Ḥaḍrat *Aus bin Sāmit* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was Ḥaḍrat *'Ubadah's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) brother. Ḥaḍrat *'Ubadah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) took part in all the battles

alongside the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), including the battles of *Badr*, *Uhud* and *Khandaq*. Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him) passed away in *Ramlah*, Palestine, in 34 AH. According to other accounts, He died in Jerusalem or in Cyprus. He was 72 at the time of his death. He was a tall and handsome man.

Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him) has related 180 Traditions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). In one of them he relates that on the occasion of the *Bai'at* at *Aqabah*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) took from us a pledge not to associate partners with Allāh, not to steal, not to kill our children, not to knowingly slander one another, and not to disobey any righteous commandment. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "Whoever of you fulfils this pledge will have his reward with Allāh. And whoever commits any of these evils and suffers for them in this world, this suffering will be the atonement for them. And whoever committed any of these evils and Allāh did not expose him, his affair will be in the hands of Allāh, whether to forgive or to punish." It was on these conditions that we pledged *Bai'at* to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him).

Once, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) sent Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him) as a *Zakāt* collector and advised him to fear Allāh lest on the day of judgment he should carry on his shoulders a camel that grunts or a cow that moos. That is to say, he warned against dishonesty. Hearing this, Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him) said: By the one Who has sent you with the truth, I will not even be a guardian over two men. I cannot bear the weight of anyone."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: During the lifetime of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), five Companions compiled the Holy Qur'ān. They were: Ḥaḍrat *Mu'āz bin Jabal*, Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah bin Sāmī, Ḥaḍrat *Ubai bin Ka'ab*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Ayūb Ansāri* and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Dardā'* (May Allāh be pleased with them). Once, Ḥaḍrat *Yazīd bin Sufyān* (May Allāh be pleased with him) wrote to Ḥaḍrat 'Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) that a teacher was needed in Syria who could teach the Holy Qur'ān. Ḥaḍrat 'Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah bin Sāmī and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Dardā'* (May Allāh be pleased with them) for this purpose. *Junādah* relates: When I came to Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him), I found him to be a man of great knowledge.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: There are many more accounts regarding Ḥaḍrat 'Ubadah (May Allāh be pleased with him) which I will *insh'Allah* present in the next sermon.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at about the sad demise of *Tāhir Arif Sahib* who passed away of cancer in the UK on 26th August. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave a detailed life sketch of him. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) told the Jamā'at that he had served as a senior government official in Pakistan. At the time of his demise he was the President of *Fadl-e-'Umar*

Foundation. His father had been a missionary. He was a scholarly person and a poet and wrote several books. He was a humble and unassuming person. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that *Tāhir Arif Sahib* was his class fellow and he has witnessed all these attributes and qualities himself. May Allāh treat him with mercy and forgiveness and grant him a lofty station in heaven. May Allāh keep his progeny attached with the Jamā'at and Khilāfat. *Amīn*.

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: 05 September 2019