

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 13th December 2019 from Mubarak Mosque Islamabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the last Friday Sermon, I spoke about Ḥaḍrat *Hilāl bin Umayyah* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and in this context I also mentioned the Battle of *Tabūk*. Ḥaḍrat *Hilāl bin Umayyah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was among the three Companions who did not take part in the battle of *Tabūk*. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) returned from the battle of *Tabūk*, he expressed his displeasure and excommunicated them. This caused them great anguish and they supplicated and sought Allāh’s forgiveness, until Allāh accepted their penitence and revealed a verse to this effect.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Among the people who were hesitant to join the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) in the Battle of *Tabūk* was a man named *Jadd bin Qais*. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) asked him if he would accompany him in the battle against the Romans, he excused himself saying that he had some responsibilities with regard to his women and other issues so he would rather not go. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) permitted him to stay, the following verse refers to this:

وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ يَقُولُ اِنَّ الدَّنَّ لِيَّ وَلَا تَفْتِنِّي ۗ اَلَا فِي الْفِتْنَةِ سَقَطُوا ۗ وَاِنَّ جَهَنَّمَ لَمُحِيْطَةٌ بِالْكَافِرِيْنَ

“And among them is he who says, ‘Permit me to stay behind and put me not to trial.’ Surely, they have already fallen into trial. And surely, Hell shall encompass the disbelievers.” [9:49]

Suwailam was a Jew living in Medina whose house was a hub for the hypocrites. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) was informed that the hypocrites were gathered there and were trying to stop people from joining the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) for the Battle of *Tabūk*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) sent Ḥaḍrat *Ammār bin Yāsir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to investigate. When those people learnt of this, they came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) and started apologizing. Allāh describes these people in the following verse:

يَخْذَرُ الْمُنَافِقُونَ أَنْ تَنْزَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ سُورَةٌ تُنَبِّئُهُمْ بِمَا فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ قُلِ اسْتَخِرُوا إِنْ أَلَّ اللَّهُ مَخْرَجٌ مِمَّا تَخَذَرُونَ
 وَلَئِنْ سَأَلْتَهُمْ لَيَقُولُنَّ إِنَّمَا كُنَّا نَخُوضُ وَنَلْعَبُ قُلْ أَبِاللَّهِ وَآيَاتِهِ وَرَسُولِهِ كُنْتُمْ تَسْتَهْزِئُونَ
 لَا تَعْتَذِرُوا قَدْ كَفَرْتُمْ بَعْدَ إِيمَانِكُمْ إِنْ نَعْفَ عَنْ طَائِفَةٍ مِّنْكُمْ نُعَذِّبْ طَائِفَةٌ بِأَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا مُجْرِمِينَ

“The hypocrites fear lest a Sūrah should be revealed against them, informing them of what is in their hearts. Say, ‘Mock ye! surely, Allāh will bring to light what you fear.’

And if thou question them, they will most surely say, ‘We were only talking idly and jesting.’ Say, ‘Was it Allāh and His Signs and His Messenger that you mocked at?’

‘Offer no excuse. You have certainly disbelieved after your believing. If We forgive a party from among you, a party shall We punish, for they have been guilty.’ [9:64-66]

After the Battle of *Tabūk*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) said that he was going to travel back quickly to Medina and that if anyone wanted to stay for a while, they could follow at their own ease. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) approached Medina, the men, women and children of Medina were gathered at *Thaniyyat-ul-Wadā’a* to welcome him. Ḥaḍrat *Aysha* (May Allāh be pleased with her) relates that little girls sang a song of welcome.

Whenever the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) returned from a journey, it was customary for him to go the mosque and offer two *Rak’at Nafal* of prayer. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) returned from *Tabūk*, it was early afternoon and he first offered two *Rak’at Nafal* of prayer in the mosque. He sat down after the prayer and the people who had stayed behind started coming to him and stating their excuses. There were about 80 such people. Even though the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) knew that their excuses were false, he took them at their word. But, as I have mentioned, three of the Companions—Ḥaḍrat *Hilāl bin Umayyah*, Ḥaḍrat *Murarah bin Rabi’i* and Ḥaḍrat *Ka’ab bin Mālik* (May Allāh be pleased with them)—did not offer any excuses and consequently suffered the displeasure of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) for a period of time. But they showed remorse and penitence and Allāh accepted their penitence and announced their forgiveness in the Holy Qur’ān.

Ḥaḍrat *Murarah bin Rabi’i* ‘Amri (May Allāh be pleased with him):

His father’s name was *Rabi’i bin Adiy*. Ḥaḍrat *Murarah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) belonged to ‘*Amr bin ‘Auf*’ branch of *Ansār*’s tribe *Aus*. According to another account, he belonged to *Quzā’ah* tribe that was a confederate of *Banu ‘Amr bin ‘Auf*’ tribe. Ḥaḍrat *Murarah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had the honour of participating in the Battle of *Badr*. He was among the three Companions who were unable to participate in the Battle of *Tabūk*, as has already been detailed. There is no separate account related by Ḥaḍrat *Murarah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) in this regard. All the details are found in the account related by Ḥaḍrat *Ka’ab bin Mālik* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that I presented in detail last Friday.

Ḥaḍrat 'Utbaḥ bin Ghazwān (May Allāh be pleased with him):

He was known by the epithet *Abu 'Abdullah* and *Abu Ghazwān*. Ḥaḍrat *Utbaḥ* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a confederate of *Banu Naufal bin Abd-e-Manāf*. His father's name was *Ghazwān bin Jabir*. He was married to *Ardah bint Harith*. According to Ḥaḍrat 'Utbaḥ's (May Allāh be pleased with him) own account, he was among the first seven people who had accepted Islām. He was 40 years old when he migrated to Abyssinia. He then returned to Mecca and later migrated to Medina along with Ḥaḍrat *Miqdād* (May Allāh be pleased with him) who was also among early converts to Islām.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) read out excerpts from *Seerat Khatam un Nabiyyīn* by Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Ahmad Sahib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) regarding the commencement of *Jihād* of the sword and the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) defensive plans to protect the Muslims from the tyranny of the unbelievers.

When Ḥaḍrat 'Utbaḥ bin Ghazwān (May Allāh be pleased with him) and his freed slave *Khabbāb* migrated from Mecca to Medina, during their travel they stayed in the house of Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah bin Salamah 'Ajlāni (May Allāh be pleased with him) at *Quba*, and after reaching Medina they stayed with Ḥaḍrat 'Abbād bin Bishr (May Allāh be pleased with him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) established a bond of brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat 'Utbaḥ and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Dujānah* (May Allāh be pleased with them). I will speak more about Ḥaḍrat 'Utbaḥ bin Ghazwān (May Allāh be pleased with him) next time, *Insha 'Allāh*.

Launch of Daily Al-Fazl's New website alfazlonline.org:

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then announced the launch of the website for the *Daily Al-Fazl* and said: At the completion of 106 years of the *Al-Fazl* newspaper, an online edition is being launched from UK. This newspaper was started on 18th June 1913 by Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) with the permission and prayers of Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul Masīh I* (May Allāh be pleased with him). After the creation of Pakistan, it continued to be published from Lahore and then from Rabwah. Today, on 13th December 2019, its online edition is being launched from London so that it will become easily accessible to people all over the world through the internet. The website is alfazlonline.org and the first issue is available. The central IT department has done a lot of work on this site. It contains a lot of material regarding the importance of *Al-Fazl*. This website will contain commentary of verses of the Holy Qur'ān, sayings of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), extracts from the sayings and writings of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him), articles written by Ahmadī writers as well as other important articles, and poems and verses by Ahmadī poets. The newspaper is also available as Android app. Readers should make the best use of it and Ahmadī writers and poets should contribute with their literary pieces. The articles should be well-researched and of a high standard. A PDF image file of the daily issue will also be available to download. On Mondays it will contain the complete text of the Friday sermon, and a synopsis of the sermon will also be available. This website will be inaugurated after the Friday prayer, *Insha 'Allāh*.

Funeral Prayer:

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jama'at about the sad demise of *Syedah Tanvir-ul-Islām Sahiba*, wife of late *Mirza Hafeez Ahmad Sahib*. She was the great-granddaughter of Ḥaḍrat *Mir Hassām-ud-Din Sahib Sialkoti* (May Allāh be pleased with him), an esteemed Companion of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). She was granddaughter of Ḥaḍrat *Syed Mīr Hamid Shah Sahib* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and daughter-in-law of Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul Masīh II* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also informed the Jama'at about the sad demise of *Sister Hājah Shakoora Nūriyah Sahiba* of USA. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the great qualities of the deceased and their services for the Jama'at and led their funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 19 December 2019