

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 17th April 2020 from Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

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

Ḥaḍrat *Mu`āz bin Harith* (May Allāh be pleased with him)

He belonged to *Banu Mālik bin Najjār* clan of *Ansār’s* tribe *Khazraj*. His father’s name was *Harith bin Rifa`ah* and his mother was *Afrā’ bint `Ubaid*. Ḥaḍrat *Mu`awwiz* and Ḥaḍrat *`Auf* (May Allāh be pleased with them) were his brothers. In addition to their father’s name, the three brothers were also known by their mother’s name and were also known as *Banu Afrā’*. All three brothers took part in the Battle of *Badr*. Ḥaḍrat *Mu`awwiz* and Ḥaḍrat *`Auf* (May Allāh be pleased with them) were martyred in this battle while Ḥaḍrat *Mu`āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him) accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) in all the subsequent battles.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the incident of the killing of *Abu Jahl* as recorded in *Sahih Bukhāri*. Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) said on the day of the battle of *Badr*, “Who will go and see what has become of *Abu Jahl*?” Ḥaḍrat *Ibn-e-Mas`ūd* went and found that the two sons of *Afrā’*, *Mu`āz* and *Mu`awwiz*, had attacked *Abu Jahl* fiercely with their swords and he was dying. Ḥaḍrat *Abdullah bin Mas`ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, "Are you *Abu Jahl*?" *Abu Jahl* replied, "Have you ever killed anyone greater than myself?"

Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Ahmad Sahib* relates the incident of *Abu Jahl’s* killing as follows: The enemy that the Muslims were facing was three times larger in number, far better equipped, and had come with the intent of wiping Islam off the face of the earth. And yet the Muslims, despite being weak and ill-equipped, were showing feats of unparalleled bravery. Each one of them tried to surpass the other and seemed eager to sacrifice his life in the way of Allāh. *Hamza*, *Ali* and *Zubair* (May Allāh be pleased with them) had cut through enemy lines.

Ḥaḍrat 'Abdur Rahmān bin 'Auf (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates: When the battle began, I looked to my right and left and saw that I was flanked by two boys from *Ansār*. I felt a little bit perturbed at this because a person's safety in battle depends on those fighting alongside him. But then one of the boys spoke in a whisper and asked me who and where *Abu Jahl* was. He had hardly finished speaking when the boy on the other side asked me the same question. I was astonished at their courage because *Abu Jahl* was leader of his army and was surrounded by seasoned fighters. I pointed out to them where *Abu Jahl* was and at once the two boys went cutting through the enemy lines. They reached *Abu Jahl* and, before his men could see what was going on, had him on the ground. 'Ikrimah, *Abu Jahl*'s son, was with his father at the time. Though he could not save his father, he attacked *Mu`āz* with his sword, almost severing his arm. Ḥaḍrat *Mu`āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him) went after 'Ikrimah but he managed to escape. *Mu`āz* then pulled his arm off his shoulder and continued to fight.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh II (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: When *Abu Jahl* was born, scores of camels were slaughtered and drums were beaten in celebration, and yet his death was brought about by two fifteen-year-old boys, and even his last wish of being beheaded with his neck extended was not fulfilled.

Ḥaḍrat *Mu`āz bin Harith* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had four wives. From his first wife *Habiba bint Qais* he had a son named 'Ubaidullah. From his second wife *Umm-e-Harith bint Sabrah* he had *Harith*, 'Auf, *Salma* and *Ramlah*. From his third wife *Umm-e-Abdullah bint Numair* he had *Ibrahīm* and *Ayesha*. And from his fourth wife *Umm-e-Thabit* he had *Sarah*.

Usud ul-Ghābah cites various accounts with regard to the demise of Ḥaḍrat *Mu`āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him). According to one account, he was wounded in *Badr* and brought back to Medina where he succumbed to his injuries. According to another account, he lived until the era of Ḥaḍrat 'Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him). According to yet another account, he died during the war between Ḥaḍrat 'Ali (May Allāh be pleased with him) and *Amīr Mu`āwiyah* while fighting on the side of Ḥaḍrat 'Ali (May Allāh be pleased with him).

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the sad demise of *Rana Naeemuddin Sahib*, son of *Feroz Din Munshi Sahib*, who passed away on 9th April 2020. His family embraced Ahmadiyyat through his father *Feroz Din Sahib* who pledged *Bai'at* to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) by letter in 1906. After the partition of India, the family moved to Lahore and then to Rabwah. He then volunteered to serve in the *Furqan Battalion* after which Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh II (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent him to look after the farms in Mirpur Khas and he worked there for a few years. He joined the institution of

Wasiyyat in 1951. His wife *Sarah Parween* was the granddaughter of *Daulat Khan Sahib*, a Companion of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him).

According to the records, he was appointed in *Amla Hifāzat Khās* as a reserve in August 1954. Then, from November 1955 to May 1959, he served as a guard in *Amla Hifāzat Khās*. In those days Ḥaḍrat Musleh Mau'ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) was writing his commentary of the Holy Qur'ān and for this purpose he would often move to *Nakhla* and stay there for a few months. *Naeemuddin Sahib* would accompany him for the purpose of security and tending to the electricity generator.

After retiring from *Amla Hifāzat* in 1978, he moved to Harappa, District Sahiwal. He later became the mosque keeper in Sahiwal. In 1984, opponents of Ahmadiyyat attacked the mosque where *Rana Sahib* was on duty and he responded in defence. Consequently, a case was registered against 11 Ahmadīs, including *Rana Sahib*. He remained a prisoner of conscience from April 1984 to March 1994. A special military court passed death sentence against *Rana Sahib* and *Ilyas Munir Sahib* who was the missionary. However, they were acquitted by Lahore High Court in 1994. After his release he moved to London and continued to serve despite his old age. In 2010, his eldest daughter died, and a few days later his wife died as well.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: *Rana Sahib* left behind a son and four daughters. His son *Rana Wasim Ahmad* is a life devotee working in the Private Secretary Office in UK. He writes that his father always taught his children to hold fast to Khilāfat and told them that every good was linked to Khilāfat. He said that whenever he came for duty and saw Khalīfatul Masīh, he would regain his youth.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: He was very punctual and would be ready for duty a couple of hours in advance. He said that he was healthy and active because of being on duty close to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh. He always showed great courage and perseverance, even when he was tortured during his confinement in Pakistani prisons. He never told anyone even if he was ill and would only say, "I am fine, *Alhamdulillah*." He was a very kind and compassionate father and true friend. His son writes that when his Waqf was accepted, his father said to him: This is a great responsibility. Always try to fulfil your pledge with *Istighfār*. Keep quiet if someone hurts you. Leave the matter to Allāh and never lose your patience. *Rana Sahib* was very punctual in his payment of Chanda. He also silently helped needy people.

One of his daughters writes that his love for Khilāfat was enviable. Whenever Khalīfatul Masīh was mentioned, tears would well up in his eyes. All his life he told us that if we want to benefit from life we should become attached to Khilāfat like a magnet. His daughter-in-law says that *Rana Sahib* was very kind to her and treated her like a father. She says that whenever she woke up at night she always found him engaged in prayer.

Rana Sahib used to say that it was only on account of the Khalīfa's prayers that he was released from jail. His daughter writes that he would always urge her children to recite the Holy Qur'ān. He was regular in offering *tahajjud* prayer. He was very hospitable and looked after his relatives.

One of his daughters writes that he spent his days of imprisonment with great fortitude and submission to the will of Allāh and love for Khilāfat. She never heard him utter a word of complaint. His nephew writes that whenever they visited him in prison, they would all be very worried, but he would be calm and urge them to pray and to be patient.

Ilyas Munir Sahib, who suffered imprisonment along with *Rana Sahib*, writes that during the imprisonment he never saw *Rana Sahib* loose heart, not even when the military dictator passed a death sentence against them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I always saw in his face great tranquillity and love for Khilāfat. May Allāh engulf him in His love in the hereafter and grant him a place among his loved ones.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I have known him right from childhood. He was very kind towards me when I would visit Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh II (May Allāh be pleased with him) at *Nakhla*. After I became Khalīfa, his love grew manifold. May Allāh enable his children to follow in his footsteps. I could not lead his funeral prayer due to the restrictions, but I will lead his funeral prayer in absentia later on.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Some Ahmadīs are ill due to the virus. Let us pray that Allāh may heal them. May Allāh enable us to walk on His right path and to worship Him in the best manner.

May Allah rid us of this calamity soon. May Allāh enable the whole world to understand and recognize the One God. *Amīn*.

azākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 22 April 2020