

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 14th August 2020 from Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Today I will continue to speak about Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* (May Allāh be pleased with him) from where I left off two weeks ago. It is reported that a man named *Abu Mehjan Thaqafī* had been put in chains for the crime of drinking alcohol. When the war started, *Abu Mehjan* asked Ḥaḍrat *Salma bint Hafsa* (May Allāh be pleased with her), the wife of Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās*, to let him free so that he could join the battle. He promised that after the battle was over he would come back and put the chains back on. After Ḥaḍrat *Salma* let *Abu Mehjan* go, he rode to the battleground on Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad’s* horse and fought valiantly. Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* was not able to participate in the battle because of illness but he was directing the battle from afar. When he saw *Abu Mehjan*, he recognized him and his horse. The fighting continued for three days, at the end of which *Abu Mehjan* returned and put on the chains.

Citing this incident, Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said to Aḥmadī women: Women today should remember the bravery of Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad’s* wife. Likewise, four sons of Ḥaḍrat *Khansā’*, the famous poetess of *Banu Sulaim* tribe, also fought bravely in the battle of *Qādisiyyah* and were martyred. Before the day was over, the Islāmic flag was flying over *Qādisiyyah*. Ḥaḍrat *Khansā’* thanked God for having given her sons the honour of martyrdom.

After the conquest of *Qādisiyyah*, the Muslim army went on to conquer Babylon and *Kūthā*. From there the Muslim army proceeded to *Bahura Sīr*, which was where the Persian King’s fierce tiger was kept. When Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad’s* army came close to the town, the Persians let the tiger out and it came roaring towards the Muslim army. However, Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad’s* brother *Hashim bin Abi Waqās* cut the tiger down with his sword and it was instantly killed.

The Battle of *Madā’in* also took place at this time. *Madā’in* was the capital of the Persian King where he had white palaces. The Persians destroyed all the bridges on the Tigris that were between them and the Muslim forces, whereupon Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* ordered his army to cross the river swimming and plunged his own horse into the river while it was in flood. His army followed him and rapidly crossed the river without breaking their lines. The Persian, watching this apparently impossible feat,

fled. The Muslims then marched forward and took over the King's palaces, thus fulfilling the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him).

After the conquest of *Madā'in*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* sought Ḥaḍrat 'Umar's (May Allāh be pleased with him) permission to march on, but Ḥaḍrat 'Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) said that this was enough for the moment and that he should concentrate on the governance of the conquered lands. Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* carried out this task very wisely and diligently. He held a population census and had the whole area mapped.

With Ḥaḍrat 'Umar's (May Allāh be pleased with him) permission, *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* established the city of *Kūfa* which served as a military cantonment and accommodated 100,000 soldiers. Different Arab tribes were housed in different quarters and a large mosque was built in the middle of the town that could hold up to 40,000 worshippers at a time. Near the mosque he built a *Baitul Māl* building and his own palace that was known as *Qasr-e-Sa'ad*.

After the failed assassination attempt on the life of Ḥaḍrat 'Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) in 23 AH, Ḥaḍrat 'Umar constituted a board that would elect the next Khalīfa. Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* was appointed as one of its members. Ḥaḍrat 'Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) instructed that if *Sa'ad* was elected then he would be the Khalīfa, and if someone else was elected then he must continue to consult with *Sa'ad*.

After Ḥaḍrat 'Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) was elected Khalīfa, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* was once again appointed the Governor of *Kūfa* where he served for three years. Thereafter Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* had some altercation with Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah bin Mas'ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him), who was in-charge of *Baitul Māl*, and Ḥaḍrat 'Uthmān removed him from the post of Governor. After this, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* retired to a life of seclusion in Medina and avoided taking sides in any dispute.

One day, when the time of Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* was close, he was lying with his head on his son *Mus'ab's* lap. Seeing tears in his son's eyes, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* said, "God will never punish me, for I am among the dwellers of paradise." One day his son asked him why he treated *Ansār* with more kindness than anyone else, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* replied, "I have heard the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) say that the believer is closer to *Ansār* and the hypocrite keeps away from them."

There are various accounts regarding Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad's* demise which place his death between 51 and 58 AH and his age between seventy and eighty. He left behind 250,000 dirham. *Marwān bin Hakam* led his funeral prayer and he was buried in *Jannat-ul-Baqī'*. The wives of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) also took part in his funeral prayer. He was the last of *Muhajirīn* to pass away.

William Muir, the famous orientalist, writes that the Companions who fought in the Battle of *Badr* were considered most eminent in Islāmic society. This is why at the time of his death Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* asked for the gown that he had worn at *Badr*. *Sa'ad* was

young when he fought in the Battle of *Badr*. Later he conquered Persia, served as founder of Kūfa and Governor Iraq, and yet all these honours were nothing in his eyes as compared to his participation in the Battle of *Badr*.

Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* had nine wives at different times. He had 34 children, 17 boys and 17 girls.

In the second part of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at about the sad demise of some members of the Jamā'at.

1. *Safdar Ali Gujjar Sahib* passed away on 25th July at the age of 79. He was a Mūṣī and served as volunteer in the UK Jamā'at's hospitality department for 30 years.
2. *Iffat Naseer Sahiba*, wife of *Naseer Ahmad Khan Sahib*, passed away on 3rd May at the age of 90. She was a devout and prayerful person and offered *Tahajjud* regularly. She served Lajna UK in various positions.
3. *Abdur Raheem Saqi Sahib* passed away on 31st March. He was serving as a volunteer in the General Secretary UK's office.
4. *Saeed Ahmad Sehgal Sahib* passed away on 12th April at the age of 90. He was serving as a volunteer in the dispatch section of the Private Secretary's office.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that may Allāh have mercy on the deceased and accept their prayers in favour of their progeny. *Āmīn*.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(For) Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 19 August 2020