

The Amīr/National President Jamā'at Ahmadīyya,	
Dear Brother,	
	السلام عليكم ورحمة اللدو بركاية

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ* V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 3rd September 2021 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: A few days ago, one of our very dear young life-devotees, *Syed Taala'y Ahmad*, son of *Syed Hashim Akbar*, was martyred in Ghana. *To Allah we belong and to Him we shall return*. On the night between 23rd and 24th August, a three-member MTA team was filming a documentary in the northern region of Ghana when *Syed Taala'y Ahmad* and *'Umar Faroog* were shot and injured by robbers at around 7.30 pm.

Syed Taala'y Ahmad was the paternal grandson of Syed Mīr Muhammad Ahmad Sahib and Umm-e-Latīf Begum Sahiba. Umm-e-Latīf Begum Sahiba was the daughter of Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr Ahmad Sahib whereas Syed Mīr Muhammad Ahmad Sahib was the son of Ḥaḍrat Dr Mīr Muhammad Ismail Sahib (May Allāh be pleased with them).

Ḥaḍrat *Mīr Muhammad Ismail Sahib* was the younger brother of Ḥaḍrat *Amma Jān* (May Allāh be pleased with her); in this respect, *Taala'y* was descended from Ḥaḍrat *Amma Jān*, and also from the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). He was son-in-law of the late *Mirza Ghulam Qadir*, *Shaheed*. By the grace of Allāh, he was a Mūṣī and also a *Waqif-e-Nau*.

After acquiring a degree in biomedical science, he earned a master's degree in journalism. He dedicated his life in 2013 and served in various offices. In 2016, he was appointed full time in MTA News department where he worked on preparing documentaries. The weekly program "This Week with Huzoor" was his initiative. He also had the opportunity to serve in his local Jamā'at and in Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya.

Syed Taala'y had an extraordinary passion for completing his work with a high standard, and he did so without any fear. This is evident from the incident of his martyrdom. According to the zonal missionary, he had advised the team against traveling at night, but Taala'y decided that it would be appropriate to do so due to time constraints. Taala'y was very conscious about preserving the Jamā'at's property and saving time, therefore, he was working on his laptop as they were coming back. This was when the robbers opened fire on the vehicle near Mpaha junction as a result of which Taala'y was shot in the back and seriously wounded. He underwent medical treatment at the polyclinic and died on the way to Tamale Teaching Hospital, about four and a half hours after the incident.

Umar Farooq Sahib says that Taala'y's head was on his thigh and he kept asking if Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) had been informed of the incident. On his way to the hospital, despite the loss of blood and severe pain, Taala'y told his companions that during the firing he had pushed laptops and other valuable equipment under the back seats of the car from where they could be retrieved. Despite being in such a critical condition, he was

concerned about the safety of Jamā'at's property and historic material. *Umar Farooq Sahib* says that *Taala'y* repeatedly said to him, "Tell Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) that I love him, and tell my family that I love them."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that *Taala'y* was a precious gem who has departed from us. Allāh will continue to bless the Jamā'at with devoted members who give priority to their faith over everything else, but this loss has severely shaken us. He was a dear brother who understood the true spirit of Waqf and fulfilled his pledge in its true spirit. I was always amazed at this young man, and still am, that he was raised in this materialistic environment and yet not only understood the pledge of Waqf rather lived up to it as well. He would read the stories of the elders so as to adopt their qualities in his own life. Such a deep perception of loyalty and sincerity to the Khalīfa is not found even among those with great knowledge of faith and religion. A few years ago he wrote a poem expressing his love and affection for Khilāfat and gave it to a friend telling him not to show it to anyone. He starts the poem with the words, "I love my Caliph more than the others," and ends it with, "I love my Caliph, but he will never know." Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: My dear *Taala'y*, I knew of your love even before you wrote those words. Your love was reflected in your every action, every movement, in the gleam of your eyes and in the radiance of your face.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: He was attached to his work so that through it he could defend Islām and the religion of the Prophet Muhammad (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). At the funeral of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masih IV (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him), he came and stood on my right hand. At the time I didn't know who he was. It is possible that at that moment the thirteen-year-old boy pledged to be the helper of the Khalīfa of the time. He then completed his education and years later fulfilled this vow perfectly and demonstrated through his martyrdom that he was indeed the true helper of Khilāfat.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: My dear *Taala'y*! I testify that you have certainly achieved the highest standard in terms of fulfilling your pledge and your Waqf. His eagerness to follow every word of the Khalīfa can be gauged from the fact that after I instructed the missionaries in a meeting to offer *Tahajjud* for at least one hour every day, *Taala'y* started to do so.

As a member of the Promised Messiah's (Peace be upon him) family, he also set an example of loyalty and sincerity for the members of the family. He was also a great role model for life-devotees. He never complained about financial hardship or low allowances. He always prayed to Allāh not to put him through adversity. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I knew of his loyalty and devotion, but the standards of his virtue and piety were also very high.

Amir Safeer Sahib says that he knows from first-hand experience that Syed Taala'y was a man of many abilities. When he started on a project, he endeavoured to make it something memorable. Qudus Arif Sahib, President of Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya, UK, says that he had known Taala'y from childhood and had seen him go through the short commentary and five-volume commentary very carefully. His wife Satwat Sahiba says that he had great love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and would weep when telling his son Talal stories of the Holy Prophet's life (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). When their son was studying in a Christian school, Taala'y would recite Sūrah Ikhlās with him while going to school. At times when the thought that the Khalīfa had disapproved of

something, he would cry and seek forgiveness in *Tahajjud*. He had extraordinary trust in Allāh, and Allāh always fulfilled his needs.

The father of the martyr writes, "Alhamdulillah! God chose our son for martyrdom. In his love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), his soul roamed the streets of Mecca and Medina of fourteen hundred years ago, and his body was an embodiment of love."

The mother of the late martyr says, "After the demise of my son, I have realized even more how much he loved you (Huzoor)." The sister of the deceased, *Nudrat Sahiba*, says that *Taala'y* had vast knowledge of religion and had studied Ḥadīth in depth. He would try to grasp the Arabic language and its grammar. He employed all his mental faculties to attain nearness to Allāh to serve the Jamā'at. *Taala'y* had a dream about his martyrdom in which he saw himself entering paradise wearing the uniform of Khuddām-ul-Aḥmadiyya and carrying its flag, and everyone calling him by the name of his father-in-law, *Mirza Ghulam Qadir*. His younger sister says that he was the best role model. He always listened to the *Dars* of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masih IV (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) while going to the office.

Abid Waheed Sahib says that during the preparation of the documentaries, he often saw Taala'y working for 18 or 19 hours. Mirza Talha Ahmad says that Taala'y was skilled in script-writing and story-telling. Naseem Bajwa Sahib says that as a missionary he knew Taala'y from childhood. He was punctual, serious, intelligent, fond of religious knowledge, obedient, hospitable, respectful of elders. Nausherwān Rasheed Sahib says that he has seen Taala'y keep fast every Thursday for the last three years.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: *Taala'y* has done justice to being a descendant of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). He was from among the progeny of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), this is why Allāh chose him for martyrdom in the month of *Muharram*. Hopefully, Allāh has given him a place in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Someone saw in a dream that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) was standing in some place when *Taala'y* ran to him and hugged him tightly. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) embraced him and said, "Come, my son. You are welcome."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would lead *Taala'y's* funeral prayer after the Friday prayer. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh be the guardian of his wife and children, and give patience and solace to his parents and siblings. May his siblings and his children carry on his good deeds. *Amīn*.

Jazākumullāh Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr ISLĀMABAD (UK) Dated: 09 September 2021