

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 03rd December 2021 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, I will start relating the accounts from the life of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Before Islām, his name had been ‘*Abdul-Ka‘abah* but the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) changed it to ‘*Abdullah*. His *kunniyat* (epithet) was *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), whereas *Atīq* and *Siddīq* were his titles. It is said that he was born in 573, two-and-a-half years after ‘*Ām-ul-Fīl* (The Year of the Elephant). He belonged to *Banu Taim bin Murrah* tribe of *Quraish*. His father’s name was ‘*Uthmān bin ‘Āmir* and his epithet was *Abu Quhāfah*. His mother’s name was *Salma bint Sakhar bin ‘Āmir* and her epithet was *Umm-ul-Khair*. Going back seven generations, the ancestry of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is connected with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) through *Murrah*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) parents were still alive when he passed away and they received his inheritance. After his demise, his mother passed away first, followed by his father in 14 AH at the age of 97. His father accepted Islām at the time of the conquest of Mecca. His mother was among the first converts to Islām.

At the time when there were only 38 Muslims and they would worship secretly in *Dar-e-Arqam*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) persuaded the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) to come to the sacred mosque where they started calling people towards Allāh. Hearing this, the idolaters attacked Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and the other Muslims, and beat them up. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was so trampled upon that it seemed as if he had been killed. After he regained consciousness, he first inquired about the Messenger of Allāh but people kept silent. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then asked his mother to go to *Umm-e-Jamīl*, the sister of Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and ask her about the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). *Umm-e-Jamil* came to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) but was cautious about saying anything in the presence of his mother. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) assured her that his mother could be trusted to keep her secret. *Umm-e-Jamīl* then said that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was well and was in *Dar-e-Arqam*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, By Allāh, I shall not eat nor drink until I have first presented myself before the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). He walked with her support until he reached the Holy Prophet

(May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) and was overcome with intense emotions. Seeing his condition, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) bent to kiss Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) spoke about the compassion of his mother and said that Allāh might save her from Fire for the sake of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) then invited Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s mother to Islām and she accepted the call.

Regarding Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) title '*Atīq*', Ḥaḍrat *Ayesha* says that on one occasion Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said, “You have been saved by Allāh, from the fire.” Some historians believe that '*Atīq*' was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) actual name but this is not correct. It is said of his second title '*Siddīq*' that it was given to him in the days prior to Islām. It is also said that this title was given to him because of his immediate and unhesitating acceptance of the Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) claim. Ḥaḍrat *Ayesha* relates that when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was taken on his nocturnal journey to the *Baitul Maqdas*, people started saying all sorts of things, but Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said that if the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had said it then it must be true. People asked him if he could testify to something so impossible, and he said, “I also attest to the fact that God’s Word is revealed to him day and night.”

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that only Allāh knows of all the qualities that were found in Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that led the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) to call him *Siddīq*. The devotion and loyalty shown by Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was indeed without parallel.

Apart from '*Atīq*' and *Siddīq*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) also had other titles, such as ‘*خَلِيفَةُ الرَّسُولِ اللَّهِ*’ (successor of the Prophet), ‘*أَوَّاهٌ*’ (most kind and tender-hearted), and ‘*أَمِيرُ الشَّاكِرِينَ*’ (the leader of the grateful). Allāh also referred to him as ‘*ثَانِيِ اثْنَيْنِ*’ in the verse:

إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيِ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا

when the disbelievers drove him forth while he was one of the two when they were both in the cave, when he said to his companion, ‘Grieve not, for Allāh is with us.’ (9:40)

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: “During a period of great hardship, Allāh comforted His Prophet through *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He was honoured by being granted the title of *Al-Siddīq* (The Truthful) and he enjoyed the nearness of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). Moreover, Allāh bestowed upon him the title of ‘one of the two’ and counted him amongst His most chosen servants. Do you know of anyone else who has been so praised by the Holy Qur’ān and whose character has been secured against all doubts and suspicions?”

‘صَاحِبُ الرَّسُولِ’ (Companion of the Prophet) was also one of his titles. One day, when *Sūrah Taubah* was recited and the words ‘إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ’ (when he said to his companion), Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) eyes welled up with tears and he said, “I was his companion.”

One of his titles is ‘آدم ثاني’ (the second Adam) and it was given to him by the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). In one of his letters, he says that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is the second Adam of Islām. In *Sirrul Khilafah*, he says that *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the second Adam for Islām and the foremost manifestation of the spiritual grace of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him).

Another of his titles is ‘خَلِيلُ الرَّسُولِ’ (Friend of the Prophet). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said: “If I made a *Khalīl* (very close friend), it would be *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).” The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: *خُلَّةٌ* (A deep friendship) is a bond that becomes deeply ingrained within a person, and such a relationship is exclusive to Allāh. What the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) meant was that no one can share the love of Allāh, but if he were to have such a friend in this world, it would be *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

There are various reasons given for his name *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). For example, ‘*Bakr*’ refers to a young camel, and since he took a keen interest in looking after and tending to camels, he got this surname. Some believe that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) gave him this title because he acted swiftly (إبتكار) in accepting Islām and in other good deeds.

Ḥaḍrat *Aysha* relates that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had a fair complexion, slender body, curved back and high forehead. There was little flesh on his cheeks and he had deep-set eyes. He used to dye his hair with *henna* and *katam* (plants used to dye hair). He was gentle and popular among the people. He was a businessman and his attractive personality and unparalleled morals were a major factor in the success of his business. At the time of the advent of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) total wealth amounted to 40,000 dirhams.

Even before Islām, he held a high position among *Quraish* due to his excellent morals and financial resources. He was given a deep knowledge of the interpretation of dreams. He had also reached perfection in the art of genealogy. Before Islām, it was the responsibility of the tribe of *Banu Taim bin Murrah* to collect blood money and donations, therefore, when *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was young, this service was entrusted to him. He was also part of the *حِلْفُ الْفُضُولِ* (Pact to help the poor and the oppressed). Even before the Revelation, he had a special relationship with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) and had the privilege of accompanying him on most trade journeys. Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib* says that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was number one in his relationship with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him).

upon him). He had hated idolatry even before Islām, had never bowed before any idol, and disliked alcohol.

Regarding Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) conversion to Islām, it is related that one day he was at the house of Ḥaḍrat *Hakim bin Hizām* when *Hakīm's* slave girl said that her aunt *Khadija* had told her that her husband had been sent as a Prophet just like Moses. Hearing this, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) quickly got up, came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and accepted Islām.

It is mentioned in '*Al-Rouḍul-Anf*', a commentary of *Seerat Ibn-e-Hishām* that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had a dream that the moon had come down in Mecca and had scattered all over the place and in all the houses. Then he saw that the moon had been gathered in his lap. It is mentioned in '*Subul-ul-Huda*' that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had this dream while he was in Syria for trade. *Bahira*, the monk, interpreted the dream to mean that a Prophet would be sent to his people and that *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) would be his minister in his life and his successor after him.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that, God willing, he would continue with these narrations in future.

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 08 December 2021