

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadīyya,

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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 17th December 2021 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) continued with the series of sermons regarding Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I will relate some more accounts regarding the freeing of slaves by Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He had *Nahdiyah* and her daughter freed at a high price. One day, Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar bin Khattāb* (May Allāh be pleased with him), who had not yet converted to Islām, was persecuting a Muslim slave girl of *Bani Mu‘ammil*. When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) saw this, he bought her freedom. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) father once advised him that he should help to free strong young men so that they could serve to protect him, to which he replied that he only wanted the pleasure of Allāh. *Allama Qurtubi* and *Allama Alusi* and some other commentators say that the verses (6 to 22) of *Sūrah Al-Lail* starting from فَأَمَّا مَنْ أَعْطَىٰ وَاتَّقَىٰ, were revealed to honour this act of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau‘ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates the following incident regarding Ḥaḍrat *Khabbab* who had previously been a slave. One day, someone noticed that the skin on Ḥaḍrat *Khabbab*’s back was as hard and rough as that of a cow. When he asked him about the cause of it, Ḥaḍrat *Khabbab* said: After we converted to Islām, our master would make us lie down in the scorching heat and beat us and tell us to recant our belief in Muhammad. When we continued to recite the *Kalima*, he would drag us on sharp rocks. What you see on my back is the result of that beating and dragging. Ḥaḍrat *Khabbab* suffered in this manner for many years before Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) sold a large portion of his own property to pay for the freedom of Ḥaḍrat *Khabbab*.

In Rajab, 5 AH, after the persecution by the infidels crossed all limits, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) instructed the Muslims to migrate. Eleven men and four women then migrated to Abyssinia. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) also set out with this intention, however, when he reached a place called *Barqar Ghimād*, he met *Ibn-e-Daghna*, the chief of the tribe of *Qarah*. Realizing Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) intention to migrate, *Ibn-e-Daghna* offered him his protection and returned with him to Mecca. *Ibn-e-Daghna* said to the chiefs of *Quraish*, "*Abu Bakr* is not the kind of man who is expelled from his homeland, nor does he leave his homeland. Are you going to expel a man who embodies virtues that have been long

lost, who honours his family and ties, who carries the burden of the tired and weary, and who hosts guests and helps those in difficulties?" *Quraish* accepted *Ibn-e-Daghna's* protection for Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) but said that *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) should only worship his Lord within the confines of his home. Thereafter, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) would pray and recite the Holy Qur'ān at home. After some time, he built a place of worship in the courtyard adjacent to his house, where the women and children of the idolaters would crowd around him and would be astonished to see his immersion in worship. When the *Quraish* of Mecca complained to *Ibn-e-Daghna* about this, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said to *Ibn-e-Daghna*: "I renounce the protection I have under your authority, and I am content under the protection of Allāh."

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in *She'b Abi Talib*. Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib* says that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) did not leave the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) even in the most challenging circumstances.

Ḥaḍrat *Ibn-e-Abbās* says: At the time when the following verses were revealed:

عَلَيْتِ الرُّومُ فِي آدْنَى الْأَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ عَلَيْهِمْ سَيِّغْلِبُونَ

The Romans have been defeated. In the land nearby, and they, after their defeat, will be victorious. (30:3-4)

Sahih Bukhari mentions four prophecies of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) that were fulfilled gloriously. They include the prophecy about the Romans overcoming the Persians. *Allama Badruddīn 'Aini* writes that a bet took place between Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and *Abu Jahl* regarding the Romans and Persians and they fixed a period of a few years. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said that the word "بِضْعٌ" refers to nine or seven years, therefore, he instructed him to increase the time period. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) did just that and ultimately the Romans gained the victory. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that the word "بِضْعٌ" is metaphoric and often means up to 9 years.

Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib* says that this event occurred while the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) was still in Mecca and had not yet migrated. Then, within the appointed time frame, the war took a turn and the Romans defeated the Persians soon after. Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that some of the infidels had made a wager of a hundred camels with Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Apparently, the possibility of fulfilment of this prophecy seemed far-fetched, but in the decisive battle, the Romans, despite their shortage of numbers and supplies, prevailed over the Iranians, according to the prophecy of the Holy Qur'ān.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced to continue with rest of the accounts in the future, *Inshā'Allāh*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then appealed for prayers for the Aḥmadīs of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that Aḥmadīs in

Afghanistan are going through a lot of hardships. Some have been arrested, others have been made homeless. May Allāh make things easy for them. In Pakistan, too, the situation is generally bad and incidents keep taking place. May Allah enable the world to recognize the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and put an end to all evil. May the world come to recognize its Creator. *Amīn*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then spoke about some members of the Jamā'at who passed away recently and led their funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

1. *Alhaj 'Abdul Rehman 'Ainān*, Former Secretary Public Affairs and Officer Jalsa Sālāna Ghana, died at the age of 81. He was the long-time president of the Greater Accra Region.

2. *Azyab Ali Muhammad Al-Jabali* of Jordan passed away recently. He had pledged Bai'at in 2010 and was the only Aḥmadī in his area. He was a devout Aḥmadī with firm faith.

3. *Din Mohammad Shahid Sahib*, retired Missionary, passed away in Canada at the age of 92 years. Aside from Pakistan, he served in the Fiji Islands for four years as the Missionary-in-Charge. He also worked as Press Secretary in Rabwah for a long time.

4. *Mian Rafiq Ahmed Sahib*, who was a worker in the office of Jalsa Sālāna, Rabwah, passed away at the age of 87 years. He was a mechanical engineer. He first served the Jalsa Sālāna office as a volunteer but then formally dedicated his life in 1989 and served as Nāẓim for Technical Affairs. He served in this position till his last breath. He was sincere, devout, compassionate and a man of noble character.

5. *Qanta Zafar Sahiba*, wife of *Ehsanullah Zafar Sahib* former Amīr of USA, died in a car accident recently. She was born in 1941 and had a PhD. She had a deep love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him), Khilāfat and the Holy Qur'ān.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed for the forgiveness of all the deceased and for the elevation of their status in heaven.

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 22 December 2021