

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 24th 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: *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is also mentioned in the context of the Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) migration to Medina. As persecution of Muslims by the infidels of Mecca saw no bounds, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was shown in a dream that the Muslims were migrating to a barren land surrounded by date palms. Considering these signs, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) concluded that this place could either be *Yamama* or *Hajar*. Sometime later, when *Ansār* started converting to Islām, it was revealed to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) by Divine intuition that the migration was to be towards the land of *Yathrib*, which later came to be known as Medina.

With the permission of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), the Muslims of Mecca started migrating to Medina, and the process intensified after the Second Bai’at at *Aqaba*. The tyrant chiefs of Mecca, in a fit of rage, started using novel methods of persecution against the Muslims. While the believers who were able to migrate continued to do so, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) stayed on waiting for the Divine command. When *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) asked his permission to migrate, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said, “Stay awhile, for I am hopeful that I too shall be granted permission.” In the end, only the Messenger of Allāh, *Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), *Ḥaḍrat ‘Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and a few slaves were left in Mecca.

Ḥaḍrat Musleh Mau‘ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that when the disbelievers of Mecca feared that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) might migrate to Medina, they convened at *Dārul Nadwah*, the house of *Qusai bin Qilāb*, to discuss the matter. That day is known as *Yaumuz Zahmah*. This meeting was attended by a large party of chieftains of *Quraish* and by some chiefs who were not of *Quraish*. They considered proposals against the Prophet, such as confining him and expelling him from his homeland. *Abu Jahl*, however, suggested that strong and well-bred young men should be chosen from each tribe of *Quraish* and they should kill Muhammad. In this way, his blood would be on all the tribes, and *Banu ‘Abd-e-Manāf*, not being able to fight all of them, would have to settle for blood money. Thereupon, a devilish old man, whom no one knew, said, "I am one of the people of *Najd* and I have come for your good." He then forcefully supported the opinion of *Abu Jahl* and everyone agreed to it. On the other

hand, Allāh informed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) of the situation through *Jibrīl* (Peace be upon him) and permitted him to migrate. Allāh also gave him glad tidings of his triumphant return to Mecca.

After receiving permission to migrate, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) carefully covered himself with a cloth despite the heat of midday, so that no one would recognize him, and went to the house of *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) told *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that he had received permission from Allāh to Migrate. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said: "O Messenger of Allāh! Will you take me with you?" He said: "Yes." Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had already bought two camels for 800 dirhams and prepared them for the journey. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) insisted on buying one of the camels from Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) for four hundred dirhams, or eight hundred dirhams according to another narration.

According to the plan, the first destination was the Cave of *Thawr* where they were to stay for three days. *ʿAbdullah bin Uraiqit*, a polytheist but a decent man, who knew all the desert routes around Mecca, was given three camels to bring to the Cave of *Thawr* early in the morning, three days later. This man would later become a Muslim. *ʿAbdullah bin Abu Bakr* was entrusted with the task of reporting every night what was going on in Mecca. A wise and responsible slave of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), *ʿAmir bin Fuhairah*, was given the duty of grazing his goats around the Cave of *Thawr* and providing fresh goat milk at night. Ḥaḍrat *ʿAli* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was to sleep on the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) bed at night, covering himself with a green or, according to one tradition, a red chador. He was further instructed to return to people their belongings and possessions that they had entrusted to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and proceed to Medina after three days.

There are varying accounts regarding the exact time of the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) departure. According to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him), he left the house in the morning and none of the enemies saw him even though they had surrounded his house. Allāh says in *Sūrah Yāsīn* that the eyes of those unfortunate people were veiled and that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) left them in a state of utter humiliation. There are also varying narrations with regards to the direction the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) took after leaving his house. The one which seems most accurate is that he went to the house of *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and then departed for the Cave of *Thawr*. At this time, Ḥaḍrat *Aysha* put some provisions in a bag for both of them. There was nothing to tie up the bag with, therefore, Ḥaḍrat *Asma* cut a piece from her girdle and tied the bag with it. Seeing this, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said: "O *Asma*! In exchange for this girdle, may Allāh grant you two girdles in paradise." Thereafter, Ḥaḍrat *Asma* came to be called *Zāt-un-Nitāqain*.

During the migration journey, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) kept reciting the verse:

وَقُلْ رَبِّ ادْخُلْنِيْ مُدْخَلَ صِدْقٍ وَّاَخْرِجْنِيْ مُخْرَجَ صِدْقٍ وَّاَجْعَلْ لِّيْ مِنْ لَّدُنْكَ سُلْطٰنًا نَّصِيْرًا

And say, 'O my Lord, make my entry a good entry and then make me come forth with a good forthcoming. And grant me from Thyself a helping power.' (17:81)

Sharh Zarqani also mentions a prayer. While departing from behind the *Ka'aba*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) turned his blessed countenance towards Mecca and addressed the city, saying: "O Mecca, by God, of all of Allāh's lands you indeed are the dearest to me and also the most beloved to Allāh; and if your people had not forced me out, I would never have left."

When they reached the Cave of *Thawr*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) requested the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) to wait outside while he went in and cleaned the cave thoroughly, and so that if there was anything dangerous inside, he would be the one to encounter it. He cleaned the cave and blocked any holes and crevices with his clothes. He then invited the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) inside. It is stated that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) lay down and placed his head on Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) thigh. There was a hole that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) kept covered with his foot. Either a scorpion or snake kept biting him through this hole but, not wanting to disturb the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) rest, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) remained still. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) woke up, he noticed that the colour of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) face had changed and asked what was wrong. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) explained what had happened, upon which the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) applied his blessed saliva to the wound on his foot, and it healed as if nothing had ever happened.

When *Quraish* of Mecca came to know of the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) departure and that Ḥaḍrat *'Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had been sleeping in his bed instead of him, they beat Ḥaḍrat *'Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him) but later let him go. While interrogating Ḥaḍrat *Asma*, *Abu Jahl* raised his hand and slapped her across the face so hard that her earring broke and fell. Finally, *Umayyah bin Khalf* took an expert tracker, *Qurz bin 'Alqama*, with him and he led them to the cave. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) narrates that he could see their feet outside and that if any one of them had peered inside, they would have been caught. However, in this time of great peril, Allāh had miraculously caused a spider to spin a web at the mouth of the cave and had sent a pair of pigeons to make a nest and lay eggs at the entrance.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said he would continue with these narrations in future, *Inshā'Allāh*.

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 30 December 2021