

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 25th February 2022 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ V (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: The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) left for *Hajjat-ul-Wada’* on a Thursday or a Saturday when six days were left in the month of *Zi-Qa’adah*. On this occasion, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) submitted, ‘O Messenger of Allāh! I have a camel on which we can load our provisions,’ and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said, ‘Yes, go ahead.’ However, during the journey, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) servant somehow lost the camel. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr’s* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was about to hit the servant when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) smiled and said, ‘Look at what this *Muhrim* (a pilgrim who is in the state of *Ihrām*) is doing!’ When some of the Companions learnt about the loss of the Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) provisions, they brought him some ‘Hees’, a confectionary made from dates, flour and butter. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) asked Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to be lenient to his servant. Later when *Safwān bin Mua’ttal*—whose duty was to follow the caravan and make sure nothing was left behind—arrived with the camel and the provisions.

On the way to *Hajjat-ul-Wada’*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr’s* (May Allāh be pleased with him) wife *Asma’ bint ‘Umair* gave birth to *Muhammad bin Abi Bakr*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said that *Asma’* should bathe and wear *Ihrām* for Hajj and perform all the other rituals, except for *Tawāf*.

When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was travelling through the valley of *‘Usfān*, he said to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that Ḥaḍrat *Hūd* and Ḥaḍrat *Sālih* (Peace be upon them) had passed this very place on their way to perform the Hajj while reciting the *Talbiyah*.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was among those who had a sacrificial animal with them for the pilgrimage.

During his last illness, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said that *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) should lead people in prayer. Ḥaḍrat *‘Ayesha* thought that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) could not lead the prayer

because he would not be able to control his emotions. She, therefore, told Ḥaḍrat *Hafsah* to ask Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to lead the prayer. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) learnt of this, he expressed displeasure and said, ‘Tell *Abu Bakr* that it is he who will lead the people in prayer.’ One day, when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) felt some relief from his illness, he came to the mosque. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was leading the prayer and seeing the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) he stepped back. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) gestured for him to continue and sat down beside him. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) followed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) in prayer while the congregation followed Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

According to an account in *Sahīh Bukhari*, on the day that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) passed away, he raised the curtain of his chamber, looked at the worshippers and smiled. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) stepped back thinking that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was coming to pray, but the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) gestured him to continue and drew back the curtain.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) passed away while Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was out of town in *Sana‘a* (in the outskirts of Medina). Upon hearing the news, Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) stood up and said, ‘I swear by Allāh, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) has not passed away.’ When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) returned to Medina, he removed the cloth from the face of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), kissed his forehead, and said, ‘May my parents be sacrificed for you. You are holy and pure at the time of your demise just as you were during your life. I swear by Him in Whose hands is my life that Allāh will never allow you to be subjected to two deaths.’ Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then came outside and said, ‘Whosoever worshipped Muhammad, let him know that Muhammad has surely passed away. And whosoever worships Allāh, let him know that he is Living and can never die.’ He then recited the verses:

إِنَّكَ مَيِّتٌ وَإِنَّهُمْ مَيِّتُونَ

“Surely, thou wilt die, and surely they too will die.” (39:31)

وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ أَفَأَبْأَبُنَّ مَا تَأْتِيهِمْ أَلْفَافٌ أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّهُمْ لَمَّا نَجَبُوا إِلَىٰ أَعْقَابِكُمْ

“And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels shall not harm Allāh at all. And Allāh will certainly reward the grateful.” (3:145)

Upon hearing this, the people wept profusely. Ḥaḍrat *Ibn-e-‘Abbās* says: I swear by Allāh, it seemed as though until the moment that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had recited this verse, people were not even aware that it had been revealed, and then I saw everyone going about reciting it.

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) recited these verses, the truth at once dawned upon him and he started crying. Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) himself says: I felt as if those two verses had been revealed that very day. My knees gave way and I fell to the ground trembling.

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that this was the first and only consensus of the Companions as they were all present at that moment. There had never been a time before this when all the Muslims had gathered at one place. In this consensus, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) recited the verses and all the Companions agreed with him.

In this context, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) has conferred such a great favour upon this *Ummah* that it is not possible to offer enough gratitude for it. Had he not gathered all the Companions in *Masjid Nabawi* and recited before them the verse stating that all Prophets have passed away, this *Ummah* would have been destroyed, for, in such an event, the evil-minded clerics of this age would have claimed that the Companions believed in Jesus still being alive. However, when Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) read out this verse, the Companions unanimously agreed that all previous prophets had passed away.

With regards to the *Khilāfat* of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), it is said that when the Companions learnt of the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) demise, they gathered at *Thaqifah Banu Sā'idah* and were of the view that Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Ubādah* was eligible for *Khilāfat*. When the question was raised as to what would happen if *Muhājirīn* did not accept him as *Khalīfa*, it was suggested that there could be one *Khalīfa* from among *Ansār* and one from among *Muhājirīn*, but this was rejected by Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Ubādah*.

While *Ansār* were debating the issue of *Khilāfat* at *Thaqifah Banu Sā'idah*, Ḥaḍrat *'Umar*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Ubaidah* and other eminent Companions were gathered at *Masjid Nabawi* trying to come to terms with the loss of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), while Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*, Ḥaḍrat *'Ali* and other members of the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) family were occupied in making the funeral preparations.

Upon hearing of the gathering of *Ansār*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*, Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Ubaidah* (May Allāh be pleased with them) went to *Thaqifah Banu Sā'idah* where the debate was going on. On this occasion, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) delivered a very effective and eloquent speech. He described the past condition of the Arabs and circumstances in which the first *Muhājirīn* testified to the truth of the Messenger of Allāh. He then spoke about *Ansār's* acceptance of *Islām* and their role as the helpers of the Messenger of Allāh. He addressed *Ansār* and said: After *Muhājirīn* there is no equal to you in rank and status. The leader will be from among us and you will be the advisors. You will be consulted in every important matter and we will not make any crucial decision without consulting you. You all recall that the Messenger of Allāh said, 'If all the people walked through one valley and *Ansār* walked through another, I will walk through the valley of *Ansār*.' Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then

turned towards Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* and said: O *Sa'ad*! Do you recall the time when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said that *Quraish* would be entitled to *Khilāfat*? Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* replied: Yes, you indeed have spoken the truth. We are the advisors and you are the leaders.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would continue with these accounts in future.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) appealed for prayers in the light of the current perilous situation of the world and said: If the conflict continues, it will engulf many countries and its effects will last for generations. We pray that these people may recognize God and not play with human lives for the sake of fulfilling their worldly desires. Aḥmadīs should focus on prayers that Allāh may save humanity from unimaginable destruction. *Amīn*.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the demise of *Khushi Muhammad Shakir* Sahib who served as a missionary in Sierra Leone and Guinea Conakry. He passed away a few days ago at the age of 79. He was a very kind, simple, devout and selfless person. He cared for the poor and needy and was devoted to *Khilāfat*. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may forgive him and grant him a lofty station in heaven. *Amīn*

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMĀBAD (UK)

Dated: 02 March 2022