

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 29th April 2022 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Ramaḍān, the month of obligatory fasting, is coming to an end, but the performing of the obligations will continue. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said that the five daily prayers, one Friday to the next Friday, and one Ramaḍān to the next Ramaḍān become expiation for the sins committed between them, provided that grave sins are avoided. Minor sins and mistakes also become major sins if one does not repent and seek forgiveness. To avoid them, we should always keep the fear of Allāh in our hearts and seek forgiveness from him. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) has constantly urged us to do justice to our prayers and to fulfil our obligations towards His servants. If we make these teachings of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) a part of our lives, we will surely be on the path where we will grow in virtue and, by connecting one Ramaḍān with the next, will be saved from our sins and receive forgiveness.

In Ramaḍān, we pay special attention to offering the obligatory prayers and *nawāfil*, but it is essential to perform them throughout the year as well. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) once said that failing to observe the prayers brings a person closer to disbelief and polytheism. Regarding the importance of prayers, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said that the first thing that people will be questioned about on the Day of Resurrection will be the observance of prayers, and if one succeeds in this he is saved.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: God does not need anyone to pray to him or to eulogize Him; the benefit of these things is only for the person who reaches his goal through them. There is nothing in this world in which God has not placed an element of pleasure. Understand well that the joy and pleasure of worship is higher and loftier than all the other pleasures of the world. We should pray to God with zeal and fervour that, just as He has blessed fruits and other things with pleasure and sweetness, so may He enable us to taste the joy of prayer. Once a person gets a taste of this pleasure, he will pay greater attention to it.

Allāh says that the prayers protect us against immorality and misdeeds, but why is it that some people do bad deeds despite offering prayers? The answer is that such people do not offer their prayers with true sincerity. They only offer them as ritual and habit, merely going through the motions. Prayers should be offered the way the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) offered them. After reciting the obligatory supplications, there is no harm in praying for one’s own needs in one’s own tongue. The essence and

soul of prayer is *du'a*. If a person goes to the King's court but does not ask for anything and submits his request after he has come out, would this be of any benefit? The same is true of those who do not offer *du'a* during their prayers.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) further says that, after understanding the reality of prayers, a believer must also recite, understand and pay attention to the Holy Qur'ān, because this is a means for connecting one Ramaḍān with the next. Members of our Jamā'at should become engaged in the work of reciting and deliberating upon the Holy Qur'ān with all their heart and soul. If today you employ the weapon of the Holy Qur'ān, victory will surely be yours. No darkness can withstand this light.

To maintain piety, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) has instructed us to give our faith priority over the world in all circumstances. He says that there are two kinds of people: (1) Those who are completely given to the world and Satan holds sway over them; (2) Those whose only concern is the progress of their faith, and these people are called the Group of Allāh that overcomes Satan and his army. Allāh says that the acquisition of faith is also a kind of trade. He says:

هَلْ أَدُلُّكُمْ عَلَىٰ تِجَارَةٍ تُنْجِيكُمْ مِّنْ عَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ

Shall I point out to you a bargain that will save you from a painful punishment? (61:11)

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: One should enquire about things that one does not understand in order to grow in knowledge. For intellectual growth, it is important to ask. While the strength of faith is important for giving precedence to religion over the world, intellectual and practical progress is also necessary.

For the blessings of Ramaḍān to continue, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) has taught us that we should continue to strive for high morals in our relationships, foster love and brotherhood, and respect the rights of one another. God has promised that He will establish a Jamā'at that will prevail over the disbelievers till the Day of Resurrection. These days of affliction and weakness give every person the opportunity to correct and transform himself. It is a grave sin to offend one another and to look down upon the weak and helpless.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: I have come to teach only two things: (1) Adopt the Oneness of God; (2) Show love and compassion to one another. Demonstrate such behaviour that it serves as a sign for others. This was also the argument that was demonstrated by the Sahaba.

كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ

You were enemies and He united your hearts in love. (3:104)

Remember, until each one of you desires for his brother what he desires for himself, he is not part of my Jamā'at. He is in trouble and his end is not auspicious.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Our Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) showed through his deeds that his life and death were all for Allāh. It is not easy to be a Muslim. Do not be satisfied unless you have become fully obedient to the Holy

Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). It is a shame if someone calls himself a follower of the Great Prophet but lives the life of an infidel. Being loved by Allāh should be the purpose and goal of human life because one cannot live a successful life without it, and this cannot come about unless one truly obeys and follows His Messenger. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) demonstrated Islam through his own example. Inculcate this Islam in yourself so that you become Allāh's beloved.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Remember, our Jamā'at was not established so that our members should continue to live like common worldly people. I do not want you to merely profess your faith with your tongues without putting it into practice. If a person, even after being associated with me, does not improve his condition, does not improve his conduct and thinks that verbal confession is enough, then he seems to testify by his action that there was no need for my advent.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: To prove that we have pledged allegiance to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and that we have the conviction that he is the same Messiah and Mahdī whose coming was foretold by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), we have to bring about a pure transformation in ourselves. We have to set a precedence for the world. We have to fulfil our obligations to God and His servants. We have to make every sacrifice for the establishment of *Tauhīd*. Only then will we be doing justice to our pledge of *Bai'at*. May Allāh help us in this.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) appealed for prayers for the perilous condition of the world today. The countries that are warring against each other should take heed and refrain from such acts. The world is heading towards catastrophe and it can only be averted if people recognize the God who created them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also appealed for prayers for Aḥmadī prisoners of conscience and those suffering persecution in Pakistan, Algeria, Afghanistan and other countries. In Pakistan, because of the laws and the fear of the *Maulawis*, the judges do not pass the correct judgements. May Allāh improve the situation so that Aḥmadīs can live freely in their country.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at about the sad demise of brother *Abdul Baqi Arshad Sahib*, Chairman of *Shirkat-ul-Islamia* UK, who passed away recently. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about his services for the Jamā'at and announced led his funeral prayer after the Friday prayer.

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMĀBĀD (UK)

Dated: 05 May 2022