

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 20th May 2022 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh 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: *Banu Hanifa*, who were ferocious warriors, were settled in *Yamamah*.

Under the commentary of the verse:

سَتُدْعَوْنَ إِلَى قَوْمٍ أُولِي بَأْسٍ شَدِيدٍ تُقَاتِلُونَهُمْ أَوْ يُسَلِّطُونَ

“You shall be called to fight against a people of mighty valour; you shall fight them, or they will submit.” (48:17)

Allāma Qurtubi cites *Rafay’ bin Khadij* as saying: We used to recite this verse but did not know who these people were until Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) called us to fight *Banu Hanifa* and we realized that they were the people referred to in the verse.

In 6 or 7 AH, when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) wrote letters to the rulers of various nations inviting them to Islām, he also wrote a letter to *Haudha bin ‘Ali*, the king of *Yamamah*, and its people.

Various delegations came to Medina in 9 AH, including one from *Banu Hanifa*. In addition to *Muja’ah bin Murārah*, the delegation also included *Rajjāl bin ‘Unfuwah*, *Musailimah Kazzāb*, and *Abu Thumamah*. This delegation stayed in the spacious house belonging to *Ramla bint Harith*, an *Ansāri* woman of *Banu Najjār*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had designated this house as accommodation for the delegations that came to pledge *Bai’at* to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). *Musailimah* did not meet the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) with his delegation, but some accounts contradict this. Generally, the accounts agree that *Musailimah* met the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) for the first time on this occasion. It is also said that he might have met him when he came a second time.

According to the narration of Ḥaḍrat *Ibn-e-‘Abbās*, *Musailimah* once said, “If Muhammad makes me his successor, I will surely follow him.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) approached him with a palm stick in his hand and said, “Even if you ask me for this stick, I will not give it to you. You can never escape Allāh’s judgment

upon you. And if you turn your back, Allāh will cut off your root. And I see that you are the same person about whom I have been shown so much in a dream.”

When Ḥaḍrat *Ibn-e-‘Abbās* asked Ḥaḍrat *Abu Hurairah* about this dream, he said that the Messenger of Allāh (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had said: One day, I saw in a dream, two gold bracelets in my hand which bothered me very much. Then it was revealed to me in the dream that I should blow them away, so I blew on them and they flew away. I interpreted them to be two false claimants who would appear after me. According to the narrator *Ubaidullah*, one of these was ‘*Ansi* who was killed by *Ferouz* in Yemen, and the other was *Musailimah*.

According to another tradition when *Musailimah* claimed prophethood and said that he too had been given a share of Muhammad's prophethood. He said to his followers, "Don't you remember when you visited the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) and mentioned me to him, did he not say that I (*Musailimah*) was not less in status than you? He (Muhammad) said this only because he (Muhammad) knew that he (Muhammad) was a Prophet and that I (*Musailimah*) have been given a share with him in prophethood.”

Following this, *Musailimah* started fabricating revelations for the people in an attempt to copy the Holy Qur’ān, and he exempted his people from prayer. According to one account, he gave an exemption for *Isha’* and *Fajr* prayers and deemed the consumption of alcohol and fornication permissible for the people. Alongside all this, he would also testify that Muhammad was a Prophet. *Banu Hanifa* accepted all of these claims.

Another factor that further strengthened *Musailimah’s* position was his alliance with *Rajjāl bin ‘Unfuwah*. This man was also a resident of *Yamamah* and had come to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) in Medina to learn the Holy Qur’ān and acquire religious knowledge. When *Musailimah* turned apostate, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) sent *Rajjāl bin ‘Unfuwah* to *Yamamah* as a teacher to prevent the people from following *Musailimah*; however, he only served to increase the mischief. He not only attested to *Musailimah’s* claim but falsely quoted the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) as saying that *Musailimah* had been given a share in his prophethood. Owing to his knowledge of the Holy Qur’ān, the people believed him.

Musailimah wrote a letter to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), which reads: From *Musailimah*, the prophet of Allāh, to Muhammad, the Prophet of Allāh! Half of all land belongs to me, and the other half to *Quraish*, but *Quraish* are unjust in their distribution.

In response, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) wrote the following letter: In the name of Allāh, the Gracious the Merciful. From Muhammad, the Prophet of Allāh addressed to *Musailimah*, the great liar. Surely, all the land belongs only to Allāh and He grants it to whomever He pleases among His servants. Reward and recompense are granted only to those who are righteous. Peace be on those who follow the guidance.

When Ḥaḍrat *Habīb bin Zaid Ansāri* delivered this letter to *Musailimah*, *Musailimah* asked him if he bore witness that Muhammad was the Prophet of Allāh, to which he replied in the affirmative. He then asked him, Do you bear witness that I am the prophet of Allāh?

He replied, I am deaf and cannot hear, and tried to avoid the question. *Musailimah* continued to repeat this question over and over but each time Ḥaḍrat *Habīb* gave the same answer and each time *Musailimah* would sever a part of his body, but Ḥaḍrat *Habīb* demonstrated exceptional patience and steadfastness until he embraced martyrdom.

Musailimah revolted in *Yamamah* and banished Ḥaḍrat *Thumamah bin Uthāl* who had been appointed by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) as governor. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) passed away, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent various military expeditions against the apostates. Among these were expeditions led by Ḥaḍrat *'Ikrimah and Shurahbīl bin Hasanah*, both of which failed because they ignored Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) clear instructions not to hasten in engaging the enemy.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then sent Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* towards *Musailimah* and also sent an army consisting of *Muhājirīn* and *Ansār* to protect the rear. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* waited for the arrival of this army in *Bitah* and then departed towards *Yamamah*.

After dealing with these people, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* left for *Yamamah* and formulated a formidable strategy. He sent Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl* ahead of the army and divided the Muslim army into five groups. *Musailimah's* army consisted of 40,000 or, according to another account, 100,000 men, whereas the Muslims numbered over 10,000. The Muslims had never experienced such a battle before and were forced to retreat. However, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd* did not waver even slightly. He called out his army: "O Muslims! Spread out and fight under the banner of your tribe, so that we could see which tribe shows the most bravery in the battle." This announcement breathed a new life into all the tribes and they strove to excel one another. The bravery of Ḥaḍrat *Thabit bin Qais* was exemplary.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at about the tragic martyrdom of an Aḥmadī brother *Abdul Salām Sahib* son of *Master Munawar Aḥmad Sahib* in Pakistan, and the sad demise of two other members *Zulfiqar Aḥmad Sahib* and *Malik Tabassum Maqsood Sahib*. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced to lead their funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 26 May 2022