

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 Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 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: Today, I will speak about the campaigns against the Persians that were carried out during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). The Battle of *Sulāsīl* or the Battle of Chains was named so because the Persians had chained themselves to each other so that no one would escape from the battlefield. Some historians do not agree with these accounts. Since this battle was fought at *Sīful Bahr* close to *Kāzimah* town on the route from *Basra* to *Bahrain*, it is also called the Battle of *Kazimah*. The eighteen-thousand-strong Muslim army was commanded by Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd*, while the Persian side was led by *Hurmuz*, the ruler of this area.

It was customary among the Persians that the people of the higher rank wore the most expensive caps. The status of *Hurmuz* can be gauged from the fact that he wore a cap worth 100,000 dirhams. However, as much as he was esteemed by the Persians, he was equally loathed by the Arabs of Iraq because of his cruel treatment of them. The Arabs used to cite the example of *Hurmuz* to highlight the wickedness or meanness of someone. For example, ‘Such and such a person is more wicked than *Hurmuz*.’ For this reason, *Hurmuz* was the constant target of Arab raids and attacks.

Before leaving *Yamamah*, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd* wrote a letter to *Hurmuz* saying, ‘If you accept obedience, you will be safe. If you agree to pay *Jizya*, you can secure safety for yourself and your people. I have brought against you a people who love death as much as you love life.’ *Hurmuz* informed the Persian king of this letter and proceeded to *Kazimah* to confront Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd* and a fierce battle took place. Finally, *Hurmuz* invited Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd* to a duel and they fought until Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* killed *Hurmuz*. The Persians were then thoroughly defeated and fled from the field. The Muslims chased them, caught them, and killed them. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* collected the booty and sent it to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), which included 375 kilograms of chains and a cap belonging to *Hurmuz* worth one hundred thousand dirhams. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) bestowed this cap upon Ḥaḍrat *Khalid*.

One of the major reasons for the victory of the Muslims in this war was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) policy regarding the farmers of Iraq, in keeping with which Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* did not attack these farmers and allowed them to stay wherever they

had settled. He did not collect any tax from them except a small amount of *Jizya*. This battle had far-reaching consequences and made the Muslims realize that even the famous Persian armies could not withstand a smaller army of Muslims.

Regarding the battle of *Ubullah*, we find two accounts. According to one, the Muslims first conquered *Ubullah* during the reign of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and was retaken by the Persians but was once again conquered by the Muslims during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar bin Khattāb* (May Allāh be pleased with him). The other account is that the Muslims conquered it during the time of Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him). *Allama Tabari* writes that in the reign of Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), in 14 *Hijri*, the victory of *Ubullah* was achieved at the hand of Ḥaḍrat *‘Utbah bin Ghazwān* who defeated five hundred non-Arab soldiers. The city was captured by the Muslims and a lot of provisions, weapons, and other goods were obtained as the bounty of war.

The Battle of *Mazār* took place in Safar 12 *Hijri*. On that day, everyone said, ‘The month of Safar had come and during this month every cruel and rebellious one will be killed where the rivers meet.’ At the request of *Hurmuz*, the Persian king had sent *Qārin* to help him in the Battle of *Al-Sulāsīl*. *Qārin* had only reached *Mazār* when he received news that *Hurmuz* had been killed. Meanwhile, the fleeing troops of *Hurmuz's* army joined *Qārin's* army and prepared to fight the Muslims. When Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* was informed of this, he advanced toward *Mazār* with his army. In a state of extreme rage and fury, the armies of both sides clashed. Ḥaḍrat *Ma'aqil* killed *Qārin* in a fight after which the Persians lost heart and fled the battlefield. A great number of them were killed. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* distributed the booty among the soldiers and sent the rest of it and the prisoners to *Medina* under the supervision of Ḥaḍrat *Sa'īd bin Nu'mān*. After this victory, the farmers and all the other inhabitants were persuaded to pay *Jizya* without coercion and were allowed to keep their lands and dwellings. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* then turned his attention to administrative matters. Representatives were appointed to collect *Jizya*, troops were deployed to protect the conquered lands, and a system was set up to be forewarned of the enemy's operations and to counter them when necessary.

In Safar 12 *Hijri*, the battle of *Walajah* took place near *Kaskar*. After the ignominious defeat of the Persians in the battle of *Mazār*, *Ardashīr*, the Persian king, encouraged the Christians of *Bakr bin Wā'il*, the largest tribe of Iraq, to fight the Muslims. He prepared a huge army and sent it to *Walajah* for this purpose. The people of *Hīrah* and *Kaskar* also joined this army, and the Christians could not get the full credit for victory against the Muslims. Therefore, an army of Persians was also sent under the leadership of *Bahman Jāzuwaih*. Learning of this, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* appointed Ḥaḍrat *Suwaid bin Muqarrin* as his deputy and led the Muslim army to *Walajah*. A fierce battle ensued. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid bin Walīd* had placed soldiers on both sides of the enemy for ambush, and these soldiers attacked the fleeing Persians. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid's* troops caught them from the front and the enemy was vanquished. Their commander was also killed. Here, too, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* treated the farmers as before. Only the militants and their supporters were captured, and the common people were persuaded to pay *Jizya*.

The battle of *Ulais* took place in Safar 12 *Hijri*. The people of *Bakr bin Wā'il* and the Persians were enraged by their terrible defeat at the hands of Ḥaḍrat *Khalid*, so they all gathered at *Ulais* where *Abdul-Aswad 'Ijli* was appointed as their commander. On behest of the Persian king, *Bahman Jāzuwaih* sent his army to *Ulais* under the leadership of *Jābān*, a famous and brave general. Hearing of the presence of the Christian and Persian armies, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* also advanced to *Ulais* with his army. Both sides fought ferociously. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid*, seeing his material resources diminishing, humbly prayed, 'O Allāh! If you grant me victory today, I will not leave a single enemy alive, and this river will turn red with their blood.' Later, Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* devised a strategy and attacked the enemy from three sides and attained victory.

*Allāma Tabari* and many historians have mentioned that Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* killed the prisoners for one night and day and threw them into the river in accordance with the promise he made in his prayer, so that the water of the river turned red with their blood, and that is why to this day this river is known as *Naharud-Dum* or blood water. However, it seems that this fact has been deviously included in this account to present a deceptive image of Muslim cruelty, since we find no example of the killing of prisoners by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) or the rightly guided *Khulāfā*. If anyone was killed, there was a solid reason for it. One author writes that the narrators have made great exaggerations in this regard. It is also possible that the wounded soldiers drowned in the canal, and it turned red because of their blood.

There is a place in Iraq called *Amghāshiya* which was conquered in Safar 12 *Hijri* without any battle and the Muslims got more booty from it than from any other battle that had been fought up to that time. Ḥaḍrat *Khalid* informed Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) about the conquests through a representative named *Jandal* whose eloquence pleased Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). On this occasion, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, "No woman will now produce one like *Khalid bin Walīd*."

*Huzoor* (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would speak of the later wars and conquests in the future, *Inshā'Allāh*.

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMABAD (UK)

Dated: 26 July 2022