

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 19th August 2022 at Mubarak Mosque Islamabad, 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 relate some accounts regarding the Syrian expedition that took place during the *Khilafāt* of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). After Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had completely overcome the apostate rebels and Arabia had become secure, he set his mind on dealing with the Romans who were among the external aggressors. Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl bin Hasanah* related a long dream that he had in this context and gave the good news of victory. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said that, aside from the news of victory, the dream also gave news of his death. He said that there would be difficulties for the army and the fighters would have to endure a lot of hardship, but victory would be gained and there would then be more prosperity and abundance than before. Allāh would grant him honour and dignity while humiliating the polytheists.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) summoned various companions for advice about this war. Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar bin Khattāb*, Ḥaḍrat *Abdur-Rahmān bin ‘Auf*, Ḥaḍrat *Uthmān bin Affān*, Ḥaḍrat *Talha*, Ḥaḍrat *Zubair*, Ḥaḍrat *Ali*, (May Allāh be pleased with them) and all other *Muhājirīn* and *Ansār* fully supported Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) decision and pledged their complete obedience to him. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, “Allāh has done you a great favour by giving you the blessing of Islam. He honoured you through Jihad. Therefore, get ready for war against the Romans in Syria.”

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then appointed commanders for the war and advised them to keep their intentions pure for the pleasure of God. After this speech of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Bilāl* made a public announcement about the war and that Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Walīd* had been appointed the *Amīr*.

According to one account, when Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Walīd* to Syria with an army in 13 *Hijrah*, at the same time he also sent Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa’īd* to Syria, and the first victory in Syria belonged to Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa’īd*. Another account shows that at the time when Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be

pleased with him) organized and sent eleven armies against the apostates, he had ordered Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* to go to *Taimā* to protect the Syrian border.

In connection with the war against the Romans, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) encouraged the Muslims of Medina and other areas to join the war and take part in the Jihad. He also wrote a letter to the people of Yemen in which he drew attention to the obligation of Jihad according to the command of Allāh and its blessings. Ḥaḍrat *Anas* read Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) letter in every neighbourhood of Yemen and brought back to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) the good news that Yemen's Muslims would be coming to Medina. On the other hand, many people from the vicinity of *Taimā* joined Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd*. Hearing about the great army of the Muslims, the Romans also sought help from the Arabs under their influence. When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was informed about this, he ordered Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* to continue advancing and to keep an eye on the enemy while praying to Allāh for help. Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* defeated the army of a priest, *Bāhān*, at one point and killed many of his men while *Bāhān* himself fled to Damascus. Later, at the request of Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent an army named *Jaishul-Badāl* to help him.

Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* attacked the Romans before the arrival of the armies of other *'Umarā* sent by Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and ignored his instructions not to advance so far ahead as to allow the enemy to attack from the rear. His immense zeal for victory caused Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* to neglect this. At that time, he was accompanied by Ḥaḍrat *Walīd bin 'Uqbah*, Ḥaḍrat *Dhul Kalā*, and Ḥaḍrat *'Ikrimah*. Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* was besieged by the enemy forces and, facing defeat, reached *Dhul Marwah*, a place between Mecca and Medina, while Ḥaḍrat *'Ikrimah* stood his ground. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was displeased with Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd* and did not allow him to enter Medina. Later, when he was granted permission, he tendered his apologies to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Despite the defeat of Ḥaḍrat *Khālīd bin Sa'īd*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) determination and courage did not waver in the least and, without wasting a moment, he arranged for reinforcements to be sent to Ḥaḍrat *'Ikrimah* and Ḥaḍrat *Dhul Kalā*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) organized four armies. The first was under the command of Ḥaḍrat *Yazīd bin Abu Sufyān* who was responsible for the conquest of Damascus and helping other armies. His army initially numbered three thousand but later increased to seven thousand. On this occasion, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) instructed Ḥaḍrat *Yazīd bin Abu Sufyān* not to kill children or old people or women during the war, not to damage the places of worship of other religions, and to uphold all the Islamic values.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to pray every morning and evening: "O Allāh! You created us. We were nothing, then You sent a Messenger to us with mercy and grace. Then You guided us while we were astray, and You put the love of faith in our hearts while we were non-believers. We were few and you made us many.

Then You made Jihad obligatory on us and ordered us to fight the polytheists until they professed that there is no God but Allāh and paid *Jizyah* with their own hands. O, Allāh! We seek Your pleasure in exchange for Jihad against this enemy of Yours who has associated partners with You and worshiped other gods besides You. O, Allāh! There is no God but You. You are far above that which the transgressors allege. O, Allāh! Help your Muslim servants against your idolatrous enemy. O, Allāh! Grant them an easy victory.”

The second army was under the command of Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl bin Hasanah*. Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl* was one of the early converts to Islam. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) instructed that Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl*'s army should depart three days after the departure of Ḥaḍrat *Yazīd bin Abu Sufyān*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) gave Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl* the same instructions that he had given to Ḥaḍrat *Yazīd bin Abu Sufyān*. He also instructed him to offer his prayers on time and to remain steadfast on the day of battle until he was victorious or martyred. Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl* said, “We seek help from Allāh, it will be as He wills.” He then bid farewell to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and left for Syria with his army. Ḥaḍrat *Shurahbīl*'s army numbered between three to four thousand.

The third army was under Ḥaḍrat *Abu 'Ubaidah bin Jarrāh*. He was among the *Ashrah Mubasharah*, the ten companions to whom the Messenger of Allāh gave the tidings of Paradise during their lifetime. His army was seven thousand strong. On his way, Ḥaḍrat *Abu 'Ubaidah* battled with the people of *Maāb*, but then, at their request, made peace with them, which was the first peace agreement to have been made in Syria. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), along with Ḥaḍrat *Abu 'Ubaidah*, sent Ḥaḍrat *Qais bin Hubairah*, one of the great knights of Arabia, and also gave him some instructions. *Qais* had said to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), “If you and I remain alive, you will receive good news about me protecting the Muslims and waging Jihad against the polytheists.” When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) heard the news of Ḥaḍrat *Qais bin Hubairah* fighting and killing two polytheist commanders in *Jābiyah*, he said that *Qais* had spoken the truth and had fulfilled his promise.

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

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then spoke about the recent martyrdom of *Naseer Ahmad sāhib*, son of *Abdul-Ghani sahib*, who was martyred in Rabwah on 12 August 2022 at the age of 62. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about his good deeds and his services for the *Jamā'at* and announced to lead his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLAMABAD (UK)
Dated: 23 August 2022