

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 Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 16th September 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: With regard to the achievements of the *Khilāfat* of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), I will today relate some details regarding the rights of the *Dhimmī*. The word *Dhimmī* refers to the people who accepted Islāmic rule while continuing to practice their own religion, and the Muslims took responsibility for their protection. These people were exempted from military service and payment of *Zakāt*. However, four *dirhams* were annually received as *Jizya* from every adult, healthy and able-bodied person among them. The elderly, handicapped, destitute, and children were exempt from this and were instead helped through *Baitul-Māl*. During the conquests of Iraq and Syria, many non-Muslim populations became *Dhimmī* after agreeing to pay *Jizya*. The treaties made with them included the provisions that their monasteries and churches would not be demolished, nor would any of their forts be destroyed so that they could remain fortified against the enemy in time of need. They would not be stopped from ringing bells or marching with the Cross during their festivals.

One of the greatest and unparalleled achievements of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) *Khilāfat* was the compilation of the Holy Qurān. When about seven hundred companions, who had committed the Holy Qurān to memory, were martyred in the battle of *Yamāmah*, Allāh inspired Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to compile the Holy Qurān in one volume. According to the details recorded in *Ṣaḥīḥul-Bukhārī*, after the battle of *Yamāmah*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) summoned Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Thābit* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and told him that Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had suggested that the Holy Qurān should be compiled, and so he entrusted this task to Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Thābit*. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Thābit* says: By Allāh! If Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had ordered me to move a mountain from one place to another, it would have been easier for me. Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Thābit* says: I collected the Qurān from the branches of palm trees, from white stones, and from people's chests. The Qurān that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) got compiled in one volume through Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Thābit* is called *Ṣaḥīfah Ṣiddīquī*. It remained with Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), then with Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and then with *Ummul-Mo‘minīn* Ḥaḍrat *Ḥaḥṣah bint ‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with them). Hadhrat *‘Uthmān* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had some copies made of this manuscript and then returned it to Ḥaḍrat *Ḥaḥṣah*. When *Marwān* became the ruler of Medina in 54 A.H., he wanted to take this manuscript from Ḥaḍrat *Ḥaḥṣah* but she refused to give it to him. After the demise of Ḥaḍrat *Ḥaḥṣah*, *Marwān* took this copy from Ḥaḍrat *Abdullāh bin ‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with them) and destroyed it.

Ḥaḍrat *‘Alī* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the first to preserve the Holy Qurān in book form.

Ḥaḍrat *Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: The truth is that there is no writing in the world that has been so consistently preserved as the Holy Qurān. During the time of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), the entire Qurān had been written down, but it had not been compiled in one volume. Therefore, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) ordered it to be 'collected' and not to be 'written'. The words themselves make it clear that it was a matter of compiling the Holy Qurān, not writing it. During the *Khilāfat* of Ḥaḍrat '*Uthmān* (May Allāh be pleased with him) out of the various readings of the Holy Qurān, the Muslim world adopted the single *Quraish* dialect. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says that the first *Khalīfa*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), had all the chapters of the Holy Qurān compiled according to the order he had heard from the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). After Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Allāh enabled Ḥaḍrat '*Uthmān* (May Allāh be pleased with him), the third *Khalīfa*, to collect the Holy Qurān that was in accord with the dialect of the *Quraish* and spread it in other countries.

The accomplishments pioneered by Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) are called '*Awwaliāt-e-Abu Bakr*'. They are as follows: He was the first to accept Islām. He was the first to build a mosque in front of his house in Mecca. He fought the infidels of Mecca, in support of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). He was the first to buy freedom for slaves and bondsmen who were suffering persecution for the sake of Islām. He was the first to collect the Holy Qurān in one volume. He was the first to name the Holy Qurān '*Muṣḥaf*'. He was the first *Khalīfa* of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). He was appointed as the first *Amīr-e-Hajj* during the lifetime of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). He led the Muslims in prayer for the first time during the lifetime of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). He was the first to establish *Baitul-Māl* in Islām. He was the first *Khalīfa* for whom the Muslims set an allowance. He was the first *Khalīfa* to have nominated his successor. He was the *Khalīfa* whose father was still alive when he received the *Bai'at* as *Khalīfa*. He was the first person in Islām upon whom the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) bestowed a title. He was the person whose four generations had the honour of being the companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

Ḥaḍrat '*Āishah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) describes Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr*'s (May Allāh be pleased with him) physical appearance as follows: He was fair-skinned and slim. He had little flesh on his cheeks. His back was curved. His eyes were deep set, and his forehead was high. Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) narrates that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to apply colour to his hair. Once, when Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) saw a bird, he said, I wish I were like that bird, for it will not be questioned nor held accountable.

At the time of his demise, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said to Ḥaḍrat '*Āishah* (May Allāh be pleased with him): O, my daughter! You know that you are the most beloved to me and I gifted you such and such piece of land, but you did not take ownership of it. Now, I want you to return that land so that it will be divided among all my children according to the rules laid down in the book of Allāh, so that I can say before God that I did not prefer any of my children over others.

The day after he had been made *Khalīfa*, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was going to the market carrying a roll of cloth on his shoulders so that he could sell it and make a living for his family. On the way, he met Ḥaḍrat *Abu 'Ubaidah* and Ḥaḍrat '*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with them), on whose counsel a stipend was allocated for him. What was that stipend? He was given conveyance for his journeys and expenses equal to those he incurred before becoming *Khalīfa* and two sheets, which when they got old would be returned for new ones.

Ḥaḍrat *Muṣliḥ Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the sovereign of the whole Muslim world, but he got nothing in return. He was the custodian of the people's wealth but did not spend any of it on himself. If the bridle fell from his hands, he would get down from the camel and pick it up himself. When asked why he did not ask someone else to hand it to him, he would say that he had been ordered by his beloved the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) not to ask anyone for anything.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) once heard people saying, what is *Abu Bakr's* superiority over us? He prays as we pray and fasts as we do. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, the superiority of *Abu Bakr* is not due to his prayers and fasting. It is because of the goodness that is in his heart.

Describing the high status of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says: The second life is what the Sufis term as '*baqā'*' (subsistence in God). When a person reaches this stage, Allāh's spirit is breathed into him, and angels descend on him. Therefore, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), If anyone wants to see the dead walking on the earth, he should look at *Abu Bakr*. *Abu Bakr's* status is not based on his outward actions but on what is in his heart.

The following incident demonstrates Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) complete obedience, love, and respect for the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) honour. One day he came to the house of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and found Ḥaḍrat '*Āishah*' (May Allāh be pleased with him) speaking to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in a loud voice. Seeing this, he was angry and was about to hit his daughter when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) intervened. When Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) left, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) jokingly said to Ḥaḍrat '*Āishah*' (May Allāh be pleased with him), See, how I saved you from your father today. A few days later Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) came again and Ḥaḍrat '*Āishah*' (May Allāh be pleased with him) was happily chatting with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Seeing this, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, you made me a part of your fight, will you now share your happiness with me? Hearing this, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, we share.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would continue with these accounts in future, *inshā'Allāh*.

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMABAD (UK)

Dated: 21 September 2022