

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya,

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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 30th September 2022 at *Fath-i-'Azīm Mosque Zion, USA*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today we are gathered here for the inauguration of this mosque in Zion. Allāh has enabled Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya USA to build this mosque in this city that has a special significance in the history of the Jamā'at. Two days ago, a journalist asked me why this mosque is so important, and I replied that all mosques are important to us; however, this mosque has the significance that it has been built in a city that was founded by an opponent of Islam.

The Jamā'at has also organized an exhibition to highlight the historical significance of this city and to show how a false claimant stood up against the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and came to a terrible end. The fact that we have now built a mosque in this city should fill every *Aḥmadī's* heart with gratitude for God. In keeping with the teachings of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), we are also grateful to the people of this city. The council had initially refused to allow the construction of the mosque, but the people took a stand in favour of the Jamā'at and persuaded the council to grant approval for the construction. For the Jamā'at, this day is not just a day of celebration but also one of deep gratitude towards Allāh who has shown us such a great sign of the truth of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him).

Allāh made many promises of help and support to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). If we are grateful to Him, He will make us among those who witness the fulfilment of these signs. There can be no greater example of the coming true of these promises than that Allāh has enabled us to build a mosque in this city which was founded by an opponent of Islam and whose death had been foretold by the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). Allāh exposed and destroyed this impostor who enjoyed immense worldly wealth and prestige. On the other hand, He brought about the means for the claim of a man from a small village in *Qādiān* to spread to more than two hundred countries.

We should always remember the vital point that all our endeavours are dependent on prayers. Mosques are built so that people may gather in them for worship. Today, it is the duty of every one of us to make worship an integral part of our lives so that our prayers are heard.

Today, we are inaugurating this mosque which has been named *Fath-i-'Azīm Mosque* with reference to the prophecy of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). After receiving news from Allāh, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) prophesied the death of Dowie and said it would be *Fath-i-'Azīm* (a great victory), and would come true very soon. Consequently, God destroyed Dowie within fifteen or twenty days. Today, we are witnessing the next step of this victory with the inauguration of this mosque.

Newspapers at that time gave wide coverage to the Promised Messiah's (Peace be upon him) prophecy and Dowie's death. One newspaper wrote that Dr Dowie claimed to be Elijah II, while *Ghulām Aḥmad* claimed that he was the true Messiah who had been destined to come in the latter days. When, because of his prayer, Dowie died, the fame of this Indian Messiah reached sky high.

Dowie viewed the Promised Messiah's (Peace be upon him) challenge with great contempt and wrote in his English newspaper on 26 September 1903, that People ask me why do I not reply to him. Do you think that I should reply to these gnats and flies? If I were to put my foot on them, I would trample them to death.

He became even more arrogant and mischievous after the Promised Messiah's (Peace be upon him) challenge. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) continued to pray that Allāh may distinguish the truthful from the liar and cause the liar to die within the life of the truthful one. Then, fifteen days before Dowie's death, God informed the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) of this victory. On February 20, 1907, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) published an announcement that Allāh would show a great sign and it would be a sign for the whole world. Fifteen days later, the news of Dowie's death was announced.

In the time of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) the final victory was the conquest of Mecca, but did the Companions stop preaching, praying or worshipping after that? No. Instead, they won the hearts of the people so that they entered the fold of Islam in hordes. The Muslims suffered a decline when they abandoned these principles. Since Allāh wanted to re-establish Islam, He sent the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) in this age.

So today it is our task to gather the Muslims on one hand and rid them of their false innovations, as well as to bring non-Muslims under the banner of Islam. This can only happen if we raise the standards of our worship and recognize the purpose of our lives, which is to worship Allāh.

We will inaugurate this beautiful mosque in the true sense when we fulfil the purpose of our birth and our obligations to God and offer our prayers, not hastily, but with care and concentration. Then will our prayers be heard. When we observe our prayers in this manner, we will also be able to fulfil our obligations towards God's creatures; otherwise, our worship is of no value.

The true purpose of this mosque will be achieved only when we win a great victory, just like the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) did, by attaining piety through prayers and worship. Only then will we be able to tell the world of the purpose of this mosque, which is to bring about the true transformation that Islam requires of us.

When the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) announced his challenge, the world witnessed Dowie's terrible end and even the newspapers highlighted it and declared the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) to be a great person. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) has taught us to follow the paths that lead to God's nearness. He extended this challenge to Dowie because the rule of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) must be established in the world today.

Today, it is our duty as members of the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) to spread his message to every corner of the earth. This will come about when we grow in virtue and piety. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that our Jamā'at needs to inculcate piety because we follow the one who claims to have been sent by God. It is important to purify our inner selves, only then will we attain righteousness, and the world will witness signs upon signs. Every sign of victory should bring about a transformation in us. Let us pledge that this day will bring about a spiritual transformation in us and our children. Otherwise, of what benefit is it to remind people of Dowie?

May Allāh enable us to undergo a great transformation through the fulfilment of this prophecy and may the people of this country and the world become subservient to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), recognize the Oneness of God, and be ready to make every sacrifice for Him. May Allāh enable us and our future generations to do so. *Āmīn.*

Jazākumullāh
Wassalām,

Akhlaq Ahmad Anjum
Office Incharge Additional Wakalat Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 03 October 2022