

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,
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Dear Brother,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 09th December 2022 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, 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: The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* and Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar Fārūq* (May Allāh be pleased with them) were indeed the leaders of the group that surmounted high peaks for the sake of Allāh. They called the people of cities and villages to the truth until the message reached far and wide. The fruits of Islām blossomed during their *Khilāfat*, the atmosphere was filled with their fragrance, and Islām achieved great victories. During the time of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Islām underwent a period of great hardship and was the target of mighty onslaughts, but Allāh came to its rescue through *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and revealed its lost and buried treasure, and Islām turned from a vulnerable state to one of strength.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, the truth is that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr’s* (May Allāh be pleased with him) radiant attributes shine brilliantly like the sun! Whoever denies this is a liar and will end up in ruin, with Satan as his company. Those who try to confuse the true status of *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) are guilty of a deliberate error and see a drought in the place of abundant water. They have insulted the most honourable one. He sought from this world only his basic needs; how can you think that such a person would oppress the family of the Messenger of Allāh (May Allāh's blessings be upon him)? May Allāh have mercy on *Ṣiddīque-e-Akbar*, for he revived Islām and put an end to the infidels. We are indebted to him till the Day of Judgement.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was undoubtedly the pride of Islām and the Messengers. His nature closely resembled the nature of the Best of Creation. He was among the first to partake of the fragrance of Prophethood. He was among the first to shed the dirty garbs and replaced them with clean and pure ones. Many of his qualities were akin to those of the Prophets. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is the only Companion who is mentioned in the Holy Quran. Any allusion to others is a matter of conjecture which does not avail anything against the truth, nor does it satisfy those who seek the truth. Whoever holds a grudge against Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) creates a barrier between himself and the truth, and it will not be removed until he returns to Chief of the Truthful Ones.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, the essence of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr’s* (May Allāh be pleased with him) soul was honesty, purity, steadfastness, and righteousness, such that even if the whole world turned apostate, he would not care or be deterred but would continue to march forward. For this reason, Allāh has mentioned the Truthful immediately after mentioning the Prophets, as He said:

فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصِّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ

“They shall be among those on whom Allāh has bestowed His blessings, namely, the Prophets, the Truthful, the Martyrs, and the Righteous.” (4:70)

In this verse, Allāh refers to *Ṣiddīque-e-Akbar* and his excellence over others since the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) did not give the title of ‘the Truthful One’ to

any Companion except *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and he did so in order to highlight his lofty status. In this verse, seekers of the truth can find a principle regarding the stations of spiritual excellence and the people who belong to them. When I reflected on this verse, I realized that it is the greatest testimony to the perfection of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Thus, *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the one who was named ‘*Ṣiddīque*’ (the Truthful One) by the Messenger of Allāh (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) himself.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, *Ibn Khaldūn* writes that when the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) illness became severe and he started losing consciousness, and the time of the prayer became due, he ordered *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to lead the people in prayer. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said: ‘All the doors which open to the Mosque should be closed except the door of *Abu Bakr*, as I do not know anyone more beneficent than *Abu Bakr*.’ According to *Ibn Khaldūn*, one of the favours Allāh bestowed on Hadrat Abu Bakr (May Allāh be pleased with him) in terms of his complete nearness to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) was that he was carried on the same bed on which the Messenger of Allāh (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had been carried, his tomb was made flat like the tomb of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), his grave was adjacent to the grave of the Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and his head was laid level with the shoulder of the Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). The last words he spoke were, ‘Let death come to me in a state of being a Muslim and join me with the righteous.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a genius and a godly person who manifested the light of Islām after it had become encroached by darkness. He fought anyone who abandoned Islām and waged war against whoever denied the truth; but whoever entered the house of Islām, he treated him with lenience and compassion. He bore great hardships for the spread of Islām. I have indeed found *Ṣiddīque-e-Akbar* to be the truthful one, the leader of Imams, and the lamp of the Religion and of the *Ummah*. By Allāh, *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) constant companion in the two holy cities and also in the two tombs. Here I refer, firstly, to the cave of *Thaur* as the tomb, and secondly, to the grave that is in Medina and is adjacent to the grave of the Best of Mankind (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, always keep the example of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* (May Allāh be pleased with him) before you. Think about the time of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) when the enemies of *Quraish* were bent on evil from all sides and were planning to kill him. It was a time of great peril. At this time, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) did such justice to his discipleship of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) that it has no parallel in the world. Such power can never come without sincerity and faith. Just think that if such a tribulation comes upon you who are now sitting, consider how many of you would remain firm? I know that upon hearing of such a thing, people will become numb with fear at the mere idea of having to part with their wealth and their near and dear ones. It is the hallmark of those who are perfect in faith that they continue to stand firm even in times of tribulation. Therefore, until a person adopts faith in practice, his mere words do not mean anything.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says, *Abu Bakr's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) morals were influenced by the morals of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and his heart was full of light, hence he demonstrated such courage and resilience as has no parallel aside from the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) himself. His life was lived in Islām. I truly say that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is the second Adam for Islām. I believe that if *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was not there after the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), Islām would not exist. It is a great favour of *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that he revived Islām. He was more entitled to the attributes of Prophethood than any other human being and was the most eligible to become the successor of the Best of Humankind (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: This was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr Ṣiddīque* (May Allāh be pleased with him), who sacrificed his own self for the love of Allāh and His Messenger (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

This was the last in the series of sermons about the Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) who participated in the battle of *Badr*.

May Allāh enable us to follow in the footsteps of these Companions and to live up to the standards that they have set for us. *Amīn*.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 15 December 2022