

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

Dear Brother,

السَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 14th April 2023 at *Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK.*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: "لا إله إلا الله" (There is no God but Allāh) is the foundation of *Tauḥīd* (the belief in the oneness of Allāh). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "Surely, Allāh has forbidden hellfire upon the person who recites "لا إله إلا الله" seeking His pleasure." It means that when a person truly bows down before Allāh and, seeking His pleasure, directs his attention solely towards Him, and recites "لا إله إلا الله", he becomes the recipient of Allāh's blessings, and that is when Allāh forbids hellfire upon that person.

This was the teaching brought by all the Prophets. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "The best of the creeds (*Kalimah*) is "لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له" (There is no God but Allāh, He is One and has no partner) which I and the Prophets before me too have recited."

To receive the intercession of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), it is imperative to affirm "لا إله إلا الله" (There is no God but Allāh) with a pure heart, without any element of worldliness. As the last law-bearing and perfect Prophet, Allāh granted the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) the authority of intercession. As per Allāh's command, it is essential to believe in the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) wholeheartedly to be worthy of his intercession.

We Aḥmadīs are fortunate that Allāh has enabled us to believe in the Imām of this age and the true servant of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) who explained to us the true status of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and the teachings of Islām in all their depth and wisdom, and he taught us the deeper meaning of "لا إله إلا الله" too.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Allāh has Himself explained the meaning of the following verse

الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ

“This day have I perfected your religion for you” (5:4)

He says that there are three signs of a true and perfect religion. The first is

أَصْلُهَا ثَابِتٌ

whose root is firm.

The second is

فَرْعُهَا فِي السَّمَاءِ

its branches reach up to the heavens

The third is

تُوْفِقُ أَكْمَلَهَا كُلَّ حِينٍ

it should bestow its fruit at all times and forever

Islām is the only religion that meets these criteria. First sign—by which is meant the *Kalimah* لا إله إلا الله—it has been mentioned at such length in the Holy Qur’ān that if I were to write all the arguments given in its support, it would not finish even after writing many chapters.

All of these creations of God Almighty, and this system of the universe which we see before our eyes, depict that this world did not come into being all by itself, but that it has an Originator and a Maker who should necessarily have these attributes— that He should be Gracious, and Merciful, and All-Powerful, and One without any partner, and Eternal and Everlasting, and the Regulator by virtue of His will.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Allāh is the only Perfect Being from whom help can be sought, and no one else can claim that right. The Holy Qur’ān emphasizes this by saying:

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

“Thee alone do we worship, and Thee alone do we implore for help,” (1:5)

This indicates that it is only Allāh from whom help can be sought. On a secondary level, this right has also been granted to the righteous servants of Allāh, whose prayers are also effective in receiving help. The first part of the *Kalimah*:

"لا إله إلا الله"

indicates that we should love only Allāh.

The second part of the *Kalimah*:

"محمد رسول الله"

is a manifestation of the truthfulness of Muḥammad’s (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) Prophethood.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: True justice cannot be done to "لا إله إلا الله" until one proves it through his actions. It is crucial to fulfil our obligations towards Allāh and towards our fellow human beings, as only then can we sincerely act upon "لا إله إلا الله" and avoid being considered hypocritical in the eyes of Allāh. The second part of the *Kalimah* provides an example for it. All prophets came as practical examples of their teachings for their followers. Muḥammad (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) being the embodiment of all the Prophets, manifested all their examples. He demonstrated through his actions the proper implementation and explanation of Allāh’s injunctions.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) said: I do not mean to say that people should only recite the *Kalimah* and become negligent of other things. Rather, one should engage in one’s trades or jobs, and at the same time, be mindful of one’s obligations towards God and should give priority to faith over everything else. The world should not be our objective; faith should be the ultimate purpose. *Ṣaḥāba* did not abandon Allāh even during the most difficult times, nor did they become heedless of Him, nor did they abandon their prayers. Instead, they relied on prayer to overcome all challenges.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: You should not be content just because you are Muslims and believe in "لا إله إلا الله". Allāh is not pleased with mere verbal affirmations unless they are accompanied by righteous deeds. Remember, if a person only claims with his

tongue that he believes in the oneness of Allāh and the prophethood of Muḥammad (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and this confession is only limited to his words and not reflected by his heart through his actions, he will not attain salvation. True faith entails manifesting in practical terms the commandments mentioned in the Holy Qur'ān, and then implementing the principles of faith in one's life. Whoever sincerely believes in "لا إله إلا الله" from the depths of his heart and translates it into actions, will enter Paradise.

In this *Ramaḍān*, each one of us should strive to purify ourselves from all the evils and have true faith in "لا إله إلا الله". May Allāh grant us the ability to free ourselves of all the wrongdoing through our efforts and prayers in the remaining days of *Ramaḍān*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the last ten days of *Ramaḍān*, there is a lot of talk about *Lailatul Qadr* (Night of Destiny). *Lailatul Qadr* can only be attained when we are ready to make our every word and deed subservient to the commands of Allāh and make this a permanent part of our lives. The real sign of *Lailatul Qadr* is the revolution brought about in our hearts.

Some Jamā'ats have organized three-days special prayers programs during *Ramaḍān*. However, it is important to remember that if we have designated these three days for supplications so that we can later return to our old ways and forget the true purpose of "لا إله إلا الله", then we should be mindful that Allāh knows the state of our hearts, He is aware of our intentions, and nothing is hidden from Him, and such a program will not benefit us. However, if we truly want to please Allāh, we need to make a sincere pledge that the changes brought in these days will become a permanent part of our lives. When we do so, God Almighty will extend His special help and support to alleviate the suffering caused by our opponents.

The last ten days of *Ramaḍān* is a time of salvation from fire of Hell. The fire of Hell is forbidden upon whoever recites "لا إله إلا الله" sincerely from the heart during this time. However, consistent actions of a person are necessary. To fully benefit from these last ten days and to attain the true essence of *Lailatul Qadr*, it is essential to make "لا إله إلا الله" the voice of our hearts and minds. May Allāh grant us the ability to live our lives according to these teachings. *Āmīn*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Continue to pray for the general peace and stability of the world. May Allāh bestow mercy and grace upon humanity. *Āmīn*.

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMABAD (UK)

Dated: 19 April 2023