

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 29th December 2023 at *Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, I will elaborate further on the Battle of Uhud. As I mentioned before, due to the abandonment of the mountain pass, the disbelievers struck from the rear of the Muslim army, which shifted the tide of the battle. The enemy's onslaught was particularly harsh. While the Companions were in a state of confusion, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) showed unwavering determination, courage, and bravery while being surrounded by the enemy. When he saw the Companions fleeing in bewilderment as arrows were raining down from all sides, he called out to them, "Come to me! I am the Messenger of Allāh!" According to one account, he called out, "I am the Prophet, and I do not lie. I am the son of ‘Abdul Muṭṭalib; I am the son of ‘Awātik." ‘Awātik is the plural of ‘Ātika, which was the name of several of the Holy Prophet’s female ancestors.

Elaborating on these events, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that when Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Jubair's men saw that the Muslims had gained victory, they asked him if they could leave their position and join the battle. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah stopped them, but they left regardless, saying that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) only wanted them to ensure complete safety before leaving the pass.

Seeing a clear path to the mountain pass, Khālīd bin Walīd and his cavalry, along with ‘Ikrimah bin Abi Jahl, attacked Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Jubair (May Allāh be pleased with him) and his men from the rear and martyred them. They then launched a sudden assault on the Muslim army from the rear. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), who was observing the scene from high ground, tried to warn the Muslims, but his voice was drowned in the chaos. Muslims, taken aback by this sudden attack, started attacking indiscriminately. Yamān, Ḥaḍrat Ḥudhaifa’s father, was accidentally martyred in this confusion. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) later offered to pay compensation on behalf of the Muslims, but Ḥaḍrat Ḥudhaifa (May Allāh be pleased with him) refused to accept it and forgave the Muslims his father’s blood.

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ II (May Allāh be pleased with him), in his interpretation of verse 64 of Surah An-Nūr, says that those who oppose the command of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) should beware lest some affliction or punishment from Allāh befall them. Just look at the loss the Muslims suffered in the battle of Uhud when some of them violated his command. After victory had been achieved, a temporary setback occurred because some individuals disobeyed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and acted on their own interpretations. If they had followed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) as closely as the pulse follows the movement of the heart, if they had realised that it would be a trivial sacrifice even if the entire world were to give its life at his command, and if they had not resorted to personal interpretations and abandoned the mountain pass, the enemy would not have been able to launch a second attack that resulted in loss and injury to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and his Companions. This is why Allāh said that by showing negligence in following the command, you suffered a loss and that this was the consequence of your disobedience. Ḥaḍrat Musleh Maud (May Allāh be pleased with him) has further detailed this incident in the interpretation of Surah Al-Kauthar.

Ḥaḍrat Miqdād bin ‘Amr (May Allāh be pleased with him) reports, “By God! The idolaters attacked and inflicted numerous wounds on the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Listen! I swear by Him who sent! The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) did not retreat even an inch and stood firm facing the enemy.”

It is said in another narration that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) stood his ground, faced the enemy, and kept shooting arrows from his bow until the arrows ran out. Ḥaḍrat Qatādah bin Nu’mān (May Allāh be pleased with him) then took the bow from him and always kept it with him thereafter.

Ḥaḍrat Nāfe' bin Jubair (May Allāh be pleased with him) recounted hearing from one of the Muhājirīn that arrows were directed at the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) from all directions, but they always fell away from him. 'Abdullah bin Shihāb, who was fighting alongside the Quraish, later said, "The Messenger of Allāh was kept safe from us. By God! Four of us set out from Makkah vowing to kill him, but we could not get to him."

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that the life of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in Makkah presents a remarkable example of fortitude. Throughout his life, he faced great hardships. During the Battle of Uhud, he found himself isolated. Despite being surrounded by adversaries, he didn't seek to hide; instead, he boldly declared his identity. He was left alone in the Battle of Uhud, and this was to demonstrate his courage to the people. He stood alone against thousands, proclaiming, "I am the Messenger of Allāh." No other prophet was ever able to display such valour.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Allāh Almighty is All-Powerful; He empowers whatsoever He pleases. So, He infused the act of conversing with Him with the same power that existed in His own apparition. Owing to this very divine discourse that the prophets laid their lives for Him. Can a worldly lover do this? It was on account of experiencing Divine discourse that no Prophet ever retreated, nor was a prophet ever disloyal, meaning that they remained steadfast in their claims. People have interpreted the incident of the Battle of Uhud differently, but the fact is that it was a manifestation of God's majestic presence, and no one except the Prophet Muḥammad (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had the strength to endure the hardship. Therefore, he stood his ground while the Companions faltered. Just as no one can match the Holy Prophet's sincerity and loyalty to Allāh, there is no parallel to the Divine help that accompanied him throughout his life.

At the end of the sermon, Huḍoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the following recently deceased members of the Jamā'at and announced to lead their funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer, except Dr Jalāl Shams Ṣāhib whose funeral prayer he had already offered on Thursday. Huḍoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also prayed for their lofty station in Jannah:

- Dr Jalāl Shams Ṣāhib: He was head of the Central Turkish Desk. He was a capable, intelligent, simple, and loyal life-devotee. He served in Germany and Britain. In 2002, he had the honour of undergoing four months imprisonment in Turkey for preaching. He was extremely intellectual and loved to read literature. He was very humble and despite his esteemed knowledge, he did not shy to seek help from even junior missionaries. He knew various languages. He also used to translate the Friday Sermon.
- Mian Muḥammad Ibrāhīm Bhambhri Ṣāhib: He passed away at the age of 106 in Rabwah. He was greatly affectionate and loving, and I also had the honour of being his student. At times, he was very strict, but this was only for the sake of reformation. He would advise missionaries to memorise couplets of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and then would give his own example of reciting the entire Arabic Qasidah written by the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) before going to sleep. One of his daughters was martyred in Pakistan, and he lost another daughter to an illness, yet he exhibited great patience.
- Yusuf Ijareh Ṣāhib of Ghana: He was a sincere Aḥmadī and served the Jamā'at in various official capacities. He had been serving on the chairman board of two Ahmadiyya high schools and also served as a headmaster and as the President of the Aḥmadiyya Muslim Youth Association in Ghana. He was always concerned with the education of the youth.
- Al-Haj Usmān bin Adam: He was a Mūsī and a devoted Aḥmadī. He was regular in offering prayers and giving alms and was blessed with the opportunity to perform Hajj. He played a significant role in the translation of the Holy Qur'ān in the Fanti language.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 03 January 2024