

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 22nd March 2024 at *Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) recited the following versus of Sūrah Al Baqarah:

شَهْرَ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَى وَالْفُرْقَانِ فَمَنْ شَهِدَ مِنْكُمُ الشَّهْرَ فَلْيَصُمْهُ وَمَنْ كَانَ مَرِيضًا أَوْ عَلَىٰ

سَفَرًا فَعِدَّةٌ مِّنْ أَيَّامٍ أُخَرَ يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمُ الْيُسْرَ وَلَا يُرِيدُ بِكُمُ الْعُسْرَ وَلِتُكْمِلُوا الْعِدَّةَ وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

‘The month of Ramadan is that in which the Qur’an was sent down as a guidance for mankind with clear proofs of guidance and discrimination. Therefore, whosoever of you is present at home in this month, let him fast therein. But whoso is sick or is on a journey, shall fast the same number of other days. Allah desires to give you facility and He desires not hardship for you, and that you may complete the number, and that you may exalt Allah for His having guided you and that you may be grateful.’ (2-186)

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In this verse, Allāh has highlighted the importance of the month of Ramaḍān by stating that this is the month in which the Holy Qur’ān was revealed, and that the Holy Qur’ān is a comprehensive source of guidance that illuminates the paths to Allāh, cautions against Satanic influences, provides strategies to navigate current and future challenges, fosters a deeper spiritual connection with Allāh, encourages unwavering commitment to His guidance, and outlines the ultimate and comprehensive Shariah. Fortunate are those who, by adopting this magnificent book as their guide, put its teachings into practice, thus embellishing both their worldly existence and the Hereafter and firmly setting themselves on the path of righteousness. Such people will witness Allāh’s love for His servants. Hence, the significance of Ramaḍān lies in that the flawless Shariah was revealed during this month, which taught us our responsibilities of fasting and worship. We cannot truly appreciate the significance of Ramaḍān unless we understand and integrate this teaching into our lives. We are fortunate that the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and Mahdī, the true servant of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), brought this realisation to us. Therefore, we must read his books and commentaries in order to comprehend and act upon this wonderful teaching.

Tomorrow is the Promised Messiah Day, which we commemorate regularly by holding Jalsa and making speeches highlighting the advent of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) in keeping with the prophecies of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). However, this is not enough. It is important to make use of the treasure that the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) has given us in terms of our understanding of the Holy Qur’ān and to integrate it into our lives. Without this, our faith is incomplete. Merely fasting, performing mandatory prayers, or partaking in optional prayers throughout Ramaḍān does not capture the essence of the month. It is important to read the Holy Qur’ān, ponder its teachings, and put them into practice. This allows us to receive Allāh’s grace while also experiencing the manifestation of His traits of mercy and compassion. To really benefit from the Holy Qur’ān, it is necessary to follow the teachings and writings of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). It is especially urged for everyone to complete at least one Part of the Holy Qur’ān every day so that the whole Qur’ān is completed by the end of the month. It is related that Jibrīl would revise the Holy Qur’ān with the Holy Prophet

(May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in Ramaḍān, and that he did so twice in the last year of the Holy Prophet's life.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that the verse:

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ

captures the significance of Ramaḍān. Sufis believe that Ramaḍān is especially favourable to spiritual enlightenment because it fosters divine visions and revelations. Ṣalāt purifies the soul, while fasting rejuvenates the heart.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: . I reflected over the word 'Qur'ān' and then it became evident to me that this blessed word in itself contains a magnificent prophecy. The prophecy is that this book alone is the 'Qur'ān', i.e. a book that is worthy of being recited, and there will be a time when this will be the case even more so than before. In the era when other books will also be recited alongside the Holy Qur'ān, the Holy Qur'ān alone shall be worthy of being recited so that the honour of Islām may be saved and falsehood may be uprooted; other books will deserve to be forsaken completely. In other words, this book alone shall stand to distinguish between truth and falsehood, and no other compilation of Ḥadīth, or any other book for that matter, shall be equal in value or stature. Now forsake all other books and read the Book of Allāh day and night.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: The Holy Qur'ān elevates individuals to the highest levels of knowledge, just as it facilitates the attainment of perfection in practical matters. For a seeker of truth, this alone is sufficient evidence that heavenly blessings and divine signs are found only in the perfect followers of the Holy Qur'ān. If you seek signs, you will find them only in those who follow the Holy Qur'ān fully, while all other sects, which are deprived and bereft of true and pure revelation, remain unfortunate and devoid of this light of righteousness.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: How great is the injustice that someone would forsake the principles of Islām—which turned barbarians into humans and humans into godly men—and instead follow a worldly people? Success lies only in those who follow the Holy Qur'ān. Success without the Holy Qur'ān is impossible and unattainable. Look at the examples of the Ṣahāba; when they followed the Prophet of Allāh, Allāh's promises were fulfilled for them. Unless the Muslims turn to the Holy Qur'ān, they will not find true faith or vitality. Their honour and triumph will only come through the path that came before. This means that progress in faith and practice will not come through worldly pursuits but by following the Holy Qur'ān.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Muslims needed it then, and they need it now, to recognise this fountain of blessings as a great gift and value it. Its value lies in acting upon it and then witnessing how Allāh removes their afflictions and difficulties. If only Muslims would understand that Allāh has provided them with this righteous path and that they should walk upon it to reap its benefits. Whoever sincerely believes in Allāh, acts upon His Holy Book, and follows the Messenger of Allāh, He bestows upon him such great blessings as surpass the pleasures and comforts of this world. Among these blessings is the forgiveness of sins. Other religions are completely devoid of this blessing.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Listen to my words attentively, give them a place in your hearts, and demonstrate through your actions that you have not merely heard them superficially but have deeply absorbed them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: It is not enough to just sit and listen to this sermon; rather, it should result in recitation of the Holy Qur'ān. Develop the habit of reciting it in Ramaḍān, then make it a permanent part of your life, and then let us be the ones who act upon its teachings. Aḥmadīs are accused of blaspheming against the Holy Qur'ān. Cases are being filed under law in Pakistan nowadays. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that the Holy Qur'ān is the divine law and the means of salvation. If we make alterations to it, it is a grave sin. It would be strange that while we criticise the Jews and Christians for altering their scriptures, we should do the same to the Holy Qur'ān—God forbid. I am further saddened and astonished that the Christians,

whose scriptures have indeed been altered and tampered with try to find the same flaws in the Holy Qur'ān, but to no avail, and yet we Muslims should think that it is being interpolated!

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: So, blessed are those who wage war with their inner selves for the sake of Allāh. And wretched are those who war with Allāh for the sake of their own souls, and act against His will. He who ignores the will of Allāh for the sake of his inner self will never enter heaven. Strive hard so that not even a single dot or iota of the Holy Quran may testify against you and cause you to be punished. For even the smallest particle of evil is punishable. Time is short and there is no telling how long one shall live. Make haste—for twilight will soon descend. Consider over and over what you shall present before Allāh, lest it be deemed so inadequate that it is no more than waste, no more than a foul and defiled offering unfit for presentation before the Royal Court.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: May Allāh grant us an understanding of the teachings of the Holy Qur'ān in true sense and the ability to act upon them. May we always be grateful to Allāh. May we not only spend Ramaḍān but also our entire lives according to the teachings of the Holy Qur'ān. Only then can we say that we have tried to fulfil our Bai'at to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). May Allāh continue to grant us success through the teachings of the Holy Qur'ān, both in this Ramaḍān and for the rest of our lives.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) once again appealed for prayers for the people of Palestine and for the Aḥmadī prisoners of conscience in Pakistan and Yemen.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (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. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also prayed for their lofty station in Jannah:

- Dr. Zahīruddīn Maṣṣūr Aḥmad Ṣāḥib of the USA.
- Ḥassan 'Abdīn Agha Ṣāḥib of Syria, who was currently residing in Canada.
- 'Usmān 'Hussain Muḥammad Khair Ṣāḥib of Saudi Arabia.
- Muḥammad Zahrābī Ṣāḥib of Algeria
- Sa'īd Aḥmad Warraich Ṣāḥib of Rabwah.
- Shahbāz Gondal Ṣāḥib of the Netherlands.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated:27 March 2024