

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Hadrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 17th May 2024 at *Mubārak Mosque Islāmābād, Tilford, UK*

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Further details of the Sariyyah Rajī‘, as mentioned in Hadīth and historical accounts, are as follows:

In Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī, it is recorded that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) sent a group of ten men on a Sariyyah to gather intelligence. He appointed Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim bin Thabit Ansārī (May Allāh be pleased with him) as their leader. These Muslims encountered two hundred archers from the opposing tribe of Banu Liḥyān. Upon seeing the archers, the Muslims took refuge on a hill. The opponents told them to come down, assuring them of their safety and promising not to kill them. However, Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim declared that he would not place himself under the protection of a disbeliever. The Muslims then prayed, "O Allāh! Convey our situation to Your Messenger."

The disbelievers shot arrows at the Muslims, resulting in the martyrdom of Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim and seven other Ṣaḥāba. Three Ṣaḥāba descended from the hill, accepting the opponents' offer of protection. However, the opponents overpowered them and tied them up with ropes. One of these three Ṣaḥāba, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullāh bin Ṭāriq (May Allāh be pleased with him), said, "This is the first act of betrayal you have committed. By God! I will not go with you." When he refused to comply, the disbelievers martyred him on the spot.

The remaining two Ṣaḥāba, Ḥaḍrat Khubaib and Ḥaḍrat Zaid bin Dathinah (May Allāh be pleased with them), were taken to Makkah and sold. Ḥaḍrat Khubaib was purchased by the sons of Ḥārith bin ‘Āmir bin Nawfal bin ‘Abd Manāf.

Detailed accounts highlight Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim's bravery and martyrdom. Initially, he fought the enemy with arrows. When his arrows were exhausted, he used his spear. When the spear broke, leaving him only with his sword, he continued to fight valiantly. Foreseeing his imminent martyrdom, Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim became concerned about the sanctity of his body, knowing that the disbelievers desecrate the bodies of the martyrs. He prayed, "O Allāh! I have defended Your religion in the first part of the day, so protect my modesty in the latter part of the day." Following this prayer, he was martyred.

Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim had previously slain a prominent pagan chief, so upon his martyrdom, the Quraish of Makkah dispatched men to retrieve his head or a part of his body. The mother of the slain chief had vowed to drink wine from the skull of her son's killer. However, when these men approached Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim's body, they found it surrounded by swarms of bees and wasps. Despite their efforts to disperse the insects, they were unsuccessful and eventually departed empty-handed.

Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim, upon embracing Islām, had made a solemn vow to abstain from all pagan practices and to never come into contact with a disbeliever. Upon hearing of Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim's martyrdom and the subsequent events, Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar Fārooq (May Allāh be pleased with him) said that this demonstrates how Allāh honours His servant's vows. Ḥaḍrat ‘Āṣim had pledged to never touch a disbeliever, and Allāh ensured that even in death, the disbelievers could not touch him.

The remaining Ṣaḥāba displayed remarkable courage but were ultimately martyred, leaving only three survivors: Ḥaḍrat Khubaib, Ḥaḍrat Zaid bin Dathinah, and Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullāh bin Ṭāriq (May Allāh be pleased with them). Initially assured of safety by their enemies, these three surrendered, only to have the disbelievers betray their promise. Following the martyrdom of Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullāh bin Ṭāriq, driven by greed, the enemies sold Ḥaḍrat Khubaib and Ḥaḍrat Zaid in Makkah.

Ḥaḍrat Khubaib was purchased by the sons of Ḥārith bin ‘Āmir bin Nawfal, as Ḥaḍrat Khubaib had previously slain Ḥārith in the Battle of Badr. Ḥaḍrat Zaid was bought by Ṣafwān bin Umayyah.

When Ḥaḍrat Zaid was brought out for execution, Abu Sufyān addressed him, saying, "O Zaid, I ask you by Allāh, do you wish that Muḥammad were here in your place so that we could execute him instead, and you could be with your family?" Ḥaḍrat Zaid replied firmly, "By Allāh, I do not wish that even a thorn would prick Muḥammad where he is now, and I would be safe with my family." Abu Sufyān, moved by his loyalty, remarked, "I have never seen anyone love another as much as the Ṣaḥāba of Muḥammad love Muḥammad." Ḥaḍrat Zaid was then martyred.

Ibn Akwa recorded that both Ḥaḍrat Khubaib and Ḥaḍrat Zaid (May Allāh be pleased with them) were martyred on the same day. It was reported that on the day of their martyrdom, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) could be heard saying, "وعلیکم السلام" invoking peace upon them both.

Ḥaḍrat Khubaib faced severe treatment at the hands of the sons of Ḥārith initially. He rebuked them, saying that honourable people do not mistreat their captives. This had an impact on the disbelievers, prompting them to improve their treatment of him. During his captivity, a child approached Ḥaḍrat Khubaib while he held a razor. Despite the mother's apprehension, Ḥaḍrat Khubaib took the child in his lap, reassuring her that he harboured no ill intentions. This act left a lasting impression on the mother, who later testified that she had never encountered a better prisoner than Ḥaḍrat Khubaib. She recalled an instance where she saw him with a bunch of grapes, despite the absence of such fruit in Makkah in that season, attributing it as a provision from Allāh.

When the Quraish brought Ḥaḍrat Khubaib out of the Ḥaram for execution, he requested permission to offer two Rak'āt of prayer. Upon their consent, he swiftly performed the prayer, ensuring brevity to dispel any notion of fear of execution. Then, in his supplication to Allāh, he beseeched, "O Allāh! Destroy them one by one." Despite his fearless demeanour, the disbelievers ruthlessly martyred him.

Reflecting on the courage displayed by such Ṣaḥāba in the face of death and their profound sacrifices, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that these Ṣaḥāba were prepared to lay down their lives for the cause of Islām.

Further details about this Sariyyah will be shared in the future. Inshā' Allāh
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 19 May 2024