

The National Amīr/ President  
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

### **Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: On the occasion of the Treaty of Ḥudaibiyyah, the Ṣaḥāba were assigned guard duties. It is reported that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed them to take turns keeping watch at night, with three men on guard each night.

It is also reported that, with the Holy Prophet's permission, some Muslims entered Makkah, either under the protection of Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān or, according to some reports, secretly. The Quraish, however, learnt about them and captured them. The Quraish also learnt about several Mekkans who had been detained by Ḥaḍrat Muḥammad bin Maslamah (May Allāh be pleased with him). In retaliation, a group of Quraish advanced toward the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and his Ṣaḥāba. They attacked the Muslims with stones and arrows. In the skirmish, twelve mounted Quraish fighters were captured, while Ḥaḍrat Ibn Zunaim (May Allāh be pleased with him) was martyred.

Following this, the Quraish sent a delegation to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), which included Suhayl bin ‘Amr. Upon seeing Suhayl from a distance, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, “Through Suhayl, your matter has now become sahl (easy).” When Suhayl reached the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), he said, “Regarding the detention of your men—‘Uthmān and the other ten Ṣaḥāba—and the clash involving some of our people with you, no one with authority among us was involved in these actions. When we became aware of these incidents, we were greatly displeased, as they occurred without our knowledge. These actions were carried out by a few undisciplined individuals. Therefore, we request that you release those whom you have captured on both occasions.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) responded, “I will not release them until you release my Ṣaḥāba.” The Quraish agreed and released Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān and the other ten Ṣaḥāba, and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), in turn, released their captives.

Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān had been captured by the disbelievers. When this news reached the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), he took a pledge from his Ṣaḥāba, known as the Bai‘at Ridwān. When the Quraish heard of this pledge, they became alarmed. The wise among them suggested that peace could be achieved by proposing that the Muslims return to Madinah and return the following year, when they could stay in Makkah for three days. However, they would only carry basic travel weapons, such as sheathed swords and bows.

Regarding the Treaty of Ḥudaibiyyah, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that when Suhayl arrived, he immediately said to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), “Come on, let us end the discussions and finalise the agreement.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, “We, too, are ready.” He then called for his secretary, Ḥaḍrat ‘Ali (May Allāh be pleased with him). Since the general terms had already been agreed upon, only the details remained to be put on paper. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed Ḥaḍrat ‘Ali as soon as he arrived: “Write, ‘In the name of Allāh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.’” Suhayl, while agreeing to peace, was intent on protecting the Quraish’s rights and maintaining the honour of the Mekkans. He immediately objected, “What is this term ‘the most gracious?’” We do not recognise it. Write it as the Arabs have always written, ‘In Your name, O Allāh.’” The Muslims, sensitive to their religious dignity and honour, protested the change, insisting that بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ be written. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him), however, calmed them and said, “There is no harm in this. Write it as Suhayl has suggested.”

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) then instructed, "Write: 'This is the agreement made by Muḥammad, the Messenger of Allāh.'" Suhayl once again interrupted, "We will not accept the title 'Messenger of Allāh.' If we believed you were truly the Messenger of Allāh, there would be no dispute, and we would have no right to oppose or prevent you. Write instead, Muḥammad, son of 'Abdullah'" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) replied, "Whether you accept it or not, I am the Messenger of Allāh. But since I am also Muḥammad, son of 'Abdullah, let it be written as you wish."

By that time, the scribe, Ḥaḍrat 'Ali, had already written "Muḥammad, the Messenger of Allāh." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed him to erase those words and replace them with "Muḥammad, son of 'Abdullah." But Ḥaḍrat 'Ali said, "I will never erase the words 'Messenger of Allāh' from your name." Seeing 'Ali's emotional response, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "If you cannot erase them, give me the document, and I will do it myself." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) then took the document, asked Ḥaḍrat 'Ali to indicate the specific words, erased the words 'Messenger of Allāh', and replaced them with 'son of 'Abdullah'.

There are some accounts regarding Ḥaḍrat 'Umar's emotional response. It is reported that the Muslims were perturbed by the terms of the treaty. Suhayl insisted on the terms and refused to proceed with the treaty otherwise. Once the terms were agreed upon and only the writing remained, Ḥaḍrat 'Umar approached the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and said, "O Messenger of Allāh, are we not upon the truth while they are upon falsehood?" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) replied, "Indeed, we are." Ḥaḍrat 'Umar continued, "Are our martyrs in Paradise, and theirs in the Fire?" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "Indeed." Ḥaḍrat 'Umar then asked, "Why should we accept such humiliation for our religion through this treaty? Should we return without Allāh deciding between us and them?" The Messenger of Allāh responded, "I am Allāh's servant and His Messenger. I will not disobey Him, and He will never forsake me. He is my helper." Ḥaḍrat 'Umar asked further, "Did you not tell us that we would soon visit the House of Allāh and perform Ṭawāf?" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) replied, "I did, but did I tell you it would happen this year?" Ḥaḍrat 'Umar said, "No." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "You will surely visit the House of Allāh and perform Ṭawāf." Ḥaḍrat 'Umar then went to Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr and repeated the same concerns. Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr advised him, "Remain steadfast in your obedience to the Messenger of Allāh until your last breath. By Allāh, he is upon the truth."

Regarding the drafting of the treaty, Ḥaḍrat Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that after much discussion and negotiation, the treaty was finalised. In nearly every aspect, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) prioritised the demands of the Quraish, fully submitting to the divine will and upholding the sanctity of the Ka'bah. He honoured his commitment to accept the Quraish's terms, as long as respect for the sacred sanctuary was maintained. Two copies of the treaty were made and attested by several eminent people from both sides. Once the agreement was concluded, Suhayl bin 'Amr took one copy back to Makkah while the other remained with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

The distress of the Ṣaḥāba is also mentioned. After the treaty was concluded, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said to his Ṣaḥāba, "Stand up, sacrifice your animals, and then shave your heads." However, none of them moved, even after the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) repeated the command three times. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), saddened by Ṣaḥāba's hesitation, returned to his tent in silence. Inside, his wise and perceptive wife, Umm Salamah, sensed his distress and gently said, "Do not be upset. Your Ṣaḥāba are not disobedient to Allāh or His Messenger. It is just that the terms of this treaty have caused them great sorrow. My advice is that you say nothing to them. Instead, quietly go outside, sacrifice your animal, and shave your head. They will follow you."

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) accepted her counsel. When the Ṣaḥāba saw him sacrifice his animal and shave his head, they immediately got up and started sacrificing their animals and shaving one another's heads. However, their grief was so profound that the scene became somewhat chaotic, with some fearing they might accidentally harm each other while shaving.

While some shaved their heads, others merely trimmed their hair. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) came out of his tent and prayed, "May Allāh have mercy on those who shave their heads." When someone asked, "What about those who only trim their hair?" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) repeated his prayer for those who shaved their heads three times before finally adding, "And may Allāh have mercy on those who trim their hair." It is narrated that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) stayed in Ḥudaibiyyah for nineteen days.

One night while returning from the journey, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) gathered the Ṣaḥāba and announced, "Tonight, a Surah (Surah Al-Fath) has been revealed to me, which is dearer to me than anything in this world." He then recited following verses of Surah Al-Fath:

إِنَّا فَتَحْنَا لَكَ فَتْحًا مُّبِينًا ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِكَ وَمَا تَأَخَّرَ وَيُتِمُّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكَ وَيَهْدِيكَ سِرَاطًا مُسْتَقِيمًا ۝ وَيُنصركَ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ تَعَالَى ۝ لَقَدْ صَدَقَ اللَّهُ رَسُولَهُ الرُّعْيَا بِالْحَقِّ ۚ لَتَدْخُلُنَّ الْمَسْجِدَ الْحَرَامَ إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ آمِنِينَ ۚ مُحَلِّقِينَ رُءُوسَكُمْ وَمُقَصِّرِينَ ۚ لَا تَخَافُونَ ۗ فَعَلِمَ مَا لَمْ تَعْلَمُوا فَجَعَلَ مِنْ دُونِ ذَلِكَ فَتْحًا قَرِيبًا ۝

‘Verily, We have granted thee a clear victory. That Allah may cover up for thee thy shortcomings, past and future, and that He may complete His favour upon thee, and may guide thee on a right path; And that Allah may help thee with a mighty help.’ (48:2-4)

‘Surely has Allah in truth fulfilled for His Messenger the Vision. You will certainly enter the Sacred Mosque, if Allah will, in security, some having their heads shaven, and others having their hair cut short; and you will have no fear. But He knew what you knew not. He has in fact ordained for you, besides that, a victory near at hand.’ (48:28)

Despite this glad tidings, some Ṣaḥāba, still feeling disappointed by the treaty, expressed surprise, wondering how this could be considered a victory when they were returning without performing Ṭawāf of the Ka‘bah. Some even said hastily, “Is this a victory that we return without fulfilling our goal?”

When these remarks reached the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), he was displeased and addressed the Ṣaḥāba briefly but passionately. He said, “This objection is completely unwarranted because, when you think about it, the Treaty of Ḥudaibiyyah represents a major victory for us. The Quraish, who had previously come to the battlefield against us, have now themselves abandoned war and entered into a peace agreement. They have also pledged to open the gates of Makkah for us next year. We are returning peacefully, free from the schemes of the people of Makkah, and with the scent of future victories accompanying us. Surely, this is a great triumph. Have you forgotten how these very Quraish attacked you during the battles of Uhud and Aḥzāb, reducing you to a state where, despite the earth’s vastness, it became constricted for you? Your eyes were overwhelmed, and your hearts seemed to leap into your throats. Yet today, these same Quraish are agreeing to a treaty of peace and security with you.” The Ṣaḥāba then said, “O Messenger of Allāh, we now realise the truth. Your insight reaches far beyond ours, but we now understand that this agreement is truly a great triumph for us.”

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

إِنَّا فَتَحْنَا لَكَ فَتْحًا مُّبِينًا

‘Verily, We have granted thee a clear victory’

Allāh has described the Treaty of Ḥudaibiyyah as a “clear victory.” While this victory was not initially apparent to many Ṣaḥāba and even caused some hypocrites to apostatise, it was indeed a great triumph, though its outcomes required deeper understanding and reflection.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says that among the treaty's blessings was that it allowed people to meet the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in person and listen to his message, which led to hundreds embracing Islām.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said he would continue with these accounts in the future, inshā'Allāh.

*Wassalām,*

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