

The National Amīr/ President  
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

### **Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) continued with the accounts regarding the Conquest of Makkah.

It is reported that one of the Ṣaḥāba, in his naivety, tried to inform the people of Makkah about the Holy Prophet’s journey. However, Allāh apprised the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) of this and the disbelievers did not receive news of his plan.

When preparations for the journey began in Madinah, a Ṣaḥābī, Ḥaḍrat Ḥaṭīb bin Abi Balta‘ah (May Allāh be pleased with him), wrote a letter to the Quraish informing them that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had finalised plans to march towards them. He gave the letter to a woman and instructed her to deliver it secretly. The woman hid it in her hair and set off for Makkah via a less travelled route.

When Allāh informed the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) about the letter, he sent Ḥaḍrat ‘Alī (May Allāh be pleased with him) and another Ṣaḥābī to retrieve it. They intercepted the woman, got the letter, and brought her to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat Ḥaṭīb explained, “I am not a traitor; I only wanted the people of Makkah to owe me a favour so that my property and family would remain safe.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said, “He has spoken the truth,” and instructed the Ṣaḥāba to say nothing but good about him. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) then asked Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar, “Was he not present in the Battle of Badr?” Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar’s eyes filled with tears, and he said, “Allāh and His Messenger know best.”

It was ten days into Ramaḍān when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) set out from Madinah. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) departed from Madinah on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Ramaḍān. ‘Allāma Ibn Hajar also agrees with this date.

At the time of departure, approximately 7,400 valiant men were part of this expedition, and the number increased along the way. Some say that the army numbered 12,000, but most sources put it at 10,000, which seems more accurate.

Among the wives of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), Ḥaḍrat Umme Salama (May Allāh be pleased with her) was the one who accompanied Him on this journey. Some narrations mention that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) was also accompanied by Ḥaḍrat Maimūna (May Allāh be pleased with her). Since the journey took place during Ramaḍān, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) fasted for the first few days, but he later broke his fast and instructed the Ṣaḥāba to do the same.

During the journey, an incident took place that reflects the Holy Prophet’s compassion towards animals. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) noticed a female dog nursing her puppies. He instructed a Ṣaḥāba to stand guard so that she or her puppies would not come to harm from anyone in the army.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had sent a cavalry unit ahead to capture any spies. This unit apprehended a spy from the Banu Hawazin tribe who revealed that the Hawazin were gathering forces against the Muslims. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said, “Allāh is sufficient for us, and He is the best protector.” He instructed Ḥaḍrat Khālīd bin Walīd (May Allāh be pleased with him) to detain the spy to prevent him from informing others.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) organised the Muslim army into tribes and appointed a leader for each. The Anṣār were divided into twelve units, six from the Aus and six from the

Khazraj. The Muhājirīn fought under three banners, held by Ḥaḍrat ‘Alī, Ḥaḍrat Zubair, and Ḥaḍrat Sa‘d bin Abi Waqas (May Allāh be pleased with them).

The conversion of the Holy Prophet’s cousin and foster brother, Abu Sufyān bin Ḥārith; his son, Ja‘far; and ‘Abdullah bin Abi Umayyah bin Al-Mughirah is mentioned on this occasion. These men had been staunch opponents of Islām and were afraid to approach the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat Umme Salama, who was ‘Abdullah bin Umayyah’s sister, interceded on their behalf. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) initially refused to meet them and said, “I have no need for them. My cousin insulted me, and ‘Abdullah committed many injustices in Makkah.” When Abu Sufyān bin Ḥārith heard this, he was overcome with emotion and declared that if the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) did not grant him an audience, he would wander the deserts with his son until they perished from hunger and thirst. Hearing this, the Holy Prophet’s heart softened and He granted them an audience.

Ḥaḍrat Abu Sufyān bin Ḥārith passed away in 15 AH, and Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar led his funeral prayer. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Abi Umayyah, whose name was Ḥudhaifah, was the son of the Holy Prophet’s aunt, ‘Ātikah, and the brother of Ḥaḍrat Umme Salama. After accepting Islām, he fought valiantly in the Battle of Ḥunain and was martyred at Tā’if after being hit by an arrow.

Regarding Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās’s inclusion in the Muslim army, it is written that at the same time when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) departed for Makkah, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās had decided to migrate to Madinah. He met the Holy Prophet at Juhfa, whereupon he sent his belongings to Madinah and joined the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās was the Holy Prophet’s uncle and two or three years older than him. He was known as Abu Al-Faḍl because of his son, Faḍl bin ‘Abbās. After Ḥaḍrat Abu Ṭālib, the responsibility of providing water to pilgrims (Siqayah) fell to him. He accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in the Battle of Ḥunain and passed away in 32 or 33 AH.

A miraculous thing happened due to the Holy Prophet’s excellent military strategy and prayers. An army of ten thousand marched from Madinah, covered approximately four hundred kilometres, and camped merely five miles from Makkah, and yet the Makkans remained completely unaware of it.

At the time of ‘Ishā’, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) camped at Marruz Zahrān and ordered the Ṣaḥāba to light ten thousand fires. He appointed Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar to oversee the army’s affairs.

Ḥaḍrat Muṣleh Mau‘ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: Apart from the Battle of the Trench, such a large army had never been assembled in Arab history. The fact that an army of this size departed from Madinah without anyone noticing it demonstrates Allāh’s miraculous intervention. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had prayed, “O my Lord, I ask You to deafen the ears of our enemies and blind their spies so they neither see us nor hear our plans.” Despite hundreds of hypocrites in Madinah, the ten thousand-strong army departed unnoticed by the Makkans.

The Makkans were concerned about a potential attack but had no idea that the Muslim army was already so close. They patrolled the outskirts at night. On one such night, Abu Sufyān was patrolling with a companion when they saw the numerous fires. The sight terrified them. While they were trying to figure out whose army it was, the Holy Prophet’s spies captured them and brought them before him. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would continue with the details in future, inshā’ Allāh.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: As I always say, give greater attention to prayers. May Allāh protect the world from chaos. With things happening one after the other, may Allāh make things better and lead us toward peace rather than further destruction. Āmīn