

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

.....

Dear Brother,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 27th June 2025 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: As I mentioned before, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) reached close to Makkah with his army without alerting the enemy. He set up camp and ordered ten thousand fires to be lit. When Abu Sufyān and his companions saw the fires, they were struck with fear.

Ḥaḍrat Muṣleh Mau‘ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that due to an old friendship between Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās and Abu Sufyān, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās urged him to ride with him and meet the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās feared that Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar, who was on guard duty, might kill Abu Sufyān. However, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had already instructed that no one should kill Abu Sufyān.

Thus, Abu Sufyān came to the Holy Prophet's presence overwhelmed with awe and fear. Seeing him in this state, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) asked Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās to keep him overnight and bring him again in the morning.

The next morning, Abu Sufyān was brought again, and it was time for Fajr. He saw Muslims performing ablution and lining up for Prayer. The people of Makkah had never seen such a thing. Fearing this was some new form of punishment for him, he asked Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās what they were doing. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās told him not to fear, as they were only preparing to pray.

Abu Sufyān saw thousands standing in rows behind the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) bowed, they all bowed. When he prostrated, they all prostrated. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās was on guard and did not join the Prayer. Abu Sufyān asked in amazement what these people were doing, and Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās replied, “This is only a Prayer. But if the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) were to command them to abandon food and drink, they would do that as readily.” Abu Sufyān said that he had never seen such devotion as that of Muḥammad's followers. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās then told him that it was not possible for him to ask the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) to forgive the Quraish on that day.

After the Prayer, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās brought Abu Sufyān before the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) asked him, “Has the time not come for you to realise that there is no god but Allāh?” Abu Sufyān replied, “May my parents be sacrificed for you! You are the most noble, forbearing and kind-hearted person. I now understand that had there been another god, he would have helped us.”

Then the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) asked, “Has the time not come for you to acknowledge that I am the Messenger of Allāh?” Abu Sufyān replied, “May my parents be sacrificed for you! I still have some doubts.” Nonetheless, his two companions, including Ḥaḍrat Ḥakīm bin Ḥizām (May Allāh be pleased with him), embraced Islām. Abu Sufyān himself wholeheartedly accepted Islām only after the conquest of Makkah.

After converting, Ḥaḍrat Ḥakīm asked whether the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had brought his army to destroy his own people. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) replied that the Quraish had violated the treaty of Ḥudaibiyyah and unjustly fought against the tribe of Khuzā‘ah in the sacred precincts of the Ḥaram. When Ḥaḍrat Ḥakīm suggested that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) should have attacked Hawāzin instead, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's

blessings be upon him) replied, “They, too, were aggressors, but I hope from Allāh that He will accomplish all these matters through me: the conquest of Makkah, the dominance of Islam, and the defeat of Hawāzin.”

Abu Sufyān asked whether the people of Makkah would be safe if they did not raise their swords. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said yes; whoever closed his door would be safe. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās said that Abu Sufyān sought personal honour. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) declared, “Whoever enters Abu Sufyān’s house will be safe. Whoever enters the Masjid al-Ḥarām will be safe. Whoever lays down his weapons will be safe. Whoever enters the house of Ḥaḍrat Ḥakīm will be safe.”

As Abu Sufyān and Ḥaḍrat Ḥakīm departed, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās requested that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) call Abu Sufyān back so he could better witness the power of the Muslim army. According to Ibn Ishāq, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās to bring him back. Abu Sufyān was startled and asked if the Banu Hāshim were deceiving him. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās replied, “Prophets do not deceive. Wait until morning and see Allāh’s army.”

Throughout the morning, various tribes passed by in formation. When Ḥaḍrat Ghifār passed, Abu Sufyān dismissed them as inconsequential. He repeated the same for Ḥaḍrat Juhainah, Ḥaḍrat Sa’d bin Hudaim, and Ḥaḍrat Sulaim (May Allāh be pleased with them). These were followed by a contingent the likes of which he had never seen before, and he asked, “Who are these?” Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās replied, “These are the Anṣār. Their leader is Ḥaḍrat Sa’d bin ‘Ubādah, and he carries their standard.” Ḥaḍrat Sa’d bin ‘Ubādah, full of passion, said, “O Abu Sufyān ! Today is the day of battle. Today, the sanctity of the Ka’bah shall no longer hold.” Upon hearing this, Abu Sufyān said, “Abbas! What a day of destruction this would be, if only there were a chance for confrontation.”

Then came the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) himself, with a smaller group led by Ḥaḍrat Zubair bin al-‘Awwām holding the standard. According to another narration, Abu Sufyān asked if the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had ordered the massacre of his people and quoted Ḥaḍrat Sa’d’s words. The Holy Prophet said, “Sa’d has spoken wrongly. Today is a day of mercy. Today, Allāh will restore the sanctity of the Ka’bah and honour the Quraish.”

He sent a message to Ḥaḍrat Sa’d, took the flag from him, and handed it to his son, Ḥaḍrat Qais. Ḥaḍrat Muṣleh Mau’ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that this decision simultaneously honoured the people of Makkah and respected the sentiments of the Anṣār.

Ḥaḍrat Qais was a noble and trustworthy man. It is said that in his final illness, when some friends stayed away, Ḥaḍrat Qais enquired about them and was told that they did so out of fear that he would ask for repayment of debts. Ḥaḍrat Qais said, “Announce that anyone who owes Qais anything is forgiven.” After that, so many people came to visit him that the stairs of his house collapsed.

Ḥaḍrat Musleh Maud says that while Abu Sufyān was inwardly pleased that he had found a way to save the people of Makkah, his wife Hind stepped forward, grabbed her husband’s beard, and began calling out to the people of Makkah: “Come and kill this foolish old man! Instead of urging you to go forth and die fighting for your lives and the honour of your city, he is proclaiming peace among you!” Seeing this, Abu Sufyān said, “Foolish woman! This is no time for such talk. Go and hide in your house. I have just seen an army against which no power in all of Arabia can withstand.”

Ibn Ishāq writes that Safwān, ‘Ikrimah, and Suhail summoned people to fight against the Messenger of Allāh. They gathered them at Khandamah, a well-known mountain along Makkah’s stony route. They had armed themselves and swore that Muḥammad would never enter Makkah by force.

When Ḥaḍrat Khālīd bin Walīd entered as instructed by the Messenger of Allāh, they encountered a group blocking their way. The group brandished weapons and shot arrows and shouted, “You cannot enter by force.” Ḥaḍrat Khālīd called upon his companions, and a battle broke out with the idolaters. Three or four men from Banu Bakr were killed. They were badly defeated and scattered in all directions. A group fled to the mountains. It is recorded in Bukhārī that two of Ḥaḍrat Khalid’s horsemen were martyred.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while the people of Makkah were now receiving amnesty, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) did not forget his devoted lovers and loyal Ṣaḥāba. Surely, the cruelty inflicted years earlier in the very streets of Makkah must have returned to his memory. Ḥaḍrat Bilāl, who had once been bound with ropes and dragged through the stony streets of Makkah, was now part of the victorious army. The memories of those torments must have returned vividly to his mind. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) considered it necessary to take revenge, and what a beautiful revenge he took!

Ḥaḍrat Muṣleh Mau'ūd (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) appointed Ḥaḍrat Abi Ruwaiḥa, whom the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had made brother of Ḥaḍrat Bilāl, and said, "I now give my standard to Abi Ruwaiḥa. Whoever stands beneath his flag shall be granted safety." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed Ḥaḍrat Bilāl to walk alongside and proclaim, "Whoever comes and stands beneath the flag of Abi Ruwaiḥa shall be granted safety."

How subtle and profound was the wisdom in this command! The people of Makkah had once tied ropes to Ḥaḍrat Bilāl's feet and dragged him through the streets. The alleys and plains of Makkah had never been places of peace for him; they were places of torment, humiliation, and mockery. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) considered that Ḥaḍrat Bilāl's heart might incline again and again toward thoughts of revenge on that day. This faithful Ṣaḥābī deserved justice. Yet it was also necessary that the Holy Prophet's method should reflect the majesty of Islām.

Therefore, he did not seek retribution by ordering Ḥaḍrat Bilāl to slay his oppressors with a sword. Instead, he placed a great standard in the hands of Bilāl's brother and appointed Bilāl to proclaim, "Whoever seeks refuge under this flag shall be safe." What a splendid revenge this was! What a noble form of retribution!

When Bilāl would declare aloud in the streets of Makkah, "O people of Makkah! Come and stand beneath my brother's flag, and you shall be granted peace." Surely his heart would grow empty of every desire for personal vengeance. He must have felt that no other form of retribution could be grander or more beautiful than the one designed by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

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

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor spoke about Āmina Shahnāz Ṣāḥiba, wife of In'āmullah Ṣāḥib of Lahore, who passed away recently at the age of fifty-seven. Aḥmadīyyat entered her family through her father, Muḥammad Dīn Ṣāḥib. She was a pious and righteous woman. She is survived by her husband, one son, and four daughters. Her son, Wajīhullah Ṣāḥib, is serving as a missionary in Senegal. Due to his duties in the field of service, he could not attend his mother's funeral and burial. May Allāh grant her forgiveness and mercy. Āmīn

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 03 July 2025