

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 18th July 2025 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK .

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, I will speak further about the Conquest of Makkah. There is a difference of opinion regarding the duration of the Holy Prophet’s stay in Makkah. According to a narration in Bukhārī, he stayed for nineteen days, during which he offered Qaṣar prayers (shortened the prayers). Some traditions mention seventeen, eighteen, or fifteen days.

Several orientalists have also written about the Conquest of Makkah. For instance, William Muir, a renowned Scottish orientalist, mentions in his book *The Life of Mohammad* that the Holy Prophet’s forgiveness of past wrongs and overlooking of all grievances was, in fact, for his own benefit, but such magnanimity requires a large and gentle heart.

Similarly, William Montgomery Watt, another Scottish orientalist known for his harsh criticisms of Islām and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), writes that the leaders of Makkah were not forced to convert to Islām, and many of them remained steadfast in their disbelief. Above all was the remarkable skill with which he maintained the unity under his leadership and made almost everyone feel that they were being treated justly.

Another orientalist, Arthur Gilley from the USA, praises the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) for restraining his army from bloodshed at a time when memories of past persecutions could have incited revenge. Instead, he displayed humility and deep gratitude to Allāh.

Ruth Cranston, an American orientalist, writes that in the early days of 630 CE, the man who had been stoned and driven out of the city just ten years earlier, and who had been mocked relentlessly, now entered Makkah with ten thousand experienced soldiers. And yet, he ordered that no one be killed and that the citizens be treated with kindness.

Karen Armstrong, a fair-minded British orientalist, writes that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) had no desire for bloody revenge and did not force anyone to convert. He did not come to Makkah to oppress Quraish but to abolish the religion that had failed them. Through the Conquest of Makkah, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) proved the truth of his prophethood. This victory was achieved without bloodshed, and his peaceful policy succeeded. Within a few years, idolatry was eradicated in Makkah, and staunch opponents, such as ‘Ikrimah and Suhail, became devout Muslims.

The account of ‘Abdullah bin Abi Sarḥ’s acceptance of Islām is also found in this context. He had previously been a Muslim and even a scribe of Revelation, but had later apostatised and fled to Makkah. During the Conquest, he was among those who were sentenced to death, but Ḥaḍrat Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) granted him protection and hid him in his house. One day, when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) was taking pledges of allegiance, Ḥaḍrat Uthmān brought ‘Abdullah forward. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) hesitated momentarily but eventually accepted his Bai‘at. ‘Abdullah later became the governor of Egypt and conquered a region in Africa. He was Ḥaḍrat Uthmān’s foster

brother. It is mentioned that he prayed for his final act to be prayer, and he passed away while he was concluding Fajr prayer.

‘Ikrimah bin Abi Jahl was certain he would be punished, so he attempted to flee to Yemen by sea. His wife, Umm Ḥakīm, had embraced Islām. She pleaded with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and he granted him amnesty. Umm Ḥakīm then went to ‘Ikrimah and said, “I have come to you from the most forgiving, the most virtuous, and the most benevolent of men. Do not destroy yourself, for I have secured your pardon.” ‘Ikrimah returned and accepted Islām.

Among those sentenced to death was a man responsible for the death of the Holy Prophet’s daughter, Ḥadrat Zainab. He had cut the strap of her camel’s litter, causing her to fall and miscarry. She later died from her injuries. The man fled to Persia but eventually sought forgiveness from the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and he was pardoned.

Another account is related regarding Ka’ab bin Zuhair, a poet and staunch opponent of Islām who used his poetry to spread hatred against the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). He came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) anonymously and sought forgiveness for Ka’ab bin Zuhair. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) granted it, Ka’ab revealed his identity. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) forgave him, and Ka’ab presented a beautiful poem in his honour. In return, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) gifted him his cloak (burda), and the poem became known as Qasidah Alburda. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) clarified that a poem by Imam Albusiri is also known as Qasidah Alburda.

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

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said, Jalsa Sālāna UK will begin next Friday. Pray for its success. May Allāh bless this Jalsa with His grace and continue to shower it with His blessings. May Allāh protect us from every evil and harmful person and from the mischief of those who intend to cause harm. May Allāh bring all the guests safely to the Jalsa and keep them under His protection.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that all guests, whether they are coming in their personal capacity or under the Jamā‘at’s arrangements, shall be the guests of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed for the hosts to be able to fulfil their duties with grace and to serve with dignity, kindness, and cheerfulness. Lack of sleep might sometimes affect their demeanour, but they should remember the privilege of serving the guests of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and keep smiling under all circumstances. All volunteers, whether officers, assistants, boys, girls, men, or women, should perform their duties with a smile on their faces.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) emphasised the importance of vigilance to prevent any mischief and prayed for all workers to serve excellently and become recipients of Allāh’s blessings. Āmīn

Jazākumullāh

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 22 July 2025