

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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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 29th August 2025 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would present further details regarding the Battle of Ḥunain. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) departed from Makkah, he appointed Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb bin Usaīd (May Allāh be pleased with him) as its governor. He was the first governor of Makkah. At that time, Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb was about twenty years old. Alongside him, Ḥaḍrat Mu‘adh bin Jabal (May Allāh be pleased with him) was entrusted with the duty of teaching the people of Makkah about Islām. Both Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb and his father had been prominent figures among the Quraish and staunch opponents of Islām. Their opposition had been so intense that when Ḥaḍrat Bilāl (May Allāh be pleased with him) called the Adhān on the day of the conquest of Makkah, Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb said to his companions that he was thankful his father had not lived to hear Ḥaḍrat Bilāl. Yet, by the grace of Allāh, on that very day of the conquest, Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb accepted Islām. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) appointed him governor of Makkah and counselled him, “O ‘Attāb! I have placed you in authority over the people of Allāh’s House, so deal with them with gentleness.” Ḥaḍrat ‘Attāb remained governor until the demise of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), and according to one narration, continued in this position even during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr (May Allāh be pleased with him).

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) set out for the Battle of Ḥunain on Saturday, 6 Shawwāl, and arrived at Ḥunain on 8 Shawwāl. Among his wives, Ḥaḍrat Umm Salamah and Ḥaḍrat Zainab (May Allāh be pleased with them) accompanied him on this journey. Although the Muslims were outnumbered in terms of arms and cavalry, their numbers were greater than in any previous campaign. Historians record that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) marched with an army of twelve thousand: ten thousand who had accompanied him from Madinah for the conquest of Makkah, and two thousand Makkans who now fought under his banner.

Ḥaḍrat Sahl (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that he travelled with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) during the expedition to Ḥunain. At that moment, a rider arrived and reported, “O Messenger of Allāh, I went ahead and saw that the tribe of Hawāzin has assembled, and they have brought with them their women and livestock.” Hearing this, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) smiled and said, “Tomorrow, God willing, this will become the spoils of war for the Muslims.” He then asked, “Who will stand guard for us tonight?” Ḥaḍrat Anas bin Abi Marthad (May Allāh be pleased with him) offered himself, and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) instructed him, “Go to the elevated place of that valley and remain vigilant so that we may not be deceived at night”. At dawn, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) came for prayer and afterwards said, “Rejoice, for your rider has returned.” He then addressed Ḥaḍrat Anas bin Abi Marthad and said, “Paradise has become obligatory for you.”

Meanwhile, Mālīk bin ‘Auf, the leader of Hawāzin, sent three spies to gauge the strength of the Muslims. When they returned, they were shaking with fear and said, “We saw men clothed in white and mounted upon horses. If we fight them, we will not be able to withstand them. If we cannot overcome those on the earth, how can we contend with those aided from the heavens? Our counsel is that we turn back.” But Mālīk bin ‘Auf scorned their advice and sent another warrior to scout. He, too, returned unnerved and urged retreat, but Mālīk once more dismissed this counsel.

The valley of Ḥunain is cut with ravines, and Mālik bin ‘Auf stationed his troops in these ravines to ambush the Muslims. His army’s formation placed the cavalry in front, the infantry behind, then women and children mounted on camels, with the livestock at the rear. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) arranged his forces with one thousand cavalry from Banu Sulaim at the forefront under Ḥaḍrat Khālīd bin Walīd (May Allāh be pleased with him). He himself remained at the centre of the army.

At the outset of the battle, the Muslims pressed forward successfully. But a sudden onslaught from the disbelievers, accompanied by a shower of arrows, threw sections of the Muslim force into confusion, resulting in a temporary setback. According to a narration when they drove the Hawāzin into retreat, some Muslims began gathering spoils. As they were doing so, the enemy started raining arrows upon them, and those among the younger Muslims who did not have armour began to scatter. Yet the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) remained steadfast on the battlefield.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in every campaign of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), his unparalleled courage shines forth. Where seasoned warriors lost composure, he stood unshaken like a mountain.

Though panic spread, a group of Ṣaḥāba remained close at hand. It was chiefly the hypocrites among the newly converted Makkans and others whose faith had not yet taken root who fell back. This momentary defeat was due to the enemy’s sudden and coordinated discharge of arrows.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about Jalsa Sālāna Germany and urged all participants to supplicate that Allāh may enable them to fulfil the true purposes of the convention and not to treat it as a mere festival. Rather, they should resolve to advance intellectually, spiritually, and devote these days to the remembrance of Allāh. They should pray for themselves and for their progeny, for the progress of the Jamā‘at, for deliverance from the schemes of adversaries. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also appealed for prayers for the general condition of the world.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 02 September 2025