

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Ahmādīyya,

.....
Dear Brother,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥadīrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 13th February 2026 at Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In this age, we find the greatest demonstration of walking in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) in the person of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). In the previous sermon, I spoke about the Holy Prophet's worship and offered some guidance in its light. Today I will relate accounts of the Promised Messiah's worship which show how closely he followed the example of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

Ḥadīrat Mirza Bashīr Ahmād (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that Ḥadīrat Mirza Muḥammad Dīn (May Allāh be pleased with him) wrote to him: I have observed the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) since my childhood. I first saw him during the lifetime of his father, Mirza Ghulām Murtaza Sāhib, when I was very young. His habit was to retire immediately after the 'Ishā' Prayer and wake for Tahajjud at around 1 a.m. After offering Tahajjud, he would continue reciting the Holy Qur'ān until the call for Fajr. He would then go to the mosque for congregational Prayer. Sometimes he led the Prayer himself; at other times it was led by Mian Jān Muḥammad Sāhib, the Imām of the mosque. I never saw him offer Sunnah prayers in the mosque.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: I never practised severe austerities nor subjected myself to extreme spiritual exercises like certain modern Sufis. I never adopted seclusion or undertook long retreats, nor did I engage in monastic practices contrary to the Sunnah and the Word of Allāh.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) spoke in detail of his spiritual discipline around the time of his father's death. During that period, he saw a holy man in a dream who told him that observing fasts as a precursor to Divine illumination was the tradition of the Prophets. Therefore, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) considered it appropriate to fast for a time. Believing that it was better to keep this practice hidden, he would have his food brought to him and distribute it among some orphaned children. None but Allāh knew about these fasts. Within two to three weeks, he had reduced his intake to a single piece of bread per day. He continued lessening his food until it reached a level that even a two- or three-month-old infant could not endure. He maintained this for about eight or nine months.

During this time, he experienced many spiritual wonders. He said that, as a result of these fasts, he had numerous meetings with prophets and saints. On one occasion, in a fully conscious state, he saw the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) along with Ḥadīrat Ḥassan, Ḥadīrat Ḥussain, Ḥadīrat 'Ali, and Ḥadīrat Fātimah (May Allāh be pleased with them). This was not a dream but a waking vision.

It is related that one day the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) fell from a rooftop. When he regained consciousness, his first question was whether it was time for Prayer. This shows his deep love for worship.

In 1895, Ḥadīrat Mīr Muḥammad Ismā‘il (May Allāh be pleased with him) spent Ramadān in Qādiān and offered Tahajjud and Tarawīh Prayers behind the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). He relates that the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) would pray Witr in the earlier part of the night and Tarawīh in the latter part.

Ḥadīrat Mirza Bashīr Ahmād (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that Ḥadīrat Amma Jān (May Allāh be pleased with her) said: Besides the five obligatory Prayers, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) would offer two kinds of Nawāfil. One was Ishrāq, which he would offer occasionally; the other was eight rak‘as of Tahajjud, which he offered regularly unless he was severely ill. Even in illness, he would supplicate while lying in bed. In his later years, due to weakness, he would pray seated.

Hađrat Maulawī Ya‘qūb ‘Ali (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that when the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) attended court cases, it was solely in obedience to his father’s instructions. Even there, he ensured no Prayer was missed.

The Promised Messiah’s voice carried deep emotion, and his recitation was melodious. He loved the Holy Qur’ān and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him), and his worship never deviated from the Sunnah. Besides Prayers, he regularly recited the Holy Qur’ān, offered Durood, and repeat Istighfār. He was deeply in love with the Holy Qur’ān. Day and night, whether sitting, standing, or walking, he would recite it with tears flowing from his eyes. When unable to attend the mosque, he would arrange congregational Prayers at home. Often, on such occasions, he would have Hađrat Amma Jān join him.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: I have been accustomed to fasting from an early age. When I first completed twenty-nine days of fasting, that was a day of celebration for me. Fasting has special blessings. Just as every fruit has its own distinct taste, every form of worship has its own sweetness. One should worship in such a way that the spirit becomes refined and flows like water to merge with Allāh.

After the obligatory Prayers, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) would immediately return home and engage in writing. After Maghrib, he would remain in the mosque, have supper with Sahāba, and return home after ‘Ishā’.

Hađrat Pīr Sirājul Haq Na‘umāni (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) led the funeral Prayer for Hađrat Mian Jān Muḥammad (May Allāh be pleased with him), for whom he had great affection. The Prayer lasted so long that people’s feet started to hurt. Afterwards, when someone mentioned this and wondered how tired the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) himself must be, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) said, “What have we to do with tiredness? We were supplicating to Allāh for the deceased. Does a seeker ever tire? We are seekers and He is the Giver. Where there is even the slightest hope, the supplicant stands steadfast.”

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh enable us to offer Prayers with this same understanding. We have pledged Bai‘at to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) on the condition that we will offer our Prayers in accordance with the commands of Allāh and His Messenger, and that we will pray while remembering Allāh’s favours upon us and praising Him. May Allāh enable us to fulfil this pledge.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the following recently deceased members of the Jamā‘at and announced to lead their funeral Prayer in absentia after the Friday Prayer. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also prayed for their lofty station in Jannah:

- **Amatul Sharīf Sāhiba**, wife of Mahmūd Ahmad Butt Sāhib of Narowal, passed away at the age of 84. She was a pious woman who was punctual in prayers and fasting, regularly recited the Holy Qur’ān, and studied Jamā‘at literature.
- **Sheikh Bashīr Ahmad Sāhib**, of Lahore, passed away at the age of 97. He was regular in prayers, Tahajjud, and fasting. He was sociable and a man of noble character. He was an active member of the Lahore Jamā‘at. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said he personally knew him as a humble person.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlul Tabshīr
ISLĀMABAD (UK)
Dated: 17 February 2026