

نحمدهو نصلى على رسوله الكريم و على عبده المسيح المو عود خداكر فضل اور رحم كرسانه هو الناصر

The Extraordinary Transformation within New Converts after Accepting Ahmadiyyat

Friday Sermon delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad(aba), Khalifatul Masih V, Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community – 2nd September 2011

Full Transcript

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After reciting Tashahhud, Ta'awwudh and Bismillah, Hudhur(aba) said:

"The fundamental and significant advice that the Promised Messiah (as) imparted to those entering into his Jama'at is that people who convert should inculcate a pure reformation within them and establish a link with their God. They should try to enhance their moral standards to the highest degrees possible. In one place, the Promised Messiah (as) states:

The purpose of their joining the Movement and establishing with me a relationship like that of a disciple is that they should achieve a high degree of *Taqwa* (fear of Allah and righteousness), develop good characters and become well-behaved. No wrongdoing or mischief should ever come near them. They should offer the five daily Prayers regularly and in congregation, and should not lie nor hurt anyone by their words. They should not be guilty of any kind of vice and should not let even a thought of mischief, wrongdoing or transgression even pass through their minds. They should shun every type of sin, offence, undesirable speech and action, as well as all egoistic passions and unruly behaviour. They should become pure-hearted, harmless and meek servants of God Almighty, and no poisonous germ should flourish in their beings.' (*Essence of Islam*, Vol. IV, pp. 349 – 250)

Today, with the Grace of Almighty Allah, those people who have accepted or are accepting the Imam of the time are engrossed in the following endeavour: that they develop these pure transformations within them and then sustain them. There is a revolution that has been infused within these people and is being infused within them. These are those people who have understood the essence of the *Bai'at*, the Pledge of Allegiance. At this time I will present the accounts of such people, who after taking the *Bai'at*, the Pledge of Allegiance have developed a revolution within. These people hail from different nations and different cultures of the world. These people are those who have strengthened their relationship with Allah. They have also improved and advanced in performing pious deeds and establishing the highest moral standards; they have totally abased their own personal desires, and instead have remained steadfast upon the commands of Allah and progressed in this manner. They have made every effort to improve their spirituality. The fear and the love of Allah take precedence for them over the fear and the love of the world.

These accounts are narrations I have gathered from the reports normally presented on the second day of Jalsa Salana (UK). These accounts were not presented then and nor was the subject matter, due to the shortage of time. The subject, the topic, the heading, is that "The

extraordinary transformation within new converts after accepting Ahmadiyyat." As I said at that time also, that I thought that I would relate these accounts at some future time; therefore, I am presenting this today.

This is a most significant topic, which should be faith-inspiring for the Ahmadis of old and also a means of reformation for them. Also for the new Ahmadis, when they hear these accounts, it also becomes a means of increasing their faith.

Ameer Sahib Jama'at Ahmadiyya Delhi writes that "Those who are becoming Ahmadis, a prominent transformation is developing within them. Usman Sahib took the *Bai'at* at the occasion of Jalsa Salana Qadian 2010, and entered into the fold of Jama'at." This Usman Sahib relates that, "before taking the *Bai'at*, the Pledge of Allegiance, I hardly ever offered the prayers. But since the day of my *Bai'at*, the Pledge of Allegiance, not only do I offer the five daily obligatory prayers, but often I am enabled to perform the *Tahajjud* prayers."

These new converts and new Ahmadis who often write these accounts and narrations, may this mannerism continue within them permanently, and many those of those who are old Ahmadis and who show slackness in prayers, may they also realise that after coming into the fold of the *Bai'at* of the Promised Messiah (as), the Pledge of Allegiance, they need to discharge the required responsibilities, which are most significant responsibilities, without which our *Bai'at*, our Pledge of Allegiance would just be a hollow *Bai'at*. And the most significant responsibility in this regard is the offering of the obligatory prayers and giving due attention towards this, and then after this is the offering of the *Nawafil* (voluntary prayers). Therefore, every single person needs to pay heed to this, and must observe how these new converts are striving to inculcate pure reformations within themselves.

There is a Mubaligh of ours, Tariq Mahmood Sahib, who is from the Upper East region of Ghana. He writes that, "Recently, in Gambaga, there was a conference held of new Ahmadis. At this occasion, a new Ahmadi Imam during his address said that 'we were previously Muslims.'" In this area of the North of Ghana the majority are Muslims, and now with the Grace of Almighty Allah, *Bai'ats*, Pledges of Allegiance are occurring. In the beginning, when Ahmadiyyat spread in Ghana, it spread in an area adjacent to the sea in the south. At that time, with the Grace of Almighty Allah, people converted to Ahmadiyyat from Christianity and in that area Jama'at Ahmadiyya, *Alhumdulillah*, spread very rapidly and progressed in this way. And in the area where there were Muslims, there was great opposition, apart from just a few places where the Jama'at was established, for example Jama'at of Waa.

Approximately 60 or 70 years ago, in fact in the outset when Ahmadiyyat reached there, then the seed of Ahmadiyyat was sown and Ahmadiyyat spread in its way. However, in the Northern areas, because the majority were Muslims, fierce opposition continued. But now *Alhumdulillah* in the past few years in the North as well Jama'at Ahmadiyya is spreading rapidly.

This person writes that the followers of this new Ahmadi Imam also joined Ahmadiyyat with him. And this Imam said that "we were Muslims previously but we were unaware of the true teachings of Islam. Ahmadiyyat introduced us to the true teachings of Islam." That Imam Sahib says that "previously I would dispense amulets or charms to the people, but now due to the grace and blessing of Ahmadiyyat, I have abandoned that work considering it un-Islamic." This business of dispensing amulets or charms, which is common amongst Muslims, is found everywhere in the world and not only in India and Pakistan. This is even common amongst the Arabs and also the Muslims of other countries of the world. Therefore, these are innovations which with the grace of Almighty Allah, the Promised Messiah (as) came and removed. He said that the true teaching of Islam is only this: to establish a perpetual relationship with Allah and also to implement His commands. This is what you should follow.

Then, in the Rakosa region, the Sadr Sahib, Sasogachi Sahib, narrates that "I previously used to be very short tempered and in that state of anger, I would start hitting my wife and children. Using abusive and swear words would be my normal routine, but since I have done the *Bai'at*, the pledge of allegiance, I have become inclined towards prayer and I feel that patience and tolerance has been infused within me to a much greater extent than before." Therefore, this is a pious reformation infused within a new Ahmadi who lives in a far off region of Africa, and the reason why this was infused is because he established a relationship with Allah. He started offering his prayers and therefore he became inclined towards fulfilling the commands of Allah.

In my most recent tour to Germany, a young German became an Ahmadi and he also said this to me, and I have related this before. He said that "previously I used to become extremely angry, I was very short tempered. On the smallest of matters I would become enraged, but since becoming an Ahmadi, such a revolutionary change has enacted within me that it seems as if Ahmadiyyat has taught me patience and tolerance. And this occurred because I have established a relationship with Allah". And when he established a relationship with Allah, he was able to control his temperament. Also, he was inclined to discharge the rights owed to other people.

Then, there was another new convert and he said, "I used to drink alcohol, I used to smoke, but after accepting Ahmadiyyat, I have left both these past times. In fact, if prayers are regularly offered then one would not be inclined at all towards these useless habits." This is the relationship that these people establish with Allah. They become inclined towards prayer. Their relationship with Allah increases, subsequently they became those who repented from all those useless and immoral ways. Therefore, it is true prayer that enables a person to leave off all these immoral acts, and this is how it should be.

Jama'at Ahmadiyya does not just relate stories of old, but even today, even in this era, there are countless stories and narrations of how people established their relationship with Allah, which because of the coming of the Promised Messiah (as), because of the teachings of the Promised Messiah (as), has led to revolution being infused within people. This claim and this proclamation of the Holy Qur'an that "Surely prayer restrains one from indecency and manifest evil" (Ch.29:V.46). This verse, splendidly and brilliantly is coming true today as well and is also testifying to its truth, that those people who purify themselves and dedicatedly perform their prayers, those people who submit to Allah, such people's prayer will most surely prevent them from indecency, manifest evil and also from performing undesirable acts. In fact, the manner in which every claim and every prophecy of the Holy Qur'an is being testified as true in this era, through the medium of those people today who are following the teachings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him); others, whether Muslim or not, cannot see this.

Then, regarding the passion of a new convert for tabligh, for propagating the faith, Ameer Sahib Ghana writes that "when we went to the Upper East region for tabligh, then in the area of Tem bago, a teacher became influenced by the teachings of Ahmadiyyat and did the *Bai'at*, the pledge of allegiance. He was so dedicated that a short while after, in Bolgai, a large city in the North, it so happened that the national Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya *Ijtima* was taking place. That teacher who did the *Bai'at*, the Pledge of Allegiance, he brought with him twenty teachers who also took part in the *Ijtima*. All of these teachers had already become Ahmadi due to this teacher's tabligh." These people not only have a great passion to do the *Bai'at* and also to reform themselves, but also there is a great dedication for these people to do Tabligh, to propagate faith. And for this reason, the Jama'at Ahmadiyya is spreading.

Then, in Jama'at Ahmadiyya Burkina Faso, in the Kopina region, Sana Suleiman Sahib is an Ahmadi Khadim and with his three brothers, they joined Ahmadiyyat. Their father is a fierce opponent of the Jama'at and sometimes he becomes blind in his opposition. He often abuses his children and removes them from the home. There are various radio stations of the Jama'at Ahmadiyya running in Burkina Faso. Also Jama'at Ahmadiyya's programmes run for a few hours

on other radio stations in Burkina Faso. One day, the father of these three boys turned on the radio. There on the radio, was a beautiful Dars (religious lecture) regarding the teachings of Islam. This father became so influenced after listening to this *Dars* that he called all the children and he said to them that "look you have joined with those *kaafirs*, (disbelievers)" he was calling, the Ahmadis kaafir: "you have joined with those kaafir. So, stop! Refrain from that and instead listen to this programme on the radio station. This is the most excellent and beautiful programme. These are the words of the real people from God". So this father said that "these are the words from the real people of God that penetrate the heart. These words penetrate and embed in the heart. So listen to this message. This is the message from the real people of God. Why have you submitted to Ahmadiyyat? And you have been influenced to this extent that you have joined Ahmadiyyat". Then their father said, "Listen, this is Islam". This father was completely unaware that this slot on this radio station was for the Jama'ats' programme; that is, this programme was coming on the state radio channel. However, when at the conclusion of the radio broadcast the introductory poem "Ahmadiyyat Zindabaad, Ahmadiyyat Zindabaad!" (Long live Ahmadiyyat, long live Ahmadiyya!) emanated, and when the father heard this, he immediately turned off the radio. Upon this, the children said "dear father, what you were saying was absolutely correct! These are truly the people of God, whose words penetrate the heart. This is why today we have strengthened our relationship with Ahmadiyyat to an even greater extent than before". There is no path left for these people to take now, except that they take the path of adopting the commentaries and teachings of the Promised Messiah (as) and try to follow the commandments of Islam, and also those commentaries of the Holy Our'an that the Promised Messiah (as) has mentioned that they should follow, because today nobody else can provide better knowledge than what he has.

Then, there is a Missionary of ours, Arshad Mahmood Sahib; he relates this from Kyrgyzstan. He says that the national Sadr of Jama'at Kyrgyzstan, whose name was Salamat Sahib, through him Jojez Abdullawia, or however her name is pronounced, a girl, took the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance. This girl was working in the American base in Kyrgyzstan. Her colleague who worked there was a young American Christian man. Because this girl was of such good character and also displayed such excellent modesty, this Christian youngster expressed a desire to marry her. This girl said "I am an Ahmadi Muslim, so I will first ask my Jama'at and then provide you with a reply". Subsequently, she came to the mission house. It was explained to her that a Muslim girl cannot marry a non-Muslim man because Islam does not permit this. Consequently, this honourable and pious girl rejected the proposal from that non-Muslim American youngster. This young Christian, who was very attracted to that girl, said that "if I accept Islam, then can we marry?" The girl replied that "if you want to accept Islam, then accept it understanding the faith truly; do not accept Islam just for the sake of marriage. I cannot accept this. If this is the reason you are accepting Islam, then I will not marry." Because Kyrgyzstan is a poor country, the girls there give precedence to marrying foreigners, yet, this girl because she was an Ahmadi, she rejected this marriage proposal. This Catholic Christian youngster, after this for six months. continuously researched and he also studied the books of the Jama'at. After this, on the 1st July 2011, he accepted Islam and he came into the fold of Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam. He took the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance. During this journey of his study, whilst he was researching into Ahmadiyyat, this youngster also looked at the anti-Ahmadi websites and studied them. In the end, his heart was satisfied with Ahmadiyyat, the true Islam and Allah the almighty granted him the ability to accept Ahmadiyyat. So therefore, this is that pious reformation; this is that steadfastness for which prayers are made and for which prayers should be made. This girl, she became a new Ahmadi, and faced poverty, she received a good marriage proposal, good in terms of the world, but she rejected this for the sake of faith. This is a matter of concern for those people, those girls who desire to marry outside the Jama'at, or those people who only do Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance, for the sake of marriage. This is why a rule has been set out, that until a year has passed since the person has done the Bai'at, and the morality of that boy is measured

during that period, normally our girls are not permitted to marry the new converts. This is so that it can be clarified whether that perhaps they are doing the *Bai'at* only to marry.

Now, through the medium of websites, some of those who are weak of faith or have a lack of knowledge, as I mentioned before, are targeted by these website which try to create suspicions and doubts. There are just few people who are affected, but even in these few people, doubt and anxiety creeps in. Yet, this American Christian youngster studied the anti-Ahmadi websites and also the Ahmadi websites. He compared them both. He then prayed and then the reality dawned upon him and he accepted Islam through Ahmadiyyat. Therefore, our youngsters, in particular those children who have just entered into the teenage years, people try to incite them often, and there are some people who due to friendships are influenced as a result of those friendships. They as well should supplicate to Allah for prayers and from a worldly perspective they should not fall to any complex.

With the grace of Allah Almighty, the teachings of the Jama'at are filled with rational arguments because these are the teachings of the true Islam. The Promised Messiah (as), wherever he has tried to testify or prove his claim or his coming, from whatever angle he has tried to prove this he has proved rational arguments. Therefore, there is no question of falling to any complex. If there is any need, it is a need of acquiring religious knowledge.

In the same way Ansar Abbas Bhatti Sahib, Muballigh from Benin, writes that "in the village of Allada, in the region of Lacodie, a Jalsa for new converts was held. During the speech the attendees were reminded of the responsibilities of the Muslims." After the concluding session of the Jalsa, a Maulawi came to there. This non-Ahmadi Maulawi tried to mislead and misguide the people. He said that "if you accept these people, then all of you will enter the fire." That is, these people who are the Ahmadis, if you accept them, or because you are trying to accept them, or those who have not yet accepted them, or those who have accepted them, all of you will enter the fire.

"So therefore, immediately proclaim repentance" he said. And he added that "all the Imams of the Muslims, they have considered these people hell bound. These Imams, the educated people of the Muslim, the leaders, these consider Ahmadis hell bound, so what hell fire are you falling into or have you fallen into? All of you will be hell bound with these people." He then continued that the "Muslims of Pakistan dislike Ahmadis; there they as well have been declared as non-Muslims."

Upon this, our Mua'allim Sahib addressed all of the people and he said: "This Maulawi Sahib is our guest, honouring and respecting him we only ask him only this much; that what he claims can he prove it from the pure and holy word of Allah, the Holy Qur'an? Does the Holy Qur'an testify to what he is saying? Let us speak on the basis of the Holy Qur'an. If the Holy Qur'an supports his claim then we will all accept him. However, indeed if the Holy Qur'an supports us then we can never leave the Holy Qur'an."

This discussion was taking place when the Maulawi Sahib impulsively said that "why should we take the Holy Qur'an? All the Imams of Benin say you are wrong, so why do we need to turn to the Holy Qur'an? You are wrong, and that is sufficient, you are wrong, there is no need for any arguments. You are all hell bound, the decision, the decree has been made" saying this as if they were God.

Witnessing this, our new converts became extremely emotional and passionate; the majority that were there were new converts so they said: "If you do not need the Holy Qur'an, then we do not need you. Leave here then." They then tried to remove that person from the Mosque. The Mu'alim Sahib tried to explain to them, to great pains, that "this person has come here and we should be tolerant, we should be patient, we should display morals. The treatment you are

meeting out is not good" but those new converts were so passionate, so excited that they forcibly removed that person from the mosque.

Therefore, since the time of the Promised Messiah (as), this has been the way of the Maulawis, the so called scholars. We find many similar incidents from the accounts of old. That when Ahmadis, through the means of the Holy Qur'an, tried to prove their arguments through the verses of the Holy Qur'an, these people then try and turn to the Hadith and other sources and those Hadith, they interpret according to their own will, or according to the will of other scholars.

We find a similar incident of an old *Sahabi* (Companion), that when he did the *Bai'at*, the pledge of allegiance, he had said to a senior Muslim scholar that "I have convinced an Ahmadi scholar that he should prove the death of Jesus (as) from the Holy Qur'an." So that Muslim scholar said that "on the one hand I am trying to take these people away from the Holy Qur'an, whereas you are taking these people towards the Holy Qur'an. We cannot even prove the life of Jesus (as) from the Holy Qur'an."

Thus, this has always been the way of these people.

Ansar Abhas Sahib Mubaligh, Benin, writes that "in Ajaji Zunube, on the 12th July 2011 after the Maghrib prayer, a programme of Tabligh was held. When the Promised Messiah (as)'s advent and also the progress of Islam that occurred through him were also mentioned, the people of the village said: 'we would like to also partake in this. We want to be included there where Islam is advancing also which Islam is progressing.' Subsequently, in that gathering 166 people took the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance. Before returning, our Murabbi or our Mua'allim, he said that "we will return the day after tomorrow because then it will be Friday and we will offer the Friday prayer with these people who did the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance, and who were Muslims before." You can assess their state and condition by the following that when this Mua'allim said that we would return the day after tomorrow and offer the Jum'ah, the Friday prayer, the people of the village said surprisingly that "Jum'ah, what is Jum'ah?" What is the Friday prayer? We have never seen this. Neither have we offered the Friday prayers. We have been Muslims for 15 years and until today, no maualwi or no senior person or no religious leader has ever told us that the Friday prayers are also performed." Subsequently, on Jum'ah on Friday, the Friday prayers were led. After this, a refresher course was also held for these people in which was explained the true teachings of Islam, also what Friday prayers were and what formal prayers were and also what all the other forms of worship in Islam actually entail and also what the Holy Our'an taught.

He writes that "in the neighbouring village, people also converted to Ahmadiyyat. They were told to also come to that village for *lum'ah*, for Friday prayers. They received a reply from that neighbouring village that for many years there has been an ongoing dispute with that village." That is, with that previous village where 166 people had done the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance, that they had a long standing dispute. "Neither have we ever gone to that village, nor do we like for them to come here." So both of those villages who had become Ahmadis, they were separately explained that "now we are all Ahmadis, your disputes come to an end, Today, we become one once again and the reason why we should become one is because the Promised Messiah (as) came to unite people to make them into one. Thus we Muslims can become one and work for the progress of Islam, and this is why we should unite and why we should offer one Jum'ah Prayers, together." This had an impact on both of those groups and those long standing disputes and quarrels, which were perhaps tribal disputes, through *lum'ah*, through this Friday prayers were resolved. And this is how through the means of the Promised Messiah (as)'s Jama'at, Yaumal Jum'ah was fulfilled in vet another way. After 15 years, these people performed the Friday prayers and through the blessings of this, the dispute between the two villages, which was a long standing quarrel, was also eradicated. Therefore, when such matters ensue, not only

do enmities come to an end but also in accordance with the commands of Allah, the subject of "being tender among themselves..." (Ch.48:V.30) also commences. Then sentiments of compassion and sacrifice develop. This is the splendour of a believer and these are the pious reformations that occur, which was the reason why the Promised Messiah (as) came.

Then Ameer Sahib Jama'at Ahmadiyya Delhi writes that Mohammed Mursaleen Sahib took the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance in 2011, and entered into the fold of Jama'at Ahmadiyyat. He relates that "three days after taking the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance, he saw in a dream that he went to a certain programme, there he goes to a room in a very old building; there were two other people in that room. Due to darkness, he could not recognise those two other people in the room. Mursaleen Sahib goes to the Holy Prophet (saw), where he sees that there are other people with him. One is the Prophet Mohammed (saw). He touches the Holy Prophet (saw), then the Holy Prophet (saw) raises the *shahadat*, or the index finger, towards the roof and it seemed like the heavens rent ascender. He writes "I saw a most beautiful and attractive scene before me, where I saw Gardens of flowers. The Holy Prophet (saw) then again raised his finger and this scene vanished. I said to the Holy Prophet (saw) that I am going to Mumbai. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said that why do you not go to Punjab instead? He says that after this, I woke up and I related this to Qaid Sahib Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya who was an acquaintance of his. He said that this is an instruction of the Holy Prophet (saw) so therefore, we should go to Oadian. So, for the first time he went with his acquaintance, the Oaid Sahib, to Oadian. There he visited Darul Masih. He writes that "when I went to Baitul Riadat, I found it in an exactly the same way as I had seen in my dream. This gave me great satisfaction of my faith and I was greatly inspired." And with the grace of Almighty Allah, he took the Bai'at, the pledge of allegiance and he is also increasing in his faith.

Allah, the Almighty also shows the signs of acceptance of prayers to increase the faith of the new converts, I shall present some accounts relating to this. These have become the means of increasing the faith of those who live in far off places, and have also become a means of increasing our faith.

Ameer Sahib Burkina Faso narrates that "somebody who lived in the area of Santega in the Dori region, the Sadr Ansarullah, Al Haaj Bunti, a few months ago fell seriously ill. When he was brought to the hospital the local doctor called his household and said "treating this patient is futile, and that he has only a short while left to live, so therefore, take him home." Upon this they took him to Ouagadougou, which is the capital of that area. He was admitted to the government hospital. There as well, the doctor rejected treating him. He said that "this patient had only a few hours left to live." Upon this all his relatives became extremely frustrated. Ameer Sahib said that "this is impossible. Doctors only look at the apparent symptoms; life is in the hands of Allah. So therefore we should write a letter to the Khalifa of the time." Thus, on that same day they wrote a letter which they sent here to me. He said that "after writing that letter, with the grace of Allah, they also prayed themselves as well. Subsequently, after writing that letter and after also praying intensely themselves, Allah bestowed His favour and grace to such an extent that he started recovering from his illness. Al Haaj Bunti sahib, with the grace of Almighty Allah, recovered to good health and today he is carrying out all his activities. He takes part in all meetings and he also very actively is taking part in all the work of Ansarullah.

Conversely, in another village of Chellay, a person whose name is also Al Haaj Bunti was a fierce opponent of Jama'at. He would always incite people against Jama'at, but he was a person who always remained in very good health and had no illnesses or diseases. Once on an Ahmadi radio programme, Tabligh was being discussed. When this person passed by, he became extremely

enraged and he started abusing the Jama'at and said that "these people are disbelievers (*Kaafirs*), do not listen to their Tabligh." People said to him that "if you are not happy with these people then do not abuse them, stop insulting them." But he said I will go on doing this, I will never abandon this way." That same night, whilst in good health, he fell asleep. The next day he was found dead on his bed. Who knows what illness befell him that caused him to die?

In the Porto-novo region in Benin, the Muallim Raana Zakariyya sahib explains that the child of the Ahmadi Hafeezu Sahib went missing. In this anxiety he looked over the entire area. Announcements were made on various radio stations but they could not find the child. In this state of helplessness and also anxiety, he called by phone, saying "I do not think that we can find the child," but Muallim Zakariyya sahib said that "frustration is a sin. We believe in such an Imam whose claim is that prayers are accepted, so therefore, do try this formula. Allah the almighty will descend His grace. You should pray and I will also pray and we will all collectively pray." So the father of the child, Hafeezu sahib, said that "I fell in prostration after listening to what this Muallim sahib had advised and he started supplicating that 'O Allah nobody else in this region has accepted your Imam. I alone have accepted the Promised Messiah, peace be upon him, here. And your Imam is most definitely true, so I invoke in the truth of this Promised Messiah, peace be upon him, that please give me my child." He said that "in this way I was praying and crying for the child to be returned to me. After concluding the prayer, I went home on the same route where the child went missing. I was yet on the route when I saw my son suddenly emerge from the jungle." He says that "for me this was a living miracle of the truth of the Promised Messiah peace be upon him, which Allah Almighty had displayed to me."

Then Ameer Sahib Niger relates that "here a friend Muhammad Salib sahib is an employee at the bank and he would come to the Ahmadi mosque for prayers. One day he did the Bai'at/pledge of allegiance". That is that he would come to the mosque to say the prayers but was not yet Ahmadi, he was a Muslim but one day he did the Bai'at. The officers and the colleagues of his at the bank would tease him that "vou have taken money to become an Ahmadi". He says that "this hurt me greatly that these people were raising these allegations against me that I have taken money to become Ahmadi". He said "that night, with reference to the truth of the Jama'at, I prayed most intensely that: O Allah guide me Thyself! Apparently your Jama'at is at the forefront of serving Islam, but open to me the truth, I am only speaking about what I see on the surface". He says that "that night I saw in a dream that there is a very large gathering and as far as I can see I see people upon people. They are all wearing white and on the stage he saw me" That is that he is writing to Ameer sahib "that I saw Khalifatul Masih V, I am standing on the stage" and then he said that "you are also wearing white clothes and in a very lofty voice you are reciting "La Illaha IllAllah" repeatedly and people are reciting "La Illaha IllAllah", there is none worthy of worship except Allah, after you. It was a very strange state of joy and tranquility and in this state I woke up and I was saying *La Illaha IllAllah*, this firmly established in my heart that in this era to safeguard and protect La Illaha IllAllah, Allah the Almighty has assigned this responsibility to Jama'at Ahmadiyya. Allah Almighty had reassured me through this dream that my decision to enter this Jama'at was the correct decision, now I do not care for anybody else. Now with the grace of Almighty Allah, I have strengthened in my faith".

These were the few accounts and narrations that I have presented of how, with the grace of Almighty Allah, after doing the *Bai'at*, the pledge of allegiance, people are strengthening in their faith; and how Allah the Almighty shows them such manifestations that increase their faith further.

The Promised Messiah (as) says:

You should consider the following, that in thirteen hundred years who else obtained that time that was on the precepts of Prophethood, where the living signs of Allah, the fresh support and succour of Allah, enabled them to obtain the spiritual light as the Companions of the Prophet had obtained; who in the way of Allah endured the mockery, division, abuse, grief, suffering of all kinds, profane language and cruelties against them, just as the Companions did. And who from the clear signs of Allah and also the heavenly support and the Divine wisdom went on attaining a pure life. They weep in their prayers and they fill their prostrations with tears and from amongst them are some who see true dreams, some of them also receive revelations. You will find many among them who keep death in view, who are of gentle heart, truthful and who abide by Taqwah. These are the party of God who God Himself is taking care of. Day by day God is purifying their hearts and is filling their hearts with divine wisdom and also is drawing them with heavenly signs just as He drew the Companions. In short, you will find all the signs in the Jama'at that are entailed in "And among others from among them who have not yet joined them" (Ch.62:V.4), i.e. the latter day people, and it is most definitely true that signs of God would one day come to pass.'

May Allah the Almighty increase each and every Ahmadi in faith and belief and allow them to advance in this way. May our sincere connection with our Creator continue to increase and may no shortcomings ever come into our faith.

Today after *Jum'ah*, the Friday prayers, I will lead a funeral prayer. The burial is today this is why it is necessary to lead it after the Friday prayer. This funeral is of Muhtarma Khurshid Begum Sahiba who was the wife of Abdul Mannan Deen Sahib. This was announced before; she passed away on 27th August in the morning. *Surely to Allah we belong and to Him we shall return*. The deceased was the niece of Babu Qasim Deen Sahib, the Companion of the Promised Messiah (as) and also the daughter-in-law of Babu Aziz Deen Sahib. May Allah Almighty grant her mercy and forgiveness and also elevate her rank. May Allah Almighty also grant those left behind the ability to remain steadfast. *InshaAllah* the funeral prayer will be led after the Friday Prayer.