

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

We need to undergo a holy transformation throughout the 12 months, and 365 days, rather than just on the first day of the year.

Good deeds that God accepts are those which one performs consistently and perseveringly.

Remember death, overcome heedlessness, seek Allah’s forgiveness and forge ahead on the path of righteousness

On 1st January 2016, Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

In the context of the start of the new year, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) outlined the way one should lead one’s life in the light of the Holy Qur’ān, the example of the Holy Prophet ﷺ, and the sayings of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the ultimate goal of an Ahmadī should be to win the pleasure of Allāh.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today is the first day of the new year and it is also a Friday. I am receiving congratulatory messages and I know that many Ahmadīs began this day with prayers. We should remember that a believer is not one who worships just on one day, but rather brings about a holy transformation in his or her self through perseverance and regular worship, and strives to attain the pleasure of Allāh through perseverance and constant striving. Performing good deeds and offering *Tahajjud* for just one day is not enough; we have to perform these virtues all through the 12 months and all the 365 days.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that we should establish a relationship with God and our life and death should all be for His sake. The world should not be our prime objective and our faith should not be in name only. Our profession of being lovers and followers of the Holy Prophet ﷺ should not be merely superficial. Without action a claim is as useless as husk. For example, a man named his son Khalid (that is, one who has a long life), but the son was in the grave that very night. So a name means nothing. Without the essence, the husk is only worthy of being thrown away. Therefore, we should always undertake actions that are pleasing to God and always give preference to the faith over worldly affairs.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام wanted to establish a community of people who give preference to religious endeavours and hold the pleasure of God above everything else. To this end, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام has taught us many things. Today I remind the Jamā‘at to keep these teachings in mind and to bring about a pious transformation in themselves. Do not seek the world,

for it will only increase your thirst for it. Whoever lives caring and worrying after the world gets nothing. One who loves the world is estranged from God. Therefore, you should lead your lives bearing in mind the teachings of the Promised Messiah ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some extracts from the teachings of the Promised Messiah ﷺ by following which we can attain the purpose of our creation. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that we should truthfully follow the teachings of our faith and be wary of the onslaught of Satan. The good of this world is that which leads to the good of the faith. And the good of the faith cannot be attained by hurting others or by acquiring worldly benefits through unlawful means. Therefore, shun the unlawful means of earning that lead to the path of evil.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the world is visited by plagues, earthquakes and other calamities on account of Divine displeasure. We should bring about a pious change within ourselves in order to be among those upon whom God showers His blessings. And a holy transformation can only come about through righteousness. In other words, we should submit completely to God, for He does not like that we should submit partly to Him and partly to Satan. God does not like that a partner be associated with Him.

Secondly, in order to acquire a holy transformation, it is important to remember death. We do not know when it will come, hence we should always strive for righteousness. The third way is to overcome indolence. Also we should offer Istighfār and show penitence for our shortcomings and wrongdoings and thus strive to attain contentment. Another means is to persevere in the face of troubles and tribulations, turn to God, and continue to strive for righteousness so that God may have mercy on us. Also in order to undergo a holy transformation, we should overcome pride, arrogance and vanity. We should also avoid anger, for anger is born of vanity. We should give preference to others over ourselves and inculcate love and sympathy for them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that parents should not only care for their children's worldly education but should also be mindful of their religious knowledge. The office-bearers should counsel others, but they should also bring about a transformation in themselves. Do not exhort others about things that you yourself cannot demonstrate, rather become a model for others to follow. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that righteousness is also a condition for the acceptance of prayers. Whoever adopts *Taqwa* for him the doors to the acceptance of prayer are opened.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'ālā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 07 January 2016