يسم اللمالرحمن الرحيم

The National Amīr/ President Jamā'at Aḥmadīyya,
Dear Brother,

السلام عليكم وبحمة اللموبر كأتم

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīh* V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 19th May 2023 at *Mubārak* Mosque *Islāmabād*, Tilford, UK.

Speaking about Allāh's great blessings on the Jamā'at and its progress, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: It is indeed a great Divine miracle that, despite all the denial, rejection, and relentless efforts of our opponents, this Jamā'at continues to grow. Do you know why this is? It is because when Allāh appoints someone, and he is truly from Him, such a person continues to progress day by day, and his movement continues to flourish. No one can stop what Allāh wants to prosper. If such a movement could be stopped by the efforts of the opponents, this would mean that they had prevailed over Allāh; but no one can prevail over Allāh.

We witness the fulfilment of these words of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) every day. Despite the relentless individual and coordinated efforts of the opponents, we observe the continuous progress of the Jamā'at throughout the world. This progress is a testament to Allāh's fulfilment of His promise to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him): I will cause thy message to reach the ends of the earth, and I will cause your sincere and devoted followers to prosper.

The self-proclaimed scholars and opponents think that their futile endeavours can bring about an end to our Jamā'at. Little do they realise that they are, in fact, challenging Allāh Himself, and such a confrontation can only result in their own ruin. The signs of Allāh's help are apparent even in the farthest corners of the world. While it may be impossible to encompass all these instances, I will recount a few examples that serve as a testimony to how Allāh is instilling the love of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) in people's hearts. Some people oppose us merely due to their lack of knowledge, but once they realise the truth, they readily embrace it.

Amīr Ṣāḥib of Congo-Kinshasa reports that a local Muʻallim was engaged in a discussion with a non-Aḥmadī Imām regarding the death of Jesus. Upon realising that the belief in the physical life of Jesus contradicts the honour of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and amounts to blasphemy, the Imām immediately embraced the truth. Later, he also grasped the concept of the advent of Imām Mahdī and embraced Aḥmadīyyat along with six members of his family and twenty-one followers.

Similarly, the missionary-in-charge of The Gambia recounts that when a Tablīgh team visited a village and explained the conditions of Bai'at to them, the discerning individuals of the village recognised that these were the true teachings of Islām. They acknowledged that they had never heard of such a beautiful aspect of Islām before. After a lengthy question and answer session, approximately 200 of them joined the Jamā'at.

In an African country, some people contacted our missionary and requested that he may come to preach in their area. The following day our delegation arrived and held an extensive preaching session, as a result of which a significant number of people embraced Aḥmadīyyat. Subsequently, the villagers brought together all the children and said that these children now belong to the Jamā'at which should arrange for teaching them the Holy Qur'ān. The missionary chose two children from the village to teach them the Holy Qur'ān so that they would return to teach the other children of the area. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) remarked that in Pakistan not only are Aḥmadīs prohibited from teaching the Holy Qur'ān but they also face persecution for merely listening to it. A case was registered against an Aḥmadī simply for listening to the Holy Qur'ān.

When our first mosque was built in the capital city of Chad, some jealous opponents vehemently opposed it. The Islāmic Council of the country received a complaint against the Jamā'at but responded by saying that Aḥmadīs have the right to worship and that their mosque cannot be closed. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) remarked that the Islāmic Council there at least possesses some wisdom and a sense of justice, whereas, in Pakistan, even children harbour animosity against the Aḥmadīyyat; Aḥmadīs are not free to worship in their own mosques or even refer to their places of worship as Masjid. Nevertheless, the Islāmic Council advised the opponents to report to the police if they feared any unrest. A report was indeed filed, and the police checked our mosque's building permit and the Jamā'at's registration documents, obtained information from the area chief, visited the mosque, and eventually concluded that the Aḥmadīyya Jamā'at has not established a new religion nor does it insult the sanctity of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (May Allāh's blessings be upon him).

A Moroccan tourist happened to attend the Friday prayer in our mosque in Sao Tome. After being introduced to the Jamā'at, he read some of our books and watched programmes on MTA. He later returned and requested a Bai'at form, which he promptly filled out. Our missionary advised him to take a few days to think it over and pray before proceeding with the Bai'at. However, he insisted that he had prayed all night, and if he were to pass away without pledging allegiance to the Imām, he would die a death of ignorance. Therefore, he signed the Bai'at without delay.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I have shared these few examples as a testament to the fulfilment of Allāh's promise to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). Despite the relentless efforts of our opponents, Allāh is paving new paths for the progress of the Jamā'at in every corner of the world. Alongside expressing gratitude to Allāh for His blessings, we must also reflect upon our own practical condition and strive to strengthen our faith. We should instil in the hearts of future generations that we will have to face trials and tribulations, but the ultimate triumph belongs to the Jamā'at established by Allāh. Therefore, we must never allow our faith to falter. May Allāh bestow steadfastness upon both new and older Aḥmadīs and perpetually strengthen their faith and conviction. $\bar{A}m\bar{n}n$

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the following members of the Jamā'at who passed away recently, and announced to lead their funeral prayers in absentia after the Friday prayer:

- Parveen Akhtar Ṣāḥiba, the wife of Ghulam Qadir Ṣāḥib of Pakistan, passed away at the age of ninety. Her son, Arif Mahmood Ṣāḥib, a missionary, was unable to attend his mother's funeral because of his duties in the field.
- Mumtaz Wasim Ṣāḥiba, the wife of Chaudhry Wasim Aḥmad Naseer Ṣāḥib of Pakistan. She left behind two sons who are life devotees. One of them is a missionary in Zambia.
- Brigadier Munawar Aḥmad Rana Ṣāḥib, Secretary-General of the Rawalpindi district Jamā'at in Pakistan.
- Group Captain (Retired) Abdul Shakoor Malik, former Deputy Amīr of Jamaat Rawalpindi. He currently lived in the United States.

Jazākumullāh Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr ISLĀMABAD (UK) Dated: 24 May 2023