

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The National Amīr/ President  
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at *Mubārak Mosque Islāmabād, Tilford, UK.***

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I previously spoke about the preparations for fighting that were being made by the disbelievers of Makkah against the Muslims. Further details reveal that *Umayyah bin Khalaf* and *Abu Lahab* desired to avoid participating in the battle. However, *Abu Jahl* approached *Umayyah bin Khalaf* and said, "You are among the leaders of the *Quraish*. If you do not join the battle, others will also withdraw. Therefore, you must accompany us, even if you return after a day or two." In reality, *Umayyah* wished to evade the battle because the Messenger of Allāh had foretold his death. A detailed account of this can be found in *Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhari*. As for *Abu Lahab*, he sent someone else to fight in his place due to a dream that *‘Abdul Muṭalib’s* daughter had. *Abu Lahab* used to say that he was so certain about the fulfilment of this dream as if he had already experienced it.

The disbelievers of Makkah assembled their army with great fervour. It comprised one thousand soldiers and was supported by around one or two hundred horses, seven hundred camels, six hundred armours, and ample quantities of swords and bows. Setting out from Makkah, the *Quraish* reached *Juḥfa*, approximately eighty miles away from Madinah. At this juncture, a man named *Juhaim bin Ṣalt* shared a dream with the people. He said: I saw a man riding on a horse, accompanied by a camel, and he proclaimed, *‘Utbah bin Rabī‘ah, Shaibah bin Rabī‘ah, Abul Ḥakam bin Hishām (Abu Jahl), Umayyah bin Khalaf,* and others, the leaders of the *Quraish*, have been slain. Subsequently, he shot an arrow into his camel's neck and released it towards our encampment. As a result, the blood from the camel's neck splattered on the tents of our army. Upon hearing this dream, *Abu Jahl* responded with mockery and fury, and said, "Have *Banu ‘Abdul Muṭalib* given birth to yet another prophet! Tomorrow, in the heat of the battle, we shall discover who will face death."

*Abu Sufyān* also sent a message to *Abu Jahl*, advising him to make efforts to avoid confrontation. Upon hearing *Abu Sufyān’s* message, *Abu Jahl* exclaimed, "By God! We must surely proceed to *Badr* and slaughter our camels, drink wine, and have our slave girls sing before us. This way, news of our journey and army will spread throughout Arabia, and they will forever remain fearful of us." However, in response to *Abu Sufyān’s* message, *Banu ‘Adi* and *Banu Zahrah* turned back and did not participate in the battle. *Ṭālib*, the son of *Abu Ṭālib*, was also travelling with the disbelievers. On the way, the disbelievers said to him, "We know that you have come with us, but your true sympathies lie with Muḥammad." Hearing this, *Ṭālib* returned with several of his companions. It is also mentioned in one account by *Ṭabari* that *Ṭālib* initially departed with the disbelievers of Makkah, but his fate remained unknown and he did not return home.

The Messenger of Allāh set out from Madinah on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Ramaḍān, 2 AH. He was accompanied by more than three hundred companions, the number mostly reported is 313. Among them, 74 were *Muhājirīn* and the rest were *Anṣār*. It was the first expedition in which *Anṣār* also took part.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) specifically instructed *Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān bin ‘Affān* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to remain in Madinah because his wife, *Ḥaḍrat Ruqayyah* (May Allāh be pleased with her), the daughter of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's

blessings be upon him), was ill. As the Messenger of Allāh prepared for the battle, Ḥaḍrat *Umme Waraqah bint Nawfal* (May Allāh be pleased with her) expressed her eagerness to join the *Jihad*. She said, "Allow me to serve and attend to the sick among you. Perhaps Allāh will grant me martyrdom as well." In response, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) advised her to stay at home, assuring her that Allāh would bestow martyrdom upon her wherever she was. As foretold by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Umme Waraqah* was tragically killed by two slaves of *'Umar*, thus fulfilling the Prophet's prophecy regarding her martyrdom.

In this battle, Muslims had five horses, or according to some narrations, two horses, six armours, and seventy to eighty camels. In this situation, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) prayed for his companions, "O Allāh! They are barefoot, grant them mounts. They are naked, provide them with clothes. They are hungry, satiate their hunger. They are needy, enrich them with Your grace." This supplication was accepted, and at the end of the battle, there was not a single person who did not have a mount. The provisions were so abundant that there was no scarcity of food and drink, and all the destitute were clothed. So much was received in exchange for the release of the prisoners of war that every family became wealthy.

Besides Ḥaḍrat *'Uthmān* (May Allāh be pleased with him), some other devoted individuals were also not granted permission by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) to participate in the battle. Among them were Ḥaḍrat *Abu Umamah bin Th'alabah* (May Allāh be pleased with him), whose mother was ill, and Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin 'Ubādah* (May Allāh be pleased with him), who was organising the battle's preparations but was bitten by a snake due to which he was unable to join. Similarly, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) ordered all those who were young in age to return to Madinah. Ḥaḍrat *'Umair bin Abi Waqas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was among them and he started crying upon receiving the order. Consequently, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) granted him permission. He participated in the battle and attained the honour of martyrdom.

Ḥaḍrat *Muṣleḥ Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: Today, things have come to such a pass that when there is time to make sacrifices, people make excuses to avoid making sacrifices for Islām and their faith, by saying that they are facing or having some obstacles. However, under the influence of the divine power of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), a zeal for sacrifice had developed among Muslims, so much so that not only men and adult women, but even children were brimming with fervour of sacrifice.

On this journey, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) appointed Ḥaḍrat *'Abdullah bin Umme Maktūm* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as the *Amīr* of Madinah. However, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) later thought that *'Abdullah* was a blind man and that the administration of Madinah needed to be strong. He, therefore, appointed Ḥaḍrat *Abu Lubabah bin Mundhir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as the *Amīr* of Madinah and sent him back. He also appointed Ḥaḍrat *'Aṣim bin 'Adi* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as *Amīr* of *Qubā*.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) handed the white flag of the Islamic army to Ḥaḍrat *Muṣ'ab bin 'Umair* (May Allāh be pleased with him). In addition to this, there were two black flags, one of which was in the possession of Ḥaḍrat *Ali* (May Allāh be pleased with him), while the other was held by an *Anṣāri* companion. According to one account, the Islamic army had three flags. The flag of *Muhājirīn* was with Ḥaḍrat *Muṣ'ab bin 'Umair*, the flag of *Khazraj* tribe was with Ḥaḍrat *Hubāb bin Mundhir* and the flag of the *Aus* tribe was with Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Mu'ādh* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he would continue with the accounts in the future.

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 after the Friday Sermon. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also prayed for their lofty station in *Jannah*.

1. *Sheikh Ghulām Raḥmānī Ṣāhib* of the UK passed away at the age of 92. He arrived in the UK in 1958. He had the honour of serving as the National General Secretary, the National Secretary of *Waṣāyā*, and the president of the Southall Jamā‘at for more than ten years. He made great efforts towards the establishment and strengthening of the local mission house. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I have seen in him a great devotion to *Khilāfat*.
2. *Tahir Aag Muḥammad Ṣāhib* of Mahdiabad, Dori, Burkina Faso, passed away at the age of 44. He was remarkably fluent in French. He had a great passion for preaching. He was a tailor by profession. Within a short time, he and his wife managed to prepare seventy pairs of clothing for the families of the martyrs of Burkina Faso on the occasion of *‘Īd ul Fitr*.
3. *Khawaja Daud Aḥmad Ṣāhib* passed away at the age of 80. One of his sons, *Khawaja Fahad Aḥmad Ṣāhib*, a missionary, was unable to attend his father's funeral due to his engagements in the field. The deceased was a respected civil engineer by profession. He had the opportunity to serve in various capacities in Islamabad, Pakistan, as well as in Canada.
4. *Syed Tanvīr Shah Ṣāhib*, of Saskatoon, Canada, was on *Waqfe ‘Ārḍī* in Paraguay when he passed away. His only son, *Syed Raza Shah Ṣāhib*, is a missionary. He was known for his generous financial contributions. He had a great passion for spreading the message of Islām.
5. *Rana Muḥammad Zafarullah Khan Ṣāhib*, a missionary, passed away in April. He completed his education at *Jāmi‘a Aḥmadīyya* Rabwah in 1987 and was blessed with the opportunity to serve in various capacities for 36 consecutive years. He embodied humility and simplicity, showing deep compassion for the poor and had the qualities of a true ascetic. *Āmīn*.

Abdul Majid Tahir  
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr  
ISLĀMĀBAD (UK)  
Dated: 20 June 2023