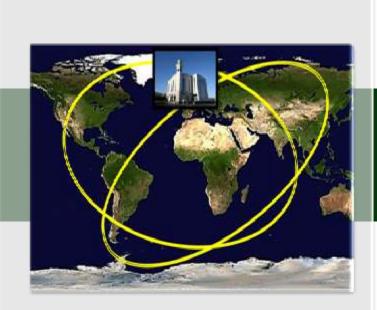
REFORMATION: A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY & EFFORT



SERMON DELIVERED BY HADHRAT MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD (ABA); HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE

24/1/2014

Summary

The subject of reformation of practices continued with emphasis on ways and means of raising the standard of reformation as a community.

The weaknesses of practices in our Jama'at can be partly attributed to the lack of dissemination of knowledge of these living signs of God by our religious scholars, missionaries and preachers.

If each Ahmadi truly understood the station of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and was aware that God showed him innumerable great signs (and indeed to many of those who accepted him), then each one of us would aspire to attain that degree of nearness to God

Sadly, we are not repeatedly reminded of the benefits of attaining love of God by our religious scholars, missionaries and office-holders!

COLLECTIVE EFFORT FOR REFORMATION

HIGH ASPIRATIONS FOR REFORMATION

SOME FAITH-INSPIRING INCIDENCES

NO SIN IS SMALL

SAD NEWS OF DEMISE

The subject of reformation of practices continued with emphasis on ways and means of raising the standard of reformation as a community.

The essence of last few sermons is that in order to reform ourselves, we need to strengthen our will power, enhance our knowledge and improve our commitment to put good intentions into actions.

Huzoor said that it is the responsibilities of our missionaries, office-holders, ameers and scholars to play a key role in bringing about the reformation of the community.

They need to devise effective strategies to put the discourses of Khalifatul Masih into action and raise awareness about these important matters again and again.

The overall aim is that every Ahmadi would develop a crystal clear understanding of their beliefs and the values of good practice are instilled into them

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The first source of reformation is will power or strength of faith.



Prophets of God come to inculcate faith in their followers; they demonstrate fresh and living signs of God.



The signs of God revealed to our community are unsurpassed by any other religion.



There could be no stronger drive for reformation than to see the living miracles and signs of existence of God.



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We may be well versed in the arguments regarding death of Hazrat Jesus (as)...



BUT very few of us actually have the true concept of existence of God, how to gain nearness of God and the glory with which God's miracles were manifested to the Promised Messiah (as).



Knowledge of the issue of death of Jesus (on whom be peace) does not bring about reformation of practices.



Unless religious scholars of the Jama'at, missionaries and all office-holders act as true role models, enhance their standard of reformation and truly comprehend the purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah (as), ...



... a weaker section of the Jam'at will not be able to reform.

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We can start
off by
critically
assessing,
how keen
we are in
our acts of
worship of
God?

Do we seek the love of God through worship every day of the year? How many of us have reached the status in the love of God, where we experience acceptance of prayers?

How many of us have experienced when God speaks to us through His love?

If each Ahmadi truly understood the station of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and was aware that God showed him innumerable great signs (and indeed to many of those who accepted him), then each one of us would aspire to attain that degree of nearness to God .

Strength of faith would be burnished to the level where it generates will power and a passion to gain nearness of God.

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Huzoor (aba) said that there seem to be a race to attain all good worldly things our peers have!

We do not emulate the model of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and his companions in doing what gives us immeasurable gain!

For new cars, furniture, modern gadgets we are even prepared to take loan to keep up with the Jones

However, in the matter of religion we do not have the same aspirations and desires.

Huzoor explained that this culture of borrow (on interest) to buy is a big curse. It can bankrupt individuals, nations and has led to global economic crisis!

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So what is
the reason
that we run
after the
world, and do
not aspire to
gain
excellence in
the matter of
practice of
religion and
selfreformation?

- We either are not given the knowledge of the excellences and power of our religion or we fail to appreciate this.
- Or we forget that our God can still show us powerful signs today and are negligent in seeking God.
 - Or we simply forget about God!

During the day, we are influenced by the adverts for worldly things that remind us of the benefits of these things.

Sadly, we are not reminded of the benefits of attaining love of God, with the same zeal and passion, by our religious scholars, missionaries and office-holders!



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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) once said: 'No other body of people in the world has accepted a God Who answers and listens to prayers. Most certainly a Christian cannot say .. There is only One God Who speaks; the God of Islam, Who has been presented in the Holy Qur'an and has stated: 'Pray unto Me; I will answer your *prayer...* (40:61) And it is completely true that if a person believes in Allah the Exalted with true intention and purity of heart, and makes spiritual endeavours and remains engaged in prayers, ultimately his prayers will definitely be answered.'

The purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) was indeed to save mankind from sin and to forge a relationship with God.

A true bond with God, would make God the prime focus of our lives and enable us to offer His worship with due commitment.

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Huzoor related many faith inspiring incidences about how Ahmadiyyat enhanced people in their faith and self-reformation.



Having faith in God, and prayers seeking God, leads one to God and grants tranquillity of heart.



In the time of personal difficulty, we should turn to God with the belief that our problems will be resolved.

When dealing with conflict in family or friends, we should abandon egotism and mutual retorts; Rather, help should be sought from God Who shows the right way.

Thus, if faith is strong then one has belief in God's power and one only turns to God. With God's help our problems are solved, strengthening our faith and that of others.

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The second factor required to reform our practices is strength of knowledge or having knowledge.

The wrong knowledge leads one to believe that committing certain sins, regarded as small, is of no detrimental consequence.

Missionaries and officeholders should be repetitively remind and ingrain in the minds of Ahmadis that there is no such thing as a small sin.

All sins are poisons and should be avoided at all cost.

If one's connection with God is strong, God will show the signs in our support.

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Next Huzoor announced that he would lead funeral Prayers in absentia of respected Nawab Bibi Sahiba and Sheikh Abdul Rasheed Sherma Sahib.