Sacrifice - A Prerequisite to Seek Love of God

Tehrik e Jadid New Year

Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba);
Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

relayed live all across the globe

November 6th 2015

NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon
Summary

Today’s Friday sermon highlighted the significance of financial sacrifice in light of ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love...’.

The world does not know that even in this day and age the community that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) created establishes high standards of sacrifice.

Next, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih announced the start of new year for Tehrik e Jadid and gave a report on last year.

In spite of unfavourable circumstances Pakistan has maintained its spirit of sacrifice and is first among all countries.

There is a great spirit of financial giving in Germany. They are making sacrifices for many new mosques and are excelling in contributions all round.

November 6th 2015
God draws the attention of believers in this verse that if you wish to do good, to seek God’s pleasure then **remember doing good requires sacrifice.**

Sacrifice of that which one loves, which benefits one, which brings one comfort, which in one’s eyes is a source to better the future of one’s children.

Man has always loved wealth and God has stated that gold, silver, property, crops, orchards are dear to man and he feels pride over them.

‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love; and whatever you spend, Allah surely knows it well.’ (3:93)

Every believer wishes to attain Divine nearness by doing good
Materialism is at its very height. In such milieu sacrificing your wishes and comforts is a strange phenomenon for a normal worldly person who would consider it an out-dated view.

In this day and age when technology has not only brought the world together but along with the prevalent financial system technology has facilitated to heighten personal wishes whether or not an individual has copious means.

These wishes have reached fever-pitch; to have access to every luxury item wherever in the world it is available; this is particularly so in the developed world.

People living in deprived and under-developed or developing world are also aware of these facilities and …. the preferences of .. people are to get hold of the latest merchandise.

Materialism is at its very height. In such milieu sacrificing your wishes and comforts is a strange phenomenon for a normal worldly person who would consider it an out-dated view.
In joining him they have gained insight into what piety truly means; they have tried to seek light and guidance from those luminous columns of light who sought direct beneficence of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

A large part of the world does not know who these people are. Indeed, these are the people who have joined the true and ardent devotee of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

This enhances them in obedience and they do not see what is most dear to them, they only see that they are obedient to God.

They try to do good which establishes high standards of sacrifice of life and property in order to spread religion.

The world does not know that even in this day and age there are people who aspire to Al Bir (righteousness) and who are restless to be of benefit to others.
When the verse ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love…’ was revealed

A Companion Hazrat Abu Talha (ra) who was a wealthy inhabitant of Medina and was the owner of many date orchards offered to give his finest orchard.

He liked the orchid a lot and which was close to the Prophet’s Mosque and was visited by the Holy Prophet PbuH

Such luminous stars were the Companions and the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) have cited their example numerous times

He has unfolded the teachings of the Holy Qur’an to impart insight into attaining piety and to impart levels of sacrifice

He said it was essential to follow the example of the Companions
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

‘No one can claim to do good by spending what is useless and gimmicky. The doorway to piety is narrow therefore be heedful that no one can enter through it by spending what is useless because the signification is: ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love...’ Unless you spend what you hold dearest and most cherished, you cannot attain the rank of being a beloved and a dear. How can you be successful if you do not want to endure pain and do not want to adopt true piety? Did the Companions attain their status for free? ...Fact is that pleasure of God Almighty, which is the source of true happiness, cannot be attained unless temporary pain is endured. God cannot be conned. Blessed are those who do not care about pain to attain Divine pleasure because believer finds the light of eternal happiness and comfort after temporary pain.’

(Report Jalsa Salana 1897, p. 79)
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said ‘Man has great love for wealth.’ This is why interpretations of dream state that if anyone sees that he takes his liver out and gives it to someone, it means wealth/property. This is the reason it is stated regarding attaining true devotion to God and attaining faith: ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love.’ A large part of sympathy and compassion necessitates spending of wealth...is an important element of faith without which faith cannot be complete...Man cannot be of benefit to another unless he makes sacrifice. For sacrifice is necessary to be of benefit to another and to show them sympathy. The verse...teaches and guides to such sacrifice. Thus, spending of wealth in the way of Allah the Exalted is a standard and a benchmark of man’s goodness and righteousness. The standard and benchmark of devotion to God in the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was that when the Holy Prophet (pbuh) mentioned one requirement, he brought all that was in his home to give.’

(Al Hakm, Vol. 4/30, p. 4, dated 24 August 1900)
Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) once said: ‘I see hundreds in our Jama’at who can scarcely afford to clothe themselves and can scarcely afford to have one outfit. They do not have any property but their boundless sincerity, devotion, love and loyalty causes amazement and astonishment.’

He also said: ‘The progress and change found in our Jama’at cannot be found anywhere else.’

Did this sincerity diminish with time? Most certainly it did not. There are men, women and children in the Jama’at today who excel in sincerity… and have a real insight into ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love…’ are spread all over the world.

Among them are both long-term and new Ahmadis, joined a few months ago, whose preferences were worldly but they are now ready to sacrifice what they hold dear for the sake of faith. This revolutionary change has been brought in this age by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).
Missionary from Sierra Leone writes that a blind lady had promised Leone 2000 for Tehrik e Jadid. Owing to her disability her income was not much and fulfilling the promised was difficult.

She tried to take a loan for this purpose, but was refused because they felt the lady would not be able to pay back.

She became engaged in prayer. One day as she sat outside her home she saw an unfamiliar man pass by.

She called him over and asked him to buy a cloth (she used it as head covering) for Leone 2000. The value of the cloth was Leone 10,000 to 15,000, so the man asked why she was selling it so inexpensively.

She told him that she needed to pay that amount for Tehrik e Jadid. The man purchased the cloth but then returned it to her.
Missionary-in-charge Rajasthan, India went on a tour. He met an ailing 65 year old Ahmadi who does not have any regular source of income ... His wife goes out to work to support the family. When he was asked for financial sacrifice he pledged Rupee 1050. He was asked why he was pledging so much and it was suggested to him to keep some of it. He wept and said he had saved the money for the sake of God and asked for prayers to be in good health so that he can give more.
The national secretary for Tehrik e Jadid in Germany writes: an Ahmadi brought his wife’s jewellery to donate. He said as they went home from the seminar... His wife said that in accordance with ‘Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love...’ she was going to give her jewellery.

A person from Congo said that he is a farmer and grows produce. Previously he gave little in way of donation but since he started giving more his crops yield much. He says this has transformed his life.

A lady from Congo is also in farming... She has experienced that paying Chanda doubles her income.

Ameen Sahib of Lahore writes that a lady had pledged well for Tehrik e Jadid but when additional contribution was requested she produced a jewellery box saying all its contents were to be given in God’s way.

Our missionary from Congo writes that an Ahmadi pledged Franc 2000 for Tehrik e Jadid although he was not employed... A week later he found a job as a manager in his field... says this is due to the blessing of Chanda.
Niab Wakeelul Maal Qadian writes, an Ahmadi from Kerala said on telephone that when Huzoor announced the new year of Tehrik e Jadid he mentioned how generously the under-privileged people of Africa gave.

He said he would increase his pledge from Rupee 200,000 to Rupee 500,000.

He became emotional as he pledged and also wrote to Huzoor for prayers that he may be able to fulfil his pledge.

Sometime later ..he told him that he had paid his contribution and his work had increased so much that he finds it difficult to manage.
A Sadr from Burkina Faso said that a person was experiencing financial hardship. immediately on his return he first paid all his Chanda arrears and promised to be regular in future. A month had passed that all his troubles resolved.

An Ahmadi said to mual’lim in a village in Burkina Faso that he wished to perform Haj but he did not have the resources. He was advised to pay Chanda regularly and God would Himself provide means for Haj. He reported that God had fulfilled his wish to perform Haj.

An Uzbek new Ahmadi has lived in Moscow for a long time and had a set income. Since bai’at and paying Chanda his income has increased so exponentially that he had not earned in the last thirteen years what he has earned this year.

He gave an extraordinarily greater amount of Rupee 100, 511. He said a sum of money owed to him that he had lost all hope of seeing again was returned miraculously to him.

Inspector Tehrik e Jadid Karnataka writes that in response to words of Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him), a Khadim of Gulberga Jama’at pledged one month’s salary circa Rupee 73,000. 

Sacfrice and Allah’s Love

Materialism

Righteousness and sacrifice

Examples of sacrifice

New year of Tehrik e Jadid

November 6th 2015
An Ahmadi from Chicago contributed with a cheque for £38,415.00. When asked why the specific amount, he said he was giving whatever was in his bank.

Ameer Sahib Canada writes that a few years ago an Ahmadi suffered a loss of some $250,000 in business. He was advised to be regular in his obligatory Chanda. For the past three years he has been paying Tehrik e Jadid in the beginning of the year. With the grace of God he has paid all his debt and his financial situation has started to improve.

Ameer Sahib Canada writes that an Ahmadi started his own business and pledged £1000 for Tehrik e Jadid. He was advised that he should pledged at least $5000 the next year. At the end of the year his business had done very well and he wished to pay $5000 for the first year and to increase it in future.

Ameer Sahib USA writes that an Ahmadi said during 1974 and 1984 [persecution] their business was set on fire in Pakistan but each time they suffered loss, God blessed their means manifold. This year he has pledged £100,000 and has said that his business has expanded to an extent that was once beyond their imagination.
National Tehrik e Jadid secretary USA writes that an eleven year old had saved up to buy a video game.

When he was asked about Tehrik e Jadid he gave $100.00 that he had saved up for the game and thus fulfilled the pledge of giving precedence to faith over worldly matters.

Our missionary in Uganda writes that a Tifl learnt Salat and now leads Salat and Friday Prayers in his Jama'at. As an encouragement Ameer Sahib gave him a gift which he donated to Tehrik e Jadid.

... he gave most melodious adhan. A person was so pleased that he gave him some money as gift. He also gave that to Tehrik e Jadid.

Seeing him other atfal are also enthused to pay Tehrik e Jadid and some of them have said that they will take up digging jobs to pay their contributions. This year six atfal of the Jama'at gave more than they had pledged.

‘The progress and change found in our Jama’at cannot be found anywhere else.’

November 6th 2015
An Ahmadi from an Arab country took bai’at in 2009 while his wife took bai’at last year. Husband and wife would talk amongst themselves that Ahmadiyya Jama’at spends in the way of God in the best manner. This year the couple has contributed almost £14,000 for Tehrik e Jadid which is the largest donation in their area.

Ameer of London writes that when Worcester Park Jama’at appealed for more contributions to meet their target one family gave whatever they had saved for their holiday and spent the holiday period at home.

Missionary from Uganda writes that an Ahmadi …only had a rooster and he gave the price of the rooster for Tehrik e Jadid. He said he also had his children’s school fee to pay but he wanted to pay for Tehrik e Jadid first.
Worldwide contributions stand at £ 9,217,800.00. This is an increase of £147,000.00 from the year before.

With the grace of God this year the number of participants increased by 100,000 and was 1,311,000.

TEHRIK-E-JADID; 82nd blessed year announced

November 6th 2015
Pakistan is number 1 in making financial sacrifices in this scheme.
In terms of contributions per capita Switzerland stands first, followed by two Middle Eastern countries.

In terms of increase in number of participants:

1. Australia 94%
2. Canada 91%

Countries mentioned in the diagram:
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Ghana
- Guinea Conakry
- Congo-Brazzaville
- India
The top-ranking African nations in terms of financial contributions:

1. Ghana
2. Nigeria
3. Mauritius
4. Burkina Faso
5. Tanzania

Ghana has improved by 60% this year according to their local currency.

November 6th 2015
In Daftar Awal*, Dafter Awal has 5,927 registers of which 85 belong to people who personally pay while 5,842 are paid by families on behalf of deceased relatives.

* The very first group of people who took part in Tehrike Jadid
The first three Jama’ats in Pakistan: Lahore, Rabwah and Karachi. Also prominent were: Islamabad, Multan, Quetta, Peshawar, Hyderabad, Mirpur Khas, Dera Ghazi Khan, Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar and Jhang.

In spite of unfavourable circumstances Pakistan has maintained its spirit of sacrifice and is first among all countries.
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May God continue to enhance this spirit and may everyone also enhance in righteousness. May God continue to enhance blessings for all participants!