Men of Excellence: Hazrat Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb (ra)

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

relayed live all across the globe

11th June 2021

NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon
Highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Umar (ra).

Flag of Islam given to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and then later the same flag was given to Hazrat Umar (ra).

Hazrat Umar (ra) understood that God Himself has stated that the Holy Qur’an is complete and nothing has been left out of it.

Hazrat Umar (ra) said that he would pledge allegiance to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) as the Caliph.
Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) said that he would continue highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Umar (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that once the tribe of Banu Bakr, an affiliate tribe of the Quraish attacked Banu Khuza’ah, an affiliate tribe of the Muslims, which was in contradiction of the Treaty of Hudaibiyah.

Later, Abu Sufyan went to Madinah to renegotiate the terms of the Treaty of Hudaibiyah, but the Holy Prophet (sa) refused. Then he went to Hazrat Umar (ra) and asked him to intercede on his behalf. In response, Hazrat Umar (ra) said that even if he only had a piece of straw, he would use it to fight against the Quraish.
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His Holiness (aba) said regarding the Conquest of Makkah that as the Holy Prophet (sa) was nearing Makkah, Abu Sufyan was getting worried.

Hazrat Abbas (ra) went to Abu Sufyan and told him that he would take him to the Holy Prophet (sa) so he could seek protection.

When they reached the Holy Prophet (sa), Hazrat Umar (ra) asked the Holy Prophet (sa) for permission to kill Abu Sufyan,

but the Holy Prophet (sa) eventually told Hazrat Abbas (ra) to take Abu Sufyan away and granted him protection.

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Then, on the second day, the Holy Prophet (sa) said that he would give the flag to the one at whose hands victory would be achieved and gave the flag to Hazrat Ali (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said on the occasion of the Battle of Khaibar, the Holy Prophet (sa) gave the flag of Islam to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and then later gave the same flag to Hazrat Umar (ra).

Then, on the second day, the Holy Prophet (sa) said that he would give the flag to the one at whose hands victory would be achieved and gave the flag to Hazrat Ali (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that once Hazrat Hatib (ra) had given a letter to a woman addressed to the Quraish informing them of some of the Holy Prophet’s (sa) plans, which was later intercepted by Hazrat Ali (ra).
When the Holy Prophet (sa) asked Hazrat Hatib (ra) about this, and later forgave him.

Hazrat Umar (ra) asked the Holy Prophet (sa) to kill him.

The Holy Prophet (sa) responded to him and said that Hazrat Hatib (ra) had participated in the Battle of Badr, and God has already forgiven those who participated in this battle.
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His Holiness (aba) said that as the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa) was drawing near, the Holy Prophet (sa) said that he would like to write down something by following which no one would go astray.

Hazrat Umar (ra) was of the opinion that since the Holy Prophet (sa) was weak and ill, they should not bother him as they already had the Holy Qur’ān.

Others were of the opinion that pen and paper should be brought to the Holy Prophet (sa). The two sides argued amongst each other, upon which the Holy Prophet (sa) asked them to leave.
His Holiness (aba) explained that Hazrat Umar (ra) understood that God Himself has stated that the Holy Qur’an is complete, and nothing has been left out of it.

Hence, upon hearing Hazrat Umar (ra) say that they had the Holy Qur’an, the Holy Prophet (sa) saw no need to write anything else down and so asked everyone to leave.

His Holiness (aba) said that when the Holy Prophet (sa) passed away, Hazrat Umar (ra) was said that surely, the Holy Prophet (sa) had not passed away, and he would surely be brought back, as he was not ready to accept this fact.

Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) explained to Hazrat Umar (ra) that the Holy Prophet (sa) had passed away and quoted the Holy Qur’an to help him understand that demise is inevitable, and this was also the case for the Holy Prophet (sa). For example, he cited the verse:
‘And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, all Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels shall not harm Allah at all. And Allah will certainly reward the grateful.’ (The Holy Qur’an, 3:145)

Upon hearing this verse, everyone began crying profusely, as if they were hearing this verse for the first time. Hearing this helped everyone understand the fact that the Holy Prophet (sa) had passed away.
His Holiness (aba) said that when it came time to elect a successor, there were some who suggested that Hazrat Umar (ra) should be the Caliph.

However, Hazrat Umar (ra) refuted this and said that he would pledge allegiance to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) as the Caliph.

He then took Hazrat Abu Bakr’s (ra) hand to pledge allegiance to him and all else followed.
During the Caliphate of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), there were many huffaz who were martyred. Hazrat Umar (ra) suggested to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) that the Holy Qur’an be compiled...

...into a physical book in order to safeguard it. Hence, Hazrat Umar (ra) began the task of compiling the text of the Holy Qur’an which had been written...

...in various places when it would be revealed. Hence, various verses would be found written on leaves, branches, bones and leather.