

Full Transcript of Friday Sermon, 11th November 2011: Persecution and Relationship with Allah

Friday Sermon delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad(aba), Khalifatul Masih V, Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

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Key for Abbreviations:

(saw) means SallAllaho alaihe wassalam= Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him (as) means Alaihe Salam = upon whom be peace

(ra) means either RaziAllaho Taala unho/unha meaning Allah be pleased with him/her or **(ra*)** means Rahmullah alaihe= Allah's Mercy be upon him

(aba) means Ayyad Allaho Taala be Nasril Azeez = Allah's Help and Succour be with you always

After reciting Tashahhud, Ta'awwudh and Surah Fatihah, Hudhur (aba) said:

'Persecution against Ahmadis, in particular in Pakistan, has occurred, or life has been made difficult for Ahmadis since that time when Ahmadis were declared by the Assembly in 1974 as non-Muslims and a resolution was passed to this effect. Then General Zia-Ul-Haq, taking full advantage of his dictatorship, made this law ever harsher. In the process he said the following: "These Ahmadis against whom we have passed a resolution (although they do not say Ahmadis, rather they say "Qadianis" or "Mirzais") have no value." According to their assumption, they threw Ahmadis out of the community of Muslims and it was said to the Ahmadis that 'Declare yourselves non-Muslims.', to whom it was said you are not permitted to recite the *Kalima* (the Muslim creed), to whom it was stated that you cannot say 'Assalamo Alaikum', 'peace be upon you' to anybody, to whom it was said you are not allowed to perform any act that will even hint, even to the slightest degree, that you are Muslim.

Yet, they said, that you [i.e. Ahmadis] do not desist from performing all of this, and you are acting on all those things that a strong and dedicated Muslim acts upon. For this reason, either we will punish you with imprisonment, or for disobedience of this Ordinance, or for associating yourself with the *Khatamul Anbiyyah* (the Seal of all the Prophets), the Holy Prophet (saw), we will hang you on the gallows. How did you have so much courage, that in spite of being in so few numbers, could you injure the sentiments of the majority, by calling yourselves Muslims?

Therefore, this is the summary of the treatment of the legislation and law in Pakistan against Ahmadis. Whatever they have been stating about Ahmadis, the slogan that they raise about Ahmadis being in a minority and the attempts their constant attempts to remove Ahmadis from their faith are nothing new. In the history of religion, this is what we have come to see. This is exactly what the pharaoh-like individuals have stated against the prophets of their time and also the people of God. This subject of the Holy Qur'an continues until today, when the Pharaoh said: ...they announce that *Surely, these people are a small party and are insignificant, despite this, they will most certainly offend us* (Ch.26:Vs.55-56).

Hence, when we Ahmadis face this opposition, our faith is rejuvenated and refreshed, that the history of the Prophets is being repeated once again. We may be undoubtedly few in numbers today, and in the eyes of the world, we may be insignificant. They are not offended by us

Ahmadis because we are committing a sin of any kind, or because we are committing a major crime; they are not offended by us because we are breaking the law or causing harm to the country, or because we are disobeying the law of the land and usurping the people's rights, or because we are carrying out terrorism of any form. They are offended by us because of our relationship of love, loyalty and dedication with God and His Messenger (saw); because of our love of our homeland, due to which we display a peaceful approach; because we do not trample and usurp the rights of God's creatures and because we do not become a part of that extremism that has made barbarism and cruelty run rampant in the country.

In short, our response to them is that we are the followers of the Imam of this time; the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw)'s ardent devotee. In accordance with his prophecies, we followed that Messiah and that Mahdi who was to come in the world and continue that *Sunnah* (practice) of his master, the Holy Prophet (saw), and teaches the world the principles of peace, love, affection and reconciliation. Thus, when we come into the *Bai'at* (the pledge of allegiance) of this Imam of the time and practise all these values, we are in fact striving to fulfil the dues of following the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw). We are endeavouring to establish those models which the earliest Muslims endeavoured to establish. This courage and valour, this passion to look death in the eye is given to us by that champion of God the Almighty who in this era was sent by God Almighty for the rejuvenation of Islam. We are given that passion to hold the safeguarding of our faith of greater pre-eminence in our lives by that ardent devotee of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) who brought the faith from the Pleiades back to the Earth.

Therefore, when we are ready to make every sacrifice, we are ready with that insight and that knowledge and discernment that we are the followers of that Imam who God the Almighty informed that "the Messenger of God in the Mantle of all the prophets." In *Baraheen-e-Ahmadiyya*, volume five, explaining this, the Promised Messiah (as) writes:

"This revelation from God Almighty means that from Adam (as) until the end, all the prophets who have come from God Almighty to the world, whether they are Israelites or otherwise, I have been bestowed a portion of the particular circumstances or attributes of all of them. There has not been a single prophet of whose characteristics or circumstances, I have not partaken to a degree. My nature bears the imprint of the nature of every prophet. This is what God has informed me."

When the Promised Messiah (as) was to take a share of the circumstances of all the other prophets, then this would also entail as the prophets faced opposition in the history, so would the Promised Messiah (as) and his followers face opposition. However, this opposition or legislation against him cannot harm the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (as) in any way, shape or form. This is because alongside this, Allah the Almighty has also given the glad tiding of the triumphs and those successes that were also granted to the other prophets. In fact, Allah the Almighty has given the news of even more successes and triumphs and revealed to the Promised Messiah (as): "Good tidings to you O My Ahmad!"

In short, this hostile legislation, oppression, persecution and cruelty cannot stop the progress and success of the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (as). The Promised Messiah (as) was given the glad tidings by God that ultimately, the doors of triumph will spring open, although, in some places, the Jama'at has to pass through a phase of persecution and there is intensive oppression against the Jama'at. But in different ways, this glad tiding has been given to the Promised Messiah (as). In the book of the Promised Messiah (as) '*Asmani Faisla*', ('The Heavenly Decree'), the Promised Messiah (as) states:

Allah has addressed me in clear words saying that 'I am the One who grants victory; I shall give you victory, a wondrous day you will behold. The disbelievers, those of them in whose fate lies guidance, they will fall in prostration saying, 'Oh Allah! Forgive us our sins, we were in error.'

Then there is a revelation of the Promised Messiah(as) that, *Yours is the victory and you will triumph.*

Therefore, the background of all the difficulties, adversities and hostile legislations against the Jama'at, in particular that is being experienced by the Jama'at in Pakistan and also in Indonesia, Malaysia and also some other Muslim countries, to a greater degree than the persecution being faced by Ahmadis has Allah Almighty granted us the glad tidings of the successes and triumph of Jama'at-e-Ahmadiyya.

Through the Grace of Almighty Allah, the courage of faith that the Imam of our time has provided us with will not care a jot about this cruelty and persecution. If there was any other worldly community, then because of the persecution, they would have submitted before the oppressors some time ago, or they would have adopted hypocrisy. However, with the Grace of Almighty Allah, not only is the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at facing up to this persecution, rather in spite of the unfavourable circumstances, Jama'at Ahmadiyya is moving forward and progressing. If there is anybody who holds wisdom and is fair-minded and just, then this alone is sufficient proof of the truthfulness of this Jama'at and it being from God Almighty and this should be sufficient.

The Promised Messiah (as) was granted the revelation by God Almighty, which I just read, that a time would arrive when from amongst the very people who are currently under the influence of the so-called-scholars, or are under the fear of those so-called-Mullahs, or due to a fear of the law, are not recognising the truth, those same people will prostrate, and beg Allah Almighty for forgiveness for their sins. They will be proud of being associated with this ardent devotee and true servant of the Holy Prophet(saw). And those who are immoral will see their sorry end or they would become such a sign or a lesson for the world as those who opposed the Prophets and Truth in the past were.

The Holy Qur'an has mentioned this in several places. In one place in the Holy Qur'an, God Almighty states: *Have they not travelled in the earth, and seen what was the end of those before them? They were mightier than these in power and in the marks they left in the earth. But, Allah sees them for their sins, and they have no protector against Allah. That was because their messengers came to them with manifest signs... but they still disbelieved. So Allah seized them. Surely Allah is Powerful and severe in punishment Ch.40:Vs.22-23).*

The revelations of the Promised Messiah (as) that I cited were not his personal claims, in fact these were revelations from God Almighty, that "God is with me, and God has given me glad tidings of triumph and ultimate success." To associate or ascribe something to God Almighty is a serious issue. God Almighty does not forgive a person who wrongly ascribes something to Him, associating something which is not really from God. Therefore, when with the Promised Messiah (as) we observe the signs and succour of God Almighty, then this establishes us firm on the belief that the manner in which Allah the Almighty in the time of the Promised Messiah (as) supported him, and provided him with succour and help, He will also provide succour and help in future times. Today as well, Allah the Almighty provides us with help and succour.

Today, the reality and the facts support the truth that Allah the Almighty is providing us with His help and succour. As is evident from these verses, the opponents of the prophets of Allah and those who persecute divine Jama'ats are provided with leeway for some time by Allah the

Almighty. But then, one day, or at a certain time, Allah's chastisement descends upon them. When Allah's wrath comes upon them, then no power, no strength, no large numbers will be of any avail. Today, those who persecute Ahmadis and inculcate laws against them, who want to give Ahmadis the beggar's bowl, or those who call Ahmadiyyat, God forbid, a cancer and declare that it will be eliminated, such people have little power. When Allah so desires to destroy them no one will even notice it and no trace will be left of them.

The examples of earlier people who Allah eliminated are those who were extremely wealthy. The people nowadays who are persecuting us do not even have wealth of their own. They are perpetually submitting to foreign powers for loans to run their nations. Therefore, it is a cause for consideration for our leaders, and also for the public at large, that by unconsciously carrying out oppression, by unconsciously condoning persecution, to abuse the chosen and sent one of Allah in every official document makes all of these people involved and guilty of a huge sin. Because nowadays in Pakistan, in every circumstance, whether if you want to make an official document, if you want to obtain a certificate or if you want to gain entry anywhere, in every single paper, slanderous words against the Promised Messiah (as) have been utilised, and it is said that you must sign these forms and documents to declare yourself a Muslim. Huge offensive posters are placed in shopping areas, offices and also parks. Even those who are quiet, they are unconsciously condoning all of this oppression and persecution and abuse, or their decency has come to an end or they have no belief in God. By filing wrongful lawsuits against Ahmadis, people are guilty of such an act, which most surely in the eyes of Allah the Almighty is not something pleasing. God Almighty states to be just even towards your enemies. Display justice and also be not oppressive or cruel to those people who are being oppressive to you. However, in contradiction to this, how do these people act? They act completely opposite to this command. God Almighty states that falsehood is *shirk* (setting up partners with God) and *shirk* is such a sin and act which God Almighty will not forgive.

What is the state of these people themselves? Their *Taqwa* and their *claims* to elevate the status and Name of Allah and His Messenger we observe on a daily basis. I shall present one account before you through which the reality is exposed. Recently, a wrongful lawsuit was placed against an Ahmadi. He was alleged to have committed murder. When the person who made the allegation was told that this is completely wrong and he was carrying out an injustice, he replied (the person who had launched the case against the Ahmadi under the influence of the Maulawis) that "we are aware that this is incorrect and that this person is innocent and faultless. However this person is an Ahmadi. This is why we have launched this case against him. If today he renounces Ahmadiyyat and becomes abusive to the Promised Messiah (as) then we will drop our case. In fact, not only would we drop our case, we would also endeavour to make every effort to have him released from jail and when he is released from jail we will place garlands around his neck and give him a warm welcome." So this is the state of these people.

Despite this, they consider themselves as firm and dedicated Muslims and Ahmadis according to them, are *kafirs* (disbelievers). In their view lying is insignificant. Therefore, O opponents of Ahmadiyyat! Fear that God in front of whom your wealth, your conceit, your arrogance, your *Imamat* of your mosques, your political parties, your government, your numerical supremacy hold no significance whatsoever. Our response to all this persecution and all this cruelty is that very response that the Holy Qur'an states in the following verse, "Surely He is most Powerful, severe in punishment."

This extreme persecution has reached the extent that now the innocent Ahmadi school children are told that "you are 'Mirzai'", and "you are *kafirs* (disbelievers), therefore you cannot remain in the school. Indeed there is one way through which you can remain in the school and that is if you abuse the Promised Messiah (as)." If a school headmaster or the owner of a private school displays decency then he is told that "if Ahmadi children attend this school then we will not send our children here and we will also protest against you and have your school closed." If

any decent person does not listen to these Maulawis, they are threatened about the consequences.

In short, disorder is prevalent in the country. The government as well as politicians due to their political motives and their inability and incompetence, are now toys in the hands of these Maulawis and extremists. Therefore, as I already stated, whether it is a Maulawi, an opportunistic politician or any governmental worker, whosoever is involved and participates in this persecution should remember that God Almighty is severe in punishment. This is not a tale of ancient times of people who came before. In fact, this is a living sign of the living God; that God Who is the Possessor of all powers—a sign of His today.

Those who oppose the Promised Messiah (as) and exceed all boundaries and limits in their opposition to him should remember that by rejecting the truth and the reality, that truth which was prophesied by the Holy Prophet (saw) and which was foretold in the Holy Qur'an itself which these people recite enthusiastically, or at least they claim that they recite—by rejecting this truth, they become included amongst those people who saw their terrible end, or who future generations witnessed their terrible end or will become a lesson and a warning for future people. Besides their persecution of Ahmadis, what sin are these people not committing? Every type of sin is rife in the country. There is bribery, other immoralities and moral impurities, thieving, robbery, murder and mayhem. In short, we observe every vice today. Thus, will all of this not incur and invite the wrath of God? Think somewhat O negligent ones! It is our prayer that God bestows His Mercy upon the country. Today, it is the duty of Ahmadis that despite all the persecution and cruelties they face, showing compassion to the *Ummah* (the Muslim community), showing compassion for humanity, they should make the maximum practical efforts possible to help. Alongside this, most of all they need to give emphasis towards prayers. Where practical efforts cannot be made, where nobody is ready to listen to what we have to say, where by just saying *Salam* (greetings of peace) a case or litigation is launched against us, there we should beg for the reformation of the Muslim community through prayers from Allah the Almighty. As I stated, there is no doubt in this whatsoever that God Almighty will grant the Promised Messiah (as) triumph and also victory; because God Almighty always grants His Prophets and also the one He sends, victory and triumph. In the Holy Qur'an, God the Almighty states "*Allah has decreed, most surely I will prevail, I and my messengers. Verily Allah is Powerful, Mighty*" (Ch.52:V.22).

As is evident from this verse that the decree for the triumph is from God. The means and reasoning Allah has given for this victory is that Allah is Powerful and Mighty. Therefore, within this for both believers and also for rejecters and disbelievers and for every party there is a lesson. There is also a proclamation, that reflect upon this. Believers have been inculcated that God the Almighty, Who is the Possessor of all powers and is also Dominant, has decreed that He and His messenger will become dominant and triumph. Subsequently, do not observe your weakness or your numerical inferiority, do not believe that you are insignificant, instead strengthen your faith and also connect yourself fully with Allah the Almighty. Whatever you can possibly do to inculcate that love and connection with God Almighty, do so and allow it to reach its pinnacle so that you can become a part of that promised triumph. Therefore, perform pious deeds, become regular and firm in worship. Your purpose of your creation is worship. Strive to excel in your worship and become a part of that triumph.

There is a challenge for the opposition that you may try to use all your strength and power but remember that Allah the Almighty is Powerful and Mighty. It is His decree that He will grant triumph and also victory to His dear and beloved ones. Therefore, your schemes, all your ruses, your attempts to harass innocent school children, your troubling of Ahmadi employees, your attempts to disturb Ahmadi business men and women, your filing of lawsuits against completely innocent Ahmadis and bystanders; this cannot halt the victory of Allah and His Messenger. If

this was a man-made endeavour then undoubtedly your power would have worked, but this is the work of God, and ultimately Allah's Decree will reign supreme. So when God Almighty has said "*that verily Allah is Powerful, Mighty*", He has proclaimed that I am going to cause this work to be accomplished. Here the abundance or shortage of numbers, the abundance or shortage of wealth and the abundance or shortage of apparatus hold no significance or value whatsoever.

In the Battle of *Badr* or in the Battle of *Uhad*, or in any other battle for that matter, did the abundance of wealth affect the outcome of the battle? Most certainly it did not. Indeed, it is certainly true that in spite of God's promises, despite God's reassurances, despite the fact that God Almighty provided illuminating and evident signs, the messengers of God Almighty certainly make ordinary efforts and arrangements according to their resources. However, their real emphasis is towards prayers. Most of all, the most perfect example of this was demonstrated by our master, the Holy Prophet Mohammed (saw). The battle of *Badr* presents a most brilliant and amazing model of this. Despite all the promises and reassurances by God Almighty, the Holy Prophet Mohammed (saw)'s anxiety and restlessness, the manner in which he prayed in a state of deep desperation and anxiety, as if he was melting in that prayer out of deep concern; his state was such that it seemed as if he was at the throes of death such that many a times, the sheet upon him would fall off his shoulder because of that state of prayer and worship he was in; so when God Almighty states that "Me and My messengers will ultimately prevail," then the messengers of Allah the Almighty also absorb themselves completely to God and try to become a part of that Divine Decree; and they do become a part of that Divine destiny. Then The Holy Prophet' (saw) spiritual power and his moral training generated those Companions whose days were spent in battle and whose nights were immersed in the worship of God. Observing by worldly standards then in any of the battles in which the Muslims fought, they could not be compared with the opposition, there was no comparison between the two. But the connection with God Almighty and their worship in which they effaced themselves completely in Allah and His messenger enabled them to achieve success and become a part of the triumph.

We should also remember that during the day, despite the onslaughts by the enemies and the opposition and the difficult circumstances, the Holy Prophet (saw) and his Companions were never negligent of prayers. At one juncture, due to the repeated attacks of the enemy, the Muslims were not able to pray and the time for prayer passed by and the prayers had to be combined. At that time the Holy Prophet (saw) was so deeply saddened that he prayed against them that "*curse be upon you, may the enemy be destroyed, because of whom we had to combine the prayers.*" Thus, the Holy Prophet (saw) was never perturbed at the loss of life, wealth or property and neither as a result for any of these things did he pray against the enemy. If he prayed against the enemy, it was only because today the enemy did not allow him to pray on time to submit before God Almighty.

Despite the fact that the Holy prophet (saw)'s heart was inclined towards the remembrance of God, he always had the remembrance and praise of God emanating from his tongue. However, the loss of performing an obligation was unbearable for him. Thus, it should always be remembered that indeed God Almighty had given promises of victory and success. But to fulfil the due of establishing a connection with God Almighty to absorb His blessings and grace, there is a critical need to give attention towards worship and this is extremely important. Without this, you cannot declare yourself as a member of the community of the Messenger of Allah.

Only those people will be counted in the community of the Messenger of God who give emphasis towards worship. Therefore, when we observe the persecution by the opponents of Ahmadiyyat we should bear in mind that in order to become a part of the promises of God Almighty, we should never be negligent of worship to God. The Messengers are commissioned by God to connect man with God. If we do not establish this connection with God Almighty, then how can

we call ourselves a community of the Prophet? How can we be a part of those triumphs and successes that are decreed for the prophet and his community? This also was the purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah (as).

Therefore, we should always keep this in view. The Promised Messiah (as) in his book *Kitaab ul Bariyyah* states:

‘In reality, God is most Powerful and Mighty and one who turns to Him with sincerity and devotion is never wasted. The enemy states that through his ploys he will destroy them and he has evil intentions to crush them. However, God Almighty says “O foolish person! Will you contend with Me? Can you disgrace My dear ones?” In reality nothing at all can occur on the land which has not already been decreed in the heavens and no hand on the earth can be extended beyond that extent to which it has been extended in the heavens. Therefore those who hatch evil plans are extremely foolish who at the time of making their evil schemes and shameful ploys do not remember that Being that without whose will even a leaf can fall. In short, they fail completely and are entirely humiliated in their ploys. Righteous and sincere people are not harmed in any way, shape or form by the evil. In fact the signs of God are manifested. The spiritual knowledge of the creation of God increases. Although the powerful God cannot be seen from the naked eye but He manifests Himself through His incredible signs.’

Therefore, if we continue to submit before this All Powerful and Mighty God with love, devotion and sincerity then none of the evil schemes or efforts of the enemies can harm our community *InshaAllah* (God willing). This is why recently I especially made an appeal for prayer, worship and optional fasting. That as now the enemy is making efforts with all his strength and might against Ahmadiyyat, our biggest and our most affective means to compete with this is through prayers alone.

The opposition to Ahmadiyyat has now taken an international shape. Where on the one hand this is a demonstration that in order to demonstrate victory, God Almighty wants to display His manifestation of Glory even more than before and He will most surely display this. There, on the other hand the world of Ahmadiyyat should be reminded towards the fact that we must hold most dear and most beloved to us our worship. The relationship with God Almighty of love must be increased greatly to a far greater extent than ever before. May Allah grant us all the ability to accomplish this.

I would like to say one more thing, that there is a revelation of the Promised Messiah (as): “*After eleven*”. Ahmadis make estimates and calculations according to their own inferences which they write to me about. The Promised Messiah (as) says himself regarding this: “*I am not aware whether this means 11 days, 11 weeks, 11 months or 11 years. Within this period a sign in proof of my innocence will appear.*” Because today is 11th November, and November is the 11th month and it is 2011, Ahmadis make inferences according to their assumptions.

Nevertheless, if within this “*eleven*” something is destined to happen in this date, in this month, in this year, then most certainly *InshaAllah* this will come to pass. However, it should be born in mind that there are many revelations in which the help, support and succour of God Almighty and the manifestations of God Almighty’s *Rahmaniyyat* have been promised to happen ‘*Baghtatan*’, suddenly. It is not implausible that from today’s date, from this month, from this year this destiny begins to take shape. However, sometimes people make their own calculations and estimations and with some weak natured persons, if this does not occur as according to their own estimations or calculations they become frustrated, and disinclined towards God Almighty. This should not be the way of a believer that he should ever be frustrated. The

triumph is a certainty. It is the decree of God Almighty. *InshaAllah* it will come to pass. In fact, it is coming to pass.

The opposition of the enemies and the state of the opponents, the manner in which they are becoming senseless and flabbergasted this is a proof of the victory and triumph of God Almighty.

In this regard I should also mention that Hadhrrat Musleh Maud (ra) wrote about the account of the migration from Qadian to Rabwah, how the migration occurred and how it was a very difficult decision. He was reflecting upon the migration and he writes the following:

“I was studying the revelation vouchsafed to the Promised Messiah on (as) and this revelation came before me “*After eleven*” and I consider that this is a certainty that the migration would most surely occur. Then difficulties of transport came to the fore. There was the issue of which dates to choose and this eleventh date was being looked at. The final arrangements were ultimately made after much deliberation and great efforts. Then there were further hindrances being faced. The day that they were due to depart there were more obstacles that came to the fore and different difficulties were faced.” It was 10 o’ clock. Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib (ra) stated that it seemed like there were problems in the arrangements that were made and they would not materialise. But Hadhrrat Mirza Bashir-Ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad(ra) states: “In my mind was that revelation ‘*after eleven*’ and I felt that perhaps after eleven this would occur. Then subsequently suddenly Allah the Almighty provided the means and everything happened all of a sudden and after eleven those arrangements were made and this historical migration from Qadian to Pakistan occurred.”

But this revelation has been fulfilled in other ways on many other occasions. That dictator who desired to eliminate Ahmadiyyat and who wanted to uproot Ahmadiyyat completely; his government itself was uprooted entirely exactly after eleven years. There are other occasions as well, as I stated, where this revelation could be applied. But revelations and prophecies are fulfilled repeatedly. Therefore, we should hope for and expect open and illuminating signs from God Almighty. But you should also remember that alongside this revelation there is also a revelation in Persian ‘*Bar Muqaam e Falak Shuda, Ya Rab Dar Ummeed e Daham Madaar Ajab*’. Hadhrrat Musleh Maud (ra) states that “God Almighty says that now your supplications have reached heaven. If I grant you some hopeful news or glad tidings then be not surprised. This would not be against My will or My way, *InshaAllah, After 11*. This was not elucidated.”

Once again the subject of pray has been inculcated, your weeping and wailing has reached the heavens. We need to turn towards prayers with incredible intensity. As I stated before, the reason why I drew attention towards prayers is so that you should pray with such intensity that your prayers reach and stir the heavens. Then we will quickly witness triumph and success *InshaAllah*, and the enemy being destroyed. May Allah the Almighty grant me and you the ability to pray more than before.

After the prayers today as well I will lead two funeral prayers.

The first funeral prayer is of a Darvaish Muhammad Sadiq Sahib, son of Mukarum Deen Sahib. He passed away, on 29th October. He fell down and fractured one of his bones. He also had some ailments of the heart. He was treated but anyhow on 5th of November he passed away. *Surely to Allah we belong and to Him we shall return*. When Hadhrrat Musleh Maud (ra) made an appeal for the Darvaish, he was only small at the time. But with great sincerity he hearkened and obeyed to this appeal and with great dedication he fulfilled this pledge. He would serve in the central offices. Apart from this in Qadian he was granted the opportunity to level the unlevelled land. He was a sympathetic and wise worker. He had great enthusiasm to serve mankind. Because, fruits,

vegetables and milk would grow at home, for this reason he would send some this to other houses without charge. He would take great care of the guests that would come for Jalsa Salana. He would spend more than his capacity for their comfort and ease. He would meet others with great respect. He was extremely compassionate to poor people. He was very regular in prayers and fasting and was also a very dedicated and committed person. He provided great moral upbringing to his children and he was also a *Moosi*. He leaves behind four sons. One of his sons Makaram Dr Mohammad Arif Sahib, who was Officer Jalsa Salana and Nazir Baitul Mal Kharij, passed away in the previous year. May Allah elevate the rank of the deceased.

The second funeral is for Ahmed Yusuf Sahib *Shaheed*. He is an Arab Friend from Syria. He was martyred in the previous month in the disorder and tumult that is currently taking place in Syria. *Surely to Allah we belong and to Him we shall return*. What came to pass is that on the 31st October he was returning home after work after *Asr*. The place he was to pass through was a place where there were great disturbances and bullets would sometimes be shot. The martyred was hard of hearing and some people warned him of passing through that area. But because he was hard of hearing, he could not hear those people warning him. He passed through that area and a bullet hit his head and he was martyred.

He was born in 1976. He received basic education until primary. He was a labourer and not married. For more than ten years previous he received *Tabligh* of Ahmadiyyat and in the previous year he was able to take the pledge of allegiance. One of the nephews of the martyr, Mukarram Yunis Sahib, states that the martyr would speak to me very effectively about the Jama'at and preach to me about it. After discussing it with him I performed the *Bai'at* even before him, and he performed it a month after me. Similarly, the nieces and sisters of the martyred also did the *Bai'at* through his *Tabligh*. The martyred before his *Bai'at* was from the Alvi sect. Despite facing so much pressure that he did the *Bai'at* with much loyalty, dedication and commitment. He took part in every programme of the Jama'at. He was a possessor of high moral standing. He was extremely straightforward and simple. The quality of helping others was prominent in him. May Allah the Almighty elevate the rank of the deceased. *InshaAllah* the funeral pray of both of these people will be held after the Friday prayer.