

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/ National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السّلام علیکم ورحمة اللّٰه وبرکاته

On 3rd September, 2010, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ V ایده اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Ḥuḍūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ began the sermon with the recitation of verse 70 of *Sūrah Al-Ankabūt*, which is translated as follows:

“And as for those who strive in Our path—We will surely guide them in Our ways. And verily Allāh is with those who do good.” (29:70)

Ḥuḍūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام has taught us various ways and means of attaining Allāh’s nearness in the light of this verse.

Ḥuḍūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: We are now passing through the last ten days of *Ramaḍān*. This month has a special significance with regard to the acceptance of prayers, and these ten days are particularly important in this regard. Today is Friday which is also a blessed day during which there comes an hour in which our prayers are accepted. All these occasions have come together to draw our attention to Allāh’s bounties. But this should not be a passing sentiment. When one succeeds in finding God, he is transformed forever, but this requires unwavering effort.

Ḥuḍūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: *Ramaḍān* provides us an atmosphere in which our prayers and fasting bear fruit and our efforts lead us to God. In order to attain God’s nearness and to be among the righteous, it is important to remain steadfast in piety and virtue. We must always strive to attain this objective to the best of our ability. Let us not become lazy and callous and resort to selfish excuses. There are many levels of nearness to God. The greater the effort and sincerity one shows, the closer he comes to God. In order to find Him, we should do as He has commanded us and perform the good deeds that we have been taught by the Holy Qur’ān and the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.

Allāh says in the Holy Qur’ān, “Those who strive in Our path, We will surely guide them in Our ways.” It is also for this purpose that He also taught us the prayer, “Guide us on the right path.” Through prayer the blind are granted sight and there are many who have found guidance through prayers. We come closer to God in accordance with the sincerity and devotion we show to Him. Allāh helps the fortunate ones to overcome their shortcomings and purifies them and they come to love that which He loves. They are granted power for doing good that is not followed by weakness. They are granted *Taqwa* that is not followed by transgression. They are granted steadfastness, and the path to Divine love

and knowledge is made easy for them. They are also helped to overcome their sins.

Ḥuḍūr أيده اللہ تعالیٰ said: While those who seek God find Him and are blessed with His bounties, the hearts of those who turn away from Him become twisted and they continue to sink in the quagmire of sin. They follow the misguided paths, their reason is taken away from them and they never find correct guidance.

Ḥuḍūr أيده اللہ تعالیٰ said: One of the means of attaining Allāh's nearness is to adopt His attributes in ones own self and to find God by becoming one with Him. But this can only be done by putting in the required effort. For instance, if water is to be found after digging twenty feet, it will never be reached by just digging one or two feet. One should strive to the best of one's ability without tiring. If a student who spends his nights in studying ends up in success, then how is it possible that those who strive towards God with sincerity and prayers and purify their selves, should fail. But this requires true repentance and estrangement from everything but God. The door is opened for him who knocks. So we should always keep trying to attain Allāh's nearness. May Allāh enable us to live by the pledge of Bai'at we have all made to the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. *Āmīn*.

Ḥuḍūr أيده اللہ تعالیٰ informed the Jamā'at of the terrorist attack on the Aḥmadiyya Mosque in Mardān, Pakistan, and praised the devoutness and services of Sheikh Amir Raza Ṣāḥib who was martyred in the attack. Ḥuḍūr أيده اللہ تعالیٰ led his *Namāz Janāzah Ghā'ib* after the Jumu'a prayer.

Please convey these guidelines given by Ḥuḍūr أيده اللہ تعالیٰ to the members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 08. Sep. 2010