

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/ National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

On 20th May 2011, Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh V ایده اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futuh Mosque, London.

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: We can never be grateful enough to the Almighty God for having sent the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام into this world. But we can show our gratitude by carefully studying the writings and discourses of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام and moulding our lives according to them. Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ read out the following excerpts from the discourses of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام in which he has spoken about salat, prayer and establishing relationship with God. The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام says:

“The Holy Qur’ān begins and ends with prayer—which signifies that man is weak and cannot be purified without the grace of God and cannot progress in virtue without His help. Hence, one cannot become free of the yoke of this world without Divine grace; and it is prayer alone that attracts God’s grace.”

“What is *salat*? It is a prayer that is offered with deep anguish and fervour. God does not hear the prayers of a person until he carries his prayer to the point where death seems before him. Among the requirements of prayer is that a person’s heart should melt within him and his soul should flow like water onto the Divine threshold, and the prayer should be offered in a state of the greatest anguish. Nor should a man tire of prayer or become impatient; for prayer requires great perseverance.”

“*Salat* is a the highest form of prayer, but sadly people are unaware of its worth. Nothing can lead to God as *salat* can. Hence we have to keep praying unceasingly. The *salat* should not be offered as a ritual; we have to understand the meaning of what we are praying and try to find pleasure in our worship.”

“Look how your life is ebbing away. So overcome your sloth and supplicate to God. Pray to Him in seclusion that He may preserve your faith and be pleased with you.”

“Prayers are not accepted unless one’s heart is clean. If you harbour rancour or ill-will towards any person in worldly matters, your prayers will not be accepted. One should never hate anyone for worldly reasons, because this world and its provisions are not worth it.”

“God does not want us only to pray; rather he wants us to employ all the means at our disposal and make all possible efforts along with prayer. To pray without making any effort is against the etiquette of prayer and amounts to testing God. On the other hand, putting all one’s trust in one’s efforts without

prayer is godlessness. Prayer is great wealth; he who prays continuously is never visited with catastrophe either in worldly matters or in matters of faith, for he is safe like one in a castle. One who does not pray is like him who is vulnerable and has no weapon to defend himself. Remember, therefore, that there is no greater good and no greater source of protection for man than prayer."

"Prayer is only second to self-reformation in leading to the love of Allāh. But one should not abandon the means, for God wants us to make use of them."

"For a believer, prayer is like water without which he cannot survive. And the proper occasion for prayer is *salat* wherein a believer attains such pleasure that even the most intense bodily pleasure is nothing compared to it. And the greatest gift of prayer is that it draws one closer to God. When a believer becomes completely absorbed in his prayer, God shows him mercy and becomes his friend. Prayer is our weapon, and there is no greater weapon than prayer. Happy is he who realizes this."

Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: May Allāh enable us to understand the true meaning of prayer and to make it part and parcel of our lives. Hudūr ایده اللہ تعالیٰ also read out some prayers of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام seeking Allāh's protection against the mischief of the opponents.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 26 May 2011.