

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President

Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

The opening of the Maḥmood Mosque in Sweden. The true beauty of this mosque lies in the sincerity of the devotees who worship in it.

Once we have set up a mosque in a town or village, we can rest assured that the foundation has been laid for the progress of the Jamā‘at in that area.

Let us end our mutual quarrels and ill-will. Instead of indulging in selfishness, we should foster unity and fraternity.

On 13th May 2016, Ḥazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) formally opened the Maḥmood Mosque at Malmo, Sweden, and then delivered the Friday Sermon.

After reciting verses 18 of *Sūrah Al-Taubah* and verse 42 of *Sūrah Al-Hajj*, which are translated as follows:

'Verily, he alone is worthy of maintaining the Mosques of Allāh who believes in Allāh, and the Last Day, and observes Prayer, and pays the Zakāt, and fears none but Allāh; so these it is who are far more likely to be counted among the guided.' (9:18)

'Those who, if We establish them in the earth, will observe Prayer and pay the Zakāt and enjoin good and forbid evil. And with Allāh rests the final issue of all affairs.' (22:42)

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, by the grace of Allāh, Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya Sweden has completed its second mosque. For this small Jamā‘at this was a grand project and men, women and children have set high standards of giving priority to their faith over the world. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the construction of the mosque, along with a two-bedroom accommodation, offices and a library has cost 37.5 million krona, or 3.2 million pound sterling. There is also a mission house and a kitchen, while the hall is still being completed. The management thinks this will cost a further 8 to 10 million krona. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that volunteers have and are continuing to work day and night on this project. May Allāh bless them as well as those who have made financial sacrifices.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it is a beautiful mosque which is being praised by local people and the media. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave some examples of the selfless spirit and the fervour and passion shown by big and small alike.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that this project started in 1999. This site is situated on a hillock and is quite prominent. The main highway which links Norway and Sweden to Europe and also links the major cities of Norway and Sweden passes nearby. My Allāh enable us to fulfil the obligation this mosque places on us and may it forever be a means of spreading the message of God's oneness. The mosque complex is 2,353 square metre and consists of five buildings. There are separate prayer halls for men and women. Each of the halls can accommodate up to 500 worshippers. The sports hall can accommodate an additional 700. Thus the total number of worshippers who can pray at one time is 1700.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it is the duty of the members of the Jamā'at to increase their numbers. They should try to remove the misunderstanding people have about Islam and invite them to Tauḥīd and bring them closer to God. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that our Jamā'at is in great need of mosques. When a mosque of our Jamā'at is built in a village or a city, it should be considered that the foundation for progress of Jamā'at is laid. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says there is much good in unity and solidarity, while division causes discord.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that we should foster cooperation, unity and mutual love. We should overlook trivial disputes and put an end to mutual contention and bias. Instead of focusing on our selfish desires, we should try to win Allāh's pleasure. The reason why prayer with congregation deserves greater merit is because it fosters unity and the spiritual light of one believer transfers onto others.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that the true beauty of mosques lies not in their buildings but in the worshippers who pray with devotion. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that now that the mosque has been built, our real duty has begun and we have to offer our prayers as we have been commanded. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that as gratitude for the completion of this mosque we have to be more loving and kind towards one another and become exemplars of the true teachings of Islām.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the first verse I recited says that the true purpose of building a mosque is to have faith in God, and this faith is only perfected when a person safeguards against all forms of idolatry. Faith in the hereafter is also a purpose mentioned in the verse. In order to become righteous, it is essential to shun evil and instead attain higher morals and demonstrate fidelity and sincerity towards God.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while a true believer strives to become steadfast in prayers, he should also be mindful of purifying his wealth and income.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Jamā‘at urges everyone to offer Zakāt wherever applicable. Zakāt has a close affinity with Khilāfat. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in this age it was through the Promised Messiah عليه السلام that Islam was to grow in strength and so it has come to pass.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the second verse I recited speaks of the qualities of those who are granted strength by God. Among these are the offering of prayer, paying Zakāt, spreading good and stopping from evil. Today it is only Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya that has the institution of Khilāfat which is spreading the message of God and building mosques, all of which bring stability to the faith, in other words it is bringing honour and prestige to Islām by spreading its teachings and thus strengthening it. All Aḥmadīs should fulfil their pledge and mould their thinking in keeping with the will of God. May Allāh enable us to understand all this. *Āmīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā‘at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: May 18, 2016