

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Guidance regarding choosing appropriate locations for Jamā‘at’s programs. Remembering the services of some deceased members of the Jamā‘at.**

**The deceased possessed qualities that are an example for people in all walks of life, and they fulfilled their obligations.**

**Funeral prayer in absentia for Professor Dr Ashfaq Ahmad Sahib Shaheed of Lahore, H. Nāsir-ud-Din Sahib, missionary from India, and Sahibzadi Amatul Waheed Sahiba of Rabwah.**

On 14th April 2017, Hadrat *Khalīfatul-Masīh* V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon from Frankfurt, Germany.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: First of all, I would like to say that this place acquired by the Jamā‘at may experience a lot of noise on account of air traffic. It could not be arranged in *Baitus Subuh* because of lack of space, and no other appropriate hall could be acquired, although I think that it could have been found if timely efforts had been made. It is however the habit of some amongst our people to start work right at the end, and even though many things can be done but it doesn’t mean that there should be no prior planning. When I came last year, I instructed the Jamā‘at to seek permission for holding our functions in *Baitul Afiyat*. The work should have started right away, but it is now three years since the building was acquired and there are still hurdles in the way. It is all on account of laxity and procrastination. May Allāh grant understanding to the management and enable them to work in accordance with the ground realities. Let us pray that by the next time we have permission to use *Baitul Afiyat* or have acquired some other place where everyone can be accommodated.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I had chosen another topic for today’s sermon, but instead I will speak about some members of the Jamā‘at who recently passed away. The character and qualities of these people were such as should be emulated by everyone. These qualities make them among the ones who have fulfilled the purpose of their lives and given preference to their faith over and above everything else.

The first is Professor Dr Ashfaq Ahmad Sahib who was martyred last Friday. He was the son of Sheikh Sultan Ahmad Sahib of Lahore. He was going for Juma’ah prayers in his car when he was shot at and killed by an opponent of the Jamā‘at. Ahmadiyyat was introduced into his family through his grandfather Sheikh Abdul Qadir Sahib. He was born in 1949 and acquired early education in Rabwah, and then went to Lahore where he completed his MSc Veterinary Science and was appointed as a professor. His father was a sub-inspector in Punjab Police. The deceased was very sincere and friendly and popular among both staff and students. Right from childhood he had the honour to serve the

Jamā‘at. He served as President and Nā’ib Zaeem-e-Aala of *Halqa Sabzazar*, Lahore. He looked after his wife in her long illness. He had no children, but had an adopted son who lived with him with his two children. His brother, Ilyas Sahib, who lives in Birmingham, says that the deceased taught his siblings the Salāt and its translation, he would take them to the mosque with him, and helped them with their education. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said, if everyone was to take their younger siblings to the mosque, the attendance could increase manifold. The deceased left behind six brothers and one sister.

The second deceased I wish to speak of is H. Nāsir-ud-Din Sahib, Missionary in-charge of East Godavari, India, who passed away on 7th April 2017 after drowning in the Godavari River at the age of 42. His father was the first Ahmadī in Kerala, and his mother was also one of the early Ahmadīs. He graduated from Jāmi‘a in 2000 and became a successful missionary. He looked after and trained his Jamā‘at with sagacity. His wife says that they had to live in a certain place where there was only a Jamā‘at centre, and so he would take his wife and children and lead the prayer and deliver the Dars.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: This is a lesson for all missionaries and life devotees. He led a simple life and did not acquire any furniture lest it should become a hurdle if he was transferred elsewhere. This is also an example for life devotees. Last year he was transferred to another place where he would walk one kilometre every day to teach the Holy Qur’ān. This is also an example for others. He also possessed the virtue of hospitality. He left behind his mother, wife, two sons, and two elder brothers. For the last 18 years he was serving in Kerala state. He was a scholar and a devotee and offered *tahajjud* prayer without fail. Every day he would also set aside time for office work. He was always looking after the needs of others. He studied the books of the Promised Messiah (a.s) regularly, which is a lesson for every missionary. He also wrote daily diary and acted completely upon whatever instructions came from the Khalīfa without resorting to excuses or explanations. He dearly loved the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the Promised Messiah (a.s).

The next deceased is Sahibzadi Amatul Waheed Sahiba, wife of Sahibzada Mirzā Khurshid Ahmad Sahib, Nazir-e-Aala and Amīr Muqāmi of Rabwah, Pakistan. She passed away at the age of 82. She was my paternal aunt, the granddaughter of the Promised Messiah (a.s), and the youngest daughter of Sahibzada Mirzā Sharif Ahmad Sahib. She had been suffering from cancer, but bore it with great patience and did not allow it to interfere with her day-to-day activities. She would perform all her duties without any fear. She took great care of her husband and their relationship was an exemplary one. Hospitality was her outstanding quality. She had a relationship of deep love and devotion towards Khilāfat. Despite being my elder, she was very humble in my presence. Hadrat *Khalīfatul Masīh II* (r.a) solemnized her Nikah on 26 December 1955. Allāh granted her six sons of whom four are life devotees. Two are doctors, one is in *Nazarat Taleem*, and one is a lawyer serving in *Mushire-e-Qanooni* office Rabwah. She served in Lajna in various capacities for 29 years. She had a refined taste in things. She also served as President of Lajna Rabwah for two years. Her husband Mirzā Khurshid Ahmad Sahib says that she fully fulfilled her role as the wife of a life devotee. She took great care in training her children. She was very kind to those in her service and their children. She recited the Holy Qur’ān regularly and observed her prayers punctually. She offered *tahajjud* prayer regularly from the age of 12. She brought up several

poor girls in her care and got them married. She also provided dowry for many girls. She had six daughters-in-law whom she cared for like her own daughters. Even in her days of illness she did her own work herself. My sister wrote that she would treat her workers with patience and forbearance. She was always eager to alleviate people's sufferings. She was also devoted to The Holy Qur'ān and Hadīth, and would openly speak out if she saw anything improper. She told one of her sons that after my becoming Khalīfa I was no longer her nephew, now I was only the Khalīfa. She had great trust in God. She also cared after her foster relations and particularly her foster sister. In short, she had many great qualities. May Allāh continue these qualities in her children, and may they too should remain devoted to Khilāfat. May Allāh grant her a lofty status in heaven. *Amīn.*

After the Friday prayer Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) led funeral prayer in absentia of all three deceased.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 20 April 2017