

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**The importance of Juma’a and the need to attend the Juma’a punctually. Let us make the virtues of Ramaḍān a permanent part of our lives.**

**Ramaḍān is a training camp. Fortunate are those who come under God’s refuge by offering prayers and keeping fasts.**

**One should never grow lax in the recitation of the Holy Qur’ān. This practice should continue even after Ramaḍān, along with other good deeds.**

On 23rd June 2017, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V* (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The month of Ramaḍān came and is quickly coming to an end. Despite the long days and hot weather, most people are saying that they did not find the fasting to be as difficult as expected. God, by His grace, has made it easy for us.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We need to do some introspection about what we achieved in these blessed days, for only then will we be able to fulfil the purpose of fasting. During these days, Allāh comes closer to His servants and hears their prayers; hence, we need to see what we did to reap Allāh’s blessings, and what pledges we made to follow divine commandments and overcome our weaknesses. If we became punctual in prayers only because of Ramaḍān and grow lax afterwards, we are not following God’s commandment. Ramaḍān is a training camp. The virtues we acquire in Ramaḍān should be continued and then taken to an even higher level in the following Ramaḍān. Allāh enjoins us to offer our prayers with care and attention and to safeguard the prayers that fall between our other activities and businesses.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ says that every prayer, every Juma’a, and every Ramaḍān becomes a source of salvation until the next prayer, the next Juma’a, and the next Ramaḍān, unless one commits a major sin. The Holy Prophet ﷺ says that anyone who skips three Juma’as continuously and intentionally, God seals his heart.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: There are a lot of misconceptions about the obligation of offering *Juma’a-tul-Wida*, while the fact is that every Juma’a is equally obligatory. Allāh says:

**“O ye who believe! when the call is made for Prayer on Friday, hasten to the remembrance of Allāh, and leave off all business. That is better for you, if you only knew.” (62:10)**

The Holy Prophet ﷺ says: “When the day of Friday arrives there are angels upon the door of every mosque to record the names of worshippers in the order in which they arrive and when the Imām starts to deliver the sermon they close their scrolls.” Huzoor said: Those who come late to Juma’a habitually should take heed from this. Juma’a is only obligatory for men; but if women also come to attend, it is a source of spiritual reward for them as well. Happy are those who do justice to their prayers, Juma’a and fasting and thus come under God’s protection.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Ramaḍān is also a month in which we are drawn towards the recitation of the Holy Qur’ān and everyone tries to complete its recitation at least once. Along with the importance of prayers, Allāh also says:

**“Verily, the recitation of *the Qur’an* at dawn is especially acceptable to God.” (17:79)**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said it is also important to read the translation of the Holy Qur’ān. The Promised Messiah (a.s) says, “Those who honour the Holy Qur’ān shall be honoured in heaven.” And, “Do not abandon the Holy Qur’ān, for in it is your life. Those who give precedence to the Holy Qur’ān above every other word shall be given precedence in heaven.” Thus we should never grow lax in its recitation and should continue it even after Ramaḍān along with other virtues. We are fortunate that Allāh has enabled us to pledge allegiance to the Promised Messiah (a.s) who has guided us to the right path.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah (a.s) exhorts us again and again to undergo a transformation. Until a person sincerely and truthfully closes all the unlawful doors to himself and spreads his hands before God, he is not worthy of receiving God’s help and succour. And when he comes to His door with cries and supplications, such a condition draws God’s help and grace. If a person’s heart is cleansed of selfish desires and darkness, the doors to mercy are opened for him; God takes him under His own protection and assumes the responsibility of providing for him. These are the standards we should constantly try to achieve.

What does the Promised Messiah (a.s) expect from us? He says that we should mould our lives according to the higher morals that Ramaḍān teaches us. Being elderly, we should have mercy on those who are younger. Being learned, we should advise and not scorn others. Being rich, should serve the poor and not be arrogant towards them. Fear God and keep aloof from the world. Hate every impurity and sin, for God is holy. Shun the path that leads to ruin. Adopt *taqwa*, do not worship God’s creatures, turn towards your Lord and lead your lives for His sake. Every morning should bear witness that you spent the night with the fear of God; and every evening should bear witness that you spent your day with the fear of God. Become straight and clean and pure. God wishes you to undergo a complete transformation. He desires from you a death after which He will give you a new life. Be quick to reconcile and forgive the sins of your brother. Let go of your ego in every matter, let go of mutual discord; being truthful, show humility like a liar, so that you may be forgiven. If you wish that God in heaven is pleased with you, become one like brothers from the same womb. The most honoured among you is the one who forgives his brother’s

sins; and unfortunate is he who remains adamant and does not forgive; he has no part in me.

The Promised Messiah (a.s) says: Beware of God's wrath, for He is Holy and has great sense of honour. A sinner cannot attain His nearness; an arrogant one cannot attain His nearness; a transgressor cannot attain His nearness; a cheat cannot attain His nearness; anyone who does not care for the honour of His name cannot attain His nearness; those who crave the world like dogs or ants or scavengers and find their comfort in the world cannot attain His nearness. Every impure eye is far from Him; every impure heart is unaware of Him. He who is in fire for His sake will be saved from fire. He who cries for His sake will laugh. He who withdraws from the world for His sake he will find Him. Become His friend with a sincere heart and with zealous devotion; then He too shall become your friend. Have mercy on your subordinates, your wives, your poor brothers so that heaven should have mercy on you. Become truly His so that He may become yours.

The Promised Messiah (a.s) says, "For mankind, there is no book on the face of the earth except the Holy Qur'an, and for all children of Adam, there is no Messenger and Intercessor but Muḥammad, the Chosen One. Endeavour to cultivate true love for that Prophet of dignity and majesty, and do not give anyone else any kind of preference over him, so that in heaven you may be counted as those who have attained salvation." "Do not think highly of your apparent pledge of Bai'at, for apparent Bai'at is nothing; God watches your hearts and will deal with you accordingly.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We should come out of Ramaḍān with the pledge that we shall lead our lives in accordance with the commandment of God and His Prophet. May Allāh enable us to do so. *Amīn*.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Mushtaq Zahrah Ṣāḥiba, wife of late Chaudhary Zahoor Aḥmad Bajwa; and Abdul Bakr Ṣāḥib of Egypt. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) led their funeral prayer in absentia after the Juma'a prayer.

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 Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 25 June 2017