

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

.....

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Visitors who come to the Jalsa listen to the teachings of Islām and witness the practical example of these teachings through the hospitality of the volunteers.**

**Guidance regarding hospitality. Everyone is a host in his own sphere.**

**Every officer should have a soft attitude, good morals, and patience to listen to harsh remarks, and should set high standards in terms of hospitality.**

On 21st July 2017, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul-Masih V* ایده اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Huzoor ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: God willing, Jalsa Sālāna UK will start from next Friday. Participants have already started arriving from other countries. As the Jalsa draws nearer, more people from UK towns and cities will start arriving. In addition to Aḥmadīs who come to the Jalsa to partake of its blessings, many non-Aḥmadī and non-Muslim friends also come to attend, and these include government officials, scholars, and other people of influence. Likewise, there is a growing participation by the media. The visitors keenly observe everything they see and are impressed by the work done by the volunteers. This opens new avenues for Tablīgh. Thus during the days of the Jalsa, all our volunteers, men, women, young and old are doing silent Tablīgh. Our message is broadcast on a very wide scale throughout the world via the media and press organisations. The press also gives coverage to the Jamā‘at when there are other events such as the recent terrorist attacks in Europe. They air interviews of our missionaries and thus we are being introduced widely in the world as the Jamā‘at that promotes the peaceful teachings of Islām.

Huzoor ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: God provides vast resources for spreading the message of Islām through the Jalsa. While Aḥmadīs try to grow in spirituality, non-Aḥmadī guests and members of the press listen to our teachings and witness the practical example of Islām’s teachings through the atmosphere of the Jalsa and the voluntary work done by Aḥmadī men and women. Thus the Jalsa is a major means for Tablīgh. The volunteers have a great role to play in this, and this should be borne in mind by worker and officers alike. While the attitude, diligence and hard work of a common worker invites God’s pleasure, it also impresses the guests. Officers should not only direct the workers but should themselves work with humility and keep their demeanour and their attitude soft.

Huzoor ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: The department of hospitality is of vital importance. Hospitality does not only include serving food and water and providing accommodation, but every department of the Jalsa is related to hospitality. Whoever comes to attend the Jalsa is a guest, and it is essential to take care of them and provide them with all the necessary amenities. The Promised Messiah

عليه السلام says, "I am always careful that no guest has any difficulty, and I am always exhorting that the guests should be made as comfortable as possible." "The heart of the guest is delicate like glass and can break at the slightest hurt." Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: We should always remember these teachings and provide comfort to the guests no matter how difficult it may be.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Every officer should have a soft attitude and good morals and the courage and patience to listen even to harsh things. If the officer shows patience, his assistant will do the same. And if the officer is harsh and severe, his assistants will behave in the same way. Every department should scrutinize itself from this standpoint.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Those responsible for accommodations should take special care to provide bedding for children. Even though it is summer, the weather can get cold at night, and the temperature at *Hadiqatul Mahdī* is normally four to five degrees lower than in London. Those who arrange for their own accommodation should see to it that it is appropriate in every way.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: When serving food to the guests, try to cater for their likes and dislikes. If you are unable to provide for them accordingly, then apologise in an appropriate manner and not in a harsh way that hurts their feelings.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: The plates that were used previously added chemicals to the food above a certain temperature, but this year the plates being used are made of a special material. Those serving food should be guided about their proper use.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Since the parking is at a distance, a shuttle bus service has been arranged to bring the guests to the venue. Therefore, guests should try to arrive in time.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Every department should train its workers with a view to providing maximum facilities to the guests. Those working in security and *khidmat e khalq* should be more vigilant than before and fulfil their duties while taking into account the self-respect of the guests. Help the guests in the process of card checking and scanning. Check everyone every time they enter, but they should not feel like they're being treated unfairly. The fact however remains that the Jalsa is a temporary arrangement and such arrangement cannot be totally free of mistakes and shortcomings. Still, we have to do the best within our capacity and our resources to provide the guests with the care possible.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Every participant of the Jalsa is a guest of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. Hence every guest has to be treated as a special guest. There is a department of supervision that draws the attention of departments towards their shortcoming, but every department officer should also appoint someone to supervise their own department. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام said: "The manager of the langar khana should take care of the guests' needs, but since he is alone and when he forgets, others should remind him."

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Rich and poor should be served alike. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, "Sometimes new people don't know about things. If they do not know where the toilets are, this can be very uncomfortable for them. Therefore, we should not give anyone occasion to complain because these people travel thousands of miles just to seek knowledge."

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Every volunteer of every department should exhibit the highest morals and should be able to bear even harshness from the guests. A

companion wrote, “In terms of hospitality, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام is a living example just like the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. Even the slightest discomfort of the guests would make him restless. He was very passionate and compassionate in serving his seiner companions.” Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: We should show a similar zeal in serving the guests of the Jalsa. It is said in a hadith, “For the day of judgment, three things are essential: firstly, to say something good or keep silent; secondly, to respect your neighbour; and thirdly, to honour your guest.” Thus honouring the guests is also a precondition to being a believer. The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم also used to wake up his guests for *Fajr* prayer. For this purpose there is the Department of *Tarbiyyat* who should wake up the guests for *Tahajjud* and *Fajr* prayers, but they should do so politely and respectfully. May Allāh enable all the volunteers to serve the guests of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام in the best manner.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā‘at of the sad demise of Sayyed Mir Muhammad Ahmad Sahib, son of late Hadrat Doctor Mir Muhammad Ismael Sahib رضی اللہ عنہ; and of Mahmooda Begum Sahiba wife of Chaudhry Muhammad Siddique Şāhib Bhatti and mother of Asghar Ali Bhatti Şāhib, who is a missionary serving in Niger. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) led their funeral prayer in absentia after the Juma’a prayer.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ to members of your Jama‘at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 27 July 2017