

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

He who is not willing to reconcile with his brother will be cut off. The more pious is the one who forgives his brother’s sin.

The Promised Messiah’s ^{عليه السلام} expectations from his Jamā‘at with regard to reconciliation in the light of his teachings.

We can be safe from the mischief and turmoil of the world only if we give priority to reconciliation even in matters where we are on the right.

On 18th August 2017, Ḥadrat *Khalifatul-Masih V* ^{ايدہ اللہ تعالیٰ} delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Ḥūzoor ^{ايدہ اللہ تعالیٰ} said: The Promised Messiah ^{عليه السلام} says in his book *Kashti-e-Nuh* (Noah’s Ark): "God desires a complete transformation in your being and He demands from you a death after which He should revive you. Hasten to make peace with one another, and forgive your brethren their sins. For he who is not inclined to make peace with his brother is wicked and will be cut off, because he is the cause of dissension.... Part with your ego in every way and do away with mutual grievances. Be humble like the guilty, though truth be on your side, so that you may be forgiven. Do not feed your vanity, for those who are distended with ego cannot enter the gate to which you have been called.... The one who forgives most the transgressions of his brother is the more honourable among you."

Ḥūzoor ^{ايدہ اللہ تعالیٰ} said: This extract is often read out in speeches and discourses. Many people also cite the Promised Messiah’s ^{عليه السلام} words that you should be humble like the guilty, though truth be on your side. And some say that despite showing such humility they continue to be wronged. In the last sermon, I spoke about some of the disputes that are settled by Qaḍā’.

Ḥūzoor ^{ايدہ اللہ تعالیٰ} said: These are the words of the Promised Messiah ^{عليه السلام} in which he has presented his teachings and expressed his expectations and his anguish with regard to his followers. When one reads *Kashti-e-Nuh* (Noah’s Ark), one is completely moved. And yet there are people who do not accept the extended hand of reconciliation and do not forgive. Some people adopt humility, but the other party continues to wrong them. If one party has truly adopted humility, as they say they have done, then they should rest their case with God. The Promised Messiah says that the aggressor shall be cut off. The Promised Messiah ^{عليه السلام} says that extremely unfortunate is the one who shows obstinacy and does not forgive.

Ḥūzoor ^{ايدہ اللہ تعالیٰ} said: Those who show such obstinacy should wake up and realize that they have pledged in the Bai‘at to the Promised Messiah ^{عليه السلام} not to create mischief, and yet they even refuse the hand of reconciliation. The Promised Messiah ^{عليه السلام} says, "Our Jamā‘at should be such that they do not remain

content with mere words, rather they should fulfil the true purpose of the Bai'at.” Again he says, “Without fulfilling the purpose of the Bai'at, God cannot be pleased. And in order to please God, it is important to fulfil our obligations to God’s creatures and to practice forgiveness and reconciliation.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, “I swear that if a person who has done everything in his power to oppose me comes to me seeking reconciliation, I will not once think of what he has done to me.” The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, “Remember two things: Fear God and show sympathy to your brother as you do unto your own selves.”

Hūzoor عليه السلام said: We should always remember that today when the world is engulfed by mischief and discord, we are protected under the canopy of our Bai'at to the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. Allāh has saved us from the kind of mischief generally prevailing in the world. But we can only be truly safe if even in our rightful matters we extend the hand of reconciliation. Otherwise our words will be mere claims. They will only benefit us if the high morals shine in our beings.

Hūzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Sympathy for mankind and reconciliation are two characteristics that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام repeatedly exhorts us about. He has spoken of it again and again in his *Malfoozat*. It is said in a Ḥadīth that the powerful and brave is not he who vanquishes another, rather than powerful and truly brave is he who is able to control himself in a state of fury.” Once Ḥaḍrat Ali رضی اللہ عنہ overpowered his opponent during a battle and was about to kill him when the enemy spat on his face. Ḥaḍrat Ali رضی اللہ عنہ at once left hold of him. When he asked why he had not killed him, Ḥaḍrat Ali رضی اللہ عنہ said that I do not want to kill you on account of personal grievance. These are the high moral standards set for us by our elders. Being willing to reconcile is the grace of a believer. The disbeliever cannot even think of such a thing. This is the trait of the believer that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام wishes to inculcate in us.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, “Our Jamā‘at does not require strong and powerful warriors, rather we want people who have the strength to undergo moral transformation. The truly brave is he who is able to affect a change in his moral character.” As the Promised Messiah عليه السلام was saying this, two non-Muslims came and started abusing and cursing. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام did not respond to them and did not allow anyone else do so either. Thus he showed a practical example of what he was teaching.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام has described selfishness as vermin which cannot be got rid of without the grace of God. They are extremely small and most dangerous. Even educated people and so called *Sufis* also suffer from such weaknesses.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, “To forgive and reconcile is natural. A child readily forgives and reconciles. Man can only understand this when he has wisdom. Without this wisdom one cannot even understand the philosophy of when to go to war and when to make peace.”

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that this can become a high moral trait when man analyses all the facts and then makes a decision and an effort to lay the foundation for reconciliation and employs it at its proper occasion.

Hūzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Allah teaches us اصلحو اذات بينكم (*reconcile among yourselves*. 8:2); and وان جنحو للسلام فاجنح لها (*reconciliation is the best way*. 4:129); and

(and if the other party is inclined towards reconciliation, then do reconcile 8:62); and

وعباد الرحمن الذين يمشون على الارض هونا

And the servants of the Gracious God are those who walk on the earth in a dignified manner; (25:64) and

واذا مروا باللغو مروا كراما

And when they pass by anything vain, they pass on with dignity; (25:73) and

ادفع بالتي هي احسن فاذا الذي بينك وبينه عداوة كانهولى حميم

Repel evil with that which is best. And, lo, he between whom and thyself was enmity will become as though he were a warm friend. (41:35)

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says, “The purpose of creating this Jamā‘at was that the tongue, the ear, the eye and every other organ should be steeped in *Taqwa*, and the light of *Taqwa* should shine within and without.”

Ḥūzoor ايدو اللوتعالى prayed that Allāh may enable us to act upon the teaching of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and to lay the foundation for reconciliation among mankind. May we have a true understanding of *Tauhid*. May we spread love and harmony in society. And may we seek God’s pleasure and may this be our ultimate priority.”

Please convey these guidelines given by Ḥūzoor ايدو اللوتعالى to members of your Jamā‘at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 23 August 2017