

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 prayer, its philosophy, its prerequisites and its blessings in the words of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام.

Prayer is akin to death after which one is given a new life. Prayer is our weapon.

Participants of Jalsa Sālāna Qādiān should try to experience in their prayers and Nawafil the state of deep anguish, and the whole Jamā‘at should pay attention towards it.

On 29th December 2017, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul-Masīḥ* V أيده الله تعالى delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Ḥūẓoor أيده الله تعالى said: By the grace of Allāh, Jalsa Sālāna Qādiān has started from today. We pray to Allāh that the three days of Jalsa pass in peace and security and the participants may attain the purpose for which they have come to the Jalsa. This purpose is to pray before Allāh, to improve their practice and knowledge, to strengthen their relationship with Allāh, and to give special attention to prayer under the influence of the spiritual atmosphere of the Jalsa. Your prayers should not be confined to yourself but should include the progress of the entire Jamā‘at. Seek Allāh’s help and support to be saved from the schemes of Jamā‘at’s enemies who want to harm the Jamā‘at in many parts of the world. And pray for Muslims in general. It is our duty to pray for the eradication of those groups and governments who are carrying out atrocities in the name of Allāh and the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. Those who have gathered in the dwelling place of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام should keep these objectives in mind. Also pray for the fulfilment of the objectives for which the Promised Messiah عليه السلام was sent.

Ḥūẓoor أيده الله تعالى said: Pray for the world as a whole that Allāh may grant them wisdom and save them from calamities. The world today stands in dire need of the prayers of the followers of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. I ask those gathered in Qādiān in particular and Aḥmadīs in general to pray that Allāh may grant Muslims the understanding that there is no salvation or peace for them unless they accept the one who has been sent by God. May Allāh grant them this understanding as they enter the new year.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: Prayers are not accepted unless the hearts are pure. Prayers are not accepted as long as one holds a grudge against anyone even in worldly matters. For the acceptance of prayers it is of the utmost importance that we forget our personal injuries. A pathetic and painful heart is precondition for the acceptance of prayers. Ḥūẓoor أيده الله تعالى said: In view of the spiritual atmosphere in Qādiān during these days, try to imbue your prayers with heartfelt sympathy. Even when walking around in Qādiān, spend your time in prayers rather than indulging in frivolous things. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام

says: Do not imagine that mere verbal utterance is prayer. Prayer is akin to death after which one finds a new life. The one who supplicates is like one who is dead, for he puts an end to his person and his ego. When a prayer is effective it draws grace and blessings to itself. Another thing the Jamā‘at must avoid is frivolous talk. If we purify our tongues, God comes to our doorstep, and once He has entered the doorstep then no wonder if He comes in as well. Sin is a poison that does away with the fear of God and His love. Do not ever stop praying. It is only through prayers and repentance that one finds success. A man should keep praying even when he is not in any difficulty.

Describing the qualities of believers, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: When one seeks help from God with such determination and single-mindedness as to experience deep anguish and fervour, then the door to success is opened. Two loves cannot coexist. If you love God, you will also be given the world; but you will not find God if you simply pray for the worldly matters.

Hūzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Prayers are accepted when we give up our own comforts for the sake of God. There are three categories of people: Those who put themselves in hardships, those who are moderate in their efforts, and those who excel in good deeds. We should try to be among the third category that is we should try to excel in good deeds. It is of no use to remain at the same stage. See, water that remains stagnant ultimately turns bad. Hence we should always keep moving forward.

Hūzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: For the acceptance of prayers it is essential to keep progressing, because God’s help is with those who do not stand still. There are people who start off with zeal and fervour, but they do not move any further and often end up badly. Many are tried on account of women and children. The first trial that came upon Adam was on account of a woman. Often women and children become cause of hardships and trials. Therefore, we should try to reform them and to pray for them. We should also try to inculcate righteousness in our next generation and pray for them.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: Once a ship in a storm was saved on account of the prayers of a godly person, and God revealed to him that the ship had been saved on his account. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: My advice is to make yourself an example for others. Unless one becomes like angels, how can it be said that one has been purified. Blessed are those in chains but do not tire of praying, for one day they shall be released. Blessed are you who pray and do not tire.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: Our Jamā‘at should be an example for others. If a person’s life is as impure now as it was before he pledged the Bai‘at, then it is a great error, for it gives the enemy cause for criticism. Allāh saves millions for the sake of one person. Our only weapon is prayer and we should hold fast to it. It was never said that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام would take up the sword, rather it is written that he would work through prayers. All our objectives can only be achieved through prayer. Allāh says time and again that everything will happen through prayer alone. Prayer is a great weapon. That which we pray for in secret is manifested by God in the open. If our prayers reach a certain level, the liars will at once be vanquished. Prayer is the weapon for the victory of Islām and it is the weapon that the followers of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام have to take up. This alone will bring us out of our difficulties and vanquish the enemy. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام offered the following prayer for the

Muslim ummah: يا رب اسمع دعائى فى قلوبى وتضرعى فى اخوتى (O God, hear my prayers for my people and my supplications for my brothers).

Ḥūẓoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ prayed that may Allāh open the eyes of the Muslim *Ummah* so that they may desist from opposing the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and instead become his helpers. May Allāh enable us to pray for the achievement of all the objectives for which the Promised Messiah عليه السلام was sent. Those attending the Jalsa in Qādiān should particularly focus on their prayers and bring about a transformation in themselves. *Amīn*.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 4 January 2018