

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**It is only Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya that as a community burdens itself to make financial sacrifices for spreading the faith, for helping the poor, and showing the world the beautiful face of Islām.**

**Announcement of the 61st year of Waqf-e-Jadīd. Pakistan came first, followed by UK, Germany and USA.**

**Faith inspiring instances of God’s favours upon those who makes financial sacrifices for His sake.**

On 5th January 2018, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfa-tul-Masīh* V ابوہ اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

After reciting verse 273 of surah Al-Baqarah, which is as follows:

وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَلِأَنْفُسِكُمْ

**“And whatever of wealth you spend, it is for yourselves” (2:273)**

Huzoor ابوہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: It is a sign of a believer that he spends for the sake of Allāh, and blessed are those who do so with this intention. Today there is no one on the face of the earth, except Ahmadīs, who make sacrifices for the sake of earning Divine pleasure. Perhaps there are also other individuals who do so, but as a community it is only Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya which makes financial sacrifices for the sake of spreading the faith, helping the needy and informing the world of the true and beautiful face of Islām. It is recorded in a Ḥadīth that Allāh said to the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم: O son of Adam, keep your wealth with me and become secure. I will return all your wealth to you on the day you shall need it. That is to say, whatever we spend in the path of Allāh is saved in our account and will be returned to us by Allāh when we stand in need of it.

The Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم says: On the day of judgement, those who spend in the way of Allāh will be under His shade until the reckoning is complete. God does not like wealth that is accumulated through unlawful means. He only accepts the wealth that is earned through hand work. A companion of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم says: Whenever we were asked to make financial sacrifices, we would go to the market and do some labour and contribute whatever we earned. It is said that when Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr رضی اللہ عنہ accepted Islām he had 40,000 gold coins along with his business and he made a pledge to give it all for the cause of faith. He continued to do so and at the time of the Hijrah he was left with only 500. Such is the example of the Companions who had nothing but still laboured to earn a few cents in order to make contributions; while those who had abundance spent without fear of becoming penniless.

Huzoor ابوہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: Among the companions of the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul Masīh* I رضی اللہ عنہ made tremendous financial sacrifices. Likewise, Ḥaḍrat Dr

Khalīfa Rashid-ud-Din Sāhib رضى الله عنه immediately pledged Bai'at when he heard of the Promised Messiah's عليه السلام claim and was always foremost in making sacrifices, so much so that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام once assured him that he had made so much contribution that he was not required to make any more. But he still continued to make financial sacrifices despite the Promised Messiah's عليه السلام assurance. At the time of the lawsuit in Gurdaspur, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام appealed for funds for its expenses and also to cover the increasing expenditure of Langar Khāna, upon which Khalīfa Rashid-ud-Din Sāhib رضى الله عنه sent him 450 rupees that he had received as salary the same day. Someone asked him why he didn't keep something for his household expenses, and he answered how could he keep that money when the Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that it is needed by the faith.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ cited further instances of the financial sacrifices made by the Companions of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and said that, by the grace of Allāh, such examples continue to be seen in the Jamā'at even today, and we witness countless such instances every year. According to norm, the new year of Waqf-e-Jadīd is announced on the first Friday of January every year. In this context I will relate some faith-inspiring examples of how Allāh blesses people on account of these sacrifices and how this leads to the strengthening of their faith. Members make financial sacrifices with great zeal and follow in the footsteps of the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم who used to go to the market and do manual work and pay everything they earned as Chanda.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: The Khuddam of a Jamā'at in Burkina Faso worked together to lay down the fibre cable and gave all the money they earned, equal to 1250 pounds, towards Chanda Waqf-e-Jadīd. A brother from Burkina Faso says that he was going on a journey at a time when the crop was about to be harvested. He instructed his children that when the harvest is complete they should give 10% of it as Chanda. But when he came back home he found that they had not done so. He then ordered all the harvest to be taken out of the house. When the harvest was again brought into the house after deducting the Chanda, it did not seem to have decreased at all but even seemed to have increased. Such is the example of people living thousands of miles away.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ also cited some examples of people's difficulties being removed and their faith being strengthened. Yaqub Sāhib from Ivory Coast says: There was a time when I did not pay Chanda and was always in difficulties. For the last three years, I have been paying Chanda and everything has changed. My harvest is good and my children are doing well. Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: This spirit is to be found even among the new converts to Aḥmadiyyat. For example, a new Aḥmadī from a village in Tanzania says: I used to be lax in paying Chanda and my financial situation was not good. But when I understood the meaning of spending in the way of Allāh, my life changed. The crop that used to yield eight to ten bags now produces up to fifty-six bags. This is the reward of spending in the way of Allāh. He said that he was also building a guesthouse for the Jamā'at.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: People in extreme poverty also make financial sacrifices and God blesses them. Amīr Sāhib of Gambia writes that when an appeal was made for Chanda, a lady said that she did not have any money but that she had a hen which had been gifted to her by a friend and this she gave in Chanda. Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: Such examples are also found in the time of Ḥaḍrat Muṣleh Mau'ud رضى الله عنه.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: A brother from Gujarat, India sold his refrigerator in order to pay Chanda. Similarly, an inspector of Waqf-e-Jadīd in India writes: While I was

touring UP, a brother said that his circumstances were strained and that I should come for Chanda the next morning. His daughter was listening to this. She brought the money she had saved for buying shoes in winter and offered it as Chanda. Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: I have said before that we should be mindful of people who are in difficulty and not accept Chanda from them even if they want to pay. The Jamā‘at should take care of such people.

Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: While these examples reveal how people are making sacrifices for the sake of their faith, they also serve as a testimony to the truth of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. May Allāh cause the Jamā‘at’s faith and conviction to grow and they may continue to grow in their spirit of making sacrifices.

Giving details of the past year’s sacrifices, Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: by the grace of Allāh, the 60th year of Waqf-e-Jadid has ended and the 61<sup>st</sup> year has started from 1st January. During this year, the worldwide Jamā‘at contributed 8.862 million pounds towards Waqf-e-Jadīd, which is an increase of 842,000 pounds from the previous year. After Pakistan, which is always in the first position, the top ten positions are as follows: UK, Germany, USA, Canada, India, Australia, a Middle Eastern Jamā‘at, Indonesia, a Middle Eastern Jamā‘at, and Ghana. In terms of local currency, Canada has made significant progress. Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: The main thing is to increase the number of contributors. The number of contributors is more than 1.6 million, with 268,000 new members participating during this year. Pakistan and Canada have done a lot of work with regard to Chanda *Balighan*. Within Pakistan, the first three positions were taken by Lahore, Rabwah and Karachi respectively. Among the districts, Islamabad stood first, followed by Rawalpindi, Sargodha, Gujarat, Umarmot, Hyderabad, Mirpur Khas, Dera Ghazi Khan, Kotli Azad Kashmir and Quetta. The top ten Jamā‘ats in Pakistan are Islamabad City, Township Lahore, Gulshan Iqbal Karachi, Samanabad Lahore, Rawalpindi City, Azizabad Karachi, Delhi Gate Lahore, Mughalpura Lahore, Sargodha City, and Dera Ghazi Khan City. In Daftar Atfāl, Lahore came first, followed by Karachi and Rabwah respectively. After naming the positions within various other countries, Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ said: May Allāh bless the lives and possessions of all those who have made these sacrifices. May Allāh increase their faith abundantly and may their every word and deed be in keeping with His will. *Amīn*.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ informed the Jamā‘at of the tragic death in an accident of Ali Gohar Munawar, son of Wajih Munawar Ṣāhib from Aldershot, UK. His grandmother was also injured in the accident. May Allāh grant her full recovery and may Allāh bless his parents and make up for their loss. Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ led the funeral prayer of the deceased after the Friday prayer.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 10 January 2018