

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

.....

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Extracts from the Friday Sermon, 26 January 2018

The Philosophy of Prayer

Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīḥ V ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ **says:**

On one occasion while outlining the philosophy of prayer, the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام said that when a child cries and wails due to hunger, the milk floods into the mother’s breast. The child doesn’t even know the meaning of prayer, and yet its cries draw the milk. Sometimes a mother doesn’t even feel milk in her breast, and yet it immediately flows upon hearing the cries of the child. This being so, will our cries and supplications before Allāh not draw His blessings? They will definitely do so, but the blind ones who pose as philosophers and scholars cannot see. If we reflect on the philosophy of prayer through the analogy of the mother and the child, it becomes very easy to understand.

Rain appearing as a result of the prayer of an Aḥmadī Mu‘allim

Naḥzir Da‘wat Ilallāh Qādiān writes that the Amīr Ṣāḥib of Hoshiarpur reports that a few years ago the people of the village were very distressed because of severe drought, and even the village-well was almost dried up. This reached such a point that the Hindus of the village asked our Mu‘allim Ṣāḥib to pray. They believed that if he prayed, rain would come. Mu‘allim Ṣāḥib first spoke about the Islāmic etiquette of prayer and the attributes of God and then he prayed. Allāh accepted his prayer and, by His grace, heavy rain started falling within a few hours. Thus God gave proof that He listens to prayers. This incident had a positive impact on the village and people admitted that the rain had been the result of the prayers of Aḥmadīs.

Rain as a result of prayer in Tuvalu, Fiji

The Amīr Ṣāḥib of Fiji Islands writes that before he went on a tour of Tuvalu, the missionary there told him that this small island close to Fiji had not had rain for a long time and its inhabitants depend on rain water. So he asked me to pray for rain. When we reached Tuvalu the people expressed a lot of worry and said that the water had almost dried up. On that day at Isha we announced that the last *sajdah* would be devoted to prayer for rain. Allāh accepted our prayer and it rained that night and several times after that. This was despite the fact that the meteorological department had predicted a long dry spell. Wherever we went, people said that the rain had come on account of our prayer. Even the Bishop of the Catholic Church and a Chief of the Funafuti tribe said that it was the result of the prayers of the Jamā‘at and of the Khalīfa that had caused the rain.

End of torrential rain as a result of prayer

Hafiz Muzammil Ṣāḥib, the missionary in Bandundu says that he, along with a local Mu‘allim and two Khuddam, were on the way to a village when heavy

downpour started and it seemed impossible to move any further because of the slippery road. We stopped at one place and prayed, O Allāh, we are going to spread the message of your Messiah, have mercy on us and remove all the obstacles in our path. People were already gathered in the village waiting for us. Allāh heard our prayer and the rain suddenly stopped even though it had seemed that it would continue till evening. We had been very worried, but with God's blessings we were able to reach the village in time and start our teaching and Tablīgh program.

Stopping of Rain on the occasion of planting a peace tree

Wahab Tayyeb Ṣāhib a missionary in Switzerland writes: The Jamā'at bought a piece of land for building a mosque in Zuchwil and organized a program where guests were invited for planting a tree as a symbol of peace. Heavy rain was predicted on that day, and since this was an outdoor program, this was a cause for worry. We also wrote to Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ for prayers. On day of the event, heavy rain started and there were no signs of it abating anytime soon. But on account of the prayers, Allāh caused the rain to stop an hour before the program was to start and the sun came out. The president of the local council was amazed and said that it seems you have had the weather made to order for this occasion. We told him that we had prayed for this and had asked our Khalīfa to pray and we were sure Allāh would help us. Thus the program was a success and the Jamā'at was introduced through local newspapers.

The birth of a child to a new Aḥmadī as a result of prayer

Mr Mateen, a Mu'allim from Benin writes: A few days ago a new Aḥmadī friend came and asked me to come to his house as his wife was very ill. I went there with my wife and found that his wife was prone to going into premature labour and had already lost two children. She was in a state of agony and had high temperature. I said that in such circumstances we offer supplications along with medical treatment, and we also write to our Imām requesting him for prayer. However, at this moment there was not enough time. Thus invoking the names of Allāh the Exalted as well as the name of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم, I started the prayer. After I finished the prayer, I recited Sūrah Al-Fātiḥah and blew upon some water and gave it to the lady. Allāh the Exalted not only protected his wife but also blessed them with a boy. By the grace of Allāh the Exalted, the belief in God of this new convert grew even stronger and his faith in prayer also increased. He has now himself started praying with humility and anguish.

Miraculous healing of Mr Dawood as a result of prayer

The missionary from Belgium writes: Mr Dawood was very ill and was admitted to hospital. His liver, lungs and kidneys had failed. He also suffered a heart attack while in hospital and was put on the ventilator. Soon afterwards the doctors said that they could not do anything more for him. Upon this, the family asked the Jamā'at for assistance in arranging his funeral. I wrote to Huzoor ايدو اللہ تعالیٰ for prayer and started praying myself along with the Jamā'at. The next day when we went to visit him along with Ṣadr Ansārullāh and Secretary Tablīgh, the doctor said that a miracle had taken place and that the medicine that the body had hitherto not been accepting had started to work and he was starting to recover. We said to the doctor that this miracle was a result of prayer on account of which Allāh had granted him a new life.

How prayer solved the difficulties of a new Aḥmadī asylum seeker in Germany

Hafeezullah Bharwana Ṣāhib, a missionary in Germany, writes: I met Mr Ihsan, a new Aḥmadī of Lebanese origin, and he told him about his difficulties regarding his asylum. The police had told him that he could be expelled at any moment. However, his faith was strengthened when God showed a miracle, and even though the police thought his asylum request would be rejected and he would have to go back, his request was in fact accepted and he was granted asylum for three years. He is very happy and tells everyone about how God showed this miracle on account of prayers.

Some preconditions to the acceptance of prayer

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that instances of the acceptance of prayer are found in the laws of nature. It is under this law that God sends living examples in every age. If we want to become living examples of the acceptance of prayer, we first have to fulfil some preconditions. Some people say that they prayed but their prayer was not answered. They should remember that prayer has some pre-conditions. The first precondition to prayer is righteous deeds and faith. He who does not correct his beliefs and does not do good deeds and does not strive to improve his condition, such a person in fact tests God through prayer. Thus while it is important to strengthen our faith and belief, it is also important to mould our actions according to Divine commandments.

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 Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 01 February. 2018