

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Extracts from the Friday Sermon by Hadrat *Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ delivered on 16 March 2018 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.**

**The High Station of the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ**

**Our Imam, *Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh V* ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ May Allah be His Helper, says:**

Regarding the high station of the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ, the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام says, “The Companions are a luminous proof of the life history of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. Whoever ignores the proofs in fact ignores the Holy Prophet’s ﷺ Prophethood. Only he can truly value the Holy Prophet ﷺ who values his Companions. He who does not honour the Companions does not honour the Holy Prophet ﷺ. Such a person would be false in his claim to love the Holy Prophet ﷺ, for it is impossible that one should love the Holy Prophet ﷺ and yet be antagonistic towards his Companions. These Companions were the people who never abandoned him and did not hesitate even to lay down their lives in his path. They were so lost in obedience to the Holy Prophet ﷺ that they were ready to bear any hardship for him. Huzoor ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: This is the station of the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ that every Ahmadī should bear in mind. We realize the true status of the Companions when we read about their lives and their practical examples. And this should remind us their lives, their obedience, their worship, are all examples that we should try to follow in our own lives.

**Hadrat Abu Dujana Ansari رضی اللہ عنہ**

Abu Dujana Ansari رضی اللہ عنہ was a companion who incurred severe injuries while defending the Holy Prophet ﷺ in the Battle of Uhud, yet he did not retreat one step. It is related that once when the Holy Prophet ﷺ raised his sword and said, “Who will do justice to this sword today?”, Hadrat Abu Dujana رضی اللہ عنہ came forward and swore that he would do justice to the sword. Seeing his zeal and passion, the Holy Prophet ﷺ gave him the sword. Then he summoned the courage to ask, “Holy Prophet ﷺ, how can I do justice to this sword?” The Holy Prophet ﷺ said, “It will not shed the blood of any Muslim, and no enemy will be safe from it. It should be used against those disbelieving enemies who harbour enmity and wage war against Islām. When he took hold of the sword and came to the field of battle walking somewhat stiffly, the Holy Prophet ﷺ said, God Almighty does not like a show of bravado like this under normal circumstances, but today the way Abu Dujana رضی اللہ عنہ strode into the field of battle, has pleased Him. He was martyred while fighting against Musailma Kazzab in the battle of Yamama. Musailma had barricaded himself inside a fort and to force open the gates, Hadrat Abu Dujana رضی اللہ عنہ came up with a plan. He told his men to hoist him over the wall, as the fort had a high wall. However when he was hoisted over the wall, the fall broke his leg, but despite that he fought

bravely and opened the castle gate and Muslims entered the fort. He displayed astounding bravery and valour, and was killed fighting like this.

### **The hospitality and compassion of Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari** رضي الله عنه

Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رضي الله عنه was one of the earlier companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. He had the honour of hosting the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم in Medina during the early days [of Hijra]. Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari's رضي الله عنه house had two floors. Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رضي الله عنه lived on the upper floor and the entire ground floor had been given to the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. One night, when he was on the upper floor, a large earthen jar that used to hold water broke. Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رضي الله عنه and his wife spent the entire night mopping up the water with a quilt. The next day they narrated the incident to the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and requested that The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stays on the upper floor. The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم acquiesced to their request. The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stayed with him for six or seven months and he tried his best to discharge his duty as a host during that time. He used to eat the food leftover by the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. According to traditions, where they saw the imprints of Holy Prophet's صلى الله عليه وسلم fingers, they would eat the leftover food from there.

The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم married the daughter of one of the Jewish elders who was killed in the battle of Khyber. When the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم came out of his home to offer the Fajr prayers the day after the marriage, he saw Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رضي الله عنه standing guard. He said that the relatives of Hadrat Safia رضي الله عنها have been harmed at our hands, and some of them have been killed as well, so it occurred to me that someone may try to instigate something trying to seek revenge, therefore I came to stand guard. At this, the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم prayed for him thus: O Lord! Keep Hadrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رضي الله عنه under thy protection; keep him safe, just as he stood guard over me the whole night. This prayer for safety and security that the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم had prayed for him resulted in his participating in a number of battles and then coming back victorious. He was blessed with a long life.

### **Hadrat Abdullah Bin Rawaha** رضي الله عنه

Hadrat Ibn e Abbas رضي الله عنه relates that the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم sent his companions on an expedition and Hadrat Abdullah Bin Rawaha رضي الله عنه was among them. It was Friday and all others had already departed, but Hadrat Abdullah Bin Rawaha رضي الله عنه thought that he would stay back a while to say his Friday prayers with the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and then go after them and catch up with them. When the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم saw that he was in the mosque, he inquired as to what had stopped him from departing with his companions? He replied that it was his heart's desire to say the Friday prayers with the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and hear the Friday sermon and then he would go after them and meet the company on its way.

The Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said that even if you spend all that is in the earth even then (It must be kept in mind that here obedience is paramount) you will not be able to get the reward of those who left for the expedition early in the morning just as they were commanded. Traditions say that after this, Hadrat Abdullah Bin Rawaha رضي الله عنه was always the first to volunteer for any battle or expedition and was the last to return to Medina.

### **The sacrifice of Hadrat Ma'az** رضي الله عنه **and Ma'uz** رضي الله عنه

Hadrat Abdur Rahman bin Auf رضي الله عنه narrates when the actual battle (of Badr) started I looked to my right and left; I was surprised to see that I was flanked by two youngsters from the Ansaar. I was a bit sad at seeing them, because in such kinds of

battle a person relies on his flanking partners and only that person can fight efficiently whose flanks are protected. Hadrat Abdur Rahman صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم says that while he was thinking as to how these children would be able to cover me one of them asked me quietly, as if he was trying to hide his conversation from the other fellow, “Uncle , where is Abu Jahl who used to persecute the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم in Mecca?” The boy said that he had made an oath to Allāh that he would kill him or die trying. Hadrat Abdur Rahman رضی اللہ عنہ says that before he could reply the other one quietly asked the same thing from the other side. I was astonished at their boldness, for Abu Jahl was like an army commander surrounded by seasoned warriors. Hadrat Abdur Rahman رضی اللہ عنہ pointed out Abu Jahl with his hand. He says that as soon as he had pointed him out the two youngsters pounced like a hawk and tearing through the enemy lines they got to him in an instant. So swift was their attack that Abu Jahl and his company were left dumbfounded, and they felled Abu Jahl to the ground. Ikrama Bin Abu Jahl was with his father. Even though he was unable to save his father, he attacked Ma’az from behind and cut into his right arm that barely hung on. Ma’az then pursued Ikrama but he was able to get away. As the hanging arm was preventing him from fighting effectively Ma’az tore it off and then again started fighting. It was the sense of honour of their faith and their love for the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم that had made these boys fearless.

### **I want to see the example of the Companions in my Jama’at**

The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام says, I want to see the same example of the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم followed in my Jamā‘at, that is, they should give preference to the Almighty God and no need of their own should be a hurdle in their way. They should attach little worth to their wealth and lives. I find better sent by some people saying they have incurred losses in trade or business or have faced some other trials, and they at once star entertaining doubts as to whether they have made a mistake in accepting the Promised Messiah علیہ السلام. The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام says in case of such doubts about religion and God Almighty, everyone can understand how far they are from their real objective and goal and what difference there is between them and the companions of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم. The Companions of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم wanted the pleasure of the Almighty God, no matter what kind of hardships they had to bear to achieve it, and if someone among them did not undergo any hardships or if these hardships were delayed: such a person would wail and cry. For the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم thought that facing hardships would grant them nearness to God Almighty. The Promised Messiah علیہ السلام says they had realized that the treasure of divine pleasure and approbation lay under these trials and tribulations.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 22 March 2018