

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 delivered by *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 20 July 2018 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

The Companions expressed their love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessing be upon him) in wonderful ways and were always seeking to receive blessings from him.

A description of some of the Companions who took part in the Battle of *Badr*: *Ḥaḍrat Khallād bin Rafe‘ Zuraqī* (May Allāh be pleased with him), *Ḥaḍrat Hartha bin Suraqa* (May Allāh be pleased with him), *Ḥaḍrat Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and *Ḥaḍrat Sawad bin Ghaziyyah* (May Allāh be pleased with him)

***Ḥaḍrat Khallād bin Rafe‘ Zuraqī* (May Allāh be pleased with him):**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: *Ḥaḍrat Khallād bin Rafe‘ Zuraqī* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a Companion of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) from among the *Ansār*. He was of the fortunate ones who were part of the Battles of *Badr* and *Uhud*. Allāh had granted him a large progeny. *Ḥaḍrat Mu‘āz bin Rifā‘a* (May Allāh be pleased with him) quotes his father as saying: Me and my brother *Khallād bin Rafe‘* were mounted on a feeble and weak camel accompanying the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) to the Battle of *Badr*. When we reached the place known as *Barīd*, the camel became completely exhausted and sat down. We prayed to God and made a pledge that if we could return to Medina on the camel we would sacrifice it. We were in this state when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) came along and asked what was wrong. When we told him the story, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) performed *ablution*, added his saliva to the water that was left, and poured it into the camel's mouth, on its head, neck, shoulders, hump and tail. Then He prayed, “O Allāh, carry *Rafe‘* and *Khallād* on this ride”. He says that we then continued to travel on the camel, and when we met the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) at the place called *Mansaf* our camel was ahead of all the caravan. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) saw us and smiled. The camel's weakness had completely disappeared through his prayer. We continued to travel and reached *Badr*. On the way back from *Badr*, when the camel collapsed again at the place called *Musallā*, my brother slaughtered it. We distributed its meat and gave it in alms in keeping with the pledge we had made.

***Ḥaḍrat Hartha bin Suraqa* (May Allāh be pleased with him):**

Ḥaḍrat Hartha bin Suraqa (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a Companion of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) who died in the second year of the *Hijra* during the Battle of *Badr*. His mother *Rubayy‘i bint Nazr* (May Allāh be pleased with her) was the paternal aunt of *Ḥaḍrat Anas bin Mālik* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He had accepted Islām along with his mother before the *Hijra*. His father had

passed away previously. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had established brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat *Hartha bin Suraqa* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Sāib bin Uthman bin Maz'ūn* (May Allāh be pleased with him). *Abu Naeem* relates that Ḥaḍrat *Hartha bin Suraqa* (May Allāh be pleased with him) took great care of his mother, so much so that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that when I entered paradise I saw *Hartha* therein. He was martyred on the day of *Badr* by *Habbān bin 'Areqah* who hit him with an arrow while he was drinking from a pond. The arrow hit Ḥaḍrat *Hartha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) on the neck resulting in his martyrdom. Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was walking when he came along a young man and asked him, "O *Hartha*, in what state did you wake up this morning?" He said, "I woke up with true and firm belief in God this morning." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "What are you saying, there has to be a truth to everything." The young man said, "O Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) of Allāh, my heart has grown cold to the world. I stay up all the night and remain thirsty during the day (meaning that he prayed at night and kept fast during the day), and it is as if I can behold the Divine Throne with my physical eyes. As if I can see the dwellers of the paradise who are meeting each other, and I can see the dwellers of hell who are making a lot of noise therein." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "Remain steadfast upon this, for you are a man whose heart has been illumined with faith by God." He said, "O Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) of Allāh, pray for my martyrdom." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) did so, and on the day of *Badr* when the horsemen were called out he was the first to come out and the first horseman to be martyred. It is said that he was the first among the *Ansār* to be martyred at *Badr*.

Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) is another Companion of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). He was known by the *kuniyah* of *Abu Bishr* and *Abu Rabī'*. He hailed from Banu *Abdul Ashhal* tribe and had only one daughter who had died. He pledged *bai'at* in Medina at the hand of Ḥaḍrat *Mus'ab bin Umair* (May Allāh be pleased with him) ahead of Ḥaḍrat *Sa'd bin Mu'āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Usaid bin Huzair* (May Allāh be pleased with him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) established brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and *Abu Huzaiifa bin 'Utbah* (May Allah be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) in all the battles, including *Badr*, *Uhud* and *Khandaq*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) assigned to him the task of managing the bounty of war during the battle of *Hunain*, and appointed him in-charge of his own security during the battle of *Tabuk*. He was counted among the eminent Companions. Ḥaḍrat *Ayesha* (May Allah be pleased with her) says that there are three Companions from among the *Ansār* who could not be surpassed by anyone else, and these were Ḥaḍrat *Sa'd bin Mu'āz* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat *Usaid bin Huzair* (May Allah be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He was martyred in the battle of *Yamama* at the age of 45. He was also part of the journey to *Hudaibiya*. He was a very dependable person and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) put a lot of trust in him.

Once during the battle of *Zātur Riqā'* the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) set up camp for the night and a strong wind was blowing. The Holy

Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) asked who would keep guard for him at night. Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Ammār bin Yasir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) stood up and said that they would do so. They then sat on the top of the valley and kept watch. Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said to Ḥaḍrat *Ammār bin Yasir* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that he would keep guard the first part of the night and *Ammār* could go to sleep. And so Ḥaḍrat *Ammār* (May Allāh be pleased with him) went to sleep and Ḥaḍrat *Abbād* (May Allāh be pleased with him) stood up to pray. At that moment a man from *Najd* who had been following the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) with the intent of harming him came close and saw the silhouette of Ḥaḍrat *Abbād bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him) on the hill. He then shot him with an arrow which became embedded in Ḥaḍrat *Abbād's* (May Allāh be pleased with him) body. He extracted the arrow and threw it away and kept praying. The same happened with the second arrow. And then when he shot the third arrow, Ḥaḍrat *Abbād* (May Allāh be pleased with him) started to lose a lot of blood and woke up Ḥaḍrat *Ammār* (May Allāh be pleased with him). When *Ammār* saw how badly *Abbād* had been injured, he asked why he had not awaken him earlier, to which Ḥaḍrat *Abbād* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said that in his prayer he had been reciting *Surah Al-Kahf* and he was so engrossed in it that he did not want to end the prayer. Such was the immersion of the Companions in their worship.

Ḥaḍrat *Sawad bin Ghaziyyah* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

Ḥaḍrat *Sawad bin Ghaziyyah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was also a Companion from among the *Ansār*. He belonged to *Banu 'Adi bin Najjār* tribe and was part of *Badr, Uhud, Khandaq* and other battles. In the battle of *Badr*, he had had taken *Khalid bin Hishām Makhzūmi* as a captive. According to one Ḥadīth, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) sent him to *Khaibar* as a Collector, and when he returned from there he brought with him some very high quality dates. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) liked those dates and bought a quantity of these from him in exchange for double the amount of common dates.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) narrated an incident related to Ḥaḍrat *Sawad* (May Allāh be pleased with him) which demonstrated his love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), and said that the Companions had wonderful ways of showing their love for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). They were always looking for ways to express their love for him and to attain the blessings of his company.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed: May Allāh continue to raise the spiritual status of these stars of the spiritual world, and enable us to love the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) in the same way. *Amīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your *Jamā'at*.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 26 July 2018