

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 Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 24th January 2020 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Companion of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) about whom I will speak today is;

Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him):

His father’s name was *Rawāha bin Tha’laba*. His mother was *Kabsha bint Wāqid bin ‘Amr* and she belonged to *Banu Harith* clan of *Ansār’s* tribe *Khazraj*. Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him) participated in the *Bai’at* at *Aqabah*. He was the chief of *Banu Harith bin Khazraj*. He was known by the epithet *Abu Muhammad*, or *Abu Rawāha*, or *Abu ‘Amr*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) established bond of brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah and Ḥaḍrat *Miqdād* (May Allāh be pleased with them). According to *Ibn-e-Sa’ad*, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) acted as a scribe for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him). He accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) in all the battles, including *Badr*, *Uhud*, *Khandaq*, *Hudaibiyah*, *Khaybar* and *‘Umratul Qadā’*. He was martyred in the Battle of *Mautah* in which he was one of the commanders.

It is reported that one day Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him) was coming to the mosque when he heard the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) tell the audience to sit down. Hearing this, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) immediately sat down even though he was still outside the mosque. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) learnt of this, he said, “May Allāh increase you in your obedience to Allāh and His Messenger.” A similar episode is also reported with regard to Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin *Mas’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: It is narrated that Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him) would be the first to depart for battles and the last to return. Ḥaḍrat *Imām Ahmad* writes in his book *Kitāb-uz-Zuhud* that whenever Ḥaḍrat ‘Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) met a friend, he would say, “Come, let us take a little time to revive the memory of our faith in Allāh.” It is written in the same book that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) once said, “May Allāh have mercy on *Ibn-e-Rawāha*, for he loves company that angels take pride in.” After the Battle of

Khaybar, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) sent Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) there to make an estimate of the fields and fruits.

It is reported that once Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him) fell very ill and became unconscious. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) came to see him, he prayed, "O Allāh, if this is the time that has been ordained for him, then make it easy for him. And if it is not, then grant him health." Thereafter Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) felt some relief from his fever and said, "O Prophet of Allāh, during my illness I saw in dream that my mother was crying, 'O my mountain, O my support!' Then I saw an angel carrying a whip and he asked me whether I was really what she was saying, and I said 'Yes', whereupon the angel hit me with the whip." According to another account, which seems more accurate, he said, "I saw an angel carrying a whip and he asked me whether I was as my mother was saying—which implied idolatry—and if I had said 'Yes', he would surely have hit me."

Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah (May Allāh be pleased with him) was also a poet and he would respond to the insults of the infidels through his verses. Some of his verses are translated as follows: "I have recognized the excellence in your holy person and Allāh knows that I have not been deceived. You are a Prophet. Anyone who is deprived of your intercession on the Day of Judgement will surely be rendered worthless by Divine destiny. May He help you as He helped other Prophets."

On the occasion of the Battle of *Mautah*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) appointed Ḥaḍrat *Zaid bin Haritha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as the commander. He then instructed that if *Zaid* was martyred, Ḥaḍrat *Ja'afar bin Abu Tālib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) would take his place; and if he too was martyred, then Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him) would take his place; and if he was also martyred, then the Muslims could choose whomsoever they liked as their commander. When the troops were ready to depart, the people came to bid farewell to the commanders. When they said farewell to Ḥaḍrat 'Abdullah bin Rawāha (May Allāh be pleased with him), he started to weep. When asked the reason for this, he said, "By God, I have no love and longing for the world, it is just that I have heard the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) recite this verse;

وَأَنْ مِّنكُمْ إِلَّا وَارِدُهَا كَانَ عَلَىٰ رَبِّكَ حَتْمًا مَّقْضِيًّا

"And there is not one of you but will come to it. This is a fixed decree with thy Lord." [19:72]

Therefore, I do not know what will become of me upon traversing the bridge *As-Sirat*." The Muslims said, "Allāh shall be with you and He shall bring you back to us safely."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) and the Ahadith shed light on this matter which is briefly summed up in a footnote of *Tafsīr-e-Saghīr*. Hell is of two kinds; one is of this world and the other is of the hereafter. When it is said that everyone will go to hell, it does not mean that even believers will go to hell, rather it means that the believers get their share of hell in this world from the disbelievers in form of torture and trials. The believers,

however, will never go to hell in the hereafter because the Holy Qur'an says regarding them;

لَا يَسْمَعُونَ حَسِيسَهَا

“They will not hear the slightest sound thereof.” [21:103]

Thus, for a believer to be in hell only refers to the hardship he suffers in this world. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) says that even fever is a part of hell's fire for believers.

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) informed people about the martyrdom of Ḥaḍrat *Zaid*, Ḥaḍrat *Ja'afar* and Ḥaḍrat *'Abdullah bin Rawāha* (May Allāh be pleased with them) even before any news came from the battlefield. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, “*Zaid* took up the banner and was martyred; then *Ja'afar* took up the banner and was martyred; then *'Abdullah bin Rawāha* took up the banner and he too was martyred.” As he said this, tears flowed from his eyes. Then he said, “Then the banner was taken up by one of the Allāh's swords and finally through him Allāh granted victory.”

At the end of the sermon *Huzoor* (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the *Jamā'at* about the sad demise of Dr *Latif Ahmad Qureshi Sahib*, son of *Manzoor Ahmad Qureshi Sahib* and spoke about his outstanding qualities and services for the *Jamā'at*. By the grace of Allāh, he was a *Mūsī*. He was born in *Ajmer Sharif* in India. In 1937, his father had pledged *Bai'at* at the hand of Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau'ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Dr *Latif Sahib* served at *Fazl-e-Umar Hospital* in *Rabwah* for 30 years until the age of 60. Apart from being a devoted doctor, he also served in various capacities in *Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya* and *Ansārullah*. He was also member of *Majlis-e-Iftā'*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: He left behind three sons and two daughters. His son Dr *Ata-ul-Mālik* writes, “Ever since I was a child I had never seen my father miss the *Tahajjud* prayer. Our mother used to tell us that she had known him to offer *Tahajjud* prayer regularly from the first day of her marriage.” He was very kind and compassionate towards his patients and very caring for the poor. He would not charge any fee to the patients who did not have money, and sometimes would give them money. He always said that healing is in the hand of God. He often reminded his three children who are doctors to regularly pray for their patients.

Dr *Latif Sahib* also took great care of his parents. To his last day he fed his mother himself and took care of her every need. His mother who lived with him is still alive. He disliked ostentation and lived a simple life. He wrote to *Khalīfatul Masīh* for guidance and prayer on every matter, whether big or small. He punctually attended *Jalsa Sālāna Qādiān* and *UK* every year. He was very hard working. Even on the day of his demise, he had seen patients from 9:00 to 1:00 in his clinic. At 1 p.m. he came home, performed ablution and was preparing to go to *Mubarak Mosque* for prayer when he suffered a sudden heart attack and passed away.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Dr Sahib was also very considerate of his neighbours. He had a taste for literature and poetry. He had the honour to serve the Companions of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). He was with Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masih III (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) during his last illness in Islamabad, Pakistan.

May Allāh have mercy on him and forgive him. May Allāh give courage to his children who lost both their parents within a few days. May the virtues of the parents continue in their progeny. May Allāh have mercy on his mother who is still alive.
Amīn.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 29 January 2020