

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadīyya,

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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 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at Mubarak Mosque Islamabad, Tilford, UK.**

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 *Abu Talha Ansāri* (May Allāh be pleased with him):**

His real name was *Zaid*. He was the chief of *Khazraj* tribe. He was known by the epithet *Abu Talha*. His father’s name was *Sahl bin Aswad* and his mother was *Ubādah bint Mālik*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) accepted Islām at the hands of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) on the occasion of the second Bai‘at at *Aqabah*. He accompanied the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) in all the battles, including *Badr*. When Ḥaḍrat *Abu ‘Ubaidah bin Jarrah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) migrated to Medina, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) established a bond of brotherhood between him and Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was of medium height and fair complexion and never dyed his hair or beard. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the stepbrother of Ḥaḍrat *Anas bin Mālik* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that on the occasion of the Battle of *Uhud* when the Muslims suffered a temporary setback and many of the Companions dispersed, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) remained with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) protecting him with his shield. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was an archer who pulled so hard on his bow that he broke three bows on this occasion. When anyone passed by who had a quiver, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) would tell him to give it to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Whenever the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) lifted his head to look, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) would say, “May my father and mother be sacrificed for you, do not raise your head lest you are hit by an arrow. I am here to protect you with my chest.” Ḥaḍrat *Anas bin Mālik* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) protected the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) with his shield, and when he shot an arrow the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) would look up to see where it landed. A verse is also attributed to Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) which is translated as follows:

“My face is here to protect your face, and my life is to be sacrificed for your life.”

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates: The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) asked Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to find him a boy that may assist him during his journey to *Khyber*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh

be pleased with him) took me to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and I was nearing adolescence at that time so I could not be of much help to him. Often when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) disembarked, I would hear him pray, "O Allāh, I seek your refuge against helplessness and laxity and miserliness and cowardice and the burden of debt and the harshness of the people."

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates: We were with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) when he was returning from 'Uṣfān. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was riding on his camel and Ḥaḍrat *Safīyyah* (May Allāh be pleased with her) was riding behind him when at once the camel stumbled and they both fell to the ground. Upon this, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) jumped up and said, "O Prophet of Allāh, my life be sacrificed for you." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "See to the lady first." Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) covered his face with a cloth and came to Ḥaḍrat *Safīyyah* (May Allāh be pleased with her) and put the same cloth on her to cover her. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) steadied and saddled the camel, and then both of them mounted the camel.

When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) reached the heights of Medina, he started saying, "We are returning, repentant, worshipping our Lord, and praising Him." He continued saying these words until he entered Medina. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) then said that *Abu Talha's* voice was louder than that of all others put together.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) passed away in 34 AH and Ḥaḍrat 'Uṭhmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) led his funeral prayer. He was 70 years old when he passed away. According to the people of *Basrah*, he passed away during a sea voyage and was buried on an island.

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) would not observe voluntary fasting during the life of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) lest he lose his physical vigour for Jihād. But after the Holy Prophet's (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) demise, I did not find him without fasting except on the day of *Eid-ul-Fitr* or *Eid-ul-Adha*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the incident whereby Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him), his wife and his family went without food in order to serve a guest of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). The next day the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) told him that Allāh was pleased by his act and revealed the verse;

وَيُؤْتِرُونَ عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِهِمْ وَلَوْ كَانَ بِهِمْ خَصَاصَةٌ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

*"but prefer others to themselves, even though poverty be their own lot. And whoso is rid of the covetousness of his own soul — it is these who will be successful."*(59:10)

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that once when the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had his hair cut, Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was the first to take a hair lock out of the hair.

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) owned more date-palm orchards than anyone else and that his most beloved orchard was called *Bairuhā'*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) often came there and drank of its clean water. Later when the verse was revealed;

“Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love,” (3:93)

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) stood up and said, “O Messenger of Allāh! The most beloved to me of my property is *Bairuhā* orchard, and I offer it as charity in the way of Allāh. I am hopeful that Allāh will accept this good deed and it will be held in store for me. You may make use of it however you like.” The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) said, “It is a very beneficial property and I have heard what you said but I deem it most proper that you distribute it among your close relatives.” Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, “O Messenger of Allāh! I shall do exactly as you have commanded.” And so he distributed it among his relatives and the sons of his uncle.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him) also had the honour that upon the demise of a daughter of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him), he descended into the grave and laid the body in the grave.

Ḥaḍrat *Anas* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that at the time of the Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) demise, there was one man who used to dig simple graves and one who used to dig a grave with a niche (*lahd*). The Companions decided to pray and call both of them and use the one who came first. The message was then sent to both and the first one to come was the one who would dig the graves with a niche, and that is how the Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) grave was dug. Commenting upon this, *Allāma ibn-e-Sirīn* writes that the one who dug the grave with a niche was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Talha* (May Allāh be pleased with him), and the one who would dig simple graves was Ḥaḍrat *Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā’at about the sad demise of a veteran servant of the Jamā’at, *Babu Muhammad Latif Sahib Amritsari*, son of Ḥaḍrat *Mian Noor Muhammad Sahib* (May Allāh be pleased with him), a Companion of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). He was the younger brother of the renowned missionary *Maulana Muhammad Siddiq Amritsari Sahib*. His services for the Jamā’at span over 62 years. For 53 years he served in the Private Secretary Office Pakistan in various capacities. He was very adept at his work and had keen interest in religious knowledge and study of the Jamā’at’s literature. During the time of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh III (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) and also afterwards he did great service of organizing Majlis-e-Shūrā. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday Prayer.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 06 February 2020