

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 22nd May 2020 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

At the start of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) thanked all Ahmadīs who had prayed for Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) after he incurred some injuries as a result of a fall. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: It was because of the acceptance of your fervent prayers that Allāh, by His grace, caused the wounds to be healed much quicker than was expected. I had said to the doctor treating me that, regardless of the treatment, the most important factor were the prayers and supplications being offered by Ahmadīs. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that he had treated the wounds with *Marham-e-’Īsa* and the homeopathic cream *Calendula*, and was mentioning this because these medicines could be of use to others as well. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) asked the Jamā‘at to pray for full recovery from the remaining effects of the injuries.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the current situation, it becomes even more important to turn towards God. Ramadān is coming to an end and governments are also considering easing the lockdown. As the lockdowns are eased, Ahmadīs should try to abide by the conditions outlined by the governments. The fact that we are now able to go out and attend to our jobs and businesses and that Ramadān is coming to an end should not put an end to or decrease our worship and the good deeds we have been doing. We should continue to offer prayers regularly at home as long as we are not allowed to congregate in mosques, and when this restriction is lifted we should make it our foremost duty to attend the mosques. Women should pray regularly at home so that their children should follow their example. Also watch MTA programs as much as possible.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: These days many people are debating whether the current Coronavirus pandemic is a natural occurrence or a sign of God’s displeasure. Instead of wasting our time on such speculations, we should realize that this is the age of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) and that Allāh has and will continue to fulfil all the promises He made to the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). If this calamity has an aspect of Divine displeasure, then it is the foremost duty of a believer to fearfully and fervently pray for the strengthening of his or her faith. All the natural calamities that we see today are linked to the age of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). We should, therefore, pray for our faith to be preserved and strengthened and for the world to be saved. Allāh had clearly foretold the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) about the sign of plague, and yet the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) fervently prayed that Allāh may save mankind from this epidemic. Thus, his compassion for mankind was foremost in his mind. We too should follow his example.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Some people are trying to relate today's pandemic to Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh IV's (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) article "*Natural Calamities or Divine Scourge?*" I have said before that the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) had clearly foretold an increase in natural calamities in this age. As I said in my last sermon, there is no doubt that even believers might become victims of such calamities, but their status is that of martyrs and their end is a noble one. Also, according to the words of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), when believers die as a result of such calamities, this paves their way to paradise.

The article written by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh IV (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) is a long one. While reading it our attention is drawn to what befell people of the past and what constitutes a calamity and what does not. All this should make us aware of the need to undergo personal transformation. More importantly, however, Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīh IV (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him) says that these calamities contain both a warning and a glad-tiding for the Jamā'at. The warning is that the mere name of Ahmadiyyat will not be enough to save anyone, and that *Taqwa* is the prerequisite for salvation. The glad tiding is that, as a result of these calamities, Ahmadīs will strive to overcome their shortcomings and those who consider the *Bai'at* as a mere verbal pledge will return to the true teaching of Ahmadiyyat. Thus the glad tiding is that Ahmadīs will be drawn towards God.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: During these days we can also bring people closer to God by serving humanity. We should always bear in mind the lesson of sympathy and compassion which Ramadān teaches us.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Everyone should try to wake up for *Tahajjud* prayer and also offer the five-time daily prayers punctually. Repent of everything that displeases God. *Tauba* (repentance) means to shun all that leads to misdeeds and invites the displeasure of God, and to forgo ahead with *Taqwa*. Inculcate good-manners and replace anger with humility and meekness. Along with reforming your moral condition, give in charity as much as possible.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: Foster brotherhood and love and let go of conflict and inhuman behaviour. Keep away from all kind of frivolity and mockery. Treat one another with respect. Give preference to the comfort of a brother over your own. Become truly reconciled with God and obey Him. God's wrath is descending upon the earth; only those will be saved who turn completely away from their sins and turn to Him.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: You should be among those loved by God. Remove all mutual discord and enmity, for now is the time for you to give up petty quarrels and become engaged in great things. People will oppose you, but you must not respond with severity, rather speak to them with civility and politeness.

On one occasion, the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) said: Being kind and compassionate towards human beings is an act of worship and a powerful means of attaining nearness to Allāh. People show a lot of weakness in this regard. They consider others to be inferior and mock them. Helping people who are in difficulty is a great virtue, but I am afraid that those who do not help the poor and treat them with derision might themselves fall prey to the same tribulations. The best way to show gratitude for Allāh's bounties is to be kind to

God's creatures instead of being arrogant. God wills that we have no personal enemies. Remember that a person only achieves true piety when he has no personal enemy.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: These days there is an upsurge of antagonism against Ahmadīs in Pakistan and other countries. In these circumstances we should employ all the means of seeking God's mercy and blessings.

The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) says: By creating this Jamā'at Allāh has willed to prepare a group of people as the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had done, and that these people would bear witness to the truth and magnificence of the Holy Qur'ān and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) in the latter days.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Pray for Ahmadīs who have been imprisoned for their faith. Recently an Ahmadī lady by the name of *Ramadan Bibi* was imprisoned in Pakistan on charges of blasphemy against the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). May Allāh have mercy and grant her miraculous liberty.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: May Allāh enable us all to realize the purpose of the Promised Messiah's advent. May the love of Allāh and His Prophet remain superior in our hearts. May we follow the true teachings of Islām. May our households be models of love and harmony. Some children are worried on account of disputes between their parents, may Allāh remove their difficulties. Pray for all life-devotees that Allāh may enable them to serve the faith selflessly and to do justice to their pledge of devotion. Pray for *Waqifin-e-Nau* and the families of the Ahmadī martyrs. Pray for all Ahmadīs who are facing difficulties. Pray for those making financial sacrifices in the current circumstances. May Allāh bless their lives and their possessions abundantly. Pray for the volunteers of MTA. Pray for the Muslim world that they may overcome their disputes and they learn to live in peace. May Allāh protect Islām from the evil schemes of Anti-Muslim powers, which can only happen if Muslims put an end to their differences.

At the end of his Sermon Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) read out some prayers, some of them which are as follow:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَجْعَلُكَ فِي نُحُورِهِمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شُرُورِهِمْ۔

“We take You as a shield against whatever is in their (enemy's) heart. We seek protection against every evil of theirs and its dangerous effects.”

يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ ثَبِّتْ قَلْبِي عَلَى دِينِكَ۔

“O the Converter of Hearts, make my heart steadfast on Your faith.”

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ الْهُدَى وَالتَّقَى وَالتُّقَى وَالعِفَاتِ وَالعِفَى۔

“O Allāh! I beseech for guidance, piety, chastity and contentment.”

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنفُسَنَا وَإِن لَّمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ۔

“Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves; and if Thou forgive us not and have not mercy on us, we shall surely be of the lost.” (7:24)

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ۔

“Our Lord, let not our hearts become perverse after Thou hast guided us; and bestow on us mercy from Thyself; surely, Thou alone art the Bestower.” (3:9)

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ۔

“Our Lord, grant us good in this world as well as good in the world to come, and protect us from the torment of the Fire.” (2:202)

A prayer taught by the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) is as follows:

“O Lord of all the worlds! I cannot express enough gratitude for Your favours. You are ever so Merciful and Gracious. You have bestowed innumerable favours upon me, forgive my sins lest I perish. Grant me such pure love for You in my heart so that I am given a new life and conceal my faults. Enable me to do such deeds which please You. I seek refuge with Your Holy Countenance from incurring Your wrath. Have Mercy upon me, have Mercy upon me, have Mercy upon me! Save me from the tribulations of this life and the hereafter for every kind of Grace and Blessing is in Your hands. Amīn.”

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

O Allah, bestow Your favours upon Muhammad and upon the progeny of Muhammad as You bestowed Your favour on Ibrahim and upon the progeny of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious. O Allah, bless Muhammad and the progeny of Muhammad as You blessed Ibrahim and the progeny of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: This is the last Friday of this Ramadān. May Allāh enable us to continue the good deeds we have practiced during this month. May Allāh accept all the above prayers on our behalf.

With regard to Eid, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: If the moon is visible from any part of a country, then Eid can be celebrated in that country on that day. Moon-sighting committees in Muslims countries follow this rule. After giving the matter full consideration, I have decided that Eid here will be celebrated on Sunday, the 24th May 2020.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 27th May 2020