

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 24th July 2020 from Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* (May Allāh be pleased with him) took part in the Battles of *Badr*, *Uhud*, *Khandaq* and *Khyber*. He was also present during the Treaty of *Hudaibiyyah* and the Conquest of Mecca. He was a great archer.

In *Rabi-ul-Awwal*, 2 AH, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) sent out sixty camel riders to forestall any attack by the Meccans. At *Thaniyyatul Marrah* they encountered 200 men under the command of *Ikrama bin Abu Jahl* and there was some exchange of arrows from both sides. Two men from among the idolaters escaped and joined the ranks of the Muslims.

In *Jamādiul Ūla*, 2 AH, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) sent a group of eight *Muhajirīn* under the command of Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* towards *Kharrār* for surveillance.

In *Jamādiul Ākhar*, 2 AH, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) sent a party of eight *Muhajirīn* under the command of his cousin Ḥaḍrat *‘Abdullah bin Jahash* (May Allāh be pleased with him) to find out about the movements of *Quraish*. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) gave Ḥaḍrat *‘Abdullah bin Jahash* a sealed letter with instructions to open it after completing two days’ journey from Medina. The letter contained instructions on how to find information about the activities of *Quraish* in the valley of *Nakhla*, which is located between Mecca and *Taif*. While they were on the way to *Nakhla*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad* and *‘Utbah bin Ghazwān* (May Allāh be pleased with them) lost their camel and separated from their group trying to look for it. With regard to this incident, Mr Margoliouth, the orientalist, alleged that the two Companions intentionally let their camel run away so that they could stay behind. In answer to this, Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Ahmad Sahib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: Of the two brave Companions in question, one was martyred at *Be’ir Ma’ūnah* and the other participated in countless battles and finally conquered Iraq. To raise such objections about such valiant men can only be lot of Mr Margoliouth.

While this small party of Muslims was busy doing their work in *Nakhla*, they were confronted by a small *Quraish* caravan and things came to such a pass that the Muslims attacked the caravan, as a result of which one of *Quraish’s men* was killed and two were taken prisoners. When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) was informed of the attack, he expressed great displeasure and said that he had not given them permission to fight during the sacred month. He also refused to partake of any of the spoils from this fight. The Meccans also protested this attack and demanded the return of their men. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) waited for the return of Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad bin Abi Waqās* and Ḥaḍrat *‘Utbah* before releasing the captives.

Before the Battle of *Badr*, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) sent forth Ḥaḍrat 'Ali, Ḥaḍrat *Zubair bin Al-'Awām* and Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* (May Allāh be pleased with them) for reconnaissance. They caught an Abyssinian slave and brought him to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) asked him where the army of the Meccans was camped and he said that they were camped behind a certain dune. When asked about the number of fighters, the man said that he had no idea. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) asked him how many camels were slaughtered for food, the man replied that ten camels were slaughtered every day. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that, in that case, there must be one thousand men, and this later proved to be the case.

In the Battle of *Badr*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* was on foot and yet he fought as valiantly as the horsemen. This is why he is known as *Fāris-ul-Islām*, or the Warrior of Islām.

In the Battle of *Uhud*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* was among the handful of Companions who stood steadfastly with the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) despite all the confusion. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) would himself pass arrows to Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* and he would quickly shoot them at the enemy. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said, "My parents be sacrificed; keep shooting the arrows." To his last day, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* prided himself on these words.

During the Battle of *Uhud*, *'Utbah*, who was Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad's* brother and was fighting for the enemy, attacked the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and broke his teeth. When Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* heard of this, he was consumed by the fire of revenge and zealously searched for his brother so that he could kill him. He only stopped after the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) forbade him from doing so.

During the Battle of *Badr*, an infidel by the name of *Hibbān* shot an arrow at Ḥaḍrat *Umm-e-Aiman* (May Allāh be pleased with her) who was serving water to the injured. The arrow hit her on the navel and *Hibbān* started laughing. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) gave an arrow to Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* to shoot, and it hit *Hibbān* right on his throat. It is reported that Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* shot a thousand arrows during the Battle of *Uhud*.

Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās* was one of the Companions whose signature appeared on the Treaty of *Hudaibiyyah* as a witness. On the day of the Fall of Mecca, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* carried one of the three flags of *Muhajirīn*.

On one occasion, Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* fell seriously ill. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) came to see him and asked about his will. Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* said that he would give all his wealth in the way of Allāh. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) forbade him from this and said that he should give at most one-third of his wealth as *Sadaqa*.

The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) never hunted animals himself but some Companions would hunt for him. It is reported that during one expedition Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* hunted a deer for the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). When *Sa'ad* was about to shoot the arrow, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) placed his chin on his shoulder and prayed, "O Allāh, may *Sa'ad* never miss his mark."

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Arabia had two powerful neighbours: the Romans and the Persians. A great part of Iraq was under the control of Khosrow. The famous victories of Qādisiyyah (Iraq) and Nahāvand (Iran) were won under the command of Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās*.

During the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him), the campaign of Iraq had remained limited, but when Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) became Khalīfa he once again focused on it. Around this time, Khosrow's grandson Yazdegerd ascended to the throne and he had brought together all the Persians. In these circumstances, Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) appealed to all the Arab factions to unite and come out for Jihād and said that he would personally lead the campaign. However, Ḥaḍrat *'Ali* and other eminent companions suggested that he should not lead the campaign himself. Ḥaḍrat *'Abdur Rahmān bin 'Auf* suggested that the command be given to Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad bin Abi Waqās*. Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, "He is a brave man and an excellent archer." When Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* reached Iraq and gathered his troops, they numbered about 30,000.

In the battle of Qādisiyyah that was fought in 16 AH, the army of Assyrians numbered about 280,000 and they were led by Rustam. Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* sent Ḥaḍrat *Mughīra bin Shu'ba* to the opposing camp to invite them to Islām, but Rustam treated him with great contempt. Ḥaḍrat *'Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) then instructed Ḥaḍrat *Sa'ad* to send a delegation to the Persian king to invite him to Islām. When the delegation came to Yazdegerd, he rejected their invitation and gave them a sack of dust, "You will not get any more than this!" The leader of the delegation took the sack and when leaving the King's court shouted to his companions, "Today the King of Iran has handed us his land with his own hands." Hearing this, the King ordered his men to bring the Muslims back but by this time they were far out of reach.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) spoke about the sad demise of some members of the Jamā'at.

1. *Bushra Akram Sahiba*, wife of *Muhammad Akram Bajwa Sahib*, Nazir Ta`limul Qur`ān and *Waqfe Arzi*, Rabwah, Pakistan, passed away on 25th March at the age of 66.
2. *Iqbal Ahmad Nasir Sahib Pirkoti* passed away on 14th July at the age of 82. One of his sons, *Akbar Ahmad Tahir*, is serving as Missionary in Burkina Faso.
3. *Ghulam Fatima Fahmida Sahiba*, wife of *Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib* of Azad Kashmir, passed away on 18th July at the age of 72. Three of her sons are life-devotees. *Muhammad Javed Sahib* is serving as missionary in Zambia.
4. *Muhammad Ahmad Anwar Sahib Hyderabad* passed away on 22nd May at the age of 94.
5. *Saleem Hassan Al Jābi of Syria* passed away on 30th June at the age of 92.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may have mercy on them all and grant them a lofty station in heaven. *Amīn*.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(For) Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 29 July 2020