

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadīyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 2nd April 2021 from Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today I will continue to speak about Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a very chaste and modest person. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) said: “The most merciful in my Ummah is *Abu Bakr*; the one who adheres most strongly to the religion of Allāh is *‘Umar*; the most shy and modest is *‘Uthmān*; the best judge is *‘Ali bin Abu Talib*; the best in reciting the Book of Allāh is *Ubayy bin Ka‘ab*; the most knowledgeable of what is lawful and unlawful is *Mu‘ādh bin Jabal*, and the most knowledgeable of obligations is *Zaid bin Thabit*. And every nation has a trustworthy guardian, and the trustworthy guardian of this Ummah is *Abu ‘Ubaidah bin Jarrah*.”

Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) was so humble that he would arrange for his own ablution at night and not wake up any servant to help him. His generosity was such that there had never been a Friday since he accepted Islām when he had not freed a slave. Even while his house was under siege, he freed twenty slaves. Once, when the Muslims were facing severe hunger during a battle, Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) sent to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) nine camels laden with food. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) was very pleased with this and prayed: “O, Allāh! Grant abundance to *‘Uthmān*. O, Allāh! Bestow your grace and bounty upon *‘Uthmān*.”

Ibn-e-Sa‘eed bin Yarbu’ relates: When I was a child, I was once playing in the mosque and I saw a handsome old man lying there with a piece of brick under his head. I was looking at him with amazement when he opened his eyes and asked who I was. He then ordered a boy to bring a dress and a thousand dirhams and gave them to me. When I told my father about this, he told me that this person was none other than *Amīr al-Mu‘minīn*, Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān bin ‘Affān (May Allāh be pleased with him).

During the Kerman expedition, an army of four thousand Muslims faced great difficulties due to rain and flooding. When the Amīr of the army, *Qatan bin Auf Hilali*, announced a reward of one thousand dirhams for a soldier who would cross the difficult terrain, the whole army was motivated and they all crossed it. Thus, they all were given a total of four million dirhams. However, when the matter reached the Governor, he refused to give out the money and wrote to Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) about the matter. Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) replied, “Give the money to *Qatan*, for he has only helped the Muslims in the way of Allāh.”

Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) had also the honour of writing down the revelations of the Holy Qur’ān. Ḥaḍrat ‘Ayesha (May Allāh be pleased with her) narrates that on a very hot night while *Jibrīl* revealed the Holy Qur’ān to the Holy Prophet

(May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him), Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān sat with him and wrote it. God would only grant such honour to one who was truly worthy and honourable.

Transcripts of the Holy Qur’ān were collected at the time of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). When Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) passed away, these transcripts were in the possession of Ḥaḍrat *Hafsa bint ‘Umar*. Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him), fearing that the different readings of the Holy Qur’ān might create discord, asked for all the transcripts to be brought to him. He then instructed Ḥaḍrat *Zubair*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa’eed bin ‘Ās* and Ḥaḍrat *‘Abdul Rahmān bin Harith bin Hishām* to make copies of the transcripts that were in keeping with *Quraish* dialect. He then dispatched these copies to all Muslim lands.

Commenting on the verse of the Holy Qur’ān;

سَنُقَرِّئُكَ فَلَا تَنْسَى

“We shall teach thee the Qur’ān, and thou shalt forget it not,” (87:7)

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said: This means that this book shall forever remain safe and unaltered. The proof of this claim is that even the most staunch opponents of Islām admit that to this day the Holy Qur’ān has been preserved in the same form in which it was presented by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him). Noldeke, Springer and William Muir all agree that no scripture, other than the Holy Qur’ān, can be said to exist today exactly as it was presented by the founders of their religions.

Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfatul Masīh I* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: People commonly refer to Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) as the ‘Collector of the Holy Qur’ān’ which is not accurate, rather it is more accurate to say that he was the ‘Publicist of the Holy Qur’ān’.

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau’ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says: By the time of Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him), Medina had been the long-standing capital of the Muslim world; therefore, all the different tribes living there had become integrated. There was a large community of *Muhajirīn* and the people of Medina had also learned Hijazi Arabic dialect of the people of Mecca. Since the people of Medina were the rulers, people of other lands learned Islām from them and the literary tongue of the whole country became unified. Wars also contributed to uniting the various tribes. The desire to copy and follow the example of the Companions was a consolidating factor. Intellectuals and scholars at the time had become fully acquainted with the language of the Holy Qur’ān. Therefore, Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him) ordered that only Hijazi style of recitation should be used in future.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today the Shiites object to this and say that the present Qur’ān is ‘Uthmān’s Collection’, but this is completely wrong. By the time of Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with him), a long time had passed since the Arabs had become acquainted with each other's dialects. The fact is that the Holy Qur’ān was revealed in the Hijazi language and the recitations began to differ only after the conversion of other tribes to Islām. Because of the difference of diction and dialect, one tribe did not understand some words in the same way as others did, therefore, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) gave permission to change the way some words were pronounced or to use alternate words, as directed by Allāh. In the time of Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān

(May Allāh be pleased with him), when the tribes had gathered under one nation and one language had become dominant and most people had become acquainted with the Hijazi language, he decided that to keep the different recitations anymore would result in discord. Therefore, he stopped the use of all other recitations.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) appealed for prayers for the Aḥmadīs of Pakistan and Algeria. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may remove their difficulties. In Pakistan, the law has been used to create difficulties for Aḥmadīs at various times and now they do not enjoy any freedom at all. Similarly, some government officials continue to create problems in Algeria.

Afterwards, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) announced the launch of a website of the Chinese Desk. This website will provide detailed information about Islām and Aḥmadiyyat in Chinese. May this website be a source of guidance for the Chinese people and open their hearts to Islām and Aḥmadiyyat.

Thereafter, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā‘at about the sad demise of some members of the Jamā‘at and announced to offer their funeral prayer in absentia after the Jumu‘a prayer:

1. *Muhammad Yunus Khalid Sahib*, Aḥmadiyya missionary, passed away on 15th March at the age of 67.
2. *Dr. Nizamuddin Boodhun Sahib* of Ivory Coast passed away on 15th March at the age of 73.
3. *Salma Begum Sahiba*, wife of *Dr Raja Nazeer Ahmad Zafar Sahib*, passed away on 24th January at the age of 85.
4. *Kishwar Tanveer Sahiba*, wife of *Abdul Baqi Arshad Sahib*, passed away on 27th February at the age of 87.
5. *Abdur Rahman Hussain Muhammad Khair Sahib* of Sudan passed away on 24th December 2020 at the age of 56.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that may Allāh have mercy on all the deceased and elevate their spiritual station in heaven. *Amīn*.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir

Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr

ISLĀMABAD (UK)

Dated: 7 April 2021