

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 08<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at Mubarak Mosque Islāmabad, Tilford, UK.**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Writing about the conquests that took place in the time of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) and the factors behind them, *Allama Shibli Nu‘mani* says: The question that immediately comes to the mind of a historian is how was it possible that a handful of desert dwellers overcame the great empires of Persia and Rome? Was this something exceptional in the history of the world? Could these conquests be compared to those of Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan?

The total area of the countries conquered by Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) was 2,251,030 square miles. European historians believe that, at the time of these conquests, both the Persian and the Roman empires were in decline. After Khosrow Parvez, the Persian Empire had fallen into disarray. Shortly before *Nowsherawān*, the atheist sect of Mazdaka had grown in strength and declared that, in order to do away with greed and avarice, all belongings, including women, would become common property. Similarly, Nestorian Christians could not find refuge in any country. Since Muslims did not attack religious beliefs, these long-persecuted sects were able to find protection under Islām. With regard to the Roman Empire, European historians claim that differences between the empire and Christianity had reached their peak and the empire had become greatly weakened.

However, *Allama Shibli* denies these as the reasons for the conquests and says that while it is true that the two empires were not at the height of their power, they were still not so weak as to be torn apart by a poor nation like Arabia. The Romans and Persians were experts in martial arts, they had all kinds of weapons at their disposal, and they only had to defend themselves by staying in their forts and bunkers.

On the other hand, the total army of Arabia was less than 100,000. They were not equipped with conventional weapons nor were they familiar with conventional warfare. Therefore, the true answer to this question is that the conquests were the result of the enthusiasm, determination, perseverance, bravery and courage that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) had inspired in the hearts of his followers and that had been reinforced by Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him). The honesty and integrity of Muslims helped them in their governance and was the reason why their subjects never resisted their rule. It was upon witnessing these high moral values that the leaders of Iraq and Syria accepted Islām. It would be wrong to speak of Alexander or Genghis Khan in

this context. Both of these conquerors won great victories through cruelty, oppression and massacre, while the Muslims won the hearts of their subjects with truth, perseverance and justice. Genghis Khan, *Bakht Nasr*, *Taimūr*, *Nadir Shah*, etc., were all tyrants, whereas in the conquests of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him), there was never any deviance from justice and rule of law. Even the cutting of a tree was not allowed, let alone killing children, breaking treaties, or carrying out massacres.

People who try to depreciate Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) astonishing conquests by saying that the world has seen many great conquerors, should cite just one such person who conquered the land of another with the same level of caution, restraint and forgiveness. While Alexander and Genghis Khan would personally take part in their battles, Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) did not participate in any of the battles fought during his Khilāfat, and yet the control of the armies remained firmly in his hands. The victories of Alexander and others were like storms that came with ferocity but soon vanished, while the conquests of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) have endured, so that even today, thirteen hundred years later, all the conquered lands remain under the dominion of Islām.

Regarding the common opinion that these conquests had more to do with the zeal and determination of the Muslims at the time than with the ability of the Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him), *Allama Shibli* writes that the same Muslims were also present in the time of Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān and Ḥaḍrat ‘Ali (May Allāh be pleased with them), but did we see the same results? Passion and enthusiasm are undoubtedly formidable weapons but they can only be useful when used by someone with passion and strength. The circumstances of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) conquests clearly show that the whole army acted in unison at his command. Arrangements of troops, military exercises, construction of barracks, protection of forts, movement of troops according to the seasons, communication, selection of army officers, selection of fort-breaking equipment, and many such strategies were formulated by Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) himself and he actively supervised them. During the ten years of these battles, there arose many perilous situations, such as the Battle of *Nahāwand*, and when the Roman emperor invaded *Hims* with the help of the islanders, but these great challenges were overcome through the excellent strategy of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him). To this day, there has never been a man like Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) who encompassed in his person the characteristics of a conqueror as well as an upholder of justice and fairness.

On one occasion, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) blessed Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him) and said, “Wear new clothes, live a praiseworthy life, and die a martyr’s death.” When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) climbed Mount *Uhud* with Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr, Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar and Ḥaḍrat ‘Uthmān (May Allāh be pleased with them), the mountain started to shake. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said: “O *Uhud*! Stay still, for you have upon you a Prophet, a Siddiq, and two Shahīds (martyrs).” On another occasion, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s blessings be upon him) said that Gabriel had told him that the world of Islām would weep over the death of Ḥaḍrat ‘Umar (May Allāh be pleased with him). *Umm-ul-Mu’minīn*

Ḥaḍrat *Hafsa* (May Allāh be pleased with her) narrates that her father Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to pray, “O Allāh! Grant me martyrdom in Thy path.”

Ḥaḍrat *Musleh Mau‘ūd* (May Allāh be pleased with him) says that Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to pray that he may be granted martyrdom in Medina. This seemed like a dangerous prayer because it seemed to necessitate the enemy invading Medina and martyring Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him). However, Allāh accepted his prayer in such a way that he was martyred in Medina by a so-called Muslim.

Ḥaḍrat *Abu Musa al-Ash'ari* and Ḥaḍrat ‘*Auf bin Malik* had had dreams about the martyrdom of Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), as had Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) himself. He was attacked and wounded on 26 *Zul-Hijjah* 23 AH and passed away on 1<sup>st</sup> *Muharram* 24 AH. His burial took place on the same day.

According to the details of this incident recorded in *Sahih Bukhari*, a non-Arab slave of *Mughīra* stabbed Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) with a double-edged non-Arab knife during *Fajr* prayers. The man also injured 13 others in an attempt to escape, seven of whom died. Having been injured, Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) brought Ḥaḍrat ‘*Abdul Rahmān bin ‘Auf* forward to lead the prayer. Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was carried from the mosque and brought home where he was first given grapes and then milk but the food kept coming out of his wounds and the people understood that he would not survive. When a young man spoke about Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar*’s (May Allāh be pleased with him) virtues, he said, "I wish that all my deeds would cancel each other out, and I would neither be reprimanded nor rewarded."

Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) asked Ḥaḍrat ‘*Abdullah bin ‘Umar* to calculate his debt, which came to about 86,000 dirhams, and gave instructions about its repayment. He then sent Ḥaḍrat ‘*Abdullah bin ‘Umar* to Ḥaḍrat ‘*Ayesha* asking her permission that he may be buried along with his two companions (the Holy Prophet and Abu Bakr). When ‘*Abdullah bin ‘Umar* came to Ḥaḍrat ‘*Ayesha*, she was weeping. Hearing the message of Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), Ḥaḍrat ‘*Ayesha* said, “I had reserved this place for my own grave, but today I will put ‘*Umar* before myself.” Upon hearing the news of permission from Ḥaḍrat ‘*Ayesha*, Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) said, “Praise be to Allāh! I wasn’t worried about anything more than this.”

Ḥaḍrat ‘*Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) appointed Ḥaḍrat ‘*Ali*, Ḥaḍrat ‘*Uthmān*, Ḥaḍrat *Zubair*, Ḥaḍrat *Talha*, Ḥaḍrat *Sa’ad*, and Ḥaḍrat ‘*Abdul Rahmān bin Auf* to choose the next Khalīfa, and instructed that whoever is chosen should treat the *Muhājirīn*, the *Ansār*, the Bedouin Arabs and the needy with compassion.

At the end of sermon Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā‘at that Jalsa Sālāna Germany is starting today and I will deliver the concluding address tomorrow. May Allāh bless this event in every way.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then spoke about two members of the Jamā‘at who had recently passed away and announced to lead their funeral prayer in absentia:

1. *Qamar-ud-dīn Sahib*, Ahmadiyya missionary from Indonesia, passed away at the age of 65. He had accepted Aḥmadiyyat in 1972 and obtained the degree of Shahid from Pakistan in 1986. He served for 35 years. He was contented, devout, Khilāfat-loving, and a sincere and passionate servant of the Jamā‘at.
2. *Sabiha Haroon Sahiba*, wife of the late *Sultan Haroon Khan Sahib*, passed away at the age of 73. Allāh had blessed her with three sons and three daughters. One of her sons is the son-in-law of Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul Masīḥ IV (May Allāh shower His mercy upon him). She was a quiet, charitable, hospitable and patient lady.

Jazākumullāh  
Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir  
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr  
ISLĀMABAD (UK)  
Dated: 13 October 2021