

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The National Amīr/ President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadīyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Summary of the Friday Sermon delivered by Ḥaḍrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) on 21st July 2023 at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque, Morden, London, UK .

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Regarding the Holy Prophet's compassion towards the prisoners of Battle of *Badr*, we find the following account in *Ṭabqāt Ibn Sa‘ad*: The prisoners included the Holy Prophet's uncle, Ḥaḍrat ‘Abbās (May Allāh be pleased with him). That night, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) could not sleep and some of his Companions inquired, "O Messenger of Allāh, what is keeping you awake?" He replied, "The cries of pain from ‘Abbās." Hearing this, one of the Companions went and loosened his chains. Then, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) asked what happened, as he no longer heard the cries of ‘Abbās. The Companion responded that he had loosened his chains. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "Then do the same for all the prisoners."

In his book *Sīrat Khatamun Nabīyyīn*, Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) exhorted the Companions to be kind towards the prisoners and to ensure their wellbeing. The Companions, motivated by deep love and devotion to their master, diligently followed this guidance, so much so, that it remains unparalleled in the annals of history.

Sir William Muir, acknowledging this exemplary conduct towards prisoners, wrote:

"In pursuance of Mahomet's commands, the citizens of Medina, and such of the Refugees as already had houses of their own, received the prisoners, and treated them with much consideration. 'Blessings be on the men of Medina!' said one of these prisoners in later days: They made us ride, while they themselves walked: they gave us wheat bread to eat when there was little of it, contenting themselves with dates.' It is not surprising that when, some time afterwards, their friends came to ransom them, several of the prisoners, declared themselves adherents of Islam... Their kindly treatment was thus prolonged, and left a favourable impression on the minds even of those who did not at once go over to Islam."

Writing about the results of the Battle of *Badr*, *Maulānā Shiblī Nomanī* says: The Battle of *Badr* had a profound impact on both the religious and political landscape. In truth, it marked the first step towards Islam's progress. All the significant leaders of the *Quraish*, each of whom had been a barrier in the way of Islam's advancement, were eliminated. The deaths of *‘Utbah* and *Abu Jahl* shook the leadership of the *Quraish*, and the crown of authority was placed on the head of *Abu Sufyān*. However, the real strength and power of the *Quraish* was diminished.

Up until that point, *‘Abdullah bin Ubai bin Salūl* had openly been a disbeliever, but now he claimed to have embraced Islam even though he remained a hypocrite throughout his life and died in this state.

Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Aḥmad* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes that the impact of the Battle of *Badr* was profound and long-lasting for both the disbelievers and the Muslims. This is why this battle holds special significance in Islamic history and is referred by the Holy Qur‘ān as *"Yaumul Furqān"* i.e., the day upon which a manifest distinction was made between Islam and disbelief. Of course, even after the Battle of *Badr*, there were fierce and intense conflicts between the *Quraish* and the Muslims, and there were some very critical moments for the Muslims.

However, the backbone of the disbelievers of Makkah had been broken in the Battle of *Badr*, which no subsequent efforts could permanently mend.

In terms of the number of casualties, it may not have been a major defeat, as the loss of seventy soldiers in a tribe like the *Quraish* cannot be labelled as a national disaster. What, then, was so remarkable about the Battle of *Badr* that it was called “*Yaumul Furqān*”? The best answer to this question is found in the very words of the Holy Qur’ān:

وَيُرِيدُ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُحَقِّقَ الْحَقَّ بِكَلِمَاتِهِ وَيَقْطَعَ دَابِرَ الْكَافِرِينَ

"*Allāh desired to establish the truth by His words and to cut off the root of the disbelievers.*" (8:8)

Indeed, the blow dealt by the Battle of *Badr* hit right at the roots of the disbelievers and cut them asunder. The backbone of the *Quraish* was thus broken. Leaders such as *‘Utbah*, *Shaibah*, *Umayyah bin Khalaf*, *‘Uqbah bin Abi Mu‘ait*, and *Naḍr bin Hārith*, who embodied the essence of the *Quraish*'s national existence, were slain, and the spirit of the *Quraish* was forever buried in the valley of *Badr*. It was due to this devastating blow the Battle of *Badr* earned the title of “*Yaumul Furqān*”.

Regarding the virtues of the Companions who partook in the Battle of *Badr*, Ḥaḍrat *Mirza Bashīr Ahmad* (May Allāh be pleased with him) writes: The angel *Jibraīl* came to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) and inquired, "What status do you give to the Companions of *Badr* among the Muslims?" The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) replied, "They are the best of the Muslims". The angel *Jibraīl* said that the same was the case for the angels who participated in the battle.

It is narrated by Ḥaḍrat *Abu Hurairah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said, "Allāh has looked upon the Companions of *Badr* and said, Do whatever you wish, for I have forgiven you. Aside from open disbelief, Allāh will forgive everything." Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) clarified that this means they will never fall into a state of disbelief, and their ultimate end will be blessed. This also implies that if they make minor mistakes and sins that fall within the bounds of human frailties, Allāh will forgive them.

During the time of Ḥaḍrat *‘Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him), special stipends were fixed for the Companions who partook in the Battle of *Badr*. The significance and virtue of these Companions can also be gauged from the fact that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him) said that the Promised Messiah will have a book with the names of 313 Companions written in it, corresponding to the number of Companions of *Badr*.

Sheikh ‘Ali Hamza bin ‘Ali writes in his book *Jawāhirul Asrar* that the *Mahdī* will emerge from a village named *Kad‘ah*, and that Allāh will testify the truth of this *Mahdī*, and people from distant lands will gather around him. The number of his Companions will be equal to the number of the Companions of *Badr*, i.e., three hundred and thirteen. Their names will be recorded in a hidden book, along with their dwelling and other details. The Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him), writes in his book *Anjāme Ātham* that it is evident that, before now, no one ever claimed to be the Promised Messiah and possessed a hidden book containing the names of his Companions. However, I have previously listed three hundred and thirteen names in *Āina Kamalāte Islām*, and now, once again, to lay the argument to rest, I am recording three hundred and thirteen names in this book.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited the revelation received by the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him) on February 17th, 1904, "Do not forget the story of *Badr*," and prayed that Allāh enables us to realize the significance of *Badr* and be counted among those who understand the purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). May Allāh grant the Muslim Ummah the ability to comprehend the true essence of *Badr* and recognise the Promised

Messiah (Peace be upon him), who came in the service of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him), so that once again, Muslims can regain their lost glory.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that, Inshā'Allāh, the Jalsa Sālāna of Aḥmadīyya Jamā'at UK will commence this coming Friday. This year, after a gap of three or four years, guests are joining the Jalsa from abroad, and their arrival has already begun. May Allāh make the journeys of all those travelling safe and may they be among those who derive true spiritual blessings from the Jalsa. Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that the Aḥmadīs residing in the UK should participate in the convention with genuine enthusiasm and spirit, keeping in mind the sole purpose of seeking spiritual nourishment during the days of the Jalsa.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave detailed instructions regarding the duties assigned to the volunteers of the various departments and emphasised that the participants should be treated as guests of the Promised Messiah (Peace be upon him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) further advised the volunteers to always keep a smile on their faces, following the teachings of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's blessings be upon him). May Allāh enable all the workers to perform their duties diligently, and may the Jalsa be blessed in every aspect. Every Aḥmadī should particularly pray for the success of this Jalsa. May Allāh grant us all the ability to do so. *Āmīn*

Wassalām,

Abdul Majid Tahir
Additional Wakīlut Tabshīr
ISLĀMĀBAD (UK)
Dated: 27 July 2023