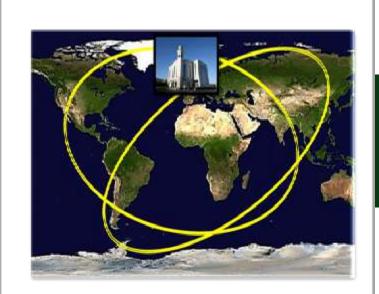
KHALIFATUL MASIH II: PEARLS OF WISDOM



Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba); Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



relayed live all across the globe

<u>Summary</u>

The prophecy of the Promised Messiah (as) about the progress of Qadian has been fulfilled magnificently.

When we witness fulfilling of one divine sign, this increases our conviction that other divine signs will also be fulfilled.

There is news from Pakistan today that the government of Punjab has banned a number of books of our Jama'at including *Alfazl* and *Rohani Khazain*.

Anyway, whatever the circumstances we must not get despondent; there is no need for it.

God says about the Promised Messiah (as) again and again that the help of God will arrive all of a sudden.

Funeral prayer of our Darvesh Haji Manzoor Ahmad Sahib in absentia

Qadian was a small and unknown place before the advent of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

In his early days, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) only had odd helpers; he had no following.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) explained the progress of Qadian and increasing number of Ahmadis are tremendous signs of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

Masjid Mubarik in Qadian was small and only fifteen worshippers used to pray there.

Those who go to Qadian to attend Jalsa, must remind themselves of this fact when they see a Masjid Mubarik packed with worshippers these days.

This will enhance us in our faith.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) recalled how his aunt who has not yet accepted Ahmadiyyat used to mock him with a derogatory remark meaning 'like father like son' drawing analogy with crows.

Then, in fulfilment of a Divine prophecy of the Promised Messiah (as), the very aunt accepted Ahmadiyyat the and would show extreme reverence to Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra).

Based on a dream the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) predicted that Qadian would grow and develop so much that it would reach the banks of River Beas.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) draws our attention to observance of Salat as a key factor in the development of Qadian and our Jama'at.

Masjid Mubarik and Aqsa Mosque in Qadian have been extended and it is of course possible that as the population of Qadian increases a large mosque would have to be built there.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) narrates an incidence from his adolescence days. He left home to offer Jumu'ah Salat and returned home as someone told him that the mosque was full t the brim and there was no space left in the mosque.

When he returned home, he told the Promised Messiah (as) who was poorly the mosque was too full. Later, he became worried afterwards that if the man has misinformed him then this would not look good on him.

With the benefit of hindsight he felt he should have at least checked for himself if there really was no space in the mosque.

With the grace of God he was regular at offering Salat from a very young age and never missed any Salat. His blessed father never needed to ask him if he had offered his Salat or not.

When he was eleven years old, he donned his blessed father's coat and prayed fervently and passionately pledging never to miss a alat.

Full mosques are made a source of our progress by God.

Hazrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) said God told the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) that Qadian would grow as large as Bombay and Calcutta and will reach the banks of River Baes which flows some nine miles away.

 At the time, the population of Qadian was only two thousand, most houses were made of mud, there were no grocery shops and there was a small primary school and the post was delivered once a week.

Reflecting over the prophecy in light of the how Qadian has developed today, though it has not reached the banks of Beas, anyone would call it a sign. These matters are faith-enhancing for Ahmadis but they also interest others.

• Expansion of Qadian and expansion of our Jama'at is in context of numbers but will be in context of mosques filled with true worshippers.



Every Ahmadi must always remember is that the secret of any success lies in congregating in and making a strong link with the house of God.

Then at one occasion Hazrat
Musleh Mau'ud (ra) states that this
vision of the Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) about the
progress of Qadian may not fully
illustrate all the progress that
Qadian is destined for.

We should always remember that it is the promise of God to not only grant progress to Qadian but also to confer every success to the Jama'at.

When we witness fulfilling of one divine sign, this increases our conviction that other divine signs will also be fulfilled.

There is news from Pakistan today that the government of Punjab has banned a number of books from different religious sects on the pretext of putting a stop to sectarianism.

These include some books of our Jama'at which have absolutely nothing to do with sectarianism.

The government has banned Alfazl and Rohani Khazain on the say-so of ignorant Maulwis.

Anyway, whatever the circumstances we must not get despondent; there is no need for it. God says about the Promised Messiah (as) again and again that the help of God will arrive all of a sudden.

In a recent *Waqfe Nau* class, a young lady asked about the practice of putting a wreath or flowers on the graves, is there any harm in this? Is this permissible in Islam?

These are meaningless practices and innovations in religion. We must avoid these.

We all know that bodies in the grave turn to dust; this is the law of nature. So what benefit can the smell of beautiful flowers possibly bring in this state?

It is important to understand this concept that the souls of people, who have passed away and have moved on to another world, are given some sort of affinity to their grave.

The souls are there to receive reward and punishment from Allah the Exalted; they have arrived in front of God for this purpose.

Therefore we should pray for the status of the deceased person that God treats them with mercy.

Hazrat Musleh Mau'ad (ra) explained an incidence regarding the writing and public reading of the book of the Promised Messiah (as) "The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam".

The Promised Messiah (as) wrote an article to be read out in public for the Great Conference of Religions in Lahore in 1897.

Khawaja Sahib expressed disappointment and voiced the opinion that this article will not be valued and it will be derided.

However, Allah the Exalted told the Promised Messiah (as) that "the article will excel".

Khawaja Sahib was slow and hesitant in following the directions of the Promised Messiah (as) to publicise this Divine prophecy.

So this powerful prophecy exposed the weaknesses in the faith of Khawaja Sahib.

Anyhow, the Divine intervention led to widespread public acceptance of this article, which was a robust and a humiliating answer to Khawaja Sahib's opinion.

Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (ra) explained an incidence to raise awareness about how Ahmadis should uphold their religious honour.

The Promised Messiah (as) strongly rebuked his companions once, when he found out that they did not walk out of a meeting in protest when abusive language against the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was being used.

Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (ra) said that I advise my friends that they should be extremely careful and must not attend such gatherings.

We should walk out of these meetings in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Quran.

After Friday prayers I would lead a funeral prayer in absentia. This is of our Darvesh Haji Manzoor Ahmad Sahib. He passed away in Qadian on 1st of May at the age of 85 years. He was born in the village of Changarian district Sialkot in 1929. His father Hazrat Nizamud Din and his mother were both Sahabi [companion of the Promised Messiah (as)]. After his elementary education, Darvesh Haji Manzoor Ahmad Sahib learnt the art of furniture craft with his brothers. In 1947, because of the gravity of the circumstances, Khuddam was called back to Qadian to help defend the Jama'at headquarters. In response to this call, Darvesh Haji Manzoor Ahmad Sahib walked for more than 25 miles on foot, at times through deep waters, to get to Ratan Bagh in Lahore to visit Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ra). Then he travelled to Qadian in September or October 1947 facing extremely dangerous situations

In Qadian, he served with extreme resolve and determination with other Darvish of early days. He was very skilful and routinely mended the walls and roofs of the houses damaged by rain. He was given many important assignments. He always carried out any task given to him in an excellent manner and with extreme dedication. Some of the tasks he was granted were building the walls of the *Bahishti Maqbara* and safeguarding the books in the libraries.

He played a pivotal role to establish and improve the relationships with non-Muslims and to promote an atmosphere of conviviality in Qadian. The non-Muslims of Qadian were very fond of him. He was a skilful craftsman and used his skills in many capacities to build the buildings of the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya. He was innovative and if needed improvised to skillfully carry out his tasks. He had the honour to put the marble slabs on the Minaratul Masih. He used a wooden stand to lift the heavy marble slabs and designed a home-made device for this; he did not have any other equipment. He placed marble slabs all around the Minaratul Masih using this technique. It was really difficult to cover the dome at the top of the minaret with marble, but God enabled him to do so.

He was extremely conscientious about the use of the property of the Jama'at; he would carry out the building projects to a high standard with minimum possible expenditure. In 1992, he had the honour of doing Hajj. He used to attend the functions of the Jama'at until his last days. His marriage took place as a miracle in extremely simple circumstances. His wife stood by him in extremely difficult financial circumstances with patience and fortitude and fully supported him. He had six sons and two daughters; all of them are married and have children. Two of his sons died in their youth and he carried that loss with extreme resolve. His wife has already passed away. May Allah the exalted increase their status and enable their children to follow in the footsteps of their parents.