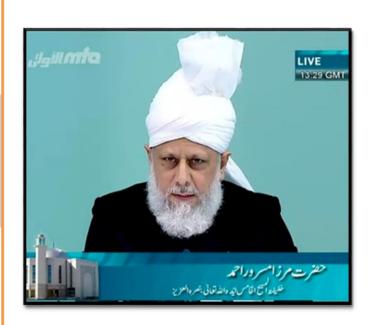
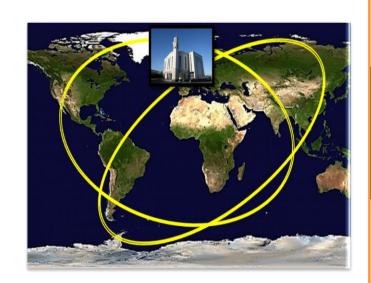
Essence of Quality Meetings and ljtema gatherings



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



relayed live all across the globe

September 22nd 2017

Summary Essence of Quality Meetings and Ijtema gatherings

All gathering of believers should have the primary purpose of seeking the pleasure of God Almighty, improving spirituality and moral development. Satan, according to his nature, will continue his endeavours to divide us. Every Ahmadi should fervently supplicate that Allah the Almighty removes every evil aspect from the Jama'at. One should prefer gatherings where God Almighty is being remembered. It is only God Almighty Who has the remedy to cure sin.

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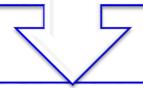


AL ISLAM

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

However, there are some gatherings or assemblies, which serve the purposes of the faith, which are meant for devising plans to bring mankind closer to Allah the Almighty and to seek the pleasure of Allah the Almighty.

Gatherings of many various kinds exist in the world or one can say that various gatherings pursue diverse goals.



These gatherings are not meant for God Almighty, for His pleasure or to attain His nearness.

All gathering of believers, at home, work and the mosque should have the primary purpose of seeking the pleasure of God Almighty, improving spirituality and moral development.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

Even a seemingly 'worldly' sitting of a believer is not void of the remembrance of Allah the Almighty.

Even, while performing worldly task, he refrains from all that is vain. Even if he is preoccupied with worldly tasks, he does not fail to remember God Almighty.

Even in the sittings, related to worldly affairs, a believer does not speak of deceiving or usurping the rights of others, even though he may be occupied with worldly tasks. This is exactly what is expected from a believer.

Allah the Almighty states:

'O ye who believe! when you confer together in secret, confer not for the commission of sin and transgression and disobedience to the Messenger, but confer for the attainment of virtue and righteousness, and fear Allah unto Whom you shall all be gathered.'

One day, the world that you are chasing will escape your hands and you have already forsaken religion, you will lose everything.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

One of the gatherings for the consultation on worldly matters is that of the UNO. Its meeting was held in the recent days and The President of America delivered a speech.

The western analysts and columnists here also wrote with regards to it stating that instead of developing peace, the speech was more prone to incite disorder and chaos.

However,
Muslim
governments
must reflect on
the commands
of Allah the
Almighty and
should refrain
from every kind
of disorder and
chaos.

Nevertheless, we must reflect upon and assess our own conditions also and always remember that Satan will never tolerate to see the Jama'at progress.

Satan, according to his nature, will continue his endeavours to divide us.

Every Ahmadi should remember this important matter.

Do not play in the hands of people who slyly criticise the Nizam-e-Jama'at i.e. administrative system of the Jama'at

in private gatherings pretending to be voicing their opinions out of his sympathy for the Jama'at.

Criticising the system of the Jama'at in this manner is a sign of sin, rebellion, disobedience to the Holy Prophet (sa) and being far from righteousness.

The correct procedure is that they should bring their concerns to the attention of the higher administrative system of the country and to the Khalifa of the time.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

Thus, Allah the Almighty has also cautioned believers from partaking in such gatherings.

Every Ahmadi should fervently supplicate that Allah the Almighty removes every evil aspect from the Jama'at and that He continues to bless the Jama'at with people, who tread on the path of righteousness and fulfil their duties with righteousness.

May Allah the Almighty protect the Jama'at from every kind of disorder, whether internal or external.

May He enable us to always partake in gatherings of virtue and righteousness, rather than

gatherings of sin, rebellion, disobedience to the Holy Prophet(sa) and those that lead away from righteousness.

The Promised Messiah (AS) said:

The Promised Messiah (as) says, "We believe, which should also be the practice of a believer, that if a person speaks then he should so clearly and openly. Otherwise, he should remain silent. If you observe that Allah and His messenger are being mocked in a gathering, you should leave that gathering lest you be counted among them. Or you should openly reply to them."

The Promised
Messiah (as) says
"The third option is
hypocrisy, whereby
one sits in a
gathering and
agrees with the other
person and though
expresses his own
view but only
subtly."

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

If a believer hears someone talk about the Jama'at in a negative manner, he should tell those that

If you consider all these things to be true then you should inform the Khalifa of the time and the administration of the Jama'at but it is not permissible to talk in this manner.

The Holy Prophet (sa) says "You should attend the gatherings of such people that when you see them it reminds you of God Almighty, and their discussion increases you in religious knowledge and whose deeds remind you of the Day of Judgement."

One should prefer gatherings where God Almighty is being remembered and discussions about the magnificence of Allah Almighty's religion are taking place. Hence this is the guiding principal which a believer should keep in mind whilst selecting the type of gathering to sit in.

One should prefer gatherings where God Almighty is being remembered and discussions about the magnificence of Allah Almighty's religion are taking place.

It is the sheer Grace of Allah Almighty that wherever the Jama'at is established in the world it has the opportunity to organise gatherings such as Jalsas and Ijtemas.

Those attending these events, should engage in constructive conversations and should always abstain from vain discourses and not waste their time.

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The Promised Messiah (AS) said:

The Promised Messiah (as) says: "[God Almighty] first states: 'O Ye who believe! Fear Allah'. This means that in the first instance one should profess belief and then after this, one should abandon sinful practices and keep in the company of the truthful. The company one keeps has a deep underlying effect on that individual's personality."

The Promised
Messiah (as) then
says: "For example, if
one regularly visits
places where alcohol
is consumed, no
matter how much
they abstain from it,
eventually they will
end up drinking
alcohol."

The Promised Messiah (AS) said:

"When an individual sits in the company of one who is pious and truthful, then that individual partakes of that truthfulness. However, if one abandons the company of the pious and instead associates with the sinful and wicked, then that individual is influenced by evil thoughts.

This is why the Holy Quran and Ahadith have stressed on the fact that one should abstain from the company of the evil and immoral. It is emphasised that if God Almighty or the [Holy] Prophet (sa) is being ridiculed in a certain gathering, then one should immediately leave such gatherings. Otherwise, they will also be counted amongst those who are guilty of blasphemy."

The Promised Messiah (AS) said:

The Promised Messiah (as) states: When one prays to abstain from sin, at the same time one should never forsake the measures required to achieve this. You should eschew every assembly and gathering that incites one to commit sin and also pray in this regard. Behold! Unless one has the succour of God Almighty, one can never evade those trials that are destined for him.

In other words, it is only God Almighty Who has the remedy to cure sin. Therefore, one should prostrate before Him and seek His help so that He always protects one from the evil influences of this world and the influences of evil gatherings.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih (ABA) said:

The Holy Prophet (sa) would recite the following prayer when leaving a gathering: 'O Allah! Holy is Thou and I swear in the name of Thine prayers that there is none worthy of worship except thee. I seek Thy forgiveness and turn towards Thee.'

Thus, this prayer protects one from the ill effects from any improper statement

that is uttered and enables one to derive maximum benefit from the holy gatherings.

May Allah the Almighty always protect us from the onslaughts of Satan and treat us with His mercy and forgiveness.

May He always keep us attached with Khilafat and the Nizam-e-Jama'at.

May He protect us from the evil of every mischief maker.

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