

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

On 20 December 2013, Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: In the previous Friday Sermon, I had spoken about two impediments that hinder one’s progress towards one’s reformation in daily practices. Today, I will speak about a few more.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The third impediment towards practical reformation is the preference one gives to the immediate and short- term worldly gains and the neglect with which one treats the matters of faith relating to the life in the hereafter. The apparent worldly advantages man can obtain through deceit, falsehood, dishonesty, back- biting and wrongdoing, blind him to their long- term detriments, thus leading him to commit evils.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The fourth impediment to practical reformation is a person’s tendency to habitually commit evils. There are people who develop the habit of using certain drugs thus becoming addicted to them. Similarly, there are people who habitually tell lies and use uncivilized language. On the other hand, electronic media is also playing its part to undermine man’s desire to practically reform himself. Some people become so addicted to watching television and using internet that they become heedless of the rights of their wives and children, so much so that such people even forget to eat and drink while engaged in their useless activities.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The fifth impediment to practical reformation is one’s wife and children who, at times, pose a grave threat to his desire for self-reformation. Consequently, such a person becomes guilty of breaching trusts, embezzling the money entrusted to his care and misappropriating the wealth of the orphans. Likewise, parents who overly love their children and show excessive kindness to them not only ruin their own morals but also spoil the peace and tranquillity of their homes.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The sixth impediment to practical reformation is one’s failure to constantly watch one’s morals. One needs to be constantly vigilant about one’s behaviour. For example, God has enjoined honesty in business and matters of trade. Yet, there are traders who do not give full measure to their customers, or overcharge them in order to make exorbitant profits. I have received complaints from Rabwah and Qādiān in this connection against Ahmadī shopkeepers. Therefore, every Ahmadī, regardless of which walk of life he or she belongs to, needs to set an example for others in honest dealing and trustworthiness. Huzoor (May Allāh

be his Helper) also urged Ahmadī women to observe purdah and uphold the sanctity of Divine commandments.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The seventh impediment to practical reformation is one's becoming so caught up in one's own conduct and relationships with other people that there is little fear of God left in him. At times, personal greed, relations with friends and relatives, discord, grudge and malice do not allow the better side of a person's character to be manifested. People do not care to win the pleasure of the Almighty God and audaciously give false witnesses to gain worldly benefits and advantages.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The eighth impediment to practical reformation is one's family. Unless all the members of a family join hands to practically reform themselves, the task of practical reformation remains a dream. Therefore, the head of the family has to play a key role in the efforts towards self-reformation.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: If we want to practically reform ourselves, we need to be watchful of the above- mentioned eight impediments. In order to develop the habit of performing good deeds, one needs to make sacrifices without which one cannot truly adopt the path of righteousness. To achieve this, each and every individual of the Jamā'at will have to make a solemn pledge that they will act virtuously. Otherwise, we will never be able to obtain the blessed purpose for which the Promised Messiah عليه السلام was sent into the world. The purpose of his advent was to enable us to reform ourselves, both doctrinally and practically, in such a manner that no one could point a blaming finger at us.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today, we need to make a solemn pledge that in order to obtain a virtuous life; we will not only sacrifice our own wishes and desires, but also those of our families, wives and children. We will make all such sacrifices as are required of us to strengthen the edifice of self- reformation. May Allāh enable us to obtain this. *Āmīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 26 Dec. 2013