

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President

Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Episodes from the life of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and his advice on spiritual progress and training as related by Ḥazrat Muṣleh Mau'ūd رضي الله عنه.

Both father and mother should strive for their children's proper upbringing. A friendly relationship with children can solve many problems in their upbringing.

Listening carefully to religious discourses, remembering them, and acting upon them should be the aim of every Aḥmadī.

On 29th January 2016, Ḥazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque, London.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that God is Hidden but becomes known through His powers. It is through prayers that one becomes cognizant of His existence. At times people fall into difficulties and lose all hope, such difficulties can be overcome through prayers. The Companions of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام had such faith in prayers that other people were overawed by them and confessed that the prayers of Aḥmadīs are often accepted. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) related such a story regarding Ḥazrat Munshi Aroore Khan Ṣāḥib and said that such were the people whose prayers impressed even the followers of other faiths. We have to bear these examples in mind and strengthen our relationship with God. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) cited some episodes from the life of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام as related by Ḥazrat Muṣleh Mau'ūd رضي الله عنه and said that these are essential for spiritual progress and spiritual training.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that just as there are apparent differences in people's dispositions and sensitivity, the same applies to the spiritual world. Some feel greater zeal in prayer than others. In our Jamā'at, the majority of people should be those who readily accept spiritual influence and are then able to demonstrate to the world what true prayer and true worship means. Therefore, we need to cultivate such senses. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) also cited some examples of how pious natured people from far off countries expressed their desire to meet the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and some of them even came and pledged the Bai'at and progressed in sincerity and devotion. Ḥazrat Muṣleh Mau'ūd رضي الله عنه said, "I see that the Jamā'at is spreading more in America than in European countries. Aḥmadiyyat is spreading in some European countries, but the signs of its progress are more evident in America." Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may enable the USA Jamā'at to find such people and bring them under the banner of Islām.

Regarding the Promised Messiah's عليه السلام relationship with his children and his concern for their learning and proper upbringing, Ḥazrat Muṣleh Mau'ūd رضي الله عنه says, "When children are young they need to be taught through stories. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام used to tell us the stories of the Prophets. Stories are the best method of teaching in early childhood. Then when children grow a little older, games become the

best means of their teaching and training.” Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that fathers should also give time to their children. If both parents together focus on children’s teaching and training and have friendly relations with them, this will help to solve many of the problems related to their proper upbringing. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that children should not have friends who corrupt them. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that true friendship means that if we have to go against our friend’s wishes for his good then we should do it, otherwise we are going to harm him. For peace and harmony in society it is necessary to cater for the feelings of others and not to wound others with your tongues for such wounds never heal up.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it is the duty of every Aḥmadī that, having accepted the Promised Messiah عليه السلام, they should safeguard their faith. Sometimes small things can lead to the loss of faith, therefore we should keep guard over our faith. Faith is acquired with much effort, but can be lost with a single word.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام used to quote a saint who said that while one’s hands are busy with work, one’s heart should be engrossed in the Friend (viz. Allāh). Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that while one does not need to count *tasbiḥ* or the remembrance of God, there is no harm in setting aside some time for it so that one can become fully engrossed in the remembrance of God. It is important to remember God in prescribed ways as well as informally at all times.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that it should be the aim of every Aḥmadī to listen to religious discourses, to remember them and to act upon them. There are some women who are totally ignorant of these matters and need to be taught the very basics for they are unable to fathom the subtler spiritual truths. There are also men who fall in the same category. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that reading the books of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام and acting upon them is also among the basic duties of an Aḥmadī. We should learn these things with the intention of acting upon them. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that may Allāh grant us the strength to practice these things and also enable us to remember and eulogize Him in a way that raises our souls to higher stations and draws us closer to Allāh. *Amīn*.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan,

03 February, 2016