

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Today, in the manner of the enemies of past Prophets, wayward religious leaders are inciting the masses in the name of religion and are attributing false statements to the Promised Messiah (a.s).

We are not going to respond to oppression and tyranny in the same way, rather we are going to counter them with the weapons of prayer and perseverance.

Aḥmadīs who live in safety in far away countries, if they have sympathy for their brothers they should stick to prayers and steadfastness.

These times of tribulation will surely come to an end. In order to hasten the end of these tribulations it is important to progress in righteousness.

On 23rd Dec 2016, Hazrat *Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V* (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque, London.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Opposition to the Jamā‘at and the atrocities heaped upon Aḥmadīs by the opponents are nothing new, nor is the opposition to the followers of Prophets anything unprecedented. Religious scholars and leaders tell their followers strange lies about Prophets and thus try to incite them. Prophets have always been ridiculed, this too is not a new phenomenon that the Jamā‘at faces today. Allāh says in the Holy Quran:

"And in like manner have We made for every Prophet an enemy, evil ones from among men and Jinn. They suggest one to another gilded speech in order to deceive — and if thy Lord had enforced His will, they would not have done it; so leave them alone with that which they fabricate —" (6:113)

These words of God are true even today that religious leaders lead people astray in the name of religion and incite them to violence. They attribute things to the Promised Messiah and his Jamā‘at that have no truth in them whatsoever.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: For Aḥmadīs who are firm in their faith, these trials and tribulations only serve to strengthen their faith. Some however say that oppression against Aḥmadīs has reached the climax and that we should now respond to aggression with aggression, and that we should use worldly means to raise our voice. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that such thinking is extremely naïve and misguided. It might be that such people, in the flow of their passions, have forgotten our basic teaching and what the Promised Messiah (a.s) taught us. Or it might be that they want to create mischief in the Jamā‘at while posing as its well-wishers, or it might even be a ploy of our opponents. In any case, we are not going to respond to aggression with aggression, rather we are going to counter it with love and kindness and prayers. The Promised Messiah (a.s) has taught us again and again that the progress of the Jamā‘at and the destruction of our enemies will only come about through prayers. Insha’Allāh. Our duty therefore is to mould our character according to God’s teachings, adopt righteousness, and pray and supplicate before God. The

Promised Messiah (a.s) came as the Prince of Peace, and from day one he had said that his path was not an easy one, rather it is full of tribulations where we will have to trample upon our emotions and make sacrifices of our lives and wealth.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: By the grace of Allāh, members of the Jamā‘at continue to make sacrifices in this path, and they also write to me that they do not fear the attacks of the opponents and their faith is now even stronger than before. But even if one person says something that is contrary to the teaching of the Jamā‘at, he causes mischief and gives the opponent an opportunity to attack us even more. This is particularly true when such things are shared on WhatsApp, Facebook, or Twitter. Therefore, in response to the enemy’s aggression and tyranny, we are not going to resort to aggression, nor are we going to raise arms against any government. Our only weapon is the weapon of prayer. The Promised Messiah (a.s) has taught us that if we must pray and show patience if we wish to succeed.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We are not going to respond to abuse and atrocities by taking the law into our own hands. It has been witnessed in Pakistan and other Muslim countries that even if we justly defend ourselves, the law sides with the aggressor and not with us. Oppressed Aḥmadīs are not granted bail because the law is helpless against the maulawis, and most judges keep adjourning the cases. Thus neither are law enforcement agencies willing to protect us, nor is the law willing to give us justice. It is not our teaching to create mischief in the land. Therefore we have only one way open to us, and it is to hold fast God and carry our prayers to their climax. Each of us should consider whether we have attained the standard of prayer that God requires from us; and instead of looking towards worldly means we should ask ourselves if we carried the anguish of our souls so far where it merits acceptance. Our duty is to hold fast to God through prayer and patience. Anyone who shows impatience will only harm himself. While the majority of those who are being tormented are showing patience and praying and are strong in their faith, some who are sitting far away and free from any such suffering are saying the wrong kind of things. If they indeed have true sympathy for their suffering brothers, they should beseech God and pray to Him. The Promised Messiah (a.s) says, “If someone insults us, then we complain before God and not in any court.” Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We too should show kindness in face of insult and ridicule. Every one of us should hold fast to prayer and perseverance, for this is the sign of faith. Explaining the fact that it is not easy to walk with him, the Promised Messiah (a.s) says, “I do not know what dangerous and terrible forests and thorny fields we yet have to traverse. Therefore those who have sensitive feet should not burden themselves for my sake.”

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: A believer’s standard of righteousness is very high indeed. They face the hardship and mischief created by the enemy and do not fear. They bear suffering and yet forgive their enemies. They are the ambassadors of peace. Therefore, our every action should be in accordance with the teachings of Islam. We should always avoid being led by temporary passions. We should keep scrutinizing our hearts to see how righteous we are. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) read an extract from the writings of the Promised Messiah (a.s) regarding *Taqwa* and its attainment and said: If we give way to temporary passions and our actions are not in accordance with the teachings of Islām, then this cannot be called *Taqwa*. If our words and our actions do not reflect the light of God, then we should be worried about our level of *Taqwa*. If in these troubled times we are not acting upon the teaching and guidance of the Imam of the Age, then we will drift away from the light that has been

given to us on account of our following him. These are the factors that we should consider first of all.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We should be filled with the certainty that God's help is near, and that it is He who will create countries for us and level the earth for us. And if we wish to attain anything without Him, then we will not get anything. We have before us the example of organisations who, with abundant resources, started out with the aim of establishing an Islamic state, but they ended up doing nothing other than committing atrocities and barbarity. They ended up being called the defamers of Islām rather than its servants. To serve Islām is now the destiny of the Promised Messiah (a.s), and this will only transpire through his Jamā'at if we walk in the footsteps of the one whom God has sent. Otherwise, no matter how we try through worldly means, we do not have the power or resources to attain anything. But if we abide by *Taqwa*, fear God, and carry our prayers to the highest level, then we shall be granted the light and power that no one can resist. Allāh says **“Verily, the most honourable among you in the sight of Allāh is he who is the most righteous among you.”** It is true that we have to face opposition from worldly people, but is the enemy not defeated and frustrated on every occasion? Did not every barrier that was placed before the Jamā'at cause it to grow even further? Today by the grace of Allāh the Jamā'at has grown so far as to be established in 209 countries. If they try to suppress us in one place, God provides us the means to progress in ten others. Allāh says that He does not even leave a common pious man without honouring him, how then can it be that God will abandon and not fulfil His promise to the Jamā'at of one whom He has sent? If we remain steadfast, we will see the enemy vanquished.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Each of us needs to bring about a transformation in ourselves. Those who are weak should do self-assessment. Those who think they are stronger in faith should look for newer paths of righteousness. These times of tribulation will surely be over, but for this to come about faster we need to continuously raise our standards of *Taqwa*. The Promised Messiah (a.s) says, “Do not think that God will let you perish. You are a seed that was sown in the earth by the hand of God, and He says that this seed will grow and flourish.” Ḥuzoor prayed: May Allāh enable each one of us to become a flourishing branch of this tree and to live up to the expectations of the Promised Messiah (a.s). May we defeat every attack of the enemy by progressing in *Taqwa*, prayers and being steadfast. *Amīn*.

At the end of the sermon, Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Malik Khalid Javed Ṣāhib, son of Malik Ayyub Aḥmad Ṣāhib of Dulmial, Pakistan, and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayers.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 29 December 2016