

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

**Extracts from the Friday Sermon by Hadrat *Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* ایده اللہ تعالیٰ
delivered on March 02, 2018 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.**

The Holy Prophet’s صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم moral standards

Our Imam, Hadrat *Khalīfatul Masīh V* ایده اللہ تعالیٰ, says:

If we look at the practical example of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم, we see astonishing (moral) standards. Looking at his domestic life, we find him admonishing his wife for mocking the short height of another wife as this would cause emotional pain to the other; and then advising one wife not to show even the slightest displeasure at the actions of the other wives. On occasion he teaches children high morals by telling them not to destroy other people’s fruit by throwing stones at the trees, and that if there is extreme hunger then one can pick up the fruit that has fallen on the ground. But, above all, he prayed that a situation never comes upon them when they have to pick up fruit to eat and that God Himself provides for you. In this way he taught the children to turn to God for the fulfilment of their desires rather than unlawfully taking what belongs to others. Though this may be permissible times of dire need, but we should adopt the higher morals, for this is virtue.

Falsehood is a sin and truthfulness is a lofty moral

Huzoor ایده اللہ تعالیٰ said: Falsehood is a sin and truthfulness is a lofty moral. In order to foster love for truth from the very childhood, the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم gave the following advice. A Companion narrates an incident of his childhood. Once, the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم came to our home. But after a little while whilst the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم was still present, I, due to my immaturity, wanted to go and play outside. Hence, to stop me from leaving this blessed environment, my mother said, "Come here and I will give you something." Upon this, the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم asked, "Do you wish to give him something?" My mother replied, "Yes, I will give him a piece of date." Upon this, the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said, "If this was not your intention and you merely said this in order to call the child, you would have been guilty of the sin of falsehood." In this way this child became aware of the importance of truthfulness and abhorrence for dishonesty at this young age, which he remember and related into adulthood. Once the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said to a man that if you are unable to refrain from every vice, then just stop uttering falsehood.

The leader of a people is their servant

Your high morals will only be recognized when you consider yourself a servant and employ all your abilities in the service of the people. But where do we see such standards? The office-bearers of our Jama'at should be mindful of this.

The two states of morals

High morals are recognized in two states: the state of tribulation and hardship and the state of ease and abundance. The one who in times of tribulation shows patience and seeks to please Allāh, he shows high morals. And the one who, while enjoying abundance and power, remains humble and upholds justice, will be considered a highly moral person. Both these states were manifested in our Holy Prophet ﷺ. Morals can only be manifested in man in two states: that of tribulation or that of plenty. If only one aspect is manifested, then one's true morals cannot be gauged. Since Allāh intended to perfect the Holy Prophet's ﷺ morals, his life was divided into the Meccan and Medinite periods. In Mecca he showed great perseverance in the face of the greatest hardships he suffered at the hands of the enemy. Despite their extreme persecution, he treated them with kindness and compassion and did not falter in his duty of conveying Allah's message to them. Then when he was granted power in Medina and the same enemies were presented before him as prisoners, he forgave most of them and did not seek vengeance despite having the power to do so.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ was the embodiment of all the perfect morals

The Holy Prophet ﷺ is the most perfect role model in that he perfectly manifested all the lofty morals. This is why Allāh said in his praise: انك لعلى خلق العظيم (Al-Qalam: 5) Thus, even in times of tribulation he showed high morals and demonstrated such perseverance that the world was left wonderstruck. And when he was granted power over Arabia, then, as I have said, he forgave the persecutors. These are the high moral standards that a true Muslim should always bear in mind and practice.

Two kinds of morals

Morals are of two kinds. The first are those demonstrated by the newly educated people of today who act hypocritically and flatteringly when meeting someone, whereas their hearts are full of malice. These are contrary to the teachings of the Holy Quran. The second kind of morals are those that come from true sympathy without any hypocrisy or flattery.

One who does not care about the morals is ignorant

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that morals are the key to other virtues. Those who do not refine their morals slowly becomes void of virtue. My belief is that everything in the world serves a purpose, even poison and filth are of use. So remember that it is vitally important to correct our morals, for they are the mother of all virtues.

Be cordial to your parents even if they are nonbelievers

The question is often asked as to how to treat parents who are not Ahmadīs and are actively opposing it. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام while advising a man about his parents said: Pray for them and be sympathetic to them. Show them morals a thousand times higher than before and convince them of the truth of Islam through your holy example. Since they were not Muslims, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام told him to show such an example that they would become convinced of the truth of Islam. The miracle of morals is such that other miracles cannot equal it. The hallmark of true Islam is that it leads man to the highest moral state and he is distinguished on account of it. Perhaps God will impress the love of Islam in their hearts through you. Islam does not stop you from serving your parents. In worldly matters, which do not affect your faith, you should fully obey them and should serve them with all your heart and soul.

The demon of pride deprives man from doing good deeds

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: Pride is another evil that deprives people from virtue and incurs Divine displeasure. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: The Sufis say that there are demons of ill-morals in man. When one starts to get rid of them, the last one to leave is that of pride or egotism which only leaves by the grace of God and man's fervent prayers. There are many who show humility and think that they are very humble, and yet they have a kind of egotism in them. Therefore we should try to beware of the minute forms of egotism. For some, pride is born out of wealth and they look down upon others who are less fortunate. Sometimes pride is born out of family association where a person considers himself to be of a superior race than others. Sometimes pride is born out of knowledge, whereby one is quick to point out a wrong word uttered by another and cries out that this person cannot even speak correctly. In short, there are various kinds of pride, and all of them deprive a person of virtue and from benefitting people. We should avoid every one of them.

Abandoning the morals is sin and evil

Abandoning of the morals is sin and evil. If you discard the morals, this will lead to sin and misconduct and you will be deprived of the ability to do good. For instance, when a person commits adultery, he doesn't realize how much pain he causes to the woman's husband. Now, if he could feel this pain and anguish and possessed morals, he would never do such a thing. Had he been aware of the dangerous implications of his evil action, he would at once desist. Sometimes a thief steals and does not leave a poor man with anything to eat. Sometimes he deprives a poor man of what he has accumulated over years.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor ابوہ اللہ تعالیٰ to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'īlā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 07 Mar. 18