

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 delivered by *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 3rd August 2018 at *Hadiqa-tul-Mahdī*, Alton UK.

All delegates should benefit from the three days of spiritual atmosphere and strengthen their spiritual and intellectual prowess.

Our Imām, *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper), says:

Today, by the grace of Allāh, we are participating in yet another *Jalsa Sālāna*. All the delegates of this three-day event should try to benefit from its spiritual atmosphere. The *Jalsa* will only benefit us if we listen to all the programs attentively and in silence.

All those performing duties in the *Jalsa* are volunteers, therefore there are bound to be shortcomings in the performance of their duties, and it is the duty of all the participants to overcome these shortcomings.

Today I will say few words of advice to both; the volunteers and the attendees. First, I will say to the workers that they have volunteered to serve the guests who are coming to attend the *Jalsa* of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). These people are not coming to take part in a worldly festival, rather they are coming with the intention of raising their spiritual standards. Remember that, regardless of the attitude of the participants, the volunteers must show the highest moral standards and be mindful of the feelings of their guests. Even if a guest shows a wrong attitude, the worker must keep his own emotions in control and not respond in a negative way. Since the workers have volunteered themselves for the pleasure of Allāh, they should also put up with any wrong attitude of the guests in order to win Allāh’s pleasure.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: While on one hand, Allāh speaks of the great moral standards of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and his hospitality, He also reminds the guests not to overstep their bounds and not to make unfair use of hospitality. Every Aḥmadī, whether he is a guest or a worker, should exhibit the highest morals, but the responsibility is greater for those who have volunteered to serve the guests of the *Jalsa*. If the workers show cordiality, the guests will be ashamed to show a negative attitude. So every worker, wherever his/her duty may be, should take it as a challenge to display the highest morals. We should act upon the verse

وَعُولُوا لِلنَّاسِ حُسْنًا

And speak to men kindly. (2:84)

And remember that we all together have to make this a cordial atmosphere so that we can fulfil the purpose for which we have come together. Thus, regardless of the demeanour shown by the other, the workers must always keep a smile on their faces.

At the same time, I would like to remind the guests, that the large-scale arrangements of the *Jalsa* are being made by volunteers, and they are not our servants, rather many of them are of high ranks and have come here to serve because of their love for the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). Therefore, if you see any minor shortcomings, overlook them and keep in mind the one purpose which has brought you here, which is to listen to the words of Allāh and His Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). With this attitude there will be no room for complaints.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Cooking is an important aspect of the hospitality department. The typical meal of the *Jalsa* consists of meat and potatoes, lentils, and roti. Those doing the cooking should make sure that the food, particularly the meat, is well cooked. I hope that the guests will not make any such complaints, but if they do they will be justified in doing so. However, when making such a complaint, it should not be done in an angry manner, but just in a polite way drawing the attention of the management towards an issue.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The guests should remember that the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) has described this *Jalsa* as being solely for the sake of God. Therefore, participants should avoid wasting time on frivolous activities and should listen to the *Jalsa* programs attentively and not leave the marquee unless it is an emergency. The attendance of all the programs should be like it is now. Also, punctually offer the five daily prayers along with your children. If you are staying here at *Hadiqa-tul-Mahdī* then offer the prayer here, or if you are staying at home then make sure you attend the evening prayers at the nearest prayer centre or mosque. If there is no prayer centre or mosque close by, then arrange for congregational prayer at home. Likewise, volunteers who are free should come and offer prayers here, and those who are busy should offer them when their duty is over. The shifts should be arranged in such a way that each one has the opportunity to offer their prayers. If we are not mindful of our prayers, all our efforts will be in vain.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Participants who come on their own cars should cooperate with the organisers and park their cars where they are asked to park. Those who come to pray at *Masjid Fadl* should park properly so that the passages to people's homes are not blocked. Put yourself in difficulty if you have to, but do not cause hardship for the neighbours.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The department of cleanliness also needs a lot of attention. When people use toilets, they should make sure that they leave them clean and dry. Even though this is the task of the workers, it should not be totally left to them and everyone should do his share of duty. Similarly, if you see any garbage (glasses, tins or plastic bags etc.) on the pathways or in the grounds, pick it up and throw it into the garbage bins.

These days the grass is very dry due to hot weather and lack of rain and is at risk of burning, therefore, the workers and guests should avoid throwing any kind of fire, flame or cigarette.

Also keep an eye on the surroundings from the security point of view. If you see anything or anyone suspicious, alert anyone who is on duty close by. The ladies should also be watchful. No lady should enter with her face veiled. Proper screening should be done upon entrance, and if this takes time and the guests have to wait, it should be borne patiently because security is important. Sometimes there are complaints of women making a lot of noise, this too should be avoided.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed: May Allāh enable us to derive maximum benefit from the *Jalsa* and to act upon what we hear. Pray for the success of the *Jalsa* that may Allāh bless it in every way and protect us against every mischief and that we may reap the blessings for which we have gathered here. *Amīn*.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'ālā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 09 August 2018