

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 *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) on 14 September 2018 at Brussels, Belgium.**

**Our Imam, *Ḥaḍrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) said:**

By the Grace of Allāh, *Jalsa Sālāna* of Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya Belgium is starting today. I am participating in this *Jalsa* after quite a long time. During this time the Jamā‘at has grown with many new people joining the Jamā‘at, and there has been progress in other aspects as well. The number of mission houses, mosques and prayer centres has grown. A big mosque is being built in Brussels and is nearing completion. The day before yesterday I inaugurated a mosque in Alken which has a big area and a large building. Thus we see that God has greatly blessed the Jamā‘at. These blessings should also remind the Jamā‘at to understand and act upon God’s commandments. Every new day should see us grow in piety, righteousness and in fulfilling the objectives of the advent of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him). We should leave our evil traits behind and attain new levels of piety.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Most of you have come to this country because you were not free to practice your faith in your own countries. But if you still do not follow Allāh’s commandments, this can result in God’s displeasure. Attending to the world to an extent and earning is not a sin, but God has forbidden us to be attached to the world like worldly people. The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says that we should involve ourselves in worldly affairs only to the extent that they are helpful in our religious endeavours. Our faith should be our ultimate objective. We do not forbid anyone from worldly ventures, but the condition is that our faith should be our true objective. Do earn a living to meet the needs of your family, for this is your responsibility, but do not become so engrossed in your jobs and in accumulating money that you forget about your faith and all your attention revolves around the world. So even in earning a living we are following God’s commandment by fulfilling our obligations towards our children and serving faith. If this becomes our objective, then you will attain both the world and the faith. But if someone is totally engrossed in the world and leaves no room for God, then he only paves the way for his own deprivation.

The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says: The means of the world are like a vehicle that carries man onto the higher stages of

faith. Thus you should make the world a servant of the faith and not become its servant and bid farewell to your faith. And earn a living in a way that spreads goodness and excellence, and do not adopt ways that hurt other fellow human beings or cause embarrassment to the community. Thus, each one of us should endeavour to earn worldly material in a way that also earns us the good of the Hereafter. We should not immerse ourselves in the lustre of this world, for then, instead of attaining goodness, we will merit God's displeasure. The world's pleasures and lustre only leads to increasing restlessness and anxiety. Man thinks that he can find peace in worldly material, but true peace is not to be found therein.

The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says: Do not think that worldly wealth, dominion, honour and large progeny can bring you peace and contentment. The fact is that true peace and tranquillity, which is the gift of paradise, comes not from these things but from living and dying for the sake of God. The pleasures of the world only increase impure desires and thirst. Thus they are like the fire of hell that never leaves man in peace and always torments him with anxiety and doubt and frustration. If you immerse yourself into these worldly things more than it is necessary, then there will appear a barrier between you and God, so that neither man moves towards God, nor God moves towards man. God says that He comes towards man only if man takes the first step towards Him. In order to remove this barrier, the world has to be held subservient to the faith. Wealth and children are called *fitna* (source of trial) because they create a barrier between God and man. The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says: Heat is produced by the rubbing of two objects. Thus as a result of the rubbing of man's love and world's love, a heat is generated which burns away the love of God. And the heart becomes estranged from God after becoming dark. However, when the love for worldly things is only for the sake of God as allowed by Him then the heat, generated through the rubbing, burns away the love for everything else other than the love for God. And the heart becomes full of light and illumination, and man's and God's will becomes alike. God desires that you submit to Him completely, and do not turn to Him only now and then, and when you see worldly benefits you turn away from Him and forget Him.

The purpose of the *Jalsa* is that the members of the Jamā'at, by regularly coming into contact with each other, should attain such a state of transformation that their hearts become inclined towards the hereafter; they should adopt piety, chastity, sympathy, mutual love and brotherhood, and become an example for others in this respect; and they should become humble and righteous and have a zeal for religious endeavours. Every person should do some introspection in this regard.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Listen carefully to the proceedings of the *Jalsa*. We have to act upon what we learn so that we can undergo a positive transformation. When you come for the *Jalsa* you should attend all the proceedings patiently and listen to everything that is said for your intellectual and practical benefit.

Speaking about some administrative matters, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Having hired this venue for the *Jalsa*, we should be mindful of our surroundings. Neither the authorities nor the neighbours should feel inconvenient in any way. Others will only learn about true Islām when they see how law-abiding Aḥmadīs are. Also, focus on prayers and *Durood* and remembrance of Allāh during the *Jalsa* and attend the prayers punctually. Listen to the speeches carefully and attend every event of the *Jalsa*.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Sometimes when people come together for the *Jalsa*, old grievances can surface; we have to maintain the atmosphere of the *Jalsa* in this regard and not say or do anything hurtful that will create a wrong image of the Jamā‘at. If there is any shortcoming in the food department, be patient, everything will be taken care of. May Allāh bless this *Jalsa* in every way. All participants should keep praying and attending congregational prayers. May Allāh accept the Promised Messiah’s (May peace be upon him) prayers in your favour. *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‘lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 20 September 2018