

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Aḥmadiyya,

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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 29th March 2019 at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

Our Imām, *Hadrat Khalīfa-tul-Masīh V* (May Allāh be his Helper) continued with the account of the Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) who participated in the Battle of *Badr* and said: today first of them about whom I will speak is;

Ḥaḍrat *Tulaib Bin 'Umair* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

He was known by the epithet *Abu 'Adi*. His mother's name was *Arwā* and she was the daughter of *Abdul Muttalib*. Thus she was the paternal aunt of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). He was among the earliest converts to Islām, having accepted Islām at the time of *Dar-e-Arqam*, he is said to be the first Muslim who injured an idolater for insulting the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). Ḥaḍrat *Tulaib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was among the Muslims who migrated to Abyssinia but returned after hearing rumours that that the *Quraish* had converted to Islām. After migrating from Mecca to Medina he stayed at the house of Ḥaḍrat *'Abdullah bin Salamah 'Ajlani* (May Allāh be pleased with him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) established bond of brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat *Tulaib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Munzir bin 'Amr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Ḥaḍrat *Tulaib* (May Allāh be pleased with him) participated in the battle of *Badr* and is counted amongst the eminent Companions. He participated in the battle of *Ajnadain* which took place in 13AH. He attained martyrdom in this battle at the age of 35. *Ajnadain* was an part of Syria where a battle was fought between Muslims and Romans. According to some sources, he was martyred in the battle of *Yarmūk*.

Ḥaḍrat *Salim Maulā ibn Abi Huzaiifah* (May Allāh be pleased with him):

His epithet was *Abu 'Abdullah* and his father's name was *M'aqil*. He hailed from the Persian territory of *Istakhr*. He is counted among the eminent Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) and among the *Muhajireen*. He migrated to Medina prior to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) established a bond of brotherhood between Ḥaḍrat *Salim and Mu'āz bin Ma'is* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He had been a slave of Ḥaḍrat *Thubaitah bint Ya'ār*, the wife of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Huzaiifah* (May Allāh be pleased with him), but she freed him as a *Sāibah*, which means that a slave is freed purely for the sake of Allāh and the previous owner would not have any right over any property he left behind after his demise. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Huzaiifah* adopted Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) as his son, therefore he also became known as *Salim bin Abi Huzaiifa*. Ḥaḍrat *Abu Huzaiifa* (May Allāh be pleased with him) wedded him to his niece *Fatima bint Waleed*. *Muhammad bin*

J'afar relates that when Ḥaḍrat *Abu Huzaifah* (May Allāh be pleased with him) and Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) migrated from Mecca to Medina, they took residence at the house of Ḥaḍrat *'Abbad bin Bishr* (May Allāh be pleased with him).

Ḥaḍrat *Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that when the first of the *Muhajireen* came from Mecca to Medina they stayed at a place called *'Usbah* close to *Quba*, and Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to lead prayer because he knew more of the Holy Qur'ān than the others. Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was a *Qari* of the Holy Quran and was among the four Companions about whom the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that they could teach the Holy Qur'ān.

Ḥaḍrat *Mirzā Bashir Aḥmad Ṣāhib* (May Allah be pleased with him) writes that even the freed slaves among the Companions had a great status in terms of knowledge and wisdom. For example, *Salim bin Ma'qil* was among the most eminent of the Companions. He was also among the four Companions the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) appointed to teach the Holy Quran, which means that the Holy Prophet (May Allah's Blessings be upon him) appointed them his deputies in this matter.

When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) was wounded in the battle of *Uhud*, Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) had the honour of washing his wounds. Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) relates that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that on the Day of Judgement a people will be brought forward whose good deeds would be as vast as the *Tihamah* mountain, but God would render them all void and put them in fire. Thereupon, Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) asked, "O Prophet of Allāh, please specify for us who these people are so that we may recognize them. I swear by God who has sent you with the truth that I fear regarding myself lest I be among those." The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that they would be those people who would offer prayer, observe fasting, sleep little at night and offer *Nawafil*, but whenever something unlawful is brought before them they would eagerly partake of it. They will follow worldly desires and not differentiate between the lawful and the unlawful. This is why Allāh will render their good deeds a void.

On the occasion of the Battle of *Yamamah*, Ḥaḍrat *Salim* (May Allāh be pleased with him) was asked to safeguard the Muslim flag, but some said that they feared for his life, whereupon he said, "I am an eminent bearer of the Holy Qur'ān," meaning that, having so much knowledge of the Holy Qur'ān, it did not behove him not to act upon its teachings. When his right hand was cut off during the battle, he held the flag with his left hand, and when that was also cut he held it tight with his neck. He was martyred in this battle in 12AH during the Khilāfat of Ḥaḍrat *Abu Bakr* (May Allāh be pleased with him). Upon his demise, people said that one-fourth of the Holy Qur'ān was gone, meaning that one of the four persons whom the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had appointed to teach the Holy Qur'ān had passed away.

Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān bin Malik (May Allāh be pleased with him):

He belonged to *Banu Salim bin Auf* branch of *Khazraj* tribe. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) had established bond of brotherhood between him and Ḥaḍrat *Umar* (May Allāh be pleased with him). He participated in the Battles of *Badr*, *Uhud* and *Khandaq*. He lost his sight during the lifetime of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him). He passed away during the reign of Ḥaḍrat

Mu'awiyah (May Allāh be pleased with him). When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) migrated to Medina, Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān bin Malik (May Allāh be pleased with him) and some of his friends came forward and requested that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) stay with them, but the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that the camel should be left alone for it was ordained and will sit wherever God willed.

According to one account when Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān bin Malik (May Allāh be pleased with him) lost his eyesight, he sought permission from the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) to be excused from attending the mosque for congregational prayer. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) asked him whether he could hear the *Adhan* (call to prayer) from his house, to which he replied that he could. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) therefore did not excuse him from attending the mosque. According to some accounts, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) later gave him permission to offer his prayers at home.

According to an account in *Sahih Bukhari*, Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān (May Allāh be pleased with him) used to lead prayer for his people and he was blind. Once he said to the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) that sometime it was dark and there was flooding due to rain and he was blind, so he requested that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) to offer prayer at his home so that he could make it his prayer place. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) came and asked where he would like him to pray. Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān (May Allāh be pleased with him) specified a place in the house and the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) offered his prayer there.

Huzoor (May Allah be his Helper) said: While the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) allowed him to pray at home he did so only with the condition that Ḥaḍrat 'Itbān (May Allāh be pleased with him) would offer prayer at home in congregation. If it were permissible to offer prayer alone at home, the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) would have granted him permission on account of his disability.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We should always remember this teaching. If the distances are long and people don't have time to come to the mosque, then Aḥmadīs should set up mosque centres in their homes where people of the neighbourhood can gather to pray. May Allāh enable us to act upon these teachings. *Amīn*.

At the end of the sermon, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) informed the Jamā'at about the sad demise of *Ghulām Mustafa Awan Ṣāḥib* of Rabwah, and *Amatul Hayee Ṣāḥiba*, wife of *Muhammad Nawaz Ṣāḥib Kathgarhi* of Rabwah, and led their funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah) Wakīl A'lā,
Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.
Dated: 03 April 2019