

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President  
Jamā‘at Ahmadīyya,

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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 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 at the Jalsa Gah at Hadiqatul Mahdi, Hampshire, UK.**

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today Allāh has once again given us the opportunity to participate in Jalsa Sālāna UK. This Jalsa has acquired a special status and people all over the world take note of it. This Jalsa is not just the Jalsa of the UK Jamā‘at. Even though Jalsa Germany has also acquired an international status, Jalsa Sālāna UK is the central Jalsa because this is where Khilāfat is based. This is why people from all over the world, Ahmadīs and non-Ahmadīs, make efforts to participate in this Jalsa.

With regard to the duties and responsibilities of the volunteers, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The passion and zeal with which you have come to serve the guests of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) should be kept up till the end. The work of winding up after the Jalsa can last up to a week. The fact that you have kept alive your zeal and passion will be demonstrated by the smile and cordiality with which you treat the guests.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Allāh loves hospitality, so much so that He has mentioned it twice in the Holy Qur’ān with reference to Ḥaḍrat *Ibrahīm* (May peace be upon him). If presenting food before guests were a small matter, the Holy Qur’ān would not have mentioned it on each of the occasion when the guests arrived. The first thing Ḥaḍrat *Ibrahīm* (May peace be upon him) did after exchanging greetings was to present a roasted calf, which was the best he could do in those circumstances. To kill an animal and present it before the guests was the best means of hospitality that could readily be offered at the time. Today we should show hospitality according to our own circumstances. It is not necessary to find calves, rather we should present whatever is readily available. The Holy Prophet’s (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) example was that he presented before his guests whatever was readily available, whether it was dates, meat or any good meal, or a goat’s milk. And if he happened to have nothing at all, he would ask some Companion to take the guest to his house and be his host.

The three signs that the Holy Prophet (May Allāh’s Blessings be upon him) mentioned as the hallmark of those who believe in Allāh and Hereafter are related to fulfilling obligations to one another and keeping the peace of society. The first is to say what is good or to keep silent. That is to say, not to destroy the peace of society

and create mutual discord by speaking frivolously. The second is to respect one's neighbour and to be mindful of one's obligations towards the neighbour. In this respect, all those who have come to attend this Jalsa are neighbours, whether they are guests or duty workers. The guests should respect the volunteers, and the volunteers should respect the guests. The third sign is that they honour their guests. This is particularly for the hosts. These three points are the basis of a beautiful and harmonious society. They are among the commandments of Allāh and signs of true believers.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: When the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) received many visitors at the same time, he would divide them among his Companions to be taken care of. Later he would ask the guests whether they were properly treated by their hosts. The Companions, who were taught and trained by the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), also showed such hospitality to these guests that they admitted that their brothers had treated them better than themselves and had served them food better than they had eaten themselves. Just as those visitors had come to understand and acquire knowledge of the faith, so have these guests come to this Jalsa at the behest of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) purely for spiritual purposes. Hence, we have to extend special hospitality to them.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Companions of the Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him), whose example we are taught to emulate, made sacrifices to provide for their guests; likewise, there are many in the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) who serve these guests with a spirit of sacrifice, which is how it should be. All workers, no matter what duty is assigned to them, should serve the guests with good humour and a spirit of sacrifice. Sometimes when the guests act inappropriately, the hosts have to make sacrifice of their emotions and show patience and not respond. This is because we know that the guests have come here with the pure intention of quenching their religious and spiritual thirst. Such are the high moral standards we need in order to host our guests in this age. We find many examples from the life of the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) where he empathised with the guests and set high examples in this regard. The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) once said to his workers, "See, we receive many guests, some you recognize, others you don't. It is therefore necessary to treat them all with equal respect and care. I trust that you make the guests comfortable." Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: We have to live up to the same trust today.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I would now like to say a few words to the guests. First of all, everyone should be mindful of the feelings of others, whether they be guests or hosts. While Islām stresses the need to honour and respect the guests, it also teaches them not become a burden on their hosts. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) said that if a guest stays so long at someone's house that he starts to become a burden, it is as if he is partaking of charity. Not everyone has the means to take proper care of the guest from beginning to end,

therefore, the guest should also be mindful of the circumstances of the host. If you have to stay for long, then live like the people of the household. But when there is a sense of someone being a burden, then love and sincerity are lost and there can be no harmony. Hence, the guests should also fulfil their obligations.

Another injunction that needs to be followed by the guests of the Jalsa in particular is to extend the greeting of *Assalam o Alaikum* (peace be upon you) to one another. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) says that one of the signs of the dwellers of paradise is that they greet each other with a greeting of peace. The Holy Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) says: Say *salam* to everyone, whether you know him or not. In describing the aims of the Jalsa, the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says that its purpose is that people should come together to foster their relationship of love and brotherhood. Saying *salam* to one another is an excellent mean for doing so. And it also serves to dispel any resentments and grievances.

The Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) says that one of the aims of the Jalsa is that people should strive to extinguish their love for the world and the love of Allāh and His Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) should become dominant over their hearts. To do this, it is important to attend all the programs of the Jalsa and listen to them attentively, to remember Allāh as you move about, and to offer the congregational prayers with special care, and also to try to offer *Tahajjud* and *Nawāfil*. This is particularly important for those who are staying at the Jalsa Gah in order to create this a holy atmosphere and to grow in spirituality. This is a major task that the Promised Messiah (May peace be upon him) has assigned to us that the love of Allāh and His Prophet (May Allāh's Blessings be upon him) should become dominant over our hearts. If the participants of the Jalsa keep these objectives in mind and strive to attain them, then they have indeed achieved the purpose of the Jalsa, and things such as food and lodging become secondary for them. The primary purpose should be to grow in spirituality, and if this is achieved then the objectives of the Jalsa are achieved.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The guests should also bear in mind that there are bound to be some shortcomings in the making of provisional arrangements at such a large scale, and if they see any faults they should try to overlook them and, if possible, help out the workers. Such should be the attitude of an Ahmadī that fosters harmony in society. The guests should not waste their time assessing and testing the hosts, rather they should extend their help in every department. Sometimes there can be difficulties arising from traffic jams. When such emergencies arise, those who come on their cars should show patience and cooperate with the organisers. Sometimes there are complaints about men as well as women that they are not cooperating. Similarly, at the entrances where the cards are scanned, people normally stand patiently in queue waiting for their turn, but sometimes one or two people can disturb the atmosphere. Everyone should try to be patient even if it takes a little time so that the queue can flow smoothly.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I always say to the participants of the Jalsa that they should keep an eye on their surroundings and follow the guidances given by the organisers with respect to security. Most of all, keep praying for the fulfilment of the objectives of the Jalsa and for safety from any mischief makers. Special prayers are needed for the progress of the Jamā'at which is causing the jealous to grow in animosity. Prayers are also needed for Ahmadīs in Pakistan where it seems that opposition against the Jamā'at is increasing once again. May Allāh grant them peace and security and safeguard them against every mischief. May Allāh frustrate all the old and new designs of the opponents.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: I want to remind the participants that this year too there are various exhibitions set up by various departments, such as the central archives, *Review of Religions*, photo exhibition, etc. These are very informative and everyone should try to visit them in their free time.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: Today a new Smart TV app will be launched by MTA International. With this app, users of LG, Philips, Amazon, Fire TV, Sony and Android can watch without antenna all the channels of MTA, including MTA 1, MTA 2, MTA 3, MTA 3 Al-Arabia, and MTA Africa. By the grace of Allāh, MTA is already available in the US on the Samsung platform. People living all over the world can benefit from this app. I will launch this app after the Friday prayer. May Allāh bless this Jalsa in every way and enable all of us to benefit from it. *Amīn*.

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

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadīyya Pakistan.

Dated: 8 August 2019