

Summary Friday Sermon 16 April 2021

Delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Al-Khamis (a.b.a.)

After Tashahhud, Ta'awwaz and the recitation of Surah Al-Fatehah, Huzur-e-Anwar recited verses 184-187 of Surah Baqarah and also relayed its translation. Later on Huzur-e-Anwar said:

By the grace of Allah we are once again living through the month of Ramadan. We should remember that it is not enough to just pass through this month or to just perform Sehri and Iftaar. This does not achieve the goals related to fasting. Allah Almighty has asked us to fast so that we could excel spiritually. Allah Almighty has also given guidance as to how we can achieve nearness to him through means of fasting and how our prayers can be heard by Him. On the other hand He has also given us the provision to fast later in case someone is ill or travelling. For those who are unable to fast later, due to illness, they have been given the option to pay fidiya. People who are well-off and can easily pay fidiya have been instructed to pay fidiya and also fulfill their fasts later on.

The descending of the Holy Quran during Ramadan has also been mentioned. During the month of Ramadan, Allah Almighty descends till the lowest sky and listens to prayers. But there are conditions related to this. It is necessary to obey and fulfill Allah's commandments. Huzur-e-Anwar said, I will now present the writings of Hazrat Masih-e-Maoud (as) as to how we can make our prayers be heard, the importance thereof, what we have to change within ourselves to achieve this and what are the conditions for our prayers to be heard. Sometimes people simply pray ordinarily and think that this should be enough and that they do not need to pray anymore. However, Allah Almighty says that this is not acceptable. First you have to accept all that I (Allah) ask and fulfill all commandments related to Ramadan. Take a look at yourselves to assess the level of your righteousness, whether or not you veer astray in case of hardships.

Huzur-e-Anwar says that this is indeed a process in which the human being has to take a first step. When he reaches the ultimate limits while trying, it is then that Allah Almighty turns towards him and bestows His blessings upon him. It is very important for us to understand this concept.

Huzur-e-Anwar said, pray a lot during these days by reciting

أَهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ﴿٦﴾

. People have gone astray; hence we should pray “guide us to the straight path”.

اجيب كل دعائك

Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) says that 'Allah has told me :

meaning, “I [Allah] will accept all your prayers”. Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) says, but here all prayers are those prayers that are not harmful for man.

Sometimes, a person considers something better for him while Allah Almighty knows that it is not and thus He does not accept the prayers in the manner that the person wants Him too.

While discussing the philosophy of prayers, Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) says, 'Although a small child does not know the meaning of prayer, when he feels hungry and starts crying for mothers milk, the mother has a biological response to feed the child. This is a phenomenon that everyone understands very well. Sometimes, the mother is completely unaware but when she hears her child crying she immediately responds to it. It is as though a child's cries have a certain relationship to the mother's responses'. Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) says, 'I say this to you truthfully, that if we cry in front of Allah Almighty with the same intensity, He would respond with the same measure of mercy'.

Later on Huzur-e-Anwar presented some more writings of Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) and then said, 'during this month of Ramadan, we should try to obey Allah Almighty to get closer to Him, to become more righteous, to understand the philosophy of prayers better, to reform our actions and become part of the people whose prayers are accepted by Allah. May this Ramadan bring about a revolutionary spiritual change in us'. Huzur-e-Anwar said, 'pray for your brothers, Ahmadi's who live in Pakistan or Algeria or any other place where the Jamaat has difficulties. In Pakistan events take place on a daily basis where Ahmadis are persecuted. So we should especially pray for them. Similarly they are thinking of reopening the cases against the Ahmadis in Algeria. May Allah protect them. Always remember, that when you pray for others, your prayers are heard as well. In fact, when you pray for others, Angels pray for you. Indeed this is a profitable bargain. Hence we should try to pray a lot for others and not just for ourselves. May Allah enable us to do so during this Ramadan'.