

Summary Friday Sermon 21 May 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 said:

We were discussing Hazrat Umar (ra). With regards to his participation in holy wars it has been written that he took part in all three wars of Badr, Ahad and Khandaq alongside the Holy Prophet (pbuh). He also took part in other wars as Amir during which the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was not present. With regards to prisoners of war, it is written that during the War of Badr, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) asked for the advice of his disciples on what should be done with prisoners. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) advised that, although these people fought against us, they are our relatives after all. It is possible they might accept Islam later on, so we should charge them a fine (fidya) and then let them go. Hazrat Umar (ra) gave completely different advice. He said that we should kill them all, as is customary with the Arabs. However, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) accepted Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) advice and acted upon it.

Huzur-e-Anwar explained this incident and said, according to some scholars; the advice that was given by Hazrat Umar (ra) was in accordance to what has been written in the Holy Quran. As Allah states:

“[8:68] It does not behove a Prophet that he should have captives until he engages in regular fighting in the land. You desire the goods of the world, while Allah desires for you the Hereafter. And Allah is Mighty, Wise.”

Huzur-e-Anwar explained this verse of the Holy Quran and gave references of Hazrat Musleh Maoud (ra), who said that this sort of interpretation is incorrect. The meaning of this verse is just referencing the customs of the Arabian world, where they would take people prisoners without having waged a war (so without reason). Islam has taught us that you can only take prisoners of war if there was factually a war. After that Huzur-e-Anwar spoke in detail over the events that took place during the war of Ahad. After having incurred severe losses, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) returned to Medina Munawara with the Muslims. A lot of hypocrites and Jews mocked the Muslims. When Hazrat Umar (ra) saw this he sought permission from the Holy Prophet (pbuh) to kill all those hypocrites. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) replied to this by saying, “Do these people (the hypocrites) not recite the Kalima?” Hazrat Umar (ra) replied “Yes, but they also keep

behaving as hypocrites. They only recite the Kalima out of fear of the sword". The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said, "I have been stopped to kill any such person that has recited the Kalima".

At the end, Huzur-e-Anwar asked the Jamaat to pray for the innocent Palestinians. He said, although there is a ceasefire, history tells us the enemy finds some reason or another and keeps attacking them off and on. May Allah grant them such leaders who would actually work hard for their rights. Huzur-e-Anwar also asked to pray for the innocent Ahmadi victims of the world. He also spoke of some of the deceased and spoke of their services to the Jamaat and prayed for their salvation.