

## **Summary Friday Sermon 8 October 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 proceeded on with the topic of the wars fought during the time of Hazrat Umar (ra).

His Holiness (aba) quoted the historian Allamah Shibli Nu'mani who commented on the various conquests and the expansion of Islamic rule during the era of Hazrat Umar (ra). His Holiness (aba) said that it is important to know about the historical context of these conquests in order to better understand them.

His Holiness (aba) quotes some Western historians who presented various aspects about the Persian and Byzantine rules, which made it inevitable for them to eventually fall to the Muslims. They said that there was a sect which was not accepted but was continuing to grow. They wished to establish things such as equal rights for all including women. When they realised that Muslims were just and granted freedoms to all, they became their supporters. Similarly amongst the Christians, there was a similar sect who saw the Muslims as a means of support, and thus, the Muslims received support from two great factions in their quest.

His Holiness (aba) said that as for the question of how the Muslims were able to overthrow such empires, Allamah Shibli Nu'mani says that the primary factor was the zeal and fortitude instilled in the Muslims by the Holy Prophet (sa) which was fostered further by Hazrat Umar (ra). Furthermore, the Muslims were fair and honest, which would turn even those of different faiths in their favour and support. Furthermore, these empires whose leaders were rooted in injustice could never compete against the Muslims, who were instructed by Hazrat Umar (ra) not only to never kill the innocent, but not even to cut down the trees of the opposing side.

His Holiness (aba) further quoted Allamah Shibli Nu'mani who further expressed the great leadership of Hazrat Umar (ra) in these conquests. He said that the zeal of an army can only be of true benefit when they are led by someone with the same zeal. It was thus that the Muslim army was always prepared to follow Hazrat Umar (ra) and whatever he said upon even a mere indication. An even greater testament is the fact that Hazrat Umar (ra) was never

physically present during these conquests, yet whatever happened was only after his approval and guidance.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said that if there were a prophet right after him it would be Hazrat Umar (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that after the Friday prayer, he would lead the funeral prayers in-absentia of two members.