

## Summary Friday Sermon November 12, 2021

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

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) said that he would continue highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Umar (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that once, Hazrat Umar's (ra) daughter said to him that he had been granted victories and wealth, so why did he not eat better foods and wear better clothes? Hazrat Umar (ra) replied by asking her, 'Did the Holy Prophet (sa) not endure great hardships during his life?' He said that he would continue to endure hardships, like the Holy Prophet (sa) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) had before him, so that perhaps he too may reap the same blessings.

His Holiness (aba) said that once, Hazrat Umar's (ra) children and some others said to him, that if he ate better foods, he would be stronger and better able to fulfil his duties. Hazrat Umar (ra) acknowledged their sentiments, however he said that if he left the path of those before him, i.e. the Holy Prophet (sa) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), then he would not be able to achieve the same rank.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Second Caliph (ra), who explained that the Holy Prophet (sa) taught simplicity, and said that while eating, there should not be more than one dish. The companions followed this very staunchly, in fact, once Hazrat Umar (ra) was presented with some vinegar, and salt. Hazrat Umar (ra) said that these were two separate dishes and that he would only take one. His Holiness (aba) said that although these days people are living more comfortably, they should not be excessive in what they eat.

His Holiness (aba) said that once, someone saw Hazrat Umar (ra) carrying a waterskin and asked him why he was carrying it himself? Hazrat Umar (ra) responded that some people had come to see him and had shown the utmost obedience to him. This led him to feel important, and in order to rid himself of this feeling and humble himself, he decided to carry the waterskin on his own.

His Holiness (aba) said that once there was a caravan accompanying Hazrat Umar (ra) back to Madinah. On the way, Hazrat Umar (ra) recalled how his father used to be quite strict, and he had to do a lot of work, bringing wood on the backs of camels, and then bringing shrubbery on the backs of those camels. He said now, he was the leader of an entire nation and that people came to see him from far and wide.

In the end Huzur-e-Anwar spoke of some of the deceased and announced their prayers in absentia.