

Summary Friday Sermon December 3rd, 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 begin highlighting the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) name was Abdullah, and his father's name was Uthman bin Amir. His filial appellation was Abu Bakr, and he was also known by the names Ateeq and Siddiq. It is said that he was born in 573. He was from the tribe of the Quraish called Taim bin Murrah. Before Islam, his name was Abdul Ka'bah, which the Holy Prophet (sa) later changed to Abdullah.

Both parents of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) accepted Islam. His father had not accepted Islam until the Conquest of Makkah, by which time he had lost his sight. During the conquest of Makkah, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) took his father to the Holy Prophet (sa). Upon seeing him, the Holy Prophet (sa) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) should have left him at home, and he would have visited him at his home. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said that it was more appropriate for him to come to the Holy Prophet (sa), rather than the Holy Prophet (sa) going to him. Then, the Holy Prophet (sa) placed his hand on Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) father's chest, and invited him to Islam, at which point he accepted and entered the fold of Islam.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) mother was one of the foremost people to accept Islam. During the era of Dar-e-Arqam when Muslims were still practising in secret, one day Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) suggested to the Holy Prophet (sa) that they should go to the Sacred Mosque. There, with the Holy Prophet (sa) present, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) delivered a speech inviting people to Islam. In this way, after the Holy Prophet (sa), Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was the first to publicly speak and invite people to Islam. Upon this, the disbelievers severely beat Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), as a result of which his face became so swollen, that his nose could not be distinguished. After taking him away, people were certain that he would pass away due to his injuries. He was unable to speak, but when he finally was by the end of the day, he asked about the Holy Prophet (sa), but no one was able to answer him. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra)

asked his mother to go to Umm Jamil and ask her about the Holy Prophet (sa), as she was Muslim but had not made this public knowledge. Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) mother went, and brought Umm Jamil back with her, and she informed Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) that the Holy Prophet (sa) was alright. Later, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was taken to see the Holy Prophet (sa) with the help of his mother. When in the presence of the Holy Prophet (sa), he was overcome with emotion, and the Holy Prophet (sa) kissed Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra). Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) asked the Holy Prophet (sa) to pray for his mother, upon which he invited her to accept Islam. She accepted the Holy Prophet's (sa) invitation and entered the fold of Islam.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was known by the names Ateeq and Siddiq. He was called Ateeq because one day, the Holy Prophet (sa) said to him that he was saved from the fire. Thus, he became known by this title of Ateeq, which means one with excellent qualities. Ateeq also means old or ancient, and some say he was known by this title because he always possessed excellent qualities and was of the foremost to accept Islam.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was also known as Siddiq.

His Holiness (aba) said that even before accepting Islam, he was regarded as an honourable person. He was a businessman and dealt with excellent morals. People would often come to him for advice on various matters. He became known as one of Arabia's most successful businessmen. He was among the most pious people, and was extremely generous.

His Holiness (aba) said even before Islam, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was averse to idol worship, and never bowed down before any idol. He was also averse to the consumption of alcohol and never consumed it even before the time of Islam. When asked why he never drank alcohol, he said it was because he was mindful of his honour and piety, which cannot be maintained by one who consumes alcohol.

His Holiness (aba) said with regards to Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) acceptance of Islam, that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) heard that Khadijah's husband had claimed to be a prophet like Moses (as). Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) went to the Holy Prophet (sa) and accepted him. It is also recorded that before the advent of the Holy Prophet (sa), Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) saw in a dream that the moon had descended into Makkah, upon which it shattered and its pieces became scattered into every home, and then all the pieces fell into his lap. When he asked about its

interpretation, he was told that the messenger who was awaited would soon come, and Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) would be his foremost follower.

His Holiness (aba) said that he would continue highlighting the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) in future sermons.