

Summary Friday Sermon December 10th, 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) continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

It is recorded that once, before the advent of the Holy Prophet (sa), Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) travelled to Yemen, where he met an elderly scholar. This scholar was accurately able to determine Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) background and family history. The scholar then informed him that a prophet would manifest, and he would be assisted by someone young and someone older. One of the signs of the elder person who would help that prophet was that he would have a mark on his stomach, and when Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) lifted his garment, the elderly scholar saw a black mark on his stomach. He said, surely he was the elder person who would assist the coming prophet. He then advised him never to abandon the truth.

It was after this that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) learned about the claim of the Holy Prophet (sa), and people came to him seeking his opinion. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) then went to meet the Holy Prophet (sa) and ask him about his claim and what proof he had. The Holy Prophet (sa) informed him that he knew of the elderly man he had met in Yemen. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) asked how he knew about this, the Holy Prophet (sa) said he was informed by the same angel who descended upon prophets. Thereafter, he asked the Holy Prophet (sa) to extend his hand so that he may pledge allegiance to him.

Once The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said that whomever I invited towards Islam had shown hesitation, except for Abu Bakar, who accepted Islam without any doubts and always remained steadfast afterwards.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (ra), who writes that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) accepted the Holy Prophet (sa) based upon a single premise; this was the fact that he had known the Holy Prophet (sa) since his childhood, and he never lied, was never mischievous, nor did ever utter anything foul. Thus, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) knew that he would never lie. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said that if the Holy Prophet (sa) had never lied about people,

then why would he lie about God? This, in fact, is proof of the Holy Prophet's (sa) truthfulness given to him by God, Who instructed the Holy Prophet (sa) to say:

“I have indeed lived among you a whole lifetime before this. Will you not then understand?” (10:17)

His Holiness (aba) said there are varying opinions among historians as to who was the first male to accept the Holy Prophet (sa); It is said that the first female to accept the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was Hazrat Khadija (ra), first male adult to accept the Holy Prophet (sa) was Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), the first child was Hazrat Ali (ra) , and the first freed slave to accept was Hazrat Zaid bin Haritha (ra).