

## Summary Friday Sermon 25 Feb 2022

Delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba)

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 Abu Bakr (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that when the Holy Prophet (sa) intended to depart for the Farewell Pilgrimage, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) offered his camel for the journey, which was used to transport the belongings of both the Holy Prophet (sa) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that along the way, they stopped to rest, and waited for the camel bearing their belongings to arrive, which had been entrusted to one of Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) workers. After some time, the worker arrived without the camel, saying that he had lost it. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) stood up to reprimand him, however the Holy Prophet (pbuh) was smiling, and implored Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) to be kind as this matter was in nobody's hands. When people heard of this they brought food for the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and they all ate together.

His Holiness (aba) said that during his final illness, the Holy Prophet (sa) instructed that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) should lead prayers in the mosque. When the Holy Prophet (sa) was feeling a little better, he went to the mosque, where, as instructed, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was standing at the front to lead the congregation. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) saw the Holy Prophet (sa), he stepped back so as to allow the Holy Prophet (sa) to take lead, however the Holy Prophet (sa) indicated that he should continue leading the prayers.

His Holiness (aba) said that when the Holy Prophet (sa) passed away, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was in Sun'a. Upon hearing the news, Hazrat Umar (ra) could not accept it and said that surely the Holy Prophet (sa) could not have passed away. In the meantime, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) arrived, kissed the blessed countenance of the Holy Prophet (sa) and said that God would never allow him to die twice. Then, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) told Hazrat Umar (ra) that the Holy Prophet (sa) had indeed passed away but God is Living, and will never pass away. He then quoted the following verses of the Holy Qur'an:

**“Surely, thou wilt die, and surely they too will die.” (39:31)**

His Holiness (aba) then spoke of different events and incidents that took place during the process of electing the Khalifa.

In the End, His Holiness (aba) said that he wished to direct attention towards prayers, in light of the current conditions in the world, which are already very dire and continue to worsen. His Holiness (aba) said that this does not only affect one nation, rather if the conditions continue as they are, then this will impact many other nations as well. The catastrophic results of the current conditions will impact generation upon generation. His Holiness (aba) prayed that these people recognise God, and cease putting lives in danger in order to fulfil their worldly desires. His Holiness (aba) said that all we can do is pray, as we already have been doing for quite some time. His Holiness (aba) prayed that may Allah save humanity from war and its catastrophic results which cannot even be fathomed.