

Summary Friday Sermon 4 March 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 he would continue mentioning incidents surrounding Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) election as the Caliph. His Holiness (aba) said that Hubab bin Munzir (ra) encouraged the Ansar not to differ amongst themselves and remain firm upon their stance that there should be a leader from among them and a leader from among the Muhajireen. Hazrat Umar (ra) said that this would never be accepted by the Arabs as there cannot be two swords in one sheath. Hazrat Umar (ra) then held Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) hand and spoke of the event of the Cave of Sur. Hazrat Umar (ra) pledged allegiance to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and encouraged everyone to follow suit. It is recorded in history that, at this occasion Hazrat Abu Bakr's (ra) also proposed the names of Hazrat Umar (ra) and Hazrat Abu Ubaidah (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Ubaidah (ra) said to the Ansar that they were the first to support the Holy Prophet (sa) and that now they should not be the first to raise a dispute. Once Companion Hazrat Bashir bin Saad (ra) addressed the Ansaar and said, "We had fought against the non-believers and have served Islam. Our only purpose was for Allah to be pleased and so that we would obey the Prophet (pbuh). It does not suit us now to claim that we are better than others, or try to win worldly gains. Indeed, Mohammad (pbuh) was from the Quraish and hence his clan members have more right on the leadership. I swear upon God that I will not fight them on this. So have fear of Allah and don't oppose them." Hence, the pledge was taken in Saqifa banu Sa'ida.

His Holiness (aba) said that the next day, Hazrat Umar (ra) delivered a speech in which he said that God Almighty had entrusted the people in the hands of a person who was the best among them, who was one of the two mentioned in the cave. He again encouraged everyone to pledge allegiance to him which they did.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) also delivered a speech in which he said that he would strive to grant everyone their rights. He said that the

people should follow him so long as he remained obedient to God and His Messenger (sa).

His Holiness (aba) said that the duration of the caliphate of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was the shortest in Khilafat-e-Rashida. But it was also a great era because Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) faced the most difficulties. All that time, Allah Almighty helped him. He eliminated all rebellions and animosities during his era and converted the atmosphere of fear into an atmosphere of peace.

His Holiness (aba) appealed for prayers in light of the prevailing situation in the world and the worsening conditions of war. Now there are even threats of nuclear warfare, which will have catastrophic consequences and impact future generations, as His Holiness (aba) has been warned before. It is only God who can grant these people some sense.

His Holiness (aba) said that in these days there should be an increased focus on reciting *Durood Sharif* (salutations upon the Holy Prophet (sa)) and *Istighfar* (seeking forgiveness). His Holiness (aba) prayed that may Allah forgive us our faults, and grant understanding to world leaders.

His Holiness (aba) said that on a certain occasion, the Promised Messiah (as) advised the Community to repeatedly recite the following prayer:

‘Our Lord, grant us good in this world as well as good in the world to come, and protect us from the torment of the Fire.’ (The Holy Qur’an 2:202)

His Holiness (aba) said that the Promised Messiah (as) also advised that this prayer should especially be recited when standing up after *ruku’* in prayers. His Holiness (aba) said that these days we should adopt the same practice.