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## Summary Friday Sermon 22 April 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 these days we are passing through the month of Ramdan and about 20 days have elapsed.

His Holiness (aba) said that by the grace of Allah, believers do their best to take full advantage of this blessed month. God has stated that the reason why fasting has been prescribed is so that we may become righteous. Thus, we can only truly benefit from Ramadan when we strive to increase in righteousness.

His Holiness (aba) said that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) has stated that fasting is a shield for us. Does this mean that it is enough for us to keep our fast in the morning and break it at night? No – instead we must reflect upon the true purpose of fasting, which is to establish righteousness.

His Holiness (aba) said that we claim to be Muslims and those who act upon the teachings of the Holy Prophet (sa) and have thereby accepted the latter day Messiah whose advent he foretold who manifested in the personage of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) of Qadian. We have accepted that the victory of Islam will come through him. Thus, in order to inculcate the true spirit of Islam within ourselves, we must seek and obtain guidance from the Promised Messiah (as).

The Promised Messiah (as) said that the first stage of belief is establishing *Taqwa*. In order to establish *Taqwa*, we must abstain from all forms of evil. We must analyse ourselves to see whether we fulfill the rights of God and His creation.

His Holiness (aba) said that during the month of Ramadan we increase our focus on reciting the Holy Qur'an. Thus, we should read it while searching for those things which God has enjoined and the things which He has forbidden. These are the signs of righteousness.

His Holiness (aba) said that if our prayers and recitation of the Holy Quran does not increase our level of piety, then our fasting cannot be considered a shield for

us. We may have begun the fast in the morning, broken it at sundown, remained hungry all day, but we will not have achieved the true essence of doing so.

His Holiness (aba) said that people often ask how one can find out whether or not their good deeds have been accepted by God. His Holiness (aba) said that if your actions fill your heart with a desire to do more good, it would mean that Allah's blessings are with you.

Another thing of importance, is if a person prays but does not fulfil the rights of man, then he cannot be called righteous. Similarly, if we fulfill the rights our fellow human beings but ignore the rights of God, then this too is far from righteousness. A truly righteous person must fulfill both. The current predicament of Muslims is due to their habits. If a person cannot save himself from wickedness, then he cannot preach Allah's message. Ahmadis must pay special attention to this fact. May Allah enable us to fulfill both huqooq Allah and Huqooq ul Ebaad. Ameen.