



Summary Friday Sermon 5 August 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 by the grace of Allah the Almighty, the Jalsa Salana UK is being held at its full scale for the first time since 2019. Although the Jalsa Salana was held last year, it was at a limited scale.

His Holiness (aba) said that although this year's Jalsa is primarily for members of the UK Jama'at and international guests are limited, all members of the UK Jama'at can join in full attendance over the three days.

His Holiness (aba) said that he would speak about the responsibilities which must be fulfilled in serving the guests of the Promised Messiah (as), especially for the benefit of new volunteers.

His Holiness (aba) said that the Promised Messiah (as) explained that this is no ordinary, worldly convention, but is an opportunity to be reminded of God's teachings and the example of the Holy Prophet (sa) so that we may mould our lives accordingly.

His Holiness (aba) said that volunteers offer themselves to serve at the Jalsa, no matter their profession or status. Preparations for Jalsa begin much earlier than the three days of Jalsa themselves and require a lot of time, which volunteers sacrifice. In fact, history bears testament that so many people present themselves to offer duties that the organisers are left with more people than they require.

His Holiness (aba) said that volunteers should serve with the spirit that they may not receive recognition from others, but are undertaking this service for the sake of God. Volunteers should serve with the same spirit as that Companion of the Holy Prophet (sa) and his wife, who remained hungry themselves in order to feed their guest. In fact, they did so in a manner that would not make it apparent to their guest that they themselves were not eating. This greatly pleased the Holy Prophet (sa), who said that God had also been pleased with what they had done.

His Holiness (aba) said that volunteers will encounter many different types of people, including some who may even be short tempered. In any case, volunteers must ensure to treat everyone with respect and kindness. They should never be harsh in speaking to guests or even fellow volunteers but should maintain the highest degree of dignity. This should also be kept in mind by the officers in-charge. May Allah enable all volunteers to act in this manner.

His Holiness (aba) said that guests also have certain responsibilities. They should not have unrealistic expectations from their hosts, so that both the guests and the hosts may be at ease and not be under any undue pressure. It could be that the food may not be to a guest's liking, however, they should happily eat whatever they are presented with.

Hence, all those attending should bear in mind that they are attending the Jalsa in order to increase their connection with God and their spirituality. They are attending a Jalsa which is solely for the sake of God. We must always remember that the purpose for gathering at the Jalsa is a very lofty purpose, for which the least that can be done is to sacrifice one's sentiments and instead focus on the remembrance of God and seeking forgiveness.

His Holiness (aba) said that it must constantly be borne in mind that we have left our homes and travelled to the Jalsa for the sake of God. Doing so will shower blessings upon our journey and stay at the Jalsa. The Holy Prophet (sa) taught to pray for righteousness and the pleasure of God whilst travelling. He also taught a prayer for the safety of one's journey and the safety of those whom they leave at home.

His Holiness (aba) said that these days there is worry due to the Covid pandemic and as such everyone should focus on prayers for everyone's safety. Everyone should focus on offering *Durood Sharif* (prayer for invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet (sa)) and offering the prayers in congregation. All those volunteers who are not on duty during prayer time should also attend the prayers in congregation. The attendees should also carefully listen to the various speeches at the Jalsa which have been prepared with great effort and can be the source of answering many questions which people may have.

His Holiness (aba) again emphasised the importance of the remembrance of Allah and worship especially during these days. His Holiness (aba) urged everyone to pray for the success of the Community, safety from its enemies and the emancipation of those who have been falsely imprisoned on the basis of their faith. His Holiness (aba) ended by presenting a prayer in the words of the Promised Messiah (as) for all those attending the Jalsa. The Promised Messiah

(as) said: ‘May Allah bless them and have mercy on them, rid them of all their problems and sorrow, fulfill their wishes and may they be among HIS blessed souls on the day of judgement’.

Oh Allah, accept all these prayers and grant us success against all our opposers as only YOU have the power to do that. May Allah make every attendee of the Jalsa the recipient of all these prayers. Amin.