



Summary Friday Sermon 26 Aug 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) and the armies he sent towards Syria in order to stop the enemy.

His Holiness (aba) said that the fourth army he sent was under the leadership of Hazrat Amr bin Aas (ra). Before sending him off, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) gave some guidance to Hazrat Amr bin Aas (ra), saying that he should listen to the opinions of the senior members who were accompanying him, for there was no telling whose advice could prove to be a means for success. It is recorded that Hazrat Amr's (ra) army numbered six to seven thousand and set out towards Palestine. Hazrat Amr (ra) formed a battalion of a thousand Muslims to go forward and battle a Syrian army, which they did and proved victorious. When they returned with some prisoners, Hazrat Amr (ra) questioned them and learned that the Syrians were planning an attack against them. Hence, Hazrat Amr (ra) prepared his army and when the Syrians attacked, they were able to stop them and utterly destroy their army, causing them much damage.

His Holiness (aba) said that after sending these armies, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) took a breath and was certain that Allah the Almighty would grant the Muslims victory over the Syrians through these armies. He was content because these armies comprised a thousand *Muhajireen* (migrants) and *Ansar* (natives of Madinah), who had proven their loyalty and steadfast devotion, including some of those who had participated in the Battle of Badr.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was preparing another army and he decided to make Hazrat Sa'eed bin Amir (ra) its leader. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) instructed Hazrat Bilal (ra) to make an announcement and gather people to form an army. Hazrat Bilal (ra) requested Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) to also allow him to be part of this army, since he had freed him so that he may be of service. Hazrat Bilal (ra) said that if Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) would remain with him, however Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said that he did not wish to hold Hazrat Bilal (ra) back from his desire of Jihad. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said that they may not meet again until the hereafter, and so he encouraged him to continue doing good

works so long as he remained alive and he would receive an excellent reward for this. Hence, Hazrat Bilal (ra) joined Hazrat Sa'eed (ra) and his army set off.

His Holiness (aba) said that another army was formed and sent to join Hazrat Abu Ubaidah (ra). As such, armies would continue to arrive in Madinah, and Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) would send them to help reinforce the Muslim armies.

His Holiness (aba) said that ultimately, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) also instructed Hazrat Khalid bin Walid (ra), who had been in Iraq, to lead the forces in Syria. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) wrote to Upon Hazrat Khalid bin Walid's (ra) arrival, all the Muslims gathered in Busra and laid siege, as a result of which the people agreed to the terms of *Jizyah* in exchange for security and peace.

His Holiness (aba) then spoke of the events of Ajnadayn. After the victory at Busra, Hazrat Khalid bin Walid (ra), along with Hazrat Abu Ubaidah (ra) set off towards Palestine in order to aid Hazrat Amr (ra). Hazrat When the Romans heard of more Muslims arriving, they went to Ajnadayn. His Holiness (aba) said that the Romans proposed to give some gifts of clothes to the Muslims in order to avert them, as they saw the Muslims to be poor and without means. Hazrat Khalid bin Walid (ra) took offence and strongly refused, saying that they would eradicate the Romans.

Hazrat Khalid (ra) organised the Muslim ranks and ultimately a fierce battle ensued.. 30,000 Romans were killed and upon suffering defeat, many others fled to various cities. Hazrat Khalid (ra) sent a letter to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) informing him of this victory, upon which Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) expressed great happiness and joy even though he was on his death bed.

His Holiness (aba) said that he would continue narrating these incidents in future sermons.