In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful.



Summary Friday Sermon 23 Sep 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 aspects from the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat A'ishah (ra) relates regarding the verse:

'As to those who answered the call of Allah and the Messenger after they had received an injury — such of them as do good and act righteously shall have a great reward' (The Holy Qur'an, 3:173)

It is recorded that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Zubair (ra) were among those on the day of Uhud that when the enemy left, the Holy Prophet (sa) had a feeling that they would return and asked who would follow them. There were seventy people who presented themselves to the Holy Prophet (sa), among whom were Hazrat Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Zubair (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said as the terms of the Treaty of Hudaibiyah were being stipulated, the Companions present were extremely emotional and unhappy, however, they controlled their emotions before the Holy Prophet (sa). Finally, Hazrat Umar (ra) expressed his concerns, asking the Holy Prophet (sa) that if he was the true prophet then why were they having to face such humiliation? The Holy Prophet (sa) said that being the Messenger of Allah, he understood His desires and would not go against them. Then, Hazrat Umar (ra) asked, did the Holy Prophet (sa) not say that they would circle around the Ka'bah? The Holy Prophet (sa) responded that he did, however he did not say that this would happen that very year. Hazrat Umar (ra) was still not satisfied and went to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and voiced the same concerns. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) responded to him by saying that he should remain steadfast and not waver in his commitment to the Holy Prophet (sa), for the person in whose hand they had given theirs was certainly truthful. It was upon this that Hazrat Umar (ra) realised and felt regret over his actions, and offered various voluntary prayers and sacrifices as expiation.

His Holiness (aba) said that once, there were two men arguing; a Muslims and a Jewish man. They argued over the status of their respective prophets and when

the Jewish man expressed his view of Moses' (as) superiority, the Muslim slapped him. The Jewish man went to the Holy Prophet (sa) and told him what happened, upon which the Holy Prophet (sa) summoned the Muslim man and told him not to give him superiority to Moses (as). In commentary of this narration, it is recorded that the Muslim man was Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra) states that it is narrated in Hadees that once Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Umar (ra) got into an argument. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) sensed that the argument could get worse, he started to leave, but Hazrat Umar (ra) tried to stop him and while doing so, he tore Hazrat Abu Bakr'ra)'s shirt. Upon realizing his mistake, Hazrat Umar went to the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and accepted his fault. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said to Hazrat Umar (ra) that when the whole world was against him, it was Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) who accepted him and stood by him. In the mean time Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) also arrived there and when he saw that the Holy Prophet was angry, he immediately tried to take the blame on himself. Such was his love for the Holy Prophet (pbuh) that he could not see the Holy Prophet (pbuh) angry.

After the demise of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), when some tribes refused to pay alms, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) decided to handle them strictly. When Hazrat Umar (ra) advised to stay soft, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) refused and said that he would not let them disobey the orders issued by the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and if they used to give a piece of robe as alms before, he would not leave even that and will make them pay alms at all costs. Such was the level of his love and affection towards the Holy Prophet (pbuh). Similarly, when the majority of people advised Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) to hold on the departure of the army led by Hazrat Usama (ra) right after the demise of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), Hazrat Abu Bakr refused and said that even if the enemy conquers Madina, he will not stop the army from going for battle and leave Madina unsafe behind, because it was planned by the Holy Prophet (pbuh) before his demise.

Once during the battles of Iraq, when Hazrat Khalid bin Walid (ra) sent a sheet of cloth to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) as a gift, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) did not keep it for himself but instead gave it to Hazrat Imam Hussain (ra).

At the end His Holiness spoke of two of the deceased and announced that he would lead the funeral prayers in absentia.