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Summary Friday Sermon 11 November 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 according to narrations, he was proficient in the knowledge of the history of Arab lineages, particularly those of the Quraish. Those who later became experts in this field of knowledge attributed their education in the field to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) for he had the utmost knowledge on the subject. He knew both the positives and negatives of lineages, however he would not mention the negative aspects.

His Holiness (aba) said that once, the Holy Prophet (sa) advised Hazrat Hassan bin Thabit (ra) that before writing poetry regarding the Quraish, he should consult Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) regarding the Quraish's genealogy. Upon hearing this poetry, it would be evident to the listeners that it had been written in consultation with Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

His Holiness (aba) said that it is recorded that although Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) would not be considered a poet, he definitely had an interest in poetry. Scholars and historians differ as to whether Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) ever wrote poetry himself. There are some who assert that there is a compilation of poetry written by Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) which can be found in Turkey.

On the demise of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad PBUH, Hazrat Abubakar (ra) narrated some verses after his burial. The translation being as follows:

O Ye Eye! Swear by God on your right to weep for the Prophet

You may keep weeping and may your tears never dry

Oh Eye! Shed tears on the most wonderful son of the Quresh tribe who has been hidden in his grave this evening

Thus Darood and Blessings upon you from the King of Kings, from the Lord of all creations, from the God of those who worship Him

What is this life after being estranged from His beloved

What is the use of any adornment after the separation of this person who adorned ten universes

I wish death would have engulfed us all together Just as we were together in life.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was very perceptive. It is narrated that once the Holy Prophet (sa) said that God had given a person the choice between that which is in this world and that which is with Him and the person chose that which was with God. Upon this, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) began crying, which confused some people as it seemed to them that the Holy Prophet (sa) was speaking generally about a person. They would later realise that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) understood this to be the Holy Prophet (sa). The Holy Prophet (sa) told Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) not to cry for he was at the forefront in virtue and sacrificing wealth. He said that if he could have a *Khalil* (close friend) then it would have been Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra),

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) also had great perception and understanding of the Holy Qur'an. For example, when the verse '*This day I have perfected your religion for you and completed My favour upon you*.' (5:4) Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) began crying, for he felt that this meant the demise of the Holy Prophet (sa) was near. The Promised Messiah (as) explained that prophets are sent to this world with a mission and when that mission is completed, then comes time for them to depart, something which Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) understood and gleaned from this verse.

The Promised Messiah (as) says that the Ayat (Arabic: Alyoma Akmalto Lakum Deen Akum) has two limbs.

One is that you have been purified, and the second is that the Holy Book is completed. It is a verified fact that once a task is completed fully, its accomplishment itself symbolizes death.

The Promised Messiah (sa) says that Hazrat Abubakar Siddique (ra) was amongst the experienced and knowledgeable people of his time. He had witnessed several complicated situations and suffered their hardships, had participated in many battles and observed the manoeuvres of combat and wars. He had trampled upon and squashed many deserts and mountains, entered numerous places of danger and death daringly, amended a lot of omissions, led and attacked in several wars, crushed rebellions and overcame so many different stages of difficulties that eventually he became a man of great sensibility and experience. He faced labour and toil with patience and fortitude. Hence Allah selected him for an example of HIS Ayaat, a companion of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and praised him for his loyalty and resolution. It was a sign that he was the most favoured amongst the Holy Prophet's (pbuh) loved ones. He had been created with the spirit of courage and faithfulness was ingrained in him

because of which he was chosen at a time of horrifying events and fearfulness. Allah is All-knowing and All-powerful. HE plans and executes things according to their requirement. HE blessed Ibne-abi-Qahaffa with His special Graces and made him a unique personality.

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) also had great proficiency in the interpretation of dreams and he would interpret dreams during the time of the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

His Holiness (aba) said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was among those honoured and fortunate to be appointed by the Holy Prophet (sa) at times to lead prayers in the Prophet's Mosque.