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## Summary Friday Sermon 23 Dec 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 from today, the Jalsa Salana Qadian has begun. His Holiness (aba) also stated that about seven to eight African countries are also holding their Jalsa Salana.

His Holiness (aba) stated that he would present teachings of the Promised Messiah (as) in which he mentions the purpose of his advent and the responsibilities of his community. Many new Ahmadis will be participating in these Jalsas to learn about their faith and strengthen it with a new understanding.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Promised Messiah (as) who stated the purpose for the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The Promised Messiah (as) states that this era is blessed. In these blessed days, God has decided to aid the Holy Prophet (sa) by establishing a new community. Has there been a more trying time for Islam, where Islam was attacked to this extent? Does God not hold indignation and honour for the Holy Prophet (sa) to allow the world to continue to slander him? It is to counter these attacks and to protect the honour of the Holy Prophet (sa) and Islam that He established this community.

His Holiness (aba) said that it is the responsibility of those who accepted the Promised Messiah (as) to reform themselves, but to also pray *Durood* upon the Holy Prophet (sa). These days, we should give special emphasis to this. If we pray *Durood* upon the Holy Prophet (sa), we will also be protecting the honour of the Holy Prophet (sa).

Whilst elaborating upon the purpose of his advent, the Promised Messiah (as) states that he was sent to re-establish the honor and greatness of the Holy Prophet (sa) that was lost, and to demonstrate the truth of the Holy Qur'an to the world. There are many whose eyes have been veiled and they are blind to the truth. Yet, at the same time, he will gather people in great numbers to witness magnificent signs.

The Promised Messiah (as) continues and states that there are many signs to prove the greatness of Islam, and this new community is one of them.

His Holiness (aba) then quotes the Promised Messiah (as), who stated that to merely accept him is not enough. Those who strives to seek God with fear and righteousness, he witnesses the fulfilment of God's promise when He said:

**‘And as for those who strive in Our path — We will surely guide them in Our ways.’ (The Holy Qur’an, 29:70)**

Allah the Almighty guides those who face hardship for Him and strive for His sake. Allah the Almighty grants such a person comfort. If a person is entrenched in darkness and their words and actions make it appear as though they associate partners with Allah, then their prayers are of no consequence. Until a person abstains from inappropriate and unlawful means to fulfil their needs and only seeks help from Allah the Almighty, they will not witness the help of Allah. When a person prays to God and comes to His court, then Allah the Almighty peers into the depths of their heart to see whether they truly believe in Him. If their hearts are pure, then the doors to His mercy are opened for them.

The Promised Messiah (as) continues and states that Allah the Almighty decided to establish another community that would consist of the companions. But since the law of nature is based upon gradual improvement, our Jamaat would also improve and excel gradually. It would be like the seeds sown today, which would bear fruit after a long time. So we should try to truly establish the unity of God, and fulfill the rights of your brothers with true sincerity. Only then can we achieve the true objectives of our community.

The Promised Messiah (as) states that the Holy Qur’an has done a great favor upon the prophets of the past by turning their mere history into certain knowledge and guidance. The Holy Qur’an is full of knowledge and light, and those who consider it to be devoid of guidance are gravely mistaken. The Holy Qur’an should not be considered a book of mere stories, because Allah the Almighty has established its truth and grandeur. All knowledge can only be ascertained from the Holy Qur’an. It should be read with the mindset that it is a philosophy to life.

By entering this community, one repents. However, such a repentance should be demonstrated through our actions. There are many mistakes that we make unknowingly, and things we say unintentionally. It is for this reason that Allah the Almighty has instructed us to repent and offer *Istighfar* [seeking forgiveness].

The Promised Messiah (as) states that in this day and age, one should recite the prayer of Prophet Adam (as) because it exemplifies this repentance and has been accepted in the court of Allah. The prayer of Adam (as) is:

**‘Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves; and if Thou forgive us not and have not mercy on us, we shall surely be of the lost.’ (The Holy Qur’an, 7:24)**

Following this, His Holiness (aba) prayed that all Ahmadis are able to achieve these objectives set out by the Promised Messiah (as).

Then, His Holiness (aba) announced that he would be leading a few funeral prayers of Respected Fazal Ahmad Dogar sahib, a worker at Jamia Ahmadiyya UK, Respected Malik Mansoor Ahmad Umar sahib, who served as a missionary in Rabwah and Respected Isa Joseph sahib, a mu’allim [preacher] in Gambia. His Holiness (aba) spoke of their services for the community and later led the funeral prayer of Fazal Ahmad Dogar after Friday prayers as well as the prayers in absentia for the other two respected gentlemen.