



# FRIDAY SERMON

HADHRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH

*Munir Ahmad Azim*

11 December 2015 ~

(28 Safar 1437 Hijri)

*(Summary of Sermon)*

After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hadhrat Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al Fatiha, and after talking for sometimes on ***"The Importance of Obedience to Allah and His Khalifatullah"***, the Messenger of Allah (atba) delivered the second part of his sermon on the subject of ***"TV's Harmful Effects"***:

## **OBEDIENCE TO ALLAH AND THE MESSENGER OF ALLAH/KHALIFATULLAH**

The Khalifatullah (atba) opened his Friday Sermon stressing on Obedience to Allah and His Khalifatullah, for therein is true salvation for a true believer. A true believer never seeks to hurt the feelings of the Messenger of Allah, Khalifatullah. The one who truly loves Allah and His Khalifatullah will always show obedience to Allah and His Khalifatullah.

During the course of his explanations which Huzur (atba) explained to be divinely inspired – for he relates that ever since the beginning of the Divine Manifestation, before doing any *Jumma Khutba* (or discourse) he seeks divine succour and guidance on which topic/ subject to bring before the Jamaat and the world at large – and *Alhamdulillah*, he also received on the spot (11 December 2015) the following revelation (in English): ***"These are the words coming from Allah. These are not the words of Munir Ahmad Azim."***

He reiterated the need for each member of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam, National and International to ever remain firm in his or her belief and to always project the authentic facets of Islam, and forego all kinds of arrogance and attachment to minor/trivial things which can thus become major impediments in our faith. Arrogance can exterminate one's faith, and an arrogant person can become like those who left the Divine Manifestation and sought to create problems for Allah and His Messenger and Jamaat. Huzur (atba) said that there is no difference between someone who left the Divine Manifestation and the one who does not pay obeisance to Allah and His Khalifatullah and manifest his or her *nafs* (ego, passion). Allah does not love the arrogant.

He made the congregation ponder over the situation of those who left the Divine Manifestation, who noted down the divine revelations, where are they today? Or even on those who at the very beginning of the Divine Manifestation itself rejected Allah's revelations and signs! Now, with the celebrations of the centenary Jubilee of Ahmadiyyat establishment in Mauritius, how hurt they felt when their own Khalifa (elected by man) did not attend this function! Mauritians from all over the world came back to their country in the hope of having that grand celebration with their Khalifa, but all in vain! Allah has showed that there is no Khalifa except His very own Khalifatullah, His Chosen Khalifa who could have celebrated that particular centenary Jubilee. All the programmes done were through the helping hand of Allah. Are you still blind? Are you not still recognising that sign? Are you still manifesting your *nafs* (passion)? Are you still disputing over petty things? Are you trying to put the Messenger of Allah and the Jamaat of Allah in a fix? In the times of the Holy Prophet of Islam (pbuh), the latter stressed on unity, for it is united that we can progress – not divided and having petty arguments!

Huzur (atba) states: Being the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah (as) we (Ahmadis) always thought that we were that 73<sup>th</sup> Jamaat who shall go to Paradise – we judged this by ourselves! This, we can never tell!

Furthermore, the Khalifatullah (atba) related many anecdotes to make the Jamaat members (as well as the world at large) understand the importance of a Khalifatullah. He at first related part of the anecdote/Hadith Qudsi whereby the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) quoted Allah to have said: “... *O son of Adam, I asked you for food and you fed Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I feed You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that My servant So-and-so asked you for food and you fed him not? Did you not know that had you fed him you would surely have found that (the reward for doing so) with Me?...*” – Huzur (atba) said that if for a simple servant of Allah, Allah was hurt, now imagine how grievous the case of someone or people who disobey/s a Messenger of Allah, Khalifatullah?

Furthermore, under divine inspirations, in the course of his sermon Allah taught His Khalifatullah an anecdote which Huzur (atba) was not aware of:

“There once was a Saint, a *Waliullah* who was praying under the shade of a tree, but that saint was not concentrating in his prayers and his eyes were roaming everywhere, spying on what people were doing. He saw a youth/ young man and a woman sitting together on a wall – near a river – and there was a bottle and also glasses in their hands. The *Waliullah* kept on looking with suspicion at the man and woman while supposedly having his tongue in Zikr and prayers. The suspicion which he had on the two of them was thus an established fact for him that he was superior to them and that the latter were inferior (and sinning). Suddenly, a cry was heard and the man and woman quickly went to go to rescue a group of people who were drowning while the *Waliullah* kept looking on. Each of them saved 3 people (a total of 6 people) and pulled them from the river and onto the earth. While the *Waliullah* was still looking on, the man came to him and told him: “You are spying on us, on me, but then if you think that you are on the right path, go and save those people. You are taking the name of Allah, but the fact is that you have committed a great sin when you have wrongly judged me. Do you know that woman? That woman is my mother. My mother got married very young and gave birth to me. She still appears young. You also thought that the bottle which was with us contained alcohol, but that bottle contained river water. My mother and I were sitting over there and with each sip of water we were meditating on the grandeur of Allah.”

While nowadays some are taking themselves as truthful while (according to them/ in their eyes) the others are not, it is the Ummah of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) which is now suffering from all this. Each person/people/group/Jamaat is divided today and taking itself as more knowledgeable than the others but this was one of the greatest fears of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). During his farewell pilgrimage, he told the people that nobody should take himself as more superior to the others. During his lifetime, he preached that shoulders (in prayer) should be in line and close to each other. Before prayer, he used to look behind to see if all the ranks (*saff*) were correctly aligned. Like all Messengers of Allah, he used to have a staff (cane) whereby he used to redress the *saff*, and put the people in their lines with correct measure. And he also showed all postures to be correctly done during *Salat* (prayers). Each believer must try to keep himself clean, and Huzur then mentions a revelation which he received back in the year 2000 whereby in a revealed text Allah showed a prayer about the purification of the heart with snow. *“Oh Allah, purify my heart with snow...”* The heart must be like a clean mirror to reflect also a good image of ourselves. Indeed each person must look in himself to find his faults and try to reform himself. Huzur (atba) then said that the Holy Prophet of Islam, Hadhrat Muhammad (pbuh) is our role model. The Promised Messiah Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) had immense love for Nabi Karim (pbuh) and he wrote many poems on him (pbuh). We therefore need to follow the Holy Prophet’s example, and the ladies and girls should follow the *Ummahatul-Mumineen* (Mothers of Believers), the wives of the Holy Prophet (pbuh).

Afterwards Huzur (atba) talked about the need to cultivate in oneself *Taqwa* and patience/steadfastness. Sometimes a believer may be in the right, but for the sake of Allah, to preserve unity he accepts that he is wrong (even though he is not) just for the sake of establishing peace. Huzur (atba) said that it is this kind of person that Allah supports and raises his position and degree of *Taqwa*, and then he (atba) reminiscence the beginning of the Divine Manifestation when the non-believers in the Divine Manifestation of this era (i.e. the Ahmadi Muslims of Mauritius etc.) made every kind of plots and talks on his person. It was not in vain that Allah first revealed to Huzur (atba) even before those hardships: ***“Laa Maqsooda Illallah, Laa Ma’booda bil Haq-Illallah, Laa Majooda bil Haq-Illallah, Fasbir Sabran Jamil”***. Allah therein directs His chosen servant to turn to Allah and make Allah his destination and priority and to take a beautiful patience (*for he would have to be extra steadfast in those times of trials*). When Allah says to take patience, this means that he needed/ needs not revolts in the aftermath of all these evil plots from their part.

Then Huzur (atba) said that today this beautiful patience saw to his being elevated by Allah to the position of Khalifatullah, you want it or not, for all people of the world and particularly for the Muslims and definitely also for the Ahmadi Muslims, for Huzur (atba) said he is a follower of the Promised Messiah Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as). Others may think what they like, for if he was to take their taunts and bad words into consideration (and lose time in thinking about that), then when shall he have the time to do the needed Deen works? Will that reflect a good image (of Islam)?

Afterwards, Huzur (atba) related an anecdote, about something which happened to him during the course of the week. A group of Ahmadi youths saw him in Rose-Hill and gave some snide remarks on his person, calling him *“so-called Khalifatullah”*. Instead of being angry with them, the Khalifatullah (atba) approached them (and this frightened them!) and then turned the situation around, saying that in a way they recognise that he is the Khalifatullah and thus to give their hands to take the *Bai’at* (oath of

allegiance). These youths were disconcerted and upon seeing that they were frightened, the Khalifatullah (atba) gently put his hand on their heads in a reassuring way and went on his way. These lads kept on looking in the direction of Huzur (atba). They were absolutely speechless. Huzur (atba) said that this situation and the way it was dealt with bore its fruits. Huzur (atba) said that had he also reacted in a negative manner, replying back in an angry tone, then this would have worsened the matter.

Then the Khalifatullah (atba) continued the second part of his sermon on the harmful effects of TV and also computer (*citing also a revelation which he once received at the beginning of the Divine Manifestation and which Zafrullah Domun Saheb noted down about the harmful effects which computer shall have on people, especially the youths in and about 25 years from then on*).

## TV'S HARMFUL EFFECTS

Today, by the grace of Allah, Allah has given me the *Tawfiq* to continue the second part of my Khutba Jumma on '*The Harmful Effects of Television*'.

Through TV, the Islamic dress code is disappearing, to such a point that there are some who consider the Islamic clothing as uncivilised dress code and only good for ancient times!

Islam has put great restriction concerning sexuality so that the social life of our community remains clean and far away from prostitution, homosexuality and other social maladies. As for TV, it not only removes that restriction through the means of its dirty films but it also incites young people to satisfy their carnal desires (sexual needs/ passions) in an immoral and illicit (*Haram*) way.

Islam is a religion which teaches Muslims men as well as women to cultivate shame (*Haya*) in them because shame is a quality which helps cultivate mutual respect. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) has even made us know that Allah (swt) has joined shame (*Haya*) together with faith (*Iman*). As long as someone has shame in him, his faith shall be alive, but if he loses his shame, he loses also his faith, and he begins to act like an animal. Through the various obscene TV channels proposed to people, television has taken away shame from that community (the Ummah of Hadhrat Muhammad (pbuh)).

Long ago, a Muslim girl used to be shy, full of shame if ever her head has been uncovered before a *mahram*. But today, she is quite happy to let strangers admire her and she attracts their attention through her way of walking and talking. Long ago, a Muslim girl used to become red with shame if ever her headscarf came off by accident and uncovered her stomach. But today she finds it normal to leave her house with just a transparent piece of cloth as a headscarf, or even she will come home with any headscarf and Islamic/Indian leggings (*thusse/sarwar* etc.). Married ladies do not find anything wrong if they go to the bakery everyday in their nightdresses, and even to do house chores in this kind of clothing.

As for Muslim schoolgirls, there are those who before the parents cloth themselves in *hijab* and long coat, but before coming to the Bus-stop, remove their coats and *hijab*, concealing them in their bags. One cannot even imagine now the bad behaviours of these schoolgirls be it in the bus, school, tuitions, gardens and Sports Day events! And there is no doubt that if these married women and schoolgirls are acting in such shameless manners, it is the men also which are responsible for all these, for men nowadays have lost their manly dignity! Can we quality those men who let their wives and daughters admire indecent movies as real men? Are those real men who forbid their wives from putting on the *burqa*? Instead of encouraging them to clothe themselves in decent manner (*Pardah*), these men appreciate that their wives and daughters clothe themselves in indecent clothing, mini dresses and T-Shirts and trousers! Can we call those kinds of men as real men and good husbands and fathers? So with TV, it is not just modesty which has been removed from our Muslim girls, but their very femininity has disappeared. As a result, a Muslim man now feels that he is not living with a girl/ woman, but with a man like himself instead!

Islam is religion which asks from us to be aware of the reason for which Allah has sent us on earth, so that this may help us live in the obedience of Allah. Today, with all these kinds of indecent songs and music which exist, these are ruining our youths completely. They are following the trends and dancing those indecent dances and this in fact is one of the principle reasons they have forgot the reality of their existence on earth, they have forgot why Allah has created them. Concerning TV, it is the youths who are falling prey to all its projected programs, and their minds are taking off to faraway imaginary places, thus handicapping their minds completely.

Nowadays, we find our youths are not only fans of actors, male and female, but also singers, male and female whom they call “*Stars*”. These singers have won a place in the hearts of our youths. Instead of learning to recite the Quran by heart, these youths, especially in their spare time are singing the songs of these singers by heart, and they show themselves very interested in these matters. There are even those who take part in singing competition, and they have reached such a stage where they say that they cannot live without singing, dancing and music in general.

Islam teaches us to lower our gaze so as to preserve our hearts from bad thoughts. The more a Muslim lowers his gaze, the more he shall enjoy tranquillity of the heart. Likewise, the more he admires the beauty of the actors/ actresses on TV or big screen, the more this provokes a desire in him to disobey Allah. As for TV, how can you watch TV if you lower your gaze?

Therefore TV causes you and your children to admire indecency and immorality on the screen. Islam has not just ordained us to perform *Salat* (prayer) 5 times a day, but it has also ordained us to perform these five times prayers on time and in congregation (*Jamaat*) in the mosque.

As for TV, if it has not been able to make you leave your prayers completely, it has at least the power to make you forego going to the mosque (to perform prayers) and to miss performing prayers in their specific times. Nowadays all kinds of films are projected during prayer time to restrict people from attending to their prayers on time! How many Muslims, for the love of football do not go to the mosques to perform *Salat* (prayers) in congregation? How many Muslims keep watching TV till late at night and afterwards do not wake up for the *Fajr* prayers? If with all these (negative things) your heart does not die, then when shall it die?!!! Islam has taught us to keep remembering Allah a lot so as to keep our hearts alive.

As for TV, it does not just prevent you to do *Zikrullah* while watching television, but even prevents you from thinking of Allah all the time. During the day, (instead of Allah) you think about which program you have watched last night and what movies are waiting for you tonight etc. When people watch these kinds of films, they are so plunged into them that even when you talk to them, they do not hear anything. These are the harmful effects of TV effect which are spoiling our youths nowadays. And I am sure that when they meet up with friends, they talk about the movies which they have seen and if the friend has not seen the movie, then explanations over explanations will ensued to fill him up on what he missed. Besides watching movies on television, they go fetch movie VCDs and DVDs as well.

They have transformed their houses into a cinema hall wherein there is no blessing at all. They have lost the divine blessings. There are houses wherein the inhabitants neither recite the Holy Quran nor pray voluntary prayers. There are no *Zikr* (of Allah) and no islamic teaching (Quran and Sunnah) imparted. These kinds of parents do not even encourage their children to study Islam, or to attend functions in the mosque and listening to the words of Allah. They are not even harsh towards them to wake them up for the *Tahajjud* prayers and to perform *duahs*. After *Tahajjud* prayers, there are also the *Fajr* prayers. These kinds of parents do not encourage their children to devote themselves in both obligatory and voluntary prayers and they do not advice them to at least read 2 *Rukus* of the Holy Quran every day, with translation.

Nowadays these parents are not attached to spirituality, and thus how can they possibly make their kids attach to spirituality? For this kind of parent, if his child gets a good job, is driving a car and he is regularly bringing in money in the house, even though that child is leading an immoral and indecent life – and putting on unislamic clothing – this does not mean anything for that parent, as long as he is well off materially!

Woe to these kinds of parents who do not know how to guide their kids in the right path. They are also responsible if their children have taken such wrong paths. When those children were small, they were not interested in awakening their interest and teaching them spirituality. They did not encourage those kids to do their five times prayers as well as reading the Holy Quran, *Zikr*, *Kalima*, *duah*, and attributes of Allah before going to bed. Like a planter, if he has planted a plant/ tree and the plant, and he lets the plant grow in a distorted way, without correcting it,

then its branches shall spread in a distorted way also in the different direction, without any control. Had he straighten the plant/ tree, then the plant would have grown well and he would have known how to control the direction of its branches.

So, the education of your child does not start in the school or in the *Madrassa* (Islamic school); it begins with yourselves (the parents). You are their first teachers. His first education must be provided by none but you. So try to understand my message to you and besides, my Friday Sermon does not end here. *Insha Allah*, Allah gives me the *Tawfiq* to continue the third part of my Khutba on the 'Harmful effects of television next week, *Insha Allah, Ameen*.

## CHENNAI FLOODS

The first week of November witnessed a great calamity (a major one in the course of a century) in Chennai, in the south of India. Torrential rainfall as well as the overflow of reservoirs caused major floods in various parts of Chennai, and this major flooding has continued till date (11 December 2015) whereby about 280 people have died and thousands were forced to leave their wrecked homes. In these times of utmost desolation the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam and this humble self stand up in prayer for the victims and those who were forced out of their homes and invoke Allah to remove all traces of this desolation and forgive all inhabitants therein and bless them and their offspring with a better future in the obedience of Allah. *Insha Allah*.