

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ



لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ

Friday Sermon

HADHRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH

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In Calicut, Kerala

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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 then he delivered his sermon on: ***"Faith & the Strong Believer"***.

Dear brothers, sisters and children, for today's Friday Sermon (*Khutba Jumu'ah*), it is very important that I talk to you about faith (*Iman*) and Islam and the difference between a weak believer and a strong believer.

Allah says in the Holy Quran: ***"Say, 'You have not (yet) believed; but say (instead), 'We have submitted,' (We are Muslims) for faith has not yet entered your hearts. And if you obey Allah and His Messenger, He will not deprive you from your deeds of anything'." (Al-Hujurat 49: 15).***

Indeed, *Iman* (faith) is the confession/ attestation (by the tongue) and acting (according to one's responsibility) and Islam is confession (by the tongue) without acting.

It should be remembered that those who integrate the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam as Muslims and say that they believe in my advent as the Khalifatullah of the age need to make extra efforts to perfect their Islam and put this Islam into practice in their daily lives. Through the practice of Islam in your daily lives, true faith shall enter your hearts, and no doubt whatsoever, can come into those hearts to deviate you from the right path.

Very often, a Muslim – and I am specifically talking about my followers, the Sahih al Islam members – can feel that he is trying to do all the right things in his life so as to come close to Allah, and despite his various efforts, he is not able to succeed in his efforts and therefore he despairs of the mercy of Allah. He feels abandoned, and thus, he abandons his *Salat* (prayers) and all acts of worship due to his insecurity and doubts. Now, this is very wrong. This person should bear in mind that acquiring true faith is not an easy matter. He has to go through lots of trials, lots of fires, i.e. difficulties, so that his mettle, his capacities as a true Muslim and believer, and his faith in Allah may be victorious.

Remember, Allah always gives more trials and difficulties to those whom He loves the most. Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) has said: *“How wonderful is the affair of the believer, for his affairs are all good, and this applies to no one but the believer. If something good happens to him, he is thankful for it and that is good for him. If something bad happens to him, he bears it with patience and that is good for him.”* (Muslim).

Take the good examples of the prophets of Allah. Hazrat Isa (as) bore the cross with much patience, despite the great pains and did not renounce in his faith in Allah and his mission as prophet of Allah. Hazrat Yusuf (as) had to spent years in prison despite his innocence but yet bore it all with patience and faith in Allah. Hazrat Musa (as) had to exile to another land and came back with the blessings of Allah as His prophet to warn Pharaoh and his followers of the wrath of Allah. In his presence, when he went to receive the 10 commandments, his people deviated from the right path and they worshipped a golden calf, but with his constant connection with Allah, all

despair disappeared and he was able to save his people from their own deviating ways and accomplish his mission. Despite his constant efforts, his people were people who were always dissatisfied with their lifestyle and most of them had doubts on their Islam. But like a true soldier and prophet of Allah, Hazrat Musa (as) kept advising them and showing them the right path.

Bear in mind then, that when you have accepted the Khalifatullah of this age, and you keep firm on the right path and you keep on doing your duties to Allah and His *Deen-i-Islam* with vigour and love, then, definitely, Allah will love you, and the more He loves you, the more the difficulties you shall find in your path. Why? It is because Allah wants you to go higher and higher in spirituality and to detach yourselves from this world, and that you remember Him. By accomplishing your duties to Allah, i.e. by behaving like a true Muslim, and putting into practice your Islam in your everyday life, be it in your homes, in your workplaces, with friends and family etc., therefore, you shall develop true faith, and with true faith comes also Certainty (*Yaqeen*) in Allah and His blessed divine signs and manifestations. And the more you make efforts to share the divine light with people around you, the more you shall find Allah close with you.

Remember, each one of you is special. In this era, you have recognised and accepted the Khalifatullah and Messenger of your era, and many of you also have received many divine signs and thus, Allah chose each one of you to form part of the Sahih al Islam family, Muslims of Islam to bring forward the cause of Islam to its glorious height. *Insha-Allah*. And for this, you need to put efforts to make this aim (goal) come true. Without efforts, nothing can be done, nothing can be derived.

Each one of you should reinforce himself spiritually and strive to become a strong believer. Many of you can say '*I believe*', '*I have faith*', but nonetheless they are weak believers, because whenever a trial comes, or Satan makes them have a doubt, these weak believers stumble, and fall in their *Iman* and *Islam*.

Hazrat Abu Huraira (ra) reported: “The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said, ‘*The strong believer is more beloved to Allah than the weak believer, but there is goodness in both of them. Be eager for what benefits you, seek help from Allah, and do not be frustrated. If something befalls you, then do not say: If only I had done something else. Rather say: Allah has decreed what He wills. Verily, the phrase ‘if only’ opens the way for the work of Satan’.*” (Muslim).

From this Hadith, goodness is acknowledged in the weak as well as strong believer because the faith is a common feature of both. The one who is stronger is, however, better with Allah for the reason that he is more active and energetic in the matter of noble deeds and performance of ritual prayers, obligatory as well as voluntary, as well as the other acts of worship. The strong believers are those who establish a strong relationship with Allah to such a point that no trial can ever deviate them from the right path.

By the grace of Allah, the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam houses certain such strong believers but there are also weak ones, those who are not making enough efforts in the way of Allah to acquire the real faith, that solid faith in Allah which no creature can ever break.

It is most unfortunate also that there are many people in this era of Divine Manifestation who after receiving countless signs or even one sign from Allah, and coming forward to integrate the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam, but afterwards with the pressure of their families and the rejecters of truth, they also turn their backs and renounce in their belief and they break the covenant/ *Bai’at* which they have taken beforehand. This is very serious in the eyes of Allah.

Remember, Allah says in the Holy Quran: **“Do the people think that they will be left to say, ‘We believe’ and they will not be tried? But We have certainly tried those before them, and Allah will surely make evident those who are truthful, and He will surely make evident the liars. Or do those who do evil deeds think they can outrun Us? Evil is what they judge.”** (Al-Ankabut 29: 3-5).

Therefore, every trial which comes your way should be considered as a blessing for you instead of as a curse. Those who strive and persevere in the way of Allah, fighting against their own ego and passions and struggling to make their Islam and *Iman* (faith) shine forth as a role model for others to follow, it is them the winners before the eyes of Allah. And after the various difficulties and persecutions in their path, the day shall come to them when the gifts of Allah shall be presented to them as an ultimate reward for all their efforts, and these efforts should continue until their last breath on earth, just like a little Hazrat Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, the truthful follower of Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) and the fearless Hazrat Umar Al-Farooq, whose faith and personality as a strong believer made even the Satan take an opposing path whenever Hazrat Umar (ra) came. This shows you how much these great companions – and many others – have developed true faith in their heart to such an extent that Allah has taken over their hearts and ruled over it throughout. Blessed are such people, in this world and forever in the afterlife. Be like them, O my disciples, and do not let the thread of unfaith ever touch you. Blessed are you. Remain ever blessed till the end of times, *Insha-Allah, Ameen.*