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Summary Friday Sermon 14 Oct 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 it is a great blessing of God upon those who have come to the USA for enabling them to settle in this developed country. Ahmadis should be grateful to such governments who grant them refuge;

His Holiness (aba) said that over the past few years, many Ahmadis of Pakistan have settled in the USA and they continue to do so, on account of the fact that the conditions for Ahmadis have continued to become increasingly difficult in Pakistan. Ahmadis should be grateful to such governments who grant them refuge. However, the greatest favour of God upon us is that HE has enabled us to accept the Imam of the Age, who is the most ardent devotee of the Holy Prophet (sa). Therefore, if we truly wish to be grateful to God, it is incumbent upon us to obey His commandments, do justice to worshipping Him and do justice in fulfilling the rights owed to His creation.

Thus everyone should conduct a self- evaluation of himself. If, upon arriving in these countries, we have forgotten this purpose and become engrossed in worldly businesses, our children and our generations will drift far away from Deen (religion). Therefore these are matters of contemplation. People who have immigrated to this land have found respite from the hostility and enmity of the world at large, however, if they do not follow the rules of religion or focus on the teaching of the Holy Quran, they cannot be receivers of Allah's Blessings. Similarly, the new Ahmadis and those too who have been here since long, must remember that their purpose cannot be fulfilled by simply taking oath. It can only be accomplished when we become a true image of Islamic teachings and it is not possible until we study the Quran very carefully and act upon its guidelines.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Promised Messiah (as) as saying that it is not enough to take an oath. Allah desires action, and whosoever complies can be sure that he will benefit from Allah's Graces. This condition will prevail when 'La Ilaha Illallah' (There is No God but One) becomes the voice of both your body and soul, when you have no wish left except for pleasing Allah and when

you practise complete obeyance to Allah's ordinance. Thus everyone can assess himself on this criteria to find whether it is truly our ambition to acquire Allah's pleasure when we recite the Kalma: La ilaha illallah? Are we showing obedience to His orders? If at the time of prayers we do not discard our worldly chores to offer supplication, we are in fact uttering the kalma verbally but our heart contains 'Shirk' (denial) temporarily. A believer is one who believes that his business and his ambitions can only prosper and be fulfilled with the Blessing of Allah. How then is it possible that his worldly need creates an obstacle between him and the call of Allah?

His Holiness (aba) said that our supplications should be solely for Allah. Our deeds should aim at receiving Allah's pleasure. Currently the affairs of the world seem to indicate that we are being enveloped by signs of a great calamity in the near future and it will be of such magnitude that it will cause the end of this earth. People who have migrated to this land must not imagine that they are safe here. The leaders of the powerful nations do not consider anything when they set their minds upon demolition. Therefore it is the responsibility of Ahmadis to keep praying vigorously. The Promised Messiah (as) has said that Allah saves the general mankind too when pious people pray to Him. We are going through dangerous times presently. If anyone can save us from destruction it is Allah. Bow in supplication to Allah yourselves and teach your progeny to do the same in order to save your generations. If we are truly able to fulfill the demands of 'La ilaha Illallah' Allah will redeem us and the world due to our pious deeds. Therefore pray rigorously before the situation of the world becomes terrifyingly worse.

His Holiness (aba) said that according to The Promised Messiah (as), a good deed is always done beforehand. It is of no consequence afterwards. People wail and cry when their boat is sinking, but it is simply a natural act of desperation and it cannot provide them relief in any way. It can only be beneficial in times of peace and security. Thus, the only way to reach Allah is to remain awake and call to HIS Grace, before a calamity, as if he is going to be struck by lightning. The person who weeps and howls upon seeing the lightning strike is doing so with fear of the lightning and not Allah.

His Holiness (aba) said that only the faith and belief of Ahmadis and their bonding with and prayers to Allah can save the world from total destruction. Acquire sympathy for your fellow human beings and the world and pray for them. If the due rights of people and Allah are not paid the world can become a ruined and desolate place. Thus every Ahmadi must develop this consideration and carry out his obligatory duty.

His Holiness (aba) aid that the Promised Messiah (as) says, another quality that Ahmadis must possess is to develop love and harmony among themselves. He said that our community cannot flourish and bloom until they share sincerity and sympathy with each other. Thus love the weak ones strongly and vociferously.

The Promised Messiah (as) says that Allah wishes to make our community an example for the world. Thus can anybody become an example through superficiality and without any deep-rooted endeavours? Much effort will be needed and we will need to do it too, By improving our moral conditions and establishing social relationships and brotherhood with each other we will need to assess whether we are becoming those exemplary people or not.

May Allah enable us to shape our life according to the wishes of the Promised Messiah (as), give priority to the faith and religious obligation over worldly matters, develop the fear of Allah within ourselves, be the true bearers of 'La ilaha illallah' and join the community of those fortunate ones whose prophesy was given to the Holy Prophet (pbuh) by Allah. May Allah award us this blessing.