

DARS (LESSON) - FINANCIAL SACRIFICE, AN OBLIGATION FOR EVERY AHMADI

SAY, MY PRAYER AND MY SACRIFICE AND MY LIFE AND MY DEATH ARE ALL FOR ALLAH, THE LORD OF ALL THE WORLDS (Ch.6: V. 163)

Ameer Chairman, am highly delighted for been given opportunity to deliver a Dars on the topic: **FINANCIAL SACRIFICE, AN OBLIGATION FOR EVERY AHAMDI**. AM grateful to the organizers of this year Jalsa for the honour.

Ameer Sahib, the subject of financial sacrifice is so important that, in the Holy Qur'an Allah has repeatedly draw our attention to it many times. Both the elements of sacrifice and the focus on giving out of one's wealth are paramount issues of importance, as they are the key factors in the promotion of harmonious society- a society in which people are ever-willing to earn the pleasure of God, and are ever mindful of their duty to each other- especially to those who are less-off than themselves.

Ameer chairman, We are the most fortunate of people as we have accepted Islam- the perfect guidance from Allah. We also have the unique opportunity to accept teachings of Islam and benefits from the noble examples of those who were taught and guided by our master, Hadhrat Muhammad Mustapha (saw) himself.

In surah Fatiha Allah states:

All praises belongs to Allah, Lord of all the worlds (ch.1: v.2)

This verse is bursting with meaning and beauty, and it sets out once and for all that, all that is in the heavens and the earth belongs to Allah. Man has no right of ownership on anything, he has not created a single atom, so how can he behave as if he owned the whole world? It is Allah

who is the creator, has bestowed his favours upon us, and given us everything for our sustenance.

Ameer Chairman, In the Holy Qur'an Allah makes clear that financial sacrifice is an attribute of the righteous.

This is a perfect book; there is no doubt in it, it is a guidance for the righteous.

Who believe in the unseen and observe prayers and spend out of what we have provided for them (2:2-4)

Look at the beauty of Allah's words. That, man should make sacrifices, of which wealth is a key part, for the sake of Allah and out of his generosity, and Allah has also given us a share of wealth to enable us make that sacrifices. And yet when it comes to sacrifices, there are some who still feel reluctant to take that step and spend in His causes.

In fact, Allah further underlines the concept of sacrifice as a basis for righteousness when He says:

Never shall you attain to righteousness unless you spend out of that which you love. (Ch.3:V.93)

For those Ahmadis, who are attached to worldly riches, this verse is clear instruction making plain that, their path to progress is linked to their willingness to part with their wealth for the sake of Allah. As Ahmadis, our spiritual and physical success is to be determined by our ability to serve Allah, by our desire to serve Allah and our actions in serving Allah.

The noble example of the Holy prophet is brimming full of sacrifices. And the lives of his holy companions provide further examples that remain unmatched. The Holy Prophets saw said:

‘Spend, and do not count, lest Allah counts against you. Do not withhold your money, lest Allah withholds from you. Spend what you can. (Bukhari, Muslim)

He also taught us;

Spend with an open heart, Allah will spend upon thee. (Bukhari)

Also he said:

‘Each morning, two angels descend, one of them saying: Allah, bestow a good return upon the spender; and the other saying: Allah, destroy the property of the miser’. (Bukhari)

In another place, Holy Prophet^{saw} said:

Whoever spends anything in the cause of Allah, is rewarded seven hundred times more. (Tirmidhi)

This was the teaching for his people at the time in view of the devotion of Arabs to worldly riches, but the world today still stands in need of this teachings. And it is obligatory to every Ahmadi to follow the footsteps of the Holy Prophet.

In additions to the matchless life of the Holy Prophets, His companion offered so much that our actions are made to look like paltry offerings.

At the time of the battle of Tabuk, the Holy Prophet made an appeal to enable the Muslims prepare for battle. Hadhrat Umar gave half of everything he possessed without hesitation. In response to the same appeal, Hadhrat Abu Bakr donated everything he had, and look at his answer to the Holy Prophet who asked him, ‘Abu Bakr, what have you left at home? His answer humbles us even today, 1400 years on. He answered; only the name of Allah and His messenger.

Look at their utter devotion for God. They had wealth that could have given them a life of ease yet they marched in the direction of hardship and sacrifice- unshakeable in their belief of God.

How many Ahmadis now a days can practice that?

Ameer Cahirman, Our spirit should be that of Hazrat Abubakar, and of Hazrat Umar. It should be that of Hadhrat Sahibzada Abdul Lateef who willingly gave up a life of ease and honour for his belief in God and the truth of the Promised Messiah. Abdul Lateef was prepared to respond to the call of the Messiah and make every sacrifice to prove the truth of his belief in Allah and His messenger.

Hazrat Promised Messiah Said about his sacrifices saying;

“See how Abdul Lateef, the pure and pious one, gave himself for the sake of God.

He surrendered his life with true submission and is lying under stones. This is what is known as the path of truth and purity; this is the ultimate aim of every man of truth faith.

They live only for His Sake and have no personal aims; they throw away their own lives in the path of the Lord. They sever themselves from all worldly fame, honour and status; they surrender theirs and allow their crowns to be taken away from their heads for His sake. (Tadhkirahtush Shahadatain p.59)

We are blessed that from among the Jama’at, we have such noble examples that have furnished us with the spirit of sacrifice even in the latter days.

Ameer chairman, Let us look at the example of Hazrat Maulvi Hakeem Noorudden Sahib- he sacrificed his wealth for the sake of Islam- so much so that the Promised Messiah said that:

“ Maulvi Hakim Noorudden Sahib is unique in his sincerity, love and spirit of sacrifice, in his courage and generosity, in spending for the sake of Allah and his support for Islam. I know many rich person who spends a tiny portion of his abundant wealth in the way of Allah, but to give all of one’s precious wealth to win the pleasure of Allah and suffer hunger and thirst, and completely deprive oneself of all its material benefits is a virtue that I have witnessed to perfection in Maulvi Hakim Sahib Alone.”(Heavenly sign, p. 76)

For our benefit Allah has explained that financial sacrifice can only ever benefit us and the holy people like Hazrat Hakim Noorudden, Allah says;

The similitude of those who spend their wealth for the cause of Allah is like the similitude of a grain of corn which grows seven ears, in each ear a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies it further for whosoever He pleases: and Allah is Bountiful, All-knowing. (Ch. 2:v.262)

In every period of the Jama’at’s history new opportunities for financial sacrifice have arisen. We are witness to the benefits of those who have sacrificed before us.

Look for examples at the sacrifice of the ladies of Qadian that led to the construction of the Fazl Mosque in London- such a beautiful sacrifice for a place that has since been at the forefront of serving Allah. A sacrifice, the blessings of which we are reaping now – who could have known that the seat of Khilafat would have been based in the same Mosque?

We have seen with our own eyes the bounties of God in rewarding our sacrifices- the blessings of Tahrik Jadid, the blessings of MTA, the blessings of Humanity First, the blessings of of Baitul Futuh, are but a few examples of how financial sacrifices rewards us as individuals, as a

community and also how the blessings extend beyond our Jama'at to wider society.

The Promised Messiah has said:

“ It is now time for all those who count themselves among my followers, that they should help this Movement with their money. If someone can only afford one Paisa, he should pay one Paisa each month for the requirement of the movement; he who can afford a rupee should offer a rupee each month. Everyone who has accepted the Bai'at should help according to his means, so that Allah too should help them. If the assistance is received regularly every month, even if it is minor, it is better than that which is made upon impulse after a long time of negligence. Every person's sincerity can only be judged by the service he offers. O' MY DEAR ONES, this is the time for helping the faith and fulfilling its requirements. Make use of it, for this time will never return”. (Kishti-e-nuh,p.83)

Do we pay our chandas regularly even if one Paisa as Ahmadis, as mentioned by Promised Messiah?

In a Hadith, the Holy Prophet said that:

' O people, give in charity as a time will come upon you when a person will wander about with his object of charity and will not find anybody to accept it, and one who will be requested to take it will say, if you had brought it yesterday, I would have taken it, but today I am not in need of it. (Bukhari)

What more reason could we have to offer financial sacrifices? Lest us act now so that we and generations after us can be blessed for this deed and not to be like those Qur'an has referred as follows;

'Say, shall we tell you of those who are worst losers with regard to their deeds? Those whose labour is all lost in search after things

pertaining to the life of this world, and they think that they are doing good works. (Ch. 18:104)

Also Promised Messiah says:

“ It goes without saying, that you cannot love two things at the same time: it is not possible for you to love wealth as well as to love Allah. You can love only one of them. Lucky is he who loves Allah. If any of you loves Him and spends his /her wealth in His cause , I am certain that his/her wealth will increase more than that of others, for wealth doesn't come by itself, rather it comes by Allah's will.

Whoever parts with some of his wealth for the sake of Allah, will surely get it back. But he who loves his wealth and doesn't serve in the way of Allah, as he should, will surely lose his wealth. Do not ever imagine that your wealth comes from your own effort, no, it comes from Allah Almighty. And do not ever imagine that you do a favour to Allah or his Appointed One by offering your money or helping in any other way. Rather it is His favour upon you that he calls you to this service. (Majmu'ah Ishtiharat Vol.3 p.497-498)

We must pray and strive to always be counted among those who always offered sacrifices in adversity and prosperity because we held the love of Allah and the honour of Islam close to our hearts.

Ameer Sahib, How fortunate would we be, if we could as a result of this be counted among those whose reward is promised by Allah, Who says:

Who is he who will lend Allah a goodly loan? So He will increase it manifold for him, and he will have a generous reward. (Ch. 57: V.12)

Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud has said:

“ In this age, Allah Almighty has opened the door to the jihad of Spreading the faith and Jihad against one's own self, instead of Jihad with the sword. And we cannot spread the faith without money. You

are the Mujahidin of this age and you deserve the same reward which those people did, and indeed you are getting it. (Letter of Hadrat Khalifatul masih II)

May Allah enable us all to be worthy of such favours and to be at the forefront of offering every kind of financial sacrifice and to answer every call of our beloved Khalifah because that is the only path to righteousness and the only true path to God. Amin