Lajna Imaillah UK presents workshop 2

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Recommendation 2:

It is recommended that a list of topics with support materials be developed and provided to mothers to support them in having open and transparent discussions with their sons.

Recommendation 2 topics:

- A. Importance of Prayers (Session 1)
- B. Developing closeness with Khilafat (Session 2)
- C. Listening to the Friday Sermon (Session 2)
- D. Purdah (Session 3)
- E. Modesty (Session 3)
- F. Helping in the home (Session 4)
- G. Respecting women (Session 4)
- H. Role in Society as Ahmadi boys/men (Session 5)

We aim to cover the topics during this year and will link these with the developmental ages of boys Insha'Allah.

Developing closeness with Khilafat and Listening to the Friday Sermon

Today we will discuss the importance of Khilafat for our sons

1. What is Khilafat and what is its importance?

5. How do we instil love for Khilafat in our children?

2. Khilafat in the Quran, Hadith and in the words of the Promised Messiah AS

7. Importance of the Friday Sermon

3. Khilafat as a source of leadership

8. Questions our sons may ask and how to Answer them

4. Obedience to Khilafat

What is Khilafat?

After the Prophet Muhammad SAW passed away,
Khilafat was established to keep the teachings of
Islam alive and to keep its followers on the right path.
This was similarly established after the Promised
Messiah AS to ensure this same unity and guidance
within Islam Ahmadiyyat.

Why is it so important to teach our children about Khilafat?

It is extremely important that our children are taught about Khilafat from an early age. There is no better role model on this earth than our beloved Huzoor, and our children should be using his example to apply to their daily lives rather than those of the shallow celebrities they are being encouraged to copy.

Khilafat in The Holy Quran

"Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely, make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them; and that He will, surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them; and that He will, surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear; They will worship Me, and they will not associate anything with Me. Then whoso is ungrateful after that, they will be the rebellious."

[24:56]

Khilafat in Hadith and the words of the Promised Messiah AS

"Prophethood shall remain among you as long as Allah shall will. He will bring about its end and follow it with Khilafat on the precepts of prophethood for as long as He shall will and then bring about its end. A tyrannical monarchy will then follow and will remain as long as Allah shall will and then come to an end. There will follow thereafter monarchial despotism to last as long as Allah shall will and come to an end upon His decree. There will then emerge Khilafat on precept of Prophethood." The Holy Prophet said **no more** [Masnad Ahmad]

I came from God as a Manifestation of Divine Providence and I am a personification of His Power. And after I am gone there will be some other persons who will be the manifestation of the second Power [of God]. So, while waiting for the second Manifestation of His Power, you all together keep yourselves busy praying. And let a Jama'at of righteous people, one and all, in every country keep themselves busy in prayers so that the second Manifestation may descend from the Heaven and show you that your God is such Mighty God.

[The Will, page 8]

Khilafat as a source of leadership

What is the difference between world leaders and our beloved Khalifa? In the world that we see around us, leaders of the world show a great deal of greed, self interest, falsehood and a lack of compassion.

A Khalifa however displays none of these traits. A Khalifa is selfless, compassionate and promotes peace at all times. Our beloved Huzoor displays all of these traits. Meeting with the world leaders, Huzoor never wavers from his message of peace, and continually emphasises that only by fulfilling the rights of both Allah and His creation, can we be successful.

Despite his incredibly busy schedule, he makes time for classes to **Answer our** questions, provides moral and spiritual guidance and allows for individual Mulagats. It is impossible to imagine a worldly leader ever doing the same.

Obedience to Khilafat

We also affirm that we shall strive till the last breath to safeguard the institution of Khilafat and its stability and shall direct our progeny after progeny, to always be bonded with Khilafat and be given the blessings of it, so that Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya continues to go on safe and sound and the propagation of Islam may go on through Ahmadiyyat till the Day of Judgment and the flag of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) may fly higher and higher than all the other flags in the world. O God, grant us the capacity to fulfil this pledge." [Extract from the 100 year centenary pledge]

A story narrated by Mostapha Thabit sahib who asked Chaudhry Muhammad Zafrulla Khan(ra):

"Chaudhry Sahib, throughout all your life you have been very successful and Allah has blessed you so much. Would you tell me why?"

Without any hesitation to think about an Answer, he said:

"Because through all my life, I was obedient to Khilafat."

[Article titled 'Obedience' by Adam Walker on Al Islam]

How do we build love for Khilafat in our children?

How do we build love for Khilafat in our children?

1. Huzoor stated "As long as mothers will be born in the Jamaat bringing up children who love Khilafat, then Khilafate-Ahmadiyya is not in any danger" [Al Fazl, 10-17 June 2005]

4. When possible, try to arrange
Mulaqats with Huzoor – these are
extraordinarily special occasions
where the children will be able to
experience Huzoor's Holy presence

3. Encouraging them to write letters to Huzoor regularly – This will build up a connection with Huzoor, where asking for prayers – and seeing those prayers come to fruition – will convince them it has flowed from a divinely inspired source.

2. The love for the Khalifa must come from the parents – If you are consistent in expressing your love and obedience to the Khalifa, then automatically that love is transferred into your children.

5. Encouraging them to watch
Huzoor on MTA – Whether that be
Atfal classes, virtual Mulaqats,
and of course the Friday Sermon.

What is the importance of listening to the Friday Sermon regularly?

We will now move on to discussing the significance of listening to Friday Sermons

Importance of listening to the Friday Sermon?

Ways to help our sons become regular in listening to the Friday Sermon.

Strategies to help our children see the benefits of implementing the advice of Khalifatul Masih.

We would like to start by asking:

Why is it important to listen to the Friday Sermon regularly?

Why is it important to listen to the Friday Sermon?

- 1. Strengthens our relationship with Allah the Almighty.
- 2. It helps us develop a closer relationship with Khilafat.
- 3. Khalifa e Waqt is addressing us directly.
- 4. We receive direct and timely guidance.
- 5. We receive regular reminders about our roles and responsibilities.
- 6. Keep us all connected as a Jamaat.

Why is it important to listen to the Friday Sermon?

It says in the Holy Quran: 'O ye who believe! when the call is made for Prayer on Friday, hasten to the remembrance of Allah, and leave off all business. That is better for you, if you only knew. And when the Prayer is finished, then disperse in the land and seek of Allah's grace, and remember Allah much, that you may prosper. But when they see some merchandise or some amusement, they break up for it, and leave thee standing. Say, 'That which is with Allah is better than amusement and merchandise, and Allah is the Best Provider.''

Surah al-Jumu'ah: verses 10-12

Why is it important to watch the Friday Sermon?

The Friday Sermon (Khutba) is a chance to listen to the precious words of our beloved Huzoor every single week. Each sermon, Huzoor provides a different topic, where he uses easy language to narrate the stories of early Islam and Ahmadiyyat and how we can apply these struggles and triumphs to our daily lives. The chance to listen to the guidance of a world leader so often and so finely tuned to us is not something that is available outside of the institution of Khilafat.

Why is it important to listen to the Friday Sermon?

In his address to Majlis Shura UK 2018, Huzoor e Anwar highlighted: 'Furthermore, it is necessary to strive towards building a close connection with Khilafat and, in this regard, it is of utmost importance that all Jama'at members listen to the Friday Sermons of the Khalifa-e-Waqt, in which he guides the Jama'at according to the needs of the time. They should also listen to the other programmes of the Khalifa-e-Waqt'.

https://www.alislam.org/articles/majlis-e-shura-uk-2018/

Why is it important to listen to the Friday Sermon?

Huzoor Aqdas also reminded us of the importance of watching MTA and the Friday Sermons regularly in his address at the concluding session of Lajna Ijtema UK 2015.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZX1OodR5PU

How can we help our sons become regular in listening to the Friday Sermon?

How can we help our boys become regular in listening to the Friday Sermon?

- Pray for our children
- Regular reminders
- Role modelling
- Sharing inspiring stories and examples
- Discussing the Friday Sermon as a family
- Helping children to understand the key points
- Developing a routine

How do we make it a routine in our households?

How can we help our boys become regular in listening to the Friday Sermon?

In his address to Majlis Shura UK 2018, Huzoor e Anwar has also directed, 'In light of this, a concerted effort should be made through the Jama'at and through the auxiliaries to ensure that Ahmadis are constantly encouraged to listen to and pay close attention to the sermons and programmes of the Khalifa-Waqt. The office bearers and Shura members should lead the way in this effort by ensuring that they and their children are closely affiliated with MTA and watch it as much as possible'.

https://www.alislam.org/articles/majlis-e-shura-uk-2018/

Strategies to help our children see the benefits of implementing the advice of Khalifatul Masih.

Strategies to help our children see the benefits of implementing the advice of Khalifatul Masih.

- Discuss key points of the Friday Sermon.
- Ask children how we can implement these.
- Answer their questions.
- Respond to any confusion or doubt they might have.
- Sharing inspiring examples, stories.
- Sharing personal experiences.
- Huzoor Aqdas Friday Sermon on the 3rd Sep'21

https://www.alislam.org/friday-sermon/2021-09-03.html

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to Answer them (1/2)

I don't understand the Khutba when I listen to it, why do I have to listen to it then?

How can a person who was selected or elected by people, be in the same time appointed by Allah?

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to Answer them (1/2)

I don't understand the Khutba when I listen to it, why do I have to listen to it then?

You should ask your children what they have done to try and understand the Khutba in more detail. Have they looked at the Al Islam summary? Have they listened to it in English? Did they plan before they sat down to listen to concentrate and take it in? Encourage your son to take these steps so that they truly consolidate what Huzoor is saying and in turn, gain a significant understanding of it. In Answer to why they should continue to persevere, narrate to them the advantages you have felt and experienced from listening to the sermon, such as gaining spiritual strength, Islamic knowledge and closeness to Allah.

How can a person who was selected or elected by people, be in the same time appointed by Allah?

Throughout the Quran, there are many examples of man doing certain actions in obedience to Allah, following His commandments and seeking His pleasure, and therefore serves as an instrument through which Allah manifests His will. Thus the actual doer is God. That is the same principle when there is an election of a Khalifa. To further prove this point that it is ultimately decided by the Divine, there are many stories of people who did not know of the existence of Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad before his election, however dreamt of his face and his name many years prior. A compilation of these dreams has been made by Imam Ataul Mujeeb Rashed Sahib and is available on Al-Islam.

https://www.alislam.org/articles/dreams-foretelling-fifth-khilafat/

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to Answer them (2/2)

Is every decision Huzoor makes correct?

Why is having Huzoor as my role model so important?

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to Answer them (2/2)

Is every decision Huzoor makes correct?

When it comes to the greater good of the Jamaat, then yes. Hadhrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad RA has reassured us of this fact, where in Tafsir-e-Kabir he states:

"It is possible for a Khalifa to commit an error in his personal matters. However, in matters upon which relies the spiritual and physical progress of the Jamaat, Allah protects His Jamaat from any adverse effects, even if a mistake is made. Allah somehow makes the Khalifa aware of the mistake. Sufis term this as ismatisughra [minor infallibility] and is a characteristic of Khulafa [plural of Khalifa], whereas prophets are bestowed with ismat-i-kubra [major infallibility]. Hence, Allah does not let Khulafa make such an error that can result in adversity for the Jamaat." [Tafsir-e-Kabir, commentary on Surah al-Nur, pp. 376-377]

Why is having Huzoor as my role model so important?

In this day and age, choosing a role model can be difficult. With worldly role models such as celebrities, controversy never seems far away, and they can never be trusted to live up to the standards we hold them to. With Huzoor however, we have a perfect role model who is brave, honest and has an absolute trust in Allah. There are many examples of Huzoor's courage and Taqwa and how that translated into the lives of those who looked up to him. Respected Mirza Wagas Ahmad Sahib penned impressions and sentiments related to his father in this aspect. He said of our beloved Huzoor: "Whatever the circumstances, he bore hardships wholeheartedly. Neither did he fear any challenge, nor did he allow us to be fearful. We never saw him fearful and this was something he expected of us as well, to never be afraid of anything. Huzoor(aba) is extremely courageous and brave and he has never wanted for us to have any form of cowardice in us. If ever we saw fear in him, then it was the fear of Allah."

10th Condition of Bai'at

That he/she shall enter into a bond of brotherhood with this humble servant of God, pledging obedience to me in everything good for the sake of God, and remain faithful to it until the day of his/ her death. That he/she shall exert such a high devotion in the observance of this bond as is not to be found in any other worldly relationship and connection that demand devoted dutifulness.

Regarding this condition of Bai'at, Huzoor states in his book 'Conditions of Bai'at and Responsibilities of an Ahmadi' that: "When you have taken the bai'at and have entered the organisation of the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah as, you have given everything of yours to the Promised Messiah as. You have to obey his decisions; you have to act upon his teachings. Since the system of khilafat exists after him, you have to follow the decisions and the instructions of the Khalifah of the time."

[Conditions of Bai'at and Responsibilities of an Ahmadi page 170]

We would like to conclude with these questions:

How do I inculcate love for Khilafat in my child?

How can I ensure that my son develops the habit of listening to Friday Sermons regularly?

How can I help my son become a model Ahmadi Muslim?