

The Need for Khilafat

Taleem and Tarbiyyat Class

Lajna UK

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Khilafat is that **guiding light** which brings us out of darkness and despair, which gives us **strength** when we are at our most vulnerable, which **inspires** us each and every day to make ourselves better both for our own **spiritual and secular advancement** and to **serve others**

In **Chapter 24, Verse 56** of the Holy Quran it is stated:

“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.”

Allah Almighty explains to us that the Institution of Khilafat will take a visible form in the person of certain individuals who will be the Holy Prophet (saw's) **successors and representatives** for the whole world

The love that is instilled within the heart of the Khalifa for members of the Jamaat is a Divinely inspired love. It is devoid of any personal gain or want, but based on a deep and genuine concern and regard for the welfare of all.

Prophets are human beings and live up to a certain time before departing from this world, whereupon Khilafat that succeeds them takes their mission forward, for **man needs continuous guidance to progress in life**

The Promised Messiah (as) stated,

“Unfortunately, people do not ponder over the word **Khalifa** – which is derived from the word *istikhlaf*, because Khalifa means successor and a true successor of a Prophet can only be one who virtually holds in himself the excellence of the Prophet... A Khalifa is a reflection of the Prophet and since no human being lives eternally, God Almighty decreed that Prophets who excel and supersede everyone, should in form of a reflection, live on eternally. Thus, God Almighty chose Khilafat so the world never remains devoid of the blessings of prophethood”

(Shahadat ul Quran, Ruhani Khizain, vol 6 pg 351)

Hadrat Khalifatul Masih II (ra) explained,

“The Khalifa has two primary objectives. One is to **save the Community from contamination** of any kind and the second is to **unite and direct the individual powers of all members under one leadership**”

(Khutbat e Mahmud, pg 421)

In **Chapter 24, Verse 55** of the Holy Quran Allah Almighty states,
“Say, Obey Allah and obey the Messenger. But if you turn away, he is responsible for what he is charged with and you are responsible for what you are charged with. And if you obey him, you will be rightly guided.”

In **Chapter 24, Verse 57** of the Holy Quran, Allah Almighty further states,

“And observe Prayer and give the Zakat and obey the Messenger, that you may be shown mercy.”

After the fundamental pillars of Prayer and Zakat, Allah Almighty lays great emphasis on the importance of **Obedience.**

We cannot say we obey the messenger of Allah yet neglect our responsibilities towards obeying the directives of His Khalifa.

In order to be worthy of Allah's blessings and favours upon us, we must strive to be of those **who hear and who obey.**

The purpose of the advent of Prophets in this world has been to establish **tawhid**, belief in the unity of one God, and the basic and ultimate purpose of khilafat is also the establishment of tawhid and **unity among mankind.**

Under the Divine leadership of one Khalifa, Muslims are continually reminded that there is only **one path of righteousness** that leads to God, that there is only **one guidance to follow** and that is the Holy Quran and those who abide by its teachings and follow them in practice can attain the love of their Creator both in this world and the next.

Today we realise how much that the world has forgotten its Creator and how repeatedly our Beloved Khalifa (may Allah be his Helper) has reminded mankind to turn to God and build a connection with Him, for that is the only way to acquire **both inner and outer peace.**

As members of this Community, we must set that standard of peace and unity in our homes and in our relationships so that we become that example for the rest of the world to follow. Such was the vision of the Promised Messiah (as) for this community and what his Khulafa have continually reminded us of.

The Promised Messiah (as) admonished his followers,
“Be united and give up all miserliness, rancour, jealousy and
lack of compassion. There are two great commandments of
the Holy Quran – one is unity, love and obedience to God and
the other is sympathy with your brothers and with the whole
of mankind”

(Izala e Auhaam pg 450)

Beloved Huzur, may Allah be his helper, stated,

“Ahmadis are the fortunate ones for whom the Khalifa of the time constantly worries. **There is no difficulty, be it individual or communal, that Ahmadis across the world face and the Khalifa of the time does not address.** And to solve it, does not besides exerting practical effort, bow before God Almighty and pray to Him”

(Friday Sermon 6th June 2014).

Hadrat Khalifatul Masih II (ra) stated in *Blessings of Khilafat*,

“You have someone who has true sympathy for you. Who truly loves you; who considers your pain and sufferings to be his own and who is always praying to Allah for you.. You have someone who is always anxious for your wellbeing, who puts himself in trouble for your sake, and who prays restlessly before his Lord for the sake of your comfort and peace.”

(Barkat-e-Khilafat pg 6)

During the time of each Khilafat, along with grand successes, there has been opposition too. However, on each such occasion, the Jamaat remained firm and resolute, united under the shade of Khilafat because this indeed is the promise of Allah to those who remain firmly guided on the path of righteousness.

Beloved Huzur (may Allah be his helper) has explained the purpose of Khilafat. He has said, “..It is that string in which the Community is threaded like pearls. If pearls are scattered about, they are neither safe nor do they look beautiful. Indeed, pearls threaded in a string alone are secure and at their loveliest. Therefore, **keep a link of love, sincerity and devotion with Khilafat, make your zeal for obedience to Khilafat everlasting.** Develop the fervour of your love for it to such an extent that all other relationships appear trivial compared to it. **All blessings are in loyalty to the Khalifa and this alone is a shield for you against all trouble and strife...**

If you aim to progress and be triumphant over the world, then my advice to you and my message for you is to **maintain a bond with Khilafat and to firmly hold onto this cord of Allah.** All our advancements are inherently dependent upon a bond with Khilafat.”

(Special Message to members of the Community on 11th May 2003).

May Allah enable us all to fully understand, appreciate and truly value the countless blessings that Khilafat brings into our lives and may the world come to realise its need, not just for today but till the end of time.