Concluding Address by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (may Allah be his helper) at National Ijtima' of Majlis Ansarullah UK/USA 2015

Translation:

This year, as you know, Majlis Ansarullah is celebrating jubilee at the completion of 75 years of its establishment. Accordingly, programs have been arranged in different countries by Majlis Ansarullah. In most places, this jubilee was celebrated in these programs. In this regard, Majlis Ansarullah, UK also invited Presidents and representatives from other countries to attend this year's Ijtima. So, for this reason, at this time, representatives of Ansarullah from Europe and certain other countries are here in attendance today.

It is good to celebrate jubilee for it also directs attention to several matters, its celebration creates special attention to the completion of some important projects, pledges are made, heed is paid to thanking God and we take stock of our situation. It is good if we are keeping these things in mind as we celebrate 75 years. Otherwise, it is of no use if it is only to make a splash or to show exuberance. However, there are many such members of Ansarullah who limit themselves only to merrymaking at the jubilee. They think that they are done after celebrating the jubilee. Even many officeholders, who are trying to help in the Ijtima programs and the jubilee with such fervor, will become slack after a few days. If we are to celebrate a temporary happiness then what is its use? In the life of communities, 75 years is not such a thing that it should be considered a great success and we sit down after hailing happiness and announce that our organization has existed for 75 years. There may be many organizations in the world who have celebrated 75 or even 100 years but gradually they forget the goal for the achievement of which they were created; because of selfish considerations or falling a victim to the interests of the members, they go away from their basic purpose. If they were created for the good of the world, then after some time the world is deprived of their benefit even though they have hefty budgets and seem powerful but they have become hollow from inside because they are drawn far away from the real purpose. Only the selfish people are benefiting from the income or large budgets. If it is an organization of countries, only the powerful countries are benefiting from it or other countries are allowed to benefit as long as the interests of the big countries are not affected. The real purpose is not for which they were created but their interest becomes the actual purpose. The spirit with which they claim to run the organization is forgotten. The paramount example of such worldly organizations is the UNO. It has completed its 70 years and they are celebrating it. Many critics have pointed out in their columns that it has lost more than what it gained by diverging from its purpose. This is the condition of the worldly organizations, but the spiritual organizations are based upon achieving the will of Almighty Allah. Their happiness is not the outward happiness of the world nor it should be. We have to achieve that happiness; so for that, every generation of Ansar has to keep their purpose alive with continuous struggle.

When Hazrat Muslih Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) established Majlis Ansarullah, he kept in view the prayer of Hazrat Ibrahim (may peace be on him) in which there is a prayer for sending such a prophet as is described in the Holy Qur'an:

"And, our Lord, raise up among them a Messenger from among themselves, who may

recite to them Thy Signs and teach them the Book and Wisdom and may purify them; surely, Thou art the Mighty, the Wise." (The Holy Qur'an, 2 [Al-Baqarah]:130)

This is what he considered. That he should be the one who recites His verses and who teaches the injunctions of Sharia and its wisdom and the one who purifies. This is what was prayed for the Messenger that was sent in the person of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

Then referring to Surah Jumu'ah, he also mentioned the coming of such a prophet and the true servant of the Prophet Muhammad—among the Akharin (the latter ones)—who should be the one who will carry forward the work of the Holy Prophet. In this regard, like other subsidiary organizations, he assigned the responsibility to Ansarullah that their job was also to do Tabligh, teach the Holy Qur'an, state the wisdom of Sharia, impart good training, remove the worldly weaknesses of the community, and move them forward.

These are the purposes for which Ansarullah was established. At the completion of 75 years, we have to see how far we have fulfilled these responsibilities. How far have we achieved these goals? Have we tried to give the true message of Islam to the world while doing justice to our Tabligh duty? Have we fulfilled the duty of getting ourselves educated and transferred the same to the next generations? Have we fulfilled the duty of imparting the wisdom behind the injunctions of Almighty Allah or have we engaged ourselves in educating our children only in the worldly education? Have we played our part in improving the economic and financial conditions of the Jama'at or have we engaged ourselves in begging for help especially after arriving in these countries, instead?

So, after completing 75 years, Ansarullah organizations here and in the whole world should assess how much part each one of us has taken in fulfilling its purpose. At this time, American members are also listening to this message directly—and members at other places may also be listening—as Ijtima is being held there as well. Just being a member of Ansarullah is not the purpose but to sacrifice your being, your wealth, and your time to achieve its purposes is the real goal. It is then, that the next generation comes to accept the responsibilities and it will continue so. Only then we will be firm to our foundations and only then we will be the ones who achieve the will of Allah. Only then we shall be counted among the helpers of the God's messenger for the revival of Islam in the current times, and in reality we will be able to count ourselves among those who raise the slogan of "Nahno Ansarullah."

We find this slogan in the Holy Qur'an in regard to Hazrat Isa's (may peace be on him) companions. A verse was also recited about it. But when they were thrown into hard times and faced difficulties—history tells us that these hardships were inflicted upon Christians, especially the Unitarian Christians for about three hundred years at different times and in different situations—despite hardships, they kept on protecting their purpose. When after three hundred years, the governments accepted Christianity and though Christianity started spreading at a large scale, they started turning away from its basic teaching. They lost their purpose and forgot their Creator God. They put aside the basic message and teaching of Hazrat Isa that taught the unity of God, and engaged themselves in Shirk (associating other entities to God). Today, the world thinks that Christianity has made great progress. What to do with such a progress that has the purpose of being affected by the dazzle of this world and doing away with the

remembrance of Almighty Allah. This is due to forgetting this basic teaching—that eminent scholars say, for example, about homosexuality that showing leniency it should also be made a part of the religious teaching now. Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un. This is the vision of these world mongers about the religion. As if religion is not revealed to God's apostles; rather worldly forums and organizations and so called dealers of the religion can, according to the needs, interfere in the religion and change the injunctions of Almighty Allah. Such thoughts and deeds invite the wrath of Allah. These matters tell that these people are falling in the deeps. There were those Christians who proclaimed "Nahno Ansarullah" and pledged to act upon the decrees of God and they swore to try in every way to establish the unity of God. And here are the people who are engaged in Shirk and fell into the moral lows and they continue to fall. Their aim is only to earn the material and mold the religion in their favor rather than follow it. Almighty Allah has mentioned about those real Christians in the Holy Qur'an:

"And when Jesus perceived their disbelief, he said, 'Who will be my helpers in the cause of Allah?' The disciples answered, 'We are the helpers of Allah. We have believed in Allah. And bear thou witness that we are obedient. Our Lord, we believe in that which Thou hast sent down and we follow this Messenger. So write us down among those who bear witness." (The Holy Qur'an, 3 [Al 'Imran]:53-54)

These were the people who proved to be the true disciples; who announced their belief in Allah that: we believed in Allah; we are among the obedient; we will act upon the injunctions of Allah; and will show obedience; material interests and considerations will not take us away from religion. Announcing their aversion to Shirk, they announced their belief in God. They said that they accepted those words and the teaching brought down by His Messenger. These were the people who cared more about the next world rather than this one. They were concerned about the achievement of Allah's will. They announced to follow Allah's messenger and carried out their pledge. When they said, 'Nahno Ansarullah,' they did become the helpers of Allah. So preserving these words, Almighty Allah has determined the ways of preferring faith over this world for us. Those words have been described by which we can become the helpers of Allah.

To understand who the Ansarullah are, we need to understand the word "Hawari" (disciple) in the verse. It is important to understand it. It is a very important word. The perception of Ansarullah increases with the understanding of this word. It is only after understanding this word that the meaning of "the helpers of Allah" becomes clear. If the meaning of this word is clear, it is then that one-having understood the spirit of 'Nahno Ansarullah'—raises this slogan. We need to understand the deepness hidden in the meaning of the word Hawari. There are many meanings of Hawari. One of the meanings is: the one that makes the clothes clean and sparkling after washing them. Another meaning of it is: if he is tested, he should be devoid of vices and defects. Another meaning is: the one who is completely faithful and clean. Another meaning is: such a person who is sincere in his advice and should uphold faithfulness. Another meaning is: truthful and faithful companion. Another meaning is: a faithful and chosen companion of the Prophet, companion with a distinguished relationship. Another meaning is: the one who has special and a strong relation which will never be broken. Only that person who possesses these qualities will be called a true Hawari and only then he could do justice to 'Nahno Ansarullah.' So, everyone can assess himself by keeping these things in view. And that how much he is truthful in raising the slogan of 'Nahno Ansarullah.'

Helpers of Hazrat Isa (may peace be on him) were called Hawari because they

actually possessed these qualities or were those who pledged to achieve those qualities and would try to do so. They cleansed the dirt of their hearts, created Taqwa, and became the source of cleansing the dirt of others' hearts. And then, Allah kept them clean from vices due to their increased faith and fulfilling of their pledges. But when these qualities died and they started feeling proud of their worldly progress, and they started becoming complacent in inculcating goodness in next generations, engaged in Shirk (associating other entities to God) instead of Unity of God, then Almighty Allah deprived them of the spiritual blessings.

So we should remember that the passage of years or celebrating jubilee is of use only if we do not let these virtues die, we never let our spiritual states become low, when we increase our religious knowledge, when we do not forget our education when we announce that we will fulfill the pledge of faithfulness and sacrifice—that we have made with our Prophet—under all circumstances. And no temptation of this world will sway us from our purpose.

Allah had no covenant with the followers of the Messiah of Moses that the teaching that they are following would remain intact in its original form till the end of the world. But with the followers of the Messiah of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him), Allah has promised that the teaching brought by the Holy Prophet—and the one that the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him), after a long time, had to show to the whole world with all of its beauty—is the teaching that will now last till the end of the world. So, if the Christians forgot their teaching—and the continuity of the Hawaris was broken—then that was their destiny. But the followers of the Holy Prophet's Messiah and his community will excel and prosper till the end of the world, Insha'allah. So the community will always continue to receive those Hawaris who will raise the slogan of 'Nahno Ansarullah.' But Ahmadis of all ages who are included in the organization of Ansarullah need to assess if they are trying to be a part of this beautiful end that is destined for the real followers of the Holy Prophet and Muslims.

Are we purifying ourselves? Are we cleansing the dirt of our hearts? Are we learning the wisdom of the Holy Qur'an, adopting it, and acting upon it? Are the standards of our sincerity rising higher? Are we paying attention to the training of our generations? Do we—according to our pledges of Bai'at—consider our relationship with the Promised Messiah to be above all worldly relationships? Do we, in religious as well as worldly matters, give our opinions and pieces of advice—by believing in the presence of God—with honesty and faithfulness? So if we keep these standards in view, our assessment will be clear to us.

This is a favor from Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) to the members of the Jama'at that he gave the name 'Ansarullah' to your organization, so that at this age when a human is mature in every respect, he should become a useful being for the Jama'at because of his experience and capabilities. Presenting his example, he should become a source for the training of the young generation. The words 'Ansarullah' should keep us reminding that we have to become helpers of Almighty Allah. We have to present every sacrifice for God and for the propagation of His religion. We have to act upon the injunctions of Almighty Allah, and telling its wisdom and importance to the next generations, give advice and make sure it is acted upon. To send the message of religion to the ends of the world, we have to become the helpers of the Promised Messiah. There is no doubt that God has promised to the Promised Messiah: "I will make your Tabligh reach the ends of the earth." He will Insha'allah make it happen and

He is making it reach to the ends of the earth. But if you put your effort in it, you will be the ones to reap Allah's blessings. Definitely, this is also a promise of Almighty Allah that when he will cause the message to reach the ends of the earth, He will surely bring its good results as well.

Finally, according to the rules of Almighty Allah, He and His messenger (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) will be victorious. But how fortunate would we be if we become a part of this victory. Remember, when Almighty Allah said that Allah has penned that He and His messenger will be victorious. So when and where Almighty Allah, in His view, will need helpers for this work, He according to His promise, will keep on providing Ansar to the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) and his successors. It depends on you how big a part of it you become by creating the qualities of Hawaris in yourself. Moving forward, if you understand the spirit of 'Nahno Ansarullah,' you will be the recipients of the blessings of Almighty Allah.

As I said that the religious and spiritual decline started with spread of Christianity. But when the glad tiding was imparted to us by the Promised Messiah, after receiving it from Almighty Allah, that 300 years will not pass when Ahmadiyyat will be in majority in the world, it was also assured that due to the attachment to the system of Khilafat Almighty Allah will keep on showering His blessings. There will Insha'allah be no religious decline. Instead, a spiritual progress would be seen. The progress of the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah will not be due to getting the worldly kingdoms and decline of religion but because of giving precedence to faith over material considerations. Kings will not be proud of their Kingdoms but they will be the ones who will seek blessings from the Promised Messiah's clothes. They will adopt his teaching. That time will also arrive when the kings will be helpless but accept Muhammad's Messiah. Though many of us will think it to be a wishful thinking or maybe our opponents think it so or think it to be a boastful claim that what kind of slogans are being raised by this small Jama'at. But when we glance over the history and beginnings of our Jama'at then looking at the blessings of Almighty Allah, our faith is strengthened. There is no worry about how it will happen, but it will Insha'allah certainly happen.

Every day, by showing seemingly small successes, He strengthens the fact that these small successes, considered small by the world, could not be achieved with our resources and efforts. These victories-considered small by you-according to us and our resources are big achievements, and we are happy with these successes. The world deems these as small successes, but whatever these successes are, as I stated, are not the result of any of our efforts; these are only and only due to Allah's blessing. He possesses all power. Whenever He wishes, the victories—that are considered big by the world—He will bring them to our feet, Insha'allah. But what is important to us is that every year that passes by should be pointing to the assessment that our true aim is to progress in faith and how far we have achieved it. If we are not pacing forward and we are standing at the same point, then we are Ansarullah only by name. We need to look at the standards of our prayers, sacrifices, and practical conditions of our morals. We need to look at our efforts that we are applying toward the propagation of faith. I mentioned the new converts in my sermon. A person converted from infidels, rather the whole village consisted of idol worshippers that converted to Ahmadiyyat. Unity of God was so entrenched in his heart that he said that he had no belief in God but now the situation is that unity of God is so strongly rooted in his heart that before he used to think that he could not reach God without the idols or that they would do everything for him but now the unity of God is so firmly set in his heart and his attention is so much focused toward Allah, and his heart is so purely aligned with God that he is at work in his farm and a voice reminds him that it is time to pray. It tells him to stop working and offer the Prayer. This is the condition of those people that Almighty Allah, in the form of Ansarullah, is bestowing upon the Promised Messiah.

Take stock of your situation as to what you are. I was reviewing the state of a national Majlis; Sadr Majlis told me proudly; our members were slack in Prayers. Only 10% used to Pray in congregation. We started a campaign for three months and improved to 17%. I could not comprehend fully and I thought—because of the way he described it—that he was saying 70%. Even that is not an extraordinary achievement, as far as Ansarullah are concerned. But 17% is utterly a shameful matter, even after a campaign! If you do not even remember the basic purpose of you creation—or will not remember it—that Almighty Allah has drawn attention towards, in the Holy Qur'an, then how will you justify you being Ansar? If you will not purify yourself and follow the Holy Qur'an, how will you train others? So, if after the passage of 75 years, we came down to 15 or 20% from 80 or 90% attendance in congregational Prayers, it is a decline, not a progress. It is a worrisome matter. It is time to ponder over it. However, now the Jama'at is spreading. If people at one place will show laziness, Almighty Allah will produce true worshippers at another place. As I said and gave an example, and there are many examples, when Almighty Allah says that He and His Messenger will be victorious, He creates resources for that. According to the promise with the Promised Messiah, He is also providing for this. He is providing the worshippers and providing the ones to carry forward your message. How and what kind of people is He bestowing? How He creates fervor and spirit in them? How they present themselves to spread the message of Muhammad's (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) Messiah? How Almighty Allah corrals the noble natured people close to us and then makes them do the Tabligh

I present a few incidents here. Dilayi Muhammad, a Muslim of Ivory Coast came to a city, and by chance offered Friday Prayer in an Ahmadiyya mosque and got introduced to Jama'at Ahmadiyya for the first time. During his stay in the city, he continued to visit there regularly and took part in Jama'at's programs enthusiastically, contributed financially as well but did not take the formal Bai'at. Then he went back to the Capital city of Abidjan but kept himself in touch continuously. He took part in the arrangements of Jalsa Salana Ivory Coast in 2014 but still did not do Bai'at. He came to France in connection with a contract in 2015. Almighty Allah provided him the opportunity to visit there. Before leaving for France, he obtained the address of the France mission house as well and kept communication with the members of the Jama'at. During his stay in France, he came to know about the Jalsa Salana Germany. He took three days leave, went to Germany, and attended the Jalsa. He said that the spiritual atmosphere and brotherhood that he observed and felt in those three days could not be described. Then he also mentioned my speeches which touched his heart immensely. He said that he was feeling a spiritual change in his heart. Taking part in the Jalsa, he did Bai'at. Now he says that according to our wish, he will work for the progress of Ahmadiyyat in Ivory Coast and will spread the message in every possible way. This is the spirit of Ansarullah.

Then a seventy-two year old gentleman from Gambia, a Nasir in the senior part of Ansarullah, says that after listening to the broadcast of the programs on Jama'at Radio, he did research bout the Jama'at and accepted Ahmadiyyat. After doing Bai'at, he has

become a very zealous Da'i Ilallah. Despite his age, he walks 18 to 20 kilometers daily for Da'wat Ilallah and propagates enthusiastically. Though he is illiterate, he gets the Jama'at's leaflets, listens to them first, keeps them fresh in mind, and after that, distributes them as well. Especially for the Muslims, he emphasizes the reading of the pamphlets about the advent of the Promised Messiah and Khatm-i-Nabuwwat. Alongside, he also asks them to pray to God for His guidance. During this period, ever since he became Ahmadi, he may have distributed about 2500 pamphlets. Due to his Tabligh, Allah's blessing, His favor, prayers, and continuous hard work, this lone person has converted 700 people to Ahmadiyyat so far.

Again in Gambia, there is a gentleman, Sheikh Javed, who accepted Ahmadiyyat last year. He was a Muslim trader of the Holy Qur'an. He was given training for six months and appointed as a part-time Mu'allim (teacher). After that, he says that in a dream, he saw that a very beautiful and spiritually lit entity says to him that the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be on him) has said to excel in your prayers and work further. So, he has started Tabligh with more enthusiasm. For Tabligh, he travels many kilometers for many hours on foot. New Jama'ats are being formed with his efforts. He also has given the message of Ahmadiyyat and converted more than 200 people to Ahmadiyyat. And those who are joining now, with Allah's blessing, are also being involved in financial sacrifices, and through that they are regularly connected. These are the people who are joining late but feeling their loss of time, are getting better in their prayers as well as in Tabligh work. May Almighty Allah continue increasing their faith and sincerity. And those who are weak among us—and Ahmadiyyat has reached their homes for decades rather from the times of their forefathers—should try to bring themselves up to that stage where the Promised Messiah wants to see us.

I talked about the congregational Prayers, but what is the standard that the Promised Messiah (may peace be on him) sets in this regard. Congregational Prayers are mandatory for a man, a healthy man. It is necessary to perform it. He says for his Jama'at members that everyone should try to get up for Tahajjud Prayer. Ansar age is such that you need to pay special attention to it. You should do it rather than be happy that 15% are offering congregational Prayers. If only the Amila members, from local to central levels, pay attention to congregational Prayers, 35 to 50% of attendance will increase merely because of that. If Ansar present their model in this regard, Khuddam will automatically follow their example and become active. When they themselves don't act, how the others will accept the advice? At one occasion, advising his Jama'at, the Promised Messiah said that Allah is very benevolent. The ocean of His benevolence is very deep and it will never deplete. Its seeker and solicitor has never been deprived. So you should get up during nights and beg for His blessing. Once, the Promised Messiah said that Almighty Allah has said in the Holy Qur'an: "I will keep those people who have followed you dominant over those who refused to accept you until the Day of Judgment." The promised Messiah says that that this satisfying promise was made with Ibn-i-Mariam, born in Nazareth. But I give you glad tiding that Almighty Allah has also given the glad tiding—addressing in the same words—to the person coming with the name of Ibn-i-Mariam, that is, the Promised Messiah. The Promised Messiah says that you, who-associating with me-want to be included in this great promise and great blessing, should think if they could be such people, who at the stage of Nafs-i-Ammara (raw self) are treading the path of disobedience and sin. No not at all.

So, it is incumbent upon us that we should improve in our behavior and deeds and

adopt Taqwa (righteousness) to achieve the benefit of the help and love of Almighty Allah.

If we really want to receive the true benefit at the completion of 75 years of the organization of Ansarullah or we are celebrating to be thankful to God, we need to listen to the one sent by Him and act upon it. Make your hearts pure for Him. There is success in trying to excel each other in good deeds. So become part of those triumphs that Allah has promised with the Promised Messiah.

As I said, the Ijtima is also being held in the U.S. and maybe in other countries as well. Everywhere, Ansar should understand their responsibilities and raise their standards of worship. Representatives of different countries are attending. They should also note and tell their Ansar. I think, everywhere Ansar in the world must be listening. Pay attention to your practical states. As you apply the teachings of the Holy Qur'an to yourself, caring about the next generations, keep them attached to the blessing that Allah has given us in the person of the Promised Messiah. Then try to get ahead of each other in good deeds. Born Ahmadis should be engaged in their efforts to move ahead of the new Ahmadis and the new Ahmadis should be striving to leave born Ahmadis behind. Becoming the real Ansar, American Ansar should be trying to leave the British Ahmadis behind. The Ansar in Britain should be trying that they have to leave every Nasir, every person living in the rest of the world behind and excel in good deeds. Likewise, Ansar of Germany, Canada, Indonesia, Ghana, Nigeria, Pakistan, India, Ivory Coast, and Ansar of other countries should try to achieve the will of God, to justify their being Ansar. We have to excel in good deeds. We have to excel in the training of our children. When this spirit is created, only then you will be able to justify the celebration of the diamond jubilee. May God make these 75 years to be a landmark for the spiritual and practical advancement in the future and Ansarullah, in reality, may justify being the helpers of God. May Allah do so, Ameen. This year, Ansarullah UK's attendance is about 330 or 340 more than the last year. The guests have increased your attendance.