Dear Members of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama’at of Guyana

Assalamo Alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuhu!

I am very pleased that you are holding your national Jalsa Salana on 16th, 17th & 18th December 2016. It is my prayer may Allah bless your Jalsa with great success and may all the participants gain immense spiritual benefit and countless blessings from this distinctive religious Gathering.

This year is especially significant because it is the 125th anniversary of the very first Jalsa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama’at which was held in the remote village of Qadian in 1901. The Jalsa was organised by Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi on the direction of Allah, the Almighty, and its purpose was to educate and reform the members of the Community. Only 75 persons were able to participate on that occasion but we are witnesses to the fact that over the years, the Ahmadiyya Jama’at has spread far and wide and these Jalsas are being held in countries all over the world, including Guyana, and being attended by hundreds and even thousands of participants. This is all due to the sheer Grace of Allah and we should render our heartfelt and humble gratitude to Him.

Therefore, keep in mind that the prime aim of this Gathering is to achieve closeness to Allah, to advance in religious knowledge and understanding, to bring about virtuous changes and integrate them into one’s life, to save oneself from the desires and futilities of this finite world, to enhance the relationship of love, affection and of brotherhood with our fellow beings and to strive to fulfil these noble tasks with all of one’s abilities and capabilities, and finally to make a pledge and a promise to spread the message of Islam to the corners of the earth.

During these days, in addition to the obligatory prayers (Salat) and voluntary worship (Nawafil), you should remain constantly engaged in the remembrance of Allah. Your thoughts should be pure and your attention should be ever directed towards Allah, the Almighty. As a result you will be protected from every evil. This is the purpose of worship. Remembrance of Allah continues to bring one’s attention to the need for obligatory worship. If a person is engaged in obligatory worship, it in turn diverts him to remembrance of Allah. Everyone should keep this in view.
You should remember the noble aims for which the Promised Messiah \textit{peace be upon him} established the Jama’at and you should especially endeavour to fulfil the obligations of our Bai’at, which he has clearly explained as follows:

"This system of Bai’at has been established solely to gather together a group of the righteous people in a Jama’at so that a substantial group of the righteous people should make a holy impact on the world. The unity of these righteous people should be a source of blessings, grandeur, and positive results for Islam. The blessings of being united on one creed may enable them to perform noble and righteous services for the sake of Islam.

......Almighty Allah desires to manifest His Glory and demonstrate His Omnipotence through this group, and then He desires to grant it further progress so that the world may be filled with the love of Allah, true repentance, purity, true goodness, peace, reconciliation, and sympathy for mankind. (Majmu’ah Ishtiharat vol 1 pp 196-198)

Therefore I advise you to always try exhibit the true image of Islam in your every action and deed, and in your manner and behaviour towards others. You should conduct yourselves properly and try to set the best example as citizens of the country you live in, be loyal and display love for your nation – this is because it is a fundamental teaching of our Holy Prophet Muhammad \textit{peace be upon him} who instructed us that love of one’s country is an integral part of one’s faith.

I also wish to remind you of your responsibilities regarding preaching. Tabligh is essential for every Ahmadi and setting your own good example is essential in the success of your Tabligh efforts. I also advise you of the importance of maintaining a close link and attachment to the divinely created institution of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya. You should therefore listen regularly to my Friday sermons and try to fully understand and follow my words of guidance and admonition. It is also very important that you and your family watch MTA often as this will enable you to increase your knowledge of the beauties of Islam and the truth of Ahmadiyyat.

May Allah bless your Jalsa Salana with great success and enable all of you to progress greatly in \textit{Taqwa} (righteousness) and spiritual development. May Allah enable you to bring about a real transformation in your lives towards more piety, virtuous behaviour and the service of humanity. May Allah bless you all.

Wassalam
Yours sincerely

Mirza Masroor Ahmad
KHALIFATUL MASIH V

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