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An analytical Approach to discover the pearls in the sermons of Imam Ahmad Raza

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ABSTRACT

This article will discuss the introductory paragraphs by Ala hazrat to prove the relevance of any particular prefixed paragraph to that book or paper. It will also discuss the syntax, rhetorical aspects and how the text of sermon refers or explains the holy Quran and Hadith. This a collection of the introductory paragraphs from books such as Kowkab Shahabiah, Hussam ul Haramain and Khutbat e Razwiyah. This paper will be divided into three sub themes. One will be dedicated to discuss the rhetoric, language and syntax. Second will focus on its meanings and roots to primary sources. Third one will prove the relevance of the particular introduction to that work. So, the paper will discuss the unparalleled linguistic excellence of a none native in Arabic language.

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Introduction

Imam Ahmad Reza did not leave a book or an article except to start the speech with an introduction, brief or lengthy. In addition to that, he has separate sermons to be delivered on Fridays in printed form known for his rhetorical excellence. What leads me during a research tour in the text of the sermons is the method of the imam that is unique and the meanings included in the sermon are linked to the following text. There are brief references to the interpretation of the word of God or to a Hadith or an incident of the prophesied realities. The contents of the sermon explain the Qur'anic text or the text of the hadeeth and do not deviate from the proper course. It is full of rhetorical miracles, graphic beauty and magnificence, as if speaking in a classical style in the latter part of time where we see the language contaminated and suppressed under shades. The article will discuss the miraculous graphics and the use of meanings from the book and the relationship of the meanings of the engagement with the subject of the book or the message. It would be inappropriate to complete the talk about the genius of the Imam without discussion about sailing in the Arabic language and the abundance of knowledge and attention to it. These introductions at the beginning of the books and articles divide into two parts: public and private speeches. The general text that the author usually enters with into the subject of the book is, for example, 'We praise Him and prais His noble messenger ..." But the text after the general wording specifically signifies that its methods and meanings do not differ from

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the subject matter of the book. As for the special means related to what the subject will discuss in the book, one of his finest example is his introductory text in the book 'The Shooting Star upon the Heresies of the Father of Wahhabism"'. I will shed light on these sermons in terms of eloquence, statement, meanings and relevance.

Unique Starting of Sermons

Generally The preacher begins saying:

All thanks and praise is due to Allah. We seek His help and forgiveness, and we seek refuge in Allah from the evil within ourselves and the consequences of our evil deeds. Whoever Allah guides will never be led astray, and whoever Allah leads astray will never find guidance. I bear witness there is no God but Allah, alone without any partners, and I bear witness that Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) is His servant and His Messenger.

Allah Almighty said, "**O you who have faith, fear Allah as it is His right to be feared and do not die except as Muslims**" (3:102)

And Allah Almighty said, "**O people, fear your Lord, who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women. Fear Allah, through whom you ask one another and maintain family ties. Verily, Allah is ever watching over you**." (4:1)

And Allah Almighty said, "**O you who have faith, fear Allah and speak upright words. He will correct your deeds and forgive your sins. Whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has won a tremendous victory**." (33:70-71)

Verily, the most truthful speech is the Book of Allah, the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), and the worst of affairs are newly invented matters in the Din. Every such newly invented matter is an innovation, and every innovation in the Din is misguidance, and every misguidance is in the Hellfire.

To proceed we would say, (and then begin the main sermon in detail as follows).

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلّٰهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ ونستغفره ونعوذ بالله من شرور أنفسنا ومن سيئات أعمالنا مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللّٰهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

يَاأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ
يَاأَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وقال تعالى وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ
مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً
وَاتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللّٰهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا يَاأَيُّهَا
الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا يُصْلِحْ وقال تعالى لَكُمْ
أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَمَنْ يُطِعِ اللّٰهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا
فَإِنَّ أَصْدَقَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ اللّٰهِ تَعَالَى وَأَحْسَنَ الْهَدْيِ هَدْيُ مُحَمَّدٍ صلى
الله عليه وسلم وَشَرَّ الْأُمُورِ مُحْدَثَاتُهَا وَكُلُّ مُحْدَثَةٍ بِدْعَةٌ وَكُلُّ بِدْعَةٍ
ضَلَالَةٌ وَكُلُّ ضَلَالَةٍ فِي النَّارِ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ

But Aala Hazrat Starts his introductory texts by the gracefull name of Allah and of the Prophet ﷺ alongwith the amazing selection of sentences. He begins, saying:

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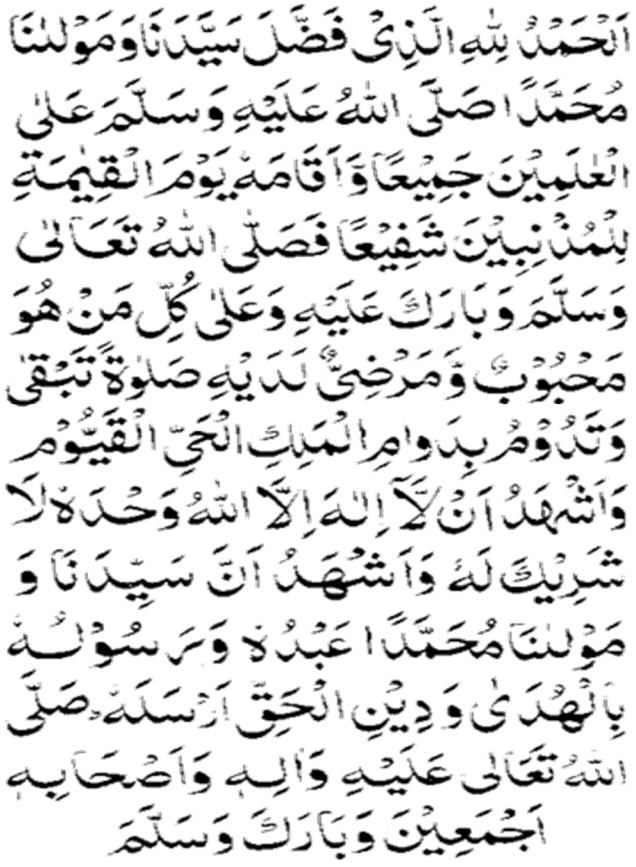
جمعہ کا پہلا خطبہ


اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ الَّذِیْ فَضَّلَ سَیِّدَنَا وَمَوْلٰنَا
مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَیْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَلَی
الْعٰلَمِیْنَ جَمِیْعًا وَّاَقَامَهٗ یَوْمَ الْقِیٰمَةِ
لِلْمُذْنِبِیْنَ شَفِیْعًا فَصَلَّی اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰی
وَسَلَّمَ وَبَارَكَ عَلَیْهِ وَعَلٰی كُلِّ مَنْ هُوَ
مَحْبُوْبٌ وَّمَرْضِیٌّ لَدَیْهِ صَلٰوةً تَبْقٰی
وَتَدُوْمُ بِدَوَامِ الْمَلِكِ الْحَیِّ الْقَیُّوْمِ
وَاَشْهَدُ اَنْ لَّآ اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهٗ لَا
شَرِیْكَ لَهٗ وَاَشْهَدُ اَنَّ سَیِّدَنَا وَ
مَوْلٰنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهٗ وَرَسُوْلُهٗ
بِالْهُدٰی وَدِیْنِ الْحَقِّ اَرْسَلَهٗ صَلَّی
اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰی عَلَیْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَاَصْحَابِهٖ
اَجْمَعِیْنَ وَبَارَكَ وَسَلَّمَ

Analysis of Connectivity

For the last 100 years, both prose & poetry have been written in Arabic. The Arabic word used for literature is "Adab", which is derived from a meaning of etiquette, and which implies politeness, culture and enrichment.

A sermon is an oration or lecture by a preacher (who is usually a member of clergy). Sermons address a scriptural, theological, religious, or moral topic, usually expounding on a type of belief, law, or behavior within both past and present contexts. The act of delivering a sermon is known as preaching.

In Every sermon the preacher starts with the Name of almighty Allah which is referred to as Hamd, and then the sermon pays gratitude to the court of our Master Prophet Muhammad Peace & Blessing be upon him which is referred to as a Naat.

Imaam Ahmad Rida Khan (RA) organized the various pearls of syntax in order to maintain the connectivity of speech. So the extreme managerial qualities reflect when we feels the power of words.

This sermon written as the prefix of Fatawa Razviya to glorify the patronage of Allah almighty & his Rasool is abundant in such literary display of Excellence.

Exemplary sentences from the Sermon:

1. this sermon by the classy Scholar had an appropriate message with listening before pronouncing judgment of his decree. No Unitarian publisher could be found for his sermon, and nearly all his pupils, listener & reader of it become close to him.

Analysis of Words Used

A meaningful sequence of famous works, not only Islamic Books & scriptures but also of the names of reputed leading scholars & teachers are so mixed inside the sermon to result the beautiful Hamd of Allah almighty.

The relevance of the particular sermon

All of books written by Imam Ahmad Raza Khan (R.A.) started from the praise of Allah & Naat of His Beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ with respect to content of the entire book. These enaugral words represents the repect & knowledge of Aala hazrat.

Conclusion:

In short we can conclude that meaningful sequence, not only of Islamic Books & scriptures but also the blessed saints and scholars is so systematically arranged to get an eloquent praise from the scholars of the following centuries. No such literature was found for the last hundred years till date in which so deep feelings of love is imbibed for scholars of islam i.e. Muhaddiseen and their literature. Also the deep hold of Imam Ahmad raza (RA) on Arabic language is equally worndorful.

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