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## PRESS RELEASE

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**Waqf-e-Nau Girls and Women from Bangladesh have Honour of a Virtual Meeting with the Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community**

***“There is no one else. It is only Allah the Almighty. Only Allah helps me and no one else has the strength to help me.” – Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad***

On 31 January 2021, the World Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Fifth Khalifa (Caliph), His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad held a virtual online meeting with over 130 female members of the Waqf-e-Nau Scheme from Bangladesh.

His Holiness presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the Waqf-e-Nau members joined from the *Darut Tabligh* Mosque complex in Dhaka, which serves as the *National Headquarters* of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Bangladesh.

The event started with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by a poem and a saying of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (*peace and blessings be upon him*) and an excerpt from the writings of the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*).

For the rest of the 55-minute meeting, members of Waqf-e-Nau had the opportunity to ask His Holiness a series of questions regarding their faith and contemporary issues.

In response to a question about the spiritual status that women can attain, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

***“Other than prophethood, according to the Holy Quran, women can attain the spiritual rank of a Siddiq (truthful), Shaheed (martyr), Salihat (righteous). There is a Hadith where a female companion of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) asked, ‘Men can attain martyrdom and they take part in battles and make great sacrifices. But those of us women who are at our homes, what is our status?’ The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) replied, ‘When you look after your homes and raise your children well and nurture the next generation and guard over the homes, you will attain the same reward as men.’”***



Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad further said:

***“By ensuring the moral and spiritual state of their homes and living a righteous life, women can attain a truly great spiritual status. After all, they are the mothers of the prophets! Indeed, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) has said that ‘Paradise lies under the feet of the mothers’ and so the status of a woman is such that if they bring up their children in a pious way they will prove to be the means of unlocking the doors to heaven. What can be greater than this? Remember, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) did not state that ‘heaven lies under the feet of one’s father.’ Thus, the status of a mother in Islam is of the highest rank and consequently the status of a woman is very high. It is a rank and status that no one else can compete with – so long as a woman is firm in her faith and ensures the moral and spiritual upbringing of the next generation.”***

One of the younger attendees asked how she could become a good Waqf-e-Nau from a young age.

His Holiness advised her that when she reaches the age of seven she should start offering the five daily prayers regularly and learn how to read the Holy Quran and recite it daily. Additionally, His Holiness said that children should listen to their parents and that members of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme should be known for their good character.

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said:

***“Always remember that you are Waqf-e-Nau. You have to behave well and always be polite and kind to your fellow girls and fellow students and manifest the highest standards of conduct so***

*that every person who knows you testifies to the fact that you are extremely well mannered and of good character. You can then tell them, 'It is because I am Waqf-e-Nau that I am well behaved and seek to do good.'*”



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