***Story from the Childhood of Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra)***

When Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmadra was still a student, he was given homework to write an essay upon the topic of “Comparison of wealth and knowledge.” (دولت اور علم میں سے کیا بہتر ہے۔)

At the dinner table he asked his younger brother, Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr Aḥmadra, what is better, knowledge or wealth? Before his younger brother could reply the Promised Messiahas interjected and said, “Son, seek forgiveness, neither wealth nor knowledge is good. It is only God’s grace which is good in itself.” (نہ دولت اچھی نہ علم اچھا۔ صرف خدا کا فضل اچھا ہے)

***Prayers of Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra) as a Child***

Ḥaḍrat Shaikh Ghulām Aḥmad Waizra states that once I decided to stay in the Mubarak Mosque so that I can pray in seclusion and ask whatever I may from my Lord. He states that when I got to the mosque there was already someone in the mosque praying fervently and crying in anguish. The anguish and the fervor of this man was such that I could not focus on my prayers and asked God that O my Lord grant this man whatever it is he seeks from you. He says that I waited for that man to get up from prostration and finish his prayers so that I may see who it is. When he did I realized it was Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīrud Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmadra. I asked him what have you asked of God today with such passion. He answered that I only asked God to show me the revival and victory of Islām with my own eyes, and having said that he went inside his home[[1]](#footnote-1). This incident speaks volume about the righteousness of this young man. It shows that his prayers were not for show-off or mere acts of habit but he actually found pleasure in praying in front of Allah when no one else was watching. It also shows that from a very young age his prayers were not about material things such as money, wealth, fame, or good grades in school but rather from a very young age his main desire, his only desire, was for the faith of Islām to be revived in his own life.

***Firm Faith in the Truthfulness of the Promised Messiah (as)***

Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra) had firm faith about the truthfulness of Islam and the Promised Messiah (as). But this firm faith was not because he was born an Ahmadi or because the Promised Messiah (as) was his father but because he thought and prayed about it. He himself says that “I tell you as a matter of fact that I did not believe in the Promised Messiahas because he was my father. When I was 11 years old, I made a firm decision that I will do my research and if that proves him to be a false claimant then I will leave his house. But I understood his truthfulness and my faith kept on increasing, until his demise which made my belief in him even stronger

Hazrat Musleh Maud (ra) says about the time of the death of the Promised Messiah (as) that At the time of the death of the Promised Messiah (as) when people were worried about what will happen now. Humans look at others and think that this man was alive and used to do the work, what will happen to this system now? When I saw some other people who worried and I heard some say what will happen to this community, at that time I stood by the Promised Messiah (as)’s dead body, and though I was only 19 years of age, I said that O God, I swear by you with the sincerity of my heart that even if the entire community leaves Aḥmadiyyat even then I will carry this message which you have revealed to the Promised Messiahas to the corners of the earth. I believe that every particle of my body was with me in that promise. And at that moment I had firm belief that the entire world with all its power has no weight in front of my promise.

1. Ṭāhir, *Sawāneh Faḍle 'Umar* vol. 1, 151 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)