

**FRIDAY SERMON OF IMAM ZAFRULLAH DOMUN**

**26 AUGUST 2011**

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, the *Ta'uz* and the first chapter of *Al Fatiha* Imam Zafrullah Domun read the verses of chapter *Al Qadr* (98) of the Holy Quran and gave its translation as follows:

**In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful**

**Surely, We sent it down on the Night of Destiny.**

**And what should make thee know what the Night of Destiny is?**

**The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months.**

**Therein descend angels and the Spirit with their Lord's decree concerning everything.**

**Peace – so will it be even at the rising of the dawn. (97:1-6)**

As all members are already aware today is the last Friday for the blessed month of Ramadan for this year. Usually this Jummah is known as *Jummatoul Widah* meaning that this is the Jummah that will so to say bid farewell to Ramadan. The moon for Eid , that is for the month of Shawaal will be born on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August in the morning. It will not be visible in the evening and hence it will most probably be visible on Tuesday evening weather permitting and incha Allah we will celebrate Eid on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August. Namaz Eid will be prayed here at Baitul Rahma at 9.30AM. All members should do their best to be here on time. Remember that you should all pay your Sadaqatoul Fitr prior to the Eid prayer.

As I have several times said in the past some Muslims believe that by attending this particular Jummah in the month of Ramadan they will have all their past sins forgiven. So around the world many Muslims especially in Asia where the majority of the Muslim population lives there is a great eagerness and enthusiasm to attend this day's Jummah. At many places there are so many people attending that there are no place in the mosque and prayer is performed even on the streets.

There is no doubt that Friday has a special significance in the life of a Muslim. There are many hadiths that testify to its innumerable blessings. I will tell you about a few of them today so that everyone should be well aware of its importance and they should do their best to attend. Speaking about its importance, the Holy Prophet <sup>saw</sup> said: “The best day on which the sun has ever risen is Friday; on that day, Adam was created, he was admitted to Paradise, and he was expelled from there.” He has also said, “Among the best of your days is Friday. On that day, invoke blessings on me frequently, for your blessings are presented to me.” He also said, “The Sun does not rise nor set on a day that is better than Friday, and there is no creature that is not scared of Friday except for humans and jinn.” They are afraid because Judgment Day will be on a Friday. So we learn from these hadith how Friday is a day full of blessings. Now in view of the fact that during Ramadan all our obligatory actions are rewarded much more than in the other days of the year, hence attending Friday prayer really becomes a source of great blessings. Before going to the mosque we have been advised by the Holy prophet <sup>saw</sup> to cut our nails and to take a full bath, to put on some perfume and to proceed early to the mosque. The hadith is as follows: “If a man takes a bath on Friday, or purifies himself as much as he can with ablution, oils his hair, applies whatever perfume (or oil) available in his house, sets forth to the Masjid, and does not separate two people (to make space for himself), offers Salat that is prescribed for him, remains silent when the Imam speaks, his minor sins between that Friday and the following will be forgiven,” Here we also learn that it is not proper that we should separate two persons and stand in between them. But if those who come to the mosque try to sit in the first rows such a problem will not occur. So we should use whatever space is available and offer our sunnat prayers and we should not indulge in any type of talking, especially when the Imam is making his sermon. This is the etiquette of attending Jummah prayer as we have been taught and all of us should try to follow these rules to the letter. If we do as we have been told then Allah through His Mercy will forgive us the minor sins committed between the two Jummahs.

There are plenty of other hadiths that speak about the importance of Jummah prayer in general but I have yet to find a hadith that speaks about the *Jummatul Widah* in particular. So, all those ideas about the exceptional and exaggerated importance of today’s Jummah has no foundations at all in Scripture or in hadiths. But we cannot also say that today’s Jummah has no importance at all. Its importance is limited to the importance of a Jummah in the month of Ramadan. Like all Jummahs it has its particular hour when prayers are accepted as we have been told in another hadith. The Holy Prophet is reported to have said “There is a time on Friday at which a Muslim, while he is offering Salat and is supplicating, will be granted whatever he is asking for.” He indicated with his hands that this period of time is very short. Hence we learn that on every Friday there is a special but brief moment when prayers are accepted by Allah. Most probably

this moment has been kept secret to induce Muslims to spend more time on that day in prayers. Allah knows best.

So this day will be important to us in the way we spend our time in it. If we spend it in prayers, attending the mosque, giving charity, paying visits to the sick, engage ourselves in supplications to Allah and the remembrance of Allah, and in reading the Holy Quran, our time will be well spent. Allah will definitely send His Blessings upon us. But under no circumstance at all should we ever dwell under the illusion that by just attending this one Friday Prayer we have done our duty towards Allah and we will be saved. Such ideas are dangerous and they make the Muslim a negligent person or worse still a negligent nation. So all of us should be guided accordingly.

Before I leave this subject matter I would like to add two more things. These days most people are quite busy and they cannot make time for Jummah Prayer. Some of these reasons may be of their own making and others might be imposed upon them. But all adult Muslim men should know that it is obligatory (*Farz*) for them to attend Friday Prayer every week. If they cannot do so every week they should try not to miss three Jummah Prayers in a row because the Holy Prophet <sup>saw</sup> has said "Whoever neglects three Jummah prayers (in a row) out of negligence will have a seal placed upon his heart." Those who are having problems beyond their control should intend to attend Jummah prayer and at the same time start asking Allah to help them to be able to do so. They will see that Allah will create means for them so that they might not be negligent in their Islamic duties. The next point is about being on time for Jummah. One will notice that there are many persons who are regularly late for Jummah. One should make all efforts to be on time because the Holy Prophet <sup>saw</sup> is reported to have said "When it is a Friday, the angels stand at the gate of the mosque and keep on writing the names of the persons coming to the mosque in succession according to their arrivals. The example of the one who enters the mosque in the earliest hour is that of one offering a camel (in sacrifice). The one coming next is like one offering a cow and then a ram and then a chicken and then an egg respectively. When the Imam comes out (for Jummah prayer) they (i.e. angels) fold their papers and listen to the Khutbah."(Bokhari). This is an important Hadith and it motivates us to be early for Jummah Prayer.

Now I will share with you some of the revelations that Allah has blessed me with during this Ramadan and especially during Tuesday/Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> night of Ramadan. As most sincere Muslims I also I have tried to increase my worship during the blessed month. So I have been

busy reading the Holy Quran and reading Books of hadith and engaging myself in nawafil, supplications and remembrance of Allah. For the first twenty days of the month I have received but a few revelations. One of them when I have been engaged in remembrance of Allah was “*Wa mallaho be ghafelin amma ta'maloune*” meaning “Allah is not at all neglectful of what you do”. Although these words are found at many places in the Holy Quran where it is reminding people about their misdeeds and that they should not think that Allah is not aware of what they are doing. But in my case Allah has made me understand that He cares for what I am doing. On the 20<sup>th</sup> day of fasting I was busy reading Sura Fateha and Daroud Shareef after Fajr when it was revealed to me “*Yaa ayyohal insaano innaka kadehoune ila rabbeka kadhan fa molakihe*”. As some of you might know this is verse seven of chapter eighty four of the Holy Quran. It is translated as “Thou, O man, art verily laboring towards thy Lord, a hard laboring; then thou art going to meet Him.”. I know that in the past caliphs have made whole speeches commenting upon this verse. To me it only shows that My Lord is here and He listens and hears and answers as Hazrat Masih has told us that He would do if we are sincere to Him. And last week I received repeatedly “*Rabbokoum ya'lamon bekoum in takounou swaleheena fa innahou lil awwabeena ghafourar rahima*” meaning “Your Lord knows you; if you are righteous, then surely, He is Most Forgiving to those who turn to Him again and again.” The first part of the verse is different from what there is in the Holy Quran but the second part is the same. This verse imprints upon the heart why it is important to turn to Allah again and again. One of these nights I received the prayer “*Rabbanas rif anna azaba jahannam inna azabaha kaana gharama innaha saa'at moustaqarranw wa moqama*”. It is translated as follows: “Our Lord, avert from us the punishment of Hell; for the punishment thereof is a lasting torment. It is indeed evil as a place of rest and as an abode” (25:66-7).

Now we come to the 23<sup>rd</sup> night of Ramadan. I woke up earlier than my usual time. Immediately I started receiving a few revelations. I cannot say which one was first but I will tell them as I remember them. The first one is “*Qadir hai who baargah totah kaam banaaé – Bana Bana ya tor deh koyi ouska bhed na jane*” It may be translated as “Very powerful is that court- it can set right a broken affair; it can break an established matter; no one knows His secret”. This is a revelation given to Hazrat Masih Maood<sup>as</sup> and I have received it several times in my life. The next one is “*kam min fe'atin qalilatin ghalabat featan kasiratan be iznillah*” which we translate as “how many a small party has vanquished a larger party by the permission of Allah”. In this there is a promise of victory for Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen. The next revelation is “

*Qoul in kountoum tohibboumallah fattabeouni youhbib komoullah wa yaghfir lakoum zonoubakoum*". This applies to you members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen and others. Allah has put this humble self here for your guidance. I cannot tell you anything which is not in the Shariah and the Sunna of our beloved prophet. I am here only as a guide and I am bound by the teachings of the Holy Quran and the practice of the Holy Prophet <sup>saw</sup>. Those who follow have a promise of Divine love and divine Pardon. In addition Allah said to me "*Wa man yotoullaha wa rasoulohou faqad faaza fawzan azima*", that is "he who obeys Allah and the prophet definitely will have a supreme triumph". Then Allah said to me in Urdu "*Mein tere dilli mohibbon ki aarzouon ko pouira karounga*" meaning "I will accomplish the desires of those who love you from the heart". So be sincere and incha Allah, Allah will accomplish all your noble desires. Then Allah said "*Wa maa howa be qawle shaytaanir rajim ; in howa illa wahyoune youha elayka le tounzera qawmam maa aata houm min nazirim min qableka le tounzerahoum yawmat talaag*" meaning " these are not the words of Satan, the rejected. These are revelations sent to you that you may warn a people to whom no Warner came before you, that you warn them of the Day of reckoning." Furthermore He said "*Anan Naasero af'alo maa orid*" meaning "I am the Helper and I do what I desire". There are a few more that I will tell you about incha Allah on Eid Day. I have not told you all these out of pride. On the contrary I feel very humbled to receive these words. I just wanted to share with you some of the blessings that Allah has given me during this Ramadan. More incha Allah on Eid Day.