

FRIDAY SERMON OF IMAM ZAFRULLAH DOMUN

28 SEPTEMBER 2012

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, the *Ta'uz* and the first chapter *Al Fatiha* of the Holy Quran Imam Zafrullah Domun said:

As most people might be aware, due to the release of an anti Islam film on the internet, in many Muslim countries there has been outrage against such a provocation. In Pakistan more than a dozen Muslims have been killed about 200 have been injured and in Karachi banks and cinema theatres have been burnt. In Libya an American ambassador together with three other embassy personnel has been killed by a mob. Similarly in many other Muslim countries there have been riots against this film. To make matters worse a French newspaper has published cartoons of the Holy Prophet to show that it can provoke Muslims with impunity. Reacting against the film a Pakistani cabinet minister has offered \$100,000 for the head of the producer of the film although the Pakistani government has dissociated itself from the statement by the minister.

It is quite unfortunate that there should have been such reactions to a stupid film by a stupid man who has gone into hiding together with his family since then. Throughout History the Christians have been against the Holy Prophet Muhammad ^{saw} and most of them have left no stone unturned in trying to harm Islam. But fortunately Allah has always been there to help and defend Islam and vindicate His prophet. Any student of history is aware of the crusades and how the Christians tried to wrest Jerusalem from the hands of the Muslims until they were chased from there by Salahuddin. Moreover in recent history everyone knows how the English have helped the Jews to have a state of their own in Jerusalem. Ridiculing the prophet of Islam or even Jesus Christ in the name of a so-called freedom of expression has been going on by irreligious people throughout the ages. Deploring the influence of Christian propaganda on Muslims Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad ^{as}, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi said:

“O seekers of truth and true lovers of Islam! You are well-aware that the time through which we are passing is so dark that all matters of faith and conduct have become corrupted and a strong wind of error and misguidance is blowing from every direction.

Mere words have taken the place of faith. The term 'righteous action' is applied to a few ceremonies, extravagances and vain displays, and there is complete ignorance of true virtue. The philosophy and sciences of this age are also set against spiritual wellbeing.

They have an ill-effect upon their votaries and are proven to pull them towards darkness. They stir up poisonous matters and awaken the sleeping Satan. Those connected with such philosophy and such sciences suffer so much from lack of faith that they ridicule Divinely promulgated principles and the prescribed forms of worship like Prayer and Fasting. Their hearts are devoid of any sense of God's greatness. Most of them are dyed in heresy and steeped in atheism, and though they are descended from Muslims, they are the enemies of the faith. Most students of colleges withdraw from their allegiance to faith and lose all sympathy for it before they have completed their studies. Here I have only mentioned one branch which, in this age, is loaded with the fruits of misguidance, but there are hundreds of other branches which are no less harmful. Honesty and integrity have departed from the world as if they never existed. Fraudulent and deceptive schemes for earning worldly benefits have multiplied enormously. The most mischievous person is accounted the ablest. All manner of unrighteousness, dishonesty, illegitimacy, deceit, falsehood, cunning and greed are on the increase. Merciless rancour and disputes are multiplying and beastly sentiments and emotions are raging wherever you may look. As people get more and more proficient and cunning with regard to the current sciences and laws, to the same degree, their natural qualities of goodness, modesty, decency, fear of God and honesty are on the decline.

The Christian doctrine is also preparing many schemes to demolish truth and faithfulness. To wipeout Islam, the Christians are diligently inventing and having recourse to all kinds of falsehood and make belief, and are devising ever new schemes for pushing people into error and misguidance. They grievously defame that Perfect Mansa who was the Pride of all holy ones, the Crown of all those who are close to God, and the Chief of all the great Messengers. So much so, that the audience in theatres is regaled with parodies of Islam and its Holy Prophet ^{saw}. Such utterly false aspersions are cast on Islam and its Holy Founder ^{saw} through these theatres as are meant to insult and defame them.

O Muslims, listen carefully. In order to obstruct the holy effects of Islam, the Christians have pressed into service every kind of complicated imposture and cunning device, and by spending money like water, they are making every effort to give currency to these aspersions, the details of which had better not be described in this article. Such is the magic and sorcery of the Christian people and the supporters of the Trinity, that unless God Almighty displays His powerful hand which possesses the miraculous power to demolish their magic, there can be no hope whatsoever for simple hearts to find deliverance from this European sorcery....." **[Fat-he-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 3, pp. 3-6]**

On each of these statements of the Promised Messiah we can write a pamphlet to prove how true they were when he made them and how true they are even today. Today on the internet where there is a concentration of mass media namely blogs, forums, films, books, websites and magazines, there are thousands and thousands of places where Islam and Muslims and the Holy Prophet are ridiculed. But at the same time there are also thousands of places where some well intentioned Muslims and rare Christian scholars are speaking in defense of Islam and its message. Continuing with the same line of thought Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad explains how Allah has counteracted this anti Islam campaign of the Christians:

“Therefore, in order to frustrate this magic, God Almighty granted to the true Muslims of this age the miracle that He honoured this servant of His with His revelation and special blessings. Having equipped me fully with minute knowledge of His ways, He sent me against the opponents with numerous heavenly gifts, divine wonders, and spiritual verities, so that with this Heavenly stone, the waxen idol prepared by the magic of the Christians might be broken. Thus, O ye Muslims, the appearance of this humble one is a miracle on the part of God Almighty for dispelling the darkness of these magicians. Was it not necessary that the world be shown a miracle in opposition to their magic? Does it appear strange and improbable in your eyes that in response to these cunning devices, which had bordered on magic, God Almighty should display a flash of truth which should have the effect of a miracle? **[Fat-he-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 3, pp. 3-6]**

Speaking further on this matter and explaining how Muslims should respond to the attacks of the Christians especially in India during his time he said:

“In brief India is a place for war against the Christian priests. That is why it is important for us not to sit idle. But bear in mind that our weapon should be similar to theirs. We should go out with the same weapon that they have come out in the field. That weapon is the pen. This is why Allah has called this humble one “Prince of the pen” and has called my pen the “sword of Ali”. The secret in this is that the time does not ask for war but this is the age for the use of the pen.”(Malfoozaat New edition Vol 1 page 232 –)

At another place he said:

“Strive to spread Islam. Reply to the accusations of the opponents. Publish the beauties of the teachings of Islam in the world. Show to the world that the Holy Prophet ^{saw} was a true prophet. This is our Jihad until Allah manifests another way for us in the world.” (Al *Badr* 14th August 1903)

Somewhere else Hazrat Masih Maood^{as} tells us that the Christians had written about 600,000 books against Islam by his time. Now just imagine how much more have been written during the past 100 years and especially during the last decade.

If on the one hand there are many people who write or make films against Islam there are also many non Muslim Scholars who appreciate the beauty of the message of Islam. Let me quote some. The first one is George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), Irish playwright of world reputation. He wrote about 60 plays and issues which engaged Shaw's attention included education, marriage, religion, government, health care, and class privilege. He said:

"If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe within the next hundred years, it could be Islam....I have always held the religion of Muhammad in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him - the wonderful man and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity....."I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much needed peace and happiness: I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today." (The Genuine Islam Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936.)

This is a person who had an open mind and who made a dispassionate study of the life of the Holy prophet Mohammad. Once someone knows the Holy Prophet's life and character one cannot but marvel at who he was. A French man Edward Montet, writes in '**La Propagande Chretienne et ses Adversaries Musulmans**,' Paris 1890:

"Islam is a religion that is essentially rationalistic in the widest sense of this term considered etymologically and historically....the teachings of the Prophet, the Qur'an has invariably kept its place as the fundamental starting point, and the dogma of unity of God has always been proclaimed therein with a grandeur and majesty, an invariable purity and with a note of sure conviction, which it is hard to find surpassed outside the pale of Islam....A creed so precise, so stripped of all theological complexities and consequently so accessible to the ordinary understanding might be expected to possess and does indeed possess a marvelous power of winning its way into the consciences of men."

Due to lack of time I will give you one more quote. This is from Reverend Benjamin Bosworth Smith (1784-1884) who was an **American Protestant Episcopal bishop**. He said in his book "Mohammad and Mohammedanism":

"Head of the State as well as the Church, he was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without the Pope's pretensions, and Caesar without the legions of Caesar, without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a police force, without a fixed revenue. If ever a man ruled by a right divine, it was Muhammad, for he had all the powers without their supports. He cared not for the dressings of power. The simplicity of his private life was in keeping with his public life...."In Mohammedanism everything is different here. Instead of the shadowy and the mysterious, we have history....We know of the external history of Muhammad....while for his internal history after his mission had been proclaimed, we have a book absolutely unique in its origin, in its preservation....on the Substantial authority of which no one has ever been able to cast a serious doubt."

The grandeur of the greatest human being who has ever walked on earth is not to be proved to a Muslim. He has accepted him as part of his faith. If others criticize the one that he reveres the good Muslim shows patience and does not start committing crimes and showing unislamic behavior. As a Muslim we have to show to the world that we are really the best amongst mankind because we received the best teachings through the best of men. Unfortunately the Ulemas are not doing their work as they should have done it by explaining that the criticism of others does not in anyway sully the reputation of the Holy Prophet in our eyes. "A rose by any other name will still smell as sweet." Our task is to counter these unsubstantiated attacks in the best possible way without physically harming anyone and above all without harming any Muslim. May Allah help Muslims wherever they are in the world and may he protect them from all those who may harm them from within or from without. More *incha* Allah next time.