

FRIDAY SERMON

of

Imam Zafrullah Domun

22 March 2013

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

Tomorrow is 23rd March 2013. About 124 years ago Jamaat Ahmadiyya International was born. In fact in that year namely 1889, 23rd March fell on a Saturday as it is this year. When I tried to know what was the day of the week when Hazrat Ahmad (as) started taking the oath of allegiance from his disciples, I searched on Google. I was led to the website

<http://www.dayoftheweek.org/?m=March&d=23&y=1889&go=Go>.

As far as I know, this is not a website run by the Ahmadiyya Jamaat. It is an American Website that gives information about days and dates. You will be surprised to learn that on this website the historical event that it speaks of having taken place on that day is the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Qadian India by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. They have spoken about Qadian although we know that the foundation of the Jamaat through the recruitment of voluntary disciples took place in Hoshiarpour, a place in the district of Gurdaspour. Anyhow we should say “*Alhamdo lilla*” that even others have taken it to be quite a significant happening.

Before we speak about that particular day we need to speak about its background. We need to refer to the Green pamphlet about which we have been talking in our recent sermons. Remember that it was published on 1st December 1888. At the end of that pamphlet/booklet Hazrat Ahmad (as) said that he would go ahead with the mission that has been entrusted to him by Allah despite all the opposition that he was getting. Please refer to my previous sermon where I stopped after saying what Hazrat Ahmad(as) said about those who do not believe in the experience of visions and revelations. Continuing in the same vein he said:

“Their condition is only revealed to those seekers after truth who remain in their company for some time.” Here he was speaking about the condition of those people who are close to Allah. He continued “It was with this in mind that I sent

letters and announcements to leaders of various sects inviting them to [come and stay with me and] test my claim. If they had been sincere in their search for truth, they would have come in earnest, but, as it was, none of them responded to my invitation, and whenever any of my prophecies was fulfilled, they tried to make it look dubious. If our own Muslim Ulema have such hesitation in accepting this truth, then there is no point in inviting others to it. Let the Ulema, who include eminent intellectuals and scholars, come and test my claim first. If they patiently and honestly spend some time in my company, they will surely find the truth. If it turns out that my claim is false, I will repent at their hands, otherwise I am hopeful that God will open for them the door to repentance and forgiveness. Their admonitions to me will only be meaningful if, after the publication of this writing, they put my claim to the test and their views are substantiated beyond any shadow of doubt. But at the moment their admonitions carry no meaning.....”

Now you might pause for some minutes to consider the attitude of the leadership of Jamaat Ahmadiyya nowadays vis a vis us. To them they know all and need nothing to add to their knowledge. In fact they are displaying the same bad attitude as the Ulema of yore as we have been saying so often. So Hazrat Ahmad (as) continued in the Green Pamphlet and said:

“The blindness of these Ulema is indeed pitiable. I can see that the powerful surge of contemporary logic and philosophy has besieged their hearts and minds. They put too much emphasis on these forms of learning, consider them to be sufficient for the perfection of their faith and ridicule spiritual blessings in a manner that is not worthy of them. I also believe that they do not do this superficially, but because they actually believe it to be true. Their innate weakness has caused them to succumb to this disease, for they do not possess the light of truth and are full of empty words. They seem so certain of their own views, and forward them with such zeal that, if it were possible, they would even drag the enlightened ones back into darkness. They are very eager for the physical victory of Islam, but are completely unaware of what the true victory of Islam stands for.....”

Such is the case of Jamaat Ahmadiyya mainstream these days. They just know how to make speeches but their actions are quite contrary to their words. Now meditate on the following paragraph of Hazrat Masih (as). Do not just read it. Ponder over it well to understand what is expected of us as an Ahmadi Muslim. The Promised Messiah said:

“The true victory of Islam, as is evident from the word 'Islam' [submission] itself, lies in our completely surrendering our selves to God and freeing ourselves of our egos and our passions. No idol, whether it is the idol of our

desires, our intentions, or the idol of creature worship, should stand in our way, and we should submit ourselves entirely to the will of God. After reaching this state of *fana* [self-annihilation], we will attain *baqa* [the life of eternity] which will give our eyes a new light, our minds a new brilliance, and our lives a new passion; and we will become a wholly new being and the same Eternal God will become for us a new God. This is the true victory, and one aspect of it is Divine communion. If Muslims do not achieve this victory in this age, mere intellectual victory will lead them nowhere. I am convinced that the day of this victory is close at hand. God will Himself cause this light to shine forth and shall have mercy on His hapless servants.....”

Now ponder the state of mainstream Jamaat Ahmadiyya and ask yourselves whether Divine communion is with them or elsewhere.

After explaining these important matters Hazrat Ahmad (as) wrote the end note under the subtitle “Propagation”(*tabligh*). It ran as follows:

I have to convey here another message to mankind in general and to Muslims in particular, which is that I have been commanded to take *Bai ‘at* of those who are seekers after truth so that they may know what true faith and righteousness are. They should give up indolence, faithlessness and all manner of iniquity, so that they may find the way that leads to the fountain of Divine love. Those who feel prepared for this should come to me so that I may befriend them and try to lighten their burden. God will bless them through my attention and prayer, provided they are fully prepared to carry out Divine instructions. This is a Divine command and I am hereby, today, conveying it to all. The Arabic text of the revelation is:

“Iza azamta fa tawakkal alallah was'na'il foulka be ayyoyena wa wahyena -allazina yobaye-ounaka innama yobayaounallah -yadoullah fawqa aydihim”

Translation:

“When thou hast made up thy mind thou must trust in God. Make an ark under Our eyes, and under Our command. Those who will take *Bai ‘at* at your hands will really be giving their hands into the Hand of God. The Hand of God is over their hands.”

So it is through this pamphlet/booklet that Hazrat Ahmad (as) made known to the world that he had been commanded by Allah to allow people who wished, to enter into spiritual

allegiance (*bait*) with him. Prior to this time he was being asked to accept some people's oath of allegiance but he refused saying that he had not received any permission from Allah to do so. So on January 12th 1889 he wrote another pamphlet. First of all in that pamphlet he spelled out the ten conditions of *bai'at* as we know them. These conditions are well known and everyone should be well aware of them and should make it a habit to meditate on them. It is true that these days Ahmadis in general do not care to know what these conditions of *bai'at* are and how they should be kept in mind constantly so that one might remain aloof from sins. Unfortunately people think that by renewing their pledge to the caliph once a year they are fulfilling these conditions. Nothing could be further from the truth. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) expected people who were in search for truth to join his Jamaat. In the pamphlet of 12th January he said:

“These are the conditions that those who want to do *bait* should fulfill but unfortunately they were not published in the pamphlet of 1st December 1888(i.e the Green Pamphlet). Moreover it should be known that the order to take *bait* had been given by Allah since ten months. But the delay in its publication is due to the fact that I hated the fact that all types of people should join this movement. I always wished that only those blessed(*mubarak*) people should join this blessed movement in whose nature(*fitrat*) loyalty is present and who are not immature and who do not change quickly nor are they easily overcome with doubt. So I was waiting for such an event which will distinguish those who are true and those who are immature and those who are sincere and those who are hypocritical. So Allah, whose Glory is eminent, through His Wisdom and Mercy brought about that event in the death of Bashir Ahmad. Consequently He separated the superficial thinkers, the immature and the evil thinkers from us. Only they stayed with us whose nature were such that they qualified to stay with us. And those whose faith were not strong and who got easily weary and tired fell victim to doubt and suspicion and were cut off from us. It is for this reason that I have thought it appropriate to publish the invitation for *bai'at* now..... Consequently only those persons would be considered members of our Jamaat, who during this trial have accepted this invitation and have joined this blessed movement. They are the ones who are our sincere friends and they are those on whose behalf Allah has addressed me and said that He will give them victory over their opponents till the last day.....”

Then he speaks about the revelation that he had received from Allah concerning the taking of *bai'at*, as we have already explained previously. Then he added that Allah had also said that “one should present oneself to Allah with all one's might and not leave Allah alone. He who leaves Allah alone will be left alone.” Hazrat Ahmad (as) ended the pamphlet by saying that after doing the prescribed *Istikharah* prayer those who are interested should present themselves to him for the purpose of taking *bai'at*. He further prayed that Allah be their Helper and bring about a pure change in their life and grants them a soul addicted to truth, purity, love and a clear conscience.

In a footnote to this pamphlet Hazrat Masih(as) spoke about Mirza Mahmood Ahmad who was born on that very day, 12th January 1889. He said:

“God, the Glorious, had of His Grace and Benevolence promised, as was set out in the Announcement of July 10, 1888 and the Announcement of Dec. 1, 1888, that after the death of the first Bashir a second Bashir will be bestowed whose name will also be Mahmud and had communicated to this humble one: He would be a person of high resolve and will be like thee in beauty and benevolence. God is Almighty and creates whatever He wills. Accordingly to-day, Saturday Jan. 12, 1889, a son has been born to this humble one who has for the moment been named Bashir and Mahmud by way of good omen. An announcement will be made after full disclosure as I have not yet been given to understand whether this son will grow up and be the Promised Reformer or whether there is some other one. I know, however, and know it for a certainty that God Almighty will deal with me according to His promise and that if the time of the birth of the Promised son is not yet, then He will appear at some other time. If there should remain only one day out of the term specified, God, the Glorious, will not let that day come to an end till His promise is fulfilled. In a dream I had uttered this verse (Persian) concerning the Promised Reformer:

Eh fakhre rosol qurbe tou ma'loumam shad

Deir amedah ze rahe dour ameda

“O pride of Messengers, I realize the degree of your nearness to God, your coming has been delayed as you have come from a long distance.”

Thus if according to the divine will, by delay was meant only the period which has elapsed before the birth of this son who has been named Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud by way of good omen, then it would be no wonder if he should prove to be the Promised son. Otherwise he will arrive at some other time.”

Then Hazrat Masih Maood (as) ended the footnote by saying something that should be a source of inspiration and meditation for all of us , men and women, young and old. He said:

And some of those who envy us should know that we have no personal objectives in having children and that we have no personal pleasure in their being alive. So it is a great mistake on their part that they have manifested so much joy on the death of Bashir Ahmad and they have shown their happiness on our misfortune. Most surely they should remember that if we had as many sons as there are leaves on all the trees of the world and they all died, even then

their death would not affect our true pleasure and peace. Love for the one who causes death(*Momeet*) compared to the one who dies(*mayyat*) has overpowered our heart so much that if Allah is pleased, like *khalil ullah* (Hazrat Ibrahim as) we are prepared to slaughter any one of our dear children with our own hands. The fact is that besides Allah, there is no one who is dear to us. His name be glorified and eminent is His Glory. All praise belong to Him for all His Favours.

Incha Allah we will continue next week about the events concerning the birth of Jamaat Ahmadiyya and what followed.

May Allah help each one amongst us to tread the path of a true Muslim. Ameen.