

JAMAAT AHMADIYYA AL MUSLIMEEN

FRIDAY SERMON
OF
IMAM ZAFRULLAH DOMUN

5th April 2013

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, the *Ta'uz* and the first chapter *Al Fatiha* of the Holy Quran Imam Zafrullah Domun read the following verses of Sura *Al Naba*(ch 78):

Amma yatasaa'alouna

Annin nabaaa il azim

Houm fihe moukhtalefoune

Kalla saya'lamouna

soumma kalla saya'lamoune

Translation:

“About what do they question one another?

About the great Event,

Concerning which they differ.

Nay, soon they will come to know.

Nay, *We say it* again, they will soon come to know. (78:2-6)

Members may know that these are verses two to six of chapter *Al Naba* of the Holy Quran. When we were young we used to hear the reading of this chapter usually during *Tarawih* in the month of Ramadan. But this time these verses were revealed to me while I was doing *istighfaar* during one of the night of last week, most probably it was the night of Wednesday to Thursday. When I received these verses I immediately understood that a great event was in the making or that it had already happened and I was not aware of it. I gave such meanings to these words because in the past when I received these verses or part of them something out of the ordinary did take place. Anyhow at first I thought that a personal matter might afflict us. But later on I was made aware of the Ponzi scheme which has ripped seven to eight hundred Mauritians of about 800million to one billion rupees. For some time this matter was the talk of the town and people were talking with one another about it

wondering how could such a thing happen in modern day Mauritius. This matter in itself was sufficient to fulfill what I was told in the words revealed to me.

However we were not at all aware of what worst was in the making. In fact as you are all aware the capital of Mauritius, Port Louis was the victim of a flash flood during the day on Saturday 30th March 2013. Within three hours 159 mm of rainfall was registered. The city was cut into two by water, cars flowed like children's paper boats. Many vehicles got stranded and people were walking in knee-deep water to the station to catch a bus home. Many had to walk their way home because they could not find any transport. For a rain which lasted for about three hours, 11 people died and millions of rupees of damages to property have been noted up till now. In a part of the downtown several houses have been completely inundated and almost 200 families have lost everything. Overall about 300 families have been severely affected. More details about this matter may be read in the newspapers and on the internet.

From now on Mauritius will no longer be the same. This event will have such an impact on people's consciousness that for years to come people will talk about it making it a real “*nabaa al azim*” meaning “a great event”. These days on radios, in the papers, on the net, in and out of parliament, on the streets, in offices, in homes, everywhere people are just talking with one another about what happened on Saturday last in Port Louis. In fact the whole of Mauritius became concerned with that event. A sentiment of solidarity animated almost every Mauritian and they poured forth to the affected areas with food and clothing and helped in removing mud and cleaning the houses. Such a solidarity has never been seen before. I am giving these details just to say that this calamity was out of the ordinary and so was the solidarity response to it. All Praise are for Allah(*Alhamdulillah*). It is our hope and prayer that soon all those who have been directly affected by this calamity will be able to resume normal life as soon as possible. For all those who have been distressed with the loss of dear one, we pray and hope that Allah the Almighty, The Creator of all humans will grant them the necessary patience to bear their loss and to move on. We know that this is difficult but we hope they will be able to make it.

These floods that we have seen remind us of the words of the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^{as} when he said:

"Remember, God has informed me of many earth-quakes. Rest assured, therefore, that as earth-quakes have shaken America and Europe, so will they shake Asia. Some of them will resemble the Day of Doom. So many people shall die that rivulets of blood shall flow. Even the birds and the beasts will not be immune against this death. Havoc shall sweep the surface of the earth which shall be the greatest since the birth of man. Habitations shall be demolished as if no one had ever lived in them. This will be accompanied by many other terrible calamities which the earth and the heavens will send forth, till their extraordinary nature will become evident to every reasonable man. All the literature of science and philosophy shall fail to show their like.

Then mankind shall be sorely distressed and wonder what is going to happen. Many shall escape and many shall perish. The days are near, in fact. I can see them close at hand, when the world shall witness a terrible sight: not only earthquakes but also many fearsome calamities shall overtake man, some from the skies and some from the earth. This will happen because mankind have stopped worshiping their true God and have become lost in the affairs of the world with all their heart and their effort and intent. If I had not come, these afflictions would perhaps have been delayed a little. But with my coming the secret purposes of an affronted God which were hidden so far, became manifest. Says God: 'We never punish unless We send a Messenger.' Those who repent shall find security and those who fear before calamity overtakes them shall be shown mercy. Do you think you will be immune from these calamities? Or can you save yourselves through artifice or design? Indeed not. That day all human schemes shall fail. Think not that earthquakes visited America and other continents but that your own country shall remain secure. Indeed, you may experience a greater hardship. O Europe, you are not safe and O Asia, you too, are not immune. And O dwellers of Islands, no false gods shall come to your rescue. I see cities fall and settlements laid waste. The One and the Only God kept silent for long. Heinous deeds were done before His eyes and He said nothing. But now He shall reveal His face in majesty and awe. Let him who has ears hear that the time is not far. I have done my best to bring all under the protection of God, but it was destined that what was written should come to pass. Truly do I say that the turn of this land, too is approaching fast. The times of Noah shall reappear before your eyes, and your own eyes will be witnesses to the calamity that overtook the cities of Lot. But God is slow in His wrath. Repent that you may be shown mercy! He who does not fear Him is dead, not alive." (Haqiqatul Wahy, pp.256-57).

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad(as)(1835-1908) claimed to be the prophet that was promised to come as Isa, son of Mary by the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw). Almost all the predictions that he made in the above quotation have been fulfilled almost to the letter. The world has witnessed very severe earthquakes in the past century and the loss of lives have been enormous. Rivulets of blood flowed in both world wars and many have died. Birds and beasts also were not immune to the devastation that has enveloped the world through the actions of man. On that score also he was right. The destruction of species of birds, beasts and even trees has been on the increase during the past hundred years. He also said that "habitations shall be destroyed as if no one has ever lived in them." There are many places on the earth which have seen such havoc. To name but a few I will cite what we saw in the Tsunami of 2004 in Indonesia and its surroundings and that of 2011 in Japan and that of Haiti as well. Besides in America there are many industrial sites that were once very prosperous but which are nowadays desert. Hazrat Ahmad also said that these calamities will come either from the skies or from the earth. Anyone who is familiar or remotely familiar

with the history of the 20th century will not fail to see how these words of the Promised Messiah ring true.

Since sometime now island people have come to be aware that they are the most vulnerable if nothing is done to stem air pollution. Eventually the temperature will rise and flood all the islands. As an individual you might know about these matters. But these should be very serious concerns for those in authority. Up till now the world has not yet devised a scheme to stem the increase in temperature that is likely to happen by 2100. The experts are saying that we do not have time left to reach a tipping point. It means that at a certain point in time we will not be able to reverse the trend. In order to reverse this trend there is a need for massive investments now and a change in lifestyle which the richest countries are not yet ready to do. Anyhow what I wanted to say is that to-day the world knows that island countries are quite vulnerable to climatic changes but Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad(as) had warned them since more than one hundred years ago of their impending doom. Moreover Hazrat Ahmad said that the world would witness the days of Noah again. We all know that we have seen plenty of floods around the world and that people, cattle and crops were completely devastated. Many can easily recall the flood that engulfed Pakistan in 2010. Almost one fifth of the country was under water. Although many amongst their own mullahs said that it was a punishment from Allah but the iniquitous ones have not changed their behavior vis a vis others. They still continue to kill innocent people like the Shias, Christians and Ahmadis. It is unfortunate that people forget too quickly. They continue with their mischief despite all these visitations. The consequence will be that they will be visited by more of these calamities.

To come back to Mauritius, now we are hearing that the opposition is blaming the government for their incompetence. The Government responded by saying that they have been doing whatever is in their capacity to respond to these emergencies. Others on radio and in the papers are voicing their opinion explaining what is wrong and what needs to be done to prevent the loss of lives and property in the future. Hence people are asking one another about that great event (*nabaa al azim*). This is one of the rare occasions when Allah has indicated to one of His servants about something which was to have a major impact on the life of all our countrymen. One should meditate about this event. The fact that this event has been qualified as *azim* denotes its great importance. It also denotes an event which inspires awe and makes the heart tremble with fear. Can anyone say that he was not in awe or shock when he saw the TV footage of this event? Everyone has been shocked by what he saw. No one has control over rain but Allah. He has power over all things. At least that is our belief. At this moment of great fear we all Ahmadi Muslims should bear in mind the following words of the Promised Messiah:

“If mankind had to live without God, no doubt, it would have been a life of great trial and misery. Look! Now every particle is in His protection. So what is there to worry about or be afraid of? Allah’s powers are marvelous and His influences are unparalleled. Having believed in All Powerful Personal God a believer is never again anxious or worried! As the believer knows that Allah

does what He wills and at the same time the believer is also resigned to the fact that whatever Allah will provide for him would indeed be the best for him. A believer finds blessing in what he receives from Allah. The basic difference in a believer and non-believer is indeed the belief itself. The life of an atheist or an agnostic is fine and without fear until he has not been afflicted by a trial and tribulation. But when even a small difficulty raises its head, it stuns his mind. He is unable to cope with even small setbacks. His hope does not lie in Allah; he is focused on worldly means. These means disappoint him. Under these circumstances even small setbacks make these people commit suicide. In Europe where there are a large number of atheists, there are so many suicides that are not seen in any other country. What is the reason for that? Indeed it is the fact that they cannot patiently face setbacks and trials. Their patience and hearts are weak. On the other hand the believer has a brave heart, because his trust is on God All Mighty. If he goes through difficulties he does not lose heart. On the contrary he marches forward despite the difficulties. He begins to increase in his faith. The fact of the matter is that it is in times of distress that one really has the greatest pleasure of faith and belief. The faith is indeed for these very days. In the time of prosperity when there is no financial or health strain and there are all sorts of comforts and luxuries, then the believer and a non-believer are alike. It is in trouble, illness and other difficulties that one is tested out. These trials show as to who has a firm relationship with Allah and believes in His Powers and Influences and who complains and is displeased with Him.”(Promised Messiah. Malfoozat, September 24, 1905. Page 391, Volume IV/V.)

May Allah increase our faith in Him and may He send on Mauritius the shadow of His Mercy and not the clouds of His Punishment. Since Tuesday when I heard that BBC was predicting that there might be heavy rain again on Mauritius, I have been praying to Allah that He should send away these clouds and not allow them to pour down on us again. *Al hamdolilla* up till now we have not seen these heavy rain. I hope and pray and am confident that there will not be such heavy downpours this weekend at least.