

# FRIDAY SERMON

**Of Imam Zafrullah Domun**

**18 OCTOBER 2013**

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

Hajj 2013 will officially end today. Yesterday most of the pilgrims performed their farewell circumambulation of the Kaaba. By the Grace of Allah the Hajj ceremonies went on smoothly and there have not been any untoward incident to report. Despite the fear of the spread of the infectious disease MERS virus, everything went on well due to the security planning and precautions taken. Compared to last year the number of pilgrims this year was down by 21%. The grand mufti of Saudi Arabia addressed the pilgrims at mount Arafat. Among other things he said that “Islam does not allow terrorism at any cost. Islam condemns all violence and terrorism plaguing the world today. Muslims should demonstrate a love for peace and unity,” He also reminded the people about the Islamic prohibition of killing and aggression, while insisting there is “no salvation or happiness for the Muslim nation without adhering to the teachings of the religion.” The top cleric also urged Muslims to avoid divisions, chaos and sectarianism. Addressing the Muslim world he said “Your nation is a trust with you. You must safeguard its security, stability and resources.” We are reporting these matters because we think that these are quite interesting words which everyone needs to know. But neither pronouncing them nor listening to them is sufficient. What is needed is, as I said in the Eid sermon, is the eagerness to try to live the teachings of Islam everyday of our life, every moment of our life. May Allah open the heart of each one amongst us and every Muslim around the world to understanding the true teachings of Islam and to live it through our daily lives *incha* Allah.

The Holy Prophet (saw) has made it clear to us that a Muslim is someone from the harm of whose tongue and hand others are protected. Unfortunately we see that this basic teaching of the Holy Prophet saw has been trampled to dust. Wherever in the world we see strife between Muslim countries or within Muslim countries or between Muslim groups or between members of one family, this teaching of the Prophet is being ignored. When we see what is going on in Iraq, in Afghanistan, in Mali in Nigeria, in Yemen, Libya, Egypt, Iran etc we see that Muslims are not at all protecting others from harm. There is no need for any new teachings. Allah has taught us the basics. We should learn to remember these basic teachings and strive to put them into practice. There are many groups who are quite keen to teach and advise others but they fail to put these same teachings into practice. Here also Allah has made it quite clear for all of us that we should not say things and not put them into practice. The Muslim should be a peacemaker. Wherever there is strife he or she should try to reconcile the warring parties. Had

the Muslim countries really wished and had they the necessary political will, they would easily have put an end to plenty of the differences and troubles plaguing the Muslim World of today. But unfortunately in the name of Islam they keep fighting one another. Those who have even a little knowledge of Islamic History will know that whenever the world of Islam has suffered some harm, it did so because of the dissension prevailing in its own ranks. Even today there is a need for talking and reconciling differences. It is only by doing so that the Edifice of Islam can be strengthened and consolidated. The west led by the USA and England try to do their best to prevent unity among the Muslims. Whatever they can do to weaken Islamic countries acting in a united way they do it. The differences amongst the Muslims make them an easy prey to the devilish schemes of the anti-Islamic countries. America is not a friend of Saudi Arabia. America looks after its own interests and that is why it appears friendly to the Saudis. Had they been real friends and had the Saudis used their clout they could have influenced the Americans to influence the Israelis to solve the problem of Palestine. But nothing has been done on that score up till now. The problem is as it was since it was created by the Western powers in 1948. Hence all Muslims should make a special effort to join hands and hearts together to use the favours that Allah has bestowed upon them to solve the problems of the umma and not to try to lord on one another. Muslim countries should learn to talk with one another to consolidate their Unity and to eliminate all sorts of injustice in their ranks. This is not an easy task. But yet it can be done provided there is a willingness to work together and bury differences and work together for the progress of the Muslim world as a whole.

Concerning us Ahmadis, we need to be reminded from time to time about the basic teachings that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has bequeathed us. Personally I have been reading the writings of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) since I was about 22 or 23 years old. Even today after almost 38 years I still enjoy any extracts from his writings. Initially I used to read in English and later I painstakingly learned Urdu and read his writings in the original. Fortunately today plenty of his writings have been translated into English. All the young ones of our Jamaat should do their best to try to read whatever is available in English because I think all of them can read these texts with some effort. Besides there are plenty of English texts which are available in The Review of Religion and they may be read over there. However I should still say that Jamaat Ahmadiyya mainstream has not been up to the standard with the translation of the writings of the Promised Messiah into English. In all Hazrat Masih Maood (as) wrote about 80 books in Urdu, Persian or Arabic. I fail to understand why a project cannot be launched to translate all the Promised Messiah's books in English within a time frame of three or five or seven years or even less. Today all resources are available for such a task to be accomplished as soon as possible. The writings of the Promised Messiah in English will expand his readership beyond the few Muslims who can read Urdu and who care to read it in Pakistan or elsewhere in the world. Nonetheless for our youngsters there are about 2000 pages of English literature available in the five volumes of "**Essence of Islam**" which can be downloaded at [www.alislam.org/library](http://www.alislam.org/library). Anyone who cares to read these books will know enough of what the Promised Messiah stands for.

Let us review some of these writings which will inspire us to lead a life according to the true teachings of Islam. He says:

God Almighty desires to draw all those who live in various habitations of the world, be it Europe or Asia, and who have virtuous nature, to the Unity of

God and unite His servants under one Faith. This indeed is the purpose of God for which I have been sent to the world. You, too, therefore should pursue this end, but with kindness, moral probity and fervent prayers. And till that time when someone inspired by God with the Holy Spirit is raised by Him, all of you should work in harmony with one another.

And you, too, should partake of the Holy Spirit by compassion and by purifying your souls. Because without the Holy Spirit true *Taqwa* cannot be attained. And, totally shedding all base desires of the self, choose for the sake of winning the pleasure of God that path compared to which no path can be narrower and straiter. Don't fall in love with the pleasures of the world, for they take you away from God. Choose a life of austerity for the sake of God. The pain which pleases God is better than the pleasure which makes Him angry. And the defeat which pleases God is better than the victory which invites the wrath of Allah. Renounce the love which brings you nearer to the wrath of Allah. If by purifying your hearts you come to Him, He will help you whichever path you tread and no enemy shall ever be able to harm you. You can never ever win the pleasure of Allah unless you, relinquishing your desires, abandoning your pleasures, sacrificing your honour, disowning your wealth, discarding your life, bear such hardships in His Way as make you suffer the pangs of death. But once you suffer such hardship, you will sit in the lap of God like a beloved child. And you will be made heirs of the truthful who have preceded you. The door of every blessing will be opened to you. But there are few who belong to this category. God addressed me and said that *Taqwa* is a tree that should be planted in the heart. The very water which nourishes *Taqwa* irrigates the whole garden. *Taqwa* is a root without which everything is meaningless; and if it remains intact then nothing is lost. What benefit is there for a man in indulging himself in the useless activity of claiming with his tongue that he seeks God while he has no sure footing with his Lord. Look, I say to you truly and sincerely that ruined is he whose faith is tainted by even a hint of worldliness. Hell is very close to that soul all of whose intentions are not for God—rather some of them are for God and others are for the world. Thus if you have an iota of worldly adulteration in your intentions, all your worship is in vain. In such a case you do not follow God. Rather you follow Satan. Never ever expect that when you are in such a condition God will help you. Rather in this condition you are a worm of the earth and soon you will perish just as worms of the earth do. And God shall not be in you. Rather He will be happy to destroy you. But if you, in reality, die by killing your baser selves, then you shall appear in God and God shall be with you. And the house in which you live will be blessed and God's mercy will descend on the walls which are the walls of your house. And that city shall be blessed where such a person lives. If your life and your death, your every action and movement, and your kindness, and your anger are for God only and

if, in any trouble or difficulty you do not put God to the test nor sever your relationship with Him—rather, under these trials, you step forward towards God— then I truly say to you that you will become a chosen people of God. You, too, are human as I am human and that very God Who is mine is yours. So don't lay waste your noble capacities. Look! if you fully incline towards God, then be reminded—and I say it in accordance with the will and pleasure of God—that, you shall become His chosen people. Let the Greatness of God take root in your hearts; and acknowledge His Unity not just with your tongues but also with your actions, so that God, too, practically shows His Mercy and Kindness to you. Refrain from malice and treat human beings with true compassion. Adopt each and every path of righteousness for who knows from which of these paths you will be accepted?”

This extract is from the booklet “*Al wassiyat*” translated into English as “The Will”. Were you to ask a mainstream Ahmadi what does he know about this book, he would most probably tell you that it speaks of the establishment of Khilafat after the Promised Messiah’s death and it speaks of the need to donate one tenth of one’s wealth to the Jamaat. Very few if any will tell you that Hazrat Masih(as) gave us some golden rule to live by as his parting advices. He cared for people like us and he advised us lest we should go astray. May Allah help each one amongst us to lead a life that will please Him.