

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

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

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) as a true and most loyal and sincere representative of the Holy Prophet (saw) created Jamaat Ahmadiyya in order to bring together those people who are eager to purify themselves of sin and lead a life devoted to Allah. This is the main purpose for the creation of the Jamaat. If as a member of the Jamaat a person misses this purpose and accomplishes plenty of other things, that person has not been able to understand why he is a member of the Jamaat at all. At many places in his writings Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has spoken of those special friends of Allah who strive to lead a life devoted to Allah. He has described them in many places and whatever he wrote is really interesting reading for all members of the Jamaat and each one amongst us should strive to join this category. At one place he said:

“Be sure that the seed of spiritual life has been sown like a mustard seed and it will soon, very soon, appear in the form of a great tree. A person who thinks along material lines cherishes material things and sees great value in them, but he who has been given a share of spirituality seeks the spiritual life. The righteous servants of God Almighty do not come into the world to make an exhibition for the amusement of people. Their true purpose is to draw people towards God and they are ultimately recognized through this very spiritual power. The light that endows them with the power to attract others may not be perceived by those who would try to test it and it may even lead them to stumble; still, that light by itself draws such people as are worthy of being drawn and thus reveals its miraculous effect.....”

So all those who are interested in spirituality will be drawn to those righteous servants of Allah who are here only to teach people the way to Allah. Those who try to test such servants will not benefit at all from what they have to offer. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) said that these servants of Allah have some special characteristics which he named as follows:

- (1) They are bestowed a pure love of the Divine which cannot be perceived by people of this world.
- (2) Their hearts are governed by a sort of fear, due to which their obedience takes the subtlest form, and they are afraid lest the Eternal Friend is displeased.
- (3) They are bestowed extraordinary steadfastness, the manifestation of which surprises the beholders.
- (4) When someone persecutes them and persists in so doing, he is suddenly subjected to the wrath of that Most Powerful One, Who is their Guardian.
- (5) When someone becomes their true friend, and devotes himself to them in full loyalty and sincerity, God Almighty draws such a one to Himself and bestows His special mercy on him.

- (6) In comparison with others, their prayers are accepted in such large numbers as can hardly be counted.
- (7) Hidden mysteries are often revealed to them and they are informed in advance of that which is yet to come. Even though other believers also may experience true dreams and visions, the chosen ones exceed them all in this respect.
- (8) God Almighty becomes their Custodian and treats them more mercifully than a parent would treat his children.
- (9) When they are afflicted with a great calamity, they are treated in one of two ways: either they are delivered from it in an extraordinary manner or are bestowed such steadfastness as is full of pleasure, delight and eagerness.
- (10) They are bestowed a high moral status wherein they are freed from all arrogance, pride, meanness, conceit, hypocrisy, envy, miserliness and narrow mindedness. They are characterized by wholehearted conviction and cheerfulness.
- (11) Their trust in God is of a very high order and the fruits thereof continue to be manifested constantly.
- (12) They are given the power and the capacity to perform righteous deeds which others are unable to perform.
- (13) They develop a high degree of sympathy for God's creatures without the expectation of any reward or merit. They are inspired by a high degree of desire to serve mankind. They themselves cannot understand why they are so inspired, for this characteristic is a part of their nature.
- (14) They are wholly and perfectly devoted to God Almighty and possess a fervent desire to sacrifice their whole being in His cause. The special relationship their souls have with the Spirit of God cannot be described in words. They enjoy a standing with the Holy One which is not recognized by the common people. That which they specially possess in abundance and which is the fountainhead of all blessings; and by virtue of which—while they appear to be sinking—they win through to security; and having arrived at the brink of extinction, are revived; and even though they are humiliated, they still exhibit their crown of honour; and though appearing alone and abandoned, they are suddenly seen at the head of a large group; is none other than this relationship of perfect devotion which can neither be severed with the sword nor loosened by any riot or fear of the world.
- (15) The fifteenth sign is their knowledge of the Holy Qur'an. They are given deep understanding of the wisdom, verities and fine points of the Holy Qur'an to a degree which is never given to others. They are the pure ones concerning whom God, the Glorious, says: "Which none shall touch except those who are purified".—Al- Waqi'ah, 56:80
- (16) God Almighty inspires their words and writings with an effectiveness, which distinguishes them from the writings and speeches of the conventional clerics. Their words have an awe and grandeur and— provided there are no veils—it captures the hearts.

- (17) They inspire a kind of awe which is a reflection of the awe inspired by God, for God Almighty grants them His company in a special manner. Their countenances reflect the light of God's love. He who perceives it is delivered from the fire of hell. Although they may fall into error or minor sin, there is a fire in their hearts that consumes all error and all sin. Their error does not persist, but is like something which is carried away by a strong current of water. Thus their critic always stumbles.
- (18) God Almighty does not let them be destroyed and they are not subjected to humiliation and disgrace for they are dear to God as they are planted with His own hand. He does not cause them to fall from a height in order to destroy them, but He does so to exhibit their miraculous deliverance. He does not push them into fire in order to consume them, but to show the people that what was at one time a fire has now become a lovely garden.
- (19) God Almighty does not let them die until that for which they have been sent has been accomplished. Their journey to the hereafter is deferred until they have found acceptance in the hearts of the pure.
- (20) They leave behind a good remembrance, and God Almighty bestows special mercy on their progeny through many generations, as well as on the progeny of their faithful friends and keeps their names alive.

These are the characteristics of the Friends of the Gracious One. Each of these, when manifested at its due time, appears like a great miracle but its manifestation is entirely in the hand of God Almighty. Now, in obedience to the direction: "And proclaim the bounty of thy Lord."—Al-Duha, 93:12

I do not see any harm in declaring that the Merciful God has, through His grace and bounty, bestowed all these characteristics on me in abundance. He has not sent me empty-handed, nor has He appointed me without any accompanying signs. He has bestowed all these signs upon me which are being manifested and will continue to be manifested. God Almighty will go on manifesting these signs until the truth is clearly established.

In answer to the question, 'What benefit can we derive from your advent?', I say that when a person who has been chosen appears from heaven, his advent benefits all and sundry according to their capacities. His advent is, in fact, the rising of a spiritual sun, the light of which spreads far and wide. As the sun casts its effects differently on animals, plants minerals and other objects, though few people know enough about it, in the same way, the advent of an appointed one affects all dispositions and every part and region of the universe. From the moment his merciful appearance is determined upon in heaven, angels begin to descend therefrom, like the rays of the sun, unto the far corners of the world to strengthen those who have the capacity to advance towards the truth. Thereby, people of pious natures are by themselves inclined towards accepting the truth. All these are the signs of the truth of the Man of God at the time of whose advent heavenly abilities are sharpened. God has given this alone as a sign of true revelation that when it descends, angels too descend along with it and, day by day, the world begins to turn towards the truth. In addition to the particular signs that I have described above, this is a general

By the Grace of Allah we can say in humility that Allah has given us a share in most these characteristics. The irony of the situation is that the mainstream Jamaat which had as its mission to preserve the Promised Messiah's teachings has put in place a strict campaign to persecute all those who manifest these characteristics by the Grace of Allah. Has not the time come for the caliph and all those who have been helping him to pause and wonder whether they are on the right path or not and whether their actions have been meeting with the pleasure of Allah or not? Only people who are endowed with a great fear of Allah can pause to take stock of their actions. Those who just follow what they are being told by their leaders will never do so because they are like sheep that just follow their leader even if they are being led to the slaughter house. Each member of Jamaat Ahmadiyya especially those who are from the mainstream have to pause and reflect whether their actions have been to the standard required by Allah and His Prophet or have they been following only their lower desires to harm others. Once your conscience is awakened and you come to understand that you have made mistakes aplenty you should stop making those mistakes and make amends for what you have been doing. Allah will have mercy for you and He might forgive you if He so wishes. Someone cannot say that he forms part of the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah and yet he acts like someone who does not follow his teachings at all. Some might take lightly what they have done in their love for Khilafat. But what they forget is that they have relegated Allah to the background by thinking that they should defend Khilafat. Allah is Sovereign. He does what He likes and He is not in need of the advice of anyone to distribute His Favours. As far as we are concerned we are here only to make the world know what are the true teachings of the Promised Messiah. Concerning the need to accept him he said:

“He who accepts me accepts afresh all the Prophets<sup>(saw)</sup> and their miracles, and he who does not accept me will lose his earlier faith also, for he possesses only tales and no personal experience. I reflect the image of God. He who comes to me and accepts me will see afresh the God concerning Whom other people have only tales to tell. I believe in the God Whom those who deny me do not recognize. I state truly that what they believe in are the idols of their imagination and not God. That is why those idols cannot help them, cannot give them any strength, cannot bring about a pure transformation in them, and cannot show them any supporting signs.”

[Nuzul-ul-Masih, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 18, pp. 462-463]

### **He further said:**

“I am the light for this age of darkness. He who follows me will be saved from those pits and ditches which Satan has prepared for those who walk in darkness. God has sent me so that I should guide the world affably and peacefully towards the true God and that I should re-establish the moral conditions among the Muslims. For the satisfaction of the seekers after truth, He has bestowed heavenly signs upon me and has shown wonderful works in my support and has disclosed to me hidden matters and secrets of the future, which, according to the holy books of God Almighty, are the true test of a person's truthfulness, and God has bestowed holy knowledge and spiritual insight upon me. Consequently, the souls which do not cherish the truth and

are content with darkness are hostile to me, but I desire to serve mankind with sympathy as far as it may be possible for me.[Masih Hindustan Mein, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol.15, p.13]

May Allah have mercy upon all those who truly understands the mission of the Promised Messiah and are eager to Help His Cause. May Allah include us among this group. Ameen.