

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:

As members will recall we have been reading extracts from the booklet of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) entitled "*The British Government and Jihad*" in our last two sermons.

We see that he was condemning the same types of actions that have infuriated the West and some Arab countries against the Islamic state of Iraq and Syria. You might recall that up till now the Jihadists of IS have executed on the net at least three western men, two from USA and one from UK. As peace loving Muslims we cannot but condemn such actions which are blemishes on the true teachings of Islam. We are not at all allowed to commit any type of murder or injustice in the name of religion. Those who commit murder or injustice or discriminate against others in the name of Islam cannot in anyway be the spokesmen of Islam. From the teachings that we have understood, Islam does not discriminate nor tolerates injustice nor allows it adherents to disturb the peace of the land. Anyone who tries to justify injustice or the disturbance of peace or discrimination through their misunderstanding of Islam needs to learn from "*those who know*" that such acts are totally unacceptable and are condemned severely by Allah. As a consequence of the wanton killing that the President of Syria was practicing in his country against its own people a group of jihadist tried to fight against him. Consequently these people were able to control a large piece of land straddling Syria and Iraq and they declared a caliphate and exercised control on that land. Had they been content to practice Islam as taught by the Holy Prophet (saw) it might have been a blessing. But when they started killing Shias and expelling Christians from Iraq and mercilessly killing westerners and used force to make people practice Islam they exceeded all bounds. Due to their stupidity they will have their country bombarded and destroyed as happened to Iraq in the time of Saddam Hussein. It is really unfortunate that Muslim countries get such stupid leaders and they do nothing good for the people. Such leaders only bring destruction to their own people. Another sad chapter will soon be written in the history of the Muslims of the Middle East. Allah knows best when their misery will come to an end. Let us hope and pray that it will be sooner rather than later.

Using these Jihadists as a background let us read some more extracts from the Promised Messiah (as):

“For the teachings that I am emphasizing now, such as having love for your enemy and compassion for God’s creation, have previously been stressed by that honourable Prophet whose name is Jesus the Messiah. Rather than loving their enemies, some contemporary Muslims unjustly use shameful religious pretexts to murder innocent people who, far from harm, have done only good things for them. The advent of one who receives revelation from God, has the characteristics of the Messiah, and brings a message promoting peace was necessary for the reformation of these people. Did this age not need the *avatar* [second coming] of Jesus the Messiah? Of course it did. Currently, millions of Muslims are ready to kill other people under the pretence of *jihad*. Indeed, some are unable to truly love a benevolent government even while living under its protection. They are unable to reach the highest levels of sympathy, and cannot cleanse themselves of affectation and pretence. There was therefore a dire need for the *avatar* of the Messiah. So **I am that very promised *avatar***, who has been sent in the spiritual likeness, personality and temperament of Jesus the Messiah.”

The statement that there are many Muslims who would like to engage in Jihad was not an exaggeration when the promised messiah said it in 1900 nor is it even today. In fact there are so many young Muslims who are attracted to the message of the Jihadists of IS that they are ready to go to Syria and Iraq to participate in the fighting and in establishing the Muslim caliphate. According to some estimates there are about ten to twelve thousands foreigners ready to fight in IS army of about thirty thousands. The sheer number of the fighters in IS has surprised the CIA as usual. A Muslim is bound to fight to repel an aggression against his motherland but he is not at all allowed to make any war of aggression.

After explaining the essence of the credo of Islam “There is no one worthy of worship but Allah and Mohammad is His Messenger” the Promised Messiah further said:

“Similarly, in relation to the rights of the Creator, He named me Muhammad and Ahmad, and sent me as the *avatar* of the Holy Prophet. In accordance with these meanings, I am Jesus the Messiah and also Muhammad Mahdi. “Messiah” is a title that was given to Prophet Jesus and it means: one, who finds God, partakes of His favours, is His *khalifah* and is a person established on the path of truth and righteousness. “Mahdi” is a title given to the Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and it means one who by his very nature is rightly guided, is heir to all guidance, and is an embodiment of the reflection of God’s attribute *Hadi* [Guide]. God’s blessing and mercy have allowed me to inherit both these names in this era, and both these titles have been joined together in my person. In line with these meanings, I am both Jesus the Messiah and Muhammad Mahdi. In Islamic terminology, this type of advent is called a “*buruz*” [re-advent, or spiritual reappearance]. I have been granted two kinds of *buruz*: one is the *buruz* of Jesus (as), and the other is the *buruz* of Muhammad (saw). In short, by way of *buruz*, my being is a blended compound of the personalities of both these Prophets. In the capacity of Jesus (as) the Messiah, I have been assigned the duty of stopping the

Muslims from vicious attacks and bloodshed. It has been clearly mentioned in the *ahadith* of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that the Messiah would end religious wars when he returns to the world. This is what is happening. My followers—who dwell in different parts of British India—now number close to thirty thousand or a little more. Each person who takes the *bai'at* [pledge of allegiance] at my hand and believes in me as the Promised Messiah must accept that *jihad* is totally forbidden in this age because the Messiah has come. In particular, he must be loyal—truly and not hypocritically—to the British Government. This flag of friendship has now been raised and, had they wished, even a hundred thousand *maulavis* would not be able to establish a similar movement to bring an end to violent *jihad*. If God so wills, it is my hope that this blessed and peace-loving *jama'at*, which is erasing the ideas of *jihad* and armed conquest, will increase to many hundreds of thousands within a few years and those who practice violent *jihad* will change their views.....”

In this extract we see that the Promised Messiah is explaining clearly how he has inherited the spiritual qualities of both the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) and that of Hazrat Isa (as). Speaking about his followers he said that at that time in 1900 they numbered around thirty thousands. But in the footnote he said “*The number of people who are especially endowed with knowledge and understanding is about ten thousand. But all types of people, including the unlearned, are at least thirty thousand, and possibly more.*”

Here we see that the Promised Messiah made it quite clear that a distinction should be made between those who were following him: some were endowed with knowledge and most were not. What was true then is even truer today. But the leadership of the Jamaat is never keen to make this distinction. On the contrary what might not be true has been quite exaggerated especially in the number of people who are apparently joining the Jamaat every year.

The Promised Messiah further said:

“In the capacity of Muhammad Mahdi, my mission is to reestablish *Tauhid* in this world with the help of Divine signs. Our Lord and Master Hadrat Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) established the Grandeur, Might, and Power of God in the hearts of the idolaters of Arabia through heavenly signs alone. I also have been given the help of the Holy Spirit. The same Mighty and Holy God Who has descended upon me appeared to all Prophets.

He appeared to Moses at Sinai, to Jesus at Mount Seir, and He shined forth on the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) at Mount Paran. He has communicated with me and said to me:

“I am the Highest Being for the worship of Whom all Prophets were sent. I alone am the Creator and Possessor and there is none like Me. I am not subject to birth or death. I have been informed that prevailing Christian beliefs such as Trinity and Atonement are all human errors in contravention of God’s real teachings.”

In this extract and throughout his writings Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has made it quite clear that one of the main objectives of his coming was to establish *Tauhid* in his followers' heart. Fearing Allah as He should be feared and granting Him the importance that is due to Him in our life is not an easy task. It is the struggle of a life time. However Allah makes the path easy for those who sincerely wish to tread it as He has said in the Holy Quran “ *Wallazina Jaahadou fina lanahdeyannahoum sobolana*” meaning “as for those who strive in our path We guide them in our ways”. Being a member of Jamaat Ahmadiyya means being among that group of people who is sincere in seeking Allah in this very life and who seeks His pleasure in whatever they do. Under no circumstance can a member of Jamaat Ahmadiyya, a true follower of the Promised Messiah (as) ignore any one of the instructions of Allah in obedience to a caliph or a missionary or an amir or a president or even lesser officers of the Jamaat. Whoso knows in his heart of heart that he is deliberately contravening Allah's laws by obeying someone else is not practicing *Tauhid* as expected by the Promised Messiah. And I think such ones will most probably be counted among those who are in Jamaat Ahmadiyya but who are not at all endowed with knowledge as Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has said.

He further says:

“I testify that the belief in *Tauhid* —that is Islam—is a faith in which God's creation does not assume the place of the Creator. Christianity was also from God but, unfortunately, it is no longer established on those teachings. It is also disappointing that the Muslims of this era have deprived themselves of the second part of the Divine Law, which is composed of sympathy, love and the spirit of service. It is shameful that they indulge in such barbaric customs despite believing in *Tauhid*. I have tried repeatedly to liberate them from these habits. Unfortunately, they are present with certain political movements that arouse their violent instincts. The writings of some unenlightened priests also have a poisonous effect on them.....”

In a Muslim's heart no creature can have the importance of the Creator. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has laid a great emphasis on this instruction of Allah.

When he wrote this booklet Hazrat Masih Maood (as) addressed mostly the Muslims of his time and those who entertained a belief of Jihad that was contrary to true Islamic teachings. But what he said then applies also to present day Ahmadis who are deprived of the feelings of love, of sympathy and the spirit of service.

At the end of this booklet Hazrat Masih Maood (as) gave some suggestions about how the government of the time could help to make the people refrain from indulging in violence in the name of religion.

So in view of the importance of what Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (as) had to say about Jihad I thought it appropriate to read some extracts from this booklet so that our members might be well aware of the true teachings of Islam about this matter. I hope each one amongst us will be well aware about our teachings and spread them around. Remember also that we are duty bound to be true followers of *Tauhid* as explained by the Promised Messiah (as). May Allah beautify us with *Tauhid* and may He count us among His most sincere servants.