

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

As you might recall I finished last week's sermon by reading an extract from Hazrat Masih Maood's Malfuzaat where he said that members of his Jamaat should learn to live in peace and love with one another. He also said that those who do not learn this fundamental lesson are like dry twigs that need to be cut off. However we all know because we have experienced it, that Jamaat Ahmadiyya mainstream in Mauritius and elsewhere have shown in practice how they have not been able to raise themselves to exhibit the behavior that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) expected of them. We are all aware how this Jamaat has been systematically violating the teachings of the Promised Messiah (as) and how it has institutionalized hatred as a means to force people to toe the line. Despite professing to be peaceful and to be spreading peace and goodwill amongst the people the Jamaat through its leaders and a majority of members have shown themselves to be hate mongers and to be deliberately ignoring Islamic teachings. Above everything they have shown themselves not to be open minded at all and to refuse to have a dialogue with those who are rejecting their doctrines. Their situation is as described in the verse **“And when it is said to them ‘follow that which Allah has sent down’ they say ‘nay we will follow that wherein we found our fathers. What even if their fathers had no sense at all and followed not the right path’? (2:171)**. This verse makes it clear that each individual has to get the knowledge necessary through study or through prayers to understand anything new that might be presented to him in the light of the Holy Quran's teachings. Allah does not tell us just to blindly follow what our forefathers or fathers have been believing. It is our duty to understand our beliefs. And any difference of belief should not make us enemies with one other. We are supposed to maintain good relationship and since we all recognize Hazrat Masih Maood (as) our behavior towards one another should be an example for others as per that quote which I presented last week. But unfortunately despite hundred years of the presence of Ahmadiyyat in Mauritius that has not been the case at all. But if we correctly understand Hazrat Masih Maood (as) if people have not learned to live amicably with one another and have not understood Tauhid they have not created the Jamaat that he was raised to create.

This year there will be celebrations in Mauritius commemorating the hundred years of the presence of the Jamaat on the Mauritian soil. Definitely one will hear how the Jamaat was established and how it has progressed from having a few cents as chanda to collecting millions of rupees these days. One might also hear about how the members were only around 300 in the early 1920s and they are around 3000 these days. And of course you will hear how materially the Jamaat has progressed from living in huts and

travelling on foot to having big houses and travelling in cars and having the latest TV sets and several other household amenities. Most people are attracted to amenities of this world. What does the Holy Quran tell us about these matters. Let me quote two verses:

“Know that the life of this world is only a sport and a pastime, and an adornment, and *a source of* boasting among yourselves, and *of* rivalry in multiplying riches and children. *This life is* like the rain the vegetation produced whereby rejoices the tillers. Then it dries up and thou seest it turn yellow; then it becomes broken pieces *of straw*. And in the Hereafter there is severe punishment, and *also* forgiveness from Allah, and *His* pleasure. And the life of this world is nothing but *temporary* enjoyment of deceitful things. “[57:21]

Vie with one another in seeking forgiveness from your Lord and for a Garden the value whereof is equal to the value of the heaven and the earth; it has been prepared for those who believe in Allah and His Messenger. That is Allah’s grace; He bestows it upon whomsoever He pleases, and Allah is the Lord of immense grace.” [57:22]

In Allah’s eyes the believer should seek His forgiveness and should seek paradise. But it is true that most people want to be rich and to flash their riches. In fact the day I was writing this sermon in the morning I woke up with this revelation “*Zaleka Fazloulleha You’ti man yashaa’o wallaho zoul fazlil azeem*” which is exactly the last part of the verse that I have just read “That is Allah’s grace; He bestows it upon whomsoever He pleases, and Allah is the Lord of immense grace”. I cannot say how many times this revelation was repeated even after I woke up. Allah has kept us members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen apart from others because He had wished to provide us with His special Grace which was destined for those who understand and truly follow the teachings of the Promised Messiah (as). If our members follow the teachings of the Promised Messiah (as) as he expected his followers to follow them we would definitely be graced by special favours from Allah *incha* Allah as we have been favoured during these past fifteen years.

Now some people say what is it that anyone might have received by joining Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al mouslemeen. Here we cannot and have not promised anyone to receive worldly riches. Here we only say that we have a permission from Allah to guide those who seek guidance. There are very few people who have such a permission from Allah. I personally have declared and I maintain that in clear revelations Allah has told me to take the *bai’at* of those who so wish because Allah has guided me to the right path. Others might say that mainstream Jamaat Ahmadiyya is doing it and in a better way. Mainstream Jamaat Ahmadiyya and many other Muslim organizations are doing the same thing. The question is who has the permission from Allah to do it. By the Grace of Allah

we have received this permission from Allah when the mainstream Jamaat out of arrogance and thinking of its big numbers threw us away and wanted us to come down on our knees to seek forgiveness and be admitted again in the mainstream Jamaat. But Allah knew what was in our heart and we organized ourselves in a new Jamaat following the same objectives as Hazrat Masih Maood (as) but doing away with the caliph and his whole administrative setup. Allah had made it clear to us that our salvation is not attached to a caliph or to a Jamaat but that it is in the hands of Allah. If our relationship is ok with Allah and we deal well with the people all the rest are just details. At the time when we were thrown away in January 2001 the caliph said that if two are going away millions are coming in. Ma shaa Allah. But today where are the millions? Recently I read in Alfazal that most of these people just go away and efforts should be made to make them stay in the Jamaat.

In addition the existence of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen has helped Ahmadis to see how dirty their own hearts are despite professing the teachings of the Promised Messiah for more than eighty five years. It has shown that the majority of Ahmadis are just a number in the Jamaat and like sheep they just follow their leader be he the caliph, the Amir or the missionary in charge. They have not become full functioning adults who can judge for themselves what is good and what is bad. They have given the caliph and his representatives more importance than the words of Allah and his Messenger. The malice that they should have purified themselves of because they are Ahmadis has never left their heart and as soon as the occasion presented itself it showed its full fury through the way they misbehaved towards us. Had most Ahmadis used their brains and judged the instructions of their leaders with the criterion of the Holy Quran they would have known that their leaders' instructions were blatantly violating what Jamaat Ahmadiyya really stands for. Jamaat Ahmadiyya stands for truth, justice, love and sympathy and not for boycott, injustice and hate. Ahmadis who read this sermon should try to vie with one another in seeking forgiveness from Allah from all their sins and particularly for the way they have misbehaved because they have not honored the cause of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) at all. If an Ahmadi fails to understand that it is his duty to try to purify himself of all his sins then why is he an Ahmadi at all? This is what Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has taught us. This is the essence of his teachings. Had the Ahmadis been engaged in this task Allah would have given them the light that they miss and would have prevented them from behaving in ways that are not at all acceptable to Allah or His Prophet or His Messiah. Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen is here to help people to understand that it is important for each one amongst us to be keenly engaged in our own self-purification. If you become accepted in the sight of Allah it does not matter at all even if all the world rejects you. The sooner members of Ahmadiyya mainstream Jamaat understands that they have been mistaken in their behavior towards us the better it would be for them and they should take the necessary corrective actions to be forgiven. If not I am sorry for

them because they will bear a heavy burden in the sight of Allah because they accepted Hazrat Masih Maood (as) but in practice they denied his teachings. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has said that such people would have a double punishment.

Allah out of His Grace has provided me here in Mauritius and abroad also with some very good friends who are convinced of what we say. They know in their heart of heart that Jamaat Ahmadiyya mainstream needs a lot of reforms in both beliefs and actions. These people are here with me and I am grateful to Allah that they are here. But by Allah's Grace I keep thinking about the following extract of the Promised Messiah where he explained his solid conviction in the stand that he had taken. This extract is being repeated. A few years back I read it in the Jummah sermon and hope our members will remember it *incha* Allah. He said:

“Though I am grateful to God Almighty for such good friends, yet it is a part of my faith that even if there remains not a single person with me and all of them go their way leaving me alone, I would still have no fear. I know that God Almighty is with me. Even if I am trampled underfoot and crushed and become less than a particle, and experience persecution and abuse and curses from every direction, still I shall ultimately be victorious. No one knows me, but He who is with me. I cannot be destroyed. Vain are the efforts of my enemies and useless are the designs of the envious ones. O ye foolish and blind ones! Was there ever a righteous one before me who was ruined so that I should be ruined? Was there ever a truly faithful one who was destroyed by God in humiliation, so that He should destroy me? Listen carefully and remember that my soul is not liable to destruction and that my nature is not prone to failure. I have been bestowed such courage and veracity against which mountains are as nothing. I am not afraid of anyone. I was alone and was not unhappy at being alone. Will God then desert me? Never. Will He destroy me? Never. My enemies will be humiliated and those envious of me will be put to shame, and God will bestow victory upon His servant in every field. I am with Him and He is with me. Nothing can break our relationship. I swear by His honour and glory that I hold nothing dearer in this world and in the hereafter, than that the greatness of His religion may be manifested, His glory may shine forth and His Word may be exalted.

By His grace, I am not afraid of any trial, even if I am confronted not with one but with ten million trials. I have been bestowed strength in the field of trials and in the jungle of agonizing persecutions.

من نہ آستم کہ روزے جنگِ بنی پشت من
آں منم کا ندرمیاں خاک و خون بنی سرے¹⁵⁸

Translation:

I am not one whose back you will see on the day of the battle;

I am the one whose head you will espy in the midst of dust and blood.

He who does not wish to follow me is free to leave me. I do not know how many terrible and thorny deserts I may yet have to traverse. Why do those who are tender-footed put themselves to trouble with me?

Those who are mine cannot depart from me, neither on account of misfortune, nor in consequence of the vilification by people, nor through heavenly trials and tribulations. Those who are not mine, vain are their affirmations of friendship, for they will soon be separated from me and their last state will be worse than their first. Shall we be afraid of earthquakes? Shall we become frightened by trials in the cause of God Almighty? Can we be separated by any trial which comes from our Beloved God? Certainly not, but even this can only be through His grace and mercy. Those who wish to leave me are free to do so, we bid them farewell. But they should remember that after thinking ill and cutting asunder if they should at any time again incline towards me, such inclination would not receive such honor from God as is bestowed upon the faithful, for the stain of ill-thinking and treachery is a colossal stain.”

[Anwar-ul-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 9, pp. 23-24]

More incha Allah next week.