

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

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

In his many speeches and sermons the Ahmadiyya caliph gives advice to the Muslims in general on what they should do to stop their youth from being radicalized. In other words he tries to explain what needs to be done to prevent young Muslims wherever they might be from espousing the ideologies of those who want to impose Islam by force in the world. Unfortunately he seems not to be aware how far those who are supposed to represent him in Mauritius are also failing in transmitting his teachings to the new generation of Ahmadis. These days there are Ahmadis who most probably have never read any book of the Promised Messiah who say that harshness should be exercised against some people in society because of their misdeeds according to the Jamaat's point of view. Such people are bringing disrepute to the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah as those people who have misunderstood the concept of Jihad have brought disrepute to the name of Islam during the past century and even nowadays. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has explained quite clearly in his booklet "British Government and Jihad" how Muslims who fought the English and who killed innocent people have misunderstood the concept of Jihad as practiced by the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw). He said that members of his Jamaat should follow his teachings and they should not do as those ignorant Muslims were doing. Advising the members of his Jamaat he said:

“God has sent me as the Promised Messiah and has clothed me with the garment of the Messiah, son of Mary. I therefore admonish you: Refrain from evil and be truly compassionate towards mankind. Cleanse your hearts of malice and spite, for you will become like angels through this habit. It is a filthy and unholy religion that is devoid of sympathy for humanity, and polluted is the path riddled with the thorns of a rancor based on selfish desires.”

Any Ahmadi Muslim who values his oath of allegiance (*bay'at*) should pause and wonder how far he or she has maintained this standard of behavior in his life up till now. How many Ahmadis are really concerned with purifying their soul of all their sins and how many are praying daily to Allah for the effacement of all their sins. Yet we have all been asked to do so and regularly ask Allah for forgiveness. Now we may ask if an Ahmadi Muslim is to embody such values that have been spoken of in the above paragraph, could

an Ahmadi worthy of that name harm anyone with either his words or his hands or even his looks? Bad behavior and an Ahmadi cannot co-exist: either you are an Ahmadi and you do your best to manifest excellent behavior or you manifest ugly behavior and you cannot count yourself as an Ahmadi because your misbehavior brings disrepute to Hazrat Masih Maood (as). Under no circumstance can an Ahmadi nourish hate in his heart. If he does so he will ruin his own soul. Hence khuddam or lajna Jihadists do not have their place in the real Jamaat of the Promised Messiah. They and those they follow are a stain on the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah. Sympathy with others is an essential part of our religion. Those who do not practice it are not obeying the Promised Messiah at all and they are the true rebels in his Jamaat. The Promised Messiah continues:

“O those who are with me, do not become like such people. Think about what it is we seek to attain through religion. Is it to constantly oppress others? No. Religion exists so that we may obtain the life that lies in God. Such a life has not been, and will never be, attained unless Divine attributes come to abide in you. Be compassionate towards all for the sake of God so that you may be shown mercy in the heavens. Come, and I will teach you a way that will cause your light to prevail over all other lights. Abandon all lowly spite and jealousy, be compassionate for mankind, and lose yourselves in God. Being with God, achieve the highest levels of purification. This is the path on which miracles are bestowed, prayers are accepted, and angels descend to one’s aid. But it is not a single day’s work. Advance and continue advancing. Learn from the example of the washer man, who continues to boil clothes in hot water until the heat causes dirt and filth to separate from them. (These days clothes are not washed in this way. Most people have washing machines and they might fail to understand the analogy. But if you watch a washing machine at work you might get some ideas about how dirt is taken from the clothes and make them clean.) Then, rising in the morning, he soaks the load in water, and beats the clothes on stone sills. The dirt that had settled in the clothes is thus slowly removed. This process of heating clothes and beating them continues until they are as clean as they were when new. This is the only strategy for cleansing the human soul. Your entire salvation depends on this cleanliness alone. This is precisely what Allah the Most High has said in the Holy Qur’an: *Qad aflaha man tazakka*. This means: the soul that has been cleansed of diverse types of dirt and filth has attained success.....”

All of us need to understand that success does not mean material success. It means success in meeting one's life objective which is to know Allah and to behave well towards mankind. He continues:

“I have come to you with an order: jihad with the sword has ended from this time forward, but the jihad of purifying your souls must continue. I do not say this of my own accord. This is indeed the will of God. Recall the hadith from *Sahih al-Bukhari* which honours the Promised Messiah by saying *yada-ul-harb*. That is to say, when the Messiah comes he will put an end to religious wars. Accordingly, I command those who have joined my ranks to refrain from all such thoughts, to purify their hearts, to foster sympathy, and to be compassionate towards the suffering.(note well these words of the Promised Messiah and wonder what the members of the mainstream Jamaat have been doing. Under no circumstance it is becoming for an Ahmadi that he should increase the suffering of any human being. When someone is suffering he should do his best to alleviate that suffering and then he will fulfill his mission as an Ahmadi.) They should spread peace on earth, because that will cause their faith to spread in return. They should not entertain doubts about how this will transpire. Just as God Almighty has—without the usual means of intervention—used the resources of the earth to create modern inventions, and satisfied our physical needs by making trains that outrun horses, He will in the same way—unaided by human hands—use His angels to fulfil spiritual needs. Great heavenly signs will be seen and numerous flashes of light will open many eyes. Ultimately, people will recognize that they erred gravely in elevating ordinary people and objects to divine status. Be patient and keep watching, for God guards His *Tauhid* [Unity] with more jealousy than you do. Keep praying lest you be counted among the disobedient.”

This last paragraph is indeed very important because it helps Ahmadis to keep everything in perspective. Allah is unique and no one can replace him. Recently I heard and previously also I heard that some Ahmadis say that khilafat is above their parents. When I hear such words I cannot keep wondering because such people do not understand at all why they are here. Allah says in the Holy Quran that we should remember and love Allah above everything else more than our parents and grandparents. At another place Allah says “render thanks to me and to your parents”. And here we have a bunch of fanatics who tell you that they love the caliph above their parents and in their madness they say and commit all sorts of insanities.

When Hazrat Masih Maood (as) was lamenting that Muslim Youths of his time wished to become survivors of Holy War (*ghazis*) he blamed their Molvis for putting such ideas in their heads. Today within Jamaat Ahmadiyya we know that it is the whole leadership apparatus including the molvis who are responsible for the misbehavior that we have been seeing for the past twelve years or so. It is unfortunate that the world was living in darkness and Allah brought it light through the Promised Messiah. But today those who are at the helm are putting out all the lights. Will Allah allow them to do so in peace

without jolting them and make them question their certainties? Consequently Allah sends His People to remind the Ahmadis particularly of their real teachings and what their behavior should be. It is quite clear from their behavior that Ahmadis do not even care at all despite their profession of obedience about what their caliph says. In January this year there was a gathering in England of Humanity First, the humanitarian organization of the Jamaat. The caliph addressed that assembly and he said among other things:

***“Remember the Promised Messiah (as) taught his followers that one type of Waqf – that is devoting one’s life for the sake of Allah – is to serve God’s Creation and show love towards them. This requires true selflessness and love for others.”***

***“Serving humanity requires that a person does not rest until he has solved the problems of others and takes the weight of their burdens onto his own shoulders. It requires that a person’s heart is consumed by a love for others, whereby he cares not for his own comfort – but rather he cares only for the comfort of others. It requires that a person is ever-ready to personally absorb all forms of distress for the sake of others and to consider the pain and suffering of others as though it is his own pain. It requires that a person is ready to bear personal suffering or anxiety so that others can live in peace and contentment.”***

Although the caliph pronounced those words on a particular occasion, we all know that these are the basic teachings of Islam that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has taught us. If an Ahmadi has some love for him he or she would do his best to act on these teachings and in no circumstance he would allow his personal enmity or his callousness or the love for his caliph to prevent him or her from manifesting the noble behavior described. Should anyone do otherwise it only means that such a person has misunderstood what The Promised Messiah stood for and in his blindness he is here only to increase the number of Ahmadis by one. To be an Ahmadi means that you are ready to undergo all sorts of sacrifices in order to please Allah. It is your duty to strive in His cause and He has made a Promise that “Those who strive to meet us we will guide them to our ways and Verily Allah is with those who do good.”(29:70)

Unfortunately these days taking *bay’at* is just a ceremony in which most Ahmadis participate once a year. But from the teachings of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) we have learned that *bay’at* is not to be taken as a light matter. It is in fact a commitment to lead a life in which Allah predominates, in which we give importance to the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) in which we try to learn the teachings of the Promised Messiah and put them into practice in our daily life. It is only then that we can expect to be rewarded by Allah. Allah has made it quite clear in the Holy Quran when He says “*wa man awfa be ahdehi minallahe fastabsherou be bayekomoullazi baayaatoum behi wa zaaleki howal fawzoul azim*” (9:111). And who is more faithful to His Promise than Allah? Rejoice then in your bargain which you have made with Him and that is the supreme triumph.” Therefore the supreme triumph for every individual is not at all the material benefits that he might have earned or inherited but rather that knowledge which he or she has translated into practice because he had taken a commitment to be a member of the

Jamaat of the Promised Messiah (as). If we fail on this level all our other successes will be of no avail in the sight of Allah and we will not harm anyone but our own selves. May Allah help each one amongst us and each Ahmadi Muslim to be conscious of his responsibilities and duties. Ameen.