

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

At the beginning of this week we entered the seventh month of the Islamic calendar namely the month of Rajab for the year 1436. Whenever this month arrived the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) used to pray in the following words: “*Allahoumma baariklana fil Rajabe wa Shabaan wa blighna ila Ramazan*” “O Allah, make the month of *Rajab* and *Sha’baan* blessed for us and let us reach the month of Ramadan (i.e. prolong our life up to Ramadan so that we may benefit from its merits and blessings).” In the Holy Quran Allah says: “*Inna iddatash shohoure indallahe isna ashara shahra fi kitabilahi yawma khalaqas samawaate wal arza minha arba’atoune horomoune*” meaning “the number of months with Allah is twelve months by Allah’s ordinance since the day when He created the heavens and the earth. Out of these, four are sacred.”(9:36). The month of Rajab is one of the sacred month. Its name is derived from the words “*rajaba*” which means to respect and the Arabs speak of it as Rajab al *Fard* where *Fard* means alone, because this month comes alone, separated from the other three consecutive sacred months which are *Zul Qada* , *Zul Hijjah* and *Muharram* which are the 11th , 12th and 1st month of the Islamic calendar.

During the course of the years many practices have crept into some parts of the Umma during this month but these practices and rituals have no authority in the *Shariah*. For example increasing worship throughout the month of Rajab, celebrating the night journey of the Holy Prophet (SAW) to al-Quds, Jerusalem and from there his ascension to the Heavens on the 26th of the month and performing a sacrificial offering on the 27th of Rajab and then standing in voluntary prayer throughout the night. By the Grace of Allah we Ahmadi Muslims we do not indulge in such rituals because Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has taught us not do so because these are innovations that have been introduced in Islam and we do not have any authentic authority to link such practices to the Holy prophet Mohammad (saw). And since a believer is expected to follow the Holy Prophet (saw) therefore such practices do not have their place at all in Islam.

The event of Miraj (ascension) of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) that is celebrated by many Muslims as a real event in this month was an important dream from Jamaat Ahmadiyya point of view. I am saying it so that our youngsters might be aware of it. It was a very important dream seen by the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) and that was its importance and nothing more nor less. Allah knows best. This should be quite clear in our mind. Last year or the previous year I spoke about this matter. Those who are interested may find it over there and read it.

Now we will continue speaking about *bay'at*. In my previous sermons I have been talking about the first condition of *bay'at* namely that an Ahmadi Muslim should not indulge in associating anyone with Allah at all. Today we will start speaking about the second condition namely that an Ahmadi Muslim should not indulge at all in the following sins namely : “*falsehood, fornication/adultery, trespasses of the eye, debauchery, dissipation, cruelty, dishonesty, mischief and rebellion; and that he/she will not permit himself/ herself to be carried away by passions, however strong they might be.*” These are the main sins from which one should stay away from in everyday life. But those who have an inside knowledge of who the Ahmadi Muslims are can quickly confirm that a majority of Ahmadis have not been able to live up to these ideals. The first condition of *bay'at* namely that we should stay away from Shirk develops in us the capacity to rely only on Allah, to conceive Him as Omnipotent and hence the One who has the Power to do whatever pleases Him. Once we develop a relationship with Him we can rest assured that in the time of need he would come to our rescue whatever the odds and hence there is no need to try to use falsehood to get our way. Unfortunately it is a well-known fact that in the Jamaat's administration in many countries falsehood is quite rampant. In Mauritius we have seen it quite present especially since the 1950s onwards and even now. Recently it is a well-known fact what happened to the previous amir Jamaat for his misdeeds. All the powers of his network of friends here and near the caliph could not spare him his humiliating fate because of falsehood. Had he concentrated only on the second condition of *bay'at* he could have spared himself a lot of embarrassment. But he was most eager to promote himself by all means rather than promoting the values taught by Hazrat Masih Maood (as). Similarly there are the missionaries. One may ask how many of them are really strict in speaking the truth. One may ask if they are really convinced that whatever the caliph says is the truth and that they have to help him. The truth is that we should love truth and uphold it in every circumstance of our life. Does not the Holy Quran tell us “*wa iza qoultoum fa'delou wa law kaana za qurba*”(6:153) meaning “And when you speak observe justice even if the person concerned is a relative”. So an Ahmadi Muslim is expected to shun falsehood and adopt truth in all its manifestations. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has advised us to do our best to learn what Truth is and to stick to it. As I have said many times in the past Jamaat Ahmadiyya International wants all its people to become like sheep not in submission to Allah but in submission to the *Nizam* and to their caliph. It is well known that submissiveness to authority figures is quite rampant in Eastern countries especially India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and even China and in many Arab countries as well. Jamaat Ahmadiyya wants the same thing to happen everywhere in the world through its missionaries. These days one of their missionaries is in Mauritius and he is busy working with his malicious schemes. They are here not to teach good morals to the young and old but rather to safeguard the interests of the center. False means are used to brainwash the young Ahmadis so that they become real slaves of the caliph and his *nizam*. But as far as we

are concerned we are more concerned with the reformation of the people so that Allah might become the center of their existence and no one else. So the Promised Messiah who knew quite well human nature advised all Ahmadi Muslims to stay away from falsehood because it acts as the mother of all vices. It is reported in the hadith that a man had many vices and he asked the Holy Prophet (saw) for an advice to rid himself of them. The Holy Prophet (saw) told him to stop lying and he would reform himself. He thought it was quite easy and he could indulge in all other sins. So when he was about to indulge in another sin like stealing for example he wondered what he would say to the Holy Prophet when he would meet him. He understood that he should not lie and so he abandoned stealing. Similarly with all other vices he came to think of what he would say to the Prophet and eventually he cured himself of all his sins proving the wisdom of the Holy Prophet (saw) in his understanding of human nature.

In a similar vein we have the following hadith: Hadrat Ibn-e-Mas‘ud (ra) has related that the Holy Prophet (saw) said, ‘Truth guides to virtue, and virtue guides to Paradise. A person keeps telling the truth till in the sight of Allah he is named truthful. Lying leads to vice, and vice leads to the Fire; and a person keeps lying till in the sight of Allah he is named a liar.’ (*Sahih Al-Bukhari, Kitabul-Adabi, Babu QaulillaheIttaqullaha wa kunu ma‘as Sadiqin*)

Hadrat ‘Abdullah Bin ‘Amr Bin al-‘As (ra) narrates that, ‘A man came to the Holy Prophet (saw) and said, ‘O Prophet of Allah, what are the deeds that lead to Paradise?’ The Holy Prophet (saw) replied, ‘Speaking the truth. When a servant of Allah speaks the truth, he becomes an obedient servant, and when he becomes an obedient servant, he becomes a true believer, and a true believer finally enters Paradise.’ The man asked again, ‘O Prophet of Allah, what is the action that leads to Hell?’ The Holy Prophet (saw) replied, ‘Falsehood. When someone tells a lie, he becomes disobedient, and disobedience is *kufr* [disbelief], and someone who is established on disbelief finally enters Hell.’ (*Musnadu Ahmad bin Hanbal, vol. 2, p. 176, printed in Beirut*).

From the writings of the Promised Messiah we can read the following:

“Of all the natural conditions of man, one that is an essential part of his nature is truthfulness. Normally, unless a person is moved by some selfish motive, he does not wish to tell a lie. He is naturally averse to falsehood and is reluctant to have recourse to it. That is why he dislikes a person whom he knows to be a liar and looks upon him with disdain. But this natural condition by itself cannot be considered moral. Even children and the insane exhibit this quality. The fact is that so long as a person does not renounce the selfish motives which prevent him from telling the truth, he cannot be considered truthful. If a person tells the truth only when he stands to lose nothing, but tells a lie when his honour,

property or life are threatened, how can he be considered better than children and the insane? Do minors and the insane not speak this kind of truth? There is hardly anyone in the world who would tell a lie without any motive. Therefore, the truth that is forsaken when faced with possible loss can never form part of true morals. The real occasion of telling the truth is when one apprehends loss of life or property or honour.”

The second sin from which the Promised Messiah expected Ahmadi Muslims to stay away from is adultery. In the Holy Quran very severe punishments have been prescribed for adulterers and Allah says that it is a foul path. “And come not near unto adultery; surely, it is a foul thing and an evil way.” Real believers should refrain from committing such sins in all circumstances of life. Remember well that sexual relations in Islam in normal times is allowed only between married couples. No secret paramours nor lovers are allowed. Advising us the Promised Messiah said:

“Do not go near adultery. That is to say, avoid all occasions that create that thought in your mind. Avoid all ways that carry a risk of getting involved in this sin. Whoever commits adultery goes to the limit of the evil. Adultery is a very evil way. It stops you from reaching your true objective and carries major risks in it. He who is unable to get married should try to maintain his chastity in other ways; for instance, he should keep fasts or reduce his food intake, or should do hard physical work.” (*Islami Usul ki Philosophy, Ruhani Khaza'in*, vol. 10, p. 342)

Incha Allah next week we will speak more about the second condition of *bay'at*. In the end I would like to inform you that an Ahmadi from the mainstream Jamaat in Mauritius has sent an anonymous nine page letter of about 6000 words to one of our members. Usually anonymous letters are sent to the waste paper basket. In fact anonymous letter writers within the Jamaat have been numerous and are real cowards who do not have the courage of their opinion, who do not possess the manly or womanly courage of a believer, a real Muslim. Such people are afraid of the people but not of Allah as is the case with most Ahmadis these days. They know that Allah is quite well aware of what they do but they do not want people to know about their deeds. *Incha Allah* I will prepare an appropriate response to this new chicken-hearted champion of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Mauritius and we will show the people who he is because he has acted in their name and how his knowledge of the Holy Quran and the writings of the Promised Messiah are quite limited and superficial. May Allah protect us against those who have deviated from the path that Allah wanted to guide them to, that is the *siratam Moustaqeem*.