

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

These days, and since he became caliph, many times the actual Ahmadiyya caliph has made statements about the possibility for a third world war. Even recently when he went to Holland such statements have been made and wide publicity has been given to his declarations within the Jamaat. I am told that some people within the Jamaat in Mauritius are also keeping stocks of food. However for those who are familiar with Jamaat's history, they are well aware that such statements have been made frequently since 1944 by different caliphs within the Jamaat.

For example in a Friday sermon by the second caliph which he delivered in on 6th October 1944, he spoke about the second world war nearing its end and how the Jamaat should pray so that there might not be a third world war. In that speech he said that if the causes of war were not removed the likelihood of war would always remain present. So he was of the opinion that there should be an emphasis on the removal of the causes of war or else war will continue to happen and at the time that he made that speech the world did not know about the devastation of an atomic war. The second caliph further said that people wrongly think that there is war when they start exchanging bombs on each other. War according to him was the jealousy, the hatred, the enmity that exist between nations and prevent them from living peaceably with one another. At that time the caliph expressed his opinion that the victors should deal justly with the vanquished or else they might be laying the foundation for a third world war in twenty or twenty five years thence. He also said that according to his dreams and what he could read from the Holy Quran and the books of hadiths there is a great likelihood that after the Second World War, the foundation for the third world war would be laid and its devastation would be incalculable.

Then we read the following statements made by the third caliph in 1967:

"I would like to inform Ahmadis all over the world that the next 25 years will be very crucial, for a spiritual revolution shall shake the world to its very foundations. I cannot say which nations will be fortunate enough to accept the message of Ahmadiyyat en bloc or in great force and whether those nations will be African, British or otherwise. But I do tell you that the day is not far off when certain countries or parts there-of will accept Ahmadiyyat and their governments will be run by Ahmadis. The prophecies and visions of the Promised Messiah are quite clear on this point... It is not known through what furnace you will have to pass in order to bring about that electrifying change in the world throughout, but you shall be put on trial in a variety of ways before that day of fulfilment. So, you must be

prepared for that momentous occasion heralding the advent of God's kingdom on earth, in the manner foretold by the Holy Prophet and his accredited representative, the Promised Messiah."

<https://www.alislam.org/library/nasir1.html>

He further said:

"The Promised Messiah also prophesied that a third world war of even bigger dimensions would follow the second. The two opposing Camps will clash with such suddenness that everyone will be caught unaware. Death and destruction will rain from the sky and fierce flames shall engulf the earth. The colossus of modern civilization will tumble to the ground. Both the communist and the opposing blocks will perish in the process. Russia and its satellites on the one hand and the U.S and its allies on the other, shall be destroyed, their might broken, their civilization ruined and their system shattered. The survivors shall stand aghast and amazed at the tragedy... The end of the third world war will be the beginning of the triumph of Islam. People will accept its truth in large numbers and will realise that Islam alone is the true religion and that the emancipation of Man is to be won through the message of Muhammad alone (on whom be peace). But gentlemen, let us not forget that this prophecy, like all prophecies, is a warning and its fulfilment can be delayed or even averted provided man turns to his Lord, repents and mends his ways. He can yet avert divine wrath if he stops worshipping the false deities of wealth, power and prestige, establishes a genuine relationship with his Lord, refrains from all transgression, does his duty to God and man, and learn to work for the true human welfare."

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However when the fourth caliph of Jamaat Ahmadiyya was questioned about the declaration made by the third caliph about the likelihood of a third world war before the end of the last century, he gave an interesting reply. He said among other things:

"What he said was that judging from the signs which he read and judging from the revelations of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) etc. he believed that before the next century begins the global war which will completely change the complexion of the world in favour of Islam will take place and the western nations will be completely obliterated. But this is a wrong translation that has been attributed to him. What he said was that he viewed things to happen like this. He understands that this will happen. I once attended a press conference where one of the prominent journalists who attended the press conference where he said this in London. He objected to this statement by saying that this means the whole world will be destroyed and within that period. I said no this is not what he said. What he said was

what he thought. He interpreted the prophecies of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) and the prophecies before him that the third world war which will be so destructive will take place by the end of this century; within thirty years he had prophesied and that was done in 1967. So thirty years since 1967 have already passed. Its 1997 now. Is it not? But I made it clear many years ago, many years before this point in time when the thirty years expired that he never said it and that it had been attributed to him by the press. What he said was what he thought, he understood from this that this will take place.

Then I have myself spoken on this subject on my own behalf and said that what I understand from the prophecies the end of the century is not the limit for their fulfillment and they cannot be. It is impossible because according to what I understand from the Holy Quran on the nature of Holy War against other religions as long as you are winning converts in sufficient number the people cannot be destroyed. It is impossible. If the Europeans or other people who belong to Christianity or other faiths they respond positively to the call of Islam as they have started doing so now with the efforts of the *da'een illallah* of Jamaat Ahmadiyya. How can God change His Sunna beginning from the time of Hazrat Adam (as) not to bring His Wrath upon a people who are responding and who are converting? Such terrible punishment as are mentioned can only befall such people about whom God has passed the judgment that from now on they are not going to accept. And whatever they will give birth to will be *fasiq* and *fujjara* as it is mentioned in the Holy Quran. That is the moment in time when God decides to wipe them out. Not before that. That is why the Arabs, despite the fact that they left no stone unturned to destroy Islam and Mohammad *Rasoulloullah* (saw) were given this long lease of time. They demanded punishment. They categorically challenged Mohammad (saw) "make stones fall upon us, we demand it". He said I can't do it. It is Allah who decides. Allah knew that the entire Mecca was to become Muslim. The entire Arabia was to become Muslim in the lifetime of Hazrat Mohammad (saw). So that did not happen. No stones were showered on them. So this is what we should look forward to. We should understand the grand plan of things which has been unfolded throughout religious history. And we must quicken our pace of preaching. That is the only formula to save the world from the ultimate holocaust which awaits them if they do not respond to the call of Islam....." (Majlis Irfaan 4th March 1997 on YouTube. Transcript is mine)

Now we may ask what has changed in the world since this declaration was made in 1997 almost eighteen years ago. The Jamaat apparently is doing better propagation work. In the last Jalsa in Uk the caliph announced that about 567,000 people have joined the fold last year only. So people are apparently responding and punishment

should be delayed according to what the fourth caliph said. But we are hearing a different story from the actual caliph.

When we read the writings of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) it becomes quite clear that many of the events or happenings that he spoke about in his prophecies have really happened. As an example we may talk about the rise of Japan and the delicate situation of Korea. At that time, in the beginning of the 20th century there were no Eastern Power on the world stage. England dominated the whole world with its empire and America was not as powerful as it would become after the 2nd World War. China was almost nothing. Russia was quite poor and the Czar was a real tyrant. Yet Hazrat Masih Maood (as) received revelations from Allah which I have rendered as “An Eastern Power and the delicate situation of Korea”. It so happened that after the Russo-Japanese war of 1905 Korea which was in the hands of Russia was given to Japan. So what Allah showed Hazrat Masih Maood (as) did take place. Next about the tsar of Russia he said that at that time of great turmoil he will not be living under the circumstances of a tsar. In fact after the Bolshevik revolution in Russia in 1917, the tsar and his family were imprisoned and after some time executed. Concerning England he said that by the middle of the century its power would fritter away. This is exactly what happened and England had to give independence to almost all its dominions and it became less influential in world affairs. Similarly Hazrat Masih Maood (as) had predicted that there would be war. Kings would rise against kings and rivers of blood would flow. The atrocity of the First World War as described by historians is almost beyond imagination and had never before been seen. The Second World War would rival the first in its atrocity and millions of people died. So here was a person given knowledge of future events by Allah and he spoke about them. He never said there would be a first world war or a second or a third one. He said there would be war. Now his successors have been speaking about a third world war not based upon any knowledge that they have received from Allah. But rather they have interpreted the Promised Messiah’s Prophecies and fortunately up till now that war has not happened and we pray that it never happens and that people understand the purpose of their existence and that they turn to their Lord in humility and repentance.

Each human being has to understand that his or her life has a purpose: he should recognize His or Her Creator and lead his life according to His Pleasure. In order to realize this we need to move away from a life of negligence where we follow frivolous pursuits and engage ourselves in learning how to know our Lord and prepare ourselves for the meeting with Him. If we are good people we need not fear anything but Allah. May Allah enable each human being to lead a meaningful life. Ameen