

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

For today's sermon there are many subject matters that can be touched upon. Unfortunately time does not allow us to do so. As you might all be aware there has been terrorist attacks at different places in Paris last Friday night which has left more than 129 people dead and about three hundred injured. France President had to block their territory forbidding entries and exit until the situation was under control. Since the after effects of these events were broadcast live around the world many have followed them directly on television. While we definitely grieve with the families of the victims for the loss of their dear ones we will say that such events were expected. In fact in France itself there were voices which were raised to say that France was going to be the victim of a severe attack by Isis because of the roles that it tries to play in the world particularly its interventions in Libya and Mali and recently in Iraq and Syria. On 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2015 an interview was published in French Weekly Magazine Paris Match in which an expert clearly said that France did not have the means to foil such an attack. Isis was quite sophisticated and it would not be easy to stop them from committing terrorist attacks on France soil. And according to that expert there will be more. It is quite unfortunate that so many innocent people have died. But innocent people are not killed only on Western soil. The Americans have been killing many innocent people in Pakistan and Afghanistan and they call it collateral damage and they use their propaganda machinery to say that their war is just or even humanitarian. Similarly Israelis continue to kill innocent Palestinians and only this month they have killed 80 with the help of the Americans with impunity. Nonetheless we are not allowed to kill innocent human beings. But everyday thousands are being killed around the world. This is the situation around the world. When will there be real change and if there will be change, only Allah knows. There will be no peace unless the causes of war are eliminated.

Next I would like to say a few words about the centenary of Jamaat Ahmadiyya in Mauritius. We do not think that there is any cause for celebration especially with the attitude that prevails within the Jamaat. I said it before and I am repeating it the Jamaat as a whole and the leaders in particular do not care much about what the Promised Messiah said and they behave contrary to the teachings that he has given us. Let us read what Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has told us about a Jamaat which ages. In his book the Victory of Islam (*Fatah Islam*) he says:

“Islam today is a light hidden in a box. Or, it is a sweet-water spring covered by leaves and twigs and straw. The fair face of Islam cannot be

seen. Its beauty cannot be viewed. It is the duty of Muslims to do their utmost to show the world how lovely Islam is. They could have sacrificed their properties and their lives to this end. They have not done so. But they suffer from ignorance, rank ignorance. They ask, are not the old books enough? They know nothing about new dangers, with their ever-new challenges, which cannot be met except by new methods. Prophets and Messengers have come time after time. In the time of each, were there not old books already in use? So, take it for certain that when there is darkness in the world, heaven must send its light from above. In this very booklet I have mentioned the Quran, Chapter al-Qadr (Chapter 97). In this chapter God Almighty gives glad tidings to believers that His Revelation, His Prophet, have been sent during a night - a night of Power. Every reformer, every restorer of faith, who comes from God descends as it were from above during such a night of power. Do you know what a night of power is? Night of Power is a time when terrible darkness envelopes the world. That time - so dark it is - demands light, light to dispel darkness. It is a metaphorical expression. It is a dark time, called a dark night. It is not a night literally so. It is a time, which because of its darkness is described as a night. It begins to settle down 1,000 months after a prophet or his spiritual successor has come and gone. One thousand months is equal to an individual life span. At the end of this period human senses also come to an end. When so much time has elapsed, heaven sows the seed for the birth of one or more reformers to appear at the head of the new century. We have a further hint in the words of God "The night of power is better than one thousand months" (Holy Quran 97:4). Which means that those who are able to see the heavenly light descend during the night of power are better than the 80 year old who were not present at the time of the descent of this light. One moment of light received during this night is better than a thousand months before the night. And why? Because during this night angels of God and the Holy Spirit descend with the permission of the God of Majesty along with the reformer of the time. Not for anything, but in order that they may move willing hearts and shows them the many paths to spiritual security. They - the angels and the Holy Spirit - open the new paths and draw the curtains. Then the darkness of indifference and ignorance disappears. And instead appears the dawn of spiritual life and light."(Page 20)

So here he has clearly pointed out that no material means can make a Jamaat realize its potential. On the contrary as people move away from the time of the initiator of the Jamaat their senses become dull and they forget what they understood. They

become like old men. They need to be rejuvenated to stay alive and that rejuvenation comes from heaven and not from what men can contrive. The caliphs of Jamaat Ahmadiyya have taken upon themselves this role of “*tajdid e din*” but we know quite well that they are only administrators of the Jamaat. They are the maintainers of the status quo and despite the fact that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has told us at many places in his writings that the Jamaat would be kept evergreen only when it receives light from heaven, the caliphs tell the people that no one would be coming from Allah in the presence of the system of Khilafat. This is one of the biggest lie that has been perpetrated within the Jamaat and which most Ahmadis repeat parrot like in order to justify the system of Khilafat. In his time the Muslims also were doing some work for Islam. Speaking about these works he said:

“To publish translations of the Holy Quran as a profitable business or as a custom, to prepare and circulate Urdu or Persian translations of religious books and books of Hadith, to teach new and lifeless exercises which has become the custom of our time - these are not matters which can be described as *Tajdid-Din* or Restoration of Religion. Of these, the last one amounts to promoting Satanic institutions, subversive of true religion. To publish and circulate the Holy Quran and authentic Ahadith is undoubtedly laudable. This may be done with the utmost care and attention, with a keen eye on all the formal requirements; many yet fail to measure as true service. **True service springs from a state of the heart: which accepts the influence of the Quran and Hadith. Without it service of the Quran and Hadith remains lifeless**, without meaning. Such lifeless service only needs some learning, and such service we have known always. It has no bearing on true *Tajdid*. In the eyes of God it is trading in dead dry bones, nothing more. Says God: "Why do you say what you do not? Most hateful is it in the sight of Allah that you say what you do not" (Holy Quran 61:3), and, "O ye who believe, take care of your own selves. He who goes astray cannot harm you when you yourselves are rightly guided" (Holy Quran 5:106).

He who is blind himself cannot show the way to the blind and he who is a leper cannot take away the disease from other people's bodies. *Tajdid* (passion for true reform) springs from a holy state which first descends on the heart of someone blessed with the gift of divine revelation. From him it passes on to others. Those who receive this reforming zeal from God do not trade in dead bones.”(ibid)

The teachings of the promised Messiah should have brought a spiritual transformation in all Ahmadis around the world. Everywhere we see that the Jamaat are being taught that khilafat is the greatest institution. Although very often the spiritual transformation is talked about but we see that not many are interested in it. From my point of view Ahmadis are not taught really what the real purpose of their life is. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) says:

“O people! Know that you have been created so that you should know your Creator, your God whom you should worship, know, love, and obey. You must, in word and deed, show that you are aware of this, the ultimate and final purpose of your creation. Until you do so, you remain remote, very remote, from true salvation. If you turn your minds inward and look justly, you can be your own witnesses. Is it not true that it is not God but this world that you worship? A huge idol, made of this world, is before your mind's eye, always, every moment of your lives. And this idol you worship. One thousand prostrations or more you make every second. All your precious time is given over to the affairs of this world. Hardly any time for anything else. Does it ever occur to you what the end of all this is? Are you just? Are you straight and truthful, God fearing? Honest? Humble? The way the Quran wants you to be? Year after year you never think of your God, of what you owe to Him. It is but true you have little concern with Him, the Ultimate Sustainer of all Existence. How often do you think of Him? Or mention Him?”

These are words that have to be meditated upon if one wants to make one's life successful and not make one's membership to the Jamaat of the Promised Messiah vain. By Allah's Grace we, members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen are fully convinced that Allah has put us on the straight path. Each individual who has recognized this truth should now do his or her best to progress in this path until his or her death. When Allah has attracted us towards him we do not need any institution or individual any more. This is Allah's Grace and He has showered it upon us when the fourth caliph mercilessly cut our relationship with him. Allah put His Balm on our bruised heart and elevated us and showed us His ways making true His Promise “ *Wallazina Jaahadou fina lanahdiyyannahoum sobolona*” meaning “those who strive in our path we guide them to our ways”. I do not know how many times Allah has revealed these verses to me.

In his sermon of last week the caliph mentioned that there was Jalsa Salana in Mauritius and he also said there are some trouble makers over there and prayed that Allah protects the Jamaat from these trouble makers. Since he did not mention who exactly were these trouble makers I presume he was speaking about the leaders of the mainstream Jamaat including the amir, Missionary in charge and members of the Majlis Amla. To the best of our knowledge these are the people who have institutionalized hate in the Jamaat, who makes it a virtue to break the ties of blood amongst many families, who have forcibly prevented a mother from attending the marriage of her daughter in Dares salaam and are busy perpetrating several unislamic practices. What is worse is that like the mullahs of Pakistan they are doing all this in the name of Islam and khilafat. May Allah indeed protect the Jamaat of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) from such trouble makers ( *Fasaadis*).