

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

## Summary:

### **Anniversary of Mauritian Independence. Some Statistics of Roman Catholic Church about what they do in the world. The Promised Messiah's opinion about them.**

Tomorrow Mauritius will be celebrating the 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its independence from Great Britain and its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being a republic. Although as Ahmadi- Muslims we are not very conspicuous in politics yet by Allah's Grace we have a deep sense of belonging to our country even if it is quite young as an independent state. The Holy Prophet (saw) has taught us that "*Houbboul watane minal Imaan*" meaning "the love of the country is part of faith." So being proud of one's country and doing everything in one's power to defend it against internal and external aggressors is, so to say, a religious duty as well as a patriotic one.

When we were growing up we did not know much about our country's history. With their cultural imperialism the English who were the colonial masters here and in many other places in the world were keener to teach us their history of their kings and queens of England and their exploits. It is only after independence in 1968 that our past was uncovered and several books appeared about the history of Mauritius and we came to know more about how our ancestors were brought here especially from India and from other parts of the world and how they helped shape the country's history. It is not my intention to cite those books here and every student of history should try to know our history well so that you might understand more how past events still influence today's events. An important recent document is the 4 volumes report of the Truth and Justice Commission of 2009. One can learn a lot about our history by glancing through this report.

Despite the fact that much has been achieved since independence and that we have a better lot than our parents and grandparents and forefathers, there is still much to do to help Mauritians to forge a true national identity and to be proud of it. Unfortunately, very few youngsters are even today quite well

aware of our true history. They only have vague notions of who we are as a nation and they do not know much about events leading to Independence and its aftermath. Our youngsters should show a greater and keener interest and they should educate themselves in our past history as best as they can so that they might know well the narratives of politicians when they try to fool people by exploiting their ignorance. Of course change will not come overnight but those who know should do their best in helping all Mauritians to understand our common destiny and to overcome our prejudices and to live in real peace and justice and love for ever. May Allah continue to cast the shadow of His Mercy on this country and may we all prosper under His Benign Grace. Above everything may He grant us such leaders who would sacrifice their own interests for the sake of the country and may He grant wisdom to the inhabitants to help them to find and elect such leaders.

The next point on which I want to say a few words is the overall report about the Roman catholic church for the year 2014 which has been published this week. As you might know the Roman Catholic Church is the greatest denomination of Christians in the world and it is led by the Pope as the vicar of Christ. Experts in Management are eager to remind students that the RCC is the oldest institution in the world and it is almost 2000 years old. They have a system of administration that might seem archaic to modern societies but nonetheless they have stood the test of time and they are still here and thriving. I will give you some figures in order to help you to understand how strong and how organized they are in trying to forward their mission. My only aim in speaking about this report is to show that in this world one can have erroneous beliefs and yet one can run a big organization unparalleled in the world. We all know that one of the fundamental belief of Christianity is that most Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God and hence they have taken him to be on par with God. The Holy Quran speaks against this belief in many places. One example is in the first Ruku of chapter *Al Kahf* (18). Allah says:

“And that it (the Quran) may warn those who say, ' Allah has taken unto Himself a son. No knowledge have they thereof, nor had their fathers. Grievous is the word that comes from their mouths. They speak naught but a lie.”

Allah says that their fundamental belief is a lie. Yet we see that throughout history there have been many people around the world who have devoted their life to the cause of Christianity. They have many missions throughout the world, they have thousands of priests and nuns who continue to flock to their cause. They are still winning converts despite all the problems that the church has had to face because of some perverted priests. They are still involved in the education of the people through kindergartens, primary and secondary schools and even many universities in many advanced countries. Yet despite all these good deeds for the cause of Christ, the Holy Quran says that they hold wrong beliefs. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) was sent by Allah to show their wrong beliefs and to a large extent he even succeeded. One of his objectives was “to break the cross”. Some people think that literally he would break all the crosses that are in the world. But as he has explained in many places in his writings what was meant was to show the hollowness of the teachings of those who declared themselves Christians. He proved beyond any doubt that what Christians believed about Jesus was fundamentally wrong. He left no stone unturned in inviting all Christians to understand and accept the Truth as presented by Islam. So doing charitable deeds is not a guarantee that Allah is pleased with your beliefs. Beliefs have to conform to what Allah has said in the Holy Quran. Unfortunately these days Jamaat Ahmadiyya mainstream is quite eager to advertise its good deeds without any desire to question its beliefs.

Allow me to share with you some figures which they have published. To begin with let us talk about their numbers. In fact, there are approximately 2.419 billion Christians in the world according to a published report in 2015 and they represent 34.4 % of the world population. Out of these there are approximately 1.239 billion Roman Catholics and they are the mainstream Christians represented by the pope. These Catholics represented 17,3% of the world population in 2005 and now they are at about 17,8%. In Africa they represent 23% of the population and they have achieved considerable growth during recent years. In the Americas, that is the whole continent they represent 9.6% of the population. In Asia they represent about 9.6% of the population. In Europe they have dwindled to only about 2%. At least this is what is written in the report. In Oceania which comprises some countries situated about Australia and New Zealand they represent 18,2%. This shows how numerous they are around the world and all these places are under the

leadership of Rome. From 2005 to 2014 they have increased their number of priests by 9,381 making a total of 415,792, almost a third of the population of Mauritius. The greatest increase has been noted in Africa and Asia. Their number of students for priesthood were 114,439 in 2005 and they were 116,939 in 2014. Their intake has been more or less constant. The only place where there has been a 3% increase was in Africa. In Europe the decrease in candidates for priesthood has been 17.5% and in the Americas it has gone down by 7.9%. As can be seen this is a huge organization and it employs lots of resources and it still has a considerable influence in the world. It is against these peoples and their likes that the Promised Messiah has made the following declaration:

“The Christian doctrine is also preparing many schemes to demolish truth and faithfulness. To wipe out Islam, the Christians are diligently inventing and having recourse to all kinds of falsehood and make belief, and are devising ever new schemes for pushing people into error and misguidance. They grievously defame that Perfect Mansa who was the Pride of all holy ones, the Crown of all those who are close to God, and the Chief of all the great Messengers. So much so, that the audience in theatres is regaled with parodies of Islam and its Holy Prophet(saw). Such utterly false aspersions are cast on Islam and its Holy Founder (saw) through these theatres as are meant to insult and defame them.

O Muslims, listen carefully. In order to obstruct the holy effects of Islam, the Christians have pressed into service every kind of complicated imposture and cunning device, and by spending money like water, they are making every effort to give currency to these aspersions, the details of which had better not be described in this article. Such is the magic and sorcery of the Christian people and the supporters of the Trinity, that unless God Almighty displays His Powerfull hand which possesses the miraculous power to demolish their magic, there can be no hope whatsoever for simple hearts to find deliverance from this European sorcery.

Therefore, in order to frustrate this magic, God Almighty granted to the true Muslims of this age the miracle that He honored this servant of His with His revelation and special blessings. Having equipped me fully with minute knowledge of His ways, He sent me against the opponents with numerous heavenly gifts, divine wonders, and spiritual verities, so that with this

Heavenly stone, the waxen idol prepared by the magic of the Christians might be broken. Thus, O ye Muslims, the appearance of this humble one is a miracle on the part of God Almighty for dispelling the darkness of these magicians. Was it not necessary that the world be shown a miracle in opposition to their magic? Does it appear strange and improbable in your eyes that in response to these cunning devices, which had bordered on magic, God Almighty should display a flash of truth which should have the effect of a miracle? [Fatah-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 3, pp. 3-6]

We see in the words of the Promised Messiah how he has decried what the Christians believe yet these same Christians are quite busy in the world in trying to do what we may call charitable deeds. He wants us to understand that he does so out of sympathy for mankind. He further says:

“What has roused my sympathy is that I have discovered a gold mine and have been informed of a deposit of precious stones. In this mine I have been fortunate enough to find a shining and priceless diamond. Its value is so great that if I were to divide its price among the whole of mankind, each of them would become wealthier than the person who owns the largest amount of gold and silver in the world. What is that diamond? It is the True God, and to acquire Him means to recognize Him, to believe in Him truly, to establish the relationship of true love with Him, and to receive true blessings from Him. Having found such great wealth, it would be a great wrong that I should deprive mankind of it and that they should die of hunger while I live in luxury. This I will not do. My heart burns at the contemplation of their poverty and hunger. My soul is in travail at the perception of their darkness and privation. I desire that their houses should be filled with heavenly wealth and that they should acquire so many jewels of truth and certainty that they should be filled to their capacity.” (Arbaeen 1)

Hence we see that a doctrine that is worth nothing good, in the eyes of the Promised Messiah, does not prevent its representative to make “progress”. So it is these days with Jamaat Ahmadiyya Mainstream. It may be doing some good deeds but it does not hold the same correct beliefs of the Promised Messiah.

May Allah help each one amongst us to follow the teachings of the Promised Messiah and may He grant us help and opportunity to fulfill his mission *incha* Allah.