

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

By Allah's Grace, He showered upon us His mercy when in June 1998 I was told that I had been replaced as the Amir Jamaat Ahmadiyya of Mauritius even though I was the person who received an almost unanimous vote in the election. He says in the Holy Quran "but it may be that you dislike a thing while it is good for you, and it may be that you like a thing while it is bad for you. Allah knows *all things*, and you know not." (2:217)

As you are all aware, I was told about my replacement in the most inelegant and unislamic fashion. But as someone who was trying to be a good Ahmadi Muslim, I accepted this decision without any fuss and I even phoned my brothers from Washington where I was attending the Jalsa Salana in the USA and told them to give full support to the newly appointed Amir.

One day, while I was thinking about the ways events had turned out, I felt anguish in my heart. Immediately, I fell into a light sleep and Allah revealed to me "*Tabarakallazi beyadehil mulk wa howa ala koulle shay'ine qadir*" which means "Blessed is He in whose hand is sovereignty and He has power over all things." This revelation startled me and I woke up and all the anguish in my heart had vanished. There and then I knew that being an Amir was not the be-all and end-all of existence and that Allah would honour me in other ways because He has power over all things.

Eventually, as you are all aware, will come my exclusion from the nizam Jamaat which was announced with great fanfare on Friday 5th January, 2001. It was a really sad day for me. However, my mind was made up that under no circumstances will I give in and beg for my acceptance in mainstream Jamaat

Ahmadiyya. The fourth caliph discarded us as a used pair of shoes and said that if two went away millions were joining the Jamaat every year. So, he felt he was on sure grounds and that he had nothing to fear. But those who know the history of the Jamaat know quite well that since then, we have no longer heard of any million at all and these figures had to be downgraded. At the time, we said that these were not true figures and later we were proved right and the statistics of the new *bai'at* had to be removed from the Jamaat's website.

When we were removed from the mainstream jamaat, I received calls from some close relatives who asked me to present my excuses and to re-enter the jamaat and I told them categorically that I would not present any excuses. Thus has been the situation for the past 16 years. When you are fully convinced that Allah has put you on solid ground, you do not fear any man or any group of men. Some will comment on this declaration of mine as impudent and arrogant. But it would be ungratefulness on my part to ignore what Allah has been telling me and cave in to the demands of mere mortals like me. We are of the people groomed as described in the verse:

الَّذِينَ قَالَ لَهُمُ النَّاسُ إِنَّ النَّاسَ قَدِ
جَمَعُوا لَكُمْ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ فَرَأَاهُمْ
إِيمَانًا ۗ وَقَالُوا حَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ ﴿١٧٤﴾

The translation is:

“Those to whom men said, ‘People have mustered against you, therefore fear them,’ but this *only* increased their faith, and they said, ‘Sufficient for us is Allah, and an excellent Guardian is He.’ [3:174]

Mainstream Jamaat Ahmadiyya in Mauritius carried a systematic campaign to vilify, boycott and silence us. But this did not happen. Allah is here and He constantly cares for us and He keeps reinforcing His Presence by words like “*al haqqo mirrabbeka fala takoum menal moumtareen*” meaning “it is the truth from thy Lord and be not of those who doubt.” Hence, we do not have any doubts about the stand we have taken and we will not budge an inch from it. It was mainstream jamaat that removed us from the Jamaat through their intrigue, their arrogance and their bigoted views. We are not wrong. It is they who have committed wrong against people who say Allah is their Lord as explained by the following verse:

وَهُمْ عَلَىٰ مَا يَفْعَلُونَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ
شُهُودٌ ۝٨

وَمَا نَقْمُوا مِنْهُمْ إِلَّا أَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ
الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ ۝٩

The translation is as follows:

“And they witnessed what they did to the believers. And they hated them not but because they believed in Allah, the Almighty, the Praiseworthy. (86:8-9)

Members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Mainstream have harmed their own brothers and sisters through their ignorance of the teachings of the Promised Messiah (AS). It is they who must make amends and apologize for all their misdeeds and evil thoughts that Shaitan has given birth to in their hearts. They have been guilty of professing what they do not do despite clear-cut teachings of the Holy Quran to the contrary. Do they not know that Allah has said “*Ya*

ayyohallazina aamanou lema taqoulouna maa laa taf'aloune kabora maqtan indallahe an taqoulou maa laa taf'aloune" O ye who believe! why do you say what you do not do? Most hateful is it in the sight of Allah that you say what you do not do." (61:3-4)

Mainstream Jamaat Ahmadiyya apparently promotes peace and love and no hatred whilst in fact they are totally incapable to suffer someone who dissent with them. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) expected us to make our actions and our deeds tally with one another. Unfortunately, that is not the case and has not been the case for a long time.

Attempts are being made for members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya Al Mouslemeen to go back to the mainstream jamaat. Most, if not all, our members are not at all open to such initiatives. Under no circumstances have we ever told any of our members to sever their ties of kinship with anyone because we know too well that this is contrary to Islamic teachings. But we understand this has been common practice on the part of the mainstream Jamaat. Even now when some right-thinking people are trying to lift the social boycott that has been going on for the past 16 years, the reactionary forces of evil that are at work within the jamaat are doing whatever they can for this not to happen. It is the unfortunate plight of Islam that almost everywhere it has people with limited understanding of its teachings that are at the helm. The Promised Messiah came to reverse this trend but unfortunately we see that the Jamaat itself is plagued with such a disease. The problem is that those who are at the head are not aware of the teachings of the Promised Messiah. Let me give a simple example. In Mauritius the ahmadis, and even the caliph in the beginning, say that Khilafat lasted only 30 years after the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw). Recently in one of his Khutbah Jummah (FS 20170526), the caliph said that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has said that khilafat did not last

for thirty years. But in one of the speeches of the Jalsa Salana in Mauritius, it was again repeated that Khilafat lasted only thirty years and that it has been restored after 1400 years and bestowed on Jamaat Ahmadiyya. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) has said in *Shahadatoul Quran* that only those who are foolish entertain such thoughts. By the way, this speech of the caliph has not been read in Mauritius in toto. Only a summary of it was given on Friday 2nd June. We have been quoting Hazrat Masih Maood (as) since 2001.

To prevent such wrong ideas from taking root (i.e. khilafat lasted only thirty years), Allah has already made arrangements for keeping the pristine purity of Islamic teachings by raising people as Imam or as Mujaddid. However individual responsibility will always be at work. Allah does what He has to do. Man is free to do as he likes. If he understands truly he will make the right decision. If not, he will make the wrong one. We pray that Allah grant us more blessings in the decision that He has imposed upon us.

To those who think that they can destabilize us, I want them to know that I will follow the example of the Promised Messiah (as) he has spelled it out in the following extract:

“Though I am grateful to God Almighty for such good friends, yet it is a part of my faith that even if there remains not a single person with me and all of them go their way leaving me alone, I would still have no fear. I know that God Almighty is with me. Even if I am trampled underfoot and crushed and become less than a particle, and experience persecution and abuse and curses from every direction, still I shall ultimately be victorious. No one knows me, but **He** who is with me. I cannot be destroyed. Vain are the efforts of my enemies and useless are the designs of the envious ones. O ye foolish and blind ones! Was there ever a righteous one before me who was ruined so that

I should be ruined? Was there ever a truly faithful one who was destroyed by God in humiliation, so that He should destroy me? Listen carefully and remember that my soul is not liable to destruction and that my nature is not prone to failure. I have been bestowed such courage and veracity against which mountains are as nothing. I am not afraid of anyone. I was alone and was not unhappy at being alone. Will God then desert me? Never. Will He destroy me? Never. My enemies will be humiliated and those envious of me will be put to shame, and God will bestow victory upon His servant in every field. I am with Him and He is with me. Nothing can break our relationship. I swear by His honour and glory that I hold nothing dearer in this world and in the hereafter, than that the greatness of His religion may be manifested, His glory may shine forth and His Word may be exalted. By His grace, I am not afraid of any trial, even if I am confronted not with one but with ten million trials. I have been bestowed strength in the field of trials and in the jungle of agonizing persecutions. Translation: I am not one whose back you will see on the day of the battle; I am the one whose head you will espy in the midst of dust and blood. He who does not wish to follow me is free to leave me. I do not know how many terrible and thorny deserts I may yet have to traverse. Why do those who are tenderfoot put themselves to trouble with me? Those who are mine cannot depart from me, neither on account of misfortune, nor in consequence of the vilification by people, nor through heavenly trials and tribulations. Those who are not mine, vain are their affirmations of friendship, for they will soon be separated from me and their last state will be worse than their first. Shall we be afraid of earthquakes? Shall we become frightened by trials in the cause of God Almighty? Can we be separated by any trial which comes from our Beloved God? Certainly not, but even this can only be through His grace and mercy. Those who wish to leave me are

free to do so, we bid them farewell. But they should remember that after thinking ill and cutting asunder if they should at any time again incline towards me, such inclination would not receive such honor from God as is bestowed upon the faithful, for the stain of ill-thinking and treachery is a colossal stain.” [Anwar-ul-Islam, Ruhani Khaza’in, vol. 9, pp. 23-24]

May Allah help each one amongst us to be so determined. He is the one who grants success. May our head be ever inclined at His door exclusively. Ameen.