

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

Today I will continue reading to our friends extracts from the newly translated Volume I of the Malfuzaaat of Hazrat Masih Maood (as). I hope you will all have time to reflect on what he is reported to have said and try to follow his instructions in all aspects of your life. The Promised Messiah said:

“If our entire lives are spent in worldly engagements, what will we have accumulated for the hereafter? Make a special effort to wake up for *Tahajjud* and offer it with fervour and joy. At times, the Prayers to be offered during the day pose a challenge to those who are in employment, but Allah the Exalted is the Provider. The obligatory Prayers ought to be offered at their prescribed times. On occasion, it is permissible to combine the *Zuhr* and *Asr* prayers. Allah Almighty made provision for this, for He knew that some would be weaker than others. However, this permission does not allow for three Prayers to be combined.”

Now if someone is weak or old, he can wake up and sit on his bed and ask for forgiveness (*astraghfaar*) or recite “*Subhanallahe wabehamdehi subhaanallahil Azim allahumma swalle ala Muhammadin wa aale Muhammad*” as Hazrat Masih Maood (as) used to do when he could not read *Tahajjud* due to illness or tiredness. Besides one may pray two or four or six or eight *rakaats* depending on the time available. You all might recall that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) is reported to have said “*Kalimataane habibataane ilal Ramaane khafifataane alal lisaane saqilata fil mizaane Subhanallahe wabehamdehi subhaanallahil Azim*”. The translation of this is as follows:

“Two words are beloved to the Most Merciful. They are light on the tongue but heavy on the scale: Glory and praise to Allah, and glory to Allah the Almighty.” (*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī* 7124, *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim* 2694) The additional words “*Alla allahumma swalle ala Muhammadin wa aale Muhammad*” were revealed to the Promised Messiah. Those who are young should try to wake up and pray and those who are old and cannot stand up praying may recite these words while staying in bed.

Explaining why we should face trials the Promised Messiah said:

“When disciplinary action is meted out to people in employment and in other matters they are reprimanded by rulers—how wonderful would it be if they were to bear hardship for the sake of Allah the Exalted.

Those who shoulder pain and difficulty so that righteousness may prevail find favour amongst people as well. This is the way of the Prophets and the Truthful. Allah the Exalted never remains in debt of an individual who sustains material loss for His sake, and always grants a full reward.”

He continues:

“It is incumbent that man not adopt the way of hypocrisy. For example, if a Hindu (despite being a ruler or high official) were to suggest that Ram and Rahim are one and the same, a person should not agree with such an opinion thoughtlessly. Allah the Exalted does not forbid one from treating others with civility. One should always respond politely. It is not wise to make comments that unnecessarily enrage others and which result in pointless conflict. But, a person should never conceal the truth. An individual who pliantly accepts the false statements of others eventually becomes a disbeliever.

Yaar Ghalib Shou ta ke Ghalib shawi

*Become the friend of he who is dominant,
so that you too may become dominant.*

Allah the Exalted should always be honoured and respected. There is not a single aspect of our religion that is at odds with civility.”

Here I would like to say that it is incumbent, especially among our younger ones, that we should be proud of our own beliefs and not say that we are like other Muslims. There are some slight differences in our beliefs compared to them. We believe that Hazrat Masih Maood (as) is the Promised Messiah. We believe that Hazrat Isa (as) has not been bodily raised to heaven and that he will not come back to earth as most Muslims believe. We believe the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) is the seal of Prophets (*Khataman nabiyyeen*). Anyone who is raised has to bear his seal of approval meaning that he has to be one of his followers. Hazrat Isa (as) was sent as a prophet to the Jews and he died and was raised to Allah as all prophets before him. We should learn the arguments to prove all these statements and fearlessly present them to others with complete reliance on Allah.

We continue with the Promised Messiah’s Malfuzaaat. He says:

“Alas for Islam! Islam has always been wronged. When two brothers are in dispute, the elder brother, on account of his age and rank, oppresses the younger one for no reason whatsoever, because the former believes he commands a greater right due to his having been born first. However, both are entitled to equal rights. A similar form of injustice is being committed against Islam, which came after all the past religions. The errors committed by these religions were corrected by Islam and since they consider themselves greater, they have become displeased with Islam just as it is customary for an ignorant person to grow hostile towards the one who means him well. A large family, ancient ancestry and wealth often make a person arrogant. The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, belonged to an impoverished, small and newly formed group of people. So, in the beginning, people of other faiths did not accept him. People always act unjustly towards the truth.”

Speaking about how Islam benefits other religions, the Promised Messiah said:

“Islam is such a pure religion that it does not permit the use of abusive language against any religious founder. The followers of other religions let out a stream of invective at the drop of a hat. Just look at how the Christians use foul language against the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. If he had been alive today, even in view of his worldly status, they would not have had the courage to say a word against him. In fact, they would have treated the Holy Prophet (saw) with a thousand times more reverence. Such people would not dare curse or insult the Amir of Kabul or the Sultan of Turkey, who are humble followers of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. But when the name of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, is mentioned, they revile him with a thousand obscenities. Islam is a benefactor for other religions because it vindicated every Prophet and divine scripture of the past. But despite this, Islam is abused. The essence of Islam is “*laa Ilaha Illallah*o ” (*There is none worthy of worship except Allah*) is to be found in no other religion.”

Explaining why at times he spoke harshly to his opponents, he said:

“I have only ever sternly addressed my opponents in order to purge them of arrogance. This is not an act of retaliation for harsh words; rather, it is a bitter pill meant to cure them—as the proverb has it: “*Al haqqo mourroune*” (The truth is bitter). However, it is not justified that anyone should feel at liberty to pen such harsh words. The community ought to exercise caution. Each and every individual ought to first delve into their heart and see whether they write

such words with pure intention or merely out of obstinacy and enmity. The Promised Messiah has said: One should not harbour malevolence against one's adversaries. Instead, a person ought to pray for such people more than anything else and use other means to reform them."

We should follow the example of the Promised Messiah (as) and we should not be too harsh on our opponents.

Here are some of his statements dating back to 1896:

"I never call myself a '*maulvi*', nor do I approve of anyone ever referring to me as such. In fact, when someone calls me a *maulvi*, I am so grieved that I feel as if they have abused me."

"People shall give you grief and inflict upon you all sorts of pain, but the people of my community must not be excited. Do not say hurtful words in the heat of emotion, for Allah the Exalted does not like such people. Allah Almighty desires to make my community a model for others."

"My mission is heavenly in nature and divine work cannot be frustrated. In this undertaking I have no vested interests and my own efforts amount to nothing."

"Abusive language does not stoke my anger. The affluent tend to be arrogant, but the scholars of this age are worse than them. Their conceit stands before them like a wall that obstructs their way. I desire to demolish this wall. When this wall crumbles, they shall come and join us with humility."

"Allah the Exalted loves a righteous person. Everyone ought to keep in mind the majesty of God and remain fearful and remember that all people are the servants of God. Do not oppress or act harshly towards anyone. Do not deride another person. If even a single member of our community is evil, they defame us all. If your disposition veers towards emotions of anger, examine your heart to identify the source from which these emotions have gushed forth. This is a very delicate state."

In these extracts, the Promised Messiah (as) advised each one amongst us to learn to discipline our own selves and be careful about what we say to others. We all know that words spoken in anger can cause a lot of irreparable harm. So, we should learn to control our anger. To do this, we have to make a conscious effort over the years and Allah willing we might succeed in this endeavour. Once, after seeing two people angry at one another, the Holy Messenger (peace be upon him) said,: "I know a word which, if he were to say

it, what he feels would go away; he needs to say ‘*Aouzo billahe minash shaytaanir rajim*’ (I seek refuge with Allah from the shaytaan, the cursed one) and all his anger would go away.” (Sahih Bukhari: Volume 6, 337). Should any one be angry he or she should try this prescription of the Holy Prophet (saw) and be a witness to its efficacy.

The last extract for today is:

“True fear of Allah demands that a person examine the degree to which his words and actions accord with one another. A person whose words and actions are at odds with one another should know that they shall incur the wrath of Allah. If one’s heart is impure, it will never find favour in the sight of God no matter how pure one’s words may be; in fact, this arouses the wrath of God. My community ought to realise that they have come to me so that I may sow the seed which transforms them into a fruitful tree. So, everyone ought to examine themselves to become cognizant of their inner and outwardly state. If, God-forbid, the hearts of my followers are not in harmony with their words, they shall not be met with a blessed end. Allah the Exalted does not care for a community with hollow hearts who make empty claims, for He is Self-Sufficient. The victory at Badr had already been prophesied and there was every reason to believe that the Muslims would triumph. But the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, continued to weep and pray to his Lord. Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (ra) inquired as to the need for such fervent supplication when victory had already been promised. The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, ‘God is Self-Sufficient.’ That is to say, perhaps hidden conditions lay beneath the surface of this divine promise”.

May Allah help each one amongst us to become His True Servants who are honoured by Him, incha Allah.