

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

By Allah's Grace the ceremonies of hajj for this year came to an end on Wednesday and according to information published, 1.85 million pilgrims from more than 160 different countries traveled to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the hajj this year. Another 634,000 joined from within Saudi Arabia, nearly 70 percent of them non-Saudi residents of the kingdom.

The hajj is one of the largest religious gatherings on earth and a massive logistical challenge for the Saudi government to oversee each year. The kingdom provides pilgrims with health care and buses for transportation, as well as meals, snacks and water along the routes of hajj. Unfortunately, transport is still a challenge despite the improvements. 18000 buses were running in a close area and it created a lot of pollution. Previously they used to have about 50,000 buses on the road but this time it was just 18,000 but there seems to be still some room for improvement. Anyhow, all praise is to Allah that an important religious obligation has been completed with no major problems at all.

As I said in my Eid sermon I will continue to share with our members the remaining part of the revealed sermon of the Promised Messiah (as) which he delivered on 11th April 1901. After explaining how Muslims ignore the true meaning of Eidul Adha, the Promised (as) said:

“Thus, on contemplating the calamities that have befallen Islam, we recite *Inna lil-lahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un*, that is, *To Allah we belong and to Him is our eventual return*. Our hearts become grief-stricken on witnessing these days of misfortune. Sinfulness is rampant and restlessness predominates. So, in the time of this black night and in the hour of this fierce tempest of darkness, Allah's Mercy demands (that He sends) a light from heaven. Thus, will it happen now, too, because the descent of the Messiah from heaven has been ordained as a sign that his hands will not touch earthly means. Only with water from Heaven will he irrigate the orchard of Islam, for now Allah, the Most High, wishes to display the miracle that for its propagation, Islam does not stand in need of the sword nor of human means. Thus, in the face of this clear prohibition and the presence of the hadith that the Promised Messiah (as) will put an end to wars, if anyone still takes up the sword and desires to wage war, it is as if he wishes to

obscure the miracle that Allah, the Most High, wants to manifest to the world, that is, to make Islam triumphant on earth and beloved by mankind even without human means.

I am that light and that Mujaddid who has come by the command of Allah, and the servant who is aided by the Almighty, and I am the Promised Mahdi and the Promised Messiah and I have descended from the Lord with such an elevated status that none from among mankind is aware of its sublimity. My secret is hidden and is distant from any man of God despite the fact that common people can gain knowledge of it. My rank is far removed from the reach of the divers or people with mundane knowledge. My spiritual elevation is loftier than one can imagine and my travelling on the path of Allah is swifter than that of the most fleet-footed camels. Do not compare me with anyone else, nor anyone to me. Do not destroy yourself through doubt and opposition (to me) for I am that kernel that has no shell and that soul that has no body, and I am that sun whose light cannot be obscured by the smoke of enmity and malice. If you should search for someone like me, you will never be able to find him even if you should seek him with the aid of a lamp.

This is not an idle boast but a grateful acknowledgment of the favours of Allah, Who has planted this beautiful young tree. I have bathed in the water of light, and I have been cleansed in the fountain of Divine purity and I have been washed clean of all dirt and impurity. My Lord has honoured with the name Ahmad. So, honour me and be not hostile to me and sink not into the pit of despair in your affairs.

Whoever has praised unstintingly and has not withheld any kind of reverence has indeed spoken the truth and is not guilty of the crime of lying; but whoever belies me, indeed speaks untruth and only incites the anger of his Lord. So, woe on that man who has fallen into the abyss of doubt and has broken his covenant and has polluted his heart with the evil insinuations of Satan. I have come from a very honoured and elevated Court so that my Lord may display some of His attributes of power and beauty; that is, in order to dispel evil and to usher in the face of goodness, for the time was ripe for the removal of this evil which had surpassed its limit and it was ripe, too, for the exaltation of righteousness which was gradually disappearing from the earth. Therefore, the grace of Allah willed that this Age be given what the prevailing

state of affairs cried out for, in order that He may shower His Mercy on men and women.

He has made me a manifestation of the Messiah, son of Mary, in order that He may extirpate the roots of evil and apostasy and He has made me the manifestation of the Mahdi, Ahmad, the most Honourable, in order that He may shower blessings on people and send upon them the rain of knowledge and guidance once more, and cleanse mankind of the dirt of sloth and sinfulness. Thus, I have come in the colour of two yellow garments which are dyed with the attributes of power and beauty. I have been given the power of taking and giving (of spiritual) life and it has been granted to me by Allah, but that glory is really a sign of my coming as the manifestation of the Prophet Jesus and it is from Allah, the Lord of Glory.”

Here the Promised Messiah (as) explained the following in a footnote: “ I have mentioned on many occasions that I have not come to wield the sword and spear but I have come with signs and holy power and beautiful explanations. Thus, my power is heavenly and not martial.”

He then continues:

“It is so in order that I may obliterate the evil of heresy which is flourishing among the tenets of those who have gone astray and is still strongly prevalent and is still ablaze in its full force and which, in the sight of Allah, the Knower of all things, is the most despicable of all evils. And this glory is granted to me also so that in this way I may bring back the beauty of the Oneness of God which is gradually disappearing from the tongues, the hearts and the actions of the people. But the beauty I have received is really the influence of the one Whose manifestation I am and has been named by Allah, the Most Gracious, as the manifestation of Ahmad, and by means of this I may establish the foundations of spirituality (religiosity).

I have also been commanded to kill the swine of corruption, unbelief and deviation which are trampling the pearls of truth under their feet and are ravaging the fields of people and are ruining the garden of their faith, self-discipline and good deeds. This killing is by means of heavenly weapons and not by earthly sword and arrow as is the opinion of those people who are bereft of truthfulness; for they are themselves astray and are therefore misleading many of the ignorant ones.

Indeed, I have been prohibited from fighting against the disbelievers, for, concerning me, it was already decreed that I would put an to wars and I would not resort to bloodshed. Thus, no jihad remains except the jihad for the cause of Islam) with words, signs and arguments.

I have been ordered, too, to fill the houses of Muslims with wealth and other means of spiritual sustenance. This wealth is not of silver nor of gold but it is the treasure of knowledge, piety, guidance and certainty of faith. Furthermore, this treasure makes one's faith stronger than the mountains, and those who are bent under a heavy load are given the good news. So, receive the glad tidings that your Messiah has come to you and the Most Powerful God has anointed him and blessed him with the gift of eloquent speech and he is protecting you from

that group which is travelling through the land spreading misguidance. He is inviting you to Allah and is dispelling every doubt. So, congratulations to you, for the Promised Mahdi has come to you with an abundance of wealth and provisions piled up high, and he is making strenuous efforts to return that wealth which is slipping away from you, and to recover (the spiritually) dead from the graves and to bring you back to prosperity which was lost even in your very lifetime. This is not a fabricated saying but it is Allah's light which contains mighty signs.

Dear people! I am that Messiah from the Muhammadi dispensation and I am Ahmad, the Mahdi, and indeed my Lord is truly with me from the time that He sent me to the time of my departure. I have received that fire which will destroy evil, and I am that deliciously sweet water and the Star of Yemen and the spiritual shower. For those who give me grief, there is a sharp lance and my supplications are an efficacious and proved medicine. I try to exhibit my spiritual power and its beautiful blessings to one and all to guide them to the path

of Allah. In one hand I hold a weapon with which to destroy the ingrained habits of injustice and sin and in the other, a beverage with which to revivify the hearts of mankind; that is, an axe to annihilate and a breath for giving life. This power is bestowed on me because, as was the case with the Prophet Jesus, people wish to destroy me, too, and the attribute of beauty is granted because my mercy and compassion, like that of my master, Ahmad, to show the path towards Divine guidance to a people who are heedless of their Lord, the Most High.

Do you wonder, then, at this, and do not consider the present age and its requirements? Do you not see that this age needs to have recourse to Allah, the Most High, so that one nation may be shown His at-

tribute of glory and that another may be aware of His attribute of beauty? Clear signs have been manifested and mysteries have been disclosed and all controversies are disappearing. So why do you not see? The eclipses of the sun and the moon have already taken place in the month of Ramadan but you have not perceived their significance. Many men have died as prophesied and many have been killed, too, in fulfilment of a prophecy, but still you do not take stock. Many signs have appeared in my support yet you pay no heed. On my behalf, the heaven and earth and water and clay have borne witness but you show no fear whatsoever. Reason and traditions of the Holy Prophet, and mystic signs have provided unquestionable testimony and there have been manifestations of other mutually corroborative signs and dreams and visions, yet you persist in denial. In the view of those who think deeply, these signs are certainly imbued with grandeur. And the Star of Ages has risen and almost a fifth of this century has passed, so if you know, tell us where the Mujaddid is?"

We will stop here for today but there are still at least three pages remaining which I will read some other time. Observe and make a note about how much emphasis the Promised Messiah laid on effort, self-discipline and many other positive attributes in this speech. May Allah grant us all the required understanding to profit by such speeches. May we not be among those who make grand statements but who are quite poor in putting into practice these teachings.