

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

I will share with our members some additional extracts from the 2nd volume of the *Malfuzaat* of the Promised Messiah (as) with the hope that you will enjoy it and improve your own life through its precious advice. Those who are aware of these books know their immense value in helping an Ahmadi Muslim in improving his outlook on life, his personal behaviour and his knowledge of Islam. May Allah help each one amongst us to make the best use of these *Malfuzaat* insha Allah and may they be a source of inspiration for all of us insha Allah.

At the time of the Promised Messiah (as), in the year 1899, Munshi Ilahi Bakhsh, the accountant, writer of the book *Asa-e-Musa* or '*The Staff of Moses*' claimed to be a recipient of revelation and said that the community of the Promised Messiah (as) would be destroyed. On hearing this the Promised Messiah (as) said:

“Know for certain that God will never let this servant of His go to waste and will not cause him to die until those objectives for which he has appeared are manifested at his hand. No one’s enmity and no prayer against him can harm him in the least.

كَبُرَتْ كَلِمَةً تَخْرُجُ مِنْ أَفْوَاهِهِمْ إِنَّ يَقُولُونَ إِلَّا كَذِبًا

Grievous is the word that comes from their mouths. (HQ 18:6)

Then he said:

“Yesterday (i.e. on 22 June 1899), I received the revelation many times that your community should become righteous and if you tread the subtle ways of righteousness, then God will be with you.”

The Promised Messiah (as) said: “It grieves my heart immensely when I ask myself what I am to do so that my community may adopt true righteousness and purity?”

“I pray so profusely that sometimes whilst engaged in prayer, I am overcome by weakness, and on certain occasions I begin to feel a loss of consciousness and feel like I may even die.”

“Until a community becomes righteous in the sight of God, it can never receive divine succour.”

“Righteousness is the essence of the teachings found in all divine scriptures—the Torah and the Gospel etc. The Holy Quran has expressed in a single word the greatest means by which one can act according to the will of God Almighty and attain His ultimate pleasure.”

“I also think about selecting certain people from my community who are truly righteous, who give precedence to religion over worldly affairs, and who are devoted to Allah, so that I may assign them certain religious duties. Then, I will not care about those who

remain absorbed in grief and pain for this world, and who waste away their lives seeking worldly carrion, day and night.”

At night, the Promised Messiah (as) said with a sense of extreme pain: “Alas! At this time, I have no one but God. Strangers, and even my own, are bent on disgracing me. They lie in wait to see me afflicted by misfortunes and vicissitudes. Now if God Almighty does not help me, then I have nowhere to go.” (P24)

Allow me to make some comments on this extract. It is true that some time back I spoke about this extract in one of my sermons. It is not just a repetition. It is a reminder because the subject of *taqwa* is so fundamental to develop a relationship with Allah that we will never and we should never stop reminding ourselves and others of its importance. As the leader of the community, the Promised Messiah (as) could not do much. So, he never tired of explaining matters to his companions. Even then we see that according to him some of his companions did not appear to be of the standard. But he never lost hope and he kept praying for them.

So even today each one amongst us should make an effort to understand that he or she needs to do their best to become a *muttaqi*, i.e. someone who has the fear of Allah in their heart. This is not an easy task but it is achievable if we are determined to do it and we pray as much as we should to realize it. Please do not take this advice lightly.

At night, during the course of discussion, there was mention of epidemics. The Promised Messiah (as) said: “The monsoon season generally is a dangerous time. Indian physicians say that anyone who remains safe in these three months is, as if, born again.” Then, the Promised Messiah (as) said: “The coming winter also seems frightening.” The Promised Messiah (as) went on to say: “Physicians propose countless safeguards and precautions as preventative measures. Although the phenomenon of means and the importance of having recourse to these means is perfectly justified, but I would say, to what extent can a weak human of limited knowledge scrutinise and exercise caution before making use of various foods or water? In my view, there is no better amulet or charm, nor a more effective precaution or medicine, than seeking forgiveness from God. I advise my friends to foster peace and harmony with God and remain engaged in prayer.”

Addressing some people who came to Qadian to visit him , the Promised Messiah (as) said:

“Whenever you come here to Qadian, do visit my home without any hesitation at all. We are not accustomed to any formality whatsoever. My endeavours are wholly religious and I am completely detached from the world and its relations and affectations. It is as though I am dead to worldly preoccupations. I am devoted to the Faith and my entire mission is religious in nature—as has always been the case with the past saints and holy men of Islam. My mission is no new undertaking; my task is to dispel those beliefs which pose a danger to the people in every respect, and to purge their hearts is our true desire and objective. For example, some foolish people hold the belief that it is permissible to steal the possessions of people belonging to other nations and usurp the wealth of disbelievers. Then, in order to support their inner, base desires, they fabricate numerous Hadith as well.

These people also hold as a matter of doctrine that Jesus (as), who was to reappear in the world, would engage in violence and shed blood—although a religion of compulsion is no religion at all. In short, terrifying doctrines of this sort and false ideologies have taken root in the hearts of people, and it is to dispel and replace them with peaceful doctrines that my community has been established. As has always been the case, people of worldly bent have always opposed divine reformers, saints and those who came to teach virtue. So, too, has been the case with me. My opponents have spread false information about me purely by way of slander and calumny, to such an extent that in order to cause me grief they even submitted false reports about me to the government, stating that I was a conspirer who harboured intentions of rebellion. It was necessary for the people to act in this manner; for in every era, the ignorant have always behaved as such towards those who wish them well, i.e. the Prophets and their heirs. However, God Almighty has vested man with intelligence and the government officials know the nature of these people very well.

As such, one ought to observe the wisdom of Captain Douglas. When Maulvi Muhammad Husain Sahib of Batala said in my connection that I claimed to be a king and an announcement was also read out before him, he was able to grasp with remarkable sagacity that all this was a conspiracy and he refused to lend an ear to any of the falsities of my opponents. Without doubt, in *Izala-e-Awham* and other books, my title ‘*Sultan*’ or King has been written, but this is in the context of the heavenly kingdom, for I have nothing to do with worldly kingdoms.

Similarly, my appellation ‘*Hakam*’ is also commonly known, and if translated into English, this term would be rendered as ‘Governor General.’ It had already been foretold in the prophecies of our Messenger, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, that the Messiah who was to appear would bear these names. All these titles of mine are mentioned in my books, along with elaborations as well, which elucidate that these are terms relating to heavenly realms and which bear no relation with earthly kings. If I intended evil, why would I forbid people from jihad of the sword etc., and hold them back from engaging in barbaric practices?

In short, Captain Douglas astutely reached the depth of these matters and dealt with complete justice, without leaning even slightly towards either one of the two parties involved out of partiality. In standing for justice and supporting the oppressed, he demonstrated an example of such excellence that I sincerely hope all the esteemed officials in our government forever uphold this lofty example of justice—a perfect example of equity which even leaves behind the justice of *Nusherwan*. How is it possible for anyone to think ill of the peaceful reign of this government and think to conspire against it?”

Many non-Ahmadi Muslims have criticized the Promise Messiah (as) about his stand concerning the English who were ruling India at that time. Speaking about this period the Promised Messiah (as) tells us:

“One ought to realise the degree to which Muslims were hurt during the Sikh reign. The Sikhs killed six to seven thousand men just because one cow was incidentally slaughtered on some occasion. The path of virtue was so obstructed that we hear of a man named

Kammay Shah who would raise his hands and pray so that he could receive an opportunity to see a manuscript of *Sahih Bukhari* even once. His supplications would eventually bring him to tears, but the prevailing circumstances of the time would leave him without hope. Today, due to the blessings of this government's reign, that very same *Sahih Bukhari* can be procured for four or five rupees. In that era, people had become so distanced from Islam that a Muslim named Khuda Bakhsh had changed his name to Khuda Singh. As a matter of fact, we are so indebted to this government that if we were to leave this place, we could not enjoy the same freedom even in Mecca or Constantinople.

How then can I harbour evil motives at heart against this government? If our people believe that I am against this government or that my religious beliefs are false, they ought to organize a gathering and hear my submissions with a calm heart so that they may be satisfied and their misconceptions may be dispelled. The mouth of a liar gives off a foul odor and a person of insight is able to perceive it. The work of a truthful one is done in a straightforward and honest manner, and the prevailing circumstances support them."

He said further:

"One ought to observe how people have strayed from true doctrines. Two hundred million books have been published against Islam and many hundreds of thousands have become Christian. All things have a limit, and after the dry season, even animals in the jungle raise their heads to the sky hoping for rain. Today, after thirteen hundred years of sun and drought, rain has descended from heaven and now no one can stop this rain. Who can stop the rain when the monsoon season arrives? This is an era in which the hearts of people have become immensely distanced from the truth, to the extent that they have even begun to doubt God Himself." (P32)

We will stop here for today. We hope to continue incha Allah in coming sermons after next week's Jalsa.