

FRIDAY SERMON

7th July 2023

By Imam Zafrullah Domun

Alhamdolilla Hajj went on quite smoothly this year in Saudi Arabia. I have not yet seen the official number of Hajis, both foreign and local, but it seems it was less than the 2.5 million expected. Last Friday, one of the ministers in Saudi Arabia spoke about Hajj 2023 and he reported that all went well according to plan. He also gave some figures which I am sharing with you. He said over 36,000 health sector employees, backed by 7,600 volunteers, were deployed at the holy sites during Hajj. Over 400,000 pilgrims received health services during the pilgrimage. Over 50 open-heart surgeries were performed, over 1,600 dialysis sessions were held and over 4,000 pilgrims received virtual services from the virtual hospital. Moreover, over 8,000 cases of heat stroke were treated. He noted that the awareness campaigns that were held throughout Hajj helped in limiting the number of heat stroke cases. All praise is due to Allah that the greatest event in the Islamic calendar went on smoothly and no major accident is to be regretted.

Now we will revert to reading some extracts from the Malfuzaat of Hazrat Masih Maood (as). We are reading from page 70 of the English translation of Malfuzaat Volume 10. We are quoting from the middle of a speech which he delivered at Jalsa Salana 1907 in Qadian. He said:

“In short, Muslims are in a terrible plight—retreat at every step, defeat at every place. According to them, our Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has died but Jesus is still alive. And (God forbid) our Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, was not immune from the touch of Satan but Jesus was. Moreover, the one who was born without a father—was Jesus; the one who fashioned birds—was Jesus; the

one who brought the dead back to life—was Jesus; the one who ascended to Heaven and will descend—is Jesus.

Now, tell me what can be the result of all this except for one to apostatize? In short, Jesus being alive is an instrument to cause apostasy. People convert to Christianity upon hearing these things that I have mentioned.

Once a bishop was giving a lecture in Lahore and was arguing that Muhammad (saw) had died and his grave is present in Madinah, but with regard to Jesus, the Messiah, even Muslims themselves admit that he is present in the heavens alive, etc. And then he went on to say, ‘O Muslims! Be fair and see whether these facts are true or not.’

At this point our Mufti [Muhammad Sadiq ra] Sahib stepped up and asked the bishop to show him where those things were written in the Holy Quran that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, had died but Jesus is in the heavens alive. And he said that the death of Jesus was clearly mentioned in the Holy Quran and the verse *falamma tawaffytani* testified that Jesus had died. The bishop could find no escape and could only make the remark: ‘It seems that you are a *Mirza*’i.’ Afterwards, when the audience of the lecture came out, they said, ‘Though *Mirza*’i are disbelievers, they have saved our honour on this day.’

When Allah bestows dominance upon someone, He also blesses him with weapons. Nowadays, Europe is entirely dominant in the secular sense, but don’t you see that it is Europe indeed that has invented amazing weapons of every kind to the extent that even if the Sultan of Turkey needs any weapon, he sends the request to them? In the same way, the spiritual weapons are now in our hands. How can one dominate without possession of the required weaponry?

But now—wherever you go—you will proclaim that Jesus has died and his death is mentioned in the Holy Quran, in the authentic Hadith; our Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, testified that he saw

him [Jesus] among the other dead during the *Mi'raj* [Spiritual Ascension]; and he [the Holy Prophet (saw)] demonstrated by his own death that all the Prophets who had come before him had died. God Almighty has placed these and many other similar brilliant arguments in your hands that confound the opponents.

The truth is that Muslims have failed to understand [the reason for] the plight of Islam. There is a person (Abdul Hakeem) who used to be my follower for twenty years. He would endorse me in every way. He used to tell people of his dreams that testified to my truth. Now, after repudiating [his affiliation with me] he has written a book which he has named—in reference to me—*Kana Dajjal* [‘The One-Eyed *Dajjal* ’], but the fact of the matter is that he has no idea of the grave plight of Islam.

In his estimation, those who are the cause of people renouncing Islam with their deception and guile are not *dajjal* [deceivers], and he nowhere mentions them in his books; on the contrary, in his estimation the *Dajjal* [Antichrist] is the one who unveils the face of the living Islam and supports it with fresh Signs, defending Islam in every way and giving crushing rejoinders to the enemies of Islam!

It needs to be understood that clarity of thinking is itself achieved through *taqwa* [righteousness]. This is why Allah says in the Holy Quran:

ذٰلِكَ الْكِتٰبُ لَا رَيْبَ ۤ فِيْهِ ۚ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِيْنَ

Meaning that, this book bestows guidance only upon those who adopt *taqwa*, and those who do not have *taqwa* are blind.

If one explores it with purity of heart and fear of God Almighty, then he will be able to see everything in it. On the other hand, if he wears the blindfold of obstinacy and prejudice upon his eyes, he cannot see anything out of it.

It should be noted that the *Dajjal* [Antichrist], which means ‘the one who misleads’ , in reality refers to the one who is the embodiment of Satan. It was written in the earlier scriptures in regard to the Latter Days that many a battle would ensue with Satan during that period, but Satan would eventually be defeated.

Though Satan was subdued during the time of every Prophet, it was only in a virtual sense. It was really destined for the Messiah to truly subdue it. God Almighty has promised victory of such a magnitude that He said:

وَجَاعِلُ الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوكَ فَوْقَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ
(3:56)

That is: ‘I will keep your true followers dominant over others till the Day of Judgement.’

Therefore, Satan is battling with full force in these Latter Days, but the final victory will indeed be ours. You know it well and it is common knowledge for you that Jesus has died, and in this subject, you have achieved the victory in every way.

But the death of Satan is still pending because I see it still has a considerable hold on you. Many people will be going back after doing the *Bai’at* [Pledge of Allegiance] here, but will write a letter of renunciation after reaching their homes. And the reason is that they meet some *maulawi* who causes them to slip by telling them all kinds of stories and fabricating various false allegations against me. Since such people still have a good portion of Satan in them, they readily fall into the trap of people with a satanic character.

Since I have expounded my claim at length in the book *Haqiqatul-Wahi* [The Philosophy of Divine Revelation], and you have already read it too, it will prolong the speech if I say something pertaining to it here. However, you need to comprehend the concept of the death of Satan at this time. You have already succeeded in putting an end to the widely held belief in the illusory life of Jesus, but Satan still needs to be killed.

Beware! It won't die by simply saying that Satan has died with your tongue. You must demonstrate through your deeds that Satan has died. The death of Satan should be evident in your deeds, not in your words.

It has been promised by God that Satan will die completely in the time of the last Messiah. Though Satan accompanies every person, the Satan of the Holy Prophet (saw) had become a Muslim [i.e. had submitted to the will of God].

Similarly, God Almighty had promised that Satan would be completely uprooted in this age [of the Promised Messiah]. You already know that Satan runs away from *La haul*. But it is not so naive that it would run away merely by your verbal proclamation of *La haul*. It would not run away even if *La haul* is recited like that a hundred times. The fact of the matter is that those who are permeated by *La haul* in every particle of their being, and who constantly beseech God Almighty alone for help and assistance, and who continually receive the blessings from Him—are the ones who are saved from Satan. And those are the people who will achieve success.

God Almighty has begun the Holy Quran with a prayer and has ended it with a prayer as well. This signifies that man is so weak that without the grace of God, one cannot be cleansed, and without His help and assistance, one cannot excel in virtue. In one hadith it is said that all are dead except for the one who is revived by God, and all are lost except for the one who is guided by God, and all are blind except the one who is granted sight by God.

In short, the truth is that the shackle of worldly love remains as a chain wrapped around one's neck until one is bestowed the grace of God. Only those shed it who are blessed by God, but it should be kept in mind that even the grace of God needs supplication for its initiation. Do not imagine that supplication is only the babbling of some words. On the contrary,

supplication is a kind of death after which life is gained as is expressed in a Punjabi couplet:

One who begs has to die first

And one has to die first to be able to beg.

Supplication has a magnetic effect. It attracts grace and blessing. What kind of supplication is it when one continually repeats **ihdinas seraatwal mustaquim** with the tongue while he is preoccupied with the mundane thoughts of how he is going to make such and such transaction, or such and such task remains unfinished, or something should have happened that way, or he would do this if the situation changes that way? This is just squandering away one's life. Until one gives precedence to the Word of God and acts in compliance with it, his prayers are merely a waste of time." (p. 76)

This is a long speech. We will continue *incha Allah* next time. May Allah help each one among us to live according to His teachings in the best possible way. Ameen.