

FRIDAY SERMON

13th October 2023

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We continue to read from Malfuzaat Volume 10 of Hazrat Masih Maood(as). He said:

“Consider even my own nascent phase. In the very beginning, I did not have even one person with me. Maulawi Muhammad Husain prepared a fatwa [religious verdict] of apostasy against me. He got two to three hundred seals of all the great and acclaimed *maulawis* of India from Peshawar to Banaras put upon it. And he issued the fatwa that killing us, plundering our property, and snatching our women is all permissible; and that these people are *kafirs* [disbelievers], *akfar* [the greatest of disbelievers], *zall* [misguided], *muzill* [one who misguides others], and worse even than the Jews and Christians. But look what he was able to achieve! See how God Almighty humiliated him!

Thus, one should strive to become a true believer. Consider the circumstances of the life of the Holy Prophet (saw). What difficulties had to be faced in his time, but what amazing achievements were accomplished by him and his Companions (ra) through their loyalty, sincerity, patience, and steadfastness! Know it for certain that even ten million cannons could not have achieved the feats they accomplished through their faith, sincerity, patience, and steadfastness. Never, ever could they have done so! Consider that he possessed no army nor cannons, nor any soldiers; yet, what wonderful help Allah the Exalted provided, that the most powerful people were continuously vanquished one after another as if they were mere dust and dirt.

It occurred to me that I have been called by the names of Mahdi, Jesus, and Krishna by Allah the Exalted. And it is for the arrival of these three that three great nations are waiting; Muslims for the Mahdi, Christians for the second advent of Jesus, and Hindus for the Avatar Krishna. So this is indeed the Divine wisdom in these names.

Maulawi Abu Rahmat submitted, ‘Huzoor! The meaning of “Krishan” according to their lexicons is the light that illuminates the world slowly and gradually. One who effaces the darkness of ignorance is called ‘Krishna’ .”

The Promised Messiah (as) said:

There is the very well-known reference regarding him [Krishna] of having numerous *gopis* [milk-maids]. I think the truth about it is that the ummah is likened also unto a woman. Thus, the example of this is also found in the Holy Quran, as it says:

“And Allah sets forth for those who believe the example of the wife of Pharaoh”... (*Surah at-Tahrim*, 66:12).

This is an extremely fine metaphor of a very subtle nature.

The ummah possesses the potential of rectitude and through the connection with a Prophet, great fountains of knowledge, insights, and blessings develop. The sincere interaction between a Prophet and his ummah brings about such results that enable divine blessings and mercy to be absorbed. I believe this is the reality that lies hidden behind the narration regarding Krishna and the milk-maids.

Maulawi Abu Rahmat submitted, ‘The meanings of *Gopi* are also as follows: *Go* means ‘earth’ and *pi* means ‘the one who nurtures’ ; that is, the disciples of Krishna were pure-natured, kind-hearted people who nurtured and took care of the creatures of Allah.’

The Promised Messiah (as) said:

“There is no harm in this either as man has also been likened to the earth, as is mentioned in the Holy Quran:

“Know that Allah quickens the earth after its death (*Surah al-Hadid*, 57:18)”

Maulawi Abu Rahmat then said, ‘It is also possible that Krishan Ji may have disseminated his teachings with the help of women only because their men were usually busy in farming pursuits and lived in jungles and the wilderness

and had little time for spreading the religion. The women must indeed have done this work.’

The Promised Messiah (as) said:

“I thought once that Krishan Ji appears to have exact resemblance with David as in respect of music, dance, congregation of women, and bravery. God knows what all this is.”

Then the promised Messiah(as) said:

“I have entitled my book—which consists of my lecture in Lahore, and a part of which is yet to be completed—*Chashma-e- Ma‘rifat* [‘Fountain of Cognizance’], because it encompasses matters of profound cognizance, as well as verities and insights.”

He further said:

“I had written that lecture concisely with the specific audience in mind, and in accord with the rules they had published and the exigencies of the occasion.....”

Before we go any further in what he said let me tell you what was this conference to which he was referring about. Remember that he is speaking in march 1908 about two and a half months before he would die.

In the beginning of December 1907, The Arya Samaj organized a conference in Lahore and they invited the Promised Messiah(as) to send a paper to be read there. At first the Promised Messiah(as) did not want to send any paper. But they promised that all will be done in a respectful manner. So the Promised Messiah (as) sent Hazrat Molvi Nuruddin(ra) with a paper to be presented there. But the Aryas used the occasion to insult the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw). When the Promised Messiah(as) learned of this he wrote this book so that everyone might know what happened over there and he also added some additional materials. Now we will go back to what the Promised Messiah(as) was saying:

“However, since they did not observe their own published rules and cared naught for their own proclamations, and repeated those same old questions that have been responded to again and again, and did so to torment our hearts, I had to extend the book to answer all the questions by adding an epilogue.

He further said:

“The difficulty is that these people have sworn not to read my book. They have covered their eyes with a veil of ignorance, naivety, and prejudice. They do not read any book of mine, do not accept any arguments, and keep raising incessant questions. In this book, I have answered their questions in great detail and if anyone studies it as a sincere seeker of truth, he will find it sufficient.

Polygamy is the only issue left in the hands of Aryas these days to spread misapprehensions against Muslims. Due to their own ignorance, they are unaware of its wisdom and essence and so they go on raising objections, whereas the present age is proclaiming aloud by its very state of being that polygamy is indeed sorely needed. The Aryas have also felt this need.

In short, the need has been acknowledged by everyone— now there remains the issue as to the way in which we have addressed this need and what course has been devised by the Aryas to satisfy this need. So those two methods are polygamy versus *Niyog*. Now, you can compare the two practices and see which course is better.”

Concerning the practice of *Niyog* I suggest you find out on the net what it means.

Someone sent a letter to the Promised Messiah(as) about Insurance. The letter reads as follows:

“To His Holiness the Promised Messiah and the Blessed Mahdi as: In March 1900, I took out a life insurance policy for 2,000 rupees. The stipulations were that I would pay the annual premium of 46 rupees till I die; my heirs would receive 2,000 rupees at my death and I would not be eligible to receive this money during my lifetime. I have paid about 600 rupees in premiums to the insurance company so far. If I break this contract now, I am eligible for only

one third of this money according to the contract; meaning that I will receive 200 rupees and the remaining 400 rupees would be lost. But since I have pledged at your hand that I shall give precedence to religion over this world, I do not wish to continue to be involved in something that is in contravention to the commandments of God and His Messenger after learning the truth about this issue. You are the *Hakam* [Arbiter] and *Adl* [Judge]; therefore, I most humbly request that a verdict be issued as may be appropriate, so I could act accordingly.

In reply to this, the Promised Messiah (as) said:

The form in which the life insurance is being practiced and what is known about it—I do not see any apparent justification for it because it is a [form of] gambling. Although he has spent a substantial sum of money—yet, should he continue, this money would make him commit even more sin. In order to save himself from further sin in his life he should surrender it and take whatever proceeds he can get at this time.”

We may appreciate from this letter the way he addresses the Promised Messiah(as) and how seriously he took his pledge of *bai'at*.

Next, we read:

“A person wrote to the Promised Messiah (as) that he should make such prayer for him that would definitely be accepted and that it should be about such and such a matter.

The Promised Messiah (as) said:

“Send him the reply that it is not the practice of God Almighty that He should accept every single prayer. This has never ever happened since this world came into being. Of course, the prayers of the Elect of God are accepted much more in comparison to others. No one can force his way when it comes to God.”

We will end here for today because the next extract is quite long and we will take it up next week. In all these extracts that we read there are lessons for us. We should do our best to reflect upon them and do our best to profit by them incha Allah. Now I will end by reminding ourselves of the importance of

charity in our life by sharing some Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad(saw). He said:

- “A charity is due for every joint in each person on every day the sun comes up: to act justly between two people is a charity; to help a man with his mount, lifting him onto it or hoisting up his belongings onto it, is a charity; a good word is a charity; and removing a harmful thing from the road is a charity.” (Al-Bukhari, Muslim)
- “Give charity without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity.” (Al-Tirmidhi)
- “Avoid doing injustice to others, for on the Day of Judgment, it will turn into manifold darkness, and safeguard yourself against miserliness, for it ruined those who were before you. It incited them to murder and treating the unlawful as lawful.” (Muslim)
- "When a man dies, his deeds come to an end except for three things: Sadaqah Jariyah (ceaseless charity); a knowledge which is beneficial, or a virtuous descendant who prays for him (for the deceased)." (Muslim)
- “The believer’s shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity.” (Al-Tirmidhi)
- “Protect yourself from hell-fire even by giving a piece of date as charity.” (Al-Bukhari and Muslim)
- “Allah, the Exalted, says, ‘Spend, O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you.’”
- “Charity does not in any way decrease the wealth and the servant who forgives, Allah adds to his respect; and the one who shows humility, Allah elevates him in the estimation (of the people).” (Muslim)
- “A crafty one, a miser, and one who keeps reminding people of what he has given, will not enter Paradise.” (Tirmidhi)
- “Do not show lethargy or negligence in giving alms and charity till your last breath.” -Muhammad, upon him be peace (Bukhari and Muslim).

May Allah help each one among us to spend more in the way of Allah. Ameen