



FRIDAY SERMON

HADHRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH

MUNIR AHMAD AZIM

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After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hadhrat Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al Fatiha, and then he delivered his sermon on:

PRAYER FOR A CLEAN GOVERNMENT

Yesterday Mauritian people voted for a Government for the next five years. Let us pray to Allah (swt) that He gives us a new Government who will work in the best interest and for the benefit of the people of the Republic of Mauritius. Let us pray that communalism fades away and we see competent people in the right place, and managing our country in the right way and leading it in the right direction. Allah knows best which Government has been voted by the people. Let us hope and pray that the new Government forms its cabinet and recruits people based on merit, knowledge and experience and not because of backing and family feeling.

Today is the Counting of votes and I think after *Maghrib* prayer we will be able to know who will be the next to govern our Island, Mauritius and other Islands under the guardianship and responsibility of Mauritius for the next five years. We pray may Allah remove the *Judas* - hypocrites, and corrupted people, as well as those who love to protect the members of their own religious communities and who incite to hatred and communalism in the name of religion. **May Allah enable a clean government, with respect and the proper knowledge to be elected, to manage this country and lead it to progress and to redress the economy in the right way for the benefit of the people of Mauritius, in a selfless, uncorrupted and praiseworthy way.** *Insha-Allah, Ameen Summa Ameen, ya Rabbul Aalameen.*

ISLAM & INTERNATIONAL LAW

Laws are very important in a person's and country's life. The law which deals with foreign policy is called international law. If we trace the history of international law, we come to know that there were no hard and fast rules in this regard. Even Roman law, like other ancient systems, adopted originally the principle of personality which means that the law of state applied only to its citizen. The foreigner was ownerless and strictly without any right, and unless protected by some treaty between his state and Rome, all his property could be seized by any Roman at any time.

Western law which are mostly derived from Roman law had no particular notion of international law and it was Islam which for the first time produced international law as a distinct discipline that appeared under the name of *Siyar* or conduct (of the ruler). Muslim thinkers have divided the world into:

1. Dar al-Islam (Muslim Lands)
2. Dar al-Sulh (Lands of treaty relations), and
3. Dar al-Harb (Lands at war).

Muslims are one brotherhood. Non-Muslims in treaty relations with Muslims are dealt with according to the terms of the treaties. Non-Muslims who have no treaty relations with Islam are considered under two aspects: a land which actively persecutes Muslims and denies them the right to practice and preach their faith is Islam's enemy, whether it is at war or not; but if it allows Muslims freedom of their religion and worship, there may be no war against it, for it is the fundamental principle of Islam that war should not be resorted to without reason.

Even with unbelievers we should deal kindly and equitably, unless they are out to destroy us and our faith. Allah (swt) says in the Holy Quran: **"Allah does not forbid you to deal justly and kindly with those who did not fight against you on account of religion and did not drive you out of your homes. Verily, Allah loves those who deal with equity."** (Al-Mumtahanah 60: 9)

Islam is a religion of peace and believes in peaceful co-existence, hence treaties, pacts and covenants are respected and obligations arising out of them are faithfully fulfilled.

“O you who believe, keep your covenants.” (Al-Maida 5: 2)

“Verily, of the covenants enquiry shall be made.” (Al-Isra 17: 35)

Muslim international law and its precepts are founded on universal human truths. Such precepts can apply to the whole humanity regardless of religion and race. In the Muslim concept of world order, a commitment made by the Muslim state and even by the individual Muslim can bind the entire community. Islam permits the individual, though a slave, to offer protection to an enemy and his pledge will be respected.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is quoted to have said: *“Muslims are one and the humblest among them is entitled to bind them by his pledge.”* Abu Ubaydah (ra) once wrote to the caliph Umar (ra) that a slave had given a pledge of security to the inhabitants of a town in Iraq, and asked him his opinion in the matter. In reply Hazrat Umar (ra) said: *“God has enjoined the fulfillment of promises and you are not faithful if you do not fulfill them. So fulfill your promises to them and leave them alone.”*

Great is the importance attached by the Jurists to the fulfillment of the pledge, so much so that a foreigner’s security, on such pledge, will not be affected even if a war breaks out between Muslim state and that of the foreigner. The Ambassador is considered immune from all violation and enjoys the freedom of creed and returns to his country in all safety and security.

Islam tolerates, on its territory, a multiplicity of laws, with autonomous judiciary for each community. A stranger therefore, belongs to the jurisdiction of his own confessional tribunal. Further, he is allowed to practice customs strictly forbidden in Islam. The consumption of alcoholic drinks, for instance, is forbidden to a Muslim. Yet a non-Muslim enjoys the liberty not only of its consumption but also of its manufacture and sale. Such is the toleration of Islam which seeks to establish a world order based on the principle of peaceful co-existence.

Let us all ponder over whether it is possible to adopt religious law as the law of the country. No religious law except Islam is complete and international. No religious law is as law-abiding and respectable as that of Islam, but unfortunately,

the Muslims of today have made a mockery out of it, and have rendered it a farfetched idea. It is not an impossible feat to make Islamic laws regulate one's country, but it will have to come step by step without any coercion. When the world will march towards Islam, then the lands will be ruled by Islam, otherwise, all people, Muslims and non-Muslims alike should respect the laws of their motherland unless they order you to evil and corruption. In the times we live, even if we take the name of God, but it is not immediately possible for us to **ORDER** people to act according to the laws of Islam as Islam, the true way of Islam forbids coercion in any form to make people accept it.

Unfortunately today, Muslims have gone so far away from Islam. They have become hypocrites. Even the whole human society has become hypocrite towards God Almighty and the establishment of truth and justice upon the earth. There is hypocrisy in politics and society everywhere. And hypocrisy does not permit honesty to flourish. It does not permit the word of God to take root. That is the main problem.

May Allah enable us in this era to work hard under His guidance to bring an awakening of Islam in all hearts, so that society may breathe the freshness of the air of Islam, free of corruption and coercion of any form in matters of faith. *Ameen.*

Those who believe shall inevitably believe by the leave of Allah, and those who turn their backs to the message of Allah, therefore Allah suffices as Judge and Witness in the matters of their faith.

وَالَّذِي أَنْزَلَ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ رَبِّكَ الْحَقُّ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

"Wallaziiii 'inzila 'ilay-ka mir-Rabbikal-Haqqu Wa laa-kina 'ak-saran-naasi laa yu'-minuun."

And that which is revealed unto you from your Lord is the Truth, but most of mankind do not believe. (Ar-Raad 13: 2)