

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

My dear disciples,

Assalamoualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakaatuhu.

It is my pleasure to address you few words for your bi-monthly Siraj Makin gathering at the Noor'ul Islam Masjid at Mathra on 23 June 2019. *Alhamdulillah*, it is indeed a good practice that you have undertaken to meet often and to maximize your time in learning, to interact among yourselves and to better yourselves spiritually. Keep it up, *Insha-Allah*.

CONSULTATION IN ISLAM (SHURA)

I would like to address you today on the importance of Consultation in Islam. Like you know there is a special chapter on this subject, known as *Ash-Shura* (The Consultation). A *Shura* is basically a grand meeting involving all members of a community coming together to reach a mutual decision concerning several matters of the community. In Islam, in the absence of the Messenger of Allah, people should consult each other and take the opinion of everybody – especially those who are directly connected with the matter – so that the best decision may be taken. Allah (swt) even advised the Holy Prophet of Islam, Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) to consult the people on certain matters, and to take his final decision. For during the times of a Divine Manifestation, the final decision belongs to Allah and His Messenger.

Allah says in the Holy Quran:

فِيمَا رَحْمَةٍ مِّنَ اللَّهِ لِنْتَ لَهُمْ وَلَوْ كُنْتَ فَظًّا غَلِيظَ الْقَلْبِ لَانْفَضُّوا مِنْ حَوْلِكَ
فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَشَاوِرْهُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ فَإِذَا عَزَمْتَ فَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ إِنَّ
اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُتَوَكِّلِينَ

“It is out of Allah’s mercy that you have been lenient with them. Had you been cruel or hard-hearted, they would have certainly abandoned you. So pardon

them, ask Allah’s forgiveness for them, and consult with them upon the conduct of affairs. Once you make a decision, put your trust in Allah. Surely Allah loves those who trust in Him.” (Al-Imran 3: 160).

As you know, there are many people in the world with many ideas and mentalities. In the times of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), as with all the Messengers of Allah, they had to deal with all kinds of people, from among their own followers and also those who rejected their divine mission and message as well. Allah knows that His Messenger’s work is carried out with His stamp of approval and guidance, but not all people understand the essence of it.

It is therefore capital that in this era, under my leadership as the Khalifatullah of this era, my disciples, men and women know how to deal with situations in their personal as well as spiritual/ Jamaat lives so that they may better serve the community of Islam, and ultimately humanity as a whole.

Like I have stressed in my past sermons and speeches, there are different types of believers, the weak ones and the strong ones. In eras of the Divine Manifestation, very often the weak ones were carried away by doubts implanted in their minds by the outsiders, those who detest the Divine Manifestation of the age [in each era]. That is why, very often, the weak ones became weaker in faith and they ultimately became hypocrites; that is, they began to seriously doubt the message and they hatch plots in secret to finish the *Deen* of Islam while portraying themselves as good believers. Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) had to deal with all sorts of people, from among the men and the women as well. But Allah encouraged him to treat the believers like family and to seek their opinions so that they feel part of the community and perhaps their opinion is a good one for the progress of Islam. And ultimately, the final decision will inevitably be for Allah and His Messenger.

The ladies of the Divine Manifestation, as well as the whole Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam, including men, should develop good affinity with the people the our Jamaat. In this respect, I warmly congratulate the Mukarram Amir Jamaluddin Sahib and his team for the opportunity they have got to visit our members in Tamil Nadu and to form a solid bond of brotherhood with them. *Insha-Allah*, the same should be for the women and girls also. I know that it is difficult for you to travel long distances like the men of the Divine Manifestation, but with the facility in our

modern era through social media [reserved to our members only], you can keep contact with the ladies of our Jamaat in Tamil Nadu and *Insha-Allah*, in the future the rest of India. And if the opportunity comes, you can even meet, *Insha-Allah*, and exchange your spiritual experiences and boast up your faith and share your *Deeni* knowledge with one another.

This is what a Jamaat is all about. To be a strong community of believers. All Islam should have been one, but *Insha-Allah*, this good practice should begin with us in the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam. Our meetings should not become business meetings or fashion events, but it should be filled with *Taqwa* and the desire to meet the rest of the members of our one same body. All Muslims as one. When one sister meets another sister, it is as if she is meeting herself. Everyone is different, but yet, we the chosen ones of Allah in this era, we are all alike. Each of you should help each other to advance in the cause of Islam. The old generation can counsel the younger generation and share their experiences of *Dawa*, and give good advices to advance the cause of Islam.

If any of you cannot agree on anything, if you are in serious doubt [not sure] about any subject, then it is better that it be presented to the attention of the Messenger of Allah and to obtain a divine decision in the matter. This is what *Shura* is all about. By the grace of Allah, you are all living in the presence/ living of a Khalifatullah, and you should learn to come together as one body, take common and mutual decisions among yourselves and if there is anything on which you are unsure, concerning the *Deen* of Allah, or a decision which concerns your personal life which you do not seem to know how to resolve it, then it is better that the Messenger of Allah with Allah's permission and approval be the judge in the matter.

Alhamdulillah, I thank my disciples in Kerala for their respectful, loving and understanding in the matters of consultation, especially when they send to this humble self. Sometimes due to lots of works being done, my decision may delay to come you, but you shall definitely get your reply. Never despair of the mercy of Allah. Very often Allah tests your patience, and He very well knows that you have already sent your message to His Messenger, and Allah resolves your issue even before my reply comes! This is also a great favour of Allah, because He knows how much love and consideration that you all have for the Imam of the Age. *Alhamdulillah*.

May Allah bless you all, always, and keep you united, happy, prosperous, and may Allah bless your future generation and enable them to take the responsibility of our Jamaat with faith, *Taqwa*, sincerity and righteousness. *Insha-Allah, Ameen.*

Thank you for your kind attention.

Wassalaamoualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakaatuhu,
Fi-Amanallah,

Munir A. Azim

The Messenger of Allah

Jamaat UI Sahih AI Islam

22 June 2019