



Islam and Sufi-ism.

“The Sufi-ism is the relation between Allah and mankind.”

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"Say to My servants that they should only say those things that are best. For satan doth sow dissension among them. For satan is to man an avowed enemy." (Quran XVII: 53)

According To The Muslim faith, When the Almighty Allah created Adam (the father of the human progeny) out of a lump of clay, and commanded the angels to greet him with a 'Sijda' (prostration in humility), I bless the satan hesitated to obey and accept Adam as his superior because he claimed his own superiority over Adam by virtue of his age long devotion to Allah and creation out of fire. His reluctance to obey and bow before Adam, however, resulted in his condemnation and he was therefore, eternally banished from the pleasure of Allah. Under this great humiliating disappointment, the satan, however, pleaded with Allah that he and his progeny (the satan belongs to the progeny of the genii) may be granted an everlasting opportunity to mislead mankind into error and sin in order to test the devotion of Adam and his progeny to Allah. This request was granted by the Almighty Allah with the commandment that whosoever followed the satan's path will forfeit his pleasure and that his abode will be in the fire of hell eternally. To accept either of the two options for the creation Adam and his progeny, would not have been in the best interests of mankind just like illness and health, blindness and clear

vision, night and day, heat and cold, good and evil, and so on.

The first treacherous act of satan under this arrangement started with the beguilement of Adam himself in the well known episode of eve and the "forbidden fruit" which resulted in the banishment of both Adam and eve from the heavenly paradise as a punishment against Allah pleasure and thus the treachery of satan, the avowed enemy of the progeny of Adam, has continued throughout the ages causing perpetual misery among the best majority of those people who succumb to his mischievous allurements in defiance of the commandments of Allah.

In this respect there are two kinds of people in the world, those who follow the commandants of Allah, and those who are susceptible to the beguilement of satan. There has always been a mighty struggle between the followers of satan and the believers of Allah ever since the creation of Adam in which the latter have always vanquished the former

According to the Holy Quran, those who follow the satan's enticement are rebels of Allah. They will have to render an account of their misdeeds and sins on the Day-of-Reckoning and suffer punishment in hell for they acted against the pleasure of Allah, but those who defy satan and stick steadfastly to the path of righteousness and truth as ordained in the Holy Quran and preached by Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him), are promised salvation and eternal bliss in paradise. This is one of the principal articles of faith in Islam.

The pages of the history and all religious books of the world are full of the terrible stories of Allah retribution upon those past rebellious generations of mankind who defied the teachings of His Prophets and apostles under the

mischievous influence of satan. There have also been numerous bloody wars between the forces of evil and good, Truth and falsehood, the followers of satan and the devotees and believers of the Almighty Allah in which the latter few have always vanquished the over -whelming many. As stated above again and again Allah has sent his Prophets and apostles to all races and nations of the world in order to warn and keep them on the right path of truth. As it happened, after their death people forgot their sacred lessons and became victims of satan's treachery only to forfeit the pleasure of Allah and earn his retribution. This is a divine decree which no civilization or modern progress can change in spite of all our scientific and material advancement.

When the Holy Prophet of Islam Hazrat Mohammed (Peace be upon him) appeared on the scene of Arabia in 750 AD, satan had virtually established his devilish kingdom over the Arabs who were steeped into abysmal ignorance and sin.

What was the actual condition of Arabia before the birth of holy Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him)? According to the holy Quran, "It was on the verge of fiery abyss." The barbarous Arabs were completely submerged under the evil influence of satan. They were soaking in superstition, ignorance, cruelty and idolatry and were torn asunder by internecine feuds and wars. They had no settled government and lived a nomadic life. Wine, women and every kind of vice and crime summed up their general attitude towards life. Even the Jews and the Christians had forgotten the teachings of their Prophets Moses and Jesus, and had become idolaters. Writing about the condition of Christianity in the 7th century was itself decrepit and corrupt. It was disabled by contending schisms and had substituted the

peculiarities of superstition of the pure and expansive faith of the early ages."

The teachings of the Prophet of Islam, however wrought a dynamic transformation in the sinful life of the Arabs within only a few years despite all the worst type of oppression, insults and persecution by the evil forces of satan in order to stick to their devilish ways of life. But, in spite of all these obstacles, Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) succeeded and succeeded triumphantly in completely routing the forces of satan and religion of Peace and prosperity happiness of the whole world as well.

The true purpose of religion is that human beings should follow the right path according to divine teachings. But before asking people to follow these teachings, it is first necessary to explain the teachings and whose teaching they are: secondly, about the one who is preaching them, and finally, the great benefit that will be derived by following them. These are the fundamentals on which religions are formed. To have a comparative study of Islam in the light of the teachings found in other sacred books, is to know what a comprehensive world religion Islam is pointing out also how the author of such a religion was decidedly the last great Prophet, there being consequently no further necessity at all for another Prophet to rise. Quran is the final revealed book of Allah and Mohammed is the last

As a matter of fact, Islam which means peace and which represents the divine code for a disciplined, contented and harmonious life of man on earth already existed in one or the other form long before the advent of the Holy Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him). It however needed a revival in an up to date form because due to individual and political intrigues, certain abuses had crept into it. The

preceding generations had altered the true spirit and version of the former Holy scriptures to suit their own selfish ends and conveniences. Thus mutilating the original commandments of Allah and bringing an ugly slur on the fair name of religion. These unauthorized intrusions and mutilations therefore necessitated up to date 'divine code' in its pristine glory and that is why a final and perfect religion in the form of Islam was revealed through the Holy Quran and Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) with the explicit warning that no more Prophets were to come after him. Islam is therefore, a perfect religion for all humanity and for all time, and not for the Muslims alone, whether the world accepts this divine claim or not.

Unlike the past, Islam is now preserved in its up to date perfection in the Holy Quran and because the past generations proved themselves incapable of preserving the original commandments of Allah in theory and true perspective had, as stated above, tampered with them to suit their own intriguing conveniences, therefore the Almighty Allah promised in the Quran to be its preserver himself this time. One of the living instances of this jealous guardianship is that millions of Muslims easily commit this 'Book of Allah' to memory- a feature unique in its own way which is nothing short of a miracle. There is no instance in the living memory of mankind to show that any of the ancient religious books or any other kind of book of such a voluminous nature as the Holy Quran is, was ever committed to memory. This fact alone proves that Allah original words have been preserved as He willed, and that there have been no tampering whatever with them after the death of the Holy Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) through whom the Quran was delivered

There are many unique virtues of Islam and its holy Prophet as compared with his predecessors. While the preceding Prophets were endowed with only one 'divine' virtue to help them to make their mission successful, Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) had the exclusive distinction of possessing all those 'divine' virtues in him which were bestowed upon his predecessors individually. For instance, Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) was endowed with the exemplary patience granted to Prophet Ayub, the miraculous virtues possessed by the 'staff' given to Prophet Moses, the healing spell possessed by Prophet Jesus, the perfect human beauty bestowed upon Prophet Yusuf and the supreme faith owned by Prophet Abraham.

Further, no Prophet ever since the creation of Adam, had the unique distinction of being succeeded by illustrious saints and divines among his followers as the Prophet of Islam had a venerable line of religious teachers and saints who shunned all pomp and show of the material world in order to serve the cause of Islam and humanity selflessly and faithfully. Both morally and spiritually they were pictures of perfection and stood out alone in the multitude of intelligentsia, never deviating from the teachings of the Quran or the tradition of the Prophet. Their one paramount aim of life was the selfless service of mankind, strictly in accordance with the teachings of the holy Quran both, in letter and spirit these holy teachers of Islam in the garb of sufi dervishes continued to keep the banner of Islam flying for a period of nearly 900 years after the death of the holy Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) by their matchless zeal, abstemious character and amazing spiritual powers and it is due to this unique dedication to the service of mankind that there are today 90 chores of Muslims spreading all over the world whose 'faith' in their religion remains as staunch and unshakable as it has ever been in

spite of all the political and social revolutions of the world ever since the death of Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him).

On the illustrious list of these great sufi saints who preserved the spirit and promoted the cause of Islam by their strict religious devotion and amazing spiritual powers under all sorts of cruel persecution like the holy Prophet himself, the name of Hazrat Khawaja Muinuddin Chisty of Ajmer stands high in perpetual glory. For the spiritual salvation and moral uplift of the people of South Asia by peaceful means and universal love. In fact, this lonely saint actually changed both the map and the course of South Asian history at a crucial period of her destiny not by sword or cannon but by the sweet and melodious spell of his spiritual sway plus unparalleled moral and religious character, a revolution which ushered in quite a new era of peace and prosperity for millions of Asian, and a revolution which the march of history and the present civilization cannot afford to forget in the interests of mutual love and peace for which the people of the world are so intensely thirsting today.

Mutual goodwill and confidence between man and man and nation and nation are once more rapidly deteriorating, and because the world is searching for a lasting peace against the forces of satan that have once again raised their monstrous head under the intoxication of new kind of scientific materialism.

The teachings of His Eminence Hazarat Shah Sufi Saleh Uddin Ahmed Chisty and Islam must, therefore, be preached for the interests of human rights and world peace.

We are sure, these lessons will be of great help in easing the political and religious tensions and restoring the waning faith of man in Allah and religion without which there can be no lasting peace in the world.