
Ask Fatwa Weekly Advice

Jumadul Ulaa, 1440

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Dajjaleyat

The galaxy of messengers have warned their nations of a terrible Fitna, a Fitna which will make the strong weak and those in authority helpless, a Fitna which will snatch the belief of the believers and snare mankind into the den of vice and immorality. The messengers have come and gone however this Fitna still waits for its appointed time as it is reserved for the final Ummat, this is the Fitna of Maseeh-ud-Dajjaal.

The three major religions of the world; Islam, Christianity and Judaism are waiting for the “promised Maseeh”; however, the understanding of each religion is different. We as Muslims await the Maseeh-ul-Huda (Eesa *alaihis salam*) who will slay the Maseeh-ud-Dajjal wa Maseeh-ush-Shar wad dalaalah.

Dajjaal linguistically means to deceive and dupe someone. Dajjaal has been given his title for this very same reason as he is an impostor and a deceitful person. Another meaning of Dajjaal linguistically is to cover, the relation to Dajjaal in this case is that he will cover the Haq with Batil, thus it will be difficult to identify the truth during the end times.

Hadrat Hakeemul Ummat Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi *Rahimahullah* has mentioned in his last compilation entitled Bawadir Nawadir (VL 2 pg 376) that to

take the Zhaahir (apparent) meaning in the Nusoos (divine texts) is a consensual matter and also logical. If there is a logical or textual reason than the indistinct meaning may be taken due to need. For this reason, when a person reads or hears the narrations concerning Dajjaal than the meaning which comes immediately into a clear and blank mind will be the famous and correct meaning. Therefore, Dajjaal is a real single person and not some system or organisation.

However, this does not mean that many corrupt practices will not surface before the emergence of the principal of corruption and evil. Apparently, many practices will seem beneficial however they will be nothing but a deception.

To understand this deception an example has been given by our Mashaaikh. *Perchance* Zaid's enemy had left a gift outside his door. Zaid's child seeing the gift shining in foil and ribbons runs towards it. The father seeing this shouts out "My beloved son! Stay far away from it!" The child due to his immaturity rejects the insight of his father and continues to draw near to the parcel. However, as soon as he reaches the parcel the child perceives an extremely foul stench. In horror, he comes to realise that this was nothing but a deception and that the parcel contained nothing but Najaasat and impurities. The child due to his immaturity was not able to understand his father's command and was incapable of differentiating fact from fiction. In the very same way, due to our spiritual deficiency we fail to comprehend and grasp the insight and wisdom of the pious Mashaaikh and Akabereen.

If one were to page through the narrations concerning the end times than it will become clear as crystal that during the times of Fitna and Fasaad there will be an apparent form of Deen, however it will be a hollow shell deprived of any Roohaniyat (spirituality).

Below are but a few Dajjaleyaat (deceptions) which we are facing:

1) Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa salam* has stated that a sign of the hour is when the Masaajid will be beautified and adorned. We are witnessing an era wherein the Masajid are decorated exorbitantly beyond need. This can be seen quite evidently (although not limited) in the Arabian Peninsula. The spirituality which was found in simplicity which is one of the hallmarks of Islam, such as a simple and humble Masjid founded with pure funds has been replaced with pomp and impure sources . Places which were a refuge from Fitna and a place of sukoon (tranquillity) as was the cave of Kahf have become places of cellular music, noise, video recording and free mixing. The simplicity of Salaah has been replaced with unnecessary Takalluf (undue formality) such as the creating of echoes and other effects via the microphone. The places of worship have begun to resemble museums and shopping malls and are being regarded as private property. Masajid are treated as tourists attractions and are slowly transforming into places like the Masjid of Cordoba. People have been barred from entering unnecessarily and the concept of Waqf has been forgotten and its importance has been disregarded; the lights, water, heaters and fans etc of the Masajid have been abused by all and sundry.

One needs to remember that Batil (falsehood) does not show its hideous face all at once. But rather it exhibits and shows its head gradually like patches of darkness so that the gradual change is left unnoticed until everyone is engulfed and immersed in pitch darkness . In this way, the entire community is warped and the Batil is regarded as a norm. In such instances, it is witnessed that senior people of the community and other pious people object to the changes however due to the gradual indoctrination of Shaytaan such people are labelled as backwards or those that need to move with the times.

In this regard, the statement of Imam Malik *Rahimahullah* is of utmost

importance, in which he has stated that the latter portion of this Ummat will not find salvation until they do not follow the former people. (Jawahirul Fiqh)

Other narrations mention that the Masajid will be to full capacity however it will be devoid of any guidance. This is a prophecy which requires deep contemplation. The reason for contemplation is that the Muslims of this era have outnumbered the past as predicted by Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa salam* and are morally starving as explained by Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa salam* that the Muslims before Qiyamat will be in large numbers however they will be like waste and froth i.e. there will be quantity bereft of quality.

In this time of Dajjaleyat a person becomes impressed with numbers. A person becomes deceived that if a Masjid is merely busy and has many attendees then "spirituality" is felt. A Madrasah, Darul Uloom or any effort of Deen which has many students and participants is regarded as a sign of success; man is deceived that in numbers alone lies success. However on the contrary, if we were to study the thought provoking statements of the Mashaikh who were the founders of such great achievement or those who were present in the initial stages of these exceptional accomplishments than one will notice the great worry and fear which these illustrious luminaries had with regards to such services of Deen expanding and swelling in such a way that its Roohaniyat would deteriorate and its object being lost.

An effort is required that quantity is supplemented with quality. An effort needs to be directed towards eradicating spiritual maladies from our hearts such as the mother of all spiritual ailments i.e. pride; wherein a person denies the truth, regards himself to be more superior to others and despises others.