

Misleading Propaganda of the Ridha Khan Devotees Against the ulema of Deoband and the Tablighi Jamaa'ah

Q: Imaan-52 : The Ridha Khan group here in Jaamnagar are telling the masses that the Ulema of Deoband and the members of the Tabligh Jamaa'ah are Kuffaar and have left the fold of Islaam. In fact, they say that even those who assist them and regard them to be good people are also Kuffaar and have left the fold of Islaam. What is then the status of those who regard the Ulema of Deoband and the members of the Tabligh Jamaa'ah as good people? What is the verdict of Allaah and His Rasool SAW. in this regard?

Answer: This propaganda of the Ridha Khan group is misleading. The Ulema of Deoband and the members of the Tabligh Jamaa'ah are innocent of the slander since they are true Muslims and propagators of the message of Muhammad SAW. They safeguard the Sunnah and are the true heirs of the Ambiyaa ALY. In the words of the rector of Daarul Uloom Deoband Hadhrat Qaari Muhammad Tayyab Sahib RAH. the Ulema of Deoband are? Muslims by religion, Ahlus sunnah wal Jamaa'ah by sect, Hanafi by Madh'hab, Soofi by temperament, followers of Imaam Maafureedi in beliefs, Chishti and followers of all the paths of Tasawwuf , followers of Shah Wali'ullaah in thought, followers of Moulana Qaasim Nanotwi in principles, followers of Moulana Rasheed Ahmad in secondary principles and Deobandi by affiliation).

The Ulema of Deoband gave their lives for the service of the Qur'aan, Ahadeeth and Fiqh and hundreds of thousands of Ulema, Huffadh, Qurraa, Mufasssireen, Muhadditheen, Soofiyya and Muballigheen have benefited from the university of Deeni knowledge called Daarul Uloom Deoband. They have spread throughout the world to propagate the message of Islaam. A clear indication of the immense service that these Ulema have rendered to Deeni knowledge is the countless books that they have written. We will now mention only a few works of Hadith written in Arabic, all of which have won great acclaim amongst the scholars of Deen:

1. Faydhul Baari, a commentary of Bukhaari
2. Laami'ud Daraari alaa Jaami'il Bukhaari, a commentary of Bukhaari
3. Fat'hul Mulhim, a commentary of Muslim
4. Arfush Shazi, a commentary of Tirmidhi
5. Kowkabud Durri, a commentary of Tirmidhi
6. Badhlul Majhood, a commentary of Abu Dawood
7. Awjazul Masaalik, a commentary of the Mu'atta of Imaam Maalik
8. Ta'leequs Sabeeh, a commentary of Mishkaatul Masaabeeh
9. Amaanil Ahbaar, a commentary of Sharhu Ma'aanil Aathaar
10. Ma'aarifus Sunan, a commentary of Tirmidhi
11. Aathaarus Sunan ma'at Ta'leeqil Hasan wa Ta'leeqit Ta'leeq
12. I'laa'us Sunan

This is just an example of the service to Deen, good fortune and divine favour that the Ridha Khan group is deprived of. They cannot present anything comparable to this. "Prove yourselves if you are true in your claim"

Regarding such pious people and sincere servants of Deen as Kuffaar and outside the fold of

Islaam shows the ignorance, irreligiousness, enmity for Islaam and deviation of those levelling the accusations. This is because such people were true heirs of the Ambiyaa ALY.' and accepted servants of Allaah. Regarding this fact to be the opposite will destroy one's Akhirah.

The members of the Tabligh Jamaa'ah bid farewell to their comforts, home, family, occupations, businesses and farms to undertake difficult journeys at their own expense only to propagate the Deen, a duty that was originally conferred to the Ambiyaa ALY. This service is a great one indeed. They teach the common (ignorant) Muslims to recite the Kalimah Tayyibah and the Kalimah Shahaadah properly, which is the basis of Imaan. They teach them the meaning of these Kalimah and tell them to perform salaah. In this way, people who are Muslims only by name become true Muslims who regularly perform their salaah. They also teach Islaamic character, Taqwa, purity, the rights of creation and creator, obedience to parents, respect for elders and compassion for youngsters. What better deed can there be? Allaah says, "Whose words can be better than the one who calls to Allaah and does good deeds?" Allaah also says, "There must be a group from amongst you that calls towards good, that invites (others) towards good and forbids (them) from evil. Such people shall be successful."

It can only be the enemies of Islaam who would label as Kuffaar such servants of Deen (whom Allaah has praised) and those who regard them as good people. Those who regard them to be outside the pale of Islaam intend only evil for the Muslims and are out to rob Muslims of the Deen. In the words of Rasulullaah SAW. such people are themselves Kuffaar and outside the fold of Islaam. Rasulullaah SAW. said that when someone labels another as a sinner or a Kaafir, the label will return to him if the other is really not so. Rasulullaah SAW. also said, "When someone calls another person a Kaafir or an enemy of Allaah and the person is really not so, the accusation turns back on the speaker (making him a Kaafir or an enemy of Allaah)."

A Hadith states that when Hadhrat Usaama RADI. attacked a Kaafir on the battlefield, the man immediately recited the Kalimah, Laa Ilaaha Illallaah, However, Hadhrat Usaama RADI. still killed him. When Rasulullaah SAW. was informed of this, he asked Hadhrat Usaama RADI. why he had killed the man even after he had recited the Kalimah. Hadhrat Usaama RADI. replied that the man had killed a particular Muslim and when he was attacked, he recited the Kalimah merely to save himself. Hadhrat Usaama RADI. therefore believed that the man did not recite the Kalimah with sincerity. "Did you cut open his heart (to see whether he was reciting with sincerity or out of fear)?" Rasulullaah SAW. asked. "What reply will you give?" Rasulullaah SAW. asked, "When the Kalimah stands up in his defense on the Day of Qiyaamah?" Hadhrat Usaama RADI. then begged Rasulullaah SAW. to seek forgiveness on his behalf, but Rasulullaah SAW. kept repeating the words "What reply will you give when the Kalimah stands up in his defense on the Day of Qiyaamah?" Hadhrat Usaama RADI. then said that he hoped he had accepted Islaam only that day so that all his sins would be forgiven.

The Ridha Khan devotees need to take heed to this Hadith and stop labelling Muslims as Kuffaar and Murtaad.

The crux of it all is that these servants of Deen who are fulfilling the task to propagate Islaam are sincere Muslims. Assisting them and regarding them as true Muslims is a sign of one's Imaan. In fact, Allaah has commanded us to assist such people. When He says, "And assist each other in sets of virtue and Taqwa?"

When Allaah has praised a group of people and has commanded that they be assisted, it will constitute clear disobedience to Allaah and Rasulullaah SAW. to regard such people as Kuffaar. Doing so is the practice of the enemies of Islaam and those who wish to destroy the mission of Rasulullaah SAW. It is the Materialization of the verse: "In s like manner, We have appointed for every prophet some enemies from amongst mankind and Jinn". It is also the materialisation of a Hadith that speaks about people "who are themselves astray and who lead others astray as well".' May Allaah save us from being amongst such p and may He guide them as well. Aameen. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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