



DARUL IFTAA MAHMUDIYYAH

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Question:

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Assalamualaikum Respected Mufti Ebrahim Desai Saheb.
I hope you are well.

There is a message going around regarding an attack on Mufti Salejee Saheb. Are your recent answers on Cii an attack on Mufti Salejee or Wifaaqul Ulama. Kindly clarify. If possible, please also clarify on your next Cii Q&A program. JazakAllah Mufti Sahib.

Answer:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

As-salāmu ‘alaykum wa-rahmatullāhi wa-barakātuh.

The questions on Cii are answered as received.

I have no control on how questions are asked. I, however have control on how I answer the questions. I do not doubt the sincere intentions of people asking questions.

حسن الظن من حسن العبادة

To have good thoughts about people is a beautiful act of Ibadat. (Abu Dawud-4993)

My responsibility is to quench and fulfill the thirst of knowledge in people and guide them especially with the complications during Covid-19.

The recent voice clip of Mufti Salejee Sahib solicited many questions. Anyone engaging on a public domain should bear the responsibility of his statements and their implications. When there are questions and observations on one's public statements on public platforms, that should not be regarded as an attack. That should be used as opportunity to clarify one's point of view. The anonymous article titled "Recent attacks..." is at most an un-parallel response and emotional outburst. I received many questions from all around the country especially from Trustees of the Masaajid asking me to clarify the issues of encouraging the people to go to the Masjid during the pandemic due to the Bhai Padia dream and congregating outside the Masaajid if the Masaajid are closed.

In order to exercise precaution, I also heard the voice clips personally. The contents of the voice clips are very clear and unambiguous. I do not believe the contents have been misquoted or misrepresented in the question. I have answered those queries and confined myself to answering the queries without attacking anyone's honor and respect. I have received hundreds of responses from all around the country thanking me for clarifying those issues. If Mufti Salejee Sahib or Wifaaq meant anything else through the voice clip that went out and the questions or answers are being misinterpreted, then, they should clarify them. It is their responsibility to do so. They should specifically clarify the issue of congregating outside the Masjid if there are restrictions

and clarify the Bhai Padia dream issue in the context of the pandemic. There was no ambiguity in the contents of those voice clips for me to seek clarity. The messages were explicit and clear. The voice clip of the dream is on record and not merely an allegation. The issue was also not of a dispute to seek clarity (فقتينوا) and to listen to the two sides.

The host of the Q & A program read out the question with Mufti Salejee Sahib's name as the voice clip of Mufti Salejee was already in the public domain and much spoken about. The issues in reference were synonymous to Mufti Salejee Saheb and Wifaaqul Ulamaa.

Furthermore, according to the principles of Iftaa, an answer to an explicit query must be explicit to avoid misdirecting the answer or misinterpreting the answer. (Al-Ashbaah) (العلم والعلماء)
It is also noteworthy to mention that when emotions are evoked just by mere reference of names in the question and regarding that as an attack, imagine the ghastly consequences of actually attacking the honor and dignity of so many Ulama with derogatory names and there is no condemnation of that Haraam act. In fact, some voice clips went out from some Majalis condemning some senior Ulama by name. I am averse to that attitude. It is against the spirit of Islaah and unity. I respect the honor and dignity of every Muslim, Ulama and non Ulama alike. I do not differentiate in according dignity and honor to any Alim or Mufti.

One of the final advises of Rasullullah Sallallahu Alaihi Wassalaam before parting from this world was:

قَالَ " فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ حَرَّمَ عَلَيْكُمْ دِمَاءَكُمْ وَأَمْوَالَكُمْ وَأَعْرَاضَكُمْ، كَحَرَمَةِ يَوْمِكُمْ هَذَا فِي شَهْرِكُمْ هَذَا فِي بَلَدِكُمْ هَذَا "

"Behold, just as the day of Haj, the month of Hajj and Makka Shareef is sacred, so too is the blood, wealth and honor of yourselves sacred." (Bukhari-6043)

If anyone requires any clarity on something unclear, they may contact me directly rather than discussing me on groups with loose talk and allegations of being a pawn etc. which is on official record to be used for future reference. It makes no sense to merely assume one allegation and commit a clear allegation. That is Gheebah and a major sin that requires forgiveness from the person.

Advise the person to channel his concerns to the appropriate forum and save yourself from the Fitnah of Gheebah, Buhtaan and lies. That is harmful to one's spirituality and will be a great burden on the day of Qiyaamah. Kindly refer to Ma'ariful Quran for the commentary of the following verse:

لا تقعد بعد الذكرى مع القوم الظالمين

Anyone wishing to seek clarity from me may do so by emailing me with his actual name and phone number. If I am certain about his identity and I have no bonafide reservations of Fitnah, it will be my good fortune to correspond with him with decorum and respect.

In view of the above explanation, it is incorrect to regard my responses to the queries as an attack on anyone.

Attached is a voice clip on the introduction to my answer which clearly states to respect every Aalim and Mufti. I have been emphasizing on this issue repeatedly on my programs. The transcript of the voice clip is as follows:

“At the outset, I must state, the Darul Iftaa has also received many queries from the public arising from the voice clip of Mufti Salejee Sahib. Some queries had an emotional outburst against what was stated in the voice clip. I advise the public to contain emotions and do not display any disrespect to any Alim or any Mufti.”

As per your request, I will clarify this issue on my next Q and A program Inshaa Allah. I humbly request you to make Dua for me. Make Dua Allah make me a representative of the following Hadith:

وعن إبراهيم بن عبد الرحمن العذري قال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: «يحمل هذا العلم من كل خلف عدوله ينفون عنه تحريف الغالين وانتحال المبطلين وتأويل الجاهلين». رواه البيهقي

In every successive century those who are reliable authorities will preserve this knowledge, rejecting the changes made by extremists, the plagiarisms of those who make false claims for themselves, and the interpretations of the ignorant. (Mishkat-248)

**Wassalaam.
Mufti Ebrahim Desai**