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## Assalaamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh “Grand Opening of a Musjid”

Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: *“I was not instructed with the building of (high and decorative) Musajjid.”* Hadhrat Ibn Abbaas (radhiallahu anhu) commented: *“You will certainly adorn them as the Jews and Christians did.”* [Abu Dawood]

Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: *“Amongst the Signs of the Day of Qiyaamat is that people will show off in the building of Musajjid.”* [Sunan Nisai]

Nabi (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: *“The Last Day will not come until people vie amongst one another in (the building of) Musajjid.”* [Abu Dawood]

The Ormonde Muslim Association in Johannesburg is ‘hosting’ an ‘opening’ fiesta for the ‘Evanspark’ Musjid, which includes (as usual) the elements of *Lahw* and *La`ib* (play, amusement and entertainment) that has become the hallmark of our present-day Ulama. Their confounded program includes singing of songs (nazms), qiraat, thikrs, refreshments, and also (the integral part of every revelry) supper! And, yes, so-called ‘ladies facilities’ thereby making a mockery of the Shariah’s prohibition of women’s attendance at Musjids.

Imagine the audacity and depths of degradation this Ummah has sunk to – not only are we guilty of being amongst the Signs of Qiyaamat by vying in the construction of huge and extravagant Musajjid; not only do we oppose and challenge the warning of Nabi (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) by building such improvident monuments, we now have the nerve to to flagrantly boast about it! Hosting an ‘opening’ event is synonymous with the kuffaar methods and practices of exhibition, advertising and of boasting their achievements. Which Sunnah of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) are these Ulama following with this opening stunt? Duid Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) organize an opening ceremony for Musjidun Nabawi? Did the Sahaabah, Taabi’een, Tabi’taabi’een or the illustrious Fuqaha, Ulama and Auliya of Islam ever held opening ceremonies for any Musjid? What has constrained these errant and miscreant ulama to adopt the ‘sunnah’ of bioscopes and supermarkets? We are aware that all the institutions of the dunya have opening ceremonies similar to what the Ormonde deviates have organized.

Muslims do not need such festivities. The Musajjid do not require such wasteful, ostentatious and haraam functions. The Musajjid have been created for the express purpose of executing the highest form of Ibaadat, viz. Salaat. The Musajjid should not be used to advertise our wealth, and for merrymaking, waste and ostentation. In the name of the Deen the ulama are making a mockery of Islam. The Opening ceremony of a Musjid is its first Athaan and first Salaat, and absolutely nothing more, not even a dua. The Musajjid are meant to instil in the Mu`min, the qualities of humility, peace and self-effacement. Such ‘Grand Opening’ galas are the very anti-thesis of what the Musajjid stand for.

Nabi (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) said that the entire earth is a Musallah for this Ummah. The Musaajid are meant to be simple structures built for the express purpose of having a common venue for Jamaat Salaat and to protect the Musallis from the elements. They are not, and never were, meant to be monuments and palaces used for nafsani aggrandizement. Whilst countless millions of Muslims are suffering all over the world – the latest being the plight of the brutalized Rohingya Muslims – the Muslims in this country are squandering the bounties of wealth on functions of bid'ah and merrymaking..

If the intention of building any Masjid was to please Allah Ta'ala and to gain the promised reward, there would be no excesses involved. So much money is squandered on extravagant, gaudy Musaajid structures whilst the bulk of this Ummah is grovelling in abject poverty and many grovelling at the door of kufr.

One of the greatest needs of this Ummah is to educate the masses about their basic Islam. Instead of squandering money in the building of huge and ornamental Musaajid, the monies can be better utilised and channelled at educating the ignorant Ummah, many of whom do not even know the basics of Tahaarat, let alone Salaat. Almost every monumental Masjid that is built nowadays, caters only for the handful of Musallis that attend the five daily Salaat, whilst the rest of the Ummah is wallowing in suffering and misery. The greater portion of most grandiose Musaajid stand empty and unoccupied. The consequence in terms of the hadith is the curses of the Masjid on the communities who have abandoned it. The money used to build one such Masjid of the likes of Evanspark, can easily be used to build (literally) numerous Musaajid in other parts of the world where there is a dearth and genuine need of Musaajid – in villages which do not even hear the Arthaan – where there exists not a single Masjid. For one million rand 10 or 12 Musaajid can be built to cater for the unfortunate Muslims whom the affluent Muslims have cast to the wolves of kufr.

To further add salt to the wound, haraam and wasteful events such as these 'Masjid Opening' ceremonies are brazenly advertised and made to seem a part of our beautiful Deen, whereas they are the very anti-thesis of all that Islam teaches and stands for.

### **Women's Viewing day**

Not merely satisfied with gorging the menfolk with their refreshments and putrid suppers, the organisers of this Masjid are even hosting a 'Women's Viewing Day'. They stupidly, recklessly and haughtily advertise in diametric violation of the Shariah: ***"All Ladies welcome to view the Masjid on Wednesday from 14:00 to 16:00 and on Thursday, from 09:00 to 10:00."*** When the Shariah has prohibited women from attending the Masjid for even Salaat, the confounded miscreants are luring women into the Masjid for their nafsani gratification, and all of this moral muck is perpetrated in the name of Islam.

The minds of this Ummah, and more especially of the majority of the Ulama, have become so diseased that they can no longer discern right from wrong; left from right; Haqq from Baatil!, excreta from food.

What logical or Islamically valid reason or justification can there ever be for this inane 'Women's Viewing Day'? Just as the 'Islamic' radio stations were the stepping stones to television (as we see many satanic molvis – fussaag and fujjaar -- appearing nowadays on TV), such events as this 'Women's Viewing Day' are the stepping stones for the ultimate integration of men and women performing so-called 'salaat' together. That day is not far off!

The molvis (already) allow women to attend their soulless discourses in the Musaaqid halls. They allow women to attend haraam wedding functions in these halls, they allow women to participate in their satanic thikr orgies, etc, etc. and now they encourage them to come and 'view' the Musjid! What Shar'i leg will these miscreant molvis have to stand on, to thwart the contention these very same women will one day present to allow them access into the Musaaqid for the five daily Salaat?

### **'Prominent' Ulama participation**

Another very sad facet of this un-Islamic event is the participation of a 'notable' Sheikh, Khalifah of Moulana Yunus Patel Saheb, and also that of a 'famous' Tablighi Jamaat orator. In the (clouded) eyes of some, these people are 'crowd-pullers'. Their presence is a cajolment for larger numbers of attendees. Their presence will 'sanctify' and 'validate' this un-Islamic event. These ulama are rendering Islam the greatest disservice. Instead of drawing Muslims towards the Aakhirah, they strengthen the worldly relationship. They will still have to regret.

The attendance of these Ulama convinces us that either their minds are desensitised such that they cannot recognise bid`ah or that they are merely in it for the money, name and fame. The very people who preach the Sunnat and are adept at quoting from the lives of the Sahaabah (radhiallahu anhum) and the Salf-e-Saaliheen fail to see that the event they promote, goes against the grain of what Nabi (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) taught and what his illustrious Sahaabah (radhiallahu anhum) practiced.

One need not be proficient in Islamic history to realise that never in the lives of Nabi (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) or the Sahaabah (radhiallahu anhum) have such wasteful and haraam events ever taken place.

We urge our Muslim brothers and sisters to realise the evil of such un-Islamic events and more especially we urge these 'prominent' Ulama who are to participate in this unholy function to recuse themselves and stand up for the Sunnat they so passionately and rightfully preach.

We remind these Ulama to reflect on the words of our beloved Rasool (sallallahu alaihi wasallam):

*"There is no obedience to the creation in the disobedience of The Creator."*

By heeding and answering the invitations of the *juhala* to attend such Islamically-alien and bid`ah events, not only are you Ulama inviting the Anger and Wrath of Allah Ta`ala, but you are instrumental in the ultimate deviation of this Ummah. "*Al-Awwaam kal An'aam*" – they observe your example and they follow. Please guide them aright!

May Allah Ta`ala save us all from the evil of the Nafs and shaitaan.

*Wa maa `Alayna illal Balaaghul Mubeen*