10. More proof of claim

Revival and strengthening of faith in God.

Besides, I have been sent to strengthen faith and prove to mankind the existence of God the Most High, because the state of faith has become extremely decrepit in every nation. The next world is considered to be only a myth, and everyone is demonstrating by his practical condition that the strength of faith he has in the material world and in worldly power and glory, and the amount of reliance he places on worldly means, he does not at all have this faith in, and reliance on, God the Most High and the next world. Much is claimed with the tongue but in the hearts love of the material world dominates. Jesus had found the Jews in exactly this state, and as is characteristic of weakness in faith the moral condition of the Jews also had greatly deteriorated and love of God had grown cold. The same is the condition now in my times. So I have been sent in order that the days of truth and faith return, and hearts be filled with righteousness. These very tasks are the real reason of my coming. I have been told that heaven, having become very remote, will again come near to the earth. It is these matters for which I am the Mujaddid, and it is these works which I have been sent to perform.

Among the objects which are the real reason of my appointment, there is the strengthening of the faith of the Muslims and granting them fresh belief in God, His Book and His Messenger. The strengthening of faith has been accomplished at my hand in two ways. Firstly, by explaining the beauties of the teachings of the Holy Quran, and manifesting its miraculous truths, deep knowledge, and light and blessings, which prove the Holy

Quran to have been revealed by God. Accordingly, readers of my books can bear testimony to the fact that these writings are full of the wondrous secrets and subtle points of the Holy Quran, and so has it always continued. There is no doubt at all that as much as the Muslims' knowledge of the Holy Quran progresses, their faith will also increase by the same degree.

The second way granted to me for the strengthening of the faith of the Muslims comprises the heavenly corroborations, acceptance of prayers and manifestation of signs. Accordingly, the signs which have appeared up to now are so numerous that no fair man can help but accept them. There was a time when ignorant Christians denied the miracles and prophecies of our Prophet, on whom be peace and the blessings of Allah, but now is the time when all the Christian clerics combined cannot make a stand before me. Signs are appearing from above, prophecies are being fulfilled, and miracles are making people wonder-struck. Thus how fortunate is that man who now derives benefit from these lights and blessings and does not stumble!

Those extraordinary occurrences, on earth and in the heavens, which are the signs of the appearance of the Promised Messiah, have all happened in my time. Long ago the solar and lunar eclipses took place in the month of Ramadan. The star *dhu-l-sanain* also appeared. Earthquakes occurred; epidemics befell; and the Christian religion spread in the world with great power and vigour. And as had been written in the traditions from of old, I was also declared a *kafir* with great vehemence. In short, all the signs have appeared, and those forms of knowledge and spiritual truth which guide the hearts towards the Truth have come into existence.

Criteria for the truth of a claimant.

I have already written that, according to the Holy Quran, a claim to have been appointed by God can be established completely and perfectly when it can be proved in three respects.

Firstly, that clear, categorical texts bear witness to its truth, i.e. the claim should not conflict with the Book of God. Sec-

ondly, that rational arguments support and uphold it. Thirdly, that heavenly signs verify the truth of that claimant.

Now my claim is established by all the three types of evidence. The definitive Hadith reports which take a seeker of truth to perfect insight, and give full satisfaction about my claim, include the mention of the difference in the physical appearance of the Promised Messiah and the Israelite Messiah. Accordingly, there is a Hadith report about the Promised Messiah in Sahih Bukhari in which it is stated that the Holy Prophet Muhammad saw him in a vision circumambulating the Ka'ba. His appearance is described in it, that he was brownish in colour, with hair that was not curly but straight. Then the appearance of the real Jesus, the Israelite prophet, is described, that he was of red colour, with curly hair. In Sahih Bukhari particular care has been taken at a number of places to describe the appearance of the coming Promised Messiah as brown in colour with straight hair while describing the appearance of Jesus as red in colour with curly hair. This proves that the Holy Prophet Muhammad has declared the coming Promised Messiah to be a different man, whose attribute is explained as being that he will be "your imam from among yourselves", while he has considered Jesus to be a separate man. And in view of some similarities, he has applied the name 'Jesus, son of Mary' to both of them.

There is another point worth consideration, that where the Holy Prophet Muhammad has mentioned the Promised Messiah, he has not confined himself to saying that he is brown in colour with straight hair, but has also again and again mentioned the *Dajjāl* in connection with him. But where he has mentioned the Israelite prophet Jesus, he has not referred to the *Dajjāl* along with him. Hence this also proves that in the eyes of the Holy Prophet Muhammad there were two men known as 'Jesus, son of Mary': one, brown in colour with straight hair who was to

^{1.} For these Hadith reports see *Sahih al-Bukhari*, Book of Prophets (*Kitāb al-anbiyā'*), chapter 48 and chapter 24. (*Publisher*.)

appear, and with whom would be the *Dajjāl*; and the other, red in colour having curly hair who is an Israelite, with whom there is no *Dajjāl*. It is also worth remembering that Jesus was a Syrian and Syrians are not at all called *adam*, i.e. brownish, but the Indians are called *adam*. This argument also shows that the brownish Promised Messiah, who is prophesied to come, is most certainly not a Syrian but an Indian.

It should be remembered here that the same is also proved from the histories of the Christians, that Jesus was not brown in colour but of red colour like most Syrians. But the appearance of the coming Promised Messiah is certainly not that of the Syrians as is clear from the words of the Hadith report.

Mujaddid of the fourteenth century Hijra.

Among the arguments in decisive Hadith reports which confirm the authenticity and truth of the claim of this writer is also the report regarding the appearance of *mujaddids* which finds a place in *Abu Da'ud* and *Mustadrik*, i.e. for this *Umma* a *mujaddid* would appear at the head of every century, and would reform the faith according to the needs of the Muslims. The words "he will reform for them" (*yujaddidu la-hā*) in this report show clearly that at the head of every century a *mujaddid* will come who will reform the *prevailing* evils.

Now when a fair-minded man ponders carefully as to what were the most dangerous evils prevailing at the head of the fourteenth century, for whose reform the *Mujaddid* had to have the powers, then it is clearly found that the very great evil which destroyed hundreds of thousands of people is the evil of the Christian preachers. No intelligent man and sympathiser of Islam will deny that it should be the main duty of the *Mujaddid* of this century to break the cross and destroy the arguments of the Christians. When the breaking of the cross is the duty and work of the *Mujaddid* of the fourteenth century, then it has to be admitted that he himself is the Promised Messiah, for according to the Hadith reports it is also the sign of the Promised Messiah that he will be the *Mujaddid* of the century and his work would be to break the cross.

In any case, if the present-day Muslim religious leaders reflect, while adhering to honesty and religion, then they will most certainly have to admit that the work of the *Mujaddid* of the fourteenth century is the breaking of the cross. And since this is the work which is reserved for the Promised Messiah, hence it follows, of necessity, that the *Mujaddid* of the fourteenth century must be the Promised Messiah.

Although in the fourteenth century other transgressions and evils like drinking and adultery etc. have become rampant, but careful consideration will disclose that the reason for all this is the teachings whose basis is that the blood of a man has sufficed for the expiation of sins. This is the reason why Europe is the leader of all in the commission of such crimes. Then due to the effect of constant contact with such people, lack of restraint and licence have generally increased in all nations. Whether people are killed by diseases or devoured by an epidemic, it does not even occur to anyone that all these calamities are due to the consequences of deeds. What is its reason? Only this, that love for God the Most High has grown cold, and the greatness of that Glorious One has diminished in the hearts.

In short, just as lack of restraint due to belief in atonement emboldened the European nations to indulge in drinking and every type of vice, similarly their example affected the other nations. There is no doubt that evil also is a contagious disease. If a respectable woman remains day and night in the company of whores, then even though she may not reach the stage of downright adultery, still the sight of the immoral lifestyle will certainly corrupt her mind. Hence it is belief in the crucifixion which is the root of all lack of restraints and licence. There is no gainsaying the fact that that belief is spreading very alarmingly in these countries, and the number of those people has reached several hundreds of thousands who have lost the essence of faith by falling in the trap of the Christian clergy, or have become apostates at heart and are wandering around in the guise of seekers-after-truth.

Consequently, the honour and mercy of God the Most High desired to save the people from the poisonous effect of the belief in the cross and expose the secrets of the deceit by which a man has been made God. Since this calamity had reached the peak by the beginning of the fourteenth century, hence the bounty and grace of God the Most High desired that the *Mujaddid* of the fourteenth century should be the one who breaks the cross. For, the *mujaddid* is like a physician, and it is this which is the function of the physician that he turns his attention to eliminating the dominant disease. Hence, if it is true that the breaking of the cross is the task of the Promised Messiah, then it is also right that the *Mujaddid* of the fourteenth century, whose duty it is to break the cross, is the Promised Messiah.

How will the cross be broken?

However, at this juncture, the question naturally arises as to how and with which tools should the Promised Messiah break the cross? Is it by means of war and battles, as is the belief of the Maulavis, or in some other manner? The reply to this is that the Maulavis, may God have mercy on their condition, are entirely wrong in this belief. It is not the place of the Promised Messiah at all that he should carry on war and battles. Rather, his position demands that he should destroy this evil with: (1) rational arguments, (2) heavenly signs, and (3) prayer. God the Most High has granted him these three weapons and such a miraculous power has been reposed in the three of them that it is impossible that anyone could compete with him in this respect. This is how, at last, the cross will be broken, until its greatness and reverence will disappear from the eyes of the seekers-after-truth, and gradually there shall be opened spacious doors for the acceptance of the Unity of God. All this will happen gradually because all affairs of God the Most High are gradual. Part of it will be in my life, part afterwards. In the beginning too, Islam progressed gradually, and so also at the end it will return gradually to the former state.

Some ignorant *Maulavis* ask: Which cross have you broken upto now? So let them remember that signs appeared, and prophecies were fulfilled, and the mouths of the Christian preachers were shut so that if they have any shame they will not raise objections [against Islam] in future. The lofty teaching of the Quran as explained by me made people bow their heads in great gatherings.² The principle of the Christian faith was demolished in a manner as had never been done by anybody before. If this is not true, then let our opponent *Maulavis*, acting as advocates for the Christian preachers, produce just one of their objections which I have not demolished with conclusive arguments. Or at least let them show that someone before me had given a reply of this scholarly level. These people should feel ashamed before God the Most High. How far, and for how long, will they fight the truth?!

Included among those clear Hadith reports is this sign of the time of the Promised Messiah that before his appearance the world will be full of tyranny and hardship. Then that Promised Mahdi will fill the world with justice and equity. He would have a shining forehead and lofty nose. It is in *Mishkat*, reported from *Abu Da'ud* and *Hakim*.

Now it is clear that in this age the world is full of all sorts of tyrannies, i.e. sins, actions of extremes, evils and vices. All the darknesses of the earth are raging with full power. Most hearts are so much enveloped by the material world and worldly desires that there is no place left in them for God the Most High. Righteousness is neither on the tongues, nor in the eyes, nor in the ears. The flood of carnal passions is flowing with full force. Neither beliefs nor deeds are right. Moral insight is lost and wisdom has disappeared. That divine love, that attachment,

^{2.} Author's note: Let the wise people read the article which had been read on my behalf in the Congress of the Great Religions. It has been published in a book, among the speeches of the delegates of all the religious communities. They will find out what sorts of fine points of Quranic wisdom have been explained therein, which were accepted as extraordinary.

that ecstasy, that humility, sincerity, piety, fear of God, lowliness, truth and righteousness, as had been taught by the Quran, are as if non-existent. Those who worship creation are active in spreading polytheism. The transgressors are purveying evil everywhere. Faith has become a thing professed merely by word of mouth, only a few servants of God being excepted. So in fact this is the very age which conforms to what is meant in Hadith, i.e. in which every type of sin, wickedness and faithlessness has spread. And the worship of others than God, which is the greatest iniquity, its banner has been raised aloft most powerfully. This Hadith report states very clearly that whatever is the kind of tyranny and hardship prevailing at the time, it is to rectify that, that the Promised Mahdi will come.

Meaning of 'shining forehead' and 'lofty nose'.

As to the description written of him, of having a shining forehead and lofty nose, this sign is not limited to external appearance only. For, there are thousands of men who share this external appearance. In fact, here in addition to this external appearance an inner quality is also implied, and that is that God the Most High will place in his forehead a light of Truth which will attract the hearts to itself, and there will be a sign of grandeur in his nose which is similar to loftiness of nose. The grandeur is this, that his awe and dignity will cast the fear of God in the hearts. Although both these signs are found in every special servant of God the Most High, yet the hadith implies that these will be found in the Promised Mahdi with great force and conspicuousness. The light of his forehead will attract people in great numbers, so much so that the ignorant would think that perhaps this man had cast a spell. Similarly, his awe will strike his opponents very powerfully. The sign of grandeur which is being represented by the nose will be manifested with great magnificence. Because he would be above any need or dependence on account of his grandeur, he will display magnanimity. He will not abase himself before the wicked, and at last it will be the wicked who will themselves show humbleness.

It should be remembered here that eighteen years before now both these signs have been alluded to in the Divine revelation in [the book] *Barāhīn Aḥmadiyya*. As for example there is the revelation: *alqaitu 'alaika muḥabbatan minnī*, i.e. "I have bestowed upon you from Myself the sign of the attraction of love", so that whoever looks at you, while free from prejudice, will love you, as a matter of course, and will be attracted towards you. Secondly, there is the revelation: *nuṣirta bir-ru'b*, i.e. "a sign of awe has also been placed in you". Those who reflect and those who observe the present circumstances know full well that both these signs are being fulfilled in this servant of God. Most of the pure-hearted people are being attracted, and the awe is increasing daily on the opponents who are despairing of their plans and some of them are repenting.

Bringing down faith from the Pleiades.

Among the clear Hadith reports is the argument contained in *Sahih Muslim*, i.e.

"Lau kāna-d-dīnu 'inda-<u>th</u>-t<u>h</u>urayya la<u>dh</u>ahaba bi-hī rajul-un min fāris."

That is, even if faith were near the Pleiades, a man from among the Persians will bring it down. This hadith clearly shows that a time will come upon Islam when weakness will overtake religion, knowledge and faith, and tyranny and hardship will spread over the earth. At that time a man of Persian origin will be raised who will bring it back to earth. It has just been established on the basis of the hadith given previously that the man who will bring about the downfall of all sorts of tyrannies and transgression, he is the Promised Mahdi. And from the hadith "There is no Mahdi except '*Īsā* (Jesus)", it is proved that the same man is the Promised Messiah. And now from the present hadith it transpires that that Promised Messiah is of Persian origin. Hence a person who reflects receives much insight at this point, and all the Hadith reports having been cleared of all sorts of contradictions, the conclusion emerges that the man who will bring faith, religion and knowledge back from the sky, that is to say, he will restore to the world true faith in God by means of signs, will strengthen the faith of people, will correct the beliefs, and will explain the truths and deep knowledge of the Quran — he will be of Persian origin and he will be the Promised Messiah. It has been established on the basis of the Hadith reports in Bukhari and Abu Da'ud that in his time the empires of the Christians will be the greatest and most powerful on earth and most of the countries would be under their sway. Sahih Bukhari and Muslim also contain a report that he will not use weapons nor will he fight. Rather, he will kill the other nations with heavenly arguments, i.e. signs and rational arguments. His weapons will be heavenly, not earthly. So be grateful that this promise of God the Most High has been fulfilled in your times and in your country. What will faith profit those people who will come after the light is shining fully?

Revelations.

Hadith contains reference to that same man of Persian origin who was mentioned eighteen years before now in *Barāhīn Aḥmadiyya* in the revelation of God the Most High, which is as follows.³

Translation:

"We have given you a clear victory", meaning, We will give it to you.

"The victory of the saint is a great victory. We have made him an intimate friend and a confidant. He is the bravest of them all. Had the faith been at the Pleiades, he would have brought it from there. God will make his argument radiant. O Ahmad! mercy flows from your lips. I shall raise you to Myself and shall cast My love on you", meaning, people will love you with a spiritual

^{3.} Here the author first quotes his revelations in the original Arabic and then gives an Urdu rendering of the same with explanatory comments. We have only translated his Urdu rendering and comments. (Publisher.)

attraction and will be drawn towards you.

"Take hold of Unity, take hold of Unity, O sons of Persia. Give glad tidings to those who believe in you that they have been considered truthful by God and for them is excellence in advancement. Recite to them My revelations, and turn not your face from God's creatures and take not ill their meeting", meaning, the time is coming when they will reach you in large numbers and in multitudes; so meet them good naturedly and bear with them.

Then He said that among them there would be a group, who would often keep you company, who have been named *Aṣḥāb-uṣ-Ṣuffa* by God the Most High. "Do you know what *Aṣḥāb-uṣ-Ṣuffa* are?", meaning, their glory is very great.

"You will see that many a time tears flow from their eyes, and they will send blessings on you", meaning, that whenever they hear any words of wisdom, and deep truths and fine points, or witness signs, or they are overcome by the state of the opening of the heart and belief, then out of abundance of love and affinity, they will send blessings on you. They will pray for your sake, saying, "Our Lord, surely we have heard a Crier calling to the faith, who invites towards God and is a light-giving sun." "Write down."

See Barāhīn Aḥmadiyya, pages 241, 242.

In these revelations it has been clearly indicated that my major task is that of calling to faith. It has been established by the Hadith that the most imperative need faced by the man of Persian origin will be to rejuvenate the faith of the people. He shall be given the strength such that even if there be a time when faith completely vanishes from the earth, nonetheless he will bring it back from the sky. In these Hadith reports it has also been hinted that in the early part of his mission the state of the faith of the people would be in utter collapse, and he will come with the object of establishing that state again in the

hearts by means of great force, power and signs. Then neither the idols nor the cross will remain, and their reverence will be gone from the hearts of the wise. All these beliefs will appear to be false and the True God will become prominent again.

Triumph by spiritual, not physical, weapons.

But it will not be that the Promised Messiah will wage a war like the worldly wars or that he will need physical weapons. In fact, God will turn the hearts towards Islam with His magnificent signs, with His extremely pure knowledge and with most strong arguments. Only those will deny whose hearts have been mutilated. God will blow a wind like the breeze of spring time, and a spiritual influence will descend from heaven and spread very quickly in different lands and countries. Just as lightening manifests its brightness in the east and in the west, the same will happen at the time of the appearance of that spiritual influence. Then those who did not see would see, and those who did not understand would understand, and truth will spread with peace and blessings.

It is this which is the spirit and essence of all those prophecies in respect of the Promised Messiah. It has been explained very clearly in Hadith reports that his sword is his pure breath, i.e. words of wisdom. The false communities will die on account of that breath. All those places to which his sight reaches, i.e. all those religions to which he turns his attention, he will grind down and turn the hearts towards the Truth. He will not harm the followers of any religion; rather, he will show the error of falsehood in a fine and gentle manner. Then light will generally enter the hearts and they will understand that those beliefs of theirs were, in fact, not right.

When you see that hearts have been motivated to accept as the True Deity that Exalted and Blessed God Who has been presented by the Holy Quran, i.e. the very same God Whose Being comprises all the best attributes and Whose follower can never suffer embarrassment, then realize that the time is nigh when all these matters will be fulfilled. You notice that in the beginning of the spring season, first the dry and ugly wood of the trees becomes colourful and fresh, then small leaves sprout, then flowers appear and at last the trees are laden with fruit. So understand with certainty that the same will happen during these days. And as for the praise bestowed on the Companions of *Suffa*, it points to this that only those persons will make greater progress in faith, love and understanding who will spend more time with me, and God will love them. They will never stumble, but will make progress and their hearts will be filled with ecstasy. In short, only those persons have a special status in the eyes of God who enjoy nearness, companionship and fellowship.

Similarly, it has been repeatedly conveyed in clear Hadith reports that that Promised Messiah will appear at the time of the power and supremacy of the Christians. During his time, the railway train and the telegraph will come into existence. Canals will be dug and mountains will be torn apart. Because of railway trains, camels will be redundant. Shaikh Ibn al-Arabi notes a vision of his in Fusus -ul-Hukam that he will be the Seal of Sainthood and will be born as a twin: a girl will be born along with him. He will be Chinese, i.e. his ancestors would have lived in the Chinese lands. Now the will of God the Most High has fulfilled all these things. I have written that I was born as a twin, there being a girl born along with me. My ancestors lived in Samarqand which is connected with China.

Books written.

In the end, it is also worth recording that the books that I have written and published till now are as below:

Barāhīn Aḥmadiyya, Surma <u>Chash</u>m Ārya, <u>Sh</u>aḥna Ḥaq,

^{4.} Author's note: See the collection Kanz-ul-'Ummāl, vol. 6, page 60, the marginal note on Musnad Imam Ahmad, after the chapters on Mahdi and Promised Jesus, etc. If this book is not available, then consult the pamphlet Chehl Hadith compiled by my esteemed friend Maulavi Muhammad Ahsan, which will be printed soon.

Fath Islām,

Taudīḥ Marām,

Izāla Auhām,

Āsmānī Faisala,

Nishān Āsmānī,

Ā'īna Kamālāt Islām,

Tuḥfa Baghdād,

Itimām-ul-Ḥujja,

Sirr-ul-<u>Kh</u>ilāfa,

Anwār-ul-Islām,

Karāmāt-us-Sādiqīn,

Ḥamāmat-ul-Bushrā,

Barakāt-ud-Du'ā,

Nūr-ul-Ḥaq,

Diā'-ul-Haq,

Nūr-ul-Qur'ān,

Sat Bachan,

Ārya Dharam,

Anjām Ātham,

Shahādat-ul-Qur'ān,

Sirāj Munīr,

Ḥujjat-ullāh,

Tuhfa Qaisariyya,

Jawāb Sirājuddīn 'īsā'ī ke <u>ch</u>ār sawālon ka,

The pamphlet Istiftā',

The speech in the conference Mahu Tasu,

Mubāhitha Jang Muqaddas,

Speeches in other debates,

Announcements, etc.