بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ Between Ourselves

How sad and pitiable it is that the very commadments and injunctions of the Holy Qur'an and the Prophet Muhammad's Hadith, which are mandatory for true and unconditional compliance, have been ruthlessly violated in all ages by sect-conscious and bigoted Muslim Ulemas and Clerics. Allah and His Last Messenger Muhammad, both have made it compulsary to guard the unity and integrity of Muslim *Ummah*. The Holy Quran says:

"Do not say to one, who (for disclosure of his religious identity) greets you with (muslim) "Salaam", you are not a believer." (4:94)

The Holy Prophet says:

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: "مَنْ صَلَّى صَلَاتَنَا وَاسْتَقْبَلَ قِبْلَتَنَا وَأَكَلَ ذَبِيحَتَنَا فَذَلِكَ الْمُسْلِمُ الَّذِي لَهُ وَاسْتَقْبَلَ قِبْلَتَنَا وَأَكَلَ ذَبِيحَتَنَا فَذَلِكَ الْمُسْلِمُ الَّذِي لَهُ ذَمَّتُهُ وَاسْتَه في ذِمَّتِهُ ''
ذِمَّةُ اللَّهِ وَذِمَّةُ رَسُولِهِ فَلَا تُخْفِرُوا اللَّهَ في ذِمَّتِهِ ''

"Whoever says our prayers and faces our 'Qibla' (in prayer) and eats meat slaughtered by us----is a Muslim and for him is the protection of Allah and the protection of the Prophet."

(Al-Bukhari, 8:28)

Similarly the Greatest Imam of Muslim Community, Hazrat Imam Abu Hanifa has said .

"If as person has 99 criteria of 'Kufur' but possess only one criterion of Islam (i.e. he

recites islamic 'kalima'), he should be taken as a Muslim."

Unfortunately, Muslim Ulemas and Clerics have shamelessly shown disregard to these inviolable injunctions, and have from time to time issued 'Fatwas of Kufur' in whole-sale. As such no Muslim Sect or Jamaat will be found in the whole Muslim history against which an anathema of 'Kufur' (heresy) has not been issued by other sect. A Great thinker and poet of India, Maulana Altaf Hussain Hali has well summed up this iniquitous and reprobate dark aspect of Islamic History in this couplet:

"O dear (Muslim Ulemas and Clerics!) we can never ignore or underestimate your all-time 'Contribution' to Islam, i.e. labelling whole *Ummah*, one and all, with the anathema of 'Kufur'".

It is not only Muslim Sects and Jamaats, even all great imams and reformers of this *Ummah* have met the same fate. In fact there is a price for everything and the price of reformation and renovation of any moribund system of thought and life is the chrage of heresy. That is to say, the reward for true and abiding service to mankind is nothing but anathema and persecution.

On the contrary Islam really stands for a compact nation spread all over the world, a nation agreeing entirely on basic principles of religion. Whether a Muslim calls himself a *Sunni*, or a *Shia*, a *Wahabee* or an *Ahmadi*, they are all agreed on One God regarding whose attributes they have no essential differences, they are all agreed on One

Prophet whom they all believe to be the Last of the prohets, they are all agreed on One Book, the Holy Qur'an, not differing in so much as a jot of the Holy Book. And further there is unity among them even in the practical side of religion. The narrow-minded biased Mulla however is blind to this unexampled agreement of the Muslim World and the minor points of difference loom large in his jaundiced eye. Despite such a wonderful agreement on so many basic points of vital importance, almost every person, every sect, every school of thought is denouned *kafir* by another.

We strongly censure and condemn this unislamic tendency, and fervently want to reestablish the real basic essence of Islam that everyone is a Muslim who declares his faith in *la ilaaha illallaah Muhammadur Rasul-ullah*, who accepts the Divine Messengership of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) by owning allegiance to the Holy Quran, to whatever sect or school of thought he may belong. It is only by returning back to the Holy Quran and to the Last of the Prophets i.e. Muhammad (SAW) that we can again restore the wonderful solidarity of Islam before which all opposition to the holy cause is bound to vanish.