

ICNA-Jamaat al-Muslimeen Unity Meeting

Sat, 22 Jul 2000

Jamaat al-Muslimeen International Press Release

(Faran International, **New York serves as Uniting Forum**)

Jihad is a Comprehensive Concept (Qazi Hussain Ahmed)

Pakistanis Must Unite in Diversity for Jihad (Kaukab Siddique)

An unusual event took place at Woodside, New York on July 15. Faran International, led by Dr. Shujaat Ali Khan, an economist from Karachi, brought together speakers from two movements known for their opposing views.

Jamaate Islami Pakistan is now a popular mass movement for Islam in Pakistan. Qazi Hussain Ahmed has transformed Jamaate Islami (in the words of Dr. Shujaat Khan) from bureaucrats and worshippers in mosques, to a mass movement affecting all aspects of Pakistan.

Jamaat al-Muslimeen is a group of activists in USA and England with considerable support in Nigeria and Bangladesh.

Jamaate Islami's supporters in America have an organization in America known as ICNA which has often been criticized in New Trend magazine which is edited by Dr. Kaukab Siddique. Only recently, Jamaat al-Muslimeen highlighted an incident at ICNA's annual convention in Baltimore at which an Iraqi activist (who supports Jamaat al-Muslimeen) challenged a court-appointed Saudi imam whom ICNA had invited.

When Dr. Shujaat Ali Khan invited Qazi Hussain Ahmed to Faran International, ICNA's people were happy. But when they found out that Dr. Siddique was also invited to speak, they were unhappy. However, Dr. Shujaat took the stand that Pakistan's polity is one with variety and complexity and we must listen to people we may not agree with.

(The meeting hall was packed with several hundred people, almost half of them women, without any partition between the men and women.)

QAZI HUSSAIN AHMAD spoke with steady eloquence in Urdu about Jihad as an essential part of Islam. He supported his points with quotations from the Qur'an and verses from the poetry of Allama Iqbal and Ghalib.

His main points were as follows:

1. Our relationship with Allah is the main motivation for participation in Jihad. If our faith is not strong and constantly renewed, we cannot do jihad.

1a. Jihad is a comprehensive concept covering not only armed struggle but also proper education, media, children's upbringing as good Muslims.

2. Islam must be translated into political dominance. Without political power, much of what we recite from the Qur'an remains mere theory and wish fulfilment. The sword and the Qur'an go together, not to coerce but to implement inspite of opposing forces which are willing to use force.

3. He urged Pakistanis in America to spread the message of Islam with wisdom, because America, along with much corruption also has many positive aspects in its way of life.

4. Women and men both must play an equitable role in the emergence of the just Islamic system.

(The Islamic leader's views were very popular with the audience which repeatedly raised the Islamic slogan of "Allahu Akbar.")

DR. KAUKAB SIDDIQUE (Ameer of Jamaat al-Muslimeen, which is not connected to any Pakistan party or group), spoke in Urdu and made the following points:

1. No Muslim today is safe from anti-Islamic forces because Dajjal (see hadith) has already appeared. So Muslims everywhere must either participate in Jihad or be swept away. Jihad is on in Chechnya, Kashmir, Palestine, Iraq (against US power), southern Sudan and is incipient in Bosnia/Kosova. In America Pakistanis must support the release of Imam Jamil al-Amin, Shaikh Omar and others.

2. Pakistan's home front must be unified to make Jihad possible:

i. We need unity between 'Ulema and western-educated Pakistanis. Without 'Ulema, the western educated cannot reach out and help the masses. Without the western-educated, the 'Ulema cannot understand the complex threats to Pakistan from Hindu Brahmins and Zionist Jews.

ii. We need unity between men and women. Based on the example of the Prophet (pbuh) and the Sahaba (Allah be pleased with them), women must be brought into every important aspect of life including JIHAD. We must never again allow the women to be defenseless victims as they were in Kashmir, Bosnia and Punjab (1947).

3. Quoting from (Tablighi Jamaat founder) Maulana Ilyas's malfuzat, he said that "commanding the good" and "forbidding wrong-doing" is as much of an obligation in Islam as prayer and fasting. Our society must learn to tolerate free speech and criticism to be a united society, to make it a powerful unity ready for Jihad.

PLEASE SPEAK ABOUT SHAIKH OMAR ABDEL RAHMAN: After the meeting, Qazi sahib and Br. Kaukab embraced and were photographed together with Dr. Shujaat Ali Khan and other well-wishers. Br. Kaukab used the opportunity to give New Trend

magazine to Qazi sahib and to ask him to speak about the human rights violations being carried out by the U.S. government against Shaikh Omar 'Abdel Rahman, spiritual leader of Egypt's Gamaa al-Islamiyya.

Jamaat al-Muslimeen speaks for the oppressed people of America. We may disagree with others in many matters, but when the enemy attacks, we stand united with the oppressed against the oppressor.

TO ATLANTA, brothers/sister on July 28, to support the release of Imam Jamil al-Amin. See our web site: www.NewTrendMag.org

Join the Million Signatures Campaign.

OUR SLOGAN: LET MY PEOPLE GO! FREE IMAM JAMIL AL-AMIN!

Help the people of Ethiopia. Send to: Jamaat al-Muslimeen, P.O. Box 10881, Baltimore, MD 21234.
