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a concise history of the original establishment, the formation of jusa and the great divide

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Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is'haq Sahib Daamat Barakaatuhu

KHANQAH AKHTARI - DARUL ULOOM AZAADVILLE - SOUTH AFRIC.

# JAMIA'TUL ULAMA TRANSVAAL AND JUSA

a concise history of the original establishment, the formation of jusa and the great divide

By Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is'haq Sahib (DB)

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A talk given by Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is'haq Sahib (Daamat Barakaatuhu) on the 30/08/2023

- with additions and amendments.

# بِسْ \_\_\_\_ِاللَّهِ ٱلرَّحْمَٰزِ ٱلرِّحِبَ

اَلْـحَمْدُ بِيهِ مُنْشِئِ الْـحَلْقِ مِنْ عَدَمِ ...... ثُمَّ الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى الْـمُخْتَارِ فِي الْقِـدَمِ مَوْ لَاىَ صَلِّ وَ سَلِّمْ دَائِمًا أَبَـــدًا عَلَى حَبِيْبِكَ عَلَى رَسُوْلِكَ حَيْرِ الْـحَلْقِ كُلِّهِ \_\_\_ يَا رَبِّ صَلِّ وَ سَلِّمْ دَائِمًا أَبَـــدًا عَلَى بَشِيْرٍ نَذِيْرٍ مُحَمَّدَا مَوْ لَاىَ صَلِّ وَ سَلِّمْ دَائِمًا أَبَـــدًا عَلَى طه سَتِيدِ الْـمُوْسَلِيْنَ بَلِّغْ سَلَامِيْ رَوْضَةً فِيْهَا النَّبِيُّ الْـمُحْتَرَمُ

> هُوَ الْحَبِيْثِ الَّذِيْ تُرْجَى شَفَاعَتُهُ ... لِكُلِّ هَوْلٍ مِنْ الْأَهْوَالِ مُقْتَحِمِ يَا رَبِّ بِالْـمُصْطَفَى بَلِّغْ مَقَاصِدَنَا وَ اغْفِرْ لَنَا مَا مَضى يَا وَاسِعَ الْكَرَمِ

> > اَعُوْدُ بِاللهِ مِنْ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّحِيْم بِسْم اللهِ الرَّحْمَن الرَّحِيْم

وَقَالُوْا رَبَّنَآ إِنَّآ أَطَعْنَا سَادَتَنَا وَكُبَرَآءَنَا فَأَضَلُّوْنَا السَّبِيْلَا ٥

"AND THEY WILL SAY: 'OUR LORD! VERILY, WE OBEYED OUR CHIEFS AND OUR GREAT ONES, AND THEY MISLED US FROM THE (RIGHT) WAY."

[SURAH AHZAAB 33: 67]

These are the words that will be spoken by people on the day of Qiyamah; those who followed the wrong people. ...And of course, on the day of Qiyamah everything will become very clear. They will realise that those who they followed and obeyed – their leaders, chiefs and elders – were people who misled them and took them in the wrong direction. On that Day, when it will be too late and they find

themselves going into Jahannam, into its severe punishment, they will make *badd* Dua for their leaders:

# "Our Lord, give them double the punishment, and send a curse on them, an enormous curse."

[SURAH AL- AHZAAB 33: 68]

...O Allah, increase their punishment; double it and pour Your curses upon them, over and over.

These are realities which the Qur'aan Sharief explains. It will happen. May Allah Ta'ala save us all. ...We must take lesson that we have to be very careful and vigilant as to whom we are following. We must not be amongst those who follow the wrong people, nor must we be of those who mislead the people, directing to the wrong and towards Jahannum.

This applies to all of us. As the husband for our wives: Are we leading them in the wrong direction? Are we influencing or coercing them to do the wrong deeds? As the parents and the fathers of our families: Are we leading our families in the wrong direction?

We must not think this refers to other people. We ourselves must be wary not to follow the wrong people. We must also not lead others towards the wrong. In the Qur'aan Sharief, these same people who followed their leaders will argue with them:

وَأَقْبَلَ بَعْضُهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ يَّتَسَآءَلُوْنَ قَالُوْۤ الْإِنَّكُمْ كُنْثُمْ تَأْتُوْنَنَا عَنِ الْيَمِيْنِ قَالُوْ ا بَلْ كَنْتُمْ قَلْ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ اللَّ

"AND THEY WILL TURN ON ONE ANOTHER ACCUSINGLY. THEY
WILL SAY: "YOU CAME TO US FROM A POSITION OF POWER
[I.E., ORDERED US WITH POLYTHEISM / STOPPED US FROM THE
TRUTH]." THEY WILL REPLY: "No! IT WAS YOU WHO WOULD NOT
BELIEVE - WE HAD NO AUTHORITY OVER YOU - AND YOU WERE
ALREADY EXCEEDING ALL LIMITS. OUR LORD'S SENTENCE ON US IS
JUST AND WE MUST ALL TASTE THE PUNISHMENT. WE LED YOU
ASTRAY AS WE OURSELVES WERE ASTRAY."

[Surah As-Saffat 37:27-32]

The laypeople ... the public ... awaam ... will blame their leaders but in vain. May Allah Ta'ala save us from that situation.

Shaytaan too will present his argument:

وَقَالَ الشَّيْطُنُ لَمَّا قُضِيَ الْأَمْرُ إِنَّ اللهَ وَعَدَّكُمْ وَعْدَ الْحَقِّ وَوَعَدْتُكُمْ فَأَخْلَفْتُكُمْ وَ وَمَا كَانَ لِيَ عَلَيْكُم مِّنْ سُلْطَنٍ إِلَّا أَنْ دَعَوْتُكُمْ فَاسْتَجَبْتُمْ لِيْ عَفَلاَ تَلُوْمُوْنِيْ وَلُوْمُوْا أَنْفُسَكُم مُ مَآ أَنَا بِمُصْرِ حِكُمْ وَمَآ أَنْتُمْ بِمُصْرِ حِيَّ مُ إِنِّي كَفَرْتُ بِمَآ أَشْرَكْتُمُوْنِ مِنْ قَبْلُ اللَّلِمِيْنَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيْمٌ

"And shaytaan will say when the matter has been concluded, 'Indeed, Allah had promised you the promise of truth. And I promised you, but I betrayed you. But I had no authority over you except that I invited you and you responded to me. So do not blame me; but blame yourselves. I cannot be called to your aid, nor can you be called to my aid. Indeed, I deny your association of me [with Allah] before. Indeed, for the wrongdoers is a painful punishment.""

[SURAH IBRAHEEM 14: 22]

#### LEADERS WHO MISGUIDE

Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The people punished most severely on the Day of Resurrection are a man who was killed by a Nabi or who killed a Nabi, an Imam of misguidance, and a sculptor of graven images."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Musnad Ahmad

This Hadith mentions the worst punishment meted out to three categories of people on the Day of Qiyamah.

# A person killed by a Nabi of Allah Ta'ala.

All the Ambiyaa (*Alaihimus Salaam*) are embodiments of mercy and kindness. How wretched must be the person and how evil his actions must be that a Messenger of Allah Ta'ala has to kill him?!

# - Or a person who killed a Nabi.

A Nabi is an embodiment of Mercy and Kindness, through and through! He only wants good for everyone, in every way, everywhere! How wretched must be the one who kills such a noble soul?!

# - An Imam who misguides his people

In this same category of wicked, contemptable people are those leaders who misguide their followers, leading them in the direction of wrong and evil, to the displeasure of Allah Ta'ala and to the Fire of Jahannam!!

In another Hadith, Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said regarding the signs of Qiyamah: "What I fear most for my nation is misguiding leaders..."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sunan Ibn Majah

They will be such leaders, scholars and Imams who will sell Dien for any price. They will misinform the people, delude them and even distort the teachings of Dien to get a paltry sliver of dunya.

The last category of those who will be punished most severely, are:

- The ones who sculpt images or make pictures (of animate objects)!!!

In another Hadith, it is stated: "The people who will receive the severest punishment from Allah will be the picture makers."

What serious matters and how important to guard against these evils! No matter what excuses we make and what explanations we give, these are such sins which draw terrible and severe punishment!!!

### THE PEOPLE YOU ASSOCIATE WITH

There is a saying and it is a reality also: "If you lie down with the dogs, you will wake up with fleas." ... That is, keeping the company of wrongdoers will have harmful consequences. Often, their misdeeds and crimes are infectious and the person falls into transgression. Moreover, you are known by the company you keep.

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<sup>3</sup> Sahih Al-Bukhari

The scholars who are bedfellows with the Shi'as, Christians and Jews, and have joined the interfaith club, participating in Christian vigils, visiting temples, synagogues, etc. should think as to what their position will be in the hereafter. Their actions and conduct belie the knowledge they have. They have become such leaders who mislead. Of course, there is still an opportunity to sincerely repent. However, if they remain collaborators and "clubmates" with the enemies of Islam, then this affiliation will cause them to rise up with such people on the Day of Qiyamah. ...On that day, those who had rejected Allah Ta'ala – the Christians, Jews, Hindus and others will become eternal companions in Jahannum. May Allah Ta'ala protect us.

Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "Whoever is pleased with the action of a nation, then he is a partner to their action."

Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam also said:

"A person is with whom he loves."

It is mentioned in another Hadith: "...And a person does not love a nation except that he will be raised with them [on the Day of Qiyamah]."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Kanz-ul-Ummaal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Al Mu'jamul Awsat

That is, you will be with whom you love and who you want to be with. If friendship and love is with Christians, Jews, Shi'as and Hindus, what a bad condition and what disgrace there will be on the Day of Qiyamah. ... Therefore, we should be very alert as to which direction we are going.

#### **EXPLAINING THE DIVIDE**

Regarding all of the above, we are facing another challenge ... and it does not give us any joy to speak about it. However, there is a very great need to speak about it so we all know what we are doing, who we are following and who we should follow. We must be fully aware and understand the background and its impact on our present situation.

JUSA plans to have their centenary celebration; 100-year celebration. Some talk about this celebration, others criticise and condemn it a little, and those who are adherents, laud praises. Like with similar events, it is something which will pass – akin to a roadshow or a publicity campaign over a few days. However, what is the reality?

We cannot cover the history of the Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal fully. However, a few aspects will Insha-Allah give us better insight and understanding into the matter.

# AN ACCOUNT OF JAMI'ATUL ULAMA TRANSVAAL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRESENT DAY JUSA

The Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal was established in 1923 and continued as such until 1991. Alhamdulillah, it followed in a certain pattern which was true to the teachings of Islam, the values of Islam, etc.

In 1991, there was the Annual General Meeting and I was present as well. It was in Newtown, behind the Hamidia Masjid where there are classrooms. The meetings used to take place there. During that AGM, the meeting was adjourned. A few people then went to the adjacent house of Moulana Ahmed Durwesh Sahib. He is still living in that house till today.

They went there for some discussion and a short while later, returned. Maulana Ebrahim Mia, who was the Ameer and President of the Jami'at at the time, had been coerced and forced to step down. The justification that was used was that the Mia family had some internal issues. On that basis, Maulana was told: You have to give up the Jami'at and you have to resign.

Maulana thus resigned at the AGM. Immediately, the new president was made the new president. There was no proper consultation, election or anything.

From 1923 until 1991, for 68 years, we had Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal. That was the old Jami'at. Based on the many years of its establishment, the scholars of the new Jami'at attribute 100 years to their own organisation. Of course, we can gauge this is not true. It is not the same Jami'atul Ulama. It is a very different set up. ...The Jami'at that was first established continued until 1991, until Maulana Ebrahim Mia Sahib *Rahmatullahi alayh* was forced to step down. In plain English and what is an everyday occurrence in South Africa and what many can relate to, the Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal was hijacked.

A new Jami'at was then established with a different code of ethics. Thus, what is actually being celebrated is 32 years. However, they play the great name-dropping game. They use the names of all the elders of the Jami'at who had given sterling service to Dien under the original Jami'at whereas that era came to an end and that establishment was buried in 1991. ...This is a fact and this is a breakdown of what transpired.

Those who knew the Ulama of the old Jami'at will know that they were from India and did not know English. Afrikaans too was not a language they were conversant in. However, they stood firm for Dien, not compromising on the teachings of Qur'aan and Sunnah. Alhamdulillah, they held great values and maintained Dien in its pristine purity.

Their objectives, the old constitution and the purpose of the Jami'at was Haq – and not what is being promoted, fostered and endorsed today under the banner of JUSA.

We do not have the time to go into details but a few examples will be shared. ...What I am sharing is what you will find on the Internet. You do not have to accept my word. You can confirm this online since everything from their records is there. ...If I do make any mistake, please inform me because I too have to go to my Qabr. I also have to face the questioning in the Qabr and I have to face Allah Ta'ala. If I am transgressing my bounds, you will be doing me a favour by telling me so. Inform me where I go wrong. It will be your favour on me and I will appreciate it.

## PROTECTING THE MASAAJID

The old Jami'at stood for the establishment of the Masaajid. ...Many of us have no idea what it was like to live under the old, white apartheid government. That government had an iron fist on this country. And they dared the whole world, just like Israel does. ...Israel claims to have all the support behind them. Of course, their support are the United Nations and America; otherwise, Israel is despised by the majority of people in the world. It is common knowledge how they treat the Palestinian people and their great injustices.

Apartheid in South Africa was extremely oppressive and non-whites were treated inhumanely. The Apartheid government had such a stranglehold on the country. That is a history on its own. ...Although the government has changed, the new Jami'at (JUSA) plays games with the present government and serves the interests of the government. On the other hand, the previous Jami'at members stood firm and resolute *against* the government of their time even though they were not South African born, though their language was not English nor Afrikaans.

In that era, most Indians lived in the centres of the towns but the government wanted those areas for the whites and relocated the Indians and other non-whites to places out of the towns or to another part of the towns. They introduced the Group Areas Act. For example: Many were in Fietas, Newtown – in that area. They were taken out and brought to Lenasia which had nothing at the time. Their homes and shops were demolished and many were forced to sell their lands to the government. ...Many of our Muslims were living in the centre of Krugersdorp and their shops are still there. They were also taken out and brought to Azaadville. In this manner, many non-whites were moved from their areas to other areas – under the Group Areas Act.

Since there were Masaajid in those areas, the government wanted to demolish those Masaajid because the area was now exclusively for whites. They were staunch Christians who could not stomach having Masaajid in their vicinity.

In 1970, one particular Masjid in Port Elizabeth was to be razed as a freeway was being built and the Masjid was situated on its route. They had even made an agreement with the trustees to sell the Masjid to them for R80 000. Then, the Ulama of the time formed the real JUSA – Jami'atul Ulama South Africa. At the time, there was the Johannesburg Jami'at, Natal Jami'at and MJC. Maulana Ahmed Sadeq Desai of the Majlis worked for the original JUSA.

Alhamdulillah, they fought the government tooth and nail, until the government changed the route of the freeway. That freeway had already been built to a certain point but its plans were changed. Anyone can go and see. It stops just before the Masjid. They diverted the road such that it was built around the Masjid. The Masjid is like an island in the middle of the freeway. The Ulama took on the government and they protected the Masjid.

Now, this new Jami'at dishonestly claims that they are 100 years old. They also boast about those elders who made so many sacrifices for Dien, but what did these scholars of today do? They closed the Masaajid – which was unprecedented – and announced this five days before the government did. They did the complete opposite to what

our elders did. ...And that was one very severe, grievous calamity in our history.

There are many examples of the resilient stance of the Ulama of the original Jami'at: Mufti Ebrahim Sanjalvi (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) was very clear on his position regarding commercial chickens. He said: "I will not certify the commercial chickens as Halaal; over my dead body."

Then there was the question of cheese and the use of rennet in cheese. Many efforts were made to prove it Halaal. Mufti Ebrahim Sanjalvi (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) stood his ground, with his dalaa'il, that it is Haraam and in no way can a Fatwa be issued that it is Halaal.

They had opposition and were criticised. Despite that, they stood their ground firmly and strongly.

### THE DISPARITIES AND DEVIATION

Besides the closing of the Masaajid and other disparities, the new Jami'at has not held on to the other true values of Islam that the previous Ulama stood for. Today, the organisation has its link to the government, the Gulen Movement, interfaith, secular education, etc. By joining in all these circles, they are causing great harm from within the Immah

Those elders promoted Islamic education, yet today these scholars are promoting and giving much preference to secular education. They clearly say that we have got no importance if we do not pursue secular education, obtain degrees, etc. ...How different to the past Jami'at!

These are matters that we need to be informed of and you can clarify all of it as well. Then decide: Where do I stand? Where am I headed? Who is my family following?

We all have to die. We will be entering the world of Qabr and there, our connections, friends, affiliates and others will be of no benefit. Our allegiance to all these movements and associations will not assist us in any way. Even family ties will not avail a person if his alliances were with the enemies of Islam. The requirement, in our graves, is Dien. We will be questioned regarding our Dien.

## AS A MEMBER OF THE JAMI'AT

In 1991, the new Jami'at was formed and their direction began to slowly change thereafter, over years. Prior to that, I was the vice-president in the old Jami'at. For a few years I remained the vice-president of the new Jami'at and then I saw that the direction was wrong and not as it should be. Allah Ta'ala saved me and took me out.

Alhamdulillah, we don't have personal grudges with them. This entire account is given because they are now involved in so much of wrong and misleading the masses. If they correct themselves, we will help them. We will ask them for Duas.

With the new Jami'at set up, all who were part of the old Jami'at were taken out in a very calculating and sinister way. They wrote to the Muftis who were part of the old Jami'at and imposed such conditions upon them, that they have to abide by this or that and were given a time-frame. If they were unable to follow through, they will choose their own Muftis. In that way, those Muftis were removed.

Moulana Nazeer Sanjalvi (*Daamat Barakaatuhu*) who is living till now in Bechule was the Ameer of the Ta'liemi Board. He too received a letter that certain conditions must be abided by. If not, they will have to choose their own. Since he could not abide by their conditions, he was also taken out.

# THEIR INITIAL STANCE ON HAQ

As said, initially, they were strong on Dien. In fact, all their articles from the magazine, 'Ar-Rasheed', are available on the internet. What was published in those years will also be found on the internet.

Without exaggeration, if you read those articles from 1991 until 2001, you would think that perhaps you are reading

articles from the Majlis newspaper; only with a difference in the tone of language. There was that firmness on Dien. ...A person of today would think that those articles were written by Ulama who were very 'orthodox' – as they are called. Yet, this was the content which the Ulama of the Jami'at conveyed to the people. For example: They had published an article on the founding of Shi'ism by Ibn Sabah. The Iranian embassy took offence to it and wrote to them in August 1999. This too is in the Jami'at archives. ...It may not be available on their present website. However, there are ways to retrieve such information.

They say nothing can be hidden on the internet. Even if you delete something, there is a record of it and there are ways to go back to it and recover it. ...In this, is a lesson for us. We could have engaged in many sins in our lives. If we made sincere Taubah, Allah Ta'ala is Most Forgiving; All-Forgiving. Allah Ta'ala will forgive and delete the sin from our book of deeds. However, when it comes to the evidence that we ourselves create via photography, social media, YouTube, etc., that sometimes becomes very difficult for us to delete or remove – and people can retrieve those details.

Nonetheless, the Iranian embassy wrote to the new Jami'at in 1999 – formed in 1991. This Jami'at replied. It is worth reading that reply. Today they are bedfellows with the Shi'as. In that time, they did not even write in the reply,

"As-Salaamu 'alaikum" or "Wa-alaikumus Salaam". They commenced with, 'Sir'.

That clearly indicated their opinion of the Shi'as; that Shi'as are not Muslims. Read the article and you will read for yourself the strong and hard stance they took against the Iranians. ...Masha Allah, whoever wrote the article had proper proof. The Iranian embassy did not reply. Otherwise, the Iranian, Shi'a scholars are well geared up and they know their points very well. However, the Jami'at's response was given in such a way that they had no answer to it.

And today, their stance is completely at odds with that reply to the Iranian embassy. It is unbelievable that they called Maulana Tariq Jameel a few years ago, and he came solely to propagate that Shi'as and Sunnis must live like brothers, that the Shi'as are our inner garment; they are close to us; we are close to them. Impossible.

...That response to the embassy was not our article, not an article by the Majlis or anyone else. It was their own article with a completely opposing view and attitude to what we find now.

That was one example.

#### THEIR ORIGINAL RULING ON TELEVISION

The other is an article that was also written between 1991 and 2001. The new Jami'at took out an article about television. Again, if you read that article, you will think the Majlis wrote it; only their language was not so strong. It was evident that they too were against television and wrote of its harms, the Dieni perspective and dunya's perspective. There was one particular point that they wrote, pointing out the harms and disorders that arise from television viewing: By not watching television (since the major content is Haraam), you will not suffer any of those harmful conditions. ...That was their view. And now, what a turnabout; a complete turnabout!

They themselves said it is Haraam with so many harms and now are hosting television programmes, etc. - promoting pure Dien through a medium and channel where so much of filth is disseminated. Once upon a time they called it filthy and harmful and now they are appearing on TV and promoting it.

...A present, leading member of JUSA had encouraged his students to get rid of the television from their homes. Now, those same students question how he went against his own instruction and became a presenter on television?! What a reversal?! ...Did their parents and teachers teach them wrongly and falsely?! Where has this completely new version of Islam come

from?! ...This brand of Islam is a one-eighty to what originally was?!?!?!

In that period of time, there were plenty of such articles propagating Haq. They had a section, 'libraries', with about 31 titles under that heading. See for yourself.

#### **ANOTHER FATWA**

During the apartheid government till 1994, gambling was illegal. It was not legal to gamble in South Africa. People who wanted to gamble used to go to Swaziland or elsewhere. Thereafter, Sun City was built and it had a casino. It also offered other entertainment and had beautiful gardens. That was after 1994, before 2001. Many good people and diendaar people were flocking there and they made the excuse that they were just going for a picnic, as the gardens, water-features, etc. were very beautiful.

There was a question that someone asked the Ulama of the Jami'at regarding visiting Sun City on those grounds; if it is permissible to go there. They replied in no uncertain words that it is not permissible to go to those gardens even if the person is not staying at the hotel and not going to the casino. It is not permissible to visit the Sun City gardens.

All of these views were held till about 2001. We know that in the year 2001, the incident of the twin towers took place.

Of course, that was not an explosion, it was an implosion. They destroyed it themselves as part of their global plans. Sadly thereafter, who is now the secretary general of the Jami'at went to a cathedral to pray for the Kuffaar of America. And he stood in the church surrounded by twelve crosses.

...Regarding the Twin Towers, I read an article about two years back – I had not noted the name and details. However, the architect behind the bombing of the twin towers disclosed before his death that nobody attacked America. They did it themselves. It was not as the Americans declared, that the kingpin and mastermind was Usama bin Laden. In those years, many thought that Usama Bin Laden was behind it. Now, it is clear that he was not, so we should seek forgiveness for those wrong assumptions.

Nevertheless, to go and pray for the Kuffaar in a church amidst the crosses and other symbols of Shirk is out of the question. That was the turning point.

In Ar Rasheed, Volume 3, Number 10, 10<sup>th</sup> Rabi'ul Aakhir 1433, the following was on the Jami'at's website: It is prohibited to build a Masjid, church and temple in one complex. Ten years later, they are in full support of it and are visiting such places. ...Completely conflicting. One can see so many radical changes.

Changes began from 2001 when the present secretary general prayed in the church. Between 2001 and 2010/11, all those good articles began to disappear from the Jami'at website. One by one, those articles and Fatawa which showed their stance on Haq were taken out. By 2011, all were removed. Now, if you go through the Jam'iat website, you won't find anything of the past - nothing regarding the Shi'as, television, Sun City, etc.

#### CONCEALING THE TRUTH

Taking into account all that has unfolded in recent years, we find that this is very much the case of concealing the truth and even distorting it – thus, following in the footsteps of the Jewish scholars who were guilty of this:

Allah Ta'ala says:

"Indeed, they who conceal what Allah has sent down of the Book and exchange it for a small price - they consume nothing into their bellies except the Fire. And Allah will not speak to them on the Day of Resurrection, nor will He purify them. And for them is a painful punishment." أُولَئِكَ الَّذِيْنَ اشْتَرَوُا الصَّلَلَةَ بِالْهُدَى وَالْعَذَابَ بِالْمَغْفِرَةِ ۚ فَمَاۤ أَصْبَرَهُمْ عَلَى النَّارِ وَأُولِيَكَ بِأَنَّ اللهُ نَزَّلَ الْكِتْبِ لَفِي شِقَاقٍ ۖ بَعِيْدٍ وَ لَٰكِ بِأَنَّ اللهُ نَزَّلَ الْكِتْبِ لَفِي شِقَاقٍ ۗ بَعِيْدٍ و

"Those are they who have purchased misguidance at the price of Guidance, and torment at the price of Forgiveness. How patient they are for the Fire!"

[Surah AL-Baqarah 2:174/5]

In the Tafsier of these Aayaat, we learn that there were Jewish scholars who fell into corruption and would issue incorrect rulings in favour of those who bribed them. They would go to the extent of even changing the verses of the Taurah to appease such people.

Hadhrat Mufti Muhammad Shafi Sahib (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) mentioned in his Tafsier, Ma'ariful Qur'aan, that in this Ayah, there is a warning for the Ulama of the Ummah of Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam*. They should be wary not to fall into the same evil – concealing the Commandments of Allah Ta'ala for material gain or other worldly motives.

Those who conceal the truth or alter Allah Ta'ala's Commandments for a few miserable pennies of this world are, in fact, consuming the fire. Allah Ta'ala mentions the consequences:

- He will not speak to them on the Day of Qiyamah.
- He will not purify them, that is by His Forgiveness.
- They will have to contend with a painful punishment.

This, because these scholars opted for misguidance and punishment over guidance and forgiveness. Allah Ta'ala describes them as persistent and bold in their pursuit for Jahannum.

In the time of Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam*, all the signs were apparent based on what was revealed in the Taurah – but the Jews chose to cover up the truth. The Jews knowingly concealed what had been revealed. Thus, they misled and misguided their own people and others, leading them to the Fire.

"And mix not truth with falsehood, nor conceal the truth while you know (the truth)."

[SURAH AL-BAQARAH 2:42]

How severe are the warnings from Allah Ta'ala regarding concealing the truth, yet this is what the Jami'at is guilty of: Hiding those Fatawa and articles of Haq and concocting and distorting the truth and presenting it as Haq. Other affiliated organisations are guilty of doing the same: Their original Fatawa and articles are being taken off from their

websites and now they broadcast a different brand of Islam. ...Besides misleading the people, they have created confusion in the masses and a huge divide in the community.

Whilst those articles on Haq are not on their present website, if you go back to the old Jami'at and their archives, you will find them there.

Articles conveying content such as the prohibition of television, Ijtihad and renewal of Islam, the position of women in Islam, Hijaab and Purdah, etc. were once propagated by them. ... Anyone would think that one of the senior Ulama (those who are described as traditional) wrote those articles. Now, the same Jami'at has panel discussions with women and openly meets, greets and shakes hands with them, etc. These scholars have YouTube videos, take photographs, etc. – all of which is completely against what they had propagated in the past.

There are plenty more such incidents! We have to ask them: What was wrong with the stance that you previously had? Why did you take a U-turn? Why did you'll go in the opposite direction? Why the complete distortion of Dien from 2010/2011 to 2023?

This is not about differences of opinion in Dien; this is moving 180 degrees away from the principles of Shari'ah. The public should do some research and check.

Why establish ties with the Gulen movement when it is not at all in conformity with the Islam of Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam? ...It is a modern Islam engineered in the White House of America yet JUSA is in full support of this movement.

One of my friends told me that recently he was at the Middelburg Muslim school. He observed that the boys and girls played soccer together and sat together in class. There was no segregation. Boys and girls sat at the same desk.

One student had a lot potential in him. His teachers told him: "Don't become an Aalim; rather become a doctor." They could see his nature was Dieni-inclined but that was what they advised. If people of Dien are encouraging towards secular knowledge – with all the evils that accompany it, this is a complete turn about to what the Ulama should call for.

#### TAKE CAUTION

Considering everything said thus far, we can obviously see for ourselves that there is a need to be responsible and cautious regarding who we take our Dien from. Each one of us has this duty. Muhammad Ibn Sireen (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) had said: "This knowledge is Dien (religion), so be careful from whom you receive your Dien."

...Alhamdulillah, there are people residing in other countries and they have expressed their concern about our state of affairs. An Aalim, based in another country, challenged the Jami'at (JUSA) to a debate. As usual, they choose to hide behind what they say is 'Mashwarah'. They replied that they will make Mashwarah. The Aalim wrote back that Mashwarah is not whether they are going to have the debate or not; rather it is when they are going to have this debate and they will have it. Due to the circumstance, he is prepared to debate them online.

So many are worried about the Muslims in South Africa, yet we are in a stupor. There is no concern about what is going on. We have to wake-up from this ghaflat and heedlessness. This is a matter of Dien and Aakhirah. The first and most important stage is the Qabr. Thereafter, what will our position be on the Day of Qiyamah?

Keep in mind: "If you lie down with dogs, you will wake up with fleas." ...If you lie down or 'sleep' with the enemies of Islam, you will take from them and wake up with them. You are who you associate with.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal existed from 1923 to 1991. It was run according to Dien and Shari'ah. In 1991 it was hijacked by the present day Jami'at. There was a takeover.

The new Jami'at continued by and large on that mizaaj and manhaj till about 2001. Thereafter, their articles and Fatawa that attested to the Haq were gradually deleted until 2010 when nothing of that old school of thought remained on their official website!!! In that period of time, the Ulama who served prior to the drastic restructuring of the Jami'at stepped down – due to the conditions placed on them.

This ushered in a new era and a new but corrupt Jami'at. This organisation replaced the original Jami'at and as of 2010, +- 13 years, sweeping changes were made. In actual fact, it is on these 13 years that the Jami'at celebrated a centennial anniversary; 100 years!

It is also quite clear that they have no grasp on simple arithmetic! If they say JUSA is an Islamic organisation, then based on the Islamic/Lunar calendar, 100 lunar years was three years ago. ...Another serious arithmetic error by the scholars for dollars; nothing new or surprising?!

Adding fuel to fire, adding insult to injury and rubbing more salt into the wounds of the suffering Ummah, these same scholars found the time and money to celebrate on the style of the Kuffaar and went from Masjid to Masjid – which they had closed – to sing their own praises. ... There is just no affiliation with the Sunnah and Seerah.

#### **SUMMARY**

- The original Jami'atul Ulama Transvaal was established in 1923 and continued until 1991.
- In 1991 to about 2001 the illegal Jami'at was run, by and large, on the school of thought of the original, genuine Jami'at.
- 2001 to 2010 was the period of deletion of proofs, articles, Fatawa, etc. of the old school of thought.
- 2010 was the year in which South Africa hosted the FIFA world cup year, which meant a lot for JUSA members. From 2010, Gauteng had a customised, modified organisation under the name of JUSA. It introduced a different brand of Islam, aligned to the government and other groups which represent the opposite of Islam.

Chronologically we see that this new establishment is flawed in every way and came into existence illegally. Its foundation is corrupt! As far as school of thought, mizaaj and manhaj are concerned, the present-day JUSA is totally illegitimate!

We make Dua that Allah Ta'ala corrects all the wrongs and brings them back on the original, true and correct school of thought!!! Aamien thumma Aamien!!!

May Allah Ta'ala open the eyes of our hearts, guide us all, grant Istiqaamah on Dien, grant us death on Imaan and Najaat (salvation) in the Hereafter.

"Our Rabb, do not cause our hearts to stray after You have guided us. Bestow upon us Your mercy for verily You are the Great Giver."

[SURAH AAL IMRAAN, VERSE 8]