

Shafik Sachedina

This is Exhibit "L" to the Affidavit of
Shafik Sachedina sworn to before me this 25th day
of June, 2010.

Louaine Bracke

Commissioner for Oaths

Schmitz

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ISMAILI LEADERS' INTERNATIONAL FORUM

The Jamat will recall that, earlier this year, the LIF and the National Council drew the Jamat's attention to the concerns arising from the publication and sale of an unauthorised volume under the name "Kalam-e-Imam-e-Zaman", purporting to contain the texts of Farmans and Talikas of our beloved Mawlana Hazar Imam. More recently, the Jamat may have become aware that Mawlana Hazar Imam has now initiated legal steps in Canada in this regard.

This is a serious and unprecedented development, and Mawlana Hazar Imam has authorised the LIF to share with the Jamat its background, in order that there is absolute clarity that the legal steps have been undertaken as a sad last resort, following the failure on the part of the people who are responsible for the unauthorised publication, to respond positively to numerous prior efforts to address the concerns internally.

Upon becoming aware of the plans for privately printing, publishing and selling this material, senior leaders of the Jamat had cautioned the individuals concerned that such action would seriously breach the process that Mawlana Hazar Imam has approved for the publication of his Farmans. This group of individuals chose to ignore the cautions, and proceeded with its private initiative, in the dubious and misguided belief that the Imam-appointed Jamati leadership was not representing the Imam's views and wishes on this matter.

Following the publication of the material, a member of this group had forwarded a copy to Mawlana Hazar Imam. Despite the innumerable other pressures on his time, Mawlana Hazar Imam had responded in writing to this individual to express his personal concern. Among the various messages in this Imam communication, the following was conveyed:

Quote

Over some time now, I have viewed with concern the inappropriate and unauthorised private initiative of some spiritual children who print, publish and circulate in various forms the texts of Farmans attributed to me and also to my late grandfather, as well as Talikas and voice recordings. This is a serious and absolutely unacceptable breach of the Imam's right and responsibility, established over many centuries, to safeguard the

integrity of his communications to the Jamat, and which are conveyed in the context of the privileged relationship of the Imam with his murids.

Unquote

Mawlana Hazar Imam's personal letter also directly requested those responsible to respond within 72 hours to convey their understanding of the gravity of the matter, and to confirm that it would be closed immediately and definitively. The Imam's letter went on to request that the publication should be withdrawn from circulation, its printing and distribution should cease, and all remaining stocks should be delivered to the Institute of Ismaili Studies in London, UK. At this point, senior Jamati leaders, once again, attempted to dialogue with the recipient of the letter, with a view to persuading him to comply with the Imam's guidance. This effort was rebuffed.

Rather than responding positively to the direct, personally signed communication from Mawlana Hazar Imam, the individual concerned alleged that it was a forgery for which some Jamati leaders and the Imam's personal staff were responsible. This prompted Mawlana Hazar Imam to address a second Imam communication to this individual, confirming that he (the Imam) was both the author and signatory of the earlier communication. Mawlana Hazar Imam's second letter stated the following, among other messages:

Quote

I had hoped that my letter of 24th of January would have convinced you not to prolong further the unacceptable situation you have created. I wrote to you personally, as I am doing today, in the hope that this matter could be resolved quickly and effectively as between a loyal murid and the Imam. I confirm in all respects the text of that letter. This is the reason I am sending you this second letter and I want you to know that it is the last one I will send you on this matter. If it cannot be solved in the relationship of a Murid to his Imam, I will have no other choice than to use all the measures available to me to enforce my rights, and to exercise effective control on my communication with my Jamat.

The Imam added in his own hand: "This is not at all the course I would wish to have to follow".

Unquote

Mawlana Hazar Imam's second communication also went unanswered, and, instead, the individual concerned wrote to Prince Amyn, alleging that Mawlana Hazar Imam's letters and signature were being forged. In response, Prince Amyn conveyed to the individual, in writing, that he had spoken to Hazar Imam, who had confirmed, without any equivocation, that he had written the letters himself, and also that he wished his guidance to be followed without any further delay.

To this day, the group responsible for the unauthorised publication has chosen to disregard two written communications from Mawlana Hazar Imam and one from Prince Amyn. Instead, it continues to advertise and sell the publication in question.

On the basis of the foregoing details, the LIF and the National Council hope that the Jamat will appreciate that the recent legal steps have been taken as a measure of last resort, and only following the failure of this group to respond positively to all earlier endeavours, including those by Mawlana Hazar Imam personally, to resolve this matter internally, in the spirit of the Imam-Murid relationship.

The Jamati institutions will continue to keep the Jamat informed of further developments in this matter, as appropriate.

15.4.2010