



## Memoirs of Hazrat Mufti Taqi Usmani ولست برکاتہم

After that, once again I received the following letter from Hazrat Mufti Sahab ولست برکاتہم:

*Bismihi ta'ala*

*(In the name of the Elevated One)*

In the service of Hadhrt Maulana Muhammad Taqi Usmani Sahab ولست برکاتہم,

I hope with the grace of Allah ﷻ that Hazratwala is doing well. It was in the month of Sh'aban ul Muazam when, in a letter, this insignificant requested Hazratwala to pen down his autobiography, which also got the privilege of acceptance by Hazratwala. *Fajazakumullahu Ahsanal jazaa.*

In that month, I got the honour of visiting Makkah Muazzama and at that time Hazratwala had said, 'I am in the process of writing the autobiography.'

After reaching my abode in India, Hazratwala's letter reached this insignificant and that too mentioned your serious consideration of this task. It was a source of immense pleasure that you had granted this insignificant's requests some eminence.

Whoever here got to know about this was delighted and prayed that Allah Ta'ala soon fulfils this task. Aameen.

Hazratwala had written this in his letter: "Still, one thought is a great obstacle which is that some other tasks are already in progress, so the question is whether time should be spent upon them or upon this?"

The real answer to this is known to Hazratwala himself; however, the opinion of this insignificant is as follows:

- 1) The writing responsibilities of Hazratwala can be undertaken by others in his supervision, while the autobiography can be jotted down by himself; this is because the prior mentioned tasks and their shortcomings can be carried out by other people of knowledge. However, in the case of the autobiography, this isn't possible. Capturing the true picture of the incidents and putting them into words probably cannot be done by anyone else. Even if someone tries to do it, the margin of some error would still be there, just like some other biographies have gone through this strain.
- 2) Many people acquired the solution to their troubles through Hazratwala's discourses; they acted upon the advises and found the ways out. I quote some words of wisdom from Hazratwala's 'spiritual discourses':

### A golden rule for have things done

"Our respected father, Hazrat Mufti Shafi Sahab رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, used to say that whatever tasks you postponed in lieu of some free time, those tasks will get postponed forever; just because you yourself deferred them. The rule to have things done is to thrust the third task between the two tasks already at hand. Meaning you were doing two things, now a thought arises to have the third thing done as well, so you forcefully plunge this third thing between the others, and this third task will also be completed, *Insha'Allah*. But if you think that we will start this third assignment after getting free from the previous ones, then that thing will hardly ever be done. Planning that we will do another thing after finishing the things already on our plate, is just a way of

delaying and not doing it at all" (Spiritual discourses: 1/53).

I dared to present the above elucidation as Hazratwala had said, "Whenever possible, I will take a verbal suggestion from you on the matter," otherwise, someone inferior telling anything to their elders is like showing a torch to the sun.

Hazratwala has also written the following in his letter: "The reality, though, is still the same, that what benefit can an autobiography of a mere mosquito or fly be to anyone."

This insignificant thinks that the sentence is very deep and meaningful. In its reply, we can only say that if the fly didn't have any value in it then Allah Ta'ala wouldn't have named a Surah 'Nahl' in the Holy Qur'an with its name.

Another point that comes to mind is that both flies and mosquitoes are winged animals. Hazratwala's autobiography would, in fact, be an 'arise-graphy' (jaag beeti). It's highly unlikely that anyone from the people of knowledge has travelled around the world as much as Hazrat has. The travelogues 'Jahan e deeda' and 'Dunya mere aage' are a witness to this fact. When Hazrat's travelogues are a reflection of *lazeer bood hikayat, daraaz tar guftam* (the story is interesting, I prolong the conversation) (a persian phrase), then what would be the eminence of Hazrat's autobiography! I'm at a total loss of putting this into words.

Nonetheless, it's a recurrent request that you kindly complete the task that you have started of writing your autobiography. May Allah Ta'ala extend Hazratwala's prestigious shadow over us and grant *barakah* in his time. Aameen.

*Amlahu Al-abd* Ahmad A'fi A'na Khanpuri

Servant Darul Ifta o Tadrees

Jamia Islamia Taleemuddin

10th Dhil Qaddah 1432

In this letter, all that Hazrat Mufti Sahab ولست برکاتہم had said about this insignificant is based on nothing else but his love and good thinking about me, otherwise, I know who I am. However, with this letter, another thought surfaced, which made me act upon Hazrat's request, which is that some of my well-wishers out of their admiration for me had produced my biographies in English and Arabic and in those I noticed that their love had made them act with exaggeration as they didn't know the actual background and details of several incidents, thus it is perhaps difficult that anyone other than myself could narrate those incidents. That's why, to keep the records aright, it would better that I myself penned them down.

On the other hand, something that had been a great obstacle was that various other writing tasks needed to be accomplished first; leaving them and starting to write about myself felt like a burden upon my soul. Keeping these two dimensions in mind I had promised Hazrat Mufti Ahmad Khanpuri Sahab ولست برکاتہم that during my trips I would try to inscribe the memories of my life.

Thus, I composed the following reply:

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

Respected Hazrat Maulana Mufti Ahmad Khanpuri Sahab ولست برکاتہم,

*Assalamualykum warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu,*

Hazratwala's letter reached me via email and to fulfil what you had asked, in the name of Allah Tabarak o Ta'ala, I have intended to start with the autobiography during my travels. You are about to embark on your journey for Hajj, this insignificant is in need of your earnest duas, and although it is known that Hazrat already prays for this inadequate person, still the heart desires to ask for it. And also please pray that if this work has Allah's pleasure in it then may Allah Ta'ala complete it in a way that other responsibilities also don't get neglected in the process. It is also requested that you please convey this insignificant's *Salaam* at the blessed *Rawdah* (of

the Prophet ﷺ). May Allah Tabarak o Ta'ala bless you with *Hajj e Mabroor*, safely bring you back and extend your shadow over us for a long period of time.

Wassalam,

Mufti Taqi Usmani

28<sup>th</sup> Dhil Qaddah' 1432

Henceforth, working upon this project, I began the task during flights and my short stays at various travelling stations. After some time, I again had the privilege of meeting Hazrat Mufti Sahab ولست برکاتہم and by that time quite a considerable portion of this book had been completed. When I told this to Hazrat Mufti Sahab, he suggested that I started publishing this in episodes in our monthly, "Al-Balagh" magazine. Thus, this is going to begin in Albalagh from the next month Insha'Allah. May Allah Taa'ala make it beneficial for the readers. Aameen.

(The English translation of the episodes printed in Al-Balagh are being published in The Intellect)

