

# Questions & Answers

With

*Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir Rehmaanee*

By the Administrators of

# Green Lane Masjid

[Please note - this question and answer session took place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013, approximately a week after the initial questions posed to Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir Rehmaanee. The information and questions were orchestrated, formulated and presented by the admin and people holding senior and positions of authority within GLM and so this is FROM THEM... furthermore this transcript has been checked by an Imaam of the Masjid!!!!)

**Questioner:** And you are normally regularly informed of the affairs here. Really the need to call you again arose because the conversation that took place with you and those brothers, the recording of it was not released or given out and due to this many brothers were concerned and thought of foul play.

Meaning that may be those brothers did not fully clarify when they asked their questions or when they presented their points or due to any other reason and it is on this basis you answered their questions. So this is why we wished to present this whole affair again and clarify it and seek advice from you. In shaa Allaah.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** In this regard those brothers did say to me and they did seek permission should they spread the recording or should they translate and transcribe the recording that was done on that day. So I advised them to give the (translated) transcription to the brothers and so they did not release the recording or make it open because I said to them to translate and transcribe it and so this is the reason. I think they also did this in one day so that the transcription is completed and reaches you.

**Questioner:** Shaikh The transcription has reached us but due to people it is concerning, they are not satisfied with the way the questions were asked and what was presented to you in that there may not have been a complete clarification of all of the issues and the full reality. So in this regards they wished to inform you further of the activities of the masjid, their efforts and the work that they do.

Shaikh the first thing is the masjid for approximately the last 4 years, ie green lane

masjid (GLM) is not under the administration of MJAH and you might have heard about this. This affair occurred with the agreement of the senior members of MJAH, initially with their approval and agreement, therefore the masjid was handed over to the current trustees although some seniors members of MJAH disapproved, none the less that issue is not so big now and has calmed down although the decision has not been reversed but an atmosphere of agreement has been created between MJAH and the GLM.

It is not a big issue but now all of the affairs and organisation of the masjid and specifically the conferences and programmes are under the guidance of the new trustees of the masjid and they are the ones who do everything. From the time the new trustees took responsibility all praise be to Allaah numerous positive things have taken place for example there is a fundamental need for dawah in English and that has excelled, especially the jumuah khutbah which is in English similarly also conferences. In the winters there is a conference that takes place in which scholars from Arabia participate and in the last 2 years Shaikh Sadlaan has been coming as well as other scholars who are associated of Jamiyyah Ihyaa at-Turaath of Kuwait.

As for the conference that takes place in the summer it is all in English. Similarly there is a dawah programme for new Muslims and that department is very active ie regularly 2 or 3 people accept Islam on a weekly basis Alhamdulillah so these are from the positive things.

As for the programmes and the dawah activities then with regards to the summer conference sometimes and in the previous year's such Duaat or speakers have been coming about whom it is not clearly known whether they are Salafee or not, whether they have affirmed Salafiyyah for themselves or denied it and it is not evidently apparent that they are associated with any Salafee or Ahlul Hadeeth organisation, so such people have been coming.

Now for this conference the issue has escalated as there is a speaker, Tawfique Chaudhry who is the director of al-Kauthar institute and also its founder. This is such an institute that has 2 types of instructors, so they are either those who do not manifest their

Salafiyyah nor do they manifest their association with the hanafees but there are other instructors who are clearly hanafees.

The second issue is that Tawfique Chaudhry, you might have heard about the pledge of mutual agreement, the Soofees and deobandees formulated a pact that we will not discuss or talk about the fundamental and core issues of Aqeedah in our lectures and sermons because they are not related to general public and that we should tell the general public basic things that unite us and the deep intricate issues pertaining to the Aqeedah should be left alone and also not to refute the Aqeedah of any individual or jamaat by naming them. So this is the fundamental intent of that pledge and Tawfique Chaudary has signed this pledge.

Similarly the other speaker is Yahyaa Ibraheem who is an English speaker, he also came 4 years ago and at that time we advised the masjid committee and explained to them not to call such a speaker(s) again. His affair is that his beard is so small that it appears he has not shaved for just 2 weeks and he is also musbil (garment dangles below the ankle), similarly his opinion is that there is no harm in celebrating birthdays. Now he has also been invited to this conference again.

The third such issue is, there is a speaker called Yasir Qadhi who in the beginning studied in Madeenah university 10 years ago and would deliver good lectures and it was well known that he was a Salafee and the people would listen to him. However slowly by slowly he moved away (from salafiyyah) and recently he clearly said, "I am not a Salafee and although that I used to be a Salafee and now I have no association with the Salafee movement because they are people who do not have the capability to resolve the issues and affairs ie they do not have such competence especially with regards to dealing with the issues of the current time.

His issue is that since this new committee (ie Trustees) has taken charge, he although has not been invited to any conference, the Friday Khutbah or a lecture but the issue is that a department of the masjid which sells CDs and books, so all the programmes, lessons, lectures and sermons that take place in the masjid are recorded and

sold. This is for the speakers that are here and also for other speaker who have not come to the masjid but if their lectures are good they are sold and one such speaker is Yasir Qadhi.

Since the new trustees have taken charge from the last 4 years his (Qadhis) CDs and DVDs are being sold and approximately 2 years ago some brothers organised a meeting with the masjids administrators (trustees) and informed them to stop this because he is not a Salafee as well as many other issues.

However the current situation is that the masjid has not stopped this and his CDs and DVDs are still being sold as per usual and the masjid committee and the people in charge of that department argue that they sell and give out his CDs and DVDs (and others) due to 2 reasons. The first being these CDs/DVDs are from the time when he was a Salafee and secondly the topic or subject of the lecture is such that it does not contain any issues or problems that could affect the Salafee dawah and so this is the reason why we sell and give them out. Nonetheless, these are the issues.

Now the issue with the conference is that although Yasir Qadhi is not coming but Tawfique Chaudhry is coming and other speakers like Waleed Basyouni and he has also signed that pledge of mutual agreement, then we have Yahya Ibraheem and I have already explained his affair that he has a very small beard so this is the situation.

So in reality the advice that we need and also for myself with regards to being the Imaam of the Masjid. I have already informed the masjid committee (ie the trustees) and they were aware of my position that I totally disagree with this method that has been employed in giving dawah, in that it is mixed and unclear and this not the way and also the manhaj is unclear. So this is what has happened. So I need advice for myself, should I clearly warn the general people from the minbar not to come to this conference and stay away or via any other means. You will also be aware as to what can happen after that.

Secondly if I do not speak about this conference as someone with authority or an Imaam then our brothers who are upon the Salafee manhaj and are Salafees and Ahlul

Hadeeth, what is their responsibility?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** The first thing is, Alhamdulillah wasalatu wasalamu ala rasoolillah Wa baad, Do not think that your position as an Imaam at the masjid should be left due to these fitnahs as not leaving your position is from the angle of good and when this is the position, approach and manhaj of the administrators then they should have someone with them who can advise, rectify and inform them of their mistakes. So this is the first thing.

Secondly as for the participants (ie speakers) who have been criticised, you have mentioned their affair ie that their manhaj is unclear or their dress is not according to the Sunnah and their Aqaa'id are censurable then all of these issues and affairs are such in that they (the trustees) should be informed that this conference should not take place.

So there are two ways in informing them, one is to speak to the administrators, as for what you have mentioned should you warn against the conference from the minbar, this can lead to and cause fitnah, so speak and tell them these are the issues and the conference from the perspective of the manhaj is totally incorrect. Tell them a non Salafee manhaj will be propagated and the actual Salafee manhaj will be suppressed. So speak to them and speak to them firmly, speak with the evidence and speak with firmness and conviction.

If you speak to them generally ie boycott the conference, and if someone asks you your position or asks the administrators their position then this can become a source of fitnah in public. If the administrators do not listen then at least you have fulfilled your obligation and responsibility.

At least you should have contact and liaison with the sincere brothers maybe via telephone, messages, or even directly tell them not to participate in this conference so that our brothers are not misled and so that they also know there are doubts with regards to their Aqaa'id and manhaj so these are the things they should be informed about avoiding the fitnah completely. So when is this conference?

**Questioner:** This coming Friday after 3 days, it will start on Friday Saturday and Sunday for 3 days.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Ok it is very near.

**Questioner:** Yes very near.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** You said the current administrators have a link with MJAH, but I can not see this link!

**Questioner:** Shaikh there is no link in the administration or organisation except to the extent that the head office of MJAH is still in this building (ie GLM complex). This conference is essentially in English and a week later the Urdu conference will take place which is organised by MJAH and that will also take place in this markaz (ie GLM complex).

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Who will be participating in that?

**Questioner:** The jumuah Khutbah will be delivered by Salaah al-Budair, the Imaam of the Prophets masjid, from Pakistan we will have Professor Hamaad Lakhawee, Shaikh Zafar ul-Hasan Madanee from Dubai, Saajid Mir, Haafidh Abdul Kareem might also come and from Quetta Ali Muhammad Abu Turaab and so these people will be attending.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** This is very good and when this conference takes place it is necessary to rebut the doubts (of the current Quraan and I conference). As for selling Yasir Qadhi's cd's then this is major harm to the manhaj and very big as the general people will think he is good.

**Questioner:** Yes Yes

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Meaning that his cassettes and CDs are being sold from our markaz, this is indeed major harm and damage to the manhaj so inform them and make them aware. The conference will happen and then finish in 3 days and if this affair continues then many people will be misled and deceived, thinking that their masjid agrees with them because they give out their CDs whether they are on topics, that there are no differences of opinion on or whether they are old CDs from the time when he used to call himself a Salafee everything is dangerous, so they should be thoroughly informed so that this affair stops. The conference will take place and then finish and even its effects can diminish but this (ie giving out his cds and dvds) can be very harmful and detrimental.

**Questioner:** Shaikh there are 2 other associated questions, the first questions is if the administrators (trustees) of GLM invite speakers who are associated with these 2 institutes (al-Maghrib and al-Kauthar) ie these 2 organisations are such that their manhaj is not totally clear and some of their Duaat are Salafee and call themselves Salafee, some of them are not Salafee and some are silent or they are neutral, then if such speakers come should GLM clearly state their position that they have no connection or association with these 2 organisations ie al-Maghrib and al-Kauthar or this is not their responsibility.

This is because the position of the people of the masjid (ie GLM trustees) is that we only invite them on the basis that they are only speakers and we don't invite them because they are connected with these organisations or due to the organisations and that they don't have a binding connection with these organisations in terms of a contract or an agreement?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** No these things are totally useless (BAIKAAR), the speakers who are invited like...what name did you say Tauseef...

**Questioner:** no Tawfique, Tawfique Chaudary.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Tawfique Chaudary and what is he to al-Kauthar?



**Questioner:** He is the founder of al-Kauthar.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** He is the founder and he has signed the pledge of mutual agreement?

**Questioner:** Yes he has signed the agreement. Yes Yes

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Then what doubt is left, what doubt remains. When there is no care for Aqeedah and when Aqeedah has been limited and restricted and when it has been given no importance, what is the manhaj and position of such an individual. (Questioner interjects....)

**Questioner:** Shaikh that pledge, we want some clarification, some people want further clarification about it. They say the pledge is not that dangerous compared to how it has been presented. Even though some Arab scholars, because the pledge is essentially in English and when it was presented to the Arab scholars it was translated from English to Arabic and then questions were asked and the scholars refuted it (ie the Arab scholars) and said it is totally wrong.

However but still some people are not satisfied and say the pledge is not like that, the fundamental intent was not to digress and immerse the general people into the deep and intricate issues of Aqeedah and only the core issues should be mentioned, secondly in light of the situation here (ie the west) a particular individual or an organisation (Jama'ah) should not be singled out by name for criticism or refutation.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Ok so who will distinguish or make a distinction about these deep intricate issues of Aqeedah?

**Questioner:** Yes, there is no clarity or clarification about this.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Whatever issue of Aqeedah you mention and it is against someone they will say why have you mentioned it. This pledge of mutual

agreement is as such that your tongues have been sealed and locked so that you do not mention the Haqq (ie truth) or the correct Aqeedah and so this is should be totally opposed and it should be refuted.

The Aqeedah is such that it should be not be restricted or anything else mentioned about it (that limits it). Aqeedah is our fundamental issue, our foundation and principle and its rectification is necessary with regards to the people's Aqeedah. So this is censurable. So then further when the Arab scholars have refuted this (pledge), who do the general people think they are in that they still do not accept (the futility of the pledge) and what the scholars say, who will they listen to?

**Questioner:** Yes in reality this is a calamity. Those people think the scholars who are not here in the west are not aware or familiar with the affairs here and hence they issue Fataawa according to that. Some people have clearly said when the scholars refute one another then abandon their position/opinion because they have too much time and hence refute one another due to the excess time they have.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Explain to your brothers that they should absolutely make Bayaan of the Aqeedah and in a good way **"Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and argue with them in a way that is best...."** (Soorah an-Nahl:125) ie it should be clear with the evidences and proofs with good words in an affirmatory manner and this is worthy to be accepted. However if the method is not correct and instead of having a positive affect there is a negative one which will be harmful indeed. This is how the Duaat should be cultivated but nothing can stop them from mentioning the Aqeedah.

**Questioner:** Shaikh is it necessary to mention the Aqeedah of the Barailwees and deobandeas by naming them in the Friday Khutbah and in the general lectures especially when discussing the issue of Aqeedah or can it be done without mentioning their names?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** You will be mentioning your comprehensive position on Aqeedah which will include refutation on everyone else. However if by mentioning

names people think they have been hurt and their honour has been attacked then don't mention the names. Names should be mentioned when there is a dire need to do so; where the people are not able to distinguish who is being referred to and who is being talked about.

Their beliefs are well known and clear, everyone knows the Aqeedah of the Barailwees and the Aqeedah of the deobandeers and when you talk about them the people will understand. Sometimes our brothers mention their beliefs in such a way other than wanting good for them they humiliate so who will listen to them and no doubt problems will be created.

**Questioner:** That's true. Shaikh concerning this very same conference some people via messages and emails thought it was their responsibility to warn the general people who are unaware of the Salafee manhaj from coming to the conference and so they started to send these messages openly that this conference is wrong to the extent that one brother said the masjid is upon Baatil in this issue.

So spreading such messages and information to warn the people who are totally unaware of the Salafee manhaj, so is this action of the people doing this correct although they are doing this because if the people come, the Salafee manhaj will be harmed and instead of being guided to the straight path they will be confused, so this is their intent, so is such an action correct?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Most certainly the intention of these people will be correct but the method is incorrect and we can not see much good in this method rather it looks attack. The best way is the brothers should form a strong delegation and meet the administrators/ organisers (ie the trustees) and put pressure on them that this conference should not take place and if it does take place then the speakers should be those upon the Salafee manhaj and they should be invited, so this is the best way. No steps should be taken which generally may lead to potential fitnah and a delegation should be formed to meet them to stop this conference. There could be many other speakers who are upon the Salafee dawah.

**Questioner:** Shaikh there is an issue here which the administrators (ie trustees) of the masjid think is their main problem. The problem is, there are only 2 or 3 speakers here (ie From the masjid meaning the Imaams Ie Abu Usamah, Ahsan) who deliver friday khutbahs and lectures, other than them if other speakers are looked at ie outside this markaz then all of the English speakers that we can look at are just 1 or 2 because the rest of them are somehow linked and or connected to these organisations ie al-Maghrib and al-Kauthar, so the masjid committee says if we are to call someone who shall we call?

I did say to them that if this is the situation then it is not necessary that you do a conference and if you think you do not have many speakers then do not do the conference and do as much dawah as you can.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** I was also about to say if this is the situation then do not do the conference, what is the need to do the conference if they are calling such people when they acknowledge themselves that those speakers have their links with Ahlul Bidah or they are Ahlul Bidah themselves then what is the need to do the conference.

A person makes a grand masjid and then appoints a misguided deviant Imaam then what is the benefit of such a masjid, there is no benefit of that masjid. The masjid is not the building, the masjid is the Imaam and the dawah (emanating from it), the masjid is not the cement, mortar and bricks. A masjid is established by its Imaam, its callers and the administrators (ie trustees).

So when they know they do not have speakers for the conference and the ones they do have are Ahlul Bidah then what is the need of that conference. When there is going to be one in urdu, then do it in Urdu and you will certainly find people who can translate the conference from Urdu to English. So they are Salafee (ie speakers) and they are also Salafee (ie translators) then the message can reach the people in this way, inshaAllaah

**Questioner:** Shaikh if during the conference when Tawfique Chaudhry delivers his lecture would it be correct to openly ask him whilst he is on the stage as to why he signed the pledge of mutual agreement and what is the reality, as he will try to justify its validity?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** No it will not correct to do it there, he should not be questioned at all like this, as he will have the mic and he will speak and some people are very eloquent with their speech and he will with his words and they say ie they will make a wooden pillar into gold, so there is no benefit from this and the simple people will become affected and then harmed, so do not question him.

You should from your own perspective be firm and speak to the administrators (ie trustees), it should be halted, first foremost the conference should not even take place and if it is necessary that it happens then its speakers should be those who are true flag bearers of the Salafee manhaj.

**Questioner:** If the administrators of the masjid say the speakers are coming ie Tawfique Chaudary and others and when they come then, then I, on the basis of being the Imaam of the masjid and other people who have raised specific concerns sit them separately and a meeting is organised and you can speak to them yourselves, then is there any benefit to this? When the position of these people is totally unclear?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** No there is no benefit in this, (Questioner: yes) There is no benefit of this.

**Questioner:** But the solution to this is that the masjid totally frees itself from these organisations and say we have no association with them and if no other speakers or Daees can be found except those who are associated with these institutes then such a big conference should not be organised?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** This is totally correct, totally.

**Brother:** Qaree Sahab what we need to ask is what do we do those who are regulars at the masjid, do we warn against the conference?

**Questioner:** He said No

**Brother:** You don't warn against it.

**Questioner:** Shaikh the brothers are present with me, they are listening, although you have answered the question, they are saying, we the people who regularly pray in the masjid for the last 10 or 20 years and they have informed the masjids committee via emails, messages or via phone numerous times to dissociate and free themselves from these institutes and they have not done this and now the situation is that instead of disassociating and freeing themselves they have rather invited its founder, then is it our responsibility to warn and deter the lay people who are not of that level from coming to this conference?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** YES YOU CAN in a manner that it does not cause fitnah, meaning that your name does not become well known as a fitnah causer rather it should be done in a good manner and a particular way to inform some specific people. One method that you presented was to refute (this conference) minbar then something like that can incite fitnah.

So if this is not the case and fitnah does not arise then inform specific senior brothers. Secondly the senior brothers has you have mentioned have been praying there for the last 15 or 16 years, then not attending will also be a major form of refutation because the people will no doubt think why has such and such not come and this will most certainly be a big refutation of their manhaj so this is very important and necessary and so the seniors should definitely be informed not to attend.

**Questioner:** Shaikh they will most certainly not be attending without a doubt but these senior brothers think there will no affect on the masjid committee by them not attending because they have spoken to them many times over the last few years and have

informed them to free themselves (from these organisations) and they ignore the advice and so they say we have done this on numerous occasions and now the situation has escalated.

So now the way the people are being informed is via the Internet and Facebook where everyone is being informed in addition the people they personally know they are being told not to come to the conference but an open clear message is broadcast that the conference taking place in the masjid is wrong and not to participate in it.

So the people are those that they know as well other general people and when such information is sent out in the Internet there will definitely be Barailwees and deobandeers who are informed, so all of them read this that the people that go to the masjid themselves are warning from the conference, so is this method correct?

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** Yes it is very appropriate Inshallaah it is appropriate, to make it clear through messages and Internet. If you are explaining to them (administrator) and they are not understanding it then you have established the proof and evidences and now leave it to Allaah.

But on the basis of being the Imaam of the masjid after the conference you should clarify this manhaj, ie what is the position with regards to this pledge and the importance of Aqeedah so continue to manifest your position in a positive and affirming manner so that an action of rectification is constant and continuous.

**Questioner:** Hmmm okay jazakAllaah Khairan Shaikh, make dua especially that Allaah helps us through this trial and Allaah saves us from this fitnah and Allaah guides us to remain upon the straight path.

**Shaikh Abdullaah Naasir:** May Allaah give us guidance and May Allaah also give guidance to the administrating brothers and to tread upon the correct Manhaj.

**Questioner:** yes JazakAllaahu Khairan Shaikh, Walaykum asalaam.