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Muslim Shī'ah Relations

With the recent happenings locally as well as abroad, the discussion regarding Muslim-Shī'ah relations has once again come to the fore. Some have clearly called towards unity and others have hinted towards it. **The plain truth is that the foundational and core beliefs of the Muslims (Ahlus-Sunnah) are irreconcilable with the foundational and core beliefs of the Shī'ah.**¹ Hence any type of attempt towards unity is either a deception or a futile effort.

The cornerstone of Shī'asm is the belief of Imāmah. They believe that twelve members who they have singled out (by their own conjecture) from the progeny of Rasūlullāh ﷺ were divinely appointed “Imāms”.² **According to them, accepting them as Imāms is necessary in order to be considered a believer (Muslim).** These Imāms received revelation, they are equal to the Ambiyā in rank and status and obedience to them is compulsory.

In other words, they believe in twelve Ambiyā after Nabī ﷺ but instead of referring to them as Ambiyā, they refer to them as Imāms. A person who holds this belief can never be a Muslim. He is a definite kāfir. Until he does not repent from such a belief, there will be no choice but to recognize him as a

¹ Here, we are referring to mainstream Shīasm, which is Twelver Shīasm, the cornerstone of which is the belief of Imāmah.

² It is important to note that these twelve personalities were in fact upright and pious Muslims. They never claimed anything the Shī'ah believe regarding them. The Shī'ah, as per their habit, concocted statements and beliefs and then falsely attributed them to these illustrious members of the Ahlul Bayt

disbeliever. **All the major scholars of the Shī'ahs**, past and present subscribed to the above and even more.

Those who temporarily claim to be free from these beliefs - due to some motive - still revere, respect and honour their predecessors as great believers despite them definitely holding these beliefs. **Considering a clear kāfir to be a Muslim is itself kufr. Thus, just as Muslims cannot unite with the Qadiyanis for their belief in a false Nabi, we cannot unite with the Shī'ah as they falsely ascribe Nubuwwah to twelve more people after Nabī ﷺ.** This is their foundational belief.

There are many other sacrilegious beliefs that they hold onto but we have omitted them here due to brevity.

As Muslims, we need to:

1. Understand that Shī'asm is kufr.
2. Understand that Shī'ahs who know their religion cannot be considered Muslims.
3. Shun them completely & cut off all ties with them if such ties exist.
4. Keep our families and dear ones far from them and their influence.
5. Maintain hatred in our hearts for their beliefs and actions.
6. Confine ourselves to the writings and lectures of reliable, upright and pious Ulamā instead of exposing ourselves to content online.
7. Be wary and shun anyone who “sings the tunes” of Shī'asm, Sunnī-Shī'ī unity and similar issues. This does not require one to be trigger-happy in declaring people “Shī'ah” or “pro-Shī'ah”. It merely means that one should always be alert, vigilant and cautious, especially when dubious statements are made.

Note: Understanding the kufr and blasphemy of Shī'asm and digesting the fact that we can never unite with them does not necessitate extra judicial violence, as claimed by Shī'ah sympathizers. No two religions are united. Muslims do not unite with Jews, Christians, etc. in their countries but this does not cause extra judicial violence.

Yes, within a proper Islāmic State (which unfortunately does not exist at present), there will be laws restricting the Shī'ah from their blasphemous acts and statements. Those who break the law will – naturally - be duly chastised by the state. Therefore, extra judicial violence is irrelevant to the discussion. Uniting with the Shī'ah or entertaining such calls is a compromise of one's Imān and beliefs.

Despite hating the beliefs and acts of a person, we desire good for him/her in the future. This is why we hope for their guidance, make Du'ā for them and support the 'Ulamā who are working in this field.

For further reading on the deviation of Shī'ahs, refer to “Khomeini and the Iranian Revolution” by Maulana Manzur Nu'mānī ﷺ.

May Allah تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى protect us from all types of deviance and may He guide the misguided. آمين