

## WAR

## Interview with Dr. Israr Ahmed

by Nabeel Aejaaz

Dr. Israr Ahmed, who needs no introduction. Many of his views are not taken well by the nation but he still continues to struggle to bring about an Islamic system in Pakistan.

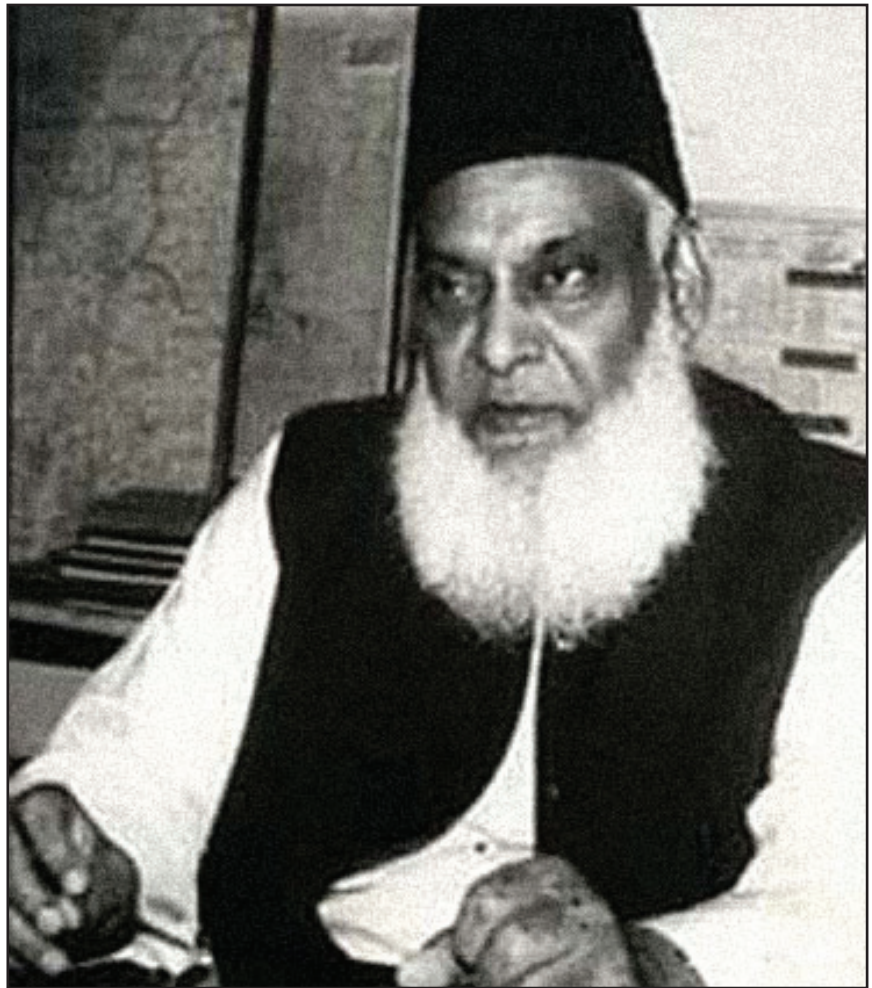
**What is Tanzeem-i-Islami, what is its vision, and how far has it been successful in achieving it?**

According to the Quran and the Sunnah, a Muslim is required to live by Islam and incase Islam does not exist as a system, as is the case today, a Muslim is obliged to struggle for the establishment of a system of social justice, a politico-socio-economic system of Islam in the first place.

We, the Pakistani Muslims have double the responsibility for this struggle due to the reason that Pakistan was created in the name of Islam through a bloody partition of India. Since it needs a collective struggle, a party with the name of Tanzeem-i-Islami was founded by me in 1975 in order to perform our Islamic duty. It was envisaged to change the prevailing Un Islamic, corrupt system through a revolution, but the Tanzeem could not gather enough strength during the time to challenge the existing setup, no achievement to mention in the worldly sense could be had. However, this is not the only aim before us. Our basic aim is to obey and please Allah for the salvation in the Hereafter, for which we do hope.

**Many people wonder in which subject you have done your doctorate. Or is it medical doctorate?**

Yes, I was a medical doctor, but I made up my mind during school time to learn and spread the teachings of Quran and Islam. I was in Makka in



1971 when I finally decided to forego my medical practice to devote my whole life for the struggle of Islam.

**Is it true that you have an entry ban in the U.A.E. & in the Saudi Arabia, if yes, then why is it so? Also you were recently stopped from entering Canada? What would you like to say about it?**

I had no official information about a ban but I understood that I was not in the good books of the US and the West, especially after 9 /11, due to my concept of radical Islam; which demands a Muslim to struggle against the prevailing corrupt and exploitative system in the world. The UAE and the Saudi governments were perhaps unhappy due to my participation in a Khilafat conference in London in 1994, in which was said that there is no concept of kingdom or a sheikhdome in Islam.

**Bi'dah (Innovation) and creativity are different things. While Bi'dah is known as haraam, is there a place for creativity in Islam?**

Why not? Islam is more dynamic and progressive than any other system in the world. Leaving only a few bounds set by Islam, which can not be crossed whatsoever, there is a vast field of creativity and development in Islam.

**With so many Firkas and Sects being carved out everyday, what would you suggest to a new convert, to choose or follow? After all no sect is a sect in its own form?**

Every Muslim, new or old is required to struggle for a system of social justice of Islam and must join a party for this purpose. To be in one or the other sect is not an Islamic requirement. Sects are in fact product of prevailing Un Islamic system.

**What would you comment on Pakistan as being one of the major Non-NATO ally of US. Would it be islamically justifiable as the need of the hour?**

Pakistan is not like other countries of the world. Same is the case of a Muslim. Both are inseparably committed to and dependent on Islam for their present as well as next life. Pakistan's non NATO Alliance of US can not help us achieve our objectives and goals as an independent and honorable nation, unless we make Pakistan a true Islamic state in the first instance.

**What should we Pakistanis, as Muslims do, at the times like attack on Lebanon and Iraq?**

In the present circumstances, when we are unable to solve our own internal problems without the help of the US; how can we be of any help to the people of Iraq or Lebanon who are the victims of the US, at the same time?

**No religion teaches terrorism. Why do you think today the terrorist are born and taught out of the Islamic madressas of Pakistan? As Pakistanis what should we be doing about it?**

There are several kinds of and reasons for terrorism, such as state terrorism on top of which is the US, for its hegemonic reasons. People, who were persecuted, tortured and humiliated to serve the ulterior motives of the West, were left with no choice than to resist or die.

As regards the madressa students, they were recruited and trained to serve the US in Afghanistan against the USSR and were labeled as terrorists by the US when their services were no more required. Since they were recruited in the name of Islam and Jihad, we should go for the real Islam and Jihad. That will put every thing on the right track.

**Saudi Arabia is one of the richest Arab country, with Billionaires like Prince Waleed and others. What do think should be the role of Saudi today in helping, reviving and boosting**

**Muslim nations? Is it playing its role?**

All the Muslim regimes are directly or indirectly controlled by the US including their resources and policies. Their mutual cooperation or relationship is therefore limited. At the same time, Muslim nations also prefer to deal with the US.

**Islamically, what do you think is the significance of Pakistan being the only nuclear capable country in the Muslim world?**

As said, even Pakistan's existence and survival is linked to Islam. Hence, without Islam, mere nuclear capability can't make Pakistan significant in the Muslim world. The USSR was no less a nuclear power, that collapsed before our eyes. I am afraid to say, if we don't have an Islamic system, we will soon disintegrate.

**Why is Sharia Law a failure in Pakistan?**

I am not aware of any Sharia law being practiced in Pakistan, except the controversial hadood law being debated these days. Sharia laws wouldn't serve even if promulgated in the right earnest, because laws always sub serve the system. If the system is corrupt, Sharia laws would promote corruption. We need an Islamic system in the first place, Sharia would follow. In order to have a social justice, we had to abolish the absentee landlordism and the interest based banking system. These are the biggest tools of exploitation and corruption. These can only be abolished through a revolution.

**What solution would you propose for the people and problem of Kashmir?**

We should make Pakistan a true Islamic state which was the only aim and objective of the Pakistan movement. That will not only make Pakistan a stronger and independent country, it will lead to an amicable settlement of all the problems we are facing today due to our inherent weaknesses.

**The waiting for Imam Mehdi &**

**Isa A.S. can be blamed for the laid back attitude of the Muslim world to change the wrong things in world today? Do you think that one should really put their hopes in them and give up on their own capabilities and sit back, not fighting up today? Will there be no victory without Isa A.S.?**

We will get in the Hereafter what we earned in this world, whereas it is our duty as a Muslim to resist against tyranny and injustice and struggle for a system based on the Quran and the Sunnah in order to provide an equitable justice. It is another matter that final victory in the war for Islam shall be had at the hands of Hazrat Mehdi and Isa AS. The war for a justice has always been there and shall end at the second coming of Isa AS when Islam will prevail in the entire world, as believed by many.

**Lastly, what would be your message to our nation today?**

Pakistan was created in the name of Islam; as such Islam was the only raison d'etre of its existence and stability. Since we deviated from Islam, Pakistan broke in to two just after twenty three years of its coming into being. We had always been at the cross road due the same reason - our betrayal of Islam and as a consequence are ripe for another breakup unless we amend.

The only remedy that I can suggest is; we should repent individually as well as collectively, seek Allah's forgiveness for our misdeeds in the past and stand up as a nation to make Pakistan truly Islamic.