

9. Appendix

by the Publisher

Several years after this case, the Reader of the Magistrate Captain M.W. Douglas, one Raja Ghulam Haidar of Rawalpindi, made a written statement just before his death and had it sent to Dr. Basharat Ahmad, the author of the famous Urdu biography of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad entitled *Mujaddid-i Azam*. His statement is particularly noteworthy as he was not an Ahmadi, and it sheds light on the conspiracy of the opponents of Hazrat Mirza as well as illustrating the latter's high moral character. We translate it below from *Mujaddid-i Azam*, volume 1, pages 541 to 544.

During the court case of Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke I was Reader of the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur. I had gone home to Rawalpindi on a leave of five or six days. While returning from leave, when I reached Amritsar and was sitting in a 2nd class railway carriage awaiting the departure of the train, two European men came into the same compartment. One was Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke himself and the other was Clarke's lawyer. Meanwhile Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi also appeared and sat alongside on the seat where I was sitting. I had known Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke from the days of my employment in the district of Sialkot, and I also knew well Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi. Consequently we started talking among ourselves. Then I learnt that Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi

was accompanying the doctor, and in fact the doctor had paid his fare.

Then the doctor, due to our friendly relations, asked me: "You used to work in district Sialkot, where are you now?" I replied that I was now Reader of the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur. Upon this he said:

"So, then you will be very useful in crushing the devil."

As I knew all the three men I at once realised whom the doctor was referring to. I replied in a cursory manner:

"Indeed it is the work of every good man to crush the devil, but I do not know what you mean by saying this."

Then the doctor took the name of Mirza *sahib* and said:

"He is a very big devil, whom we and this Maulvi *sahib* are determined to crush. Please agree to help us."

As I did not like to prolong this conversation, I said only this:

"I know that you and Mirza *sahib* of Qadian are adversaries, and a case is in court, so I wish to be excused from talking further about this matter."

I cannot remember if any further conversation took place after this.

I returned to my duty at Batala, as the Deputy Commissioner was resident there. The next day when I went for a morning walk, I met many people connected with the Mirza *sahib* on the road where Anarkali¹ is situated. The house where Dr. Clarke was staying was in front of us. We saw Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi sitting at a table with Dr. Clarke in front of the door. Maulvi Fazl-ud-Din, the lawyer of Mirza *sahib*, said in a tone of surprise:

1. The name of the Christian church and mission house in Batala.

“Today Maulvi Muhammad Husain is to testify in the case, and even now he does not leave Dr. Clarke alone.”

Apart from this, within the bounds of the residence was sitting Abdul Hameed on a bed, about whom it was claimed that he had been deputed by Mirza *sahib* to kill Martyn Clarke. Ram Bhaj Dutt, the Arya lawyer, and a few policemen were sitting around him. It was also noticed that some marks were being made on Abdul Hameed’s hands. So Mirza *sahib*’s lawyer noted both the events, and when the case was being heard he first asked Abdul Hameed if he was sitting within the bounds of the residence of Martyn Clarke, with the lawyer Ram Bhaj Dutt and some policemen around him, and if they were giving him some instructions regarding the testimony he would be giving against Mirza *sahib*, and making some marks on his hands. Abdul Hameed could not make up an answer there and then. He admitted the presence of Ram Bhaj Dutt and others, and when his hands were examined many marks in blue and red pencil were found. Only God knows what these marks made on his hands were meant to remind him of.

Before Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi’s testimony, evidence was given by Maulana Maulvi Nur-ud-Din. His simple appearance, that is, loosely tied turban, open necked shirt, and the very plain and straight forward manner of giving evidence, was so impressive that the Deputy Commissioner himself was much influenced, and said:

“By God, if this man should claim to be the Promised Messiah, I would be the first man to be prepared to consider it seriously.”

Maulvi Nur-ud-Din asked the court: “May I go outside, or must I remain here in this room?” Mr. Douglas the Deputy Commissioner said: “Maulvi *sahib*, you are allowed to go wherever you wish”. After him, Shaikh Rahmatullah testified.

After him, Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi entered the courtroom to give his evidence. Looking all around, when he

saw no vacant chair, the first words which he uttered were these: "Sir, chair". The Deputy Commissioner asked me: "Is the Maulvi *sahib* entitled to a seat before the authorities?" I presented to the Deputy Commissioner the list of those entitled to a chair and said that it did not include the name of Maulvi Muhammad Husain or his father, but whenever he has occasion to meet the authorities he is granted a chair as being a religious scholar or the head of a religious group. Upon this, the Deputy Commissioner said to the Maulvi *sahib*:

"You are not entitled to a chair officially. Please stand up straight and give evidence."

Then the Maulvi *sahib* said:

"Whenever I have an audience with the Governor, I am given a chair to sit on. I am the head of the Ahl Hadith."

Then the Deputy Commissioner reprimanded him sternly and said:

"If the Governor in his personal capacity gave you a chair it does not mean that you must be given a chair in court as well."

Anyhow, the testimony began and the Maulvi *sahib* made all possible allegations against Mirza *sahib* that may be made against a man. However, when Maulvi Fazl-ud-Din, lawyer for Hazrat Mirza, in his cross-examination asked Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi a question, with apology, casting a slur on his decency and character, all those present saw with astonishment that Mirza *sahib* rose from his seat and put his hand over the mouth of Maulvi Fazl-ud-Din and said:

"I do not instruct nor allow this kind of question to be asked. If you wish to ask it on your own responsibility, with the permission of the court, then you may do so."

Naturally the Deputy Commissioner's curiosity was aroused and he asked me if I knew the background to the question. I

replied in the negative but said that if he wanted to know I would try to find out during the lunch break. So when the time of the *zuhr* prayer came and the Deputy Commissioner arose for lunch I enquired through Shaikh Rahmatullah from Mirza *sahib* as to what was the matter. Mirza *sahib* told Shaikh Rahmatullah, with much regret, that he had in his possession a letter of Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi's father mentioning some circumstances relating to Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi's marriage and some incidents of his maltreatment which are highly objectionable. But Mirza *sahib* said at the same time:

“I most certainly do not want these incidents to be brought to the court record or that the Deputy Commissioner be influenced by them in forming his opinion.”

Having heard this from Shaikh Rahmatullah I went to the lunch room and told the Deputy Commissioner, in the presence of Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke who was also having lunch there. Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke laughed heartily. The Deputy Commissioner said:

“It is within my power whether or not to record this matter, but it is beyond my control not to let it influence me.”

After lunch when Maulvi Muhammad Husain Batalvi appeared again in court for cross-examination Maulvi Fazul-ud-Din asked him:

“Were you sitting with Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke at his residence today?”

He plainly denied it. I could not help being startled at this. The Deputy Commissioner asked me the reason for my reaction. So I pointed to Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke. The Deputy Commissioner enquired of Dr. Clarke who admitted clearly: “Yes, he was sitting with me, discussing this case”.

Then the lawyer Maulvi Fazl-ud-Din asked:

“Did you recently travel with Dr. Henry Martyn Clarke from Amritsar to Batala, and also did the doctor buy your ticket?”

Maulvi Muhammad Husain plainly denied it. Sometimes a man thinks aloud, and the same happened to me at that time. From my mouth spontaneously came the words: “This is completely false”. Then the Deputy Commissioner asked Dr. Martyn Clarke, who admitted: “The Maulvi *sahib* travelled with me, and also I bought his ticket”. This surprised the Deputy Commissioner and in the end he wrote the following note at the close of Maulvi Muhammad Husain’s testimony:

“The witness is hostile to Mirza *sahib*, and for this reason he has left no stone unturned in testifying against him. Consequently, there is no need to take further evidence from him.”

After testifying, Maulvi Muhammad Husain went out of the courtroom and sat on an easy chair which was in the Verandah. A policeman ordered him to leave the chair, saying that it was against the order of the Police Captain. Then the Maulvi *sahib* went and sat on a sheet of cloth that was spread on the ground. The man whose cloth it was pulled it away and said: “You are a Muslim and call yourself a leader, and then tell lies so openly. Don’t pollute my cloth!” Then Maulvi Nur-ud-Din got up, took Maulvi Muhammad Husain by the hand, and said: “Come and sit by me; there is a limit to everything”.

— *Written statement by Raja Ghulam Haidar of Rawalpindi, Reader in the case to the Magistrate Captain M.W. Douglas.*