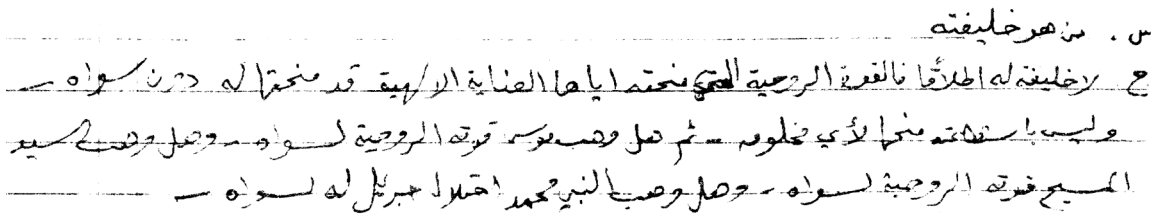


Who is the Rightful Successor of Dr. Dahesh?

By: Mounir Murad

After the departure of our Beloved Prophet from this world on April 9, 1984, many Daheshists and non-Daheshists alike, wondered about who is his rightful successor. Some Daheshists held the position that since Dr. Dahesh entrusted the copyrights to his books and his art and book collections to a prominent Daheshist family then the head of that family must be his rightful successor and subsequently her offspring. Unfortunately, such a deduction cannot be further away from the truth! Individuals with such reasoning cannot be blamed though, because they have no knowledge of the actual wishes and commands of our Beloved Prophet and those of the Divine Spirit.

I will begin by presenting the reader with irrefutable evidence provided by our Beloved Prophet himself and in his own handwriting. This manuscript can be authenticated once compared to other handwritten documents written by our Beloved Prophet. The following is a segment followed by its translation:



س . من هو خليفته
ج . خليفته له اطلاقاً فالقوة الروحية التي منحتم اياها الصائبة الالهية قد منحتم له دون سواه
وليس احد منكم مني الا في ظلوم ثم هل صب موسى قوته الروحية لسواه وحصلت في سير
المسيح قوته الروحية لسواه . وحصل وصي النبي محمد اجبرئيل له لسواه .

The following is the English translation:

“Q: Who is his [spiritual] successor?

A: He has absolutely no [spiritual] successor! For Divine Providence provided him and no one else with Spiritual Powers and he cannot pass them on to any creature. Did Moses pass on to others his Spiritual Powers? Did Lord Christ pass on to others his Spiritual Powers*? Did the Prophet Muhammad pass on to others the Inspiration he received from the Archangel Gabriel?”

*Christians believe that the Disciples of Christ were given Spiritual Powers to heal the sick and raise the dead. Daheshism does not support this view. The “supernatural” acts of the Disciples were accomplished in the presence of a Prophet, namely, Jesus Christ himself. This subject matter is complex and will be elaborated on in the near future.

In another document titled "Who is Dahesh's successor when he passes away?" he writes:

عندما يتوفى داهش —
من يكون خليفته كما هو الحال
لكل بداية نهاية وكل هي سيد ومعلم الموت وعندما ينتقل مؤسس الداهشية
لدار وبقائه بعد مغادرته لدار وفناءه فان عقيدته الروحية ستبقى ثابتة
كثبات جبال المشقة راسخة رفوع الاطوار راسخة
فالسيد المسيح انتقل وانتقاله لم يزل الايمان يتعالى الروحية وكلما كان يزداد
الافراد مع المؤمنين بل ان عدد المؤمنين يزداد بالحق حتى انشرت في
ربوع الارض رسالتهم عليا
فمنذما سينتقل داهش لمن يرد الموت واحياة فاذا ذلك على الداهشيين
ان يجتمعوا ويختاروا من بينهم ففلم ^{سبعة طوائف} باحكمة وسرد الراي —
وينصرونهم لادارة شؤون الداهشية والداهشيين حتى توفى الله
أمرا كان مفعولا

The following is the English translation:

“For every beginning there is an end and sooner or later every living creature will face death. When the founder of Daheshism departs from this realm of mortality to that of immortality, his Spiritual Faith will remain unshaken like a firmly anchored and towering mountain. Lord Christ did pass away, yet the belief in his Spiritual teachings did not disappear with his death, rather, as persecution of the believers increased, so did the number of those who were drawn to Christianity—a process that continued until it spread throughout the world and reigned supreme. When Dahesh transfigures back to the Eternal Giver of life and death, Daheshists are required to congregate in order to select seven individuals deemed to be their best in wisdom and prudence, then hand over to them the administration and affairs of Daheshism and Daheshists, for as long as God wills.”**

**The Spiritual answers to Mr. Edward Noon's questions specify in details the qualities of the seven elected individuals—to include good repute and righteousness.

The last paragraph is consistent with the Spiritual answers to the questions posed by Mr. Edward Noon*** pertaining to the election of an administrative body to direct the affairs of Daheshism. According to many prominent Daheshists who had the privilege of reviewing Mr. Noon's document and specifically on this subject matter, the Divine Spirit, in a directive, specified the election of the seven members, who in turn must select one of them as the chairman. Also, the seven governing members will elect 10 heads of advisory committees, where each committee head must be the best among the candidates in a

specific field. In turn, each of the 10 advisory committee heads will elect several individuals to be on their committee. In sum, the total elected individuals, in all capacities, who will direct the Daheshist faith must be 7 governing members + 10 advisory board heads = 17.

Just as our Beloved Prophet mentioned that no Prophet is able to transfer his Spiritual Powers to any individual, so too Prophets cannot violate the wishes of the Divine Spirit—not without any significant punishment—and our Beloved Prophet is not an exception. As an example, in the Old Testament, God denied Moses entrance into the Promised Land because of his behavior at the waters of Meribah. The Spiritual answers to Mr. Noon’s questions constitute an edict for all Daheshists to follow. In the past I mistakenly advocated the establishment of a “Daheshist Society,” as a prelude to the formation of the Daheshist governing body, however, once I was presented with the transcript written by our Beloved Prophet—excerpts presented above—it became clear to me that such an organization would be contrary to the wishes of our Beloved Prophet and that of the Divine Spirit as conveyed to Mr. Edward Noon, because such an organization would fall outside of the Daheshist governing body. In addition, our Beloved Prophet had requested from Dr. Brax and Mr. Fares Zaatar, a prominent Daheshist lawyer, to establish a constitution and bylaws for this Daheshist governing body and they both complied. In summation, no individual, a group of individuals, or organization can direct the affairs of Daheshism outside of the Daheshist governing body as specified by our Beloved Prophet and the Divine Spirit. The entire Daheshist governing body is elected in a purely democratic manner.

Not only that our Beloved Prophet requested that the governing body oversee the affairs of Daheshism, but he also requested that the Daheshist religion itself—not individuals—should establish the Daheshist Museum and the Daheshist Library. The following is the specific text written by our Beloved himself:

— متحف و مكتبة داهشيين —
اللاهنية ستؤسس متحفًا للوحات الزيتية والتماثيل
المختلفة الأنواع من المصنوعة من البرونز وفضة والعاج
ورحجبر والرخام الخ الخ الخ
كما اننا ستؤسس مكتبة ضخمة تضم كتبًا بلغات عديدة
ليوما وصحح ويستقوامن كتبها معرفة يضيفوننا على معلوماهم
وكتداف من ناحية وتنافية ورفقية مهمم اللاهنية بها في هذا
القرن وعامر بالعلوم ورفيقون المختلفه

The following is the English translation:

“Daheshist Museum and Library

Daheshism will establish a museum for oil paintings and sculptures of all genres, i.e. made of bronze, wood, ivory, rock, marble, etc. Daheshism will also establish a huge library containing books published in many languages and frequented by many in order to gain additional cultural and artistic knowledge—topics of interest to Daheshism in a century full of scientific achievement and artistic diversity.”

Daheshists in the near future will be called upon to congregate in a general meeting in order to implement the wishes of our Beloved Prophet and that of the Divine Spirit. God willing, the new organizational body will direct all the affairs of Daheshism in the near future.

***Mr. Edward Noon, an ex-Minister, after having seen and witnessed a number of Dr. Dahesh’s palpable miracles, wanted to increase his spiritual knowledge. So in 1943, he wrote at home 72 questions relating to the history of humanity, its obscure ages, origin, and about the unclear matters about man, religions, and the future—things which science has not been able yet to report on their final truth. Mr. Noon had spread those questions on 7 large sheets of paper, written in ink, with a space between one question and the other to allow for inserting the corresponding answer.

He went to Dr. Dahesh’s house. There were many people there. Among them: The Haddads, Halim Dammous, Dr. Fareed Abu Sleiman, Dr. George Khabsa and Dr. Najib Ashi. All went through Mr. Noon’s difficult questions. The papers containing the questions were put in a sealed envelope and then the spiritual session was held. All of a sudden, Dr. Dahesh was taken by the Divine Spirit, touched the envelope, and said: “You have the answers.” This did not take more than a second. Those present were deeply surprised when they opened the envelope and saw the 72 answers, clearly written and set properly under 72 questions.