Agni Veer <agniveer@gmail.com>

Response to Dr Zakir Naik's reply to invitation for debate

Agniveer <agniveer@gmail.com> **Wed, Oct 7, 2009 at 3:35 AM**
To: Aryasamaj Online <aryasamajonline@yahoogroups.com>, aryayouthgroup <aryayouthgroup@yahoogroups.com>, United Hindu Front <unitedhindufront@googlegroups.com>

Find below the reply given to Dr Naik's organization in response to our invitation for an open house debate with his team at Islamic Research Foundation. Please read this in continuation to our previous letters detailing the invitation for open house debate on Islam, Vedas, Humanity and Science.

May the truth prevail!

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Agniveer** <agniveer@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 6, 2009 at 8:40 PM
Subject: Re: we would depute some one from our organisation to debate with him.
To: islam@irf.net
Cc: Aryasamaj Online <aryasamajonline@yahoogroups.com>, aryayouthgroup <aryayouthgroup@yahoogroups.com>, United Hindu Front <unitedhindufront@googlegroups.com>, Dharmveer DRDharmveerof Ajmer <paropkarinisabha@rediffmail.com>, hindu_mahasabha@yahoogroups.com

Namaste (I bow to the tremendous potential that you have!) Sri Arshi Qureshi,

May Paramatma lead to you truth and bliss!

We are indeed delighted to have your response to our invitation for discussions on various aspects of Quran, Vedas, Science and Humanity as mentioned in my previous email.

The response to your questions are as follows:
1. The objective of the discussion is not a public stunt but a genuine process of accepting the truth and reject the false. Accordingly we do not believe in person-centric events. Instead we will have a panel of our scholars who would be keen to discuss the issues with your panel of scholar(s). The panel would represent Paropkarini Sabha, which is the leading apex intellectual body of Arya Samaj. Arya Samaj is an integral component of Sanatan Dharma/ Hinduism and is widely respected by all Hindus particularly for its debates on comparative religion and Vedas. Arya Samaj has a huge following and even Dr Zakir Naik seems to have a penchant to invite people who falsely claim to represent Arya Samaj, in his seminars on comparative religion to prove his point and demonstrate acceptability.

Thus the panel to be chosen for this event would comprise eminent scholars of Vedas and Islam carefully chosen by one of the most prestigious and respected intellectual body of Arya Samaj and Hinduism. And the people who would represent would not be false faces, but genuine scholars with specializations in different aspects of the discussion.

2. The programs of Arya Samaj, and specially those organized by Paropkarini Sabha attract thousands of active participants, including famed personalities from various fields of life. You are cordially invited to the Rishi Mela being organized by Paropkarini Sabha in Ajmer from October 23 to October 25 to participate

and understand Paropkarini Sabha better.

3. The proposed program will reach to millions through use of modern communication media. The Aastha TV has a regular slot for scholars of Paropkarini Sabha that reaches millions of households across the world. Two more dedicated TV channels of Vedic topics, that will feature these scholars, would be on air within few months. But for specific answer, refer to 2 above.

Having said this, it disappoints that the criteria you choose for discussions is popularity in public rather than quest for truth. By this logic, those who went along with Prophet Muhammad in his initial days were grossly wrong, because neither did Prophet Muhammad have an excellent scholarly biodata at that time, nor had he any standing in prevalent community, nor did he attract large crowds of thousands and lakhs before his first interaction with public.

Thus the criteria for choosing audience for such discussions is solely competence and merit, and not public following. People from eminent research institutions do not attract thousand and lakhs in their seminars, but in their specific field, they are considered authority compared to celebrities with huge fan followings.

Paropkarini Sabha was founded by the legendary Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati who initiated in tradition of Shastrath (meaningful debates) with other religions to converge to truth and reject the falsehood. In matters of comparative religion, Arya Samaj scholars are considered unparalleled for last 140 years or so. More specifically, debates with scholars of Islam and Christianity in these years led to widespread transformation and a movement more popularly called Shuddhi.
You can browse through pages of history to know the legacy of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati and Arya Samaj. And easily conclude that there can be hardly any genuine significance of efforts of IRF/ Dr Naik in field of comparative religions, of whom they claim to be experts, unless meaningful dialogues are undertaken with representatives of Arya Samaj/ Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati.

Thus, while our activities and movements attract tremendous public support, we do believe that this should not be a criteria for any intellectual discussion of this sort.

We are sure that IRF would move further on this event and help make it a reality for benefit of millions around the world. Thus we would request you to act promptly on this. Once we get your consent, we shall appoint representatives who would discuss the various rules and norms of the discussion so that it proceeds in a meaningful manner that helps reach the truth peacefully and affectionately. We will also then mutually decide the exact date, venue and other arrangements to be made so that maximum number of people across the world are benefited. And also finalize on the panel of scholars who would represent both the parties.

May the Almighty Creator guide us towards the way of Truth, Light and Immortality and away from the way of False, Darkness and Death.

Dhanyavad
(Warm Regards and Thank you)

Om
Agniveer
on behalf of
Paropkarini Sabha, Ajmer

On Tue, Oct 6, 2009 at 4:52 PM, <islam@irf.net> wrote:

5th October 2009

Dear **Brother Agniveer,**

Greetings of Peace (Salaam) to you!

Thank you for your email dated 29th August 2009.

We would like to know the following details:-

1) Name of the person who would like to debate alongwith his biodata, his qualification and standing in the Hindu community.
2) How many audiences does he attract for his talks normally?
3) What was the largest crowd he attracted?

If we find the person suitable, we would depute some one from our organisation to debate with him.

May the Almighty Creator guide us towards the way of Truth, the way to Peace and Salvation. Aameen.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

ARSHI QURESHI

Public Relation Manager

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