

**Statement from the Office of Syedna Khuzaima Qutbuddin Saheb TUS, 53<sup>rd</sup> Dai al-Mutlaq  
of the Dawoodi Bohra Community**

7<sup>th</sup> February 2014

After the sad and tragic demise of our Beloved and revered Moula, Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin Saheb RA, 52<sup>nd</sup> Dai al-Mutlaq of the Dawoodi Bohra Community, Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS revealed that Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb RA had anointed him as his successor on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1965, when he also anointed him as Mazoon, the spiritual position second only to the Dai.

Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb, the second son of Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb RA, along with his brothers and other family members, taking advantage of a severe and debilitating stroke to Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb RA after his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in London, on the day following the stroke unilaterally made the untenable and false claim that Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb RA in that condition had appointed Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb as his successor.

Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS, in accordance with Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb's RA wishes, revealed that he was the chosen successor immediately after Syedna Burhanuddin's RA sad demise. On that very day, Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS extended the offer to debate Shehzada Mufaddal Bhaisaheb, which he ignored. Instead Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb and his brothers and family reacted with immense vitriolic aggressiveness. For 19 days after Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb's RA sad demise, Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb presided daily over gatherings which were ostensibly held for the remembrance of Syedna Burhanuddin Saheb RA; but in which Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb's brothers and others stood up and pronounced curses (Laanat) on Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS, and resorted to defamatory accusations and used language of the lowest kind. At the same time they sought to force and coerce members of our community to swear allegiance to Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb and sign declarations including signing on blank sheets of paper. When followers of Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS sought to meet him they were threatened and women were assaulted by the "Jehadi" group of the Burhani Guards. It is very sad and unfortunate that such measures have been adopted in our god-fearing and peace loving community. This is tearing at the very fabric of our faith and threatens to destroy the legacy of our Dai's including Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin Saheb RA.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of February, in a public address, Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb, obviously reacting to the backlash and revulsion these actions aroused in the community, suddenly made reconciliatory gestures towards Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS. He asked his brothers and uncles to go to Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS and extend his message to him. On the behest of Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb, his brother Shehzada Qaid Johar bhaisaheb called Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb's TUS office and asked for an appointment, which he later rescinded. Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS demands that a public apology be issued by

Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb and others involved in this exercise of the basest form of defamation and slander.

Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS emphasises that he is at peace, and wishes the same for his community. He reiterates that the doors of forgiveness are always open for those who have resorted to defamatory practices out of fear, and want to sincerely repent.

Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb TUS states that his assertion of being the 53<sup>rd</sup> Dai al-Mutlaq is one based on truth and principle. Any offers of settlement of any form or kind from Shehzada Mufaddal bhaisaheb or his agents are outright rejected.

Syedna Qutbuddin Saheb's TUS primary and sole concern is for the spiritual and temporal well being of the Dawoodi Bohra community. His mission (Dawat) is to guide the community, as his predecessor Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin Saheb RA did, on the true path (Siratul Mustakeem) of a spiritual and moral life that leads to salvation (Najaat) in the hereafter (Aakherat)