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Bohra leader's fight continues

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Taher Fakhruddin has approached the Bombay high court so that he could be substituted as plaintiff in the suit filed by his predecessor and late father Khuzaima Qutbuddin against incumbent 53rd Syedna Muffadal Saifuddin.

Qutbuddin had challenged Mr Saifuddin's succession in the high court soon after the death of the 52nd Dai Mohammed Burhanuddin. The lawyers of Mufaddal Saifuddin were cross-examining Qutbuddin. However, he passed away on March 30, 2016 in California, USA. According to Fakhruddin, the eldest son of Qutbuddin, his father had appointed him as his 'Mansoos' (successor) on November 8, 2015.

In a statement issued to the media, Fakhruddin has stated, "I will continue the fight that my revered father Syenda Qutbuddin started, for truth, justice and the future and well-being of the Dawoodi Bohra community."

Fakhruddin has obtained an MA in Arabic literature from London University's School of Oriental and African Studies and prior to that he topped the cohort of Bombay University in his Arabic literature BA. According to the details provided by Fakhruddin's office, he also possesses acute business acumen and is especially well-versed in agricultural development and finance with years of personal hands-on experience in both fields. Apart from these things, he was personally trained by his father in Islamic Sciences, Fatimid Philosophy and the heritage of his predecessors.

Nearly three months after the death of Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin, the 52nd Dai or spiritual head of Dawoodi Bohra community, his half-brother Qutbuddin had moved the high court against the succession of his nephew Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin as the community's head.