

CASE FOR EXTORTION - YOU BE THE JUDGE

Justice is one of the supreme virtues in Islam.

It is reported in a Hadith that Allah Ta'ala informed our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), *“O My slaves, I have forbidden injustice for Myself and forbade it also for you. So avoid being unjust to one another.”* [Muslim].

The command has been emphasised numerous times in the Noble Quraan and Hadith, amongst which it is stated *“God commands justice and fair dealing.”* [Chapter 16, Verse 90]

Alhamdulillah! In our 25 years of privilege of serving the Ummah we have earned the gratitude of our many subscribers which encourages us to strive even harder. Unfortunately, we have also had the misfortune of bearing the brunt of some scurrilous, cowardly and malicious attacks on our integrity by detractors on odd occasions. Cowardly, as many are launched behind a purdah (veil) of a *nom de plume* or an undescriptive digital address.

We are trolled with unjust accusations describing us and our conduct as *“a money-making scheme”, “a way of extracting money from traders”, “scholars for dollars”, “extorting money for worthless scraps of paper”, “blackmailing businesses with threats of notices in Masaajid”, “SANHA is a mafia operation”, “businesses are intimated to certify” etc.*

These irresponsible and slanderous statements are not supported by any evidence and no charge is laid. This is unIslamic and unjust for it denies us a judicial process which includes the right to call and cross examine witnesses, not to incriminate oneself, not to be tried on secret evidence or exclude evidence that is improperly obtained, irrelevant or inadmissible e.g. hearsay, punishment for perjury, the right to exclude judges on the grounds of partiality or conflict of interest, the right of appeal etc.

In the absence of this we submit circumstantial evidence from which the factual conclusion emerges that there is no basis whatsoever of the claim of extortion and intimidation by detractors.

1. Extortion and intimidation are a serious crime in South Africa and punishable by imprisonment. Not a single case has been registered with the South African Police Service (SAPS) against **SANHA** in its 25 years of existence.
2. Our Constitution through its strong Chapter 9 institutions and governmental agencies such as the Consumer Council and Competition Commission have also had no cause to investigate the fallacious claims.
3. **SANHA** certifies over 2000 plants in all parts of the Republic, neighbouring countries and abroad. No staff, customers, ex-employees of these companies or media have uncovered any evidence of extortion and intimidation over the years.
4. It is an insult to the intelligence of these entrepreneurs who by dint of their skills and dedication established successful enterprises and employ many people, to be told by some weekend netizen that he is being coerced by **SANHA**.
5. Ulama in accordance with their role as the inheritors of the knowledge of the Prophets (peace be upon them) serve as an additional safeguard and a conscience check of our systems. Currently **SANHA** employs approximately 70 Ulama and Huffaz who make up more than 50% of the audit team. It is ludicrous to the extreme to suggest that all of these esteemed scholars with their many years of training in the path of Allah would be complicit in acts of extortion and intimidation.

SANHA rejects the blatant lie of extortion. Judge us by our actions and results in supplying an independent third-party quality Halaal assurance in accordance to the Quraan, i.e. *“...If you*

judge, judge between them with justice...”
[Chapter 5, Verse 42]

**ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN
WORDS**

Article compiled and published by the Public Relations Department.

Any queries pertaining to the above or any other aspect of Halaal may be referred to our offices

Halaal Helpline 0861 786 111