

## [PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets.]

[Personal information has been **redacted**.]

[The excerpt below is from the section of the article that pertains to the Baha'i Faith]

[Newspaper:] Neday-e Hagh

[Date:] 12 Shahrivar 1336 [3 September 1957]

[Issue No.]: 48

-The Pepsi Factory Is Doomed to Decline

-The Power and the Money,

-The Boycott of Ayatollah Borujerdi,

-The Slander Against Pepsi!

3. Despite the struggle against the Pepsi industry's being the struggle of many young Muslim devotees against an imperialist branch, which, owing to its money and dollars, is capable of taking any actions, the Quran, our constitution, has taught us that, "If you help God, He will help you", and God has also taught us, "It was truly upon Us to assist the believers."

And certainly there is no lie in the teachings of the Quran, and on this principle we will win in our struggle against Pepsi, even though it is a struggle against money and power, as we have so far clarified the thoughts of many in the cities and prevented many Pepsi vendors from doing their illegal business endeavours. Our written and verbal fight against Pepsi, the Baha'is and the Jews and those who unlawfully named themselves as a religion and have opposed the text of the fatwa of Ayatollah Borujerdi on the necessity of fighting against the Baha'i party in practice, and have protested by their sarcastic and ironical writings, will continue to the point of imprisonment, trial and so on....

In short, those gentlemen who sympathize with us and say that we should not fight against Pepsi and "money and power", please refrain from giving the very logical advice!!

4- The issue of sanctions by Ayatollah Borujerdi was not something that I, and others like me, have "forged". The interpreters of Ayatollah Borujerdi, who [discuss] the religious and personal subjects for the people, said publicly, during the month of Ramadan on the pulpit in Qom, that Ayatollah Borujerdi had boycotted Pepsi, had amongst them Hojjatol-Islam Haj Sheikh Hassan Abol-Fazl Zahedi.

It is not clear, therefore, why people who obey the [rules] such as ablution, ablution without water, etc., without asking for any reason, are curious about this issue and similar issues and seek philosophy and reason!...

The philosophy and reason for boycotting Pepsi is that the manager of Pepsi is a Baha'i, and it is promoting Pepsi, and promotion of Pepsi is like the economic empowerment of the Baha'is; empowering the enemies of Islam, which is detrimental to Islam, is forbidden!

When we wrote that "Pepsi is no different from beer, whiskey, and other prohibitions" we meant that just as beer is forbidden, and usury and adultery is forbidden, the drinking of Pepsi and thus promoting Baha'is is also forbidden.

However, some readers have made a perceptual mistake and thought that [when] we said beer and Pepsi are both forbidden, we meant that in terms of their religious prohibition they are the same, and we did not mean that the punishment for drinking Pepsi and beer is the same in the next world.

This leads us to a psychological issue that we call "memory error" in the issue of "association of meanings and thoughts", which is a psychological topic. Here, this [simile] has not been used properly in its context. Those who have read about "beer" and "whiskey" next to the word "Pepsi" and their prohibition have immediately transferred to their memory that [drinking] Pepsi also has a punishment of whipping [like other alcoholic drinks], while this was not our intention! Pepsi is forbidden; like adultery, [consuming] beer, usury, bribery, oppression of the kings and rulers, etc., is forbidden.

Until next week, God willing,

Student of Islamic Sciences

Tabrizi