

Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The picture on the cover is that of the most loved and sought-after corner of the Prophet's Mosque at Medina, Sa'udi Arabia. The niche on the right is the place where the Prophet Muhammad was wont to say his prayers, and is known as the *Mihrab al-Nabiviy*, i.e., the Niche of the Prophet. On the right of this is the place of the Prophet's Pulpit — the *Minbar*, while to its left a few yards away is the Prophet's last resting-place, called the *Hujra*, which originally was the house of his wife, 'A'isha, where he breathed his last.

This particular part of the Prophet's Mosque is the most sought-after because once the Prophet remarked, "The area between my pulpit and my house is one of the gardens of Paradise", these words are cut in metal and form part of the archway (right) adjacent to the Prophet's Niche.

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Abdul 'Aziz Shora, Esq., Editor, *Roshni*, Srinagar, Kashmir.

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An Egyptian peasant girl is holding aloft with a perceptible sense of joy and pride a tuft of "white gold" — cotton, which symbolises Egypt's prosperity, and for that matter, many other Muslim countries.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Sayyid 'Abdul Latif, Ph.D. (London), an Indian Muslim, is President of the Council of the Academy of Islamic Studies, Hyderabad-Deccan, India, and is the author of *The Mind the Quran Builds*.

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The decorative design on the cover is the work of Mr. 'Abd al-Sattar, a young Egyptian of Pakistani extraction. The central theme is the famous Arabic sentence, *Allah jalla Jalalu-hu* (Allah, Whose might be illustrious), which is written in the Kufic character.

★

'Abd al-Lateef Sharara, a Lebanese Muslim writer with a special interest in philosophy, education and social sciences. He is at present on the staff of the Central National Library of Beirut, the Lebanon.

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The late Marmaduke Pickthall, an English Muslim educationist and Arabist, was the first English Muslim to translate the Holy Qur'an into English, under the title of "The Meaning of the Glorious Koran". A cheap edition of his translation was published in the United States of America in 1953. He died just before the first world war.

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His Eminence Mehmed Dana, a Cypriot-Turkish Muslim, is the Mufti of Cyprus. He is the first Mufti to have been elected to this eminent office by a popular vote. Recently he was in the United States of America to present the views of the Turkish community of Cyprus on the so-called "Cyprus Question" at the United Nations.

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A. Bennigsen is a French scholar and an authority on Soviet Russian Muslims.

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The picture on the Cover is that of the beautiful façade of the Badshahi Mosque at Lahore, Pakistan, executed in red stone and marble. It was built by the great Moghul emperor, Aurangzeb (d. 1707 C.E.).

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Muhammad al-Tanji is a Moroccan Muslim scholar.

★

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THE COVER

The imposing entrance to the Tomb of Mirza Janbada, Sind, Pakistan.

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The late al-Hajj Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din (1870-1932 C.E.), the Founder of Woking Muslim Mission and Literary Trust, was the first Muslim in modern times who conceived the idea of propounding the message of Islam to the West in an organized way. He accordingly came to England in 1912 and later established his headquarters at the Mosque (later to be named by him The Shah Jehan Mosque), Woking.

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The Islamic Review, the official organ of the Woking Muslim Mission and Literary Trust, of The Shah Jehan Mosque, Woking Surrey, England, and of Azeez Manzil, Brandreth Road, Lahore, Pakistan, is published monthly. In conformity with the objects of its publishers *The Islamic Review* is a cultural, non-political journal which takes no stand on the political policies of the various Muslim countries. In publishing such articles as deal with the world of Islam, its sole aim is to acquaint the component parts of the Islamic world with those problems and difficulties. Its aim

in presenting political issues is analytical and informative. All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers and not those of *The Islamic Review*, or its publishers.

The Editor will be glad to receive articles for publication. These will receive careful consideration and an honorarium arrived at by mutual arrangement will be paid for all manuscripts accepted for publication. All articles not accepted will be returned to their authors, but the Editor regrets he is unable to accept responsibility for their loss in transit.

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The picture on the cover is a panoramic view of Jerusalem, Jordan, with the Dome of the Rock in the centre of the foreground.

The Dome of the Rock was built during the reign of the Omayyad Caliph, 'Abd al-Malik Ibn Marwan, in 691 C.E. This is one of the two oldest and most beautiful specimens of Muslim architecture, the other being the Grand Mosque of Damascus, Syria, that have remained intact till today.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

A. Bennigsen is a French scholar of Russian extraction and an authority on Muslims in Russia.

G. Neville-Bagot, an Irishman, is a journalist. He is keenly interested in political trends in the world of Islam.

"M. E. M." are the initials of an Arab lawyer and journalist.

'Ali Ibn Talib (d. 661 C.E.) is one of the first four Caliphs after the Prophet Muhammad, styled in Muslim history "*al-Khulafa al-rashidun*" — the rightly-guided Caliphs. Professor P. Hitti in his *History of the Arabs*, London, 1940, describes the character of 'Ali in the following words: "Valiant in battle, wise in counsel, eloquent in speech, true to his friends, magnanimous to his foes, he became the paragon of Moslem nobility and chivalry (*futuwwah*) and the Solomon of Arabic tradition, around whose name poems, proverbs, sermonettes and anecdotes have clustered."

With the death of 'Ali came the end of the republican form of government in Islam.

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'Abdul Rahman 'Ali Muhammad, a prominent Somali Muslim, was one of the members of the Somali Delegation that came to England early this year to present the Somali case against the transfer of Somali territory to Ethiopia.

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THE COVER

The beautiful picture on the Cover is that of the *Mihrab* of the Yeni Jami' (the New Mosque), one of the most famous mosques for which Istanbul, Turkey, is rightly famous. The mosque is the result of piety of the mothers of three successive Sultans of Turkey. The building was begun in 1598 C.E. and completed some time in the middle of the seventeenth century. In the picture the strikingly beautiful Arabic lettering can be observed.

The Turks are famous for the exquisite mural engraving of Arabic. This art, however, owing to the introduction of the Latin script in Turkey, is fast dying.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

The Islamic Review, the official organ of the Working Muslim Mission and Literary Trust, of The Shah Jehan Mosque, Woking, Surrey, England, and of Azeez Manzil, Brandreth Road, Lahore, Pakistan, is published monthly. In conformity with the objects of its publishers *The Islamic Review* is a cultural, non-political journal which takes no stand on the political policies of the various Muslim countries. In publishing such articles as deal with the world of Islam, its sole aim is to acquaint the component parts of the Islamic world with those problems and difficulties. Its aim

in presenting political issues is analytical and informative. All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers and not those of *The Islamic Review*, or its publishers.

The Editor will be glad to receive articles for publication. These will receive careful consideration and an honorarium arrived at by mutual arrangement will be paid for all manuscripts accepted for publication. All articles not accepted will be returned to their authors, but the Editor regrets he is unable to accept responsibility for their loss in transit.

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The cost of sending "The Islamic Review" by Airmail is 5/- per copy extra.

Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The picture on the Cover portrays life in the Indonesian countryside. In Indonesia, as in other Muslim countries, men and women interrupt their daily work to devote a few moments to the remembrance of God — a feature of Muslim life which one sees so often in all Muslim countries.

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 Abdul 'Aziz Shora, Esq., Editor, *Roshni*, Srinagar, Kashmir.

Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The illustration on the Cover depicts the various national flags of principal Muslim countries with the picture of the Ka'bah at Mecca in the right-hand corner. The Arabic writing at the foot of the illustration is the famous verse of the Holy Qur'an (3:102), whose translation reads: "Hold fast to the rope of God and do not disperse".

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Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The illustration on the cover is that of a Mosque of Cairo, Egypt, built by Qait Bey, a Mameluke ruler of Egypt during the 15th century C.E. The name of Qait Bey, who died in 1496 C.E., has become identified with that of a whole epoch to which Cairo owes a great number of graceful monuments.

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Between Ourselves

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The design on the cover, taken from James Cavanah Murphy's *The Arabian Antiquities of Spain*, London (1813 C.E.—1228 A.H.) represents "the elevation of the Gate of the Sanctuary of the Qur'an" in the Grand Mosque of Cordova, Spain. Mr. Murphy, whose *The Arabian Antiquities of Spain* took fourteen years to produce and cost him many thousands of pounds, was mainly responsible for drawing the attention of the civilized world to the preservation of Muslim treasures in Spain which the Spaniards, out of hatred for anything Muslims, were allowing to fall into disrepair.

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