

Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The picture on the Cover is that of the pilgrims in the street which connects the two small hills of Safa and Marwa situated near Mecca, where each pilgrim when he first arrives at Mecca performs the devotional act of Sa'y — running between these two hills. This act commemorates the running to and from in quest of water for her baby son, Ishmael, by Hagar when she was left there by Abraham.



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A view of the Moti Masjid (Pearl Mosque), Agra (built in 1653 C.E.), from the Diwan-i-Khas (Hall of Private Audience) of Shah Jehan, the great Mughal Emperor (1628-58 C.E.), in India.

The specimens of Muslim architecture in India are decidedly florid in character. The Taj Mahal, Agra, is one of the great buildings of the world that was produced in the golden age (1628-58 C.E.) of Mughal architecture in India. Only second in importance to the Taj is Shah Jehan's work in the palace at Agra, including the Moti Masjid (the Pearl Mosque). Some writers even profess to rate this mosque higher than the Taj.

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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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March : 1954

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CORRECTION

In the note about the Sudan on page 32 of *The Islamic Review* for March 1954, it was inadvertently stated that the Cabinet formed by the Prime Minister, Isma'il al-Azhari, included members of the Umma party. There are in fact no Umma party members in the Cabinet.—Ed., I.R.

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THE COVER

The picture on the Cover is that of one of the most famous landmarks of Cairo, Egypt — the Muhammad 'Aly Mosque at the Citadel.

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The picture on the cover is that of the famous mausoleum at Baghdad known as al-Kazimayn. In this shrine are interred the remains of The Imam Musa al-Kazim (d. 799 C.E.) and his grandson, The Imam Muhammad al-Jawad (d. 835 C.E.).

This exquisite shrine is a poem of dedication and homage, composed in brick, mortar and timber, to the immortal memory of the two Imams buried there.

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Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The illustration on the Cover depicts the various national flags of principal Muslim countries of the world 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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The late Shaikh Mushir Husain Kidwai, an Indian Muslim (d. 1937), is the author of some excellent books on Islam, the most important of these being *Pan-Islam and Bolshevism*, London, 1937.

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Between Ourselves

THE COVER

The picture on the cover was taken on the occasion of the Muslim Festival of Fitr (1374 A.H.) celebrated at the Shah Jehan Mosque, Woking, England, on 3rd June 1954, when men and women of many races and from several countries took part in the congregational prayers. Twice a year in their own countries and places, and once a year in Mecca, Muslims assemble to reaffirm their faith in the two-fold truth that God is one and mankind is one.

Our picture shows some friends from West Africa visiting the Shah Jehan Mosque, Woking, on the Festival of Fitr day.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

The late Sayyid Sulaiman Nadwi (d. 1953), a Pakistani Muslim, was one of the most renowned Muslim scholars in the sub-continent of India and Pakistan. He is the author of several standard works on Muslim history, the last known being his Urdu *Sir at-Nubi* in seven volumes.

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THE COVER

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 and 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 Muslim, were allowing to fall into disrepair, describes this gate in the following words: "The Gate . . . is indeed an assemblage of beauties rarely to be equalled. . . . The two lines which are at the top and on either side of the arch are in mosaic on a blue ground with gold letters; and the single line, immediately over the arch, is also in mosaic on a gold ground with blue letters. The contrast is exceedingly striking . . . and the whole truly superb: but when illuminated by the massive silver chandelier, which hung down in its centre, the gorgeous beauty of the Zancarron (as this Sanctuary of the Qur'an was known then) must have surpassed everything that we can possibly conceive of splendour or magnificence."

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