

References to the Woking Mosque and Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din in the minutes of the early meetings of the London Mosque Fund

Note: The source of the minutes reproduced below is the article: *The London Mosque Fund*, published online by Cambridge University Press, 2 June 2011, in *Royal Historical Society Camden Fifth Series*, volume 38, July 2011 ([see link](#)).

We have drawn a red line in the margin to indicate references to the Woking Mosque and Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din, and placed his name in red text.

The London Mosque Fund was a body founded in 1910 by certain prominent Muslims, mainly of Indian origin, and some British sympathisers of Islam, with the aim of building a mosque in London worthy of Islam and of an international city like London. For further information, see the Introduction in the above journal ([link](#)).

— Dr Zahid Aziz of www.wokingmuslim.org

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund was held on Wednesday April 17 1912 at 3.30 pm at 22 Albermarle Street SW

Present:

The Right Hon Ameer Ali

Sir William Bull

Mr M. Abbas Ali Baig

Syed Mohd. Chewky Bey

Mr Bullock

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter from Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal dated 8 February was read and discussed.

Mr Baig was requested to prepare a draft reply to be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Mr Baig gave a resume of the history of the Woking Mosque Endowment Fund and mentioned that with the consent of Mr Ameer Ali and Mr Arnold they with himself had been appointed Trustees of the Fund and it merely

remained for the Committee to decide whether to take over the mosque or not.

Mr Baig stated further that the draft of agreement together with Title Deeds was at the Treasury Office. If the Committee agreed to take it over Mr Baig proposed that Mr [Henry] Leitner should be asked to join the Committee.

The Chairman proposed that the Committee should take over the Mosque and Institute. Unanimously approved.

Sir William Bull suggested that Trustees should arrange to entrust the Title-Deeds and Agreement to some Bank.

Mr Baig proposed that a tin safety box be purchased and that on it be put the names of the three Trustees and the words "Woking Endowment Trust" and that the same should be reported at the following meeting. Unanimously approved.

Mr Anik was asked to accept the Treasurership which he kindly consented to do.

Mr Leitner was unanimously elected a member of the Executive Committee.

Read and confirmed: Ameer Ali chairman

**A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund
was held on Tuesday 16 July 1912 at 3 pm
at 21 Cromwell Road, South Kensington**

Present:

The Rt Hon Ameer Ali

Professor T.W. Arnold

Mr A.S.M. Anik

Mr Shairani

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman proposed that Prof Arnold should be asked to undertake the

office of Secretary to the Woking Endowment Trust. Unanimously carried.

Prof Arnold as Secretary of the Mosque Fund was requested to enquire from Mr Baig if the deeds of the Trust had been endorsed over by Mr Leitner to the Trustees and what steps still remained to be taken by the Mosque Fund Committee. Also to enquire whether it was not necessary to put someone in charge of the Mosque at Woking.

The President suggested that perhaps a number of gentlemen from the Mosque Committee might be able to visit the spot and decide what was to be done.

[Rest of minutes omitted]

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund was held at 41 Sloane Street SW on Wednesday 30 April 1913 at 5 pm

Present:

The Rt Hon Ameer Ali (in the chair)

Mr Abdul Ghufar Khan

Professor T.W. Arnold

Mr C.A. Latif

Mr A.S.M. Anik

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Woking Mosque: Mr Arnold reported in this connection that as desired he had made the necessary enquiries from Mr Baig who had informed him that no documents had so far been made over but that the matter was still in the hands of the lawyers.

[Rest of the Minutes omitted]

Confirmed: Ameer Ali 19 November 1913

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund was held on 19 November 1913 at the India Office, Whitehall SW

Present:

The Rt Hon Syed Ameer Ali (in the chair)

Mr C.A. Latif

Mr A.S.M. Anik

Mr Abdul Ghufar Khan

Mr Abbas Ali Baig

Mr T.W. Arnold (Secretary)

Mr Anik reported that £300 had been invested as decided at the last meeting and Mr Arnold reported the issue of letters to H.H. the Begum of Bhopal and other subscribers and to the Trustees setting forth the progress of the Fund.

The Secretary of the Trustees of the Mosque at Woking reported the transactions of a meeting of the Trustees on 20 October as follows:

- (i) consideration of a letter dated 10 October 1913 from the Treasury solicitor regarding the deed of transfer and the funds now in the possession of Mr Leitner;
- (ii) resolution that the Mosque should be insured as soon as funds are available;
- (iii) sanction of the provisional arrangement made by Mr Abbas Ali Baig for the supervision and maintenance of the Mosque by **Khwaja Kamaluddin** who was asked to insure the Mosque and the Memorial House, for the present, for £1000;
- (iv) resolution that Mr Anik be asked to act as Treasurer of the Trust Funds and Mr Arnold as Secretary of the Board of trustees.

Mr Anik laid before the meeting a statement of the accounts of the London Mosque Fund up to the 15 December 1913 and pointed out that the balance in hand in the banks including securities was £5206-6-0. He was asked to invest £100 now and another £100 after 5 January 1914.

Confirmed: Ameer Ali 22 January 1914

**A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund
was held on 22 January 1914 at 141 Sloane Street, SW at 5 pm**

Present:

The Rt Hon Ameer Ali (in the Chair)

His Excellency Mundji Fikri Bey

Mr Mirza Abdul Ghaffar Khan

Mr Abbas Ali Baig

Mr C.A. Latif

Mr A.S.M. Anik

Prof T.W. Arnold

Mr Anik reported that he had invested £100 as decided at the last meeting.

Letters from **Khwaja Kamaluddin** and Mr Abdul Haq (Secretary of the Islamic Society) were read, asking for a grant of money for the payment of the rent of a building in London for the purposes of a Mosque.

The Chairman explained that a grant could be made from the Mosque Fund without reference to the Trustees. Proposed by Mr Abbas Ali Baig and seconded by Moh Latif that this committee do recommend to the Trustees to sanction a grant of £120 a year out of the income of the Trust Fund in deposit with the Bank of England to the credit of the Trustees of the London Mosque Fund. The motion was carried.

Proposed by Mr Ameer Ali and seconded by His Excellency Mundji Fikri Bey that the administration of this grant be entrusted to a committee composed of Mr Abbas Ali Baig, Mr Anik and **Khwaja Kamaluddin** for renting a building or room or rooms for the performance of the Muslim prayers and for expenses incidental thereto; and that this committee submit an annual report as to how the money has been expended. The motion was carried.

Mr Arnold reported that a cheque for £492 was received from Mr Leitner's solicitors by the Woking Mosque Trustees who authorised Mr Anik their Treasurer to invest £490 in India Stock (gold) 3½ per cent, and Mr Anik

reported that the investment had been effected and that the Mosque and Memorial House had been insured for £1,000.

Confirmed: Ameer Ali 19 March 1914

**A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mosque Fund
was held on 19 March 1914 at 3 pm at 41 Sloane Street SW**

Present:

The Rt Hon Ameer Ali (in the chair)

Mr Abbas Ali Baig

Mr C.A Latif

Mr Willoughby Bullock (representing Sir William Bull)

Professor T.W. Arnold (Secretary)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

In reference to the resolution passed by the Committee on 22 January 1914 the secretaries reported that they received from the following trustees (Rt Hon Ameer Ali, Lord Ampthill, Moh Abbas Ali Baig, His Excellency Mundji Fikri Bey, Lord Rothschild and Sadigh es Salteneh) letters agreeing to the recommendation of the Committee that a grant of £120 a year out of the income of the Trust Fund be made to a Committee composed of Mr Abbas Ali Baig, Mr A.S.M. Anik and **Khwaja Kamaluddin**, who will administer the grant for the purpose of renting a building or room for the performance of Muslim prayers.

Lord Ampthill, Lord Rothschild and the Rt Hon Ameer Ali imposed a condition that the Trustees will have the power to withdraw or vary their consent to the grant, whenever it may appear to them desirable to do so. But no answer had yet been received from His Highness Mr Aga Khan.

Mr Bullock stated that he did not consider it expedient to take final action until an answer had been received from him also, as he was one of the Trustees.

Mr Baig therefore proposed that an urgent letter be sent to His Highness

informing him that all the other Trustees had given their consent and requesting an early reply.

Resolved (subject to the assent of His Highness the remaining trustee) that the grant should take effect from 1 January 1914 and be paid quarterly to the committee composed of Mr Abbas Ali Baig, Mr A.S.M. Anik and **Khwaja Kamaluddin**.

Mr Ameer Ali pointed out that the time had come for continuing the appeal for funds for the London Mosque and it was resolved that in reference to the expenditure necessary for such an appeal the balance of quarterly income of the Trust Funds in the Bank of England after payment to the above mentioned committee composed of Mr Abbas Ali Baig, Mr A.S.M. Anik and **Khwaja Kamaluddin** be utilized for this purpose.

The following form was approved for the cards announcing the Friday prayer:

Allah – O – Akbar

The Jooma Namaz will be held at the Lindsay Hall, Notting Hill Gate, W., regularly every Friday at 12 Noon until further notice.

Mr Khwaja Kamal-ud-Din of the Mosque, Woking will deliver the sermon and the Dua will be recited by Haireddin Effindi and Lord Headley respectively in Arabic and English.

All Moslems are cordially invited.
