

اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
'GOD IS THE LIGHT OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH'
(The Holy Quran)

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Lustre of the Sacred Book - The Holy Quran
Is the light of the heart of every Muslim
People may admire the moon on high,
But our moon to be frank is the Holy Quran

—Promised Mubashirah

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I'd-al-Adha at the Mosque Woking

**Faris Glubb, son of Ex-Commander of Arab Legion in Jordan
General Glubb Pasha embraced Islam**

“ This incident in the history of Woking Mosque will ever remain green in their memory, and that they will have the pleasant memories of this institution, wherever they will be.”

—Begum Ikramullah.

By GHULAM RABBANI KHAN, Imam, the Shah Jehan Mosque, England.

Saturday the 28th June was announced as the Id-al-Adha Festival day. Thousands of invitation cards were sent to the four corners of the United Kingdom. On Thursday a big marquee was erected on the frontal grounds of the Sir Salarjang Memorial House, and the other tents to serve as the Food Stations were also erected at their proper places. The staff of the Mosque was busy making the necessary arrangements for the decoration of the Marquee as well as the catering for the thousands of guests expected on Saturday morning.

Mr. Muhammad Yahya Butt Asstt. Imam was in charge of the supplies and in this connection he had already arranged for the necessary quantity of meat, rice and other articles for preparing a good curry and plao.

As Thursday and Friday were very bad days from the point of view of weather the management was confronted with the great difficulty in supplying the necessary material required for preparing the big meal.

Mr. Ghulam Khan and his team of cooks arrived at about 8.00. p.m., on Friday evening and started their cooking arrangements immediately. It will not be out of place to mention that Mr. Ghulam Khan is a well off person, and since the year 1920 he has been in charge of the catering. He is a very devoted and zealous worker for the cause of the Woking Muslim Mission.

Mr. Turney, the Superintendent of the office, an old man of 69, who has been in the service of the Mission for 10 to 12 years, was very busy equipping the Marquees with the National Flags of all the Muslim countries of the world.

We all wondered as to what would happen on Saturday if the weather be so unkind. Mr. Turney said that it is a miracle of I'd in this country, that it would be brighter tomorrow, and told me not to worry about it. I did pray to God at night for the grant of a bright day on the I'd, and also for the gift of some important persons to embrace Islam on the occasion of I'd congregation. To our surprise at about 8 or 9 a.m., the atmosphere began to clear up, though it was a bit over-caste with cloud, but it started becoming pleasant till at about 10 o'clock the people for the I'd prayer began to pour in.

The guests were received near the Mosque by Syed Mahmood Hussain, and when they came nearer to the Sir Salarjang Memorial House, I proceeded forward to welcome them.

This was a very pleasant reception to all those who came from far and wide to participate in the celebrations.

Soon the spectacular collection of men, women and children right from the continent of Africa, Cyprus, Syria, Tunisia, Iraq, Turkey and from the different parts of the United Kingdom, were seen greeting one another with the spirit of the universal brotherhood of Islam.

The prominent people amongst the visitors were H. E. M. Ikramullah, High Commissioner for Pakistan, H. E. Begum Ikramullah, and family: H. E. The Ambassador of Tunisia, and a dozen Chiefs from Nigeria in their National Costumes, C.S.P. Officers from Oxford, Prominent Muslims from Bristol, Liverpool, and London, and the representatives of various non-Muslim and Muslim Embassies,

besides the prominent English ladies and gentlemen including Sir Sinclair Baronet from Tunbridge Wells.

The representatives of practically all the newspapers along with the Pathe Newsreel were conspicuous taking snap-shots of the interesting and glorious gathering.

At 11. 30 a.m. the big Marquee was arrayed with the Muslim men and women for the I'd Prayer. The non-Muslim guests were seated on chairs towards the North and South of the big canopy. The prayer was lead by me, and after the prayer I delivered the I'd Khutba and expressed my views on the Festival of Id-al-Adha in the light of the Holy Quran, and traditions. Before and after the Khutba the big canopy resounded with the takbirs in loud voices — “God is great. God is Great” etc.

When the sermon was over a young English girl from Manchester advanced towards me from the visitors, and embraced the faith of Islam. It was a very inspiring incident when I asked her to recite the Kalima, and thus join the faith of Islam. The whole congregation with one voice congratulated her and expressed their greetings with loud cheers. The congregation gave her the Muslim name of Fatima. No sooner she had resumed her seat when I received a Mr. Mujid Khan, C.S.P. from Oxford, informing me that an Englishman Faris Glubb a student at Exeter College, Oxford University, the son of General Glubb Pasha ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Arab Legion in Jordan, wished to embrace Islam. I requested him to come forward to the dais and asked him to repeat the Kalima, and to my surprise I found him very well versed in Arabic. He could speak Arabic

fluently. He embraced the faith of Islam, and the congregation was so much overpowered with emotions that I saw tears of joy in the eyes of many. H. E. Begum Ikramullah came to me with tears of joy in her eyes saying "This incident in the history of Woking Mosque will ever remain green in their memory, and that they will have the pleasant memories of this institution, wherever they will be".

Thereafter the guests stood in a queue all high and low, all of them without distinction of colour, caste, rank or creed, and were served food within 40 minutes from five centres. The wonderful catering arrangement was due to the untiring zeal and efforts of Major Farmer Farouk, an English Muslim, who is a big businessman at Woking. He was helped by Mr. Iqbal Ahmad, the Assistant Editor of the Islamic Review who had raised a large number of volunteers both girls and boys from different colleges. The management was so much compliment-

ed by the visitors as to the efficiency of service that all of them were full of praise for the Woking Muslim Mission's well-organised and systematic arrangements.

In the afternoon the sun began to appear, and the whole atmosphere was cheered up with the happy souls who had collected there to commemorate the day of Sacrifice in unison with the pilgrims at Mecca who celebrated the 'Id after doing the memorable duty of performing the Hajj at great personal inconvenience to gain the true inspiration of the spiritual experiences.

On the book-stall Joan Spark, Celia Bulford, and Mr. Turney were busy selling the literature published by the Mission. They did this duty, and helped us in all other arrangements with the true zeal of sincere co-workers at the Mosque, in spite of the fact that Saturday was their off day.

universal brotherhood of mankind. On these two pillars peace is built. In order to reach the desired goal of peace the ideological and religious problems are solved by the simple formula that all countries, tribes, and nations had divinely inspired teachers for their guidance. So nobody can claim to be a Muslim unless he believes in all the prophets without any distinction or differentiation, and that he believes in all the heavenly messages delivered to humanity through those great teachers. This inculcates the sincere respect for all the honoured Prophets of all the Faiths, and their heavenly books. The ideological problem of labour and capital which the world is facing now, is also solved in a very honourable way by placing before humanity the main ideal of the equality of mankind without distinction of caste, colour, creed, or geographical location, and inculcates to do good for the common interest of all. The rapprochement between the Western Democracy, Communism, and capital and labour, will be on the principles of Islam which will serve as a golden mean for the solution of the two opposites.

ISLAM IN ENGLAND

Activities of the Woking Muslim Mission, England

New-Comers in Islam

The following have embraced Islam:

Mr. K. C. G. Oliver, Mrs. P. Ahmad, Miss. M. J. Jamieson, Mr. B. Harrison, Mr. A. L. Fitzroy, Mr. F. A. C. M. Eggers, Mr. C. E. C. Cavadine, Mr. S. Smith, Miss. B. A. Manwers, Miss. W. E. Norris, Miss. M. Ward, Mr. W. L. Johnson, Miss. J. F. White.

Imam's Lectures

The Imam delivered the following lectures:

1. At 18 Eccleston Square, London, "Whether Islam would be the future religion of Great Britain."

2. At the 8th Group of the Clifton Congregational Church on 11th May at 8.00. p.m. The meeting was presided over by the Chairman Mr. Bernard R. Webster, B.Sc.

3. At the Marriage Group of the Jewish Society on Islam on the 13th May, at 8.00 p.m. at their Synagogue situated at Settlement, 33, Bernez Street, London. The talk lasted for 2 hours, including the time of questions. The audience learned for the first time that Moses as well as Jesus Christ had gone to Kashmir, and that Pathans and Kashmiris are the descendants of the 10 lost tribes of Israel.

One of the members of the audience asked questions as to how it is that they accepted Islam *en-masse*. The speaker remarked that the lost tribes had preserved intact the prophecies and traditions of their ancestors foretelling the advent of the Last Prophet, and in the light of those prophecies they sent a deputation headed by Qais, to wait upon Prophet Muhammad, (Peace and Blessings of God be upon him) and identified him as the one foretold in the old scriptures, and accepted him as the Last Prophet of God. They came back with the glad tidings of the advent of the Last Prophet, and the whole Nation accepted the Last Divine Messenger.

4. The Imam attended the World Spiritual Council Conference of the year 1958, which was held at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, from the 16th May, and lasted up to the 18th May.

The meeting started with a dinner, which was followed by the very important function of readings from all the heavenly scriptures.

The Imam recited the Holy Quran in Arabic, and read out the translation of the verses he so repeated. Thereafter the various speakers delivered lectures on the different aspects of the problems of humanity, and the Imam in his turn explained the religion of Islam, and stressed the positive values of the religion for the solution of the problems facing humanity at the present juncture. He explained that the very name of this religion which is divinely revealed, is not associated with the name of any founder, or Prophet, but is religion of obedience to the laws of God, and hence is the religion of nature, and of all the prophets of God, including Prophet Muhammad himself. The obedience to the laws makes it obligatory to ensure peace and co-operation with humanity for the good of the world. The name alone does not help if the practical steps for bringing about the desired end of peace, are not divinely inspired, and adopted. This religion bases the peace on two fundamental principles, the unity of God, and the

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