

Confidential.

*Not to be reproduced without  
permission of the Secretary.*

## News and Notes

A Monthly Paper printed for the private use of the  
Members of the Missionaries to Muslims League.

---

**Series XIII**

**No. 3**

**March, 1925.**

---

1st. March = 5th Sha'ban (8th mo.), 1343, A.H.

---

### **Presenting the Case to College Students.**

**L**AST month we ventured to publish a fairly full synopsis of a popular treatment of the subject, "Missions to Moslems," used while home on furlough during the past year. One of the chief attractions of the furlough, however, was the promise of opportunity to appeal to students during their training for the ministry. The notes here appended were used over and over again in a very happy tour in England, Scotland and Wales. We hope that some members about to take furlough, realizing the need of recruits, will have their thoughts directed to the task of bringing the claims of Moslems before student audiences.

---

The present lecture assumes an elementary knowledge of Islam.

1. Apart from numerical strength and significant distribution of Moslems, there is a tremendous rebuke and challenge in this—the Early Christian Church failed Md. at a critical period in his mental and spiritual development.  
cp. Md.'s sources—unscrupulous Jews (re. prophecies in the O.T.)—unworthy Christians (Collyridian heresy re. Trinity and Gnostic heresy re. Person of Christ).  
Md. fulminated against these early and late.  
(Christian doctrine of Christ, derogatory to God.  
(Christian doctrine of Trinity, blasphemous because idolatrous—and, Jesus must be saved from the *shame* of death on Cross.)  
These protests are of value if only because they compel us to revise of our way of stating Christian doctrine.
2. Md.'s denunciations denials and assertions are preserved in the Quran and are quoted by way of retort to this day.  
(verses cited from Quran in support.)

3. How then should we approach these Moslems?  
 With understanding, sympathy, and friendship.  
*They are primarily the victims of the blunders of others.*  
 15 years ago the challenge was put thus: "Islam defies your King."  
 It can be stated in a more appealing way: "Islam is a moon eclipsing the sun of Christianity."  
 These are not a people without a vestige of knowledge of Christianity, but a people labouring under strange delusions about the Christ Himself.
4. What should be the method of our approach?  
 There has been too much **FRONTAL ATTACK** in the past. Islam is strongly entrenched and not to be easily dislodged.  
 Experience indicates that progress will be slow and rather through indirect methods.  
 'Slow' because of wide, spread illiteracy—(we can assist with schools, lantern lectures, medical missions and simple literature.)  
 'Slow' because of prevalent prejudice mere **TERMS** (conveying wrong ideas, it is true) rouse Moslem prejudice and hostility. They have been taught to *hate* the very *sound* of such as:  
 'The Son of God'; 'God the Father,' 'The Trinity.' A single Moslem can prejudice a whole audience against a preacher by reference to any of these terms.  
*Need we use these terms* in dealing with the prejudiced?  
 'We must cultivate a Moslem side to our brain (become a Moslem to Moslems).  
 We need to get at the man behind the Moslem—  
 Be as "wise as serpents."  
 take him unawares!
5. What sort of men does the task require?  
 (a) *of right type.*  
 polite (cf. Moslem courtesy).  
 above reproach (cf. Moslem scrutiny).  
 ready to serve (they need a friend).  
 men of prayer—students of Scripture.  
 men for whom Christ is central and sufficient.  
 who know by experience His grace and power.  
 who cherish His companionship.  
 who reflect His Spirit.
- (b) *of adequate training.*  
 with general knowledge of outlines of Islam.  
 (more advanced courses can be taken on the field.)  
*while yet in college:* well to realise value of Hebrew (for Arabic), German and French.  
 all of which should enable us to study and develop another method for dealing with Moslems:

In military tactics there is the device of "drawing the enemy out of his trenches."

This suggests the Christian method *par excellence* and has the Master's own sanction: "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me."

We, His followers and messengers, need in all our walk and conversation with these Moslems, to reflect His Spirit that they may be drawn to Christ by the Christlikeness they see in us.

No pious Moslem despises a Christlike missionary.

---

### Our Need and Our Supply.

What doth it avail thee to discourse profoundly of the Trinity, if thou be void of humility, and art thereby displeasing to the Trinity? Surely profound words do not make a man holy and just; but a virtuous life maketh him dear to God. I had rather feel contrition, than know the definition thereof. If thou didst know the whole Bible by heart, and the sayings of all the philosophers, what would all that profit the without the love of God, and without His grace?

THOMAS A KEMPIS.

---

'I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to withstand or gainsay.'  
Luke 21: 15.

---

### The Islamic Studies Circulating Library

(under the auspices of the M. M. League)

SO far as we are aware no reference was made during 1924 in the pages of N. & N. to the existence of the I. S. C. Library and terms of membership. In the view of the fact that about a hundred new people have joined the League in the interval, we venture to refer once again to the fact that valuable books on Islam are available on very easy terms.

The Library is in the custody of the Secretary, and membership is open to all members of the League residing within the Indian Postal area on payment of an annual subscription of One Rupee only. The League Committee has further agreed that members ordinarily resident outside the Indian Postal area shall be entitled to take advantage of the Library, whenever, by coming to reside for a time within the Indian area, they are in a position to do so. We would ask members working in Arabia and Mesopotamia kindly to bear this in mind.

The Library came into existence through the very generous donation of a friend keenly interested in the evangelisation of Moslems. The Committee has decided that members can, if they prefer, become 'Life members' of the Library on making a single payment of fifteen rupees.

## A list of the volumes at present in the Library :

1	Faith of Islam.	Sell.
1a	do do	do
2	Mizan-ul-Haqq.	Pfander.
2a	do do	do
3	Life of Muhammad.	Sell,
3a	do do	do
4	Historical Development of Quran.	do
4a	do do	do
5	Muhammadan objections to Christianity.	Tisdall.
5a	do do do do	do
6	Koran (Everyman's)	Rodwell.
6a	do do	do
7	Vital Forces of Christianity and Islam.	various
8	Aspects of Islam	Macdonald
9	Religious attitude and life in Islam.	do
10	The Ahmadiya Movement.	H. A. Walter
11	Don Raimon (Raymond Lull.)	Seth-Smith
12	Sweet First Fruits.	tr. Sir W. Muir
13	A Moslem seeker after God (Al-Ghazali)	Zwemer
14	Islam ; a challenge to the Faith.	do
15	Mohammedanism.	Margoliouth
16	Mohammed.	do
17	Early development of Mohammedanism.	do
18	The religion of Islam.	Klein
19	Judaism and Islam.	Rabbi Geiger
20	Crusaders of the 20th. Century.	Rice
21	Selections from Muhammadan Traditions.	Goldsack
22	Muhammadan Jurisprudence.	Abdur Rahim
23	Henry Martyn, Confessor of Faith.	C. E. Padwick
24	Robert Clark of the Panjab.	Martyn Clark
25	D. M. Thornton, of Cairo.	W. H. T. Gairdner
26	Rowland Bateman, of the Punjab.	Maconachie
27	Christian Literature in Moslem Lands.	Report
28	Muslim Theology, Jurisprudence etc.	Macdonald
29	Sources of Quran.	Tisdall
30	The Coran.	Muir
31	The Koran.	Sale
32	Call to Prayer.	Zwemer
33	The Caliphate.	Muir
34	Life of Muhammad.	do
35	Presentation of Christianity to Moslems—	Board of Missionary Preparation, N. Y.
36	The Koran.	Sale

It will be noticed that the first six Volumes are in duplicate. This is in order to anticipate applications from several members at a time for volumes prescribed for the Course of Study in Islamic subjects. (see note below).

*N. B.* In all cases those borrowing books will pay postage both ways. Books may be retained for one month and may be renewed for a further month by letter, provided the volumes are not in demand.

Gifts of books will be welcomed.

All correspondence regarding the Library should be addressed to the Secretary of the League.

## A Course of Study in Islamic Subjects.

The Committee has arranged the following course of study in the groundwork of Islam, for the benefit of those who feel the need, now that they are on the field, of informing themselves about Islam. If desired, arrangements can be made for an examination.

It is earnestly hoped that members will avail themselves of this opportunity to take out books the value of which has been proved by our leaders in the chief mission fields.

### The Qur'an.

*Sale:* The Koran. Portion set for the Examination :  
'THE PRELIMINARY DISCOURSE.'

(Available in The Chandos Classics Series. About 2s.)  
Two copies have been placed in the Library.

*Sell.* THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE QURAN.

(This is the 3rd edition. Original price, Rs. 2. A few copies are available at C.L.S., Madras, at the reduced price of 12 annas only.  
Two copies have been placed in the Library.

Also recommended for study : Rodwell's translation of the Koran.

Two copies of the Everyman's Library edition have been placed in the Library.

### Biography.

*Sell.* LIFE OF MUHAMMAD.

(Available at C.L.S., Madras. Paper cover, Re. 1-6. Cloth Re. 1-14).

Two copies in cloth binding have been placed in the Library.

### Theology.

*Sell.* THE FAITH OF ISLAM.

(Available at C.L.S., Madras. 3rd ed. Rs. 4 only.)

Two copies of this edition have been placed in the Library. A new 4th edition is to be had of the author at Rs. 6.

Also recommended for study in connection with the above :

*Sell.* "OUTLINES OF ISLAM" (The Islam Series)—C.L.S., Madras. 90 pp, paper cover, annas 4 only.

(Copies should be ordered direct from C.L.S., Madras.)

### Controversy.

*Pfander.* MIZAN-UL-HAQQ (The Balance of Truth). New and revised edition by St. Clair Tisdall. Published by R. T. S. Available at C.L.S., Madras—who have a few slightly damaged copies on sale at half price, viz. Rs. 3-15-0.

Two such copies have been placed in the Library.

Also recommended for study : St. Clair Tisdall's, 'MUHAMMADAN OBJECTIONS TO CHRISTIANITY.' S.P.C.K. LONDON. 2s. 6d.

Two copies have been placed in the Library.

The information to be acquired through this course of reading will furnish a solid foundation for all future intercourse and study. Have you considered your obligation to Moslems in this respect ?

All correspondence regarding this Course of Study should be addressed to the Secretary of the League.

---

### Modernism in Mecca

**T**HE strange blend of Eastern tradition and custom with Western science and progress introduced by King Husein into Mecca, is not generally known to people in the West.

King Husein had at Mecca a powerful wireless station, but it was reserved entirely for official use, to convey his instructions and rebukes to subordinate rulers of his domains. It is said that once, when the King was angrily censuring one minor chief, the ether was so filled with his violent messages that British warships in the Red Sea miles away found their wireless temporarily useless. Mecca has a telephone system, too, but King Husein insisted that his number should be "No 1. Mecca," and that every other telephone instrument should be automatically disconnected when the receiver of his instrument was removed, lest there should be an eavesdropper of the royal conversation or his dignity should be wounded by the reply from the exchange, 'Number engaged, please call later.' Mecca has a fairly efficient postal service, and the country is a member of the International Postal Union, with its own postage stamps, printed in Cairo. Some modern buildings have been erected, but the city remains generally in appearance as it was centuries ago. Sanitation has been greatly improved, and during the pilgrimages, which bring normally some two hundred thousand visitors annually, much stricter hygienic precautions are imposed. There is a weekly paper, *El Kibla*, in Arabic, of which King Husein himself was editor-in-chief, and often actually composed the leading articles, always reading each issue in proof before publication. A little time ago a correspondent of *The Times* described King Husein and His Heir apparent, the Emir Ali, hard at work with fountain-pens, correcting Arabic galley-proofs, a matter of great technical skill, improving the grammar, and polishing the periods of the next issue of the paper adapted.

*from 'Great Thoughts,' November, 1924.*

---

### The Power of a Portionette.

#### Wanted better distribution.

The publications of the Nile Mission Press are distributed far and wide; in fact they go to thirty lands. The heartiest of all welcomes comes from the most barren of all lands—North and East of Arabia. Why is this ? It may possibly be traceable to the infectious example of S. M. Zwemer, the man who is in dead earnest about the distribution of literature. We all know how few literary writers there are, but only God fully realises how many less there are that really care about distribution ! We discuss portionettes, and some are told off to arrange and edit portionettes, others to print and publish portionettes—but how many of us are willing to "step down

from our pedestal" to give away portionettes, aye, even in the public street? These simple leaflets contain the dynamic of the divine decree—put it into action, let it function, be the connecting link in the providence of God. O for workers, O for greater interest in such tracts, O for a re-induement of the fire of God!

Here an incident to encourage us all:—

Away in Iraq, a mission colporteur tried to sell a New Testament to a Moslem, but the man would not have it; then he tried a "portion," *i.e.*, a single Gospel, but with the same result. At last he gave him, *free*, a four-page portionette from the N.M. Press, and left him.

After a few days the local missionary was interested to receive a call at the Bible-depot from this very man, who explained that he liked the portionette so much that he now wanted a Gospel; later on he came to buy a New Testament.

In the life of this one Moslem, who shall estimate "The Power of a Portionette"?

*From 'Blessed be Egypt'—*

A. T. UPSON.

---

## Notes

*Dr. Zwemer writes.*—'My work at Princetown (he has been giving a course of lectures there) is completed. Now come two busy weeks campaigning in the West for our own Church, then Washington, and after that I sail. My address will be *c/o* American Mission, Cairo, where I hope to arrive by February 20th at latest.'

In a later letter he says: 'I leave Cairo at the end of April to be present at the May meetings (in London), on request, from May 1st to 15th; then sail for South Africa in response to an invitation received from the United Mission Council'. Dr. Zwemer will value the prayers of the members of the League.

\* \* \* \* \*

*The Founder of the League, Rev. John Takle, writes:*—'How the membership has grown! I am glad.

I am sorry to tell you that medical opinion is against my return to India. I resigned at the annual conference of our mission last October, after 28 years service...I am not fit for regular work...To be cut off from work in Bengal is like losing a limb, but there may be work for us here..... My warmest greetings to the brotherhood.'

*Mr. B. M. Mow, a new member, writes:*—'Our Mission (Church of the Brethren) has appointed me to begin work among the Moslems of our district as soon as I am ready. I am studying the language at present. We all are laying much hope on this new work.'

---

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The February number was sent by V.P.P. to members residing within the Indian Postal Area. Unfortunately intimation had not been given previously that this course would be adopted for collecting subscriptions. Consequently a number of members, who have only recently joined refused the packet, quite possibly because they were ignorant of its contents.

We are sending the March number with this explanation to those who have not yet received their February number. May we know your wishes?

Once again, please! Will all members contemplating furlough or change of station, send in their new address to the Secretary without delay. A number of V.P.P. packets have been refused because the member concerned has "left India etc." The League has to bear the cost of V.P.P. charges in all these cases.

---

### For Praise and Prayer.

- PRAISE** for new recruits set apart for work among Moslems, and prayer that they may receive Divine blessing during days of preparation.
- PRAYER** is asked that two ladies may offer for service under the Friends Mission to work in the Bhopal district.
- PRAYER** is asked for a recent young convert in Central India who is soon to be received into the Church.
- PRAYER** is urgently requested on behalf of a European personal assistant to a titled Moslem in North India, who, though once baptised, has recently professed Islam. Marriage with an educated Moslem woman is in contemplation. Pray that through the influence of Christian friends and the intervention of God's Spirit he may be led to faith in Christ.

---

### Death of a Member

We regretfully report the death at home on furlough of one of our members—Miss L. Walker of the Friends' Mission—formerly at work in the interesting city of Bhopal.

---

Our membership now stands at 522.

---

*The annual subscription to the League is only Rs. 2-0-0 (English 3s.). The Secretary will be glad to send spare copies of this issue to addresses mentioned by members with a view to securing new subscribers. News and requests for prayer will always be welcome and should be sent early in the month to the Hon. Secretary:—*

Rev. L. Bevan Jones,  
Baptist Mission,  
Dacca, Bengal, India

