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News and Notes

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Members of the Missionaries to Muslims League.

Series XVIII

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November, 1930.

1st November = 9th Jumada'l-Akhir (6th mo.), 1349, A.H.

Our Special Message to Muslims

(Some Suggestions from a Scottish Theologian)

WE submitted, for consideration and comment, the leading article in our May issue to some prominent British theologians with a view to securing their guidance in our problems. It gives us genuine pleasure to be able to publish, with his permission, some valuable suggestions sent to us by Dr. Garvie, the Principal of Hackney and New College, London.

He wrote:—

I read your short article with interest and appreciation.

1. Our aim should be to bring out the full meaning of the Apostolic Benediction. (see 2 Cor. 13, 14. *Ed.*) Theologically, the love of God comes first; historically, the grace of Christ; but experimentally, the communion of the Holy Spirit.

2. Did the Christian churches manifest the third in zeal, holiness and fellowship, we could begin there. Islam is what it is as a reproach to the Church because the churches failed to manifest Christ. We must then rely on the historical revelation.

3. We should not begin with the miracles of the virgin birth or the resurrection, or even say we are trying to prove the divinity of Christ, but stress three facts; (a) the character of Jesus as not only sinless and holy, but perfect love; (b) the consciousness of Jesus as Son towards God as Father [we must make clear that sonship is a *symbol* of personal relation to God, (immediate and intimate, trust, love, obedience, etc.) and not to be taken literally]. I wonder if the use of 'Word of God' would be better among Muslims; (c) the saving power of Christ both in His earthly ministry and to multitudes in the history of the Church. (Here the resurrection comes in, not as a miracle which proves the divinity, but as a necessary condition of the fact of Christ's continuous efficacy).

4. Then only can we rise to Christ as revealing what God's love which stoops and empties itself to save. (The Muslim's notion of God needs to be transformed before the divinity of Christ can mean anything to him: and so I should not begin with the divinity).

This is a hasty sketch of what would seem to me the proper apologetic.'

Sd. ALFRED E. GARVIE.

*New College, Hampstead,
London, 25th June, 1930.*

Christian Literature in India

Remarkable Progress in Seven Years

AT the recent annual meeting of the N. C. C. Committee on literature for Muslims, the Convener and Secretary, Dr. M. T. Titus, read an exceptionally interesting report on the activities of this Committee during the past seven years. We wish to share much of this review with our readers, for it will be found stimulating to all who are interested in the production and distribution of Christian literature for Muslims, not only in India but in other fields also.

Not until the winter of 1923 was a serious effort made to organize the National Christian Council's Committee on Work among Muslims with a view to bringing about that measure of co-operation and co-ordination which is essential to securing the best results. As a result of this first step taken at Ranchi in February, 1923, the C.L.M.C. was fully organized at a meeting held in Lahore in September of that year; and to-day we enjoy the fullest measure of co-operation possible between the different language areas, writers, and publishing agencies on the one hand, and the Central Muslim Literature Bureau (Cairo) and the American Christian Literature for Muslims (New York) on the other.

At our first meeting we had no adequate organization of any sort to deal with the need for literature in any language with the exception of Urdu and English, for both of which the Committee felt itself especially responsible. To-day the field has been so thoroughly organized that we have a committee on Muslim literature under the guidance of a special correspondent for each of the following *twelve* languages: Bengali, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Oriya, Pushtu, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu; while steps are being taken to organize a similar Committee for Marathi. These committees are under the direction of their respective Provincial Christian Councils, and your Secretary is able to report that there is the fullest possible co-operation and co-ordination of effort between the forces at work here on the field. Thus the C.L.M.C. is the "clearing house" for these widely scattered areas on the one hand, as well as for the

A.C.L.S.M. on the other, through whose kind offices funds are provided to subsidize the extensive literature for Muslims which is being produced and distributed.

Below is given an analysis of the outstanding facts of our working during the past seven years :

GRANTS RECEIVED : We have received in this time the sum of Rs. 35,919-2-11, of which Rs. 31,066-4-0 has come from the A.C.L.S.M., and the remainder, Rs. 4,852-14-11, from the India Literature Fund, the M. E. Mission Board, and interest on deposits.

GRANTS FOR PUBLICATIONS : This money has been distributed for the publication of literature to the extent of 201 books and tracts distributed as follows among the twelve different languages: Bengali, 12; English, 4; Gujarati, 12; Hindi, 2; Kashmiri, 1; Malayalam, 4; Oriya, 6; Pushtu, 21; Sindhi, 9; Tamil, 11; Telugu, 1; and Urdu, 118.

SUMMARY OF PUBLICATIONS. The following summary of the publications already completed will give an idea of the activity of the Presses that have been working for us in all parts of this polyglot India, for in this time books and tracts have been published in eleven of the twelve languages to the number of 146 different items; 1,899,000 copies; and 20,224,000 pages. In detail these are as follows:—

Language.	Items.	No. Copies.	No. Pages.
1. Bengali ...	8	22,000	1,590,000
2. English ...	4	4,000	487,000
3. Gujarati ...	4	15,000	529,000
4. Hindi ...	2	4,000	154,000
5. Kashmiri ...	1	5,000	10,000
6. Malayalam ...	4	20,000	160,000
7. Oriya ...	6	11,000	280,000
8. Pushtu ...	5	19,000	720,000
9. Sindhi ...	7	18,000	536,000
10. Tamil ...	8	73,000	958,000
11. Urdu ...	97	1,708,000	14,800,000
Totals ...	146	1,899,000	20,224,000

Of these 146 publications to date 107 represent first editions; 25 second editions; 11 third editions, 2 fourth editions, and 1 fifth edition.

SOME VERY POPULAR TITLES AND BEST SELLERS : This makes a very interesting study, and from it we are able to deduce much valuable information with reference to the type of literature which is most in demand, thus providing a reasonable guide to publishers for the future.

1. *The Best Friend*, by L. Bevan Jones, has been published in nine different languages: Bengali, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Oriya, Pushtu, Sindhi, Tamil and Urdu, and as a simple life of Christ for Muslims it is in great demand in all areas.

2. *Why I Became a Christian*, by S. M. Paul Afghan, has been published in five languages: Bengali, Gujarati, Pushtu, Sindhi and Urdu. As a biography it is very popular, and a most useful book because of its personal witness for Christ.
3. *How the Death of Christ Differs, etc.*, by Dr. J. J. Lucas, has been very popular also, and is found in four languages: English, Gujarati, Oriya and Tamil. It deserves a wider circulation still.
4. *The Sinless Prophet*, by Dr. Rouse, although an old tract is still very useful and has been printed and reprinted in Hindi, Pushtu and Urdu.
5. *Inspiration*, by the late Canon W. H. T. Gairdner has been printed in English, Gujarati and Urdu.

In addition to the above, mention must be made of the Nile Mission Press, Cairo "*Khutbas*," and various titles from that excellent collection of tracts (also from the N.M.P.) known as '*What God Hath Used*' which have found such a splendid reception in Urdu. Huge editions of 50,000 and 20,000 each have been exhausted and reprints are now under way. For the benefit of those in other language areas who may wish to get some or all of them translated and printed in the future I shall give the names of the 25 most popular ones, which have been used for free distribution: The Names of Christ; The Mother of Jesus; The Death and Resurrection; The Robe of Al-Rashid; The Plan of Salvation, Pts. I—II; The Al-Hanoushi; Jesus, The Incarnation of God; Two Ways in the Qur'an; The Field of Good Intentions; The Wonderful Pathway; The Qur'an's Testimony to Christ; The Search for the Strongest; The Throne Verse; The Fortune-Teller and Necklace; Aunt Ayesha's Jessamin; The Stream and the Source; The Al-Aqiqah Sacrifice; Purity; Am I My Brother's Keeper; The Fish that Went too Far; Who is Jesus Christ; Adam's Sin; A Dead Prophet or a Living One; The Noble Victim; Moths and Butterflies.

SOME OUTSTANDING BOOKS TO APPEAR SOON: We shall soon have Urdu editions of the following important books:

1. *The Life of Shaykh Michael Mansur* of Cairo,
2. *The Glory of the Cross*, by Dr. Zwemer.
3. *The Christ of the Indian Road*, by Dr. E. Stanley Jones.

LEADING AUTHORS OF OUR PUBLICATIONS: In co-operation with the Central Bureau for Muslim Literature, Cairo, we are able to profit by the best productions of the best authors in the world who write literature especially adapted to Muslims. Among the authors whose productions we are using all over India the best known are the following: Dr. S. M. Zwemer; Rev. W. Goldsack, Canon W. H. T. Gairdner, Miss C. E. Padwick, Mr. A. T. Upson, Canon E. Sell, Miss I. L. Trotter, Rev. Sultan Muhammad Paul Afghan, Rev. L. Beyan Jones and Dr. E. Stanley Jones.

OUR PUBLISHING AGENCIES: While literature committees, authors, and grants from America, are indispensable to the production

of literature this report would not be complete without a word about our publishing agencies on whose shoulders fall the burden of making general arrangements for financing each project, and of getting the printing done, stocking the finished product and handling it in the initial stages of distribution. These agencies with the languages they serve are as follows :

1. The Christian Tract and Book Society,
Calcutta ... Bengali.
2. The Christian Literature Society, Madras ... Tamil,
Telugu, Malayalam, English.
3. " " " Hyderabad, Sind ... Sindhi.
4. The Punjab Religious Book Society, Lahore ... Kashmiri.
Urdu.
5. The Methodist Publishing House, Lucknow ... Urdu.
6. The Mission Press, Jubbulpore ... Hindi.
7. The North India Christian Tract and Book
Society, Allahabad ... Hindi.
8. The Gujarat Tract Society, Surat ... Gujarati.
9. The Orissa Mission Press, Cuttack ... Oriya.
10. The Dar-ut-Tabligh, Mardan, N.W.F.P. ... Pushtu.

DISTRIBUTION AND EVANGELISTIC RESULTS : We now come to the most fascinating part of the story, and the purpose for which the C.L.M.C., the A.C.L.S.M., and all their allied agencies exist, namely to get the message across to Muslims and to change hearts and lives to the Glory of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ. I regret that I am unable to give definite information from all the 11 languages in which our literature has been published, but this much may be said that our literature is being widely used and distributed in all of these areas from Colombo to Srinagar, Kashmir and Central Asia, and from Rangoon to Peshawar and Quetta.

The Committee is indebted, however, to the Punjab Religious Book Society for the following report which gives a most interesting and satisfactory account, one that stirs the deepest feelings of joy and satisfaction in those who have co-operated in this huge task of financing, producing, and distributing the printed Christian message to Muslims. I am certain that similar happenings are taking place in other areas if we could but learn of them.

The P.R.B.S., which publishes our Urdu literature, reports that it has had a large turnover and that more than half of the total amount printed in the past seven years has been sold, some of their publications as noted above having had huge editions exhausted. Since Urdu is the *lingua franca* of the Indian Muslim, this literature goes to all parts of India, and in fact it follows Indian Muslims wherever they go as traders and labourers in all parts of the world to such distant places as Singapore, the Fiji Islands, British Guiana, Trinidad, British Columbia, South Africa and Mesopotamia.

One missionary in South India writes, "I have received a

number of your beautiful tracts for Mohammedans. I refer specially to a series of eleven Gospel tracts in Urdu.....May I ask you to send me by post 1000 of these.....I may add that in my limited experience in distributing tracts they are eagerly read.....Their attractive get-up commends them to Urdu-reading Mohammedans."

Another writes from the Island of Trinidad, as follows: "My esteemed friend Mr. R. D. Smith of Los Angeles has advised me that you could send us a free grant of literature in Urdu. If so we shall greatly appreciate any help in this way you might be led of the Lord to give us. Now is the time of sowing.....We have had much joy in seeing much blessing through taking the printed page from house to house....."

A parcel of literature free of cost and postage was promptly sent to this distant part of the world, and the following interesting reply was received by the Secretary of the P.R.B.S. ;—

"Dear Fellow Helpers, Words fail us to express our sincere appreciation of the lovely supply of religious literature in Urdu which arrived safely.....We have already heard of one case of real blessing through one of your booklets that I took out as soon as they arrived. A poor man was under the power of evil spirits.....I gave him one of your booklets and had a word with him trying to point out that Jesus was the only one who could bring him real peace and joy. To-day he told me that the booklet was so precious. He had come to believe that Jesus had really delivered him, for the Spirit had not troubled him since....."

The Secretary of the P.R.B.S. further says that a new edition of Rouse's "Sinless Prophet" of 5,000 was all gone in 6 months, and when the next edition was printed at the end of 1928 one person alone took 1,000 copies for distribution in the United Provinces, and out of an edition of 10,000 copies there are now only 1,400 in stock.

In closing his very full report Mr. Warris writes, "We may add that communications are often received from Muslims telling us that they were driven to study Christianity and were attracted to the teachings of Jesus by reading our literature."

We may well be proud of the record our Committee has made during the past seven years, and we look forward to even more constructive and fruitful evangelistic achievements in the future, but we must not forget that what has been done here could never have been accomplished had it not been for the generous and continuously sympathetic support we have received from the A.C.L.S.M. in New York, whose faith and prayers have sustained us, and whose grants have made this large output of literature possible. In particular we are indebted to Dr. Zwemer, Mrs. E. E. Olcott, Mr. D. L. Pierson and Dr. W. I. Chamberlain who have maintained constant touch with us. We extend them our heart-felt thanks, and pray God to bless them in their mighty endeavour to help win the Muslim millions of the world for Christ.

[All enquiries should be addressed to Dr. M. T. Titus, Budaun, U. P. India.]

Wanted—Indian Women Workers.

OUR readers will remember that in our issue for September, 1929, (v. p. 68) reference was made to the great need felt by Zenana missionaries of the Wesleyan Mission, Hyderabad, Deccan, for suitable Indian workers with a good knowledge of Urdu. We are informed that that need has not yet been met, though it is as great as ever. The 'second missionary for work among Muslim women,' referred to in the above-mentioned note, subsequently came to Lahore as one of the first students of The Henry Martyn School. Naturally she is now still more anxious to secure such helpers. Will members of the League knowing of suitable women get into touch as soon as possible with Miss F. Allen, Wesleyan Mission, Hyderabad, Deccan, or Miss K. Greenfield, at the same address?

The Moslem World Quarterly.

Contents of October Number, 1930.

WHY CHRISTIAN MISSIONS TO MOSLEMS?

MISSIONARIES in the world of Islam would gladly consent if Mohammedans should cease to listen to them if they would only lend a listening ear to Christ Himself. The heart of the enterprise is not the transplanting of Western civilization or interpretation, but the sharing of the Lord Jesus Christ. Three articles in the October number of the Moslem World are concerned with this issue.

The Rev. L. Bevan Jones, of the Henry Martyn School of Islamics, Lahore, writes with deep sympathy on "Our Special Message to Moslems,"

(Unfortunately, one entire page of the MS. of the above article has been omitted by the printer thus depriving the paper of its main argument and interest.—*Ed. N and N.*)

Mr. Herbert H. Mercer, writing about "Bible Distribution in Cairo," tells of his trials and triumphs as colporteur, while the Reverend John Elder of Kermanshah, Persia, in a "Cross Section of the Moslem Mind," proves that the Gospel is real dynamic.

If Rabi'a, the Woman Saint who lived in Busrah in the eighth century, and whose life is so vividly described by Margaret Smith, had been won for Christ, she would have been an Apostle indeed for all Arabia. Dr. H. U. W. Stanton gives an admirable sketch of an Indian convert, Padri Waris-ud-Din, while Mr. B. Hagopian enters a plea that the Armenian race are specially fitted to evangelize Moslems.

The able article on "Religious Freedom in Egypt" by "Spectator," of Cairo, gives inside information that is most timely. The riots have shown once more the fanatic temperament and temperature of that land. Two judges of the Mixed Courts in Egypt, Pierre Arninjon and Pierre Crabites, contribute a joint article on the Patriarchate of the Near East and maintain that in "refusing to allow the Patriarch to exercise civil and administrative powers the Angora government did not disestablish a church but decapi-

tated a nation." Professor W. G. Shellabear, of the Kennedy School of Missions, contributes a scholarly article on the Naqshabandi Brotherhood in Sumatra and its relation to orthodox Islam.

The Current Topics deal with the Agha Khan, Islam in Algeria, The Moros and their struggle for independence, etc. **Indian Islam** by Dr. M. T. Titus finds a large place in the Book Reviews and in the Survey of Periodicals. The October issue also gives a complete index for the twentieth year of this Quarterly.

Published by the Missionary Review Publishing Co., 156, Fifth Avenue, New York City, 50 cts. a copy, \$2.00 a year.

Agents in India:—The Association Press, 5 Russell St., Calcutta. Rs 6/- per annum, post free.

For Praise and Prayer.

PRAISE for opportunities to sow the seed in India to-day through Christian literature especially adapted to Muslims.

PRAY that suitable Indian women may be found to meet the urgent need in Hyderabad, Deccan.

NEW MEMBERS.

Miss A. M. Ward,
Rev. R. A. Hickling,

C.E.Z.M.S.
L.M.S.

Hyderabad, Sind.
Chikka Ballapura,
Kolar Dist.

Any notification of change of address, names of new members or remittance of subscription, etc., should be sent to the Superintendent, Orissa Mission Press, Cuttack, India, and *not* to the Secretary of the League. The annual subscription to the League is Rs. 2-0-0 (English 3s. od.).

Matters of interest to members of the League, items of news and requests for prayer should be sent (if possible, early in the month) to the Hony. Secretary:—

Rev. L. Bevan Jones,

NOTE NEW ADDRESS 

5 Egerton Road,
Lahore,
Punjab, India.