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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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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 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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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 Jahan 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 twofold truth that God is one and mankind is one.

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

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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 Sirat-ul-Nabi in seven volumes.

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October : 1954

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Between Ourselves . . . .

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'ān 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 hangs down in its centre, the gorgeous beauty of the Zanqaron (as this Sanctuary of the Qur'ān was known then) must have surpassed everything that we can possibly conceive of splendour or magnificence."

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