May, 99 Bulletin

Dar-us-Salaam, 15 Stanley Avenue, Wembley, UK, HA0 4JQ

May 99 Meeting
Assalamu alaikum
Venue: Dar-us-Salaam
Date: Sunday, 2nd May 99
Time: 3 p.m.
Topic: Persecution of Prophets

Announcements

Ahmadiyya cemetery

You will be pleased to learn that the jamaat has purchased in Boorkwood private cemetery near Woking a plot of land for the members of the jamaat. For the time being arrangements have been made for the burial of twenty bodies. The cost to the jamaat was £25,000. £10,000.00 has been paid and the balance of £15,000 is to be paid by end of July 1999. Members are requested to contact the jamaat when the need arises.

Agents of the British?

It is said that, with the exception of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the whole of the Muslim population of India opposed the British rule of India. It is claimed that the British set up Mirza Ghulam Ahmad with the objective of destroying the Muslims' sense of jihad. It is astonishing that while it was openly declared that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is a heretic and outside the pale of Islam, at the same time it is claimed that all the Muslims who were rushing to jihad stopped because Mirza Ghulam Ahmad said that armed struggle against the British cannot be called a jihad in accordance with the Islamic law. If, non-Ahmadi Muslims believed that jihad in the sense an of armed struggle against the British was lawful, they should have gone ahead and taken up arms against them. Who was stopping them?

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was not given titles by the British. He did not have land and money showered upon him. Land and wealth was given to non-Ahmadi Muslims but they are not called British agents. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who tore Christian theology to shreds, even inviting the Empress Victoria of India to embrace Islam, was a British agent. Can you please tell us whether Qaid-I Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Sir Muhammad Iqbal, Maulans Shibli etc. conducted an armed struggle against the British. Tell us when and where did Maulana Maudoodi take up arms against the British. Syed Ahmad Shafeed and Shah Ismael Shafeed went across the length of India, through territory held by the British, to get to the Punjab to fight against the Sikhs. They did not fight the British along the way.

Siraj-ud Dulla was the first Muslim to try and eject the British from India by armed struggle. At the height of the battle of Plassey when the British were about to be routed, Mir Jafar deserted Siraj-ud Dullah and went over to join the British because he had been promised money and lands. Please tell us which sect did Mir Jafar belong to. Was he an Ahmadi? When Tipu Sultan tried to eject the British from India, Mir Sadiq, a member of Tipu’s family, turned against him during a crucial battle and at a prearranged signal joined the British. Was he an Ahmadi? The Nawab of Hyderabad who supported the British against Tipu Sultan with money and soldiers. Was he an Ahmadi? During the last armed struggle to rid India of the British, the Indian War of Independence (or the Mutiny) of 1857 C.E., while Bahadur Shah Zafar’s army desperately tried to hold on to the Red Fort in Delhi, his own son was asking the British how much they would pay him to open the doors of the city! Was he an Ahmadi?

When Bhadur Shah Zafar was tried for treason by the British, his defence was that he was a loyal and faithful friend of the British Crown and that it was the mutineers who had used him as a figurehead at gun...
point. He went on to say that even while a prisoner of the mutineers, he did much to safeguard British lives and property! How many names and incidents do you want me to mention?

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad said that an armed struggle against the British could not be declared to be a *jihad* in the terms of Islamic law. He did not say that Muslims should not try to become independent. Amongst the reasons he gave for an armed struggle against the British not being a *jihad* was that Muslims did not possess the means to carry out such a struggle. He said to attempt an armed struggle without adequate means was to endanger life and Islam does not permit Muslims to endanger their live needlessly. Was he wrong? For a start Muslims were not rushing to an armed struggle with the British. Even if they had wanted to do so, were the means for such a struggle. Who was going to provide money and armaments? And who was going to provide training? Even after fifty years of independence Pakistan is not self-sufficient in any thing. Who was going to provide these resources before independence?

Did Qaid-i Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah not openly declare that Muslims are not going to fight the British but to negotiate independence in a peaceful manner? Why is it praise is heaped upon Qaid-i Azam for saying this but Mirza Ghulam Ahmad has abuse heaped upon him for saying exactly the same thing? Recently Mr. Vakil Anjum (Punjab kay Firon - Punjab kay jangidaraan kay arooj o zabaal key kahani (Pharaohs of the Punjab - A tale of the rise and fall of the landowners of the Punjab, published by Feroze Sons, Lahore) published a book in which he has given details of how all prominent families of the Punjab supported and helped the British and the rewards they received. A few examples are given below as a sample.

1:- *Family of Farooq Ahmad Laghari (the previous president of Pakistan)*

“In 1848 . . . when Edwards defeated the Sikhs . . . Sirdar Jallal Khan Laghari presented himself to the English with eighty of his loyal servants and assured them of his complete loyalty. . . . In 1875 C.E. Sirdar Haidar Khan Laghari went to the Qalaat expedition with Robert Sandiman. As a sign of pleasure, he was handed back the authority of the Magistrate and the British Government also awarded him the title of Nawab. . . . Sardar Jamaal Khan Laghari (Farooq Ahmad Laghari’s grandfather). donated ten thousand Rupees and had eighty people join the army during the World War.” (p 124-126)

2:- *Firooz Khan Noon’s (former Chief Minister Punjab, Governor of East Pakistan and Prime Minister of Pakistan) family*

“When the War of Independence (the Indian Mutiny) of 1857 C.E. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Hakim Khan, the head of the Noon family, was among the contingent of Malik Fateh Sher Tiwana. He took part in (fighting against) rebellion at Harnaul, Hisar and Bangali, amongst other places. In return for his services in 1857 C.E. the English gave him a very large estate and Rs 275 per annum reward.” (p 339)

3:- *Malik Amir Muhammad Khan’s (former Governor of West Pakistan) family*

“When the British came, Ali Yar Khan did not oppose them either. . . . He did not let Edwards suffer from a shortage of provisions or horses during his campaign in Banu and Dillipgarh against the Sikhs. During the War of Independence of 1857 C.E. Muzaffar Khan and his son handed over several hundred loyal troops to the command of Edwards. As a reward for this Muzaffar Khan was given the title Khan Bahadur. . . . Malik Atta Muhammad (father of Malik Amir Muhammad) deposited Rs. 100,000 in advance during the World War. Apart from this he gave them the present of several thousand soldiers. . . . He was given the title Khan Bahadur and apart from that many medals were given to him.” (p 423)

4:- *Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani’s (former Governor of West Pakistan) family*

Mian Sheikh Ahmad . . . left out nothing in his loyalty to the British. In return for which he was given a Cloak-of-honour and a pension. Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani was Sheikh Ahmad’s nephew.” (p. 162)

Listen to what the rulers of Pakistan did after independence. “In its edition of January 1975 C.E. the New York Times printed this sensational news-item that the agency for spying overseas, CIA, every year provided tens of millions of dollars from its secret funds to some of the newspapers, religious organisations and political parties and their leaders in the developing countries of the Third World. According to some news reports, the names of the religious organisations, political parties and their leader which were omitted by the New York Times and which were in the Commission’s original report, included two of Pakistan’s semi-religious and semi political bodies and the head of state who was given $960,000 over a 14 year period as a political bribe was President Ayub . . . He received $70,000 per annum throughout his life.” (p 75)

Pages 272 to 277 are titled, “Mirza’s of Rabwah”. However, the author has not provided any evidence that Hazrat Mirza salih or the Lahore Ahmadiyaya Movement ever received any favours from the British Government.

This was the Punjab. Lets take a look at the history of the Regent’s Park Mosque in Central London, in their own words. “The Islamic Cultural Centre which includes the London Central Mosque has been established since 1944. It was officially opened by His Majesty King George VI in November 1944. The 2.3 acres of site adjacent to Hanover Gate in Regent’s Park, was presented as an unconditional gift from the British Government to the UK Muslim Community in Britain to enable the latter, to build a mosque and an Islamic Cultural Centre, to conduct the affairs pertaining to their faith. A Mosque Committee comprising various prominent Muslim diplomats and Muslim residents in the United Kingdom gratefully accepted the gift which was intended mainly as a tribute to the thousands of Indian Muslim soldiers who had died defending the then British Empire . . .” Later it is stated in a chronology: “24 Oct. 1940: The Churchill War Cabinet authorised the allocation of a sum of up to £1,000,000 for the acquisition of a site for a mosque in London.” Strange: we are the agents of the British but they are giving £1,000,000 to non-Ahmadis Muslims to build a mosque. Stranger still; those who in India were rushing to *jihad* against the British are dying for the defence of the British Empire all over the world! (Refer to the Islamic Culture Centre’s WEB site)