

Letters to the Editor

BERLIN MISSION ACTIVITIES

On 8th October 1937, at the request of the German Muslim Society, Maulana Sadr-ud-Din and Baron Montanyac, a famous archaeologist in Paris, delivered lectures in the Berlin Mosque. "The teachings of Islam" was the subject of Maulana Sadr-ud-Din's lecture. The learned speaker took one hour to explain the beauties of Islam and at the same time he refuted the false objections brought against the Holy Prophet. Many well-known professors and priests attended the lecture.

Baron Montanyac delivered a lecture on his researches and discoveries in Muslim countries.

Fridays, the 15th and 29th were Muslim evenings. The study of the al-Quran was the topic for discussion on Friday the 15th. On 29th the discussion being very important, unexpectedly many people attended the meeting. The subject for debate was "Islam and the Next World". Various learned friends expressed their views on this problem, specially Dr. Hiller, Baron von Horst and Mr. Bach. Dr. Hameed spoke for half an hour and threw light on this problem from Muslim point of view.

On 22nd, the German Muslim Society arranged a grand farewell party in honour of Maulana Sadr-ud-Din, who after completing his German translation of the Holy Quran left Germany on the 26th of Oct. Many Germans, Turks, Tatars, Arabs and Indian friends came to thank the Maulana Sahab. Especially Dr. Hameed, Dr. Hoffe, Dr. Devrient and Mr. Solkin paid a glowing tribute to Maulana for his great work for the German nation. At the end the Maulana delivered a short speech on the necessity of the German translation of the Holy Quran for the Germans.

H. H. the Agha Khan was entertained by the German Muslim Society on Sunday the 17th. Many press representatives and thousands of Berliners were present at the occasion. After visiting the Mosque and the Mission he took tea with his old friend Maulana Sadr-ud-Din and discussed with him some topics for an hour. The Agha Khan was very much pleased to see the work of the German Mission and the translation of the Holy Quran.

Berlin A CORRESPONDENT

I'D CELEBRATIONS IN BERLIN MOSQUE

The I'd festival was celebrated here on Saturday Dec. 4. Prof. Nazir-ul-Islam led the prayer at 10 in the morning. It was a sight worth seeing when besides Germans, Muslims hailing from different countries—Turkey, Egypt, Arabia, Turkistan, India, Jugoslavia and several other lands participated in the I'd Namaz.

After the I'd prayers, the Imam delivered his Khutba on the significance of Ramzan and I'd. He explained the philosophy of fasting and its

moral and social effects on society. The Imam further exhorted the Muslims to give up all trifling quarrels and unite themselves against the opposing force of irreligiousness and materialism. After the Khutba all present wished each other "I'd Mubarak" and embraced one another.

At 8 in the evening a meeting was arranged under the auspices of German Muslim Society. Unexpectedly many people attended the meeting. The big hall of the mosque was full, and many gentlemen and some ladies had to keep standing due to lack of seats. The meeting commenced as usual with a recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr. Yahyani from Syria. He was soon followed by Mr. Imran Husain from Jurhat (Assam), who after a short speech in German welcoming the guests sought their permission to read out in the name of all present a resolution on Palestine. The following resolution was then read out in the midst of rapt attention:

"Wir zum I'd-ul-Fitr in der Moschee versammelten Moslems und Islam-Freunde gedenken mit heissen Wünschen unserer Moslemischen Glaubensbrüder, die heute in Palästina in schwerem Kampfum Heimat und Glauben stehen. Wir stellen uns mit Herz und Hand auf ihre Seite und wünschen dass es ihnen gelingen möge, ihre nationale Unabhängigkeit zu erringen, ihern eignen Staat zu errichten und Palästina mit seinen heiligen Stätten ungeteilt beim Islam zu erhalten. Begeisterung ist stärker als kalte Eroberungssucht."

That is: We, all Muslims and other friends of Islam assembled at the occasion of I'd-ul-Fitr express our deep sympathies for our co-religionists in Palestine, who are passing through trying circumstances on account of the fight for the freedom of their country and religion. We are on their side with our hearts and hands and wish them to keep their national independence, and to save their country and to hold Palestine along with its holy places undivided for Islam.

Bruno Hiller a well-known German scholar who takes deep interest in Islam. His lecture was on "Fasting in Islam". The learned speaker took full one hour to explain the philosophy of fasting in Islam. The next speaker was Dr. Devrient, an experienced old medical man and a new convert to Islam. He spoke for half an hour on the necessity of fasting from medical point of view. Dr. Devrient being an enthusiastic Muslim thanked the guests on behalf of the mosque for the trouble they took in coming to the mosque and for exhibiting great interest in the Muslim festival. After Dr. Devrient, Muslim children Nilofer, Merzia, Ali Khan and Awal recited the Holy Qur'an and some poems. Mr. Yahyani, a Syrian Arab delivered a short speech in Arabic which was translated by Mr. Naseem. The guests were entertained with tea.

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