

حضرت حسین رضی اللہ عنہ کی
عزیمت و عظمت کی صحیح تصویر

ساختہ کربلا

حضرت عثمان رضی اللہ عنہ کے
مناقب اور آپ کی مظلومانہ
شہادت کے بیان پر جامع تالیف

شہید مظلوم رضی اللہ عنہ

یہود نے عہدِ صدیقیؑ میں جس سازش کا بیج بویا تھا آتش پرستانِ فارس کے
جوشِ انتقام نے اسے تناور درخت بنا دیا تھا۔

وہ آج بھی قاتلِ خلیفہ ثانیؑ ابو لؤلؤ فیروز مجوسی کی قبر کو تبرک سمجھتے ہیں۔

علی مرتضیٰؑ کی طرح حضرت حسینؑ بھی قاتلینِ عثمانؑ کی سازش کا شکار ہوئے۔

سید الشہداء کون ہیں اور شہیدِ مظلوم کون؟ تاریخی حقائق کو سمجھنے کے لئے

بانی تنظیمِ اسلامی

ڈاکٹر اسرار احمد

کی دو جامع اور مختصر مگر عام فہم اور محققانہ تاریخی کتابوں
کا مطالعہ کیجئے

دونوں کتابوں کے سیٹ کی مجموعی قیمت

اشاعتِ خاص: 38 روپے اشاعتِ عام: 22 روپے

مکتبہ مرکزی انجمن خدام القرآن

36- کے ماڈل ٹاؤن لاہور فون: 5869501-03

"Dawn" newspaper had written about her talk during the reception that was held in honor of the scholars the night before, "Dr. Collin M. Keyes...had been the student of Islamic movements and the Christian-Muslim relations. She found that Dr. Israr had radical views, which needed a thorough study by religious scholars. She said there should be a spirit of listening each other's views. A dialogue on religious issues would open the minds of people, she said."

The Roundtable Discussion with Dr. Israr Ahmad was a remarkable achievement. It is important to acknowledge that Muslim scholars from the west recognize Dr. Israr as a scholar and a thinker. Dr. Israr for many years had been exporting his ideas to the Muslims in the west. Today, it is great to see his thoughts and ideas being exported to the western intelligentsia and higher academia. It was indeed an historic moment for both Dr. Israr as well as the Tanzeem.

So there you have it. Al-Hamdulillah, we are grateful to Allah (SWT) for allowing such an event to take place. We will not know what we are up against until we hear the criticism of our opponents. It is good that the scholars frankly and openly stated their criticisms. Hopefully the hard work will not go in vain. I trust that Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi' will be fair and that he will do justice to Dr. Israr Ahmad, Islam and Muslims in writing the book. It will be, Insha-Allah, a matter of time before we reap the harvest Abu Rabi' and others have sown in the form of a valuable book that will live long after we all leave this world. The final work of Prof. Abu Rabi' is subject to Dr. Israr's approval before it is published.

In conclusion, the months of preparation and hard work were concluded in four long and pleasant days. I got to meet great people. A special thanks goes to everyone who was involved in this project particularly Dr. Sherif Nasr, Br. Amin Varis from North America and Br. Muhammad Ali from Pakistan. We pray to Allah (SWT) to bring out all the good from that conference and we seek refuge in Him from all that is evil that might come out of it, Ameen.

Wa Akhiru Da'wana Anil-Hamdulillahi Rabbil 'Alameen.

responded with compassion and interest in what we had to say and with considerable knowledge and understanding. It's been a fabulous few days and I've considered it an honor to be here...."

Mr. Nirmal Singh – USA: (Spoke in Punjabi)

Dr. Ralph Ahlberg – USA:

"...In preparation for this meeting I've read several of Dr. Israr Ahmad's booklets. In one of them he quotes the Prophet saying that material values are not even worth the value of the wing of a mosquito. Such ideas are very important for both Islam and for Christianity and reflect the teachings especially of Islam that spiritual value should supersede material values...I've been exposed to a classical and forceful interpretation of Islam by Dr. Israr Ahmad. His eloquence and life long love of God that has been formed in him through the study of the Qur'an is impressive to me and to all of the people that I've met here. As a Christian and one who has lived his whole life in the west there is much that I don't agree with in what he said and much that I need to take home and carefully consider...Such meetings and conferences as the one we are now completing builds a kind of understanding that provides a kind of knowledge that we in the United States and in the western world very much need to have. And so I am particularly grateful that I have been invited here and that I've been able to participate in the conference and I thank the conference and Dr. Ahmad for...the gracious hospitality that we have received."

Dr. Mumatz Ahmad – USA: He had to fly back home.

Dr. Worth Loomis – USA:

"It is a great honor for me to be here... I think Dr. Israr Ahmad's knowledge of the subject of Islamic history and his vision of the future was inspiring...it is very important work and in this divided world where religions can create as much trouble as they can solve, it's very important that we all work on interfaith prayer and interfaith activity..."

Sr. Colleen Keyes – USA:

Sister Colleen was sitting in the ladies section of the auditorium and due to segregation and other circumstances she did not participate in the forum. Here is, however, an excerpt of what the

believe in Judaism that the concept of a Jewish Zionist exclusivist state is also wrong. Two, I disagree with the concept of an Islamic State for the whole of the world practically because I believe that this will not occur. I do not believe as opposed to Dr. Israr Ahmad that God has decreed or will decree a world Islamic State. Three, I disagree as you might well expect with Dr. Israr Ahmad's prophecy that all Jews will be destroyed or killed at sometime in the future. Four, I disagree with certain facts alleged by Dr. Israr Ahmad about Judaism, Jews, Zionism and even the American Bush administration. Evidence, available documentation I contend show these few alleged facts, and they're only a few, in a three full days of discussion by Dr. Ahmad I believe that evidence would show that these few facts to be incorrect. Finally, I wish to suggest constructively that all of you in this room as well as numerous others in the Muslim world need to learn more about Judaism, Zionism, Christianity and the United States. Further dialogue would help in this regard; study of primary sources and secondary works is necessary. Perhaps learned lectures by experts in these fields would help. Thank you so very much for having me here."

Dr. Ian Markham – USA:

"...It's a great honor to be here, a great privilege. I am a Christian theologian...It's been a privilege to have this opportunity to get sense of Dr. Israr's thought and understanding about the total shape of Islamic theology and its socio-political and economic implications...he has spoken largely from notes in a captivating way, and believe me when you're suffering from jetlag of some ten hours and day is night and night is day it takes an exceptionally good speaker to keep you interested and fascinated and Dr. Israr is certainly that. The aspects of Dr. Israr's thought I found completely compelling and fascinating....I also found the imaginative way in which he was completely faithful to the Qur'anic text and yet reconciles what science is revealing about evolution with that text immensely compelling and persuasive...and with Norton I am also not entirely persuaded that it's necessary to invoke the language of second class citizens for those who are not Muslim. In addition, I worry a little bit about the language and talk for revolution. As I understand it the word revolution does not occur in the Qur'an and the language of revolution is perhaps I suggest, unnecessary. You can commit to changing society radically using democratic means. But these are the differences that I enjoyed exploring with Dr. Israr and in every instant (C) ra

encourage ourselves to engage in different dialogues with different people in the near future. Once again I'd like to thank this community for being so hospitable to us in the past few days, we have learned a lot and we have felt very much at home in beautiful Pakistan. Thank you very much"

Dr. Faris Kaya – Turkey:

"...I attended these three days intense meetings (Roundtable discussion) and I became to know [of] and [was] honored by Dr. Israr Ahmad...I would like to express my thanks and sincere respect to him and to all..."

Dr. Roger Van Zwanenberg – UK:

"... I am deeply grateful for the opportunity that I've had to be in the small group to listen to Dr. Israr Ahmad for the last three days...I am a publisher, and I come from a radical and revolutionary tradition in socialism and Marxism...two years ago after 9/11 it was my decision that we needed in the west to understand the Islamic revival and the Islamic thought and I wish therefore, to bring to my audience Islamic thought and therefore, I was particularly excited when I found that Dr. Israr Ahmad was himself a revolutionary and I was interested and full of respect for the depth of his thought..."

Dr. Norton Mezvinsky – USA:

"...I am an American Jew...I hope that I have contributed something. I also hope that this is the beginning of further dialogue. I have invited Dr. Israr Ahmad to come and speak at my university in the United States at some time in the future. As you might expect, I and other of my colleagues were in agreement with some things that Dr. Israr Ahmad said and we were in disagreement with other things. The agreements were with numerous universal spiritual values. I shall follow the lead of Dr. Israr Ahmad and be frank about my disagreements. One, I disagree theoretically with the concept of an Islamic State that would, while allowing some rights for non-Muslims, not allow other rights most especially political rights to non-Muslims. I oppose as a believer in democracy exclusivist states whether they be based upon color, race, ethnicity, religious belief or any other group distinction. Such exclusivist states in my opinion breed conflict. To be even more specific I oppose the concept of an exclusivist Islamic State just as I oppose as a Jew and

the dinner. It was more or less a press conference with the journalists. The scholars were formally introduced to the audience. Each scholar said a few words while the journalists were noting their comments and remarks. Three articles appeared in the papers in Lahore along with a snap shot photo of all the scholars standing next to Dr. Israr Ahmad. Two articles were in English, (Dawn and The Nation) and the third one was in Urdu.

On Tuesday the 13th, the scholars assembled on the stage of the auditorium of the Qur'an College before a large crowd that filled the seats of the auditorium. They gave their remarks and comments regarding the Roundtable that was just concluded. Dr. Israr gave the final word. Here are some of the things the scholars said:

Prof. Abu Rabi'(The group leader) – USA:

“...Something meaningful will come out of all that interaction...one of the most fascinating lectures we heard ... had been about the intellectual history of Islam in southeast Asia...We need a higher level of engagement not just between the Muslim world on one hand and the western world on the other but also within the Muslim world itself...our desire has been to dialogue with eminent thinkers and philosophers and theologians in the world of Islam and the idea occurred to a number of us that it would be worth our time and our intellectual energy to have an extended dialogue over three, four days with Dr. Israr Ahmad since his thought represents an authentic direction in classical and contemporary Islamic thought and since ... unfortunately, there are not many great thinkers and theologians in contemporary Islam such as Dr. Israr Ahmad...The scholars we have here do represent various fields, various disciplines... we have chosen a diverse number of scholars, women and men, we have chosen Christian, Jews and Muslims to come here and dialogue with Dr. Israr Ahmad...this type of dialogue has to be open. Because these are critical issues that face all of us not just the Muslims in the 21st century or not just the Muslims in the post September 11 situation but also the world at large...some of the ideas that I have heard in the discussion have been new... all of us have been challenged to think or re-think some of our notions about Islam or Islamic thought in India or the Islamic State in Pakistan or the possibility of such a State in Pakistan or throughout the Muslim world in the future....I pray that we will embrace that challenge and that we

tours were also arranged for the scholars. Among the many places, they visited the Mazar of Allamah Iqbal and the infamous Badshahi mosque.

Coming back to the daily activities that took place during this event, Dr. Israr delivered his first lecture entitled, "The Human Personality and the Two Forms of Knowledge." The second lecture was on "Islam, Iman and Jihad Fee Sabilillah." "The Political and Economic System of Islam" was the first of the two lectures Dr. Israr delivered on the second day. His second lecture was on the "Social System of Islam with Special Reference to the Status of Women." On the third and final day Dr. Israr spoke on "Islamic Intellectual History in Modern South Asia, with a special reference to Pakistan" and the final lecture was "The Islamic Revolution and Contemporary Pakistan versus the Prophetic Model of Establishing Islam and the Total Politico-Socio-Economic System." Each of the sessions was followed by constructive discussion generated by the scholars. Most of the scholars were trained in the west and well grounded in the so-called western thought and the values of democracy etc. which explained their reluctance to agree with Dr. Israr on many points. They had their own opinions as well as point of view. Shortly I'll be quoting some of their comments. All in all, the event was beyond the scholars expectations. An audio as well as video recordings were made and to be released soon, Insha-Allah.

The scholars were given a set of Dr. Israr Ahmad's books as a present. I, on behalf of T.I.N.A. also gave them "The End of Democracy" book by Abid Ullah Jan as a gift.

It appears that whatever misconceptions or misunderstandings Prof. Abu Rabi' had about the methodology of the Tanzeem were removed after hearing Dr. Israr speak on the subject. Prof. Abu Rabi' has committed to writing the manuscript and to have it reviewed by Dr. Israr before going to the press. Abu Rabi's estimation to completing the manuscript is by the end of this year. As for the publisher, Dr. Roger V Zwanenberg has committed himself to publish the book. It appears that Dr. Zwanenberg was very much impressed about the methodology of the revolution of Muhammad (SAW). It normally takes about eight months to publish a book with Dr. Zwanenberg.

On the last day Dr. Israr hosted a reception in honor of the scholars. Journalists and notable personalities were invited to

The main objective of this exercise is to have Dr. Israr's thought and ideas be presented to higher academia in the form of a book to be prepared and edited by Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi' and published. An agreement between Prof. Abu Rabi', Dr. Israr, T.I.N.A. and Anjuman Khuddam-ul-Qur'an (co-sponsor) was signed to insure the rights of each concerned party.

The shura has overwhelmingly and with great enthusiasm endorsed the idea of the Roundtable discussion and a budget of \$10,000 was allocated for this purpose. Many thanks to those who contributed to this cause, and may Allah (SWT) reward them greatly in both worlds, Ameen.

A team of scholars and intellectuals lead by Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi' arrived to Lahore to participate in the Roundtable discussion. They were, Dr. Faris Kaya – Turkey, an Executive member of Nursi Movement of Turkey, Sr. Colleen Keyes – US, Dean of Academic Affairs, Tunxis Community College, Dr. Norton Mezvinsky – US (an anti Zionist Jew), Professor of History at Central Connecticut State University, Dr. Ian Markham – US (British origin), Dean of the Seminary and Professor of Theology and Ethics, Dr. Mumtaz Ahmad – US (Pakistan origin), Professor of Political Science at Hampton University, Dr. Worth Loomis – US, former Dean of the Seminary, Macdonald Center Director of Development and Professor of Faith and Public Life, Rev. Dr. Ralph E. Ahlberg – US, Interim Senior Pastor at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Connecticut, Mr. Nirmal Singh – US (Sikh), Author and active in Interfaith Activities, and finally the publisher Dr. Roger Van Zwanenberg – UK, Co-Publisher and Managing Director of Pluto Press, an independent Progressive Publishing. Dr. Loomis, Dr. Ahlberg and Dr. Van Zwanenberg were accompanied by their wives. I had the privilege and honor to be seated alongside these scholars.

Guests also attended the program. Hafiz Akif Sa'eed, Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, Pakistan, T.I.N.A.'s General Secretary, Br. Hashim Khan, T.I.N.A.'s Nazimah 'Ulia, Sr. Raana Khan, Dr. Israr's wife and granddaughter were among the guests who were present there.

Accommodations were exceptional. Anjuman had done an excellent job in hosting the program. Dr. Absar Ahmad, Dr. Ghulam Murtaza, and Br. Asif Hameed were among the organizers. The video crew and others were of great help and everything went very smoothly, Al-Hamdulillah. Sight seeing

ROUND TABLE

of foreign intellectuals

with

DR. ISRAR AHMAD

By

Mustapha Elturk

Ameer Tanzeem-e-Islami, North America

Al-Hamdulillah the Roundtable discussion with Dr. Israr Ahmad that took place in a very nice hotel located around Liberty market called Sun Fort in Lahore, Pakistan, was concluded on Monday January 12th, 2004. It went extremely well. The discussion took place over a period of three days starting on Saturday. Each day, Dr. Israr delivered two lectures, each followed by a constructive discussion between Dr. Israr and the scholars who participated in the Roundtable. Before I talk about the event I would like to sketch a brief background regarding this important project.

In late 2002, among other Ruffaqa of the Tanzeem, Mahan Mirza, a former Rafeeq, encouraged Professor Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi' of Hartford Seminary, one of the oldest universities that teaches Islamic Studies and Christian Muslims Relations, to have a Roundtable discussion with Dr. Israr Ahmad similar to the Roundtable Discussion Prof. Abu Rabi' had with Professor Kurshid Ahmad (from Jama'at-e-Islami). Professor Abu Rabi' has a PhD in Islamic Studies. To my understanding, the idea was to have someone like Abu Rabi', an intellectual scholar grounded in contemporary Islam who knows little about the Tanzeem's ideology, to challenge Dr. Israr's thought and ideas regarding the methodology of the re-establishment of the Just Social Order, Islam. This idea of having a roundtable with Dr. Israr floated for a while until it became a serious matter. It was encouraged by students of the Higher Studies project such as Dr. Ahmad Afzal and the current Higher Studies project director Dr. Sherif Nasr. Dr. Israr obviously welcomed the idea and it was a matter of time before the wish of our Ruffaqa and Professor Abu Rabi' materialized.