

MAULANA 'ABD AL-SALAM NADVI, AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO ISLAMIC STUDIES

DISSERTATION

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan has completed his M.Phil. Dissertation on Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi and his Contribution to Islamic Studies under my supervision, and the work is his own original contribution and suitable for submission for the award of the degree of M.Phil.

(Dr.Mohd. Azam Qasmi)

11 HElasmi

Reader



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TRANSLITERATIONS

System of Transliteration of Arabic characters

| Letters | Transli | teration | | | | | |
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| ب | b | В | 6 | h | l | Н | |
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| <u>U</u> | j | J | | Long | VOW | <u>els</u> | |
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INTRODUCTION

The present study is a brief survey and evaluation of the works of 'Abd al-Salām Nadvi on Islāmic studies. He was one of the desciples of 'Allāmah Shibli, who had predicted about him that one day he would occupy the chair of Professor of Nadvah. The prediction came true and the esteemed personality of Maulānā 'Abd al-Salām remained in the chair for fifty years and served the academic world.

With a high degree of dedication he and his friend Maulana Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi carried forward the task of completing the work of 'Allamah Shibli. Infact all this stands witness to his own literary ability in the compilation which gave a new dimension to the work.

The first chapter of this study is inlated to a brief sketch of his life. There is hardly any account available regarding his early life, his family and its conditions. So in this chapter I have taken help from the writing of different authors who lived and worked in close association with 'Abd al-Salām.

In the second chapter there is a brief survey and summary of the books of 'Abd al-Salām which are related to Islāmic studies. Though Islāmic studies is a wide ranging subject the Maulānā has written on almost all the aspects of this subject in the form of books and articles. I have tried to briefly describe the different facts of his major works.

The third chapter includes those books of the Maulana which are mainly the translation work from the Arabic and Persian literature. Through his translation Urdu literature became richer in more than one way. On

the one hand, this enriched the Islamic literature in Urdu language. While on the other hand, this provided nourishment to the Urdu language. All of his translation works have been selected from the Arabic literature with the exception of <u>Ibn Yamin</u> which is the translation of a Persian book. He was wel-versed in Arabic and Persian languages and therefore he almost transmitted the original spirit of the works in Urdu translations.

The fourth chapter introduces briefly those books of the Maulana which are not directly related to Islamic studies. This was considered necessary as a part of this study so that the readers in English may be made aware of the vast literary ability and the full scope of his contribution.

CHAPTER - I

MAULANA 'ABD AL-SALAM NADVI

Early Life:

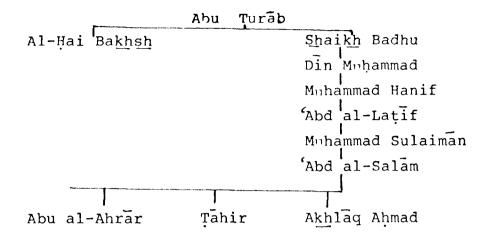
The family in which Abd al-Salām was born was a middle zamindāri house hold, where success was measured only in terms of extravaganza. The educational background of the family of the Maulānā was not that sound and so the events of his early life are not authentically known.

The ancestors of the Maulana were the clients, though it cannot be said clearly that when and where they embraced Islam. From the family tradition this family belonged to Koʻlari village in Azamgarh district and later shifted to the village Ibrahimpur. Those days Ibrahimpur was under the Rajput dominance, so it was not very easy to servive for this new-Muslim family. Therefore a young man of this newly converted family left the village in search of a safe and new place saying good bye to his family. Thus the young man settled in a muslim village known as Ala'al-Din Patti. Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi was the scion of this family.

Dr. Shabab al-Din has given his ancestory like this 1.

Muḥammad Ṣiddiq Muḥammd Yusuf Muḥammad Ibrāhim Muḥammad Nasir al-Din Ahmad

^{1.} Dr.Shabab al-Din, "Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi: Hayat Aur Karname, Unpublished thesis, Dept. of Urdu, AMU, Aligarh, 1988, p.3



The young man soon carved out a place for himself in the new village through his confidence and labour. He started earning his livelihood and bought a piece of land for farming and also married.

In those days Azamgarh and its nearly villages were the centre of the trade of indigo and sugar. So this family also took part in this trade. In later generations this trade brought greater prosperity and many other good qualities. The family rose to the status of chaudhry which was a position of dignity in the village.

Hayat-Allah a descendent of this family was the maternal grand father of Maulana 'Abd al-Salam. He was very simple and pious man. Inayat-Allah and Hedayat-Allah were his maternal uncle. His maternal ancestry belonged to the village Jairajpur, Azamgarh. They were also from the new Muslim Pajput family.

He was born on Friday 16th February 1883 AD/1300 AH in the village Ala al-Din Patti district Azamgarh. His

^{1.} Ibid. p.4

^{2. &}lt;u>Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad mein</u>, Prof. K.A. Jäisi. Shibli Degree College, Azamgarh, 1958, December, p. 1

grand father was Shaikh Badhu and Rahiman was his grand mother. Din Muhammad was his father and his mother's name was Nabihan 2.

Shaikh Badhu was generous and of good character. Because of zamindari and trade they were quite well off. The birth of grand son made him quite happy and a great feast was arranged. The Maulana himself wrote about this event in great deal.

"I was the most lovable child of my grand my father father rather than to mother. My father was the only son of my grand father and along with him there were seven daughters. Incidently my father had daughters prior to mу birth. Therefore the whole family was greatly pleased, more particularly my parents to birth of male see the а child. Fortunately my family was highly affluent and we had a good and established indigo and sugar trade. My grand father was a man of generous character, so he spent rather too generously money distributed clothes and cash among Also a grand feast was arranged for the entire village."

The Maulana always remembered the earlier days of his life and frequently pointed out about this event in his different books, even when his fame and popularity reached its zenith. He himself wrote,

^{1.} Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi: Hayat Aur Karname. Op.Cit. p.4.

^{2.} Ibid. p.4.

^{3.} Mashahir Ahl-Ilm ki Mohsin Kitaben, Muhammad 'Imran Khan Nadvi, Dar al-ulum Nadvat al-'ulama Lucknow, 1946, p.110.

"I have been the most lovable child of my parents and the most lucky too. ... And if Allah wished with His immense mercy then Insha Allah in the life hereafter also I would have good fortune."

However during his childhood the demise of his grand father on 22nd Ramdan 1305 AH/1888 AD was a great shock to him. Even when he grew up to become a renowned literary figure, he remembered this sad event and described, in a very effective way, the funeral procession of his grand father to the grave-yard².

As it was explained earlier that the family of 'Abd al-Salam was not educationally rich and his grand father was illeterate, though the trade and zamindari had made them materially rich. His father had acquired traditional learning of Persian literature and also had some knowledge of Hindi and simple Arithmatic. his uncle Nur Muhammad had a good education and had learnt Arabic literature and routinely studied ahadith. also written many religious articles and these articles are still available in manuscript form at his house³. it will not be wrong to say that because of his uncle his family got the light of education. There was not even a madrasah in the village. However, in the vicinity of the village Ala-al-Din Patti, the education was common in the established Madrasah Even the father of the Maulana had received his education away from his village. Evidently this was a problem that how his beloved son would go away

^{1.} Ibid. p.111.

^{2.} Itid p.lll.

^{3.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi: Hayat Aur Karname, Op.Cit. pp. 7,8.

from home for education. So a teacher Sayyed 'Imdad 'Ali' was engaged to teach him. The Maulana himself wrote,

"My father had arranged the education for me at home though he himself went at least two miles a day to get the same. A Persian teacher was arranged who was given two rupees monthly with food. So many students from the village and nearby villages came to study and used to pay 12 to 25 paise per month..... I learnt Persian and elementary books from a teacher who was called Mian Saheb. As the tradition I read Amad Namah (), Safawatal-Maṣādir (), Allāh Khudāi (), Bostān (), Allāh Khudāi (), Gulistān () and Akhlāg-Moḥsini () from Miān Ṣāḥeb"².

'Abd al-Salām was married at an early age and for him this marriage proved to be a boon. His father-in-law Maulānā 'Abd-Allāh Chānd Pārvi was a great religious teacher and certified 'Ālim' and desciple of Maulānā 'Abd al-Ḥai of Firangi Maḥal. He had opened a madrasah and taught there 3. 'Abd al-Salām himself availed this opportunity and studied under him. He wrote about this,

"I lived at my in-law's house for two years and there I learnt several important books of Persian like Anwar Suhaili (,), Sikandar Namah (, Minā Bazar (,), Bahar Danish (, Minā Bazar (,), Shabnam (,), Shadab (,);

^{1.} Sayyed 'Imdad'Ali belonged to village Khanqah in Azamgarh.

^{2.} Mashahir Ahl-Ilm, Op.Cit. pp.112, 113.

^{3.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi: Hayat aur Karname, Op.Cit. p.9.

Diwan-i Ghani (ديران نني), Diwan-i Helali (ديران بالي) etc."

According to the tradition of that time when Persian education was completed he felt inclined towards Arabic education. At that time Kanpur was the centre of Arabic Studies and there were two well known institutions, i.e. Faid al-Aam and Jāmi'at al-'ulūm. Fortunately a brother-in-law of the Maulānā was studying in the Mission College of Kanpur. The Maulānā did not try to seek admission in any college. Instead he used to learn from a teacher of the Mission College at his home. He also took the help of many students of Faid al-Aam and Jāmiat al-ulūm. The Maulānā himself writes,

^{1.} Mashahir Ahl-Ilm, Op. Cit. p.114.

^{2.} Maulvī Bakhshish Ahmad; his real name was Maulvī Ahmad Laharvi. He belonged to Lahra of Azamgarh & died in 1949/1368.

^{3.} Ibid. pp.114, 115.

After that Maulvi Maḥbūb al-Raḥmān shifted to Agra and took admission in St. John's College. Abd al-Salām also accompanied him. In Agra there was a small madrasah in the Grand Mosque. He did not take admission there. He used to go rather to the house of Maulvi Ramḍan, who was a teacher in the Madrasah. He studied many books from him. The Maulānā says,

"I studied <u>Kāfiyah</u>(كانيب), <u>Sharh Jāmi</u> (شرعابی), <u>Quduri</u> (فروری) etc. from Maulvi Muhammadal-Ramdan."

In that period the famous book <u>al-Faruque</u> ((المنارزق)) of Allamah Shibli was published. The Maulana studied it with great interest, followed by <u>ResalaiShibli</u>(رساله تنبلی), which influenced him quite deeply.

After passing his B.A. Maulvi Maḥbūb al-Raḥmān left for Aligarh. However as the Maulānā did not have any background of English language he could not accompany him. Due to his educational ambition he went to Ghāzipūr. There he did not take admission in any Madrasah but studied from the teachers of the Madrasah Chashma-e-Raḥmat. Regarding his education at Ghāzipūr he writes,

"Respected Maulvi Shibli, who is presently a Faqih (Jurist) at Dar al-'ulum' Nadvah, at that time, was a teacher at Chashma-e-Rahmat. I studied from him Qutbi(عبر المنافلة), Mir Qutbi(المنافلة), Sharh Waqayah (المنافلة), Hadyah Saeediyah (المنافلة), Mur al-Anwar (المنافلة), Mulla Hasan (المنافلة) etc. and read every book completely. I found him best among all the teachers. But even this

^{1.} Ibid. p.115.

time I was not admitted in the Madrasah. Along with him I had the teacher Lal Muḥammad who belonged to my district. I studied from him and attended all the lessons being taught by him of $\underline{\text{Mir Zahid}}($

The curiosity which was developed in him by the books of Shibli stimulated him to go to the Library of Maulvi 'Abd al-'Ahad Shamshad' and read many books of Persian and Urdu: literature.

Around this time the epidemic of plague broke out. It was terrific scene and in no time it was spread and carried away many. Everyone horrified in the town. The Maulana also was effected by this unfortunate happening and because of this he left for his home. He managed, however, to obtain many books from the personal library of one of his relatives. Because of his study of a vast literature he was enabled to appreciate the deeper and wider dimensions of rational literature. Describing this formative period at home he writes,

"I bring the books from a personal library of my relatives which mainly contain Logic and

^{1.} Maulvi Lal Muḥammad was born in Rasulpur in Azamgarh. He studied Figh, Usul-i figh, Hadith, logic, philosophy, arithmatic by Maulana Abd al-Hai Firangi Mahal. He was appointed as a teacher in Chashma-e-Rahmat at Ghazipur.

^{2.} Ibid. p.115.

^{3.} Maulvi 'Abd al-'Ahad Shamshad was a famous poet of Ghazipur and Manager of the Madrasah Chashma-e-Rahmat. He collected the books on Persian and Urdu in his Library.

Philosophy like Sharh Matali' (عشرح مطالع). Mulla Jalal Hamd-Allah (بربرل عمرانه) Mir Zahid and Umur-e Ammah (سبرداید). Casually studied those books which had Short notes of Maulana 'Abd al-Hai Firangi Mahal. This helped me greatly and I understood them quite easily. About the same period I studied also Tafsir-i Kabir of Imam Razi who explains (تُفْرِيرُكي clearly even the most difficult problems. These books influenced me deeply and led to obsession of reasoning almost an debates. I appreciated any thing which was based on argument showing the cause effect."

It is interesting to note that still upto this time the Maulana did not take admission in any Madrasah. Yet in order to receive education he travelled long distances as is evidently clear from his description. He had a great thirst for education and indeed God Almighty had bestowed upon him a witty mind. He not only studied but even memorised a great deal.

After two years when the plague was suppressed and its fear was overcome he began to think to resume his education. Fortunately at that time Dar al-'ulum Nadvat al-'ulama was headed by Allamah Shibli and managed by Maulana Hafiz-Allah and they both were associated to his native place. He, therefore, made a contact with Maulana Hafiz-Allah through correspondence and arrived Lucknow finally in 1906. He was admitted to class V. Residing at

^{1.} Mashahir Ahl-'Ilm, Op. Cit. pp.117, 118.

Nadvah he studied different kinds of books which further sharpened his mind. He described in these words,

> after the arrival of Shibli the pattern of education saw many changes, yet the books prescribed from V to VIII standard were adequate to my literary skill. following books Sharh Hikmat al-Ain (شرح عكمت البير), Sharh Hikmat al-Ishraq ((ליכי של פוניעל), Taudeeh-ر عاسم (Hamasah (توفيع تلوح), Talveeh(Sabah Mu'allagah (سيم معلن), Mutanabbi), Nagd al-Sher (نقد الشعر), Dalail al-'Aijaz(אויטועשן;) etc. equated well with my literary taste. So I studied all of them with keen interest... I used to bring books like Sharh Magasid (Sharh), Sharh Mawaqif (شرعراتن), Sharh Tajrid (شرعراتن) etc. and studied them. Among the Urdu books Maulana Shibli's 'Ilm al-Kalam((علم الكلام Al-Kalam((الكلاع) were published. I studied them with penetrating and keen interest."1

Apart from all these the curious eye of Allamah Shibli always searched for brilliant students and he paid great attention towards them. Despite his busy schedule he used to care a lot for such students and discussed with them. Thus he had a group of bright students around him. The Maulana was fortunate enough to have him as his mentor and guide, Allamah Shibli had a wide collection of books and magazines, which he used to distribute among the students and directed them to translate and review them. Along with this a title used to be given for discussion, speech

^{1.} Ibid. pp.118,, 119.

Allamah Shibli wrote a letter to Mehdi Ifadi in October 1906 and predicted,

"We have a boy here in Nadvah called 'Abd al-Salam, who is very brilliant and intelligent, shall perhaps deserve to chair the vacant position in Nadvah."

Again in December 1906 he wrote in a second letter,

"'Abd al-Salam is very brilliant. He can become an author and so shall be. He does not know English, but he is studying that and Nadva is to shape and shine this diamond." 2

Perhaps this was the reason that the Maulana got Editorship of al-Nadvah shortly afterwards. He became Sub-editor from March 1910 to July 1911. In that period his articles were often published in al-Nadvah. Besides the Sub-editor of al-Nadvah he was also appointed as a teacher of Arabic literature at Nadvat al-'ulama. In addition to this Allamah Shibli also made him to write many literary and academic works from time to time.

^{1. &}lt;u>Makatib Shibli</u>, Vol.II, Dar al-Muşannefin, Azamgarh, 1971, p.208.

^{2.} Ibid. p.209.

ABD AL-SALAM NADVI IN THE STAFF OF SEERAT AL-NABI'S PROJECT

From the very beginning Shibli nourished the idea of compiling Seerat al-Nabi. Although he started the work in 1903 but due to lack of resources he could not carry on. When Sultan Jahan Begum of Bhopal agreed to pay Rs.200 per month, he resumed the work in May 1912. In the project 'Abd al-Salam was appointed as an assistant for Arabic references. When Shibli shifted his centre to Bombay, 'Abd al-Salam accompanied him in journey'. He also accompanied Shibli when a branch of Seerat al-Nabi was shifted to Hyderabad on the invitation of Nawab 'Imad al-Mulk.

Shibli also used to seek help from him through letters when he was not with Shibli, such as Shibli enquired,

"You make a critical scrutiny of the reports regarding prominent jews who were slained following the migration."

At one time Shibli also enquired his help in respect of Holy Quran. But 'Abd al-Salam could not understand the objective of Shibli. Then Shibli wrote a letter to Maulvi Masud 'Ali Nadvi that why 'Abd al-Salam should be innocent in my work. After this Shibli wrote a letter to Masud 'Ali, in which he suggested to 'Abd al-Salam,

^{1. &}lt;u>Makātib Shibli</u>, Vol.I, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1971, p.150.

^{2.} Ibid. Vol.I, p.150

^{3.} Ibid. Vol.II, p.121.

"You should start reading the Quran from the beginning and pick up all the conventional and technical terms suchf as Salat, Zakat, Ruku', Sajdah, Munafiq, Momin etc., that how many times these technical terms have been used in Quran in the Conventional sense."

Even after this suggestion Abd al-Salam continued to face Then Shibli, feeling by now a little irritation, problem. wrote to him again and suggested,

> "Why you have become so innocent. If you would yourself write some book on Quran then which topic you would choose? You start from the same topic of your own choice and from time to time I will also instruct you. quidelines are as follows, (i) Descipline in language (ii) Historical arrangement Quran (iii) Importance of Makkan and Madani Surah."2

vividly that Shibli was preparing him It showed gradually for the compilation of Seerat al-Nabi. not provided such training to his pupils, his dream would not have been fulfilled. After the death of Shibli his students accomplished his life-long desire to the perfection. According to Maulana Saeed Ansari the third volume of Seerat al-Nabi regarding the miracles was compiled by 'Abd al-Salam.' Besides, he also compiled the material about the moral excellences and etiquettes which, after some modification, was incorporated in the volume on ethics of Seerat al-Nabi.4

^{1.} Ibid. Vol.II, p.123.

Ibid. Vol.II, pp.150-151.
 Adib, Shibli Number, Jamiah Urdu, Aligarh, 1960, September, p.33.

^{4.} Seerat al-Nabi, Vol.VI, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1966, p.34.

'ABD AL-SALAM IN AL-HILAL

After the resignation of Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi from al-Hilal Abu al-Kalam wanted 'Abd al-Salam to join it. Because Abu al-Kalam lived with him and know his calibre. 1 On the other hand due to the dispute of Nadvah's strike 'Abd al-Salam himself was interested in joining al-Hilal. But Allamah Shibli did not agree because;

- (A) The name of the author was not published and no body would know the work and worth of 'Abd al-Salam.
- (B) He was helping in Scerat al-Nabi.
- Shibli also wanted to publish a Magazine (al-Maarif) (C) under 'Abd al-Salam's editorship.

Abu al-Kalam took permission for 'Abd al-Salam from Shibli through letter. 'Allamah Shibli gave permission to 'Abd al-Salam to join al-Hilal. Then he joined al-Hilal from July 1914 as Sub-editor on Rs.1004

'Abd al-Salam had written many articles in al-Hilal which appeared without his name in accordance with the policy of al-Hilal. Today it is very difficult to identify his articles. After verification we came to know about his two articles. One under the title "Philosophy", Abu al-Kalam himself published it in al-Hilal with an appreciation note 5. The second is entitled "al-Harb fi -الحرم فالار لام). Sayyed Sulaiman al-Islam"(said about this in an interview to a monthly Magazine.

^{1.} For detailed see <u>Tahdhib al-Akhlag</u>, Aligarh, 1983, February, p.21, 22.

Makātib Shibli, Vol.I, Op.Cit. p.298.
 Ibid. Vol.II p.153.

^{4.} Itid. Vol.I, p.259.

^{5.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad mein, Op. Cit.p. 30.

^{6.} Mahanama Mustagbil, Karachi, 1949, October, p.8.

Perhaps it was for this reason that Allamah Shibli often advised 'Abd al-Salam to ensure his name as the author. In one letter Shibli advised to 'Abd al-Salam,

"You should ask for getting authorship from Abu al-Kalām."

Prof. Kabir Ahmad Jaisi² writes that he wrote a number of articles in al-Hilal and al-Balagh but without his name, which would have been enough to renown him³. This researcher himself enquire about his articles from Prof. Jaisi but he expressed his inability in pointing out the titles of 'Abd al-Salam's articles.

After the death of Shibli he came and join Dar al-Musannefin on 15th December 1914 and served there till he breathed his last.

^{1.} Makatib Shibli, Vol.II, Op. Cit. p.155.

^{2.} Prof. Kabir Ahmad Jaisi is a teacher in the Department of Islamic Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

^{3.} Aajkal, Prof. K.A. Jaisi, New Delhi, 1956, December, p.37.

"ABD AL-SALAM AND THE STRIKE OF NADVAH :

In 1905 Shibli took the charge of Nadvah's administration. He introduced many changes in the administration and educational system of Nadvah. He introduced English, Hindi and Sanskrit as a compulsory subject. But a group english teaching and a 'ulama opposed to conflict surfaced within the management. resigned from the post of al-Nadvah's editor and 'Abd al-Karim succeeded who in his first him, issue al-Nadvah published an article on the importance of Jihad. At that time the Britishers had a wrong understanding of So the people of Nadvah felt rather the word Jihad. They made Abd al-Karim to resign and sentthis insecure. information to the Deputy Commissioner. At the same time many of them raised their voice against Shibli, launching a propaganda-compaign which led to several disturbances in Many articles were published against him. Nadvah. article published in zamindar (news paper) written by 'Abd al-Hakim Dasnui which provoked Abd al-Salam. He wrote a letter to 'Abd al-Hakim Dasnui from Bombay on 11th May 1913,

> "I read your article in zamindar Ι surprised but pleased as well. I am happy that you are the first person to favour Shibli. But аt the same time T you have made surprised as the Maulana responsible also for having taken the matter to the Government. However, the fact is that the letter written to Deputy Commissioner in that connection, was sent by an organisation, on which Maulana 'Abd al-Hai, Maulana Ihtesham 'Ali and Allamah Shibli had signed. Therefore it is not justifiable that

only Shibli should be held responsible."

From this letter of 'Abd al-Salām the conflict of Nadvah was snow-balled and the people were divided into several camps. When Shibli resigned from the post of al-Nadvah's editor, 'Abd al-Salām wrote a letter to Maulāna 'Abd al-Majid Daryabādi on 15th July 1913,

"Whatever has happened in Nadvah, perhaps you are the witness to it all. This is not the time to be a silent spectator. We should raise our voice to the Government and for that you should organise a function to condemn the present management." 2

He also wrote a letter to Maulvi Masud Ali Nadvi on 25th July 1913 at Lucknow which was stolen and used in a conspiracy.

After the resigning of Shibli the educational system was greatly disturbed. The students demanded the management to take care of this deteriorating condition. But the management instead of solving the problem, imposed restrictions and threatened to expel them from the institution. Consequently on 7th March 1914 a general strike was called on and a memorandum was published in the name of community leaders. This memorandum had a great impact on the alumni of Nadvah. They organised a general protest and Maulana Masud Ali Nadvi made it a nation-wide movement. When the agitation of the students affected the

^{1.} I received this letter from Prof. K.A. Jaisi from his personal album.

^{2.} Letter from Prof. Kabir Ahmad Jaisi.

entire nation, then the letter of 'Abd al-Salam, which had been stolen by the office, was published in order to show that Shibli was the main conspirtor behind the strike of Nadvah. Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi had published this letter in <u>Hayat-i-Shibli</u>.

"This is not the time to be silent, as far as possible you should express your point of view. We are ready to call for a strike. This letter shall not be disclosed, this is order of the Maulana (Shibli)."

Apart from this, 'Allamah wrote an article, "who is responsible for the strike" on 6th April 1914. 'In this letter 'Abd al-Salam mentions that this letter has been written on my "instigation". This is absolutely false. I did not see the original letter. After all, I think, it is enough to say that if at all this letter is written on my direction or if at all I consider it still as right then I will not consider myself within the boundary of Islam."

'Abd al-Salām began to be severly criticised when it became a common knowledge that he had written that letter and he associated the name of Shibli to make the movement stronger. No doubt the action of the Maulānā was quite unwise and unexpected. But it is also significant on the other hand that the original letter of 'Abd al-Salām was never presented to the management of

^{1. &}lt;u>Hayat-i Shibli</u>, Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1983, p. 657.

^{2.} Magalat-i Shibli, Vol.VIII, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1938, pp.128, 129.

Nadvah. Thus it is also possible that some words or phrases like "this is the order of Maulana" might have been added or deleted in his letter, not to speak of any deliberate and distorted interpretation. Abd al-Salam himself writes,

"Inspite of my original letter they presented only its copy to the management. Therefore, the question of some temperation in letter can not be ruled out. I remembered the contents of the letter but not the actual words. I doubt if at all I never wrote the sentence "this is the order of Maulānā ". For me to present any forged letter in the court or to temper with any letter and then present it to the court both are equally condemnable. If this letter reaches to addressee then there would be no strike, but it did not reach there strike was called on In fact the main responsibility lies with the man who brought the letter to Maulana Khalil al-Rahman. The man was not having at all any intentions except good to Shibli."1

The extremity of the condition can well be judged by the letter of Maulana Hasrat Mohani, which was written on 29th April 1914 in al-Hilal,

"I am not associated to any group, so without any fear I pronounce that there is nothing

^{1.} Al-Hilal, Calcutta, 1914 June, p.530.

wrong in the letter of 'Abd al-Salam except what he relates to Shibli regarding strike. Those who consider his writing as blameworthy or mischievious, they should prove firstly if the strike is reasonable or not. I say that a weaker section has the right to strike against a stronger group. The call for strike by 'Abd al-Salam is then perfectly right. But unfortunately as a result of continuous objections he accepted his mistake which is not in reality a mistake."

Al-Hilal also criticised 'Abd al-Salam and described it as a shameful act. Though this objection of al-Hilal had 'Abd al-Salam but as the situation embarassed unfavourable, he chose to remain silent. However, when the situation cooled down, he wrote a letter to Abu al-Kalam, the Editor of al-Hilal. In this letter he invited a debate on the legality of strike in the light of Shariah that whether strike is legal or not for the Muslims. 2 Then the Maulana started to compile material in favour of strike. Не also consulted 'Abd Daryabadi about the English material regarding the issue of strike such as the number of educational strike in Europe and the opinions of eminent European scholars on strike. Though Shibli advised him not to write but he did not care. He completed the fatwa (legal opinions), which was published in al-Hilal on 29th July 1914, 1st August 1914, 13th August 1914, 29th August 1914 and 9th September 1914.

^{1.} Al-Hilal, Calcutta, 1914, April, p.406.

^{2.} For detailed see al-Hilal, 1914, June pp. 529, 530.

^{3.} Khutut Number, Nuqush, Lahore Vol.I, 1962 p.488.

^{4.} Makatib Shibli, Vol.II, Op.Cit., . 103.

Maulana Shabbir Uthmani refuted its relevance in al-Hilal in 19th August 1914. But it was totally overshadowed by the voluminous writings of Abd al-Salam. Those who opposed strike gave three arguments that the:

- (A) Strike is not legal but only a consequence of the modern time.
- (A) It is against the Shariah.
- (C) Modern civilization favours strike only in political and business spheres.

'Abd al-Salam refuted all the three points and proved the legality of strike in the light of Quran and Hadith. According to him,

- "(i) To launch a strike by the weaker section against the stronger group is not punishable. So during the strike to vacate the hostels and to stop taking food is illegal.
- (ii) Strike is not the product of Europe but this is the natural product of the time, and the history is reflected with that.
- (iii) Strike should be launched within the democratic ambit as was done by the Prophet (PBUH) against the people who stayed back from jihad.
- (iv) If strike is declared frequently, its effect is bound to be very damaging.
- (v) Strike is not only the result of infringement of the rights. But it may also be the result of a wrong punishment.
- (vi) Strike may be called by both, political as well as religious group.

^{1.} Al-Hilal, Calcutta, 1914, 29th July, p.136.

- (vii) For strike equality is not necessary.
- (viii) Strike should be strong in its effect.
- (ix) Islam does not accept any rights of teachers, so they do not have any effect on strike.
- (x) Islam confirms the rights of the students on their teachers.
- (xi) Even if the rights were granted to teachers, yet they do not destroy their rights.
- (xii) Complaints of the teachers can not be announced publicly.
- (xiii) After assessment the conclusion can be drawn logically that the rights of the teachers, their greatness and respect do not negate the right to strike."

In the last sections of his <u>fatwa</u> Abd al-Salam highlighted the points as to what are the responsibilities of the authorities during the strike and how the effect and objective of a strike can be measured and how the complains of strikers should be solved? While arguing this issue he cited the case of Hadrat Sad, that it was complained about him that he did not perform <u>salat</u> in the right way and did not go with the <u>Mujahidin</u> and did not do justice. Abd al-Salam pointed out the steps of Hadrat 'Umar regarding the case. In the light of this case Abd al-Salam concluded,

"(i) Before initiating investigation the person concerned should be dismissed from his post against whome the complaint has been

Al-Hilal, Calcutta, 1914, 29 July, p.137, 13 August, p. 186.

lodged as was done by Hadrat 'umar.

- (ii) The investigation should be done exclusively by the outsiders as Hadrat 'Umar appointed certain persons from Madinah for investigation.
- (iii) Investigation should be done publicly. In the above case also the appointed persons had made their enquiries from every mosque.
- (iv) Investigation should be completed during the strike.
- (v) Those who try to express their grievance through strike must not be punished in any way." $^{\rm l}$

At that time the compaign was on its peak and many prominent individuals were trying to defuse the conflict. While these efforts carry on Allamak Shibli died on 18th November 1914. The incident had affected him to such an extent that he never turned his back on this issue and did not write a single word on this. Even when Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi described this even in "Hayat-i Shibli". 'Abd al-Salam maintained his silence and did not say anything in appreciation or in criticism.

^{1.} Al-Hilal, Calcutta, 1914, 9 September, p.272.

'ABD AL-SALAM IN DAR AL-MUSANNEFIN :

From the very early days at Nadvah, Shibli had set his mind for the establishment of an academy of writers (Dar al-Musannefin). But due to the dispute at Nadvah, the idea could not materialise. In the beginning he wanted to establish it at Nadvah. For this he consulted his friends and most of them agreed but Abd al-Salam opposed and suggested through a letter to Maulana Masud Ali Nadvi from Calcutta,

"I did not like Dar al-Musannefin to have any link with Nadvah because we shall loss this academy in case we associate it with Nadvah."

As the matter was under consideration the younger brother of Shibli Maulvi Muhammad Ishaq died, so he went, in August, to Azamgarh. But then due to some family pressures he resigned from Nadvah and stayed there. Thus at his own bungalow inaugurated Dar al-Musannefin. After the passing away of Allamah Shibli on 18th November 1914 Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi set up an organization Ikhwan al-Safa. 'Abd al-Salam was also a member of this organization?. When 'Abd al-Salam was informed about the death of Shibli and Ikhwan al-Safa, he replied on 25th November 1914 to Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi,

"I have accepted you as the successor of the late Maulana. Please consider me as a loyal helper as Maulana (Shibli) consider me. I am

^{1.} Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi: Hayat aur Karname, Op. Cit.

^{2. &}lt;u>Hayat-i Sulaiman</u>, <u>Shah Muieen al-Din Ahmad Nadvi</u>, <u>Dar al-Musannefin</u>, <u>Azamgarh</u>, 1973, p.96.

ready to work as much as possible under your guidance and supervision. Please publish in news-paper about the death, funeral ceremony, time and his last wordins in the shape of an article."

There is more than one opinion regading the date of Abd al-Salām's returning from Calcutta and joining Dar al-Muṣannefin. Prof. K.A. Jāisi said he was already associated with Dar al-Muṣannefin when he returned on 15th December 1914². Contrary to Shah Muicen al-Din Nadvi had written in <u>Hayāt-i Sulaimān</u> that he joined on 15th May1915³. But the statement of Prof. Jāisi seems nearer the truth because Shibli died on 18th November 1914 and al-Hilāl was banned and its office was sealed in November 1914 by the Bengal Government. However, 'Abd al-Salām was not involved or restricted in this connection in any way at Calcutta. It was no more necessary for him to stay in Calcutta till 15th May 1915 as claimed by Shah Muiēen al-Din Ahmad Nadvi.

'Abd al-Salam contributed his valuable services without any selfish motives till his last breath. His only ambition was to fulfill the dream of his teacher and mentor. Perhaps this is the reason tht he never tried to step beyond the literaryd circle and remained confined to the premises of Dar al-Muşannefin.

^{1.} I got this letter from Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh. This letter is preserved in Dar al-Musannefin.

^{2.} Aajkal, Prof. K.A. Jaisi, Delhi, 1956, December, p. 37.

^{3. &}lt;u>Hayat-i Sulaiman</u>, Op. Cit. p.100.

DEATH OF 'ABD AL-SALAM :

Generally he was in good health except that from time to time he experienced some sort of fits in his temperament. That is, he appeared sometimes quite open hearted, optimistic and gleeful. On the contrary sometimes he was quite narrow hearted, pessimistic and serious. These moods often came to him intermittently. Sayyed Sabah al-Din 'Abd al-Rahman Nadvi wrote about this,

"About two months before his death also he was very pessimistic and gloomy but afterwards suddenly he became quite cheerful. He used to walk, eat and distribute presents. He used to say in his later years that he was as fit as he had been in his younger age."

A little before his death he wished to meet Maulana Abu al-Kalam and decided to go to Delhi. But before he could take a start, he died in the mid night of 3rd and 4th October 1956. At the time of his death Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad was present there. According to him,

"He was fine and had no complaint. He had performed his daily routine and also visited the market on 3rd October 1956. At the midnight 2.30 a.m. ... he experienced a massive heart attack. He asked me to help him as he was loosing his control ... I took him into my room and laid him down on my bed Soon after that he took three or four long breaths and died."²

^{1.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad Mein, Op. Cit p. 61.

^{2.} Ibid. p. 24.

In the morning a large crowd of bereaved friends, devoted supporters and the students of Shibli College gathered in the premise of Dar al-Musannefin. Prof. K.A. Jaisi, at that time was a student of Shibli College, who learnt the skill of reading and writing from him. He attended the last rites and gives vivid expression to the funeral preparations,

"The Maulana asleep for forever, and was covered with a white sheet. An old employee of the library was reciting Holy Quran. was a pathetic scene and I was feeling deeply sorrowful. I lifted the sheet and saw his face for a while and then went out. I could hardly keep my patience and that too in the hope that this would please his soul. we prepared to give him the funeral bath. Maulvi Mujib-Allah, Qadi and I lifted and laid him on the bathing bench. initially I was giving him bath, but I could no longer stand this sorrowful view and come out The people later came out with his funeral and he was laid to rest beside the grave of Allamah Shibli."2

How widely his demise was mourned can well be estimated from the numerous condolence messages received and editorials of magazines published. Maulānā Saeed Ahmad Akbarābādi mourned his death in his editorial in these words.

^{1.} I could not got his name. He was working service in the Post Office of Shibli Manzil.

^{2.} Adib, Abd al-Salam Number, Jamiah Urdu, Aligarh, 1961, December, p.24.

"We have witnessed a tragic event in the demise of Maulana 'Abd al-Salam last month He was not only a famous writer and eminent scholar but also a good critic."

From Bombay <u>Nawa-i Adab</u> carried the following expression by Maulana Najib Ashraf Nadvi,

"Alas! the last candle among <u>Shibli's</u> companions has also been extinguished on the night of 4th October. 'Abd al-Salam was a great critic, historian, writer, poet and philosopher."²

Ali Jawwad Zaidi wrote the following lines,

"Urdu literatue is undergoing a bad time and gradually loosing its colour particularly Azamgarh's circle has lost much of its colour in a very short time. We have not yet forgotten the sad demise of Suhail and Sulaiman that 'Abd al-Salam also left us."

Apart from all these condoling expressions many poets of the time also wrote their elegies, which praised his sublime character and intellectual faculties.

^{1.} Burhan, Saeed Ahmad Akbarabadi, 1956 Nov. p.3.

^{2.} Nawā-i Adab, Anjuman-i-Islām, Urdu Reserch Institute, Bombay, 1956, October, p.3.

^{3.} Naya Daur, Lucknow, 1956, November, p.3.

PERSONALITY

The wiring of the Maulana regarding strike reflects a clear picture of his temperament and thinking. He was of a very firy and dynamic nature particularly in his younger age. However, after the death of Shibli he showed greater poise.

On him there are only four articles which have been written by Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad Nadvi, Sayyed Sabah al-Din 'Abd al-Rahman, Prof. K.A. Jaisi and 'Ali Hammad. Prof. Jaisi introduced him as a poet which was published in Aajkal 1956 December. There are only two series have been written by Prof. Jaisi; "Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad Mein(سيال المرابع منير) and 'Abd al-Salam Number (ميدال المرابع منير) in Adib 1961 December.

These four scholars have written on the outlook and appearance of the Maulana. Sayyed Sabah al-Din 'Abd al-Rahman wrote,

"He had average height hevily built body, active, brownish skin colour, yellowish small eyes with an innocent outlook. The only thing on the face was the moustaches which was straight on both sides. He was also himself of the same nature never accepting to knell down."

He wore cotton clothes, white shirt, waiscoat and trousers as long as he was within the boundry of Dar al-Musannefin. He used to wear sherwani and Turkish cap during winter as well as summer season outside the Dar

^{1.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam nadvi ki Yad Mein, Op.Cit. p.35.

al-Musannefin¹. Shah Moicen al-Din Ahmad Nadvi says that he liked very bright colours for clothes in summer and wore "Chheent" (dotted clothes) and Kashmiri fabrics. In winter he used to cover himself with a woolen sheet. if some-body objected to these bright colours he disregarded it as bad taste. ²

His whole life can be divided into two parts. One part is related to his optimistic nature and other part is related to pessimistic nature. Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad described.

"In the pessimistic phase he was simply in a helpless and hopeless condition, highly demoralised, sad and drooping. While in the optimistic period he was always energetic, happy and dynamic."

As far as the daily routine of the Maulana, his biographers have written many interesting details. Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad writes,

"He used to walk 3-4 miles daily in the crowded area instead of the open but this habit was effected during the pessimistic moods and it was compensated during his days of optimism.... He had no confidence in servants. So he deposited his money himself as also his letters."

^{1.} Adib, "Abd al-Salam Number", Op. Cit. p.6.

^{2.} Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad Mein, Op.Cit. p.23.

^{3.} Itid. p.20.

^{4.} Ibid. p.23.

Sayyed Sabah al-Din Abd al-Rahman gives an account of 24 hours chores and habits. He writes that after taking break-fast he used to go library and engaged himself in scholarly works. He used to write only two pages daily. He even left incomplete sentence after finishing second page 1. After this he used to roam within the boundry of Dar al-Musannefin and talked with grass cutters about agriculture and city news. After lunch and afternoon salat, he used to go to the library and solved the problems which disturbed his mind. After the salat of 'Asr the members of Dar al-Musannefin assembled together to take tea and to discuss current academic matters in the presence of Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi but 'Abd al-Salam did not take kpart in this discussion. After tea he used to visit the market. He was very popular among the shopkeepers and children².

Prof. K.A. Jaisi described him as a man of independent nature. The ideas and thinking of 'Abd al-Salam often went against the policy of Dar al-Musannefin. many of his books are still unpublished. Prof. Jaisi said و (دلائر للغرفان) that one such book is Dalail al-Furgan(saw the manuscript of this book. It was sent to Maulana 'Abd al-Majid Daryabadi for his opinion. Likewise the same case was with his other book Tarikh: Akhlag-i Islami, Vol.II (المان العربي). Regarding this book he wrote a letter to Sadar Yar jang, Nawab Habib al-Rahman Khan Sherwani³. This letter clearly indicates that he had written most of it and it was about to be completed in 1940. In another letter to Abu al-Kalam 11th June 1956 'Abd al-Salam wrote that he had revised the manuscripts of Sher al-Altab (نشعرالعرب), Tārikh al-Tangid (مائع التنبقد), and

^{1.} Ibid. p.38-

^{2.} Ibid, p.45.

For detailed see Conference Gazette, Aligarh 1973, 15 October, p.8-

TarikhiAkhlag-i-Islami, Vol.II (الله الماقارين) أ

He was very simple and pious but having a high intellectual perception. In matters of rights and duties never breached them or deceived anyone. contentedness freedom. and quality was his Sulaiman Nadvi and Maulvi Masūd Ali Nadvi were just like his elder brothers and his teachers during their days of hardship, his content and liberty continued as it was. Both of them became quite famous and their salaries also increased from time to time. But contrary to this the Maulana had a simple life and never cared about his name or his salary. He did not care even when Shah Moieen Secretary al-Dīn appointed as Dar Ahmad was al-Muşannefin after Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi left for Pakistan. According to Abu Ali2, who wrote in,

> "He never have any objection to Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad's secretaryship and served with full energy and sincerety and loyalty as a subordinate of Shah Moieen al-Din Nadvi."3

Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad Nadvi himself described his characteristics in these words,

> "He lived with his small salary . He was unattentive to his name or fame or glory. It was as if he was unaware of either himself and his intellectual ability. His achievements did not make him haughty. He always disliked his eulogisation."4

Letter from Prof. K.A.Jaisi from his personal album.
 Abu Ali was a proof reader in Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh during the days of Abd al-Salam.
 Tahdhib al-Akhlaq, Aligarh, 1987, Feb., p.22.

^{4.} Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad Mein, Op. Cit., pp. 17-18.

Prof. K.A. Jaisi also described many of his qualities,

"Among the virtuous characteristics of the Maulana is that he never lived for worldly things. He considered this world as a children's garden. He did not bother about the verdicts of the time. For him the life was a pious duty which he fulfilled till his last breath."

Regarding the books and articles of 'Abd al-Salam, Shah Moieen al-Din Ahmad was quite critical. He wrote that 'Abd al-Salam was no doubt a genious and as such in one reading he could reach the root of the book and select the relevant materials. Therefore most of his writings are the product of perusal of one book only and not of a wide ranging research. 2 But Prof. Jaisi rejected this criticism. He says that those who blamed him are not able to write even the tenth part of Sher al-Hind (نشعرالبند). And if one reads the other books like <u>Uswa-i Sahabah</u> and <u>Tārikh-iAkhlag-i Islāmi</u>) only then he can evaluate the high standards of his books. He further said that Abd al-Salam's <u>Uswa-i Sahabah</u>(أسوة عجابر) is comparable with <u>Seerat</u> al-Nabi(سيرة النبي) of Shibli and Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi. As it is the best album of the life of the Prophet (PBUH), like-wise the book <u>Uswa-i Sahabah</u>(السوة عمايم) is the best album of the life of the Sahabah³.

^{1.} Adib, Abd al-Salam Number, Op.Cit. p.20.

^{2.} Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi ki Yad Mein, Op.Cit. p.3.

^{3.} Adib, Abd al-Salam Number, Op. Cit. p.17.

This view is further strengthened by some other letters of the Maulana to Dr. Sayyed Abd -Allah which were published in Nugush. The Maulana, for the sake of reserch, has asked in these letters for providing information. One letter he wrote on 18th February 1946 and asked - (i) a copy of the epitaph inscribed on the tomb of Iqbal and (ii) about his sons and daughters 1.

The other letter he wrote on 27th March and asked about the Urdu translation of English articles on Iqbal. Not only this but he also asked several aspects regarding strike, divorce and alimony (Mehr) from his friends and colleagues. Prof. K.A. Jaisi gave me three letters of the Maulana which he wrote to Maulana Abd al-Majid Daryabadi on 10th July 1913, 25th July 1913 and 14th October 1913 asking certain information on divorce, alimony and booty.

In the last Prof. Jā'isi said that during his (Abd al-Salam) last days he had started writing articles on the verses of <u>Arsh Malseyani</u> and some introductory part had been completed. Prof. Jā'isi further added some of his notes on the poetry of <u>Arsh Malseyani</u> and published, also, as a part of the Maulana's article³. 'Abd al-Salam had not only a deep appreciation of good poetry but himself was also a good poet. 'Abd al-Salam wrote regarding his poetry and pen name,

"Along with my education in Kanpur, Agra and Ghazipur, I started to compose poetry and opted for the poetical name "Shamim". 4

^{1.} Nuqush, Makatib Number, Idara al-Farogh Urdu, Lahore, 1957, p. 772.

^{2.} Ibid, p. 773.

^{3.} Nigar, Lucknow, 1960 May, pp.32-35, 35-41(K.A.Jaisi).

^{4.} Mashahir Ahl-Ilm, Op. Cit. p.116.

Prof. Jaisi further said that at the time of his funeral bath a piece of paper was found from his dress, on which he has written some verses. Unfortunately that piece of paper was later lost, otherwise it would have been memoried as his last verse.

CHAPTER - II

'ABD AL-SALAM'S WORKS ON ISLAMIC STUDIES

2.1 : USWA-I SAHABAH VOL. I

Uswa-i-Ṣaḥābah is written by Maulānā 'Abd al-Salām Nadvi and published by Dar al-Muṣannefin, Azamgarh in 1922. The book deals with the faith, religious practices, moral attitudes and the way of life of the companions of the Prophet (PBUH) (The Ṣaḥābah and the Ṣaḥābiyāt). The author endeavours to show that their life was the best example of the kind of life enjoined by <u>Qurān</u> and <u>Sunnah</u>.

In the preface the Maulana writes that the main and obligatory duty of all men is the purification of their hearts and souls in accordance with the will of Allah. The Prophet Adam and other Prophets came for this work and contributed the development of human society inculture. At last the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) came and gave it the final shape. The author shows how Muhammad (PBUH) completed this extensive and comprehensive work that can be seen in the lives of the Sahabah. not a single person, in the beginning, who followed the instructions of the Prophet (PBUH). But it is his ability that within a short span of time there were hundreds and then thousands of the Sahabah who followed him. time of his death the Sahabah were already scattered in most parts of the civilized world.

The Maulana describes that we have scant information about the lives of the Prophet Nuh and the Prophet 'Isa but we have detailed account of the lives of the Ṣaḥābah. The author points out that although there are many books on the lives of the Ṣaḥābah such as al-Ist'āb (\(\(\) \

(المابم), Tairid (تحريد), Asmā' al -Ṣaḥābaḥ (اسمادالهاب), Ḥasan al-Maḥādiraḥ (اسمادالهاب), Ṭabagāt al-Huffāz (المناهاب), Ṭabaqāt al-Atibbā (المناهاب) and two famous books of Ṭabari. Yet today it is necessary to present their glorious life in such a way that people would act and reform themselves accordingly.

In the introduction the Maulana discusses the definition of the Ṣaḥābah, their numbers, their qualities, categories of the Ṣaḥābah and their times. He points out that muḥaddethin, fugaha (Jurists) and scholars hold varying opinions regarding the definition of the Ṣaḥābah i.e. those who, (i) lived with the Prophet (PBUH) for a time (ii) participated at least in one ghazawah (iii) narrated aḥadith (iv) adopted the practices of the Prophet (PBUH) (v) saw or met him after accepting Islām in their adult life (vi) saw or met him after accepting Islām at any Lime i.e. even in childhood.

The author says that the majority of the Muslims accept the sixth definition 1 as most correct. Next comes the first definition which is held as more correct by the fugaha 2 .

The Maulana writes that there is no book which gives the exact number of the Sahabah. Once Muhammad (PBUH) had ordered the counting of the Sahabah and at that time they were 1500. But there are differences of opinion among the Sahabah regarding the point of time, when this counting was held. Some say that he ordered it during the battle of <u>Uhud</u>, while other say it was held during the

^{1. &}lt;u>Uswa-i Sahābah</u> Wol.I, 'Abd al-Salām Nadvi, Dār al-Muşannefin, Azamgarh 1922, p.13.

^{2.} Ibid. p. 14.

battle of <u>al-Ahzab</u>. Still others are of the opinion that this counting was held at the time of treaty of Hudaybiyah. However all agrees that they were 10,000 in number at the time of victory of Makkah. Imam Shafaiee has narrated that they were 60,000 at the time of Muḥammad's(PBUH) death. 1

About the uprightness of the Ṣaḥābah, it is generally held that all the Ṣaḥābah were just. But the Maulānā says that there is a difference of opinion regarding this too, as, some scholars hold that only before the civil war (battle of Camel and battle of Şiffin) between Muslims all were just². Mutazilites are of the opinion that the Ṣaḥābah who faught against Ḥaḍrat 'Ali were not just while the supporters of Amir Muāwiya has the opinion that those who faught against Muāwiyah were not just³. Muḥaddethīn in general believe that Qurān has said about the excellences of almost all the Ṣaḥābah and that all the Ṣaḥābah possessed the quality of justice⁴.

About the categories of the Sahabah, the Maulana states that the Sahabah have been accorded different status depending on number of ahadith narrated by them. Those Sahabah whose contribution towards ahadith is greater, have been accorded higher status. But Ahlee Sunnat wal Jamat have categorised the Sahabah in accordance with the excellences and qualities possessed by them. According to them, first in rank come the Khulafa-i Rāshidun, then the wives of the Prophet (PBUH), the first migrators,

^{1.} Ibid. p.18-

^{2.} Ibid. p.18.

^{3.} Ibid. p.19

^{4.} Ibid. p.19.

the people of Uqbah, the people of Badr and so on. At the end of this introductory part the author writes that the period of the era of the Ṣaḥābah started from the first day of the Prophethood and came to an end by the close of the first century of hijrah. Hadrat Abu Tufail Āmir bin Wathlah was the last of the Ṣaḥābah who died in 100 A.H.

The book comprises of eleven chapters. The first seven chapters focus on the various aspects of the character and lives of the Saḥābah and their relationship with the Prophet (PBUH). In these the author has discussed at length about their faith, religious beliefs and practices and their respect for the Prophet (PBUH). The last four chapters deal with the mutual behaviour and attitude of the Saḥābah towards each other in social life. These chapters focus on their moral excellences and their noble conduct in society.

Chapter-I deals with the factors that led the Sahābah to embracing Islam such as <u>Qurānic</u> teachings, the character and the personality of the Prophet (PBUH), his miracles and finally the victory of Makkah. The author writes that the essential qualities of a virtuous man are his gentle disposition, tenderness of heart and his susceptibility to goodness. Persons in possession of the above qualities are prone to accept all that is righteous. It is because the Ṣaḥābah possessed these virtues, that they readily accepted the Prophet's message and were willing to uphold it even at the cost of their lives.

^{1.} Ibid. p. 23.

^{2.} Ibid. p. 24.

In chapter-II the Maulana writes about the courage, patience and steadfastness in religion of the Ṣaḥābah. They did not deviate from the path of Islām even in the most adverse circumstances. The Ṣaḥābah who migrated to Abyssiniya proved their couraged and steadfastness in the court of king Najāshi in a question regarding the status of the Prophet 'Īsā (Jesus) according to the Qurān. They tolerated with great patience all the mockery and persecution perpetrated against them and even sacrificed their lives and property for the sake of their faith in Islām. They also forsook their nearer and dearer and even took up the sword against them in ghazawāt. 1

Chapter-III focuses on the faith of the Ṣaḥābah. They believed in oneness of Allāh, fate (Qismat) and the unseen (Ghāib). They left all the atheistic activities and opposed all un-Islāmic beliefs and superstitious traditions, such as beliefs in charms and talisman.

Chapter-IV presents a good deal of informaltion about the religious practices, particularly related to zakāh, salāt, ṣaum (fasting), hajj and jihād (holy war). The Maulānā says that the Ṣaḥābah did not consider salāt as a source of reward but it is a dividing line between Islām and Kufr(infidelity). They used often to give away as ṣadaqah the things that were held very dear to them. He says it is far better if ṣadaqah had been given secretly Regarding jihād the author writes that it is the most difficult obligatory duty enjoined by Islām. But the Ṣaḥābah gave preference to jihād rather than to their wives and property Thus they were the most loyal soldiers of Islām.

^{1.} Ibid. p.36..

^{2.} Ibid. p.63.

^{3.} Ibid. p.75:

^{4.} Ibid. p.85.

In chapter-V the author discusses at length that the Sahābah not only practised according to <u>Qurān</u> and followed the foot-prints of the Prophet (PBUH) but they kept themselves aloof from all forbidden things, such as usury, lottery, immoral activities and even doubtful things.

In chapter-VI the Maulana writes that most of the time the Sahabah were busy in the recitation of Quran and learnt it by heart either wholly or in part. In connection with this he narrates that Ḥaḍrat 'Umar realised the need of the compilation of Quran after the battle of Yamamah². The Maulana writes that tasbih and tahlil are the main symbols of religious life. The Sahabah sacrificed all the luxurious things and pleasures of the world and practised virtues for the sake of reward in the life hereafter (Ākhiran).

Chapter-VII deals with the infinite love and respect shown by the Sahabah for the Prophet (PBUH). He says that the Sahabah were very anxious in preserving the memorable relics of the Prophet (PBUH). For instance Hadrat 'Aishah kept her "jubbah" and Umm Salmah kept her "hair". The Sahabah devoted their life in the service of Muhammad (PBUH) because they considered it a work of

^{1.} Doubtful things include all things where there is no clarification between legal and illegal.

^{2.} Ibid. p.122. (In the battle of Yamamah near about 700 <u>Huffaz</u> were slained.

^{3.} Tasbih means reciting <u>Subhan-Allah</u> (transcenden belongs to Allah), Tahlil means declaration of Allah's Unity by reciting <u>La-ila ha il-Allah</u>.

^{4.} Ibid. p.139.

^{5.} Ibid. p.140.

honour and dignity. Due to her service, Hadrat Salmah (a female companion of the Prophet(PBUH) got the title, "Khadimah-i Rasul" They accompanied the Prophet(PBUH) in happiness as well as in adversity. The Sahabah not only loved Muḥammad (PBUH) but also his relatives and even his Maula and slaves. They were very obedient and followed the commandments of the Prophet(PBUH) in totality.

Chapter-VIII gives a vivid account of the moral excellences of the Ṣaḥābah. Here the Maulanā has discussed at length the honesty, humbleness, selflessness, generosity, hospitality, patience, modesty and straightforwardness of the Ṣaḥābah. He writes that selflessness is the extrme level of generosity and the Ṣaḥābah were full of this quality. They did not take revenge from their enemies or held any malice against them⁵. The author says that as a consequence of the training imparted by the Prophet(PBUH) the Ṣaḥābah became kind hearted and tolerant.

The IX Chapter deals with the attitude of the Saḥābah towards society. The author states that culture starts with a kind and tolerant attitude and in its absence man degenerates himself to the level of animal. He says that the Saḥābah exercised mutual love and cooperation even in the most adverse situations. In the battle field too, they tried their best to save the lives of their fellow Ṣaḥābah. They exhibited good relations

^{1.} Ibid. p. 154.

^{2.} Maula: The captives, who embraced Islam, were distributed among Muslims and acquired the status of Maula.

^{3.} Ibid. p. 165.

^{4.} Ibid. p. 183.

^{5.} Ibid. p. 203.

^{6.} Ibid. p. 260.

with their parents, family, children, neighbours and did not treat even their slaves harshly.

At the end of this chapter the author says that there was no discrimination among the Saḥābah and they regarded each other as equal as brothers. They did not discriminate even against their slaves. For instance 'Abd-Allāh ibn 'Umar gave exactly similar ornaments to his daughters and to his slave girl.

The X Chapter describes the Sahabah dealings in regard to debt, will, alimony (Mehr) etc. The Maulana writes that the Sahabah were very lenient with borrowers and sometimes even exempted them from repayment. On the other hand they often repaid debts on behalf of fellow Sahabah. They gave alimony (Mehr) and all the rights to their wives as enjoined by the Prophet (PBUH). The author states that the Sahabah exercised justice among their wives. For instance, Maaz bin Jabal, who had two wives, fixed a day for each of the two. He was so just that he even would not drink water or take it for ablution from the house of the one whose term was not fixed for the day. 3

Chapter XI presents a good deal of information about the mode of life of the Ṣaḥābah particularly their dress, food, house and its decorations and their abstinence and simplicity. After comparing the life style of the Ṣaḥābah of early period and during the period of Haḍrat 'Umar, the author writes that during the Haḍrat

^{1.} Ibid. p.255.

Mehr (Alimony) - Settlement of money or property on the wife, without which a marriage is not legal.

^{3.} Ibid. p.283.

'Umar a reign due to ample wealth and contact with cultures of other communities they changed their life style to some extent. But even then the Saĥabah led a life of abstinence and simplicity.

At the end he writes about their sources of income. He says that European Scholars thought that their only sources of income was booty¹, but actually they earned money through hard labour, trade and agriculture.

SOURCES:

The Maulana has taken help from the following sources in the compilation of this book Sahih Bukhari (المني المني

^{1.} Ibid. p.302.

2.2: USWA-I ŞAḤĀBAH, VOL.II

The second volume of Uswa-i-Ṣaḥābah first appeared in 1922. It was further revised and enlarged and published in 1936. This volume presents a good deal of information about the political, religious, and educational services of the companions of Muḥammad (PBUH) (The Ṣaḥābah and the Sahābiyāt).

In the preface the Maulana writes that the Prophet (PBUH) was a complete personality who symbolised all the good aspects of religion, ethics, politics and divine Quran and sahih hadith give vivid accounts knowledge. So it was the obligatory duty of regarding that. Sahabah, being his first followers, to preserve and propagate his messages and deeds in the true form. The author says that they did it with great honesty. Khulafai Rashidun, being successors of the Prophet (PBUH) greater opportunity to perform this duty. So a major part this book deals with their religious, ethical, political and educational services. Apart from Khulafa-i Rashidun many other Sahabah also rendered their contribtions in the various role suchd as leaders in prayers, teachers, governors, judges, commanders (Amirs), muftis. The whole book is divided into three parts, corresponding to three major fields of the Sahabah's services i.e. educational, political and religious. These are further divided into several chapters.

POLITICAL SERVICES:

The first part is related to the political services of the Sahābah particularly related to the caliphate, officials and commanders, the department of justice, the

department of tax and <u>kharāj</u>, the police department, public works, rights of <u>dhimmis</u> and slaves and privileges of the general public.

The Maulana says that divine caliphate is a religious trust, so only a person who had the greatest faith in Islam and fear of Allah could fit into this role. The Sahabah by their true religious beliefs and high ethical character distinguished themselves as the real deserving candidates for the chair of caliphate. He discusses how the Sahabah established khilafat and preserved it by displaying high level of ethical character both as ruler and as subject?

The Sahabah laid the foundation of their caliphate and amirates on the verses of Quran, "to obtain good and to prophit evil." They did not have any desire to come into power for personal benefit. For instance, Hadrat Abu Bakr on the very first day of his caliphate delivered a lecture underlying mainly the responsibilities of the caliphate in which he made it abundantly clear that the caliphate was nothing but a divine trust.

The Maulana has divided the duties of the caliphate into three parts; religious, ethical and political. He further says that whereas nations conquered the world by power but the Ṣaḥabah won the hearts of the people through abstinence, purity and equality. The Ṣaḥabah established advisory council (Majlis-e Shurah) in which opinion of

^{1. &}lt;u>Uswa-i Şahābah</u>, Vol.II, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Muşannefin, Azamgarh, 1936, p.2.

^{2.} Quranic Ayat: m, 10

^{3. &}lt;u>Uswa-i Şaḥābah, Vol.II</u>, Op.Cit., p.3.

^{4.} Ibid. p.15.

Muslim notables was sought for better governance, thereby setting the stndard of democracy. Hadrat 'Umar expanded it further where general Muslims were free to questions. The Sahabah addressed the caliph and amirs sometimes harshly without any fear of reprisal, whenever they felt that the caliph and amirs had deviated from the path of Quran and sunnah².

The Maulana discusses regarding the appointments of the amirs and officials. In the beginning there were only a few officials but when Hadrat Abu Bakr and Hadrat 'Umar conquered new areas their numbers increased rapidly. Though the salary differed from post to post, it was enough for all the officials³. Hadrat 'Umar used to hold open general meetings and heard the complaints of the people⁴.

The author says that Hadrat 'Umar was the first man who established a judicial department independently and appointed gadis. Hadrat 'Umar instructed all gadis,

"Consider everyone as equal, do not give any preference to your relatives and keep away from bribe." 5

Hadrat 'Umar emphasised the use of analogical deduction (giyas) and interpretation (ijtehad) in those cases where clear instructions were not available. Before him the cases were resolved on the basis of Quran, sunnah and

^{1.} Ibid. p.35.

^{2.} Ibid. p.45.

^{3.} Ibić. p.64.

^{4.} Ibid. p.68.

^{5.} Ibid. p.69.

traditions of the Sahabah (Athar-i Sahabah) only.

In the Maulana's opinion the number of legal petitions is an indicator of the moral standard of the people. Wherever there is scarcity of judicial cases the people are of high character and vice-versa. The scarcity of such cases during the period of Khulafa-i Rashidun clearly proves the moral standard of people at that time.

The Maulana writes that Hadrat 'Umar established an independent institution of Kharaj and a register was maintained for treasury (Bait al-Mal). Before Hadrat 'Umar the acquired land used to be distrifbuted among the Muhajrin (Migrators) only but he thought that if that practice continued in this manner what would be left for the coming generation and for the widows and orphans? He therefore adopted the new policy that the conquered lands were left to their original owners who had to pay a tax from their income. He ordered the collection of jaziyah, kharaj and 'ushr' in a liberal way. On the other hand the poor, handicapped and old people were exempted from these taxes.

The author gives a detailed account about the public works such as erection of buildings, mosques, forts, sarai, wells, canals, roads, hospitals, public bath rooms (hamam) etc. He further describes that many cities were inhabited by the Sahabah such as Basrah, Kufah, Mosul, Fustat, Jazirah, Qairawan etc. Hadrat 'Umar made

^{1.} Ibid. p.74.

^{2. &#}x27;Ushr means land tax taken from other communities.

^{3.} Ibid. pp.96-100.

special arrangements for scholarships and other requirements of the orphans from the state treasury.

Hadrat 'Umar, the Maulana says, formed the police department, erected jails and introduced some new punishments such as exile. Amir Muawiyah introduced the practice of recording the names of the doubtful and suspected persons. He took more interest in the expansion of police department and appointed 4000 men in police and 500 men for safeguarding mosques.

According to the Maulana the security of the people is their primary and basic right. During the Ṣaḥābah's time the rights of Muslims and dhimmis were the same. Dhimmis were free to profess their religion and decide their cases according to their own law. The Ṣaḥābah were very lenient in collecting the tax. The author quotes from Imam Yusuf's book Kitāb al-kharāj,

"When <u>dhimmis</u> saw the fair dealing of Islamic government then they became helpers and supporters of the latter ." 2

In the Maulana's opinion a slave was a man who was captured in war and distributed along with booty among the Muslims. He writes that the Prophet (PBUH) ordered the Ṣaḥābah not to separate the slaves from their close relatives i.e. mother should not be separated from son and brother from brother. He also writes that the <u>Mukatab</u> slaves i.e. if a slave could pay a fixed amount on which the slave and his master agreed he could become free. The

^{1.} Ibid. p.103.

^{2.} Ibid. p.129.

author quotes Mir Ismail who wrote in his <u>Bulugh al-Maram</u> () that the Sahabah freed as many as 39237 slaves. An <u>Umm al-walad</u> became free after te deat of is master. Along with these privileges, <u>Khulafa-i-Rashidun</u> treated him at par with Muslims and they were considered as members of the Muslim Community³.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

The second part is related to the religious services of the Ṣaḥābah. The Maulānā gives under various sub-headings a detailed account of the Ṣaḥābah's efforts towards the propagation and spread of Islām.

The author presents a good deal of information about the preaching of Islam by Muhammad (PBUH) and the Şahabah. He enumerates the reasons and factors which led the people to accept Islam. The views of Scholars are also mentioned in this regard. The Maulana states that Hadrat Abu Bakr was the first man who embraced Islam and by his influence many others became Muslims. After the victory of Makkah, the influence of Islam spread So all those who feared the infidels far and wide. (Kuffars) who started to come into the Islamic fold and take an active part in the propagation of Islam. 4 After the battle of Qadisiyah 4000 soldiers accepted Islam.

On the other hand many of the tribes were influenced by the moral attitudes and gentle nature of the Saḥābah. As regards the views of the European Scholars (Orientalists) that Islam spread by force, the author says, no doubt many people accepted Islām after being

^{1.} Ibid. p.142.

^{2.} Umm al-Walad is a slave girl who gave birth to his master's child.

^{3.} Ibid. p.148.

^{4.} Ibid. p.166.

conquered, but it was only when they thought it would be beneficial for them then they accepted $Islam.^1$

The Maulana provides a detailed account about the faith and practices of the Ṣaḥābah such as salāt, zakāh, hajj, ṣaum(fasting), nikāḥ and ṭalāq(marriage and divorce) and also the detail of their collection and compilation of Qurān. He says that they were steadfast in their faith. Ḥaḍrat Abu Bakr faught against those who claimed Prophethood and refused to pay zakāh, i.e. what is known as "Riddā Wars" in Islamic history. He also ordered to collect the Qurān and compiled it in a book form. Ḥaḍrat Uthmān, in his reign, prepared many copies of Qurān in the Quraishite dialect and distributed to the provinces governed by Muslim Amīrs, when there arose differences regarding the pronunciation of Qurānic verses. 2

The Maulana states that <u>intesab</u> in the term of <u>shariah</u> which means evaluation or appraisal of beliefs and deeds to assess their conformity to the Islamic way of life. Then quoting from <u>Sahih Muslim</u>, he describes various degrees or levels of faith ('Iman).

- (i) Try to stop the wrong and evil doings with your hand (by force).
- (ii) If that is not possible, then stop by your tounge i.e. advise the wrong doers not to do so.
- (iii) If that too is not possible then atleast realise it at heart.

The last being the lowest level of fatih. He asserts that the Sahabah maintained the first two grades of interest.

^{1.} Ibid. p.174.

^{2.} Ibid. p.186.

^{3.} Ibid. p.188.

The author provides a good deal of information about the Saḥābah's efforts towards reform of Jahiliyah practices and eradication of shirk and bidat. He also discusses about the reforms in the means of livelihood, that is, to earn money in a lawful way.

The jihad of the Ṣaḥabah is discussed by the Maulana in three points;

- i) Sahabah's views regarding jihad.
- ii) Religious and moral activities of the Ṣaḥabah in the military administration during the Prophet's time.
- iii) The contribution of khulafa-i Rashidun to the development of military administration.

Generally, it is thought that the military administration had been established by Hadrat 'Umar. But, infact, the Prophet(PBUH) himself established permanent army after migration to Madinah and sent the Ṣaḥābah to other countries for acquiring military training. The author states that not only the Ṣaḥābah but the Ṣaḥābiyat also took part in ghazawāt and served water, food and medicine the gives a detailed information about their military organisation. In addition to this, he says that Amīr Muāwiyah established navy which finally consisted to 500 ships. He also discusses the various reasons underlying the victories of the Ṣaḥābah.

^{1.} Shirk means there is two or more than two Allah

^{2.} Bidat means anything new in religion.

^{3.} Ibid. p.210.

^{4.} Ibid. p.212.

The Maulana writes that the construction of mosques and the conquests went on side by side. Every newly populated area was provided with a mosque. They also renovated and expanded the old ones. He discusses about the mosques built upto the period of Muawiyah but he laid more emphasis on those built upto the period of Hadrat 'Umar. The author gives a list of mosques in which Muḥammad (PBUH) performed salat both in Madinah and other cities. Further more he says that the Şaḥabah used to sweep, provide lighting and safe-guard the mosques by themselves.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:

The third part is related to the Sahabah's educational and scientific services. The Maulana gives a vivid account about the arrangement made to impart the knowledge including Quran, hadith, tafsir, figh and tasawwuf. He also highlights their knowledge on geneology (ansab), history and their poetry and oratory.

The work of learning and teaching of Quran had been started during the life-time of the Prophet(PBUH). Muhammad (PBUH) himself sent Musab bin 'Umair and ibn Umm Maktum to Madinah for imparting Quranic teachings after the first pledge of Aqabah. After the establishment of Islamic State in Madinah, the main work of the Amirs and officials was to teach Quran and sunnah. Hadrat 'Umar madrasas for teaching Quran, hadith and established many emphasis more on correct pronunciation. teaching hadith, the Sahabah spread out all over the Muslim lands. Madinah was the great centre of badith learning.

The Maulana says that there is very little <u>tafsir</u> of <u>Quran</u> available in <u>hadith</u>. But whatever is there forms the kernel of <u>tafsir</u> literature. He writes that the <u>Sahabah</u>, being Arabs, understood very well the secrets and symbols of Arabic literature. But inspite of all these, they sometimes found themselves unable to understand and would approach the Prophet(PBUH) for clarification. Sometimes <u>Muḥammad</u> (PBUH) would himself explain the difficult <u>Ayat</u>(verses) of <u>Quran</u>. Some problems were also solved in the meeting of the great <u>Sahabah</u>.

The author discusses mainly why the Ṣaḥābah felt the need of hadith narrations and learning and why they frequently undertook long journeys in the quest of hadith? Why they preserved it so cautiously and narrated it so correctly? What was the purpose of hadith narration etc.? At last he discusses about the classification and critical evaluation of hadith.

He writes that the Ṣaḥābah narrated ḥadīth not for any worldly fame and position but for the reward in the life hereafter (Akherat). The Maulana divides the Ṣaḥābah into five categories according to their narrations of ḥadīth.

- (i) First group: Those who narrated a thousand or more than a thousand ahadith.
- (ii) Second group: Those who narrated 500 to 1000 ahadith.
- (iii) Third group: Those who narrated 100 to 500 ahadith.

^{1.} Ibid. pp.282, 283.

- (iv) Fourth group: Those who narrated 40 to 100 ahadith.
- (v) Fifth group: Those who narrated 40 ahadith or lesser.

Next chapter relates to the compilation and arrangement of the science of <u>figh</u>. The author discusses at length the following points:

- (i) How the Sahabah received the knowledge of <u>figh</u> by the Prophet(PBUH)?
- (ii) How the various classes (Tabaqat) of fuqaha (jurists) emerged?
- (iii) How they transmitted the knowledge of $\frac{figh}{to}$ to $\frac{tabiun}{to}^2$ and how they compiled matters related to figh?
- (iv) How they formulated the rules of figh?
- (v) What were the motives of the Sahābah in their disagreement over problems related to figh?

The Maulana divides the Sahabi fuqaha into three groups:-

- (i) Mukaththirin(): Those who regularly pronounced there views on various new problems relating to Islamic shariah.
- (ii) Muqallilin(): Those who expressed their views regarding only a few problem.
- (iii) Mutawassitin(): They are those Saḥaban who stand between Mukaththirin and Muqallilin.

^{1.} Ibid. p.318.

^{2.} Tabiun are those who saw or met to the Sahabah being Muslim.

The author quotes Allamah ibn Hazm who wrote that Abu Bakr Muḥammad bin Musa compiled the <u>fatawa</u> (legal opinions) of 'Abd-Allah ibn 'Abbas in twenty volumes. I Moreover he says that the <u>fatawa</u> of ibn Masud, Zaid ibn Thabit, 'Abd-Allah ibn 'Umar and ibn 'Abbas laid down the foundation of modern <u>figh</u>. 2

Regarding taşawwuf the author describes that during the period of the Ṣaḥābah there was no terminology related to taṣawwuf even though taṣawwuf had its origin in that period itself. He says that khulafa-i Rāshidun were more steeped in taṣawwuf than other Ṣaḥābah. In Qurān, Ahl al-Suffah are called fugarā. He writes that Abu Hāshim of Kūfah (d.150 A.H.) was the first person who adopted the title of "Ṣūfi".

The Maulana emphasies that for the Sahabah the model life of the Prophet(PBUH) itself was the source of all spiritual and moral practices. Such sufi terms as magamat and abwal were yet to be coined in the Sahabah's period, though these magamat and abwal were found in their spiritual life. The Maulana writes on the authority of Abu Bakr Wasti that it was the first caliph, Hadrat Abu Bakr, who unraveled the secrets of tasawwuf.

By the knowledge of geneology, the Maulana says, one comes to know about his ancestors. Arabs took pride in their geneology and as such it was very important for

^{1.} Ibid. p.328.

^{2.} Ibid. p.330.

^{3.} Ibid. p.399.

^{4.} Ibid. p.373.

them. Their poetry is full of pride over their geneological roots. The authors says that Hadrat 'Umar had ordered the Saḥābah to memorise such poems which give vivid accounts of their geneology. Hadrat 'Āishah was an expert in this field. Further he states that from their geneological narrations (Ayyam al-Arab) and poetry, we get a good deal of information about their history.

The Maulana describes that the Sahabah were, due to their independent nature, eloquent and also orators. After the demise of the Prophet(PBUH) the speech of Abu Bakr, regarding the selection of caliphate, for instance, is quite significant. In their speech there was simplicity, frankness, clarity and fluency.

At the end of this book the Maulana discusses the changes and transformation in the Arab society brought about by the Prophet(PBUH) and visible in the life of the Sahabah in every sphere -be it social, relious, moral or political.

Sources:

^{1.} Ibid. p.415.

^{2.} Ibid. p.430.

 Kitab al-kharaj(
 العالم المنالير العالم) (العالم

2.3: USWA-I ŞAḤĀBIYĀT

In continuation of the works on Şahabah al-Salam wrote a separate volume on Sahabiyat (the female companions of the Prophet(PBUH)). The book Uswa-i Şahabiyat was published in 1922 by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh. Like Uswa-i Şaḥābah this book deals with the lives of the great Sahabiyat and their religious, moral, educational and social services.

In the preface of the book the Maulana raises the question of Muslim women in respect of exposing them to modern education. It had become a hot topic of discussion among muslim elite at that time. He ponders whether or not a Muslim Woman can after getting modern education, safe guard her Islamic values. Perhaps she cannot. It is for this reason that muslim women's acquisition of modern day eduction is opposed. He says the early history of Islam presents the best examples of muslim woman.

In every period of Islam, women have earned distinctions through their abilities. The wives of the Prophet(PBUH) and the great Ṣaḥābiyāt were the embodiment of all qualities and their lives served as a best example to emulate. Following this model they can also safe-guard themselves from all social and cultural vices of the present day.

The Maulana has mainly drawn information regarding the Sahabiyat from his earlier two volumes of <u>Uswa-i Sahabah</u>. He further added to it some more informations and completed this book. The basic objective is to present before Muslim Woman the moral code of life that is found in the lives of the Sahabiyat. So that they can

inculcate these values in their own life. The book, therefore, presents, a good deal of information regarding Saḥābiyāt's religious beliefs and practices, their respect for the Prophet(PBUH), their moral excellences and their services in the field of religion, morality and education.

The Maulana writes that the Sahabiyat deserved preference over Sahabah because it was a Sahabiya "Khadijah" who first entered the fold of Islam and again it was a Sahabiya "Summayyah" who first sacrificed her life for the cause of Islam. The author writes that a woman's life is totally dependent upon her husband for help and support, she can not think of living without her husband. And yet the Sahabiyat showed the courage to forsake their infidel husbands for the sake of their faith in Allah and the Prophet(PBUH).

About their punctuality and devotion to <u>salat</u>, <u>saum</u> (fasting), <u>hajj</u>, their selfless attitude in paying <u>zakāh</u> and their interest in <u>jehād</u>, the Maulana writes. They performed <u>hajj</u> for themselves and also on behalf of their parents. They even urged the Prophet(PBUH) to grant them permission for participation in the <u>ghazawāt</u>.

The Sahabiyat always used to take blessings from the Prophet(PBUH). They put their children in the lap of Muḥammad (PBUH) for blessings. For them, the service to the Prophet(PBUH) was a work of great honour and dignity. Due to her service Salmah (A Ṣaḥabiya) earned the title of Khadima-i Rasūl. 5. The author writes about their deep

^{1. &}lt;u>Uswa-i Şababiyat</u>, 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1922, p.3.

^{2.} Ibid. p.4. 3. Ibid. p.12.

^{4. &}lt;u>Uswa-i Şahābah</u>, vol.I, 'Abd al-Salām Nadvi, Dar al-Muşannefin, Azamgarh, 1922, p.154.

^{5.} Uswa-i Şahabiyat, Op.Cit. p.19.

fields of their work was the propagation and spread of Islām which they did secretly during the Makkan period. They also played important role in reforming the society from corrupt social practices such as alcoholism, lottery, quarrels and other way-ward activities of their menfolk. 2

In the educational fields also their contributions are quite significant. They excelled almost in equal degree in such academic fields as hadith, tafsir, figh etc. The author writes that there are many verses of Quran which were revealed regarding the affairs of women. So the tafsir of such verses is particularly related to women and as such narrated by them. Hadrat 'Aishah was a great mufassir. She explained many ambiguous aspects of the Quranic verses. 3

Regarding their contribution of <u>hadith</u> the authorstates that there are five groups among the Sahabah according to the narration of <u>hadith</u>. The first category consists of those who narrated 1000 and more, second category 500 to 1000, third category 100 to 500, fourth category 40 to 100 and in fifth category those who narrated 40 or less than 40. Hadrat 'Aishah comes in the first category and Umm Salmah comes in the third category, likewise there were many Sahabiyat who come in the fourth and fifth categories.4

In the field of <u>figh</u> 'Abd al-Salam says that they keenly observed every act of the Prophet (PBUH) such as ablution (wudu), <u>salat</u>, <u>zakah</u>, <u>hajj</u> and public dealings. The Maulana writes that amaong the three groups of <u>fugaha</u>

^{1.} Ibid. p.48

^{2.} Itid. p.53

^{3.} Ibid. p.54

^{4.} Ibid. pp.68, 69.

(jurists) Hadrat 'Aishah comes in Mukaththirin and Umm Salamah comes in Mutawassitin, Hafsah, Habibah, Maymunah, Fatmah, Safiyah come in the category of Muqallilin.

At the end the author writes that this level of honour and respect which Islām bestowed upon women is unparalleled in history. They further raised this status by their religious, social and moral activities. The Maulānā says that even even today women can attain to the same status by acquiring these qualities.

Mukaththirin: Those jurists who often narrated the matters regarding figh.

^{2. &}lt;u>Mutawassitin</u>: Those who narrated less than Mukaththirin.

^{3.} Muqallilin: Those who narrated very rarely the matters regarding figh.

2.4: HUKAMA-I ISLAM VOL.I

Generally speaking Muslim philosohers have either been considered by Muslim masses as week in faith or sometimes even as atheists. Perhaps this is why that least attention had been paid to their philosophy or biography. Some historians in the early period who wrote about their contemporary philosophers are confined to the 6th or 7th century AD. Alongwith them they also wrote about Greek and Christian philosophers.

The Maulana says that in Urdu language there are some treaties and articles to be found on Khayyam, Ibn Rushd, al-Farabi, Ibn Sina etc. But there is not a single book on Muslim philosophers. So it is necssary to write a book dealing with their life and their contributions in the field of medicine, arithmatics, metaphysics and logic. The Maulana says,

"They were not atheist or weak in their faith. Rather they brought Islam nearer to philosophy. They tried to harmonize philosophy with shariah."

Further the Maulana writes that in Europe books had been written on Muslim philosophers. But mostly these discussed only their researches and scientific contributions. Therefore it is all the more necessary to write about their services in the field of religion, ethics and politics. Having realised this need, the Maulana wrote in two volumes <u>Hukama-i Islam</u> (The philosophers of Islam). The first volume deals with the philosophers upto the 5th century AD. It was published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1953.

^{1. &}lt;u>Hukama-i Islam</u>, Vol.I, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1953, p.II

In the introductory part the Maulana discusses the origin of the history of Greek Philosophy, propagation and diffusion of Aristotle's philosophy, philosophy of <u>Ishraq</u> (illumination) and the history of the propagation of Greek arts and sciences among Muslims and discusses about the three renowned educational centres, i.e. Iskandariyah, Jundesapur and Harran. Then the Maulana discusses Muslim philosophers one by one.

Yāqūb Kindī: He belonged to a royal Arab family of Kindah tribe and was present during the period of al-Mamun, the Abbasid caliph. According to the Maulānā he was born before 814 and died after 862. But some European scholars said he died in 872 & some said in 874. He was a great astrolonger of his time. He learnt the Quran by heart, the Arabic grammer, literature and elementary arithmatic. He, then, studied philosophy, logic, medicine and astrology. Al-Kindī mastered the Syriac language from which he translated several books.

He faced many rivals in the royal courts like Muḥammad and Aḥmad, the sons of Musa bin Shakir, who lived during the reign of al-Mutawakkil.²

Yaqub Kindi was considered among the great translators of Abbasid period. He translated many philosophical books. Allamah ibn Abi Usaibiah in Akhbar al-Hukama, Qifti and ibn-Nadim classified his writings into many groups such as philosophical, logical, arithmatical, musical, astronomical, astrological, dialectical, medicine political etc. At the end the Maulana refering to Tarikh Falasafat al-Islam of Muḥammad Lutfi says,

^{1.} Ibid. p.85.

^{2.} Ibid. p.85.

^{3.} Ibid. p.89.

"Yaqub Kindi despite being endowed with enormous wealth of knowledge, was in the true sense of words neither an inventor nor a jurist (Mujtahid) of any independent opinion."

Hakim Yahya bin Abi Mansur: There is no clarification that when he was born but referring to Tatimmah swan al Hikmatah the Maulana writes that he died in near about 933. He was one of the great mathematician and astrologer among Muslim scholars. He was appointed as a suprintendent of the laboratory established by al-Mamun² and wrote many books, mainly in mathematics. It is with his efforts that many astrological ideas were compiled regarding the movement of Planets and Stars.

'Abbas bin Saeed Jauhary: The Maulana did not write his birth and death year. But he writes that Abbas bin Saeed Jauhary embraced Islam in the hand of al-Mamun, the Abbasid caliph, so he was called maula of al-Mamun. He was one of the mathematician in the laboratory established by al-Mamun, well versed in all the desciplins of mathematics. He prepared many instruments of the lab. He accepted Islam on the hand of al-Mamun as written in Tabaqat al-Atibba.

Musa bin Shakir: While referring to his early life the Maulana writes that he was a robber and used to rob people in journey. However, he abandoned all such activities and was given a healthy and literary environment by al-Mamun, where he mastered in the field of engineering. His three sons Muḥammad, Aḥmad and Ḥussain also excelled in all the desciplins of mathematics, Ḥussin got a distinction in some

^{1.} Ibid. p.92.

^{2.} Ibid. p.94.

^{3.} Ibid. p.98.

^{4.} Ibid. p.103.

of the pioneering works on geometry. And wrote a book on 'Ilm al-Hiyal() which deals with the movements of the parts of the body. The Maulana writes that in this field even the Greeks and Iranians were not equal to his abilities. The Caliph al-Mamun also took his help in different scientific works.

Muḥammad bin Musa al-Khwarazmi: The Maulana says among the Muslim philosophers Y'aqub Kindi was the only one who got prominence during al-Mamun's period. In the field of mathematics however there were many celebraties, one of them was Musa al-Khwarazmi. He was the first who wrote a book on al-Jabrā. Regarding this Shibli wrote in al-Mamun (), UI) that he was a great scholar and his books are of great worth even today. 2

Abu Nasr Farabi: Al-Farabi, the Maulana writes, was born in 259/871 in the city called Farab of Turkistan so he was considered as a Turk but he was actually from Iranian lineage. He died in 339/950 at the age 80 in Damascus. The Maulana confirms that he had a unique ability and had a commond over about "seventy tongues".

Like other philosophers al-Farabi too got inspiration from the great Greek philosophers. He was much influenced by the philosophy of Aristotle. But he did not limit his knowledge to Aristotle's work; instead, he had also learnt much from the many prominent teachers of his time. Mati bin Yunan and Yuhanna bin Hillan taught him philosophy. Refering to Tabaqat al-Atibba the Maulana writes al-Farabi was a man who skilled in many facets of life and had wide knowlede of rational and natural sciences as also music.

^{1.} Ibid. p.103. 2. Ibid. p.107.

^{3.} Mati bin Yunan was a Christian scholar who wrote books on logic and wrote sharp of the books of Aristotle. The scholars of Baghdad and Eastern Muslim countries depend upon his book related to logic.

^{4.} Ibid. p.111 5. Ibid. p.112.

Al-Farabi lived a very simple and a poor man's life. But in later years he got fame and renown as well as numerous desciples. In the court of Saif al-Daulah, king of Damascus, he got appreciation and warm welcome. But even then he lived simple and ascetic life. He, the Maulana says, was a noted personality, because he was alike in his principles and practices with an examplary and simple life.

The author tried to show that the philosophy of al-Fārābi has many aspects in harmony with Islāmic faith, such as regarding God, Prophethood, miracles, revelation, angles, life-hereafter. His theory of prophethood may be considered to be one of the most significant attempt at the reconciliation of philosophy and religion. It had its foundation on psychology and metaphysics. Al-Fārābi, the author says, admits the validity of miracles in as much as they are a mean of proving prophecy.

Muḥammad bin Zakariya Razi: Quoting from al-Berūni the Maulānā says that Muḥammad bin Zakariya Razi was born in Ray in 865. The Maulānā quotes from Tabaqāt al-Aṭibbā that in the beginning of his education he was interested in music. However, later on he devoted himself to philosophy and medicine. He was the follower of Pythagoras and Thalis Multā in the field of philosophy and strongly opposed the Aristotalian phislophy².

Quoting from <u>Fehrist</u> of ibn Nadim the author says that he was generous and kind hearted. He did not distinguish between elites and poors. He became a famous physician and directed hospital at Ray in the times of

^{1.} Ibid. p.131.

^{2.} Ibid. p.189.

Mansur bin Ishāq ibn Aḥmad ibn Asad, governor of Ray from 902 to 908, Al-Rāzi dedicated his work entitled <u>al-Ţibb al-Mansuri</u>((الغياليم) to Mansur bin Ishāq.

was prolific writer and his books include subjects like Medicine, Chemistry, logic, Metaphysics philosophy etc. The Maulana gives a brief account of his forty books . Most of his books are related to medicine. Among his books al-Hawi is encyclopedic an medicine.

Ibn Miskawayh: The author writes that his date of birth is uncertain, but approximately, he was born between 937 to 942. Margoliuth writes that he was born in 330/941², whereas he died on 9th of Safar 421 or 16th of February 1030.

According to the Maulana the period of Banu Buwayh was highly condusive to cultural and literacy movement. The rulers were not only the patron of learning but they often themselves were good scholars. Ibn Miskawayh was one of the wel-known philosophers and intellectuals of that time. 3. He belonged to Ray. he had good relations with governors and ministers who admired him for his abilities and also held an important post of the librarian in the library built by 'Add al-Daulah, one of the Buwayhids (949-983).

Ibn Miskawayh wrote books on different fields such as medicine, logic, ethics, arithmatic, metaphysics, chemistry etc. His wel-known books are as such; Al-Mustaufa

^{1.} Ibid. p. 230.

^{2.} A History of Muslim Philosophy, Vol.I; M.M.Sharif, Ashok Vihar, Delhi, 1989, p.469.

^{3.} Hukama-i Islam, Vol.I. Op.Cit. p.225.

النامان), Uns al-Farid(النامان), Al-Faudh al-Akhar(النزالالات)), Al-Faudh al-Asghar(النزالالات)), Tahdhib al-Akhlaq(النزالالات) etc. In his book Al-faudh al-Asghar he discussed three points; (i) Proof of the existence of God, (ii) Soul and its states, (iii) prophethood 1.

Ikhwan al Ṣafā: The Maulana defines Ikhwan al-Ṣafā as a group of intellectuals and scholars flourished in middle of the tenth century and wrote a number of short treatises (Rasāil) on philosophy and faith. Toward this objective 51 treatises were written on different philosophical aspects². These booklets have been collected and published into four volumes.

Reflecting the modern views regarding this group and their treatises the Maulana writes,

"Their treatises carry the summaries of the discussion of Islāmic philosophers and scholars full of virbosive arguments and philosophical exeggerations which are basically intended for propaganda."

The author took up mainly three points regarding this group which are as follow;

- (i) Who were the writers in this group?
- (ii) Of which Muslim sect they belonged?
- (iii) What was the purpose to write the treatises.

^{1.} Ibid. p.238.

^{2.} Ibid. p.287.

^{3.} Ibid. p.288.

The Maulana has mentioned few names of the members of Ikhwan al Safa as given by al-Qifty, which are as follow; Abul al-Hasan Ali bin Harun, Abu Aḥmad al-Mahrjāni, 'Aufi, Abu Sulaiman Muḥammad bin al-Maqdisi etc. Regarding the faith of this group, 'Abd al-Salam says that they had no particular faith neither they were associated with any sect nor with any particular relgion.' But regarding the nature of the enterpretation of religion the Maulana says,

"They belonged to Batiniyyah sect and preferred to teach their doctrins only to those who were learned and full of wisdom."

Regarding their ethical values the author has credited to them relatively a high place. This group represented on assembly of people who hailed from different socio-cultural planes and had a wide net-work in various Islamic lands to spread their ideas. In general the Maulana writes that their ideas were largely based on the following four sources:

- (i) The books on arithmatics and naturl science,
- (ii) The heavenly books such as Taurat, Injil and Quran.
- (iii) Astrological and other source-material on Physics and Life Science.
- (iv) The books on Metaphysics³.

Shaikh Bu 'Ali Sina: Giving details of Ibn Sina's lineage the Maulana says that he was born in 370/980 in the village of Sana and died in 428/1037. According to his biography written by his desciple Abu 'Ubaid Jurjāni, his education began at Bukhāra with Holy Qurān. Later he studied arithmatics, jurisprudence, logic, philosophy,

^{1.} Ibid. pp.290-291,

^{2.} Ibid. p.295.

^{3.} Ibid. p.301.

medicine and and Metaphysics. 1

He was very firm in his faith. His father and brother were the followers of Ismaily sect. In times of hardships, during his educational career, he turned to mosque, performed salat and pray to Allah to solve the complications². His religious firmness can be judged by his will, which he dictated to his friend Abu Saeed bin Abi al-Khair Sufi,

"You must remember Allah first and last, you must try to see Allah in your memory, you must stand firmly in His rememberance, you must know that salat is the best action, fasting is the best conduct, charity is the highest good The best action is humbleness, lust and greed must not come in the straight way of sharifat." 3

Ibn Sina spent the major part of his life in the ministry of kings. But he never gave up his writings, which he had started at the age of twenty one. The Maulana gives a brief account of his books and treatises.

Abu Reḥān at Birūni : The Maulanā writes that there is not adequate information regarding al-Birūni in the older books such as Akhbār al-Ḥukamā(المنارات), Mujam al udabā, Vol.II(المنارات), Tatimmah Swān al-Ḥikmatah (المنارات), and Mukhtaṣar al-Daul (المنارات). But Prof. Edward Sanjaw provides considerable information about al Birūni in the introduction of Athār al-Bāqiyah (المنارات).

^{1.} Ibid. p.308.

^{2.} Ibid. p.321.

^{3.} Ibid. p.322.

^{4.} Ibid. p.352.

He was born in 362/973 in Khwarizm and died at the age of seventy seven in 440/1049 at Ghazna. He was a great scholar and historian. Al-Biruni had knowledge on diverse subjects. He had great ciritical ability. In religious realm he was rationalist. His historical writings are not only the narration of events but also a critical statement of facts.

Al-Biruni had close relations with several rulars, but this relation was mainly based on his material needs as is clar from Athar al-Baqiyah The Maulana says that he was rationalist and did not give importance to any thing beyond reason. He was a believer, inclined towards Shiahism with a dislike towards Arab culture and a preference of Iranian culture which he has thorughly praised.

Al-Biruni wrote books on astronomy, astrology, arithmatic, medicine etc. He also sometimes has occasion to indulge in discussion with Ibn Sina. The author says that was a constant witness to the conquering mission of Maḥmūd and has written about it in a beautiful and effective way. He was a great traveller.

Al-Ghazali: Writing on the towering personality of al-Ghazali the Maulana has presented a lucid account which in is its historical perspective quite informative. as Hujjat al-Islam and Zain Posterity Acclaimed by al-Din, al-Ghazali was born in 1058 at Tabaran in Tus. His father was a poor sufi dervesh and earned through spinning and weaving profession. There was one younger brother of al-Ghazali who later became a sufi. poverty his father could not provide education to them and

^{1.} Ibid. p.355

entrusted them over to one of his friends who would arrange for their higher education. Thus Ghazali began the study of theology and cannon law. But education, then, was more meant for wealth and prestige than for the sake of religion and faith. Al-Ghazali himself says,

"We did not get education for the sake of Allah yet by the will of Allah it happend so."

At the age of about twenty he proceeded to the Nizamiyyah Academcy of Nishāpur to study under Abu al-Ma'āli at Juwaini also called <u>Imām al-Ḥaramain</u>. Here he studied theology, cannon-law, philosophy, logic, dialectics, natural sciences and sufism etc. Al-Ghazāli gave carly proof of his excellence of learning. In the words of Imām al-Ḥaramain,

"Al-Ghazāli among my pupils is such a fathomless ocean full of precious things."

It was about this time that be began to lecture and started writing books. At Nishapur he also learnt the theory and practice of sufism from Abu 'Ali al Fadl al Tusi Nizām al Mulk, the great vizir of Saljuq Sovereign Malik Shāh, was a great patron of scholars and had built Madrasas in every town of the kingdom. Nizām al Mulk was highly impressed by the fame and profound learning of al-Ghazāli, therefore he appointed him to the chair of Theology at Nizāmiyyah Academy. 4

^{1.} Ibid. p.388.

^{2.} Ibid. p.389.

^{3.} Ibid. p.390.

^{4.} Ibid. p.392.

But serving four years at Nizamiyyah and at the height of his career, al-Ghazali began to feel sick with this way of life which was full of fame, wealth and influence, but was devoid of real sincerity and selfless dedication. This change of heart soon over took him and he began to pine away as all appetite was lost. Finally he left the glory of his fame and influence in Baghdad and went to Damascus. For ten years he lived in complete anonimity and seclusion devoting himself to contemplation and meditation. Probably during this period, he kept wondering and also visited the holy towns and various shrines 1.

The Maulana quotes from <u>al-Munqidh min al-Dalal</u> ((النفر سي العبيال) by al-Ghazali and writes spiritual prices,

"Right from my young age of twenty till now at the age of over fifty I am inclined to investigate the truth and distinguish between the true and false, always I kept probing the doctrins and secrets of sufis, philosophers, ascetics, atheists theologians. Ι relied upon never statement merely on the authority of others."2

In order to describe about the philosophy of al-Ghazāli the Maulānā says that he divided the philosophers into three groups; (i) Materialistic, (ii) Naturalists (iii) Theists. Al-Ghazāli categorised the philosophy into six groups such as logic, arithmatics, natural science, metaphysics, ethics and politics³.

^{1.} Ibid. p.392.

^{2.} Ibid.pp.392, 393.

^{3.} Ibid.pp.409, 410.

Apart from the more important philosophers as mentioned above the Maulana gives a brief account of many other Muslim philosophers with their life, works and philosophy. They are as follow; Ḥakim Abu al wafa Bauzjani, Abu al-Qasim 'Ali bin al Ḥasan al 'Alvi, Ibn Haitham, Abu Sulaiman Muḥammad bin Ṭahir bin Bahram, Ibn Ba Shahri Jily, Abu al-Barakat Baghdadi, Ḥakim Abu al-Qasim al Ḥusain bin al-Fadl al-Raghib al-Isfahani etc.

Sources:

The author refers to the following works in the compilation of this book:

Akhbār al-Yukamā (المنارال), Kāshf al-Zunūn, كراب المنارال), Tabaqāt al-Umam (كراب المنارال), Tabaqāt al-Umam (كراب المنارال), Tabaqāt al-Umam (كراب المنارال), Fehrist of Ibn Nadim (كراب المنارال), al-Mujib fi Talkhīs (المنارال), Muqaddimah ibn Khaldūn (المنارال), Sharh Milal wal Nabl (المنارال), Tārikh Falsafah al-Islām (كراب المنارال), Tārikh Falsafah al-Islām (كراب المنارال), Tarikh Falsafah al-Islām (كراب المنارال), Tarikh Falsafah al-Islām (كراب المنارال), Tarikh Falsafah (كراب المنارال), Tatimmah Swan al-Hikmatah (كراب المنارال), M'ujam al Buldān (كراب المنارال), Tahdhīb al Akhlāq of Miskawayh (كراب المنارال), Tarikh Falsafa-i Islām (كراب المنارال), Tajārib al-Umam (كراب المنارال), Tahāfat-u Tahafut al-Falāsafah (كراب المنارال), Tahāfat-u Tahafut al-Falāsafah (كراب المنارال), Tahāfat-u Tahafut al-Bafi'iyyah, Vol.IV (كراب المنارال), Sharh-Ishārat (كراب المنارال), Munqidh Min al-Dalāl (كراب المنارال), Sharh-Ishārat (كراب المنارال) etc.

2.5 : HUKAMA-I ISLAM VOL. II

The second volume of <u>Hukamā-i Islām</u> was published in 1956. It presents a good deal of information about the Muslim philosophers (hukamā) who flourished during the Mongol, Tātār and Ottoman rule as also about Muslim philosophers of India of medieval and modern period.

The Maulana points out that medieval and modern periods are generally considered as the periods of decline with regard to the development of Muslim Philosophy and scholarship. But this is not correct. It is also wrong to believe that philosophical works written in periods are not original and these are only commentaries of older works. But the author agrees with the wel-known German scholar Dr. Bartin whom he quotes, that these periods, contrary to the above-mentioned view, have been moved productive in the history of Islamic philosophy. this period the philosophers not only corrected many misunderstadings about Greek Philosophy, also but contributed many original ideas.

In the preface of the book 'Abd al-Salām regrets that unfortunately there is no book highlighting the contributions of these philosophers, so that the world should know about their achievements. Because of the lack of any good work students of Islamic studies are generally unware of the ideas and original works of these hukama. It was this need that prompted the Maulānā to write this book. 'Abd al-Salām has divided the development of Muslim philosophy in three stages; (i) Mutaqaddimin, (ii) Mutawassitīn, (iii) Muta'akhirin. The first volume dealt with the Mutaqaddimin and second volume deals with Mutawassitīn and Muta'akhirin.

'Umar Khayyam (440/1049-526/1132):

He was generally known as a Rubai poet in India and Europe. But indeed he was a great philosopher and Mathematician. The Maulana writes that 'Umar Khayyam's metaphysics is quite simple and understandable. In a treatise Kaun-wa Taklif('Umar Khayyam replied the two questions of Ahu Naṣr Muḥammad bin Abd al-Raḥim, a desciple of Ibn Sina, i.e.

- (A) Why Allah created the world, particularly the mankind.
- (B) Why mankind is bound to obey and worship Allah.

The reply of 'Umar Khayyam to the first question is that creation of human being is the ultimate cause of existance. And the answer to the second question is that mankind is bound to obey because it is formal cause of divine will.

'Umar Khayyam further wrote that the answer of these questions are based on three basic things:-

- (A) Existence of a thing.
- (B) If it exists, then what it is.
- (C) Causality. 1

'Umar Khayyam thought that predistination (jabr) is nearer to the reality than free will (qadr). The author further writes that his <u>taşawwuf</u> was philosophical but within the frame of Islamic teachings.²

^{1. &}lt;u>Hukama-i Islam, Vol. II</u>, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1956, p.4.

^{2.} Ibid. p.7.

Ibn Bajjah (d.1138):

He was a celebrated Spanish Muslim philosopher, commentrator of Aristotle, physician, mathematician, astronomer, poet and musician. A wel-known historian Ibn Saeed wrote that he was much appreciated in the West as al-Farabi in the East. He wrote a number of books but unfortunately most of them have been lost. Some of books on logic and the Hebrew translations of treatises are preserved in Public Library of France².

Ibn Bajjah made a distinction between the human and animal actions, i.e. in the animal actions there is no thinking while human activities are based on thinking. He said that if somebody, for instance, smashes a stone to pieces because he has stumbled against it, he is behaving without a purpose like a child or an animal; but if he does this in order that others may not stumble against it, his action must be considered manlike, i.e. directed by reason³.

Ibn Tufail (1110-1185):

He was also a Spanish Muslim philosopher, physician, mathematician poet and scientist. He practised medicine at Granada and finally became the chief royal physician to the Muwahhid ruler Abu Yaqub Yusuf (1163-84)⁴. The author says that there is very little information to be found about Ibn Tufail in the books of history of Spanish Islam by Ibn al-Khatib or Abd al wahid Marakashi's book al-Mujib fi al-Talkhis.

Ibn Tufail had written many books on physics, metaphysics and philosophy. But he became famous for his

^{1.} Ibid. p.25.

^{2.} Ibid. p.30.

^{3.} Ibid. p.32.

philosophical work "Hayy bin Yaqazan" (كَانُ الْمَانُ اللهُ اللهُ

Shihab al-Din Suhrawardi Maqtul (550/1154-587/1192):

The author writes that till this time he has no parallel in tasawuf and philosophy(Hikmat Dhauqiyah and Hikmat Bahthiyah)². He also composed poetry both in Arabic and Persian which was based on philosophy, tasawuf and irfan'. Ibn Khallikan noted some of his poetry regarding desire (nafs) and said it is on the pattern of Ibn Sina³.

Shihab al Suhrawardi,, also known as Shaikh al-Ishraq, was in the beginning a follower of Aristotle's philosophy. But later on he turned to lead a life of piety and abstinence. In this process he realized and recognised a new spiritual world. This "complete spiritual order" is according to the author known as the Philosophy of Ishraq (Illuminations).

There had been some philosophers, particularly in Iran, Greece and India, whose central philosophical themes were Dhauq (flair), Mushāhidah (observation), abstinence and Mujāhidah (self-tortures). The elaboration and development of these philosophical themes is the subject of Shaikh al Ishraq in his famous book Hikmat al-Ishraqiyah (

^{1.} Ibid. p.42.

^{2.} Ibid. p.53.

^{3.} Ibid. p.61.

The Maulana divides the Shaikh's works into three parts; Logic, Physics and Metaphysics. According to the philosophy of Shaikh al-Ishraq, the world affairs are conducted by spiritual power. This spirituality can be seen in material things even. For example in this physical world sexual relation is seen as the highest mode of human ecstasy, but even in this there are also spiritual feelings. This is obvious becase a man does not have sexual relations with a beautiful dead lady because the body is without soul.

It is thus only logical to conclude that all spiritual and metaphysical entities like miracles, dreems, devils, paradise and hell, hur and ghilman meet in one place in their own spiritual world, which is by Shaikh allishrag called 'Alam al-Asbah(the world of spirits).

Ibn Rushd(1126-1198):

Earlier, very little was known about Ibn-Rushd and that is his full importance was not realized by many, untill the wel-known French scholar Prof. Renan wrote a The book was soon translated into book on Ibn-Rushd. published in 1912 from English in Hyderabad and Sikandrabad Sarkari Matba. It was further translated into Urdu and published from Dar al-Tarjumah Jami'ah Uthmaniyah in 1929. The Arabic scholars were also inspired from the book of Renan. Farh Antun, the editor of al-Jami'ah, wrote a book in Arabic under title "Ibn-Rushd and Philosophy."2

Besides French, English, Arabic etc. a lot of book about Ibn-Rushd are also available in Urdu. Nawab 'Imad al-Mulk, Maulvi Sayyed Hussain Belgrami wrote an article

^{1.} Ibid. p.87.

^{2.} Ibid. p.100.

on him. After that Shibli also wrote an article in al-Nadvah (Magazine). Maulvi Muḥammad Yunus Ahsani Farangi Mahali wrote a book on Ibn Rushd and it was published by Dar al-Musannefin Azamgarh in 1923.

Ibn Rushd whose real name was Muḥammad was a scholar of Islāmic sceicnes as well as Natural sciences. He was a great philosopher of the Muslim West in the Middle Ages. The Maulānā divides his books into six subjects such as philosophy, medicine, figh, 'Ilm al-Kalām astronomy and 'Ilm-i Naḥu(Grammer). He also describes the nature of the books and whether the book is available or not.²

The author writes that, on the one hand, there is no innovation and uniqueness in the works of Ibn Rushd. His knowledge of medicine is limited to the books of Galen (Jalinus); his philosophy is derived from Aristotle's works; in astronomy he is indebted to Almajast; his figh was the figh of contemporary and classical scholars of Māliki school. On the other hand his unique contribution comes from his level of excellence in the field of criticism which only few intellectuals were able to reach before or after him. 3

Ibn-Rushd has been the greatest commentator of Aristotle's philosophy indeed. But unfortunately he did not know the Greek language. This caused him at place to commit mistakes. For example he was unable to make distinction between Pythagorous and Democretus and considered both as one and the same person⁴.

^{1.} Ibid. p.100.

^{2.} Ibid. pp.133-145.

^{3.} Ibid. p.151.

^{4.} Ibid. p.152.

The writing of Ibn Rushd is generally dry and empty from any literary taste. This is partly due to nature of his subjects. He kept in mind three main objectives in philosophy; (i) Abridgement and commentary of Greek books, particularly the books of Aristotle. (ii) Contradictions of Ibn-Sina and al-Farabi in relation to Aristotle. (iii) Refulation of Asharites.

Ibn-Rushd's commentories on Aristotalian works are of three types: (i) Simple and basic commentories, (ii) Middle commentories, (iii) Abstract.

The author writes that at that time there were two groups among Muslims with regard to logic and philosophy. jurists According to the group of (fugaha) traditionalists (Muhaddethin) the learning of philosophy and logic was not permissible as due to them religious beliefs become weak. The second group had the view that religion itself is a philosophy and shariah can rightly explained through the philosophy it expounds. one cannot be separated from the other. However, every explicit thing has the other side which is implicit. Therefore shariah is explicit and philosophy is implicit in it.

Ibn-Rushd knew both of these aspects, i.e. on the one hand he was a philosopher and on the other hand he was also a <u>mujtahid</u> and <u>faqih</u>. So he tried to harmonize religion with reason on equal terms. But as a philosopher he confined the philosophical interpretation of some aspects of <u>shariah</u> only to those who were intellectuals and sound in reasoning. 3

^{1.} Ibid. p.154.

^{2.} Ibid.p.202.

^{3.} Ibid. p.204.

Ouran regarding the existance of Allah. According to Ibn-Rushd one is Dalil 'Annatiyah and the other is Dalil Ikhtara (contrivance). The first one Dalil 'Annatiyah is based on two things; (i) Every thing of the world is in perfect harmony with the needs of the human beings. (ii) This perfect harmony between things and human needs is not the result of any chance and accident, but it has been created and brought into existance by a Being who commands His will.

<u>Dalil Ikhtarā</u> is also based on two principles; (i) that this world is created, (ii) and that every created thing must have a creator.

So according to this argument those who wanted to know about the existence of a creator, they must devote to the knowledge of nature of the matter. Because one who does not know the essence of the matter will also not be able to comprehend the source of the existence of the matter.

The Maulana says that the philosophical ideas and views of Ibn-Rushd was popularized by a jewish scholar namely Mechael Scot who introduced Ibn-Rushd's work in Europe².

Ibn-Rushd's ideas were attacked severely by the orthodox for his attempt to bring Aristotle and Islām together. As a result Amir Abu Yūsuf Yāqub al Mansūr ordered the burning of all his works except books on medicine, arithmatic and astronomy³. It is through the orientalists that Ibn-Rushd's philosophy was resorted to the Muslim East again from older Latin translations.

^{1.} Ibid. pp.209-210.

^{2.} Ibid. p.169.

^{3.} Ibid. p.119

Imam Razi (543/1149-606/1209) :

Imam Fakhr al-Din Abu 'Abd-Allah better known as Imam Razi, whose geneological link goes back to Hadrat He was a <u>mufassir</u>, philosopher, mutakallim and faqih at the same time. In the last years of his life, he became a sufi and led a life of abstinence. He compiled Tafsir-i Kabir towards the end of his life. Ιt Tafsīr-i Kabīr therefore in that one can find this sufistical influence in his philosophical discussions. 1

The Maulana is of the view that whereas Ibn-Sina and al-Farabi are known for thier support to Aristotle's philosophy. Imam Razi's significance lies criticism of Aristotle's philosophy 2. According to the author Imam Razi adopted the middle-way, i.e. he did not reject Aristotalian philosophy to the extent that was acceptable, whereas he refuted and denounced which was not agreeable³. He also tried to reconcile religion with reason. He made logic as an independent branch of learning. Before him it was considered as an instrument of learning ('ulum-i 'Agliyah)⁴. The present form of logic was thus developed by Imam Razi.

Apart from these famous philosophers the Maulana also gives brief accounts of the following philosophers: Maimun bin Najib al wasty, who was appointed as an astronomer in the observatory (Rasad Khanah) of Malik Shah Saljuqi in 1075, Abu al-Fath Kaushik also worked in the observatory of malik Shah Saljuqi, 'Abd al-Rahman Khazin was mathematician of 11th century, Saif al-Din Amdi (552/1157-631/1234) Sadid al-Din bin Raqiqah (564/1169-635/1128) etc.

^{1.} Ibid. p.219.

^{2.} Ibid. p.224.

^{3.} Ibid. p.228

^{4.} Ibid. p.237

Philosophers of Mongol and Tatari period:

The next part of the book deals with the philosophers of Mongol and Tatari periods (657/1259 to 923/1517). In the beginning the author focuses on the political situation between 1259 to 1517, when a considerable part of Islamic land had been ruled by Mongols and the rest was ruled by Turkish and 'Arabs. Due to the unfavourable attitude of Tatars the Muslim intellectuals began to migrate and settle in such Islamic countries as Egypt and Syria which were the centres of many intelectual activities.

Turks were generally interested in sciences such as arithmatics and medicine. In the period of Mongols Nasir al-Din Tusi who it was laid ofrational sciences and contributed considerable works. 'Abd al-Salam chose six philosophers of this period and mentions a good deal of information about their geneologies, ideas and works. They are as follows:-

- 1. Nașir al-Din Tusi (597/1201 to 672/1274).
- 2. Qutb al-Din Shirazi (634/1235 to 710/1310).
- 3. Qadi Add al-Din I'jaz (680/1282 to 756/1355).
- 4. Qutb al-Din Razi (d-776/1375).
- 5. S'ād al-Dīn Taftāzāni (722/1322 to 793/1391).
- 6. 'Ali bin Muḥammad al-Sayyad al Sharif al-Jurjāni (740/1335 to 816/1413).

Philosophers of Ottomans period:

The Maulana writes on the authority of Haji Khalifah that there were many wel-known philosophers in the Middle Ottoman period. Such as Shams al-Din Fanari, Qadi Zadah Rumi, Khwajah Zadah, Allamah 'Ali Qaushji, 'Allamah ibn Kamal

and Fadil ibn Katai. But in the declining days of Ottoman when 'Ulama acquired power and influence, they opposed sufism as well as philosophy. Because of this resistance philosophy could not make much headway. Among all the above mentioned philosophers the author chose only Khwajah Zadah (d-893/1488) and discussed him at some length.

Philosophers of later period:

In the later period 'Abd al-Salām selected five of the philosophers to discuss at some length. They are as follows:-

- (i) 'Allamah Jalal al-Din Dawwani (d-918/1512): He wrote notes on <u>Sharh Mutala</u>', <u>Sharh Tahdhib</u> and a treatise regarding the faith of Pharao of Moses.
- (ii) Ala al-Din al-Tusi : He wrote Sharh Mawafiq.
- (iii) Ali bin Muḥammad Qaushji (d-877/1473): He wrote Sharh Tajrid, Risalah Muḥammadiyah and Risalah Fat-hiyyah.
- (iv) Mir Muḥammad Baqar Damad (d-1041/1632): He wrote Qabasat, Sirat-i Mustaqim, Shar'-al Najat.
- Muḥammad bin Ibrahim Shirazi (d 1050/1640): This (v) celebrated philosopher is popularly known as "Mulla Sudra". His main works are al-Asfar al-Arba'ah. The first volume of this book deals with existence and accidents (wujud and A'rad), second volume volume is about relates to Physics, third and fourth volume deals with nafs metaphysics (Psyche).

Philosophers of India:

According to the author in India scholars and intellectuals came from foreign countries. 'Ulama used to come in groups in the period of Jām Nizām al-Dīn¹ of Sindh, because he established religious institutions and patronized them. Two wel-known scholars Shaikh 'Abd-Allāh and Shaikh 'Azīz-Allāh came from Multān and settled at Delhi and Sambhal respectively in the period Sikandar Lodhi.

Among the Mughals, Akbar who had introduced Din-i Ilahi, patronised philosophers and invited many scholars to his court. When Mir Fath-Allah Shirazi became a courtier of Akbar, he introduced the rational sciences in the curriculum Mir Zahid Harwi (d 1101/1690) is the most eminent philosopher during the period of Shāhjahān and Aurangzeb, who excelled in Ma'qulat. He was appointed as a muhtasib (checking officer) by Aurangzeb. Mulla Hakim Siyalkoti (d 1067/1654) was also a philosopher and scholar of rational science in Shāhjahān's reign 4.

'Abd al-Salam nadvi writes that it was for these reason that in almost all the provinces of India gradually students started to study the rational sciences alongwith religious sciences. But after 1130/1718 the patronization of the scholastic philosophers stopped because some cruel and tyranical rulers seized the grants and estates. However the teaching of rational sciences continued.

^{1.} Nizam al-Din became the Sultan of Sindh in 866/1462.

^{2.} Fath-Allah Shirazi was a wel-known philosopher of Akbar's period.

^{3.} Ibid. p.318.

^{4.} Ibid. p.319.

^{5.} Ibid. p.320.

In the field of rational sciences two schools i.e.Farangi Mahal and Khair-Abad came to be greatly distinguished and contributed a lot in the development of rational scinces. The author selected six scholars of Farangi Maḥal and three scholars from the family of Khair-Abad for discussion. At the end he chose seven scholars such as Mulla maḥmūd Jaunpūri (d.1062/1652), Mulla Muḥib-Allah Behari (d 1119/1707), Maulvi Ghulam Yaḥya Bihari (d 1128/1816) etc.

Sources:

The Maulana took help from the following sources in the compilation of this book;

2.6: IMAM RAZI

The book Imam Razi is written by 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi and published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1950. The book provides a good deal of information about the life and works of Imam Razi as well as his vieweregarding the important matters of Philosophy, Ilm al-Kalam and Tafsir.

In the preface the Maulānā writes that, no doubt, the beginning of rational science ('Ulūm-i 'Aqlīyah) came in the lime light during the 'Abbāsid period. But great scholastic philosophers emerged only in 4th & 5th Century hijrah and they made considerable contribution in the rational field. Most eminent among them are Imām Ghazāli and Imām Rāzi. The Maulānā describes that the books which had been written on scholastic philosophy upto 4th Century hijrah were very difficult, ambiguous and their ideas were incoherent and incomplete. Imām Ghazāli was the first who solved the complications and ambiguity in an unambiguous and simple way. After him, Imām Rāzi further developed this rational thought in more detailed and comprehensive way.

Imam Razi collected the available scholastic philosophy, which had been written earlier, as also its problems. He studied them thoroughly and analysed critically. The Maulana says,

"Allamah Shibli compiled the views and thoughts of Ghazali regarding philosophy and Ilm al-Kalam. Like wise I have compiled the views and ideas of Imam Razi."

^{1.} Imam Razi, 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musanefin, Azamgarh, 1950, pp.1, 2.

No doubt Imam Razi wrote books on every field but his main contribution was related to philosophy and Ilm al-Kalam. So, the Maulana states in this book the main emphasis is on his contribution in philosophy and Ilm al-Kalam. Imam Razi's rationalistic thoughts are also found in almost all his books but the foremost among them regarding faith (aqadid) and Ilm al-Kalam is Tafsir-i Kabir. His voluminous commentary Tafsir-i Kabir is very helpful for those who want to study Quran on philosophical level.

His full name is Fakhr al-Din Muhammad Abu 'Abd-Allah. he was called by the name Shaikh al-Islam in Hirat, but he is better known as Imam Razi. His father was a great scholastic philosopher, sufi and muhaddith who compiled a book on 'Ilm al-Kalam under title "Ghayah al-Maram"() into two volumes. He was a preacher and popularly known as khatib, hence Imam Razi was also called Ibn al-Khatib.

Imam Razi studied figh by al-Sumnani and philosophy by al-Majd al-Jiily. After finishing studies both literary and religious in Ray he went to Khwarazm where he got engaged in relentless controversies with Mutazilites. So he was forced to leave the Country. He himself said,

"I visited Transoxiana, Bukhara, Samarqand and India."

Imam Razi was so poor that his compatriots in Bukhara helped him when he fell ill. But later on he became very rich, he married his two sons to the daughters of an immensely rich doctor and after the doctor's death he became the owner of that property. The Maulana says that

^{1.} Ibid. p.6.

Imam Razi was respected by 'ulama, religious people and common people equally. Shihab al-Din Ghauri, Sultan of Ghazna, honoured him as well as Sultan Ghiyath al-Din Ghauri allowed him to open a school for the general public within the royal palace. he was also greatly respected by 'Ala' al-Din Khwarazm Shah Muḥammad bin Takash at Khurasan. Imam Razi had an important position in the court of Muḥammad bin Takash.

writes that The Maulana there are different opinions regarding the death date and burial place of Imam About his testatment the author states that when Imam Razi on his death-bed, he was dictated his "testament" to his disciple Ibrahim bin Abi Bakr text of this al-Isfahani. testament The has المينالطاد), Tabagat preserved in Tabagat al-Atibba(al-Shafiyah(طنات النائد) and others 3. Further the Maulana says that he got these words to be written in his "testament",

".... I have had experience of all the methods of Kalam and of all the paths of philosophy, but I have not found in them either satisfaction or comfort to equal that which I have found in Quran."

Imam Razi was a man good fortune and acquired the blessings of Allah both in worldly as well as in spiritual fields. 'Allamah Subki wrote he was considered among Ahl-i Taṣawwuf⁵. The Maulana writes about his personal life that he had immense wealth but never indulged in luxurious life. He engaged himself in scholarly works⁶.

^{1.} Ibid. p.8.

^{3.} Ibid. p.18

^{5.} Ibid. p.27.

^{2.} Ibid. p.14.

^{4.} Ibid. pp.20-24.

^{6.} Ibid. p.29

Imam Razi was a man of average height, broad chest, long beared and of loud voice. 1

The Maulana writes that the writing of Imam Razi deal almost with every aspect of Muslim intellectual life and include all the sciences of his time such as logic, arithmatic, metaphysics, natural and estoric sciences. Besides these writings he composed a large number of works on the purely religious sciences of exegesis (tafsir) and Islamic jurisprudence (figh). He also composed poetry in Arabic and Persian. His Arabic poetry is preserved in Tabaqat al-Atibba. The Maulana counts Imam Razi's eighty books giving only the names of these books and in certain cases also the language of the books. The author discussed in greater details some of his books. For example Tafsiricabir.

Tafsir-: Kabir: The book Mafatih al-Ghayb(is popularly known as Tafsir-i Kabir. It is in XII volumes. The book is the most important theological commentary of Quran. Imam Razi makes this also an occasion to expose his encyclopaedic knowledge in that he intermingles history, geography, astronomy, astrology with the commentary of Quranic text wherever possible.

Discussions on the Works of Imam Razi from different angles

(i) Imam Razi took help from all the available sources and tried to reconcile religious and rational philosophy. For example in philosophical writings he took help from the works of Ibn-Sina and al-Farabi. In literary field he concerned himself more with al-Kashshaf().

^{1.} Ibid. p.30.

- (ii) The main contribution of his writing is that they created a new era of Muslim learning. It is evident from the writings of later scholars.
- (iii) The popularity of the works of Imam Razi is also clear from the fact that the people generally were in no need of reading older books any more.
- (iv) Imam Razi narrated the ambiguous and difficult matters of Ilm al-Kalam and philosophy in a very simple way.
- (v) The Maulana writes about the number of pages he wrote in a day, which is far more than the normal average of a writer.
- (vi) Due to polemical controversies and adverse conditions Imam Razi had to struggle often for his academic pursuits. He used to write his problems at the end of every surah of Tafsir-i Kabir. For example after the tafsir of surah Yūnus, he wrote that I am very sad and broken hearted due to the death of my son Muḥammad².
- (vii) Imam Razi's works are comprehensive and research-oriented. he discussed the issues in detail and compiled the arguments in one place.

The author writes that the role of Imam Razi in the intellectual life of Islam was to support the orthodox policy and suppress rationalistic philosophy of Greek origin. Ibn-Sina and al-Farabi are known for their support to Aristotle's philosophy while Imam Razi's significance lies in the critical evaluation of Aristotle's philosophy. Shahrzori wrote,

^{1.} Ibid. p.57.

"Imam Razi was an expert in arguments (qala and qeela) and no body equalled him during his time."

The Maulana further writes that the refutation of Aristotle's work was started from the very beginning. Shaikh Shihab al-Din Maqtul (d.556/1161) founded Falsafa-i Ishraq(philosophy enlightment) which was entirely against Aristotle's thought. In the same way Imam Razi refuted almost all Aristotle's philosophy and opened the way of refutation of later writers.²

The author states that it is not clear that why did Imam Razi refute the philosophy? Allamah Shibli wrote in his book Ilm-i Kalam that he refuted those philosophical issues which were against Islam. Imam Ghazali refuted generally the matters related to metaphysics in the light of Islam. But Imam Razi had the different view from other critics of philosophy and logic. He adopted the middle way i.e. he criticised the many points of Greek philosophy whereas he also accepted certain others. 4

The Maulānā highlights the peculiarities of the writings of Imām Rāzi that before him some books on philosophy were either too lengty or were too short. But Imām Rāzi explained it very clearly and wrote it in the form of a commentary. He, firstly, arranged all arguments regarding an issue separtely, then he either supported it or refuted. His pet words which he used while he wanted to refute the philosophers were that such and such things are against the fugaha and scholars. Thus Imām Rāzi contributed to change considerably the earlier view of philosophy

^{1.} Ibid. p.63.

^{2.} Ibid. p.64.

^{3.} Ibid. p.65.

^{4.} Ibid. p.69.

and logic and made them independent and respectable subjects. Before him logic was considered as a part of '<u>Ulum-i Aliyah</u>. So the style of present day philosophy and logic was given by Imam Razi².

At the time of Imam Razi there were many issues and problems of philosophy left behind the Greek philosophers, but later on Muslim philosophers, in the light of Islamic faith, added to them some more problems of metaphysics e.g. prophecy, miracles, revelation, resurrection etc. Ibn-Sina has discussed, in his book Isharat, all these problems. Imam Razi himself accepted that this book is very important but at the same time he said that philosophical questions cannot be solved in accordance with the philosophical doctrines themselves.

In the philosophical discussion the Maulana took the following topics e.g. proof of existence of Allah, oneness of Allah, transcendance, the problem of good and evil, visibility of Allah, predestination and free will, prophecy and life hereafter. The Maulana also gives the contentions of Muslim philosophers and Imam Razi both.

At the end of the book he discusses about <u>Tafsir</u>. In the beginning <u>tafsir</u> was a part of <u>hadith</u> but later it developed and became an independent branch of learning. There are two types of <u>tafsir</u>. (i) 'Aqli (Rational), (ii) Naqli (Traditional).

^{1.} Thid. p.73. 'Ulum-i-Aliyah: learning regarded as means of knowledge and inferior to Ulum-iAliya(علوم عاليم) i.e. learning myarded as an end in itself.

^{2.} Ibid. p.74.

^{3.} Ibid. p.77.

The author writes that Imam Razi inclined more towards the rational school ('Ulum-i 'Aqliyah). He often compiled the sayings (Aqwal) of https://pubma.com/pubma and philosophers in Tafsir-i Kabir. So many scholars think that this is a book of 'Ulum-i Aqliyah than tafsir and for this he was criticised by the scholars such as Hafiz Suyuti. Imam Razi himself said,

"Some people came to me and said that you wrote about astronomy and astrology in your book <u>Tafsir-i Kabir</u>.1

Imam Razi replied to them that Allah Himself used astronomy and astrology, e.g. formation of day and night, changing conditions of sky and earth, quality of bright and dark. Allah Himself stresses the use of intellect and praises to those who use intellect.²

The Maulana highlights the views of Imam Razi regarding the existence of Allah, Risalat and Prophecy and life hereafter.

Sources:

The Maulana took help from the following books in the compilation of this book: Tabaqat al-Atibba,

Vol.II(רָבָּיוֹלְנְיֵלְיִי), Tabaqat al-Shafiyah(פּיִיוֹרְיִלְיִילִי),

Tarikh al-Hukama (יוֹבְּיוֹלְנְיִלִי), Muqaddimah ibn Khaldun

(יוֹבְּיוֹלְנְיִלָּיִ), Akhbar al-Hukama (יוֹבְּיוֹלְנִינִי), Lisan

al-Mizan, Vol.IV((יוֹבְּיוֹלְנִינִי)), Ibn Athir, Vol.XII

(ווי בּיִיוֹנְיִין), Muntakhab al-Tawarikh, Vol.I(יוֹבְּיִוֹלְנִינִי),

M'ujam al-Buldan(ייִּיִּלְנְנִינִי), Tafsir-i Kabir, Vo.II, IV, VI. VII

^{1.} Ibid. p.271.

^{2.} Ibid. p.272.

(جارات), Shadhart al-Dhahab, Vol.V (معرب على), Kashfal-Zunun, Vol.I, II (المنفرات الانتيال), Mizan al-'Aitadal (المنفرات), Mubahith Mashruqiyah (المنفرات), Asas al-Taqdis (المنفرات المنفرات), Shifa'al-'Alil (المنفرات المنفرات), Shifa'al-'Alil (المنفرات المنفرات), Shifa'al-'Alil (النفرات), Kitab al-Haywan (النفرات), Itteqan (النفرات), Fath al-Bari (النفرات) etc.

2.7: TARIKH-I AKHLAQ-I ISLAMI, VOL.I

Tarikh-i Akhlaq-i Islami, Vol.I by Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, is an attempt to bring about the history of Islamic ethics. The Maulana felt the need to write the Islamic ethical history after going through the book of Likee - () "Tarikh-i Akhlaq-i Europe" . By this the Maulana has also tried to fill up the void in Islamic literature. Till his day, there was no book available on the history of Islamic ethics. The book is published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1939.

The book discusses in detail the manners and behaviour of Arabs and Non-Arabs before and after the advent of Islam. It deals with the social, political, religious, economical and educational ethics in the light of <u>Quran</u> and <u>hadith</u>.

In the preface the Maulana writes that ethics plays an important role in the history of nations and societies. But to demonstrate ethical changes is very difficult. such there is very little contribution by the scholars towards the history of ethical development. It is easier to compile the political history of a nation because the stories of its rulers and their social and political contributions often available in the historical are records. But the elements and factors which affected their ethics were scattered in various places and not easily The characters of kings, officials, philosoavailable. phers and sufis were different from each other. The author states that these changes of ethical values were made possible mainly due to political, religious and educational reasons.

Arab's behaviour and manners before Islam:

The author writes that climatic condition. political system, religion and law, culture and civilization and mode of life have lasting effects on the ethical character of people. The Arabs were also influenced by Christians. Romans Iranians Culture and Civilization! The author describes the virtues and vices of the Arabs. The major vices of the Jahiliyah period were as follows: betting, gambling, usury, illegal gratification, immoral activities, shamelessness, immodesty, cruelty, robbery, treachery, begotry, revenge, malice, pride, ferocity and slaughtering their daughters.

There are many immoral and sinful activities prevalent in the <u>Jāhiliyah</u> period, such as: (i) Some wealthy people forced their slave girls into prostitution. Abd-Allāh bin Abi Salūl, was a wealthy man of Madīnah and he had six slave girls for this purpose². (ii) <u>Istibdā</u> marriage ((iii) A woman could have sexual relations with many men. After pregnancy, she would point out one of those as the father of a child and he had to accept it (iv) Occuption of prostitution. (v) <u>Khadn</u> (iv) marriage (secret relation with women) (vi) Muta(marriage for a fixed period), (vii) Swapping of wives or mutual exchange of wives.

^{1.} Tarikh-i Akhlaq-i Islami, Bol.I, 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1939, p.2.

^{2.} Ibid. p.9.

^{3. &}lt;u>Istibda</u> marriage: In order to get noble heir, they used to send their women to nobler persons in order to have nobler descendants. Afterwards these women were called back by their husbands.

^{4.} Ibid. p.10.

The Maulana writes further that they were so immodest that hundreds of women and men performed tawaf () of the Kabah naked. I Islam prohibits these shameless activities.

The author says that due to continuous tribal wars, affiliation with their own tribe had become of supreme importance for them so much so that they would support their tribe in every condition - be it right or wrong. This can be seen in the verse of Jandab bin Amr bin Tamim who said,

"Help your brother in every condition whether he is the perpetrator of cruelty or its victim." 2

The author also says that even after the death of the Prophet (PBUH) there was conflict, in the beginning, between Muhājerin (migrators) and Anṣar (Madinah people) for leadership. Because the people of one tribe were not ready to accept a leader from the other tribe. Due to continuous conflicts and wars they nurtured sense of revenge and malice. To them blood called for blood. No punishment other than that of blood was acceptable to them. Further he says that the majority of the people used to live in desert areas and in temporary settlements. They were called "Ahl al-Badawah". Their mode of life is differed from that of the "Ahl al-Hazarah. They were full of vanity, uncultured, uncivilized and of rude behaviour and harsh tongue.

^{1.} Ibid. p.13.

^{2.} Ibić. p.21.

^{3.} Hamdard Islamicus, The Pre-Islamic Arab Mentality- A Reassessment, Abdul Ali, Vol.IX, No.1, 1986, p.59.

^{4.} Op. Cit. p.28.

At the same time the author also focuses on their virtues and positive points, such as their intelligence, keeping of promise, bravery, loyality and generosity. Maulana writes that the Arabs were intelligent and had intense sense of self respect. They respected their women and safeguarded their honour. A poet composed that my female neighbour has only complaint that I do not go to her house in the absence of her husband 1. They showed cruelty in wars and same times even broke treaties, but they, generally, kept promises and agreement². The author writes that usually uncultured people are brave and strong. To them, it was a matter of pride to sacrifice their life the Arabic jahiliyah poetry in battle field. This reflecting war pathos is also known as Hamasiyat (عاسانه)3.

They were generous and ambitious people. One poet of <u>Jahliyah</u> period said,

"We mixed our gold with silver and our wealth with poor."

The Maulana further says that their generosity can be seen in their hospitality, gambling and drinking. Those who did not participate in these activities were considered as $miser^5$.

Apart from this the author has also described the mode of life and manners of the non-Arabs and compared them with those of the Arabs. He writes that the Arab's

^{1.} Ibid. p.34.

^{2.} Ibid. p.34.

^{3.} Ibid. p.36.

^{4.} Ibid. p.39.

^{5.} Ibid. p.40.

way of living was spiritual whereas the non-Arabs (Ajmīs) were generally materialistic. Non-Arabs lost their spiritual quality due to their worldly position and luxurious life.

Ouranic Ethics:

The Maulana says that the history of Islamic figh started after migration to Madinah. But the constituents of basic Islamic faith, i.e. Oneness of Allah (Tauhid). Prophacyf (Risalat) resurrection (Qayamat) had already been perfected in Makkah. With these basic beliefs Muḥammad (PBUH) had focussed on ethical values. The author highlights the moral teachings of Holy Quran. For example respect for human beings, chastity, sympathy high morals of the Prophet, good modes of living and dealing of affairs and a regular check over evil doings (al-Amr bil Maruf).

The Maulana writes that Arabs killed their daughters for the sake of their vanity or to get rid of their poverty. They used to kill people for revenge and sacrificed a male child to gain the blessings of their gods and goddes. But Quran prohibits human sacrifice². Along with adultery the Quran also prohibits all types of immoral deeds. There are many injunctions and punishments in the Quran and hadith.

The Maulana writes that sympathy includes treaty, good relation with human beings, visiting patients, to attend the funeral prayer, talk with humbleness and low voice and linient attitude toward animals³. He says that Quran also discusses the right of parents and respect to

^{1.} Ibid. p.41.

^{2.} Ibid. pp.48-52.

^{3.} Ibid. p.71.

parents and those who are in authority should use it only to the extent that Allah's commandments are not affected. There are many Quranic verses which highlight the relation between two Muslims as well as between a Muslim and a non-Muslim¹. It also guides us towards a better life. The people of Arabia changed their mode of life in accordance with the Quranic injunctions.

The Maulana says that after migration the Prophet (PBUH) taught them the manners regarding talking, meeting and the conduct in society². In connection with the dealings in society and day-to-day life, he writes that the <u>Quran</u> lays great stress on keeping up of promises and values of justice and honesty³. It is not however enough for a Muslim to become a man of good manners and character. It is also a part of his moral duty to guide other people to the same path⁴.

Ethical teachings of https://page-12.22

After Quran the Maulana substantiated the teaching of ethics from the sayings of the Prophet(PBUH). He writes in detail about the first pledge of 'Uqbah(عثر) and describes how the Prophet(PBUH) after preaching the Islamic message, took oath from the believers that they would not indulge in idol-worship, robbery, adultery, killings and defaming any one.

Moreover after migration, the author says, the Sahabah (companions of the Prophet(PBUH) often asked

^{1.} Ibid. pp.91-102.

^{2.} Ibid. p.110.

^{3.} Ibid. p.121.

^{4.} Ibid. p.123.

questions from the Prophet (PBUH) regarding moral behaviour and good manners and he would reply to their satisfaction. For instance, Muhammad (PBUH) said,

"Do not call any one by his nick name so as his demerits are exposed."

The Maulana divides the moral teachings of the Prophet (PBUH) into three parts;

- (i) <u>Usul-i Akhlaq</u>: The moral teachings which have been discussed in the <u>Quran</u> and form the basics of all high morals.
- (ii) Adab (Manners): The moral teachings by which a person would become religious, humble, polite and dignified.
- (iii) Makarim and Fadail (Nobility of character): In this the moral teachings related to abstinence, continence and aloofness from worldly desires. By practicing the Prophet's teachings a man becomes superior in character to common people².

He further writes that the Prophet(PBUH) strongly condemned murder. Although Quran has not prohibited suicide in clear terms but Muhammad(PBUH) also prohibited abortion because it is a way to eliminate human race. He also prohibited all those acts by which the modesty of a woman is endangered. For instance - participation of women in outside meetings and taking bath in public bathrooms (Hamām) 3. The Prophet (PBUH) emphasized the use

^{1.} Ibid. p.141.

^{2.} Ibid. p.146.

^{3.} Ibid. p. 55.

of veil by women in the presence of even blind men. In addition to this the author writes that Muhammad (PBUH) taught sympathy and kind attitude towards human beings and even animals. He prohibited all acts of brutality and taught mercy and pity.

Etiquettes:

The Maulana writes that Muhamad (PBUH) taught good manners and etiquettes both as a Prophet (PBUH) and as a father . He (PBUH) taught his followers how to act each and every sphere of private and public life. Such as the good manners of conversation eating, sleeping or attending assemblies or business. Regarding the moral teachings related to individuals, the author says, Muhaddithin have compiled all these teachings into a chapter entitled "Al-Zuhd wal Raqad" (الربير والربير المربير المر

In relation to political ethics, the author confines all those instructions of the Prophet(PBUH) to amirs and sultans particularly with regard to the establishment of justice².

The Maulana highlights that how Muhammad(PBUH) use to teach ethics. He says that:

(i) It is a very old tradition to teach ethics through ancient stories. But the Prophet(PBUH), in the beginning, prohibited even to see the Jewish and

^{1.} Ibid. p.178.

^{2.} Ibid. p.232.

Christians ethical teachings. But after the complete adoption of Islamic injunctions by his followers, he permitted to narrate from these sources 1.

- (ii) Muḥammad(PBUH) used to teach according to one's individual behaviour. For instance an angryman was taught to control his anger etc. ²
- (iii) The Prophet(PBUH) used to give instructions after the occurances of some unusual events. For example, once in Madinah when a house got burnt up during night time, he advised to take the precaution of putting off the lamp before sleeping.
- (iv) Whenever the Prophet(PBUH) was impressed by something good, he taught it to his followers.
- (iv) The Maulana says that Muḥammad(PBUH) taught even minor things in great detail. On some aspects his teachings were so comprehensive that they touched upon all the ethical virtues and vices.

The author writes that Islam is the combination of religion and temporal affairs (Din and Duniya). The ethical teachings of the Prophet(PBUH) are beneficial for both temporal and spirtual salvation. He further says that in Islam din is predominant over duniya. So the fear of the punishment in the life hereafter and the hope of

^{1.} Ibid. p.232.

^{2.} Ibid. p.238.

^{3.} Ibid. p.240.

^{4.} Ibid. p.241.

reward in paradise stimulates positive ethical behaviour in human beings¹.

The Maulana writes regarding the effects of <u>Quranic</u> teachings that it brought about a revolution in the life of the <u>Saḥabah</u> (companions of Muḥammad (PBUH)). They changed their lives and acted according to the <u>Quranic</u> injunctions. The <u>Saḥabah</u> were so deeply influenced by the ethical teachings and practices of the Prophet(PBUH) that they keenly observed his every movements and practised them in their daily life. ²

The Maulana writes that the Makkan period was a period of trial for the Muslims. The qualities of patience, uprightness and steadfastness were developed in this period. Due to their steadfastness they tolerated every tyrannical attitude shown by the infidels (kuffar). For instance Jafar bin Abi Talib showed his steadfastness in the court of Najāshi while replying to his questions regrding the status of Prophet 'Isa according to Quran.

to Madinah After migration the qualities sympathy, selflessness and hospitality developed further Ansar(The people of Madinah) gave support to the Moakhat migrators and through (Islamic freternity) they became brothers. The people of Madinah properly equally with the migrators their Those of them who had two wives, were even (Muhajir). ready to divorce and give one wife to their Moakhat brothers³, if any one of them was left without a wife.

^{1.} Ibid. p.244.

^{2.} Ibid. p.253.

^{3.} Ibid. p.268.

The Ṣaḥābah and Ṣaḥābiyāt showed their bravery during <u>Ghazwāt</u>. They were always ready to sacrifice their lives for the sake of Islām. The Ṣaḥābiyah served food, water and medicine in the battle field². At the end the Maulānā writes that after seeing all these we can say that Islām shows man the highest standards of ethical teachings.

Sources: The Maulana used the following books as source material in the compilation of this book:

Hujjt-Allah al-Balaghah(گراری), Sahih Muslim(كري كاري), Sunan Abu Daud(كري كاري), Sunan ibn-Majah(كري كاري), Muatta Imam Malik(كري كالياب), Majma al-Amthal (كري كالياب), Tabaqat ibn Sad(كري كالياب), Usd al-Ghabah(كري كالياب), Bulugh al-Arab fi Ahwal al-Arab, Vol.II(المنال ال

2.8: SEERAT 'UMAR BIN 'ABD AL-AZIZ

Seerat Umar bin Abd al-Aziz by Maulana Abd al-Salam Madvi first appeared in 1920 from Dar al-Musannefin, The Maulana writes that there were many books Azamgarh. available on Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz in Urdu. But in these the authors discussed only his period's politica history. On the other hand this book deals at length about his religious, political, social, moral and judicial aspects of his reign. 'Abd al-Salam himself said that if we talk about any personality then we have to see that what it has given to the world and we evaluate the society before and after that personality, that, how much, it has raised the society to higher level. On the other hand the author says, as regards Islam, we evaluate that how much he succeeded in bringing the Islamic society closer to the period of Mchammad (PBUH) and Khelafat-i Rashidah. In addition to this he writes that 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz was the only person who followed the model life of Prophet(PBUH) as closely as his Ṣahābah did. 1

In the preface he discusses the Umayyad's position before Islam and their dominance over Banu Hashim. After Islam in the reign of Hadrat Uthman (RAD.A) many important government posts were held by Umayyads, but actual power came into the reign of Amir Muawiyah. After giving this back ground the Maulana took up Umar bin Abd al-Aziz and writes that in the history of Islam his reign is wel-known because he revived the model rules of the Khulafa-i Rashedun. For a time the people started to feel as if they were living in the time of Saḥabah(RAD.A)².

^{1.} Secrat Umar bin Abd al-Aziz, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1920, p.2.
2. Ibid. p.5.

This book comprises of ten(10) chapters and the author tried to portray the over all pictures of 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz with all the qualities of his personality. Chapter first deals with his family and geneological table. In which the author discusses his family condition, birth, education, marriage, governorship to Madinah construction of Masjid-e Nabvi & other mosques and his services as Amir of al-Hujjāj.

In the second chapter he discusses as to how he became caliph and accomplished his achievements as caliph. He also focuses on the attitude of Khawarij and The author writes that Sulaiman bin Abd the Umayyads. al-Malik had too much trust in Umar bin Abd al-Aziz that he appointed him as his vizir and nominated his successor. The Maulana focuses all the obstacles and hindrances which came in the way to his nomination as his successor. the first day of his caliphate he abandoned all the luxurious things which were only used by caliph deposited all the things left by Sulaiman in the treasury (Bait al-Mal) . He emphasized greatly on fear of Allah $(\underline{\text{Taqwa}})$, life after death $(\underline{\underline{\text{Akherat}}})$ and death². Maulana says that he returned all public property taken since the time of Amir Muawiyah. Due to this, he writes, khawarij, who always acted against the caliph, considered that it is not good to fight against him. On the other hand Umayyads showed their anger and displeasure in many ways.³

'Umar bin 'Abd al-'Aziz instructed, the author says, to all governors that to have a liberal attitude to with khawarij. In addition to this he writes that those

^{1.} Ibid. p.22.

^{2.} Ibid. p.23.

^{3.} Ibid. p.31.

did not act rightly officials and governors who The author writes that due to his dismissed them. straight forwardness Umayyads felt discomfiture. made a plan and poisoned him¹. He was died on 25 Rajab 101/720. At the time of death he had only 25 Dinars and by this his funeral clothes grave land had been & The remainder of the money was distributed purchased. among his heirs². Then the Maulana focussed on the reverence and devotion of the people to him such as 'Ulama visiting his grave and poets composing odes to him³.

Chapter three deals about his wives and children. He had four wives and sixteen children. The author writes all the names of his wives and children. Among his children he liked more Abd al-Malik and used to consult him often. At the end of the chapter the author described his physical feature, that he was a man of white complexion, thin face, dark eyes and had a spot on the forehead. In his last days his body became lean and emaciated perhaps due to his ascetic way of living.

Chapter four deals with the moral practices of 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz. The Maulānā vividly portrays his moralistic and sweet speeches, politeness, patience, prestige, modesty, fear of Allāh, trust in Allāh, affection to relatives and kind attitude towards his foes, visiting to sick and respect and company with 'ulamā and intellectuals.

The author writes that before he became caliph he was like a proud prince and man of rank and position, who

^{1.} Ibid. p.51.

^{2.} Ibid. p.58

^{3.} Ibid. p.57.

^{4.} Ibid. p.59.

^{5.} By the leg of horse in the childhood.

^{6.} Ibid.p.63.

wore costly clothes and used scents. But after becoming caliph he changed his whole attitude and adopted polite and humble manner. He never thought himself above a slave and did not like his eulogisation². As regards honesty the author writes that the real trust and worth of a man can be tasted through public treasury (Bait al-Māl). The Maulana keeps him on the top and writes that he never used a single paper or a light at the cost of Bait al Mal for his personal work³. Concerning his family relations, the author says that he loved very much his family members but his first preference was the caliphal work and public His wife Fatmah said, "after becoming caliph he needed no obligatory bath"4. He often instructed his officials that if any one was not able to approach him they ought to inform about such a person. He extended every possible help to the needy and poors.⁵ little interest in poetry particularly to moral He also used to compose, recite and listen from others.

Chapter V deals acts and prayers of 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz. The Maulana describes about his salat, zakat, recitation of Quran supplication to Allah and the fear & punishment of Allah and the day of judgement. Here he also gives expression to his love to Ahl-e Bait & to the city of Madinah Refering to his fear of Allah the Maulana writes that he feared by status, rank and wealth which made people to forget the fear of Allah⁷. The Maulana

^{1.} Ibid. p.64.

^{2.} Ibid. p.66.

^{3.} Ibid. p.71.

^{4.} Ibid. p.85.

^{5.} Ibid. p.92.

^{6.} Ibid.p.97 -Muḥaddith ibn Jauzi callected this type of poetry in the 30th chapter of his book and in 32nd chapter he collected his speeches & 7. Ibid. p.103. advises.

writes that due to political circumstances Banu Umayyah did not want to relate with the name of Ḥaḍrat ʿAli, But ʿUmar bin ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz said that the most ascetic man was Ḥaḍrat ʿAlil. He loved the city of the prophet that once he said I can tolerate a wine drinker but not a grass cutter of the Haram².

Chapter six deals with reforms in socio-political and economic system of these days. The author writes that it has been observed that religion, politics, morals, culture and other aspects of human society are corrupted and polluted by the end of a century. Hence the necessity of a reformer. Therefore, Jalal al-Din Suyūti has rightly said that Haḍrat 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz was the foremost reformer, who was born to fulfil the task of reform and renewal 3.

'Abd al-Salam says that although! he could not revive the earlier democratic spirit regarding selection of a khalifa, yet at heart, he was in full support to it. As such he did not nominate any of his sons as his successors 4. He insisted and ordered the believers to perform salat on time. He reformed many short comings in levy and distribution of zakat and taxes. Along with these he was very concious about the safeguard of Bait al-Mal and carefully watched the expenditure of every single dinar from it. The author writes that it is extremely necessary to award exemplary punishment to the wrongdoers and law brokers in order to run the state smoothly. But he also gave many facilities & privilages The Maulana emphasizes that many people to culprits.

^{1.} Ibid. p.109.

^{2.} Ibid. p.110.

^{3.} Ibid. p.111.

^{4.} Ibid. p.112.

^{5.} Ibid. p.119.

Chapter IX deals with the state administration. The author emphasizes on the obligatory duties of khilafat, main fetures of the state administration, principles of appointment and dismissal of the officials, dhimmis rights and privilages of dhimmis and the revolutionary changes in the administration after him. The author writes that he was very committed and prompt with regard to the religious works as well as in the duties of khilafat. Abd al-Salam has focused on the characteristic features of his administration and pointed out mainly thee peculiarities.

- (A) He revised the whole governmental mechanism and established it in accordance with khulafa-i

 Rashedun which was based on Quran, sunnat and Athar-i Şahabah.
- (B) He revived the democratic spirit. He did not give any opinion and decision without consultation².
- (C) He respected the 'Ulama and men of high character.

The author further writes that he laid down the principles regarding appointment and dimisal of the officials. On the other hand he often used to give advice and instructions and carefully watched that they not deviate from the path of truth and justice³. Along with this the Maulana emphasizes the rights and privileges of dhimmis, such as he safeguarded the life and property of dhimmis and gave their religious freedom. There was no partiality in the court and he was very liberal in levying the Jiziya. He was always anxious for the welfare of the people.

^{1.} Ibid. p.150

^{2.} Ibid. p.154.

^{3.} Ibid. p.163.

He further discusses why people of his reign were happy. He writes that 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz awarded scholarships and gave monetary support to the needy & poors. On the other hand, people were poor and helpless because the earlier caliphs had captured the public land and property illegally. But 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Azīz returned all public property which was taken illegally 1.

At the end of the chapter the author writes about the revolutionary changes in the administration after Yazīd bin 'Abd al-Malik succeeded him and made alterations in the administrative system particularly in taking the jizīya and in the appointments of officials².

Chapter X deals with memorable deeds of Banu Umayyah. The author writes that they contributed much in the social, agricultural and educational fields. Walid constructed many beautiful buildings and is famous for his construction work³. Abd al-Malik established taksal and struck the coin first time⁴. Yazīd bin Abd al-Malik was the first who ordered to measure land after Ḥaḍrat Umar bin Khattāb⁵. After this the Maulāna emphasizes their contribution to religious sciences as well as rational sciences. He writes that nugtā (dotts), 'airāb had been introduced during Umayyads. Compilation of badīth was started during 'Umar bin 'Abd al-'Azīz reign and Sayyed ibn Jarīr wrote the first tafsīr in the reign of 'Abd a-Malik⁶.

On the other hand many books had been translated from Greek to Arabic. Khalid bin Yazid was a renouned Hakim and expert in medicine and chemistry.

^{1.} Ibid. p.180

^{2.} ibid. p.183.

^{3.} Ibid. p.190.

^{4.} Ibid. p.192.

^{5.} Ibid. p.187.

^{6.} Ibid. p.193.

The author compares the Umayyads & Abbasids and writes that Umayyads preserved the Arab's manner and custom. They were straight forward in their administrative Policy. But the Abbasids failed to preserve their culture and even their purity of blood. Their administrative policy was diplomatic. No doubt the caliphs were Arabs but most officials were non-Arab.

At the end of this book the Maulana discusses the causes of the down fall of the Umayyad dynasty. The author asks whether 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Aziz is responsible for its downfall and then replies that 'Umar bin 'Abd al-Aziz was not responsible for its downfall. From the very early times there were feudal wars between Banu Umayyah and Banu 'Abbasids. Due to these wars Ajmis got the opportunity to revolt against Umayyads & support the Ahl-i Bait. At that time a man named Abu Muslim became powerful and when the last scion of Umayyad dynasty, Marwan bin Muḥammad, was killed in Egypt¹, the Umayyad dynasty came to an end.

Sources:

In the writing of this book the Maulana took help more particularly from two books; <u>Seerat Umar bin Abd al-Aziz</u> of ibn Janzi and the <u>Tabagat</u> <u>Ibn Sad</u>². The other sources of this book are as follows:-

Hasan al Mahadhirah, Vol. I(المن المان), Seerat
bin 'Abd al-Hakam(المن المان), Tadhkerat al-Huffaz,

Vol. I(المن طبري), Tarikh al-Khulafa(المن المان),

Yaqūbi vol. II(المن طبري), Tarikh-i Tabari(المن طبري),

Fath al Bari, Vol. I, III(المن المراور), Abu Daud

(الموراور المراور المراو

2.9 : TARIKH AL-HARAMAIYN AL-SHARIFAIYN

Despite the paramount importance of the two holy places for Muslims namely Makkah and Madinah, which are known as al-Haramaiyn al-Sharifaiyn (the two honoured sanctuaries). No authentic and serious effort was made to write a history of these places upto the twelfth century of an Arab pilgrim Muhammed Labib al hijrah. In 1307/1909 wrote his famous travel book entitled al-Rehlah al-Hijaziyah (الرمانة العماني). Muhammad Labib al Batnuni was a friend of the khadiev of Egypt 'Abbas Halmi Pasha-II who accompanied the latter in the hajj of 1307/1909. Al-Rehlah al-Hijaziyah is a detailed account of the various rituals of hajj with rather philosophical discussions. It also includes the history of various places where rituals of hajj are performed. this way the book has become a history of the two cities.

The Maulana's book "Tarikh al-Haramaiyn al Sharifaiyn" is based on and inspired by the book "al-Rehlah al-Hijaziyah". The Maulana translated, abridged and edited some part of al-Rehlah. He also added some more informations particularly about the Madinah. The author writes,

"In the book "al-Rehlah al-Hijaziyah" apart from Makkah and Madinah some other historical accounts and events have also been mentioned. But an ordinary Muslim may be interested only in those events which are directly related to Makkah and Madinah. That is only I have translated some parts of those sections(in Urdu) whereas some of them I have abridged and others I have re-arranged. I have added more details to particularly

those aspects which are related to Madinah."

As regard the objective and validity of the book the Maulana writes,

"In this way an extremely authentic religious, political, cultural and scientific history of Haramaiyn has been completed. On the one hand it will go a long way to generate everlasting faith in the heart of the Muslims regarding hajj and the secrets and principles of its rituals. On the other hand it will guide them in the days of hajj; through this they will and can protect themselves from many diseases, risks and superstitious of those places."

This book first appeared in 1342/1923 from Sufi Pindi Baha' al-Din Panjab. It is divided into two major parts relating to the history of Makkah and Madinah respectively. These two parts are preceded by a well written introduction by another well known scholar Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi which has made the book more useful.

The introductory part written by Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi has been divided into two parts. The first part deals with the
Quoting many verses of the Quran, the Maulana says that Quran prohibits the entry of infidels in the Haram. The

^{1.} Tarikh al-Haramaiyn al Sharifaiyn, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Sufi Printing and Publishing Company Limited, Baha al-Din, Panjab, 1923, p.5.

^{2.} Ibid. p.5.

The second part deals with the land of <u>Haram</u> and its religious significance. He has emphasized that the place of <u>Haram</u> is only for those who have come here for religious purpose and it is the property of the whole Muslim community. It is a place of peace and cannot be made a seat of political power².

As mentioned above the book has been divided into two parts. The part first deals with the detailed history of Makkah and its territory and geographical position. The author states that Makkah is also called Bakkah and Umm al-Qura(). The people came here from all over the world for commercial purpose and also settled here. However, they were gradually absorbed by the local population. Because of this the people of Makkah lost their pure blood and adopted the settlers ways and life-style. So much so that they even used to speek a language of mixed words of Arabic, Persian and Turkish⁴.

Giving a brief account of pre-historic period the author emphasizes that the earliest inhabitants of Makkah were the Prophet Ibrahim who migrated to this desert with his wife Hajirah and son Isma'īl. Before them there was nothing but wilderness However gradually it populated mainly due to Zam-zam, the sweat water spring amidst the barren hills. The other major reason of Makkah attracting inhabitants was its religious significance due construction of Ka'bah by Prophet Ibrahim and subsequently the tradition of hajj every year.

^{1.} Ibid. p.20.

^{2.} Ibid. p.25.

^{3.} Ibid. p.27.

^{4.} Ibid. p.32.

The author says that the word Makkah(Maka (6) is the word of Bible which means house 1. Then he discusses the history of those who supervised the Ka'bah such as Qusayi bin Kilab, Abd al-Dar etc. After eight years of the Prophet's (SAW) migration to Madinah, Makkah was conquered and 'Itab bin Usaid(عثاب عن اسبر) was appointed the first governor. Since then several governors were sent during the period of pious caliphs. When Islamic caliphate passed into the hands of Banu Umayyah and the caliphate turned into sultanate, they sent their governors from Damuscus. The author writes almost all the names who were appointed as the amir of Makkah and the Sharif of Ka'bah. At the end a brief account of Wahhabi movement and the conflicts between the followers of Muhammad ibn 'Abd al-Waḥab (عمدان عبدالوب) and Muḥammad Ali Pāshā is also given.

A brief account of the construction of Ka'bah from time to time, is also given specially the construction and extension by Hadrat Umar, Abd-Allah ibn Zubair and Walid.

The inner part of the haram is square and in the centre there is Ka'bah. He gives very minute details of the length and breadth of Ka'bah into metres and centimeters². The governos (wali) of Makkah usually was the Shaikh of Haram. There was an assistant sharif and Muhtamim. The service of haram is considered as honour, so sultan and caliphs came to do this service. Ottoman sultan earned the title of Khadim al-Haramain³.

^{1.} Ibid. p.57.

^{2.} Ibid. p.91.

^{3.} Ibid. p.87.

Ka'bah: Before and after Islam:

This chapter deals regarding the respect and honour of Ka'bah before and after Islam. The author says that before 27 centuries not only the Arab idolators, Arab Jews and Christians paid respect to Ka'bah, even the Hindus of India regarded it as a sacred place. According to the Maulana,

"Hindus believed that once as God Shiv visited Makkah with his wife and his wife's soul transmigrated into the Hajr-i Aswad" 1

Ka'bah was also one of the sacred place among seven houses of Sabiyah. The Maulana describes on the authority of some historians,

"The Sabiyah used to put a circle around their place of worship in order to prevent the entrance of others. They used to do this probably because every star has its own circle. They used to go around their place of worship seven times (Probably because there are seven stars), each round for one star."²

The Prophet Ibrahim also maintained this, the author says, but the rounds are only for Allah, the real creator. This is because an Apostle does not wipe out the ancient traditions all at once. Such as in Islam drinking of wine was prohibited only gradually. On the other hand, he writes, it is not strange that every shariah is based on some ancient religious shariah. Quoting Masūdi⁴, the author says that

^{1.} Ibiá. p.99

^{3.} Ibid. p.100.

^{2.} Ibid. p.100.

Masudi (d.956) was a wel-known _ historian & geographer of Baghdad.

before the Prophet Ibrahim, Arabs respected the place of Ka'bah which had but only a heep of red soil. Perhaps it was the religious place of 'Amaligah() which was demolished by the Prophet Ibrahim. Even some historians had the views that before Prophet Ibrahim the Prophet Adam laid the foundation of Ka'bah. Iranians also respected it because they believed that the soul of Hurmuz() transmigrated into Ka'bah. The Jews and Christians also paid respect to it.

After Jahiliyah period Allah kept alive the honour and dignity of Ka'bah during the Prophethood of Muḥammad (PRUH) In second hijrah Allah further enhanced its respect after declaring the eternal Qiblah towards Ka'bah from Bait al Muqaddas.

After discussing this back ground, the Maulana writes that many rulers from the very beginning tried to divert the attention of the people away from Ka'bah and even tried to destroy it. Firstly a himyar king of South Arabia Taba' bin Hassan who was a jew tried to demolish Ka'bah. But his followers stopped him. A century beforfe hijrat(migration) the tribe of Ghatfan made a haram like Ka'bah in order to divert their attention from Makkah but an Arab king Zahir bin Habbab stopped him³. Abraha also erected a church at Safa' for hajj and invaded Ka'bah. Abu Tahir Qaramati erected a house at Hijr() called "Dar al-Hijrat" and tried to divert the people for hajj here and also attacked the pilgrims of Ka'bah. In 1411 AD a person entered haram disguised as a sufi and tried to damage it 6.

^{1.} Those who settled in Northern valley during Hadrat Ibrahim are called Amaliqah.

^{2.} Ibid p.101.
3. Ibid. p.110
4. During the Abbasid caliph Muqtadir a sect known as Qaramatah emerged at Iraq. They had cooperation with Muhammad bin Hanafiyay bin Ali. They used to say infidel(kafir) to those who did not follow their religion.

^{5.} Ibid. p.113.

^{6.} Ibid. p.113.

The Maulana writes that Umayyad caliph 'Abd al-Malik bin Marwan erected Bait al-Muqaddas so beautifully, when 'Abd-Allah ibn Zubair captured Makkah, that some people began to think that perhaps he wanted to turn the people towards Bait al-Muqaddas. Like-wise al-Mansur was also blamed when he laid the foundation of Baghdad 1. Many people in 1143/1731, 1155/1742 tried to defile Ka'bah and wanted Muslims to give up their religious and spiritual attachment to Ka'bah².

The tradition of throwing stone at Satan was very old coming down from the time of Prophet Nuh. It continued to the time of Prophet Shoeb, Banu Israel, Prophet Isa and the Islamic period. Regarding sacrifice (Qurbani) the Maulana writes,

> "Ourbani was started from the time of Prophet Adam's sons (Ain and Abel). It was continued by the Prophet Nuh, Prophet Ibrahim, Prophet Moses, the Greeks and Romans."3

> "Slaughtered was not limited to animals only. But the Romans, Iranians, Egyptions and others used to salughter human beings also. tradition was also practiced in Europe from ancient time".4

In 657 AD The House of Lord of Rome passed a resolution and banned the human sacrifices. In spite of this in France and Germany the practice of human sacrifice was continued for a long time. 5

The second part of the book deals with the detailed history of Madinah. First, the Maulana describes different

^{1.} Ibid. p.114.

^{2.} Ibid. p.115.

^{3.} Ibid. p.158. 5. Ibid. p.158.

^{4.} Ibid. p.158.

routes which go to Madinah from Makkah. mainly four routes; Sultani, al-Faree, al-Ghair and Sharqi. He also discusses about all the stations which come in the way at every route. He points in this book a vivid picture of these routes.

In the chapter "Madinah" the author says that Yaqut Hamavi² counted 19 names of Madinah in his book Mu'jam al-). But in the book Wafa' al-wafa' Buldan(there are more than ninety () of Ibn Jauzi names and the author gives the reasons behind every name. 3 The Maulana discusses the settlement of Jews, Ansars(people of Madinah) and the condition of Madinah during migration. Then he writes about the socio-political condition of Madinah after migration. Along with this he also gives an account of the architectural development of al-Madinah describing buildings⁴, mosques⁵, Zawiyahas⁶, markets, wells⁷ canals, gardens, valleys, madrasas etc.

author says that the many people of other countries also lived in Madinah. The more families of Madinah are as follow:

^{1.} Ibid. p.158

Yaqut Hamavi(1178-1229) - was a wel-known geographer & traveller who wrote M'jam al-Udabah and M'ujam al-Buldan.
 Ibid. p.172.

^{4.} Buyut al-Nabi, Buyut al-Sahabah and other important buildings of Madinah.

^{5.} Masjid-i Qaba, Masjid-i Nabvi, Masjid-i Banu Qaraijah, Masjid-i Banu Zafar.

^{6.} There are 8 important khanqah, Egyptian khanqah was more importnt. There are many small khangahs called Rabat.

^{7.} Bi'r 'Awaf, Bi'r Ūna, Bi'r Anas bin Malik, Bi'r Ayyub, Bi'r Ahab.

^{8.} Kahaf Khiff, wadi, Sultan etc.

- (A) Family of Asad- They are Sayyed.
- (B) Family of <u>Barri</u>: They are from the West (North African Muslims).
- (C) Family of Samhudi: They are Egyptians.

About the political status of Madinah he states that in the earlier time Madinah was a province of al-Hijaj. But now Madinah is a commissionary. There are two important posts; Shaikh al-Haram and Muhafiz. There are many districts under Madinah e.g. Dumatah al-Jindal, Fru', Wadi al-Qura, Fadak, Khaiber etc.

At the end of this book the author describes main characteristics of Madinah and also the piculiarities of Makkan and Madinese verses in the holy Quran.

In this book the Maulana also attached fourteen maps which are as follows.

- (i) Map of Islamic world.
- (ii) Map of Makkah, p.27.
- (iii) Haram Sharif and the city of Makkah, p.28.
- (iv) A design of the house of Khadijah, the birth of Fatmah and the house of 'Abd-Allah ibn 'Abd al-Mutallib(where Muhammad(SAW) was born, p. 40.
- (v) Design of Haram of Makkah through Safah and Marwah, p.80.
- (vi) A scene of throwing stone on jamrah al-wusta(جمرة المسلم), p.153.
- (vii) Map of mount Arafat, p.156.
- (viii) Design of Arafat field, p.156.
- (ix) Map of Madinah, p.160.
- (x) The way of Haramayn from Syria, Egypt and surroundings of jazirat al-Arab, p.160.

- (xi) General scene of Madinah, p.172.
- (xii) Map of Madinah, p.17.
- (xiii) Bab al-Islam Haram Nabvi
- (xiv) Bab al-Rahmat Haram Nabvi

Sources: The Maulana refers in the compilation of this book, to the following sources:

Mu'jam al-Buldan, Vol.VII(علي المراقع المراق

2.10: AL-QADA FI AL-ISLAM (JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION)

Al-Qada fial-Islam is an other important work of Abd al-Salam Nadvi. It was published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1929. The main source of inspiration for this book was "al-Turuq al-Hikmiyah" () of Ibn Jauzi. This book furnishes a good deal of information about the judges, courts, cases, witnesses and Islamic Laws and Principles.

The Maulana stresses that in an Islamic system of administration the post of qaqi (Judge) is very important because in order to establish a peaceful social order, justice is necessary. Quoting the verses of Quran, the Maulana emphasises that a quite large number of Quranic verses speak of justice ('adl) which in turn also describe the concept and basic characteristics of justice in Islam. There are some verses which even go to describe those disbelievers who do not decide cases justly and in accordance with the revealed laws. Moreover the Maulana insists that the justice require a just set of laws which only the divine power can provide. The Islamic Shariah is the divine - law revealed by Allah. The Islamic laws are not meant for only Muslims but also the non-Muslims.

The concept of justice in Islam requires very high moral qualities of honesty, uprightness and courage in the qadis. It was because of this reason that the God-fearing people including even Sahabah were not often ready to accept the post of qadi. He describes the case of 'Ali, the fourth caliph, who refused to the offer when the Prophet(PBUH) wanted to send him to Yaman as qadi.

^{1.} Al-Qada fial-Islam, 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1929, p.3

The author also mentions several abadith in which Muḥammad(PBUH) has instructed the gadis to decide the cases justly without fear. He warned them to keep away from bribe or any other such corrupt practices. Every body is equal before law. So every body should be treated on equal terms, no partiality and favour should be shown to the rich and powerful. Therefore those who were not rich enough were not appointed as judges, so that they may not be, "Inclined towards wealth and they may not be impressed by the wealthy and powerful."

The author has also mentioned the famous <u>hadith</u> of the Prophet(PBUH) in which he stopped the <u>qadis</u> to accept gifts from people. Carrying on the same line the <u>fuqaha</u> (jurists) even restricted the <u>qadis</u> to accept any invitation to dinners. Apart from this certain other preconditions have also been laid down. For example, the Prophet(PBUH) stopped <u>qadis</u> to decide cases in a state of anger and so on.

Regarding the qualifications required for appointment of qaqi, the Maulana writes that fuqaha have laid down certain criteria for appointment of qaqi. For instance a qaqi must be honest, reliable, just, upright, noble and having deep knowledge of Shar iah. He should know the day-to-day habits and characters of human beings.

The institution of <u>qada</u> developed rapidly during the period of the Prophet(PBUH) himself who sent <u>qadis</u> to various cities and towns. Later on, much larger number of

^{1.} Ibid. p.6.

^{2.} Itid. p. 7.

^{3.} Ibid. pp. 9, 10.

qaqis were appointed due to the expansion of Islamic domain. There are also a chief qaqi who used to supervise the whole corpe of qaqis. This qaqi was called Qaqi al-Qudqat(Chief Justice). Imam Abu Yusuf, a prominent faqih of Hanafite school of fiqh, was the first Qaqi al-Qudqat appointed by the Islamic caliphate.

Besides qadis there were also separate courts for administrative and state affairs, just like the commissions or special courts in modern times. special court was for the first time established by Sultan Nur al-Din in Demuscus when he received complaints from the people about the atrocities and corruption of state officials². Moreover usually only one qadi was appointed who delivered judgement according to any of the various schools of figh. Later on more than one gadi belong to different schools of figh began to be appointed. Zahir Beybars, the famous Mamluk Sultan started the practice of appointing four gadis belong to four different schools of Islamic figh3.

About the duties and powers of a gadi the author says that apart from deciding cases, a judge also lookedafter and regulated the use of Islamic endowment, estates unclaimed property⁴. the orphans and Regarding criminal cases, he describes that in the period of the Prophet(PBUH) a Sahabi had been appointed as a police Later Hadrat 'Umar established the department and appointed many officials who were called Şahib al-Ahdath or Wali-i Mazalim or Wali-i Harb. officials also took decision in all criminal cases in which witness was not required⁵. Hadrat 'Umar also

^{1.} Ibid. p.11.

^{2.} Ibid. p.14.

^{3.} Ibid. p.10.

^{4.} Ibid. p.19.

^{5.} Ibid. p.26.

established the department of $\underline{\text{Ihtisab}}^1$ to check the day-to-day irregularities.²

The Maulana gives a detailed account about the procedure for pleading of cases. He writes that in Islam legal cases can be pleaded by lawyers. But in Islamic courts largely there was no such tradition. Nevertheless there are some instances when services of advocate or lawyers were utilised as in the case of 'Isa bin Aban' who when appointed as the gadi of Basrah allowed two brothers to serve as "lawyers" or "advocates" in his court.

Regarding witness (Shahadah the author gives vivid account about the witness of child, infidel, slave girl, blind person, relatives and women. He writes that the witness of infidel is acceptable in an infidel's case only. But for a Muslim his witness is acceptable in one situation only i.e. if a Muslim died during a journey and there was no Muslim available, then the Muslim can make the infidel as his witness for his will⁵. Regarding the number of witnesses (Shahid), the author writes that it depends upon the particular situation and condition. Generally it is said that the witnesses of two men or one man and two women is enough⁶. In the case of fornication Islam has fixed four witnesses.⁷

^{1. &}lt;u>Intisab</u>: Evaluation of appraisal of beliefs and deeds to asses their conformity to the Islamic way of life.

^{2.} Ibid. p.26.

^{3. &#}x27;Isa bin Aban was a contemporary of Imam Shafaie.

^{4.} Ibid. p.29

^{5.} Ibid. p.44.

^{6.} Ibid. p.61

^{7.} Ibid. p.59.

Although in the beginning, the Maulana writes, the process of witness (Shahadah) was quite simple. But very soon in the period of Khulafa-i Rashidun itself it became a little complicated. He further says that in Islam there is no system of oath but if the Petitioner could not produce any witness, the gadi can decide the case after taking oath from the petitioner and respondant. In taking any decision a gadi must follow primarily the Quran then badith and then his own opinions in that order. Individual opinion should be based on ijtihad.²

Sources: The main sources of this book are following:

al-Turuq al-Hikmiyah((לפליט), Kanz al'Ummāl.Vol.III(), Hidayah, Vol.III(), Saḥih Bukhāri((לפליט), Saḥih Muslim(), Sunan Abu Dāud(), Sunan Nasāie(), Muwatta Imām Malik((לפליט), Kitab al-Kharaj (לפליט), Muwatta Imām Malik((לפליט), Hujjat-Allah al-Bālaghah, Vol.II(), Musnad

Dārmi (المقارات المار), al-Tashr ie al-Islam (المقارات المار), al-Muqārnāt wal Muqābalāt (المقارات المار), Maḥāḍarat al
Awāil (المقارات المار), Kitāb al-Walāl (المقارات), Dar Qaṭni (المقارات) etc.

2.11 : FUQARA-I ISLAM

The book Fugara-i Islam is a biographical work on some important personalities of Islam including 'ulama, leaders and intellectuals. This book published from Sufi Pindi Baha al-Din, Panjah . of publication is not given. The book is based on a famous book on the same subject entitled al-Falakat wal-Maflukun((נובור איי פ לישל אוי (איי פ לישל אוי) written by Allamah Shihab al-Din Ahmad bin Ali Dajli. The Maulana himself admits that he got the idea of writing this book after he read the said book. In his book Shihab al-Din had focused on those intellectuals and scholars of Islam who lived a life of poverty and hunger. The Maulana has taken many of the 'ulama from al-Falakat wal-Maflukun((الفلائن، ولموكر) and added to it some more names. He also has included in it those Allamah whose early life was full of poverty and hunger but who later achieved wealth as well as rank and status.

The author starts this book with detailed information about the life of Muḥammad (PBUH). He focuses on his humbleness, poverty and simplicity. After this the Maulana selects some eminent scholars from the great Saḥābah, Ahl-i Bait, Aṣḥāb-e Suffah, general Saḥābah and from the prominent scholars of Islām. Among the great Ṣaḥābah, he focuses on the lives of Utbah bin Ghazwan, Sad bin Abi Waqqās and Khattāb bin Al-Art etc. whereas Hadrat 'Ali and Abu Hurairh have been picked up from among the Ahl-i-Bait and Aṣḥāb-e Suffah respectively. Among the eminent scholars of Islām he has selected as many as 60 scholars such as Allāmah 'Abd al-'Azīz bin 'Abd al-Salām, Fakhr al-Dīn Razi, Banu Mūsa bin Shākir, Barqāni, Imām Malik, Imām Abu Hanifah, Imām Ahmad ibn Hanabal, Imām

Bukhari, Imam Nasale and Ibn Hazm Zahiri etc.

The Maulana writes that knowledge and money are the things of opposite nature, which very rarely meet in one place. Sultans and amirs had shown their generosity in the develoment of Arts and Sciences, but even then there were hundreds of 'ulama who were leading the life of poverty and misery. Many of the scholars were ascetic and did not like fame, prominence, posts and ranks in the state administration, some of them did not even want to meet Sultan and did not come near the estates in which the wealth of Sultan was found. For example Muhammad bin Yusuf 'Ali, Imam Mohi al-Din Nuwi and Abbas Marusiti etc.

The Maulana also mentions those scholars who spent the greater part of their money on education. In Islam, 'ulama had not collected money through their knowledge. On the other hand, often, they spent money in the way of education². A prominent example in this regard is that of Hafiz bin al-Jauhar. Mention is also made of gadis, muftis, teachers and muazzins (person calls for salat) whose income was often very low.

The Maulana considers the following as some of the reasons of the poverty of the 'ulama in general:

^{1.} Fugara-i Islam: 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Sufi Printing and Publishing Company Limited, Baha al-Din, Panjab, p.77.

^{2.} Ibid. p.83.

^{3.} Hafiz bin al-Juhar was a Muhaddith who spent almost all his money in the compilation & writing of hadith.

^{4.} Ibid. p.86.

- (i) '<u>Ulama</u> could not become governors or government officials. They also did not participate in agriculture, trade and commerce, as they considered it below their dignity.
- (ii) They, only because of their learning, considered themselves worthy of honour and respect.
- (iii) Due to their purely academic approach, they find practical matters of different professions of the world, very difficult and unsound.
- (iv) Some 'ulama were experts in rational sciences but not in religious sciences. So they did not pay respect to Shari'ah. Since the people associated 'ulama with knowledge of figh and shari'ah, these 'ulama were some time castigated, abused and even exiled. For example Ibn-Rushd was an eminent Philosopher and Scholar but he was exiled.
- Due to their philosophical pride, philosophers (v) failed to succeed in worldly affairs. They thought that the main excellence of man lay in understanding the reality of knowledge and all other worldly things (wealth and rank) were fenciful imaginary. instance Farabi For was great Philosopher but he laid a Sufistic life in the court of Saif al-Daulah. 2
- (vi) Scholastic philosophers (Mutakallim) followed religion through logic and rationality. But due to philosophical influence their beliefs (agaid)

^{1.} Ibid. p.92.

^{2.} Ibid. p.95.

differed from those held by the people of <u>hadith</u> and <u>Ahl al-Zahir</u>. On the other hand they among themselves tried to proof each other infidel. Imam Ahmad ibn Hanabal used the term <u>zanādiqah</u> (unbelievers) for <u>Ahl al-Kalām</u>.

(vii) Islamic knowledge was regarded as an occupation from Muhammad's(PBUH) period upto the 'Abbasid's period and many 'ulama appointed as qadis, muftis and governors etc. But gradually respect of 'ulama diminished. In the Tatari period these Islamic institutions came to an end.

At the end the Maulana concludes that due to some or all of these reasons 'ulama were forced to led a life of hunger and poverty. In spite of all these they served 'ilm and religion.

Sources: The main sources of this book are following:

Muqaddimah ibn Khaldūn(مقرب المرافرة), Saḥiḥ Bukhāri((كيرية)), Saḥiḥ Bukhāri((كيرية)), Saḥiḥ Muslim((كيرية)), Shemāl Tirmidhi(كيرية)), Tarqhib wa Tarhib, Vol.II((كيرية)), Sunan ibn Mājaḥ (كيرية), Sunan ibn Mājaḥ (كيرية), Sunan Abu Dāud((كيرية)), Usd al-Ghābaḥ (المرابة), Iṣābaḥ (المرابة), Musnad Dārmi (المرابة), Baqiatah al-Waat (المرابة), Tadhkerat al-Huffaz (المرابة), Akhbar al-Hukama (المرابة), Akhbar al-Hukama (المرابة), Akhbar al-Hukama (المرابة), المرابة المراب

^{1.} Ibid. p.97.

Tabaqat al-Atibba(לילור), Kitab al-Farq Bain al-Farq (לילור), Tabaqat al-Shafaiyah, Yol.V(לילור), al-Falakat wal Maflukun) etc.

CHAPTER - III

'ABD AL-SALAM'S TRANSLATED WORKS ON ISLAMIC STUDIES

3.1: TARIKH-I FIQH-I ISLAMI

(His tory of Islamic Jurisprudence)

Tarikh-i Figh-i Islami is the Urdu translation of "Tarikh al-Tashri'al-Islami"(("Tarikh al-Tashri'al-Islami") of Allamah Muḥammad al-Khadri. The book has been published by Dar al-Muṣannefin, Azamgarh in 1346/1927. The book provide a good deal of information on the development of Islamic jurisprudence and focuses at length on its chief characteristics and features.

In the preface the Maulana points out the lack of some comprehensive work on this subject. A brief history of Islamic jurisprudence is found in some classical books like Muqaddimah ibn Khaldun and Kashfal-Zunun of Khalifah. However these do not suffice, hence the need for more comprehensive works. In the Maulana's opinion the main questions regarding Islamic figh is whether it has reached to its perfection and become immutable or is it in the process of development and modification in order to meet the evergrowing needs. To solve all questions it had become necessity to compile a history of Islamic jurisprudence in Urdu. The Maulana states that since the book of Allamah Khadri addressed to these questions he decided to translate it.

The book divides the history of Islamic jurisprudence into six periods and gives a vivid account of its development, charcteristics and distinctive features of

^{1.} Allamah Muhammad Khadri was a famous scholar and historian of Egypt.

each period. From these accounts it is evident that many variations took place in Islamic jurisprudence.

According to the book the main sources of <u>figh</u> are <u>Quran</u>, <u>hadith</u> and opinions of the <u>fugaha</u> or jurists, i.e. <u>Ijma</u>(consensus). The book provides a deep insight into Islāmic jurisprudence with regard to the various aspects of human life such as <u>salāt</u>, <u>zakāh</u>, booty, treaty, captives of war, marriage, divorce, inheritence and penal laws.

The book begins with <u>fugaha</u> present during the time of the Prophet(PBUH) and gradually progresses through the periods of the <u>Saḥābah</u>, the <u>tabiūn</u>, upto the periods of four Imāms i.e. Imām Abu Ḥanifah, Imām Mālik, Imām Shāfaiee and Imām Aḥmad ibn Ḥanabal. After this, it deals with the development of <u>figh</u> under the ancient desciples and the followers of each of the four Imam and continues right upto the Modern time. In the later days, after the tenth century it was the Sultans and Amirs who organised the discussions related to <u>figh</u> in almost all the big cities. The Shiah also developed their <u>figh</u> and drew the laws according to their own principles and sources.

The book <u>Tārikh-i Figh-i Islāmi</u> shows that Islamic laws are relevant for all times and for all people. It possesses the flexibility to adopt to the needs and requirements of Modern Age. The Maulānā though has not given his own point of view in Islamic figh, but has given us a lucid, transparent and easily comprehensible language in the form of this translation of Tārikh-i Figh-i Islāmi.

3.2 : Inqilab al- Umam

A wel -known French scholar Gestaw Liban wrote a book on "The psychological laws of the rise and fall ofthe nations" under the title "des dois Psychologequis delevolution despeuptes" into French. An Egyptian scholar Ahmad Fathi Zoglol Pasha translated it into Arabic under the title "Sirr Tatavvur al-Umam" (Abd al-Salam has translated this Arabic version into Urdu under the title "Ingilab al-Umam" (Ithas been published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1917.

The book deals with the glory and downfall of nations. Just, as a man has soul which is the driving force of all his actions, every nation has also a spirit with certain ethical qualities or absence of them, it becomes the basis of that nation's glory or downfall. Thus the book explains the basic laws on which the rise and fall of a nation is based.

The book is preceded by on the introduction part to the life and works of Gestaw Liban including his family, birth, education, moral attitude. 'Abd al-Salam counted nineteen books of Liban and gives some brief information about them.

In the introductory part the author says that every civilzed nation has its own culture, ethics, politics, religion and education. These are the constituents of the civilization which makes the history and provides the basis of importance and prominance to the nation. The

^{1.} Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi Ki Yad Mein, Prof.K.A. Jaisi, Shibli Degree College, Azamgarh, 1958, December, p.9.

Maulana writes Dr.Liban is the first man who has provided historical arguments in favour of culture, scientific and community development of originating from the implication of psychology. Dr.Liban based his discussions on the following principles;

- (i) Every nation has a behaviour and its own psychological pattern.
- (ii) The nature of psychology remains unchanged.

The Maulana says that the description of Dr.Liban regarding amalgemation of two nations is based on the following principles;

- (i) There must not be major difference in the ethics of the two amalgamating nations.
- (ii) The ethical values of any nation do not change in any manner. Only their manifestations undergo the process of change.²

According to Dr.Liban the piculiarities of ethical unchange is based on three reasons; (a) ancentral values, (b) influence and genetic inheritance of parents and (c) effects of geographical and climatic conditions. In these three reasons the third one is physical and the first two are spiritual factors.

^{1. &}lt;u>Ingilab al-Umam</u>, Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1917, p.10.

^{2.} Ibid. p. 12.

^{3.} Ibid. p.13.

The whole book is divided into five parts which discuss the following aspects.

- (i) Psychological nature of nations.
- (ii) Ethical manifestations in the constituents of a nation's civilization.
- (iii) Study of a nation's history as the source of its moral.
- (iv) Study of a nation's psychological qualities with a view to find out how and why changes came about.
- (v) Study of nation's downfall and the decline of their ethical systems.

3.3 : Ibn- Khaldun

The book <u>Ibn-Khaldun</u> was written by Dr. Taha Hussain in 1917 in French language, when he was sent to France by Egyptian University. In 1925 Muḥammad 'Abd-Allah 'Inan translated it into Arabic.

'Abd al-Salam Nadvi has translated this Arabic version into Urdu at the suggestion of Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi. It was published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in 1940.

In fact <u>Muqaddimah ibn-Khaldun</u> the first scientific attempt in the human history towards visualing the natural forces working to shape economy and society with their various implications. It is therefore the first documentation to make the historical events to appear in the scientific way. Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi writes,

"My intention was to present the historical background of the economical and sociological development and make its presence felt by the large number of people whose mother language is Urdu."

The book is divided into ten chapters which deal with the life, morals and works of Ibn-Khaldun. It also discusses Ibn-Khaldun's principles as expounded by him in his Muqaddimah regarding the social, political, religious and cultural factors and forces working in the making or unmaking of a state.

^{1. &}lt;u>Ibr-Khaldun</u>, 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1940, p.1.

3.3 : Fiţrat-i Niswani

The book <u>Fitrat-i Niswāni</u> is a translation of the collected lectures of a French scholar Henry Moryan. He was a Professor in the College of ethics in Peris. After the death of Henry Moryan his lectures had been compiled and published. An editor of al-Hilal (a literary magazine of Egypt) Amil Zaidān translated it from French in Arabic. Maulānā 'Abd al-Salām Nadvi later translated this Arabic version into Urdu and published it in 1924.

Mājid, who published it under his name, writes that he had found this book in a very decadent and vermicular form and that he rearranged and added many new informations before publishing it in 1987. But this can hardly be a justification for ascribing the authorship to himself as he has done. Though he did not conceal the facts and has briefly stated them in his preface.

The book highlights mainly the following things; Women's condition in the past; their physical construction; their role and status in the society, ethical comparison between the two sexes before maturity; feminine feelings; Women's wisdom etc.

CHAPTER - IV

"ABD AL-SALAM'S OTHER WORKS

4.1: SHI'R AL-HIND

Shi'r al-Hind is written by Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi and published from Dar al-Muşannefin, Azamgarh in 1926. The book provides a good deal of information about the classical as well as modern Urdu poets and the historical process of changes of Urdu poetry. The author has made comparisons also between famous Urdu poets of every period and given an account of the varios forms in Urdu poetry (ghazal, qaşidah, marthiyah, mathnawi, etc.) on historical and literary level.

The Maulana writes that there have been many changes and upheavals in the culture and civilization of Muslim Community. In the 7th A.H., the Tatari demolished almost all the important features of Islamic culture and civilization but poetry remained to a great extent unaffected through these revolutions and social changes. After Tatari, storm was over Persian poetry developed in its various aspects such as romantic, sufistic and ethical sides.

In India Taimurid rule began to decline fast after Aurangzeb but Urdu poetry was not much affected. From the reign of Shah 'Alam Urdu poetry had started to develop day by day and it continued its progress with an increasing pace. This is due to its receptive nature that the Urdu poetry kept up absorbing outside and indigenous influences for its nourishment and progressed even in the face of many calmaties.

The author laments that the absence of any comprehensive book about Urdu literature, which throws light on the phazes of its development. No doubt in every period of Urdu poetry many tadhkirah(biographies of Urdu poets) The Maulana refers a number have been written. tadhkirah- books such as, Diwan-i Jahan () Gulistan-i Sukhan(وكالنان المراكات), Gulzar-i Madamin (المناب خلق), <u>Intikhab-i Diwan</u> (المناب خلق), <u>Majmu'ah Intikhab</u>(بعراستاب), <u>Tabaqat al-Shu'ara</u> Tadhkirah-'Ashig(でかしのが), الميقات الية مراء ah-i Khāksār (توكره فاكر), <u>Tadhkerah-i-Nāşir</u>) etc. Tadhkerah-i Khaksar(But that, he writes all these tadhkirahs are incomplete. There are only the name of poets and examples of their There are no detailed informations regarding their birth, private life, their poetic names and their works.1

In the first volume of the book the Maulana divides Urdu poetry into four phases. He discussed one by one and focused on its historical changes. He stats that the poetry of Lucknow was started in the middle period and two schools of Urdu poetry (Delhi school and Lucknow school) were recognised separately. The Maulana highlights the reforms, changes and piculiarities of Delhi and Lucknow schools of poetry. He discusses at length about the famous poets such as Momin, Dhauq, Shah Nasir, Ghalib, Hasrat, Asghar, Akbar, Iqbal, Josh and others. In the last he turned to contemporary poets and provides good information about their poetic characteristics.

^{1.} Shi'r al-Hind, Vol.I, Maulana 'Abd al-Salam Nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1926, p.9.

The second volume of this book has been divided into three parts. In which he deals at length with genres of Urdu poetry such as ghazals, rekhti, gasidah, marthiyah, mathnawi etc. He also discusses religious, moral and sufistical poetry along with the historical and literary aspects. At the end he writes the poetical virtues and elements of poetry and shows the Indian influence on Urdu verse. In the beginning of the second volume he has also surveyed in brief the history of criticism in Urdu.

4.2: Iqbal-i Kamil

There are many writings on Iqbal which can be of much help while working on a selected topic or particular aspect. But there was not a single book on Iqbal which may be called comprehensive and reflecting every aspect of his thought. The purpose of writing of Iqbal-i Kamil (complete works of Iqbal) was to provide a critical appraisal of all the works by him. It contains the biography of Iqbal and evaluation of his religious views, moral ideas, besides a criticism of his works.

The Maulana divides the history of his poetry into different periods and reviews critically both the Urdu as well a Persian poetry. Then he highlights the literary qualities of the verses and discusses about its popularity and its translation into other languages. Along with the author also provides a detailed discussion of his phyilosophy of "self" or "Khudi" and analyzes on its various elements. Apart from this he also makes a brief mention and discussion of his philosophy of "Bekhudi". Then he mentions Iqbal's views regarding community, education, politics, moral outlook, fine arts etc.

It is, no doubt, an attempt to cover each and every aspect of the life and works of Iqbal. The Maulana writes regarding the title of his book,

"I selected "Mukammal Iqbal"(مُعَلَى أَوْنِهَا لَى) as the title of this book. But Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi replaced it with "Iqbal-i Kamil", which is certainly better."

The book was published by Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh in December 1948.

^{1. &}lt;u>Iqbal-i Kamil</u>, 'Abd al-Salam nadvi, Dar al-Musannefin, Azamgarh, 1948, p.4,5.

4.3: Ibn- Yamin

A wel -known Iranian author Rashid Yasmi wrote the biography of Ibn Yamin into Persian. 'Abd al-Salām translated this into Urdu and was published by Şūfi Pindi Baha al-Din, Lahore. The date of publication is not given. The book is divided into two parts. In the first part, his life from childhood to old age has been described at length. In the second part his occupation and outlook on religion, culture, etiquettes are described.

In the preface the Maulana writes that in the poetic realm of Iran Ibn Yamin's name is as important as that of Shaikh Sa'di. Both contributed greatly to the ethical values and cultural aspects of Persian literature. Ibn Yamin, however, could not get the prominence as Shaikh Sa'di did. In Urdu language also Maulana Hali has written Sa'di's biography. But there is no biographical account of Ibn Yamin pointing his contribution in Persian poems. In fact a poet and his virsion should be evaluated in the cultural, social and political background of the time in which he lived. The author states that since the book of Rashid Yasmi addressed to these questions he decided to translate it.

CONCLUSION

This is amply clear from the writings of Maulana Abd al-Salam Nadvi that he had an intelligent and versatile interest in Islamic studies. His perspective and outlook is as wide-ranging as the subject itself, which he had made understandable and accessible for a vast majority of the Urdu readers. In this field he not only contributed through his translation-works but also greatly enriched the Islamic literature by his original contribution and modernistic style.

The real worth of 'Abd al-Salām's contribution in Islamic studies, made a little over fifty years ago, has not so far been realized. As such there is used to revise and edit his books and publish them again.

The Maulana is very open minded scholar. He contributed in almost every field and wanted to shape the society according to Quran and Sunnah. He wanted to highlight the life style, simplicity, good manners and behaviour of the Prophet(PBUH) as well as the Sahabah. he compiled Uswa-i Şahabah in such a way that the model of their life should come in full light. The Maulana, at the same time, compiled Uswa-i Şahabiyat in order to urge women to know, preserve and practise their Islamic values and encourage them towards the acquisition of He felt the importance and role of women in education. society, so he translated from Arabic Fitrat-i Niswani into Urdu, so that women should know their merits and demerits in society and safeguard themselves from social and personal setbacks.

'Abd al-Salam observed the lack of a comprehensive work on figh. Many questions regarding Islamic jurispru-

dence were raised by him, such as, whether <u>figh</u> has reached its perfection and become immutable or is it in the process of development and modification in order to meet the evergrowing needs. So he wanted to compile history of Islamic jurisprudence and development pointing out the alterations that have come about. Since the book of 'Allamah Khadri is addressed to these questions, so he translated it only to show its chief characteristics and features of <u>figh</u> in order to bring about greater awareness about it.

During the time of 'Abd al-Salam, particulary in the 'ulama's circle, it was a general feeling that the study of philosophy weakens the faith and lead astray from the path of Islam. But the Maulana through his wider understanding realized that it is very important to know the philosophy and the contribution of Muslim philosophers in this field. So he undertook the task of compiling the biographical details and the contribution of the Muslim philosophers. He divided them into three groups, i.e. Mutagaddemin, Mutawassitin and Mutakhkherin. He takes the view that Muslim philosophers brought philosophy nearer to Islam and tried to harmonize philosophy with Shariah and pointed out that every explicit has its implicit also.

This being the first attempt to introduce 'Abd al-Salām and his contribution. I have tried to provide mostly a descriptive and synthetic study of his writings, covering his major works. However, much remains to be done. For example I did not touch upon numerous articles published by him, which show the widest range of Maulana 'Abd al-Salām's intellectual scope. The limited time of a formal nature did not allow me to evaluate his writings other than his books.

Even a cursary glance of his books, translations and articles is sufficient to show the philosopheal and intellectual bent of his mind. He delved deep in history, philosophy, jurisprudence, literature, social and cultural questions etc. with an Islamic mind and heart. At the same time, he never appears in his writings as an orthodox scholar who is not ready to concede to the needs of changing time and society. His main objective is to impart a new awareness to Muslim mind through a review of Islamic learning and an understanding of world history.

This further underlines the need of bringing his writings to the print and thus help create the awareness so widely and so urgently needed in Muslim society today.

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