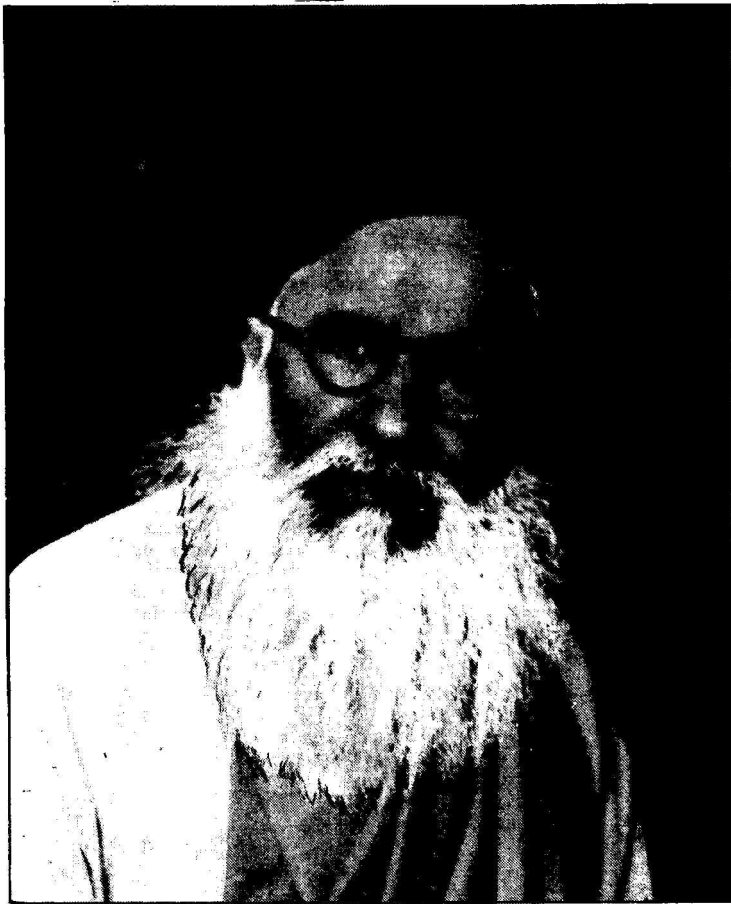


THE FOUNDER OF MAKKI PUBLICATIONS



The founder of our publications in 1934, His Eminence the late Moulana Shah Muhammad Abdul Aleem Siddiqui Al Qaderi, a glimpse of whose second visit to South Africa, in 1952, with particular reference to Cape Town, is recalled in the pages that follow, as well as in pictorials printed elsewhere in this issue.

The appellation of "His Eminence" was conferred on him in recognition of his world-wide services to Islam, at a mass Conference by the Muslims of the whole of East and South Eastern Asia, convened in Singapore by the All Malaya Muslim Missionary Society in 1950 during his revivalist mission in that region, and at which Conference the late Sayed Ibrahim Alsagoff also presided when the unanimous resolution was passed to confer the appellation of "His Eminence".

Also known as the "Roving Ambassador Islam", our late founder, during his world-wide campaign in the cause of Islam saw, through his inspiring lectures, many non-Muslims enter the fold of Islam; and among Muslim communities he inspired them to build Mosques, libraries, Darul Ulooms and orphanages, etc., urged the establishment of Islamic publications and also stressed the importance of Arabic as being the *lingua franca* of the Muslims.

As it was the wish of His late Eminence to be buried in the city where the holy Prophet Muhammad (S) lies buried, his wish was granted when he died in Madinah in 1954 and was buried in *Jannatul Baqee*.

A Glimpse into the past

**WHEN MOHAMMED MAKKI
BROUGHT FOUNDER OF MAKKI
PUBLICATIONS TO CAPE TOWN
FORTY YEARS AGO IN 1952 ...**

OVER 30,000 CHEERED HIS EMINENCE MAULANA ABDUL ALEEM SIDDIQUI AT THE GRAND PARADE, CAPE TOWN

**Report from the issue of the MUSLIM DIGEST of December,
1952 by THE EDITOR of "THE RAMADAN ANNUAL" and
"THE MUSLIM DIGEST"**

"One of the biggest receptions ever accorded a visiting religious leader" was how the *Cape Times* described the tremendous welcome given to His Eminence Moulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui, Al-Qaderi, when he arrived in Cape Town by air on Sunday, 12th October, 1952.

Cape Town, the Mother City of South Africa, was the third large centre visited by His Eminence on his South African tour. Against the magnificent background of Table Mountain, thousands of people gathered to acclaim his arrival. His visit, already publicized by the tremendous audiences which received him in Durban and Johannesburg, was heralded at the Wingfield Airport by a Special Reception Committee headed by its Chairman Imam Ismail Taliep, and included Councillor Sallie Dollie of the Cape Town City

Council, and Sayed Abdul Kader, a leading Muslim personality of the Cape.

Stepping onto the tarmac, loud cheers resounded over the aerodrome as His Eminence was garlanded by representatives of various Muslim organisations and introduced to the City by Mr A.H. Kathrada, Chairman of the Special Entertainment Committee.

PROCESSION FROM AIR- PORT

FROM the Airport he drove in an open car (provided by Mr Muhammad Hoosain Narker) at the head of a procession of cars and at the side of Sayed Abdel Kader, with whom in the car were Sayed Mansoor Rifaee and Imam Ismail Taliep. In slow procession, followed by hundreds of cars and passing

through the crowd-lined streets, he proceeded along Voortrekker Road and Marine Drive to the foot of Adderley Street.

Here he transferred into an open landau drawn by six ash-white horses, horses which only a month before had won first prize in the great Cape Town Show. The horses were decorated with flowing plumes and driven by two coachmen in traditional Malay costumes. Preceding the carriage, the Caledonian Society Pipe Band played His Eminence along the route and the Rahmaniyyah Division of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade marched in attendance.

VAST CROWD

VAST multitudes of people, who had waited many hours at the foot of Adderley Street, rose in tremendous cheering at the sight of the carriage moving along slowly. The crowds were so great and the concourse so overpowering that, as the landau moved into Darling Street, they broke into the road in order to get nearer the eminent visitor, while in the meantime hundreds of people crowded about the windows of public buildings waving and cheering.

Only by long lines of police linking arms with the Guard of Honour and other officials could a clear space be kept for the moving procession. The whole spectacle of people looked like a vast field of red tulips, as the *Cape Times* reported, broken by the gay colourful clothing of Malay women.

ON the Grand Parade the magnificent colourful figure of His Eminence, capped by his brown turban, and his flowing white beard, mounted the platform surrounded by dignitaries of the Muslim community in the traditional attire of the Eastern Sheikh, as well as Messrs.

Mohammed Makki and E.M. Nakhooda, of Durban. In presenting His Eminence to the immense gathering at the very tip of the African Continent, and under the very shadow of the huge Table Mountain, Mr Haniff Alli also paid a special tribute to Makki Publications for arranging the visit and making it possible. At the mention of Mr Makki a spontaneous outburst of appreciation came from the crowd.

INSPIRING ADDRESS

STEPPING forward in his flowing garb, His Eminence, obviously deeply moved by the immensity of the welcome he received, expressed his gratitude for their affection and said in an inspiring address that he had come to the shores of South Africa to serve all mankind of whatever colour—white, brown, yellow or black—for in the Kingdom of God all are equal, and that he had brought the true meaning of Islam—the religion of peace.

"Islam," he said, "had never waged an aggressive war to further the belief in Islam. The very word Islam means peace. Had they done so there would today not be a single person in India, China or Europe who would not be a Muslim. Instead, the Muslims tried to bring to people the message of universal brotherhood."

His words were punctuated by loud applause.

"But," he continued, "I feel that the people of Cape Town did not welcome me as Abdul Aleem Siddiqui in my personal capacity, but as an ambassador of the Holy Prophet, on whom be peace (loud cheers), and for the enthusiasm you have shown in welcoming me the Almighty alone will recompense you"

because you are actually respecting the Government of Almighty Allah, whose humble servant I am."

HIS EMINENCE then continued to give illustrations regarding the Oneness and Unity of Almighty God and said the abstract of Islamic teaching could be explained in three minutes.

"Firstly, belief in one God; secondly, belief in all the divine religions of the world and belief in all the divine messengers of Almighty God who brought messages to mankind in different times and in different ages; and, thirdly, all members of the human race were members of one great family as they are the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve, and all the human beings are just like different parts of one body."

'ISLAM NOT SPREAD BY THE SWORD'

HE went on to say that "Islam was never spread at the point of the sword," and he illustrated this with facts from history, showing that the "Muslims ruled India for well over 700 years and if they had used the sword there would not have been a single non-Muslim left in the sub-continent. On the contrary, one finds that Muslims are even today in the minority there."

He also stressed the fact that the growth of the Muslim community of South Africa was the result of humanitarian work carried out by the Muslim Savants and Saints of the early days, and that it was a

false charge that Islam was spread at the point of the sword, which he repudiated with all the emphasis at his command.

WHEN he had met George Bernard Shaw some years back he (Shaw) had put to him the same question and His Eminence pointed out to him that he was surprised that a question of that nature should come from such an eminent writer as himself.

He referred Shaw to the Crusades, saying that "Jesus Christ could never be held responsible for the Wars of the Crusades because the wars were waged by Christians who claimed that they were for followers of Jesus Christ."

"Similarly, if some Muslims entered other countries to satisfy their lust for power and entered as conquerors, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (on whom be peace) and the religion of Islam could never be held responsible for these wars.

"If Muslims in the past had taken up the sword, it was only in defense of the liberty of faith and for the freedom of the individual."

He concluded by thanking the public and prayed that God's mercy and guidance be with them.

VOTE OF THANKS

AS His Eminence's words ended long tumultuous cheering continued for minutes and only with difficulty could Councillor Sallie Dollie make himself heard when he arose to move a vote of thanks. Once more the crowds surged forward and were only restrained by a special appeal in Urdu by Mr

Mr Mustapha Safeda, who asked them to stand aside to allow His Eminence to enter the car. In the car he was accompanied by Mr Mohammed Makki and Mr E.M. Nakhooda. As they slowly drove away, the people continued waving and cheering and above the tumult could be heard the great call of all Muslims all over the world.

Allah-O-Akbar! Allah-O-Akbar!
God is the Greatest! Allah-O--Akbar!

COMMENT

AND so His Eminence Moulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui, Al-Qaderi, arrived in Cape Town, the mother City of the country of South Africa, as an ambassador of Islam, and so he inaugurated what he was called to do in this part of the world, a work which is a continuance of the work he has done in the great capitals of all the great countries.

Slowly his car proceeded to the residence of Mr Moosa Hassim in Kloof Street, where he was to stay. And in the evening a great banquet was held under the aegis of the 63 members of the Reception Committee at the residence of Mr Moosa Hassim, where more personal associations of friendship and affection were made.

NEVER before in the history of Cape Town has to vast a crowd been drawn by the impulse of religious faith to welcome one of its great religious sons, and never

before has so true and impelling inspiration, ever settled upon this great Mother City.

Here in Cape Town the Muslim people have seen in pictures and in print how a bright and shining star of Islam in the person of a mourned leader, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, used to be received by the people he served, and how his words, appealing for unity and solidarity of Muslims, echoed throughout the Muslim lands of India and the East.

SO, too, His Eminence Moulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui, Al-Qaderi, preaches the selfsame faith, bringing a message to close and erase the divisions within Muslim ranks, calling them as followers of the religion of peace back to the accepted path of 600,000,000 (now over one billion) Muslims throughout the world.

The passage of His Eminence through the streets of Cape Town was like a page in the history of Islam, a page splashed with the story of kings and governors and personalities, a page written of spiritual inspiration and leadership by a magnificent figure, tall and imposing, who had devoted his whole life to the service of mankind, and who has become a model on which we might all found our lives in the future, in the service of the faith of Islam.

Allah-O-Akbar! Allah-O-Akbar!
(The Muslim Digest, Dec., 1952)

----- HIS EMINENCE'S CALL FOR ARABIC AS THE LINGUA FRANCA OF THE MUSLIMS

"... We also accept your advice re the introduction of the Arabic Language as the Lingua Franca of the Muslims as well as the establishment of a Dar-ul-Ulum where students will be able to receive a sound education on true Islamic lines".— Mr. M.H. Allie in his Farewell Address To His Eminence at the end of the Historic Cape Town visit of 1952.



This historic picture taken in 1952 at the Grand Parade, Cape Town, under the shadow of the cloud-tipped Table Mountain, shows part of the crowd of 36 000 Muslims and others who had gathered to await the arrival of His Eminence the Late Moulana Mohammed Abdul Aleem Siddiqui in the Cape on his second visit to South Africa. His Eminence was escorted by a cavalcade of cars from Wingfield airport to the waiting crowd at the Grand Parade. Among Muslim leaders in the Cape who met the Moulana at the airport were Cape Provincial Councillor Sallie Dollie, Imam Taliep of Salt River, Syed Abdul Qadir, Sayed Mansoor Riffaee, Mr. M. Haniff Ali (Principal of Habibiya College) and many others.

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The MUSLIM DIGEST also reported on His Eminence's host in Cape Town on that historic visit, Mr Moosa Hassim (now late), as follows:

A RECENT photograph of Mr Moosa R. Hassim, of 173 Kloof Street, Cape Town, who acted as host to His Eminence Moulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui, Al-Qaderi, during his 1952 visit to the Mother City, and at whose residence His Eminence recieved many members of the Muslim community, and in addition, European visitors who called upon His Eminence.

Mr Moosa Hassim carries on his business as a General Merchant at Porterville, Cape Province, and enjoys the respect and regard of a large circle of friends as well as the general public. He is noted for his public and social work on behalf of the community of which he is a member, and it is a special tribute to him that His Eminence found Mr Hassim's home a place of restful quiet between his many engagements.

(The Muslim Digest-Dec. 1952)



Mr Moosa Hassim