

Book review: Jesus in India

By Arif Khan

THE HOLY PROPHET صلى الله عليه وسلم prophesised that one of the tasks of Imam Mahdi عليه السلام would be to “break the cross”. In his treatise in urdu entitled “Masih Hindustein Meh” Hadhrat Mirza Ghulah Ahmad, Imam Mahdi and Promised Messiah عليه السلام set out a book to do just that. He gave detailed information about evidence of Hadhrat Isa’s عليه السلام survival from the crucifixion and subsequent journey across Asia and location of his final resting place as Srinagar, Kashmir.

In this book we are all a witness to the fulfilment of the prophecy of the breaking of the cross by Imam Mahdi.

The book “Masih Hindustein Meh” paved the way for detailed research in to the idea of Jesus Christ عليه السلام travelling across Asia and dying a natural death in Kashmir. The book was not the first to talk about Hadhrat Isa’s عليه السلام presence in India, but is accepted by scholars to be the first text to pull together the details of Hadhrat Isa’s life in Palsetine and in the East in a consistent and coherent theory.

The text is structured methodically in to the following sections:

Chapter 1: Evidence from the Gospels

Chapter 2: Evidence from the Holy Qur’an and Ahadith

Chapter 3: Evidence from Medical Literature

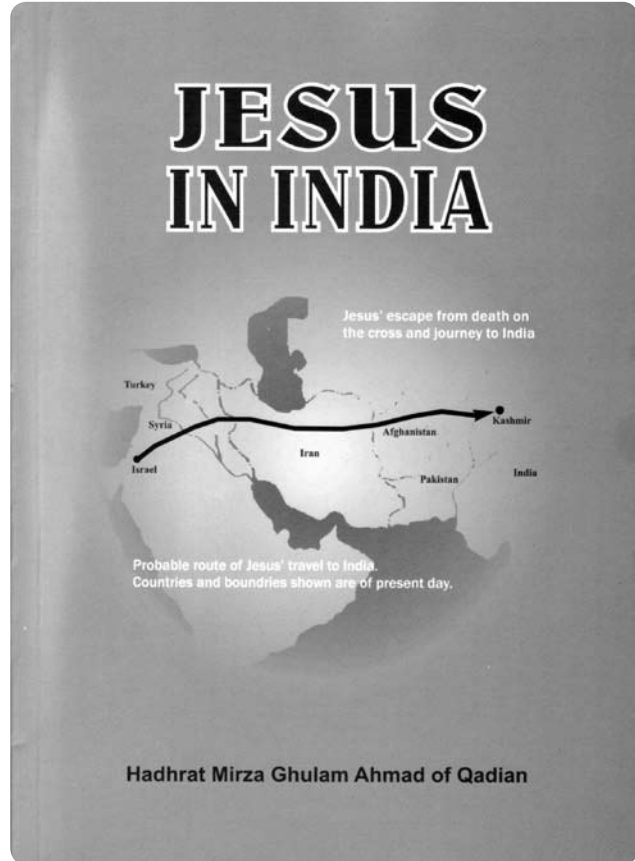
Chapter 4: Evidence from Historical Records

The text itself was not completed and was in fact published in November 1908 after the Promised Messiah passed away with the first English translation available in 1944.

The text demonstrates that the belief that Jesus was placed on the cross, but then taken down alive, is consistent with the Gospels, the Holy Qur’an and the ahadith. The book contains an examination of the events surrounding the Crucifixion, the role Pontius Pilate played in the proceedings and an examination of what was meant by “The Sign of Jonah”.

Chapter 3 examines the Marham-i-Isa or Ointment of Jesus, a famous ointment for soothing and healing of wounds, reported to have been applied to Jesus’ post-crucifixion wounds. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام cites numerous medical textbooks referring to this ancient mixture.

In Chapter 4 we have analysis of documents from the East, such as the Rauzat-us-Safaa and the Buddhist Laggavatti Suttatta as well as modern day encyclopaedic and scholarly sources such as “The Cyclopedia of India, Eastern and Southern Asia”. The hugely interesting parallels between the Buddhist faith and Jesus’ teaching



Jesus in India by Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad عليه السلام

are explored also with references to a variety of sources and scriptures.

As well as these familiar topics there are many others covered in this book that even now many people are not aware of.

Hadhrat Masih Maud عليه السلام delves in to the possibilities regarding connections between Buddhism and Christianity. He discusses and explains his theory regarding influence of Christian teaching, delivered to the East by Hadhrat Isa عليه السلام, on the historical records of Buddhism which he explains would have been formed many hundreds of years after the events of Guatama Buddha’s عليه السلام lifetime.

Another vital topic that is explored and given as one of the main mo-

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► tivities for Hadhrat Masih Maud عليه السلام writing the book is extremism in the Muslim world. Hadhrat Masih Maud explains in the introduction that the incorrect concept prevalent amongst the Muslims that Imam Mahdi will come to earth and along with the Hadhrat Isa عليه السلام spread Islam through war and bloodshed is totally incorrect. He elaborates also that this wrong concept is leading to a serious moral disease in the hearts of some Muslims:

"It is these baseless myths and tales that result in spiritual maladies, like immorality, malice, callousness, and cruelty, which are almost endemic amongst most Islamic sects. Virtues like human sympathy, compassion, affability, love of justice, meekness, modesty, and humility are disappearing by the day, as if they will soon bid a hasty farewell to them. This callousness and this immorality make many a Muslim

appear no better than the beasts of the jungle. A Jain or a Buddhist is afraid of and avoids killing even a mosquito or a flea, but, alas! there are many among us Muslims who, while they kill an innocent man or commit wanton murder, are not afraid of the powerful God, who rates human life higher than that of all the animals. What is this callousness and cruelty and want of sympathy due to? It is due to this—that from their very childhood, stories and anecdotes and wrong views of the doctrine of Jihad are dinned into their ears and inculcated into their hearts, the result being that gradually they become morally dead and cease to feel the heinousness of their hateful actions..."

In a time when sections of the Muslim world are displaying exactly this behaviour Ahmadi Muslims have this text explaining the root causes, and demonstrating just how important it is to correct the distorted view that some

Muslims have of Jihad. The underlying reasons and seeds for how so-called Muslim groups and organisations can carry out and justify acts of terror are fully expounded for us by Hadhrat Masih Maud عليه السلام.

Since this text there have been numerous other books covering similar material, all of which mention how indebted their research is to "Masih Hindustein Meh". The research was ground breaking and has led to a whole area of study being opened up and providing the solution to the 2,000 year old mystery about what happened to Hadhrat Isa عليه السلام during and after the Crucifixion.

"Masih Hindustein Meh" was one of the most important texts Hadhrat Masih Maud عليه السلام put together, and in this book we are all a witness to the fulfilment of the prophecy of the breaking of the cross by Imam Mahdi عليه السلام. ■



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