



Jamadi Al-Thani 1395-June 1975

## A SENSE OF HISTORY.....A SENSE OF DESTINY

What is it that ultimately persuades a Muslim to become a FOUNDER of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE? It is certainly not a 'smooth talk' or 'high pressure' salesmanship technique, because as yet there is nothing to sell! The only thing on offer is an unsubstantiated hope of a future when a new Muslim civilization will arise in the life-time of our children or grandchildren, or even our great-grandchildren. The adult Muslim of today, who is largely brought up on the twentieth century slot-machine, input-output, or cost-benefit tradition of the Western civilization, is not intellectually or motivationally equipped to donate money which otherwise can buy immediate consumer utility.

And yet already a substantial number of Muslims, particularly from the professional groups of academics, doctors, teachers, businessmen, architects and accountants have become FOUNDERS of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE. Without them the production of the Draft Prospectus and all the associated work would not have been possible. But it is equally true that the number of FOUNDERS of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE must increase rapidly in the immediate future to make it a viable project.

Fortunately, not all Muslims have the slot-machine type input and (instant) output mentality. Most Muslims with even the slightest acquaintance with the Quran and the *Sunnah* possess two qualities common to all FOUNDERS of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE - they share a *sense of history* and a *sense of destiny*.

Both of these qualities come to a Muslim with or without rational research into history and/or philosophy. Even the most elementary knowledge of the mission of the Prophet of Islam, revelation as a source of knowledge, and of the model society founded by the Prophet at Medina, is sufficient for the motivational base to exist and expand within the heart, mind and soul of a Muslim.

The Muslim's *sense of history* tells him that no civilization, however dominant it might become in the short-term, can last for long unless it admits the values of Islam and is modelled on the society first created by the Prophet of Islam himself. Within the last 200 years the world has seen the rise of the Western civilization and now already the signs of its imminent decline and decay are all too obvious. Men like Syed Ahmed Khan in the 19th century were too hasty in concluding that the assumptions and methods of unbridled rationalism and scientism of the West would also save Muslims from their inevitable decline. We now know differently!

The Muslim's *sense of destiny* also tells him that Allah has promised the *UMMAH*, within the framework of Islam, a destiny greater in social harmony and material goods and comforts than those so far known to man. But there is one essential precondition - that the Muslims struggle for it - individually and collectively. The MUSLIM INSTITUTE provides Muslims everywhere with a unique framework in which to *contribute* and *participate* towards the ultimate, though distant, realisation of that destiny. It is this which made the Preparatory Committee to be so forthright in stating in the Draft Prospectus that '*the primary task of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE shall be to draw up detailed conceptual maps and operational plans of a Muslim civilization of the future...*' The MUSLIM INSTITUTE shall also attempt to develop the specialised knowledge and trained manpower which the *UMMAH* as a whole shall need in its march towards the future that beckons us on.

The success of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE project may well depend on whether YOU become a FOUNDER or not and, if you are already a FOUNDER, whether you can persuade your friends to become FOUNDERS.

We, the FOUNDERS and workers, of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE hope and pray that Allah will in His infinite Mercy, on the Day of Judgement, count us among those who are defined in the following passage of the Quran:

*Let there arise out of you  
A band of people  
Inviting to all that is good,  
Enjoining what is right  
And forbidding what is wrong:  
They are the ones  
To attain felicity.*

- Al-Quran 3:104 (Translation: A Yusuf Ali)

Such, indeed, is the invitation and the promise of Allah Himself.

#### HUNDRED UP!

The number of FOUNDERS of the MUSLIM INSTITUTE now exceeds 100 - a full five months before we expected to reach that figure. The Preparatory Committee's original and cautious target was 200 FOUNDERS in the first two years after the publication of the Draft Prospectus.

#### WAGE INFLATION!

Are you suffering from wage inflation? One FOUNDER has voluntarily increased his monthly contribution to the MUSLIM INSTITUTE because he has 'recently had a rise'. This has given us the idea to send you a new specially written bankers' order form in case you too have had a rise. This will be included in the next posting to the FOUNDERS!



*"The MUSLIM INSTITUTE  
needs more FOUNDERS"*

(with apologies to McKee  
and The Sunday Times)