Ansari Memorial Series

# A New Muslim World in Making

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#### On

"Islam in the West"

Is lovingly dedicated

To

The memory of the first Martyr of Islam

In

Great Britain

### THOMAS AIKENHEAD

#### Of

### SCOTLAND

#### By the author

"Not much more than a hundred and fifty years ago, a boy named Thomas Aikenhead, who among some of his friends expressed an opinion that Muhammad was a greater legislator and propagated a more rational religion than Jesus Christ, was hung in Scotland for blasphemy." (James Creagh, *Armenians, Koords and Turks*, Vol. 1. p.106, London, 1880)

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## Preface

It is difficult for me to comment on a writing of such eminence but I feel compelled to pen down an observation which struck me as distinctive and relates to the depth of knowledge, acumen, extraordinary maturity of thought and analytical ability *par excellence* of a scholar who was then hardly 19 years of age, displaying an astute sense of responsibility and stupendous situational awareness in outlining the problem confronting the Muslim Ummah in those days, the extent of the inherent, imminent damage and its solution.

Further, the reader can easily assess the extent of impeccable research work from the references quoted and the conclusions drawn by the distinguished writer adroitly homing in the object of writing this essay as outlined in his preface and simultaneously conveying a message to the Muslim youth of days bygone clarifying with evidence the falsification, chicanery and manipulative nature of the propaganda by a certain community who were created and injected in the body politic of Islam to create a divide and weaken the Muslim Ummah by virtually shaking the very

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foundations of the fundamental belief system of Islam. He urged the Muslim youth to realize their huge responsibility, acquire knowledge and be extremely careful in matters of religion.

The remarkable efforts of the Muslim scholars and missionaries who spanned the far corners of the world brilliantly glorifying the true essence of Islam, has had humongous impact on the western mindset which is manifest in the vast conversions to Islam particularly from amongst the intellectual elite. The change in the western scenario is also optically visible as illustrated by the author in his essay. He had then also highlighted the need to further organize the methodology of missionary programs to increase its efficacy and also organize translations of the major scholastic works of eminent Muslim academics in languages different required to disseminate the fundamental message of Islam in its pristine purity.

The first two editions of this book were published by The All Malaya Muslim Missionary Society, Singapore. My vote of thanks to Mr Faisal Ahmed Naqsh for his efforts in retrieving this work and bringing it to my attention and enabling us this privilege to reprint it under the banner of the Organization that was founded by the esteemed author.

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