

The Holy Quran: Text, Translation and Commentary by ‘Abdullah Yusuf‘Ali (*A Critical Review*)

Ashfaq Ahmed*
Samar Fatima**

Among the English Commentaries of the Holy Qur’ān rendered by the Muslims, *The Holy Qur’ān: Text, Translation and Commentary* by ‘Abdullāh Yūsuf Alī, published in 1934 by Sheikh Muhammad Ashraf Publishers, Lahore (United India)(1) is widely known and popular. Its printing was subsidized by Saudi Government and was distributed all over the world free of cost till 2002. With some changes it has now being published by Amana Publications, USA. In the following lines a review of this work is being presented.

About the Author:

‘Abdullāh Ibn Khan Bahadur Yūsuf Alī, Hafiz ‘Abdullāh Yūsuf Alī (14 April 1872 – 10 December 1953)(2) was a South Asian Islamic scholar who translated the Qur’ān into English. His translation of the Qur’ān ranks alongside the translation of Marmaduke Pickthall as the most widely-known and used in the world.

Birth

He was born in Bombay on 14 April, 1872, in India to a wealthy merchant family.

Family

His father ‘Yūsuf Alī Allahbuksh (a Dawoodi Bohra from Saurat in Gujrat) who abandoned the traditional occupation of Family (business), joined the police force and on retirement was granted the title of Khan Bahadur.

Education

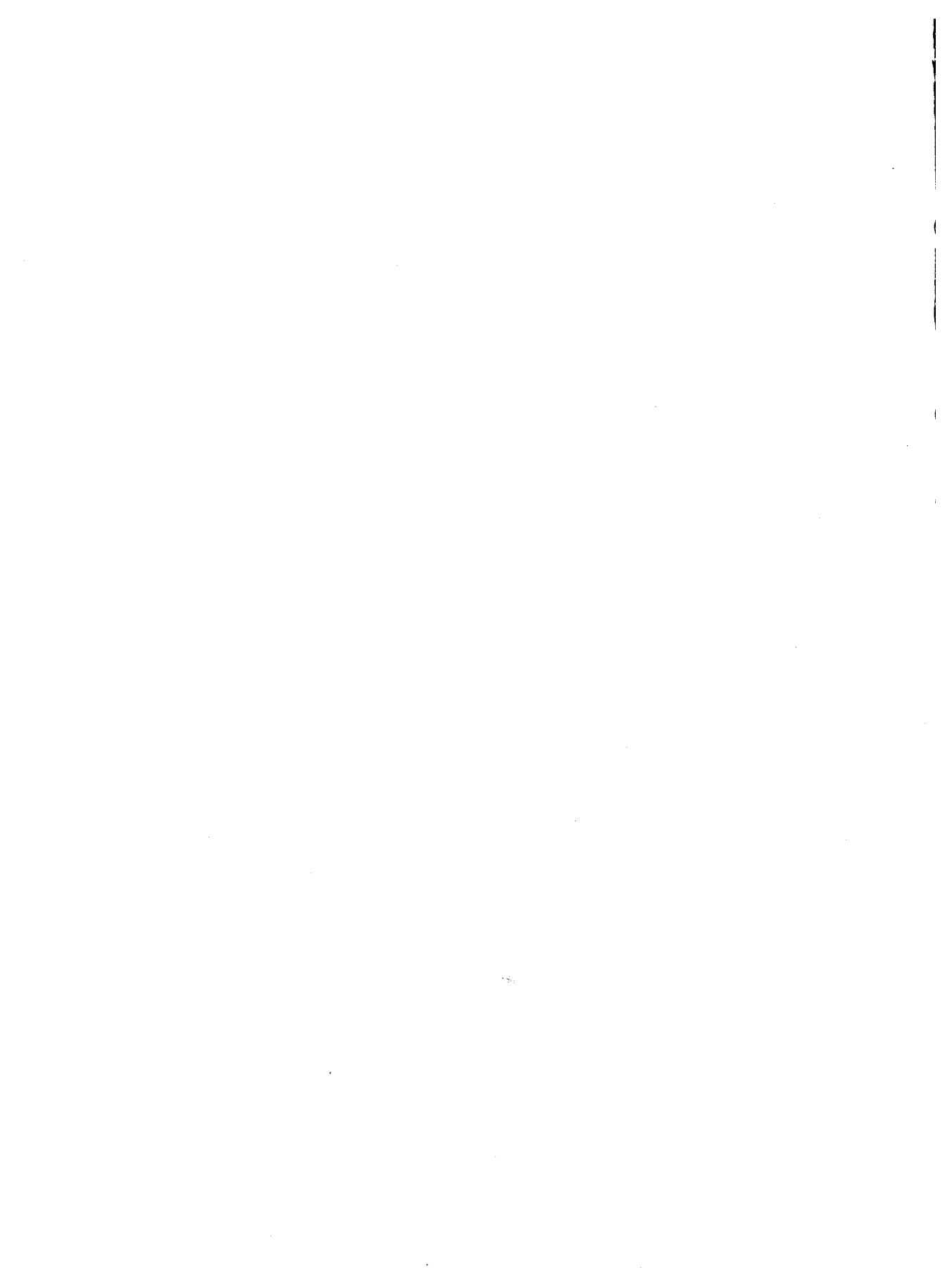
Alī received religious education as a child. He could recite the entire Qur’ān from memory. He studied in Bombay University, St. John’s College, Cambridge and Lincoln’s Inn. He also studied English literature and studied at several European universities, including the University of Leeds. He spoke both Arabic and English fluently.

Employment

He remained in Indian Civil Service (ICS), Principal of Islamia College Lahore, Member of Punjab University Enquiry Committee, and Chairman of World Congress of Faiths.(3)

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CONTENTS

1. **The Holy Quran: Text, Translation and Commentary**
by 'Abdullah Yusuf' Ali (*A Critical Review*) 1
 - ❖ Ashfaq Ahmed
 - ❖ Samar Fatima

2. **Educational Thoughts Emphasized by Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi** 9
 - ❖ Abdul Qayyum Chaudhry, Sadia Islam,
 - ❖ Maira Zareen Sadiq

3. **Brain Drain from Pakistan and the Islamic World: A Critical Study and Solutions** 19
 - ❖ Muhammad Zaid Malik

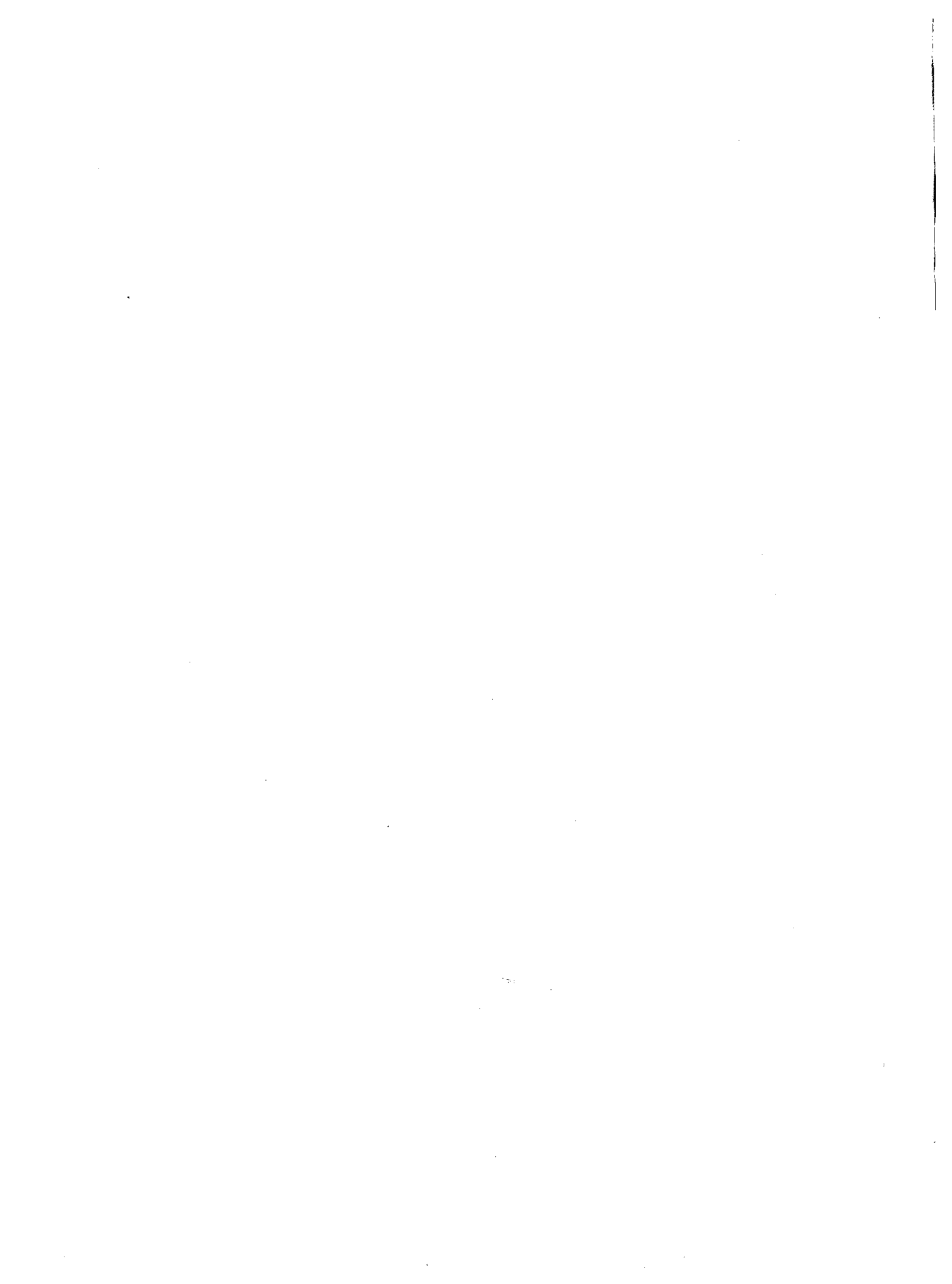
4. **Diceyan Rule of Law: A Swaddled Notion of Islamic Legacy** 37
 - ❖ Naveed Ahmad

5. **Spirituality and Workplace Stress Management** 47
 - ❖ Syeda Mahnaz Hassan, Usman Riaz Mir,
 - ❖ Syed Salman Hassan

6. **Narrations on Leper and Leprosy: A Critical Study** 57
 - ❖ Muhammad Qasim Butt
 - ❖ Muhammad Sultan Shah

7. **Islamisation in Afghanistan and Afghan Jihad: A critical appraisal** 73
 - ❖ Muqarrab Akbar

- Abstracts of all Articles** 91



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Provide on a separate page an abstract of not more than 150 words. This abstract should consist of labeled background, Methods, Results and Conclusion. They should briefly describe, respectively, the problem being addressed in the study, how the study was performed, the salient result and what the authors conclude from the results.

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