



كُلُّ مَنْ عَلَيَا فَاِنِ

IN MEMORIAM
The Late Dr Waheeduzzaman

M. Saleem Akhtar

It is with feelings of profound sorrow and grief that we have to record the death of Dr Waheeduzzaman, Director of the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad, on 1 October, 1988, at Birmingham, in England, where he had gone in connection with his treatment a short while ago. He was 62 years of age. He left behind a widow, two sons and two daughters.

The untimely death of Dr Waheeduzzaman has administered a stunning blow to the cause of historical studies in Pakistan and the gap which has thus been created will not be easy to fill in the foreseeable future.

Dr Waheeduzzaman was an outstanding scholar, a distinguished educationist and an eminent authority on the Muslim Freedom Struggle in the South Asian Subcontinent, and above all, a transparently honest intellectual, who could not even imagine of compromising on two things — Islam and the Ideology of Pakistan. Humility and piety, tinged with a broad outlook, and the special knack of endearing himself to anybody he came in contact with were some of the very pleasant features of his even otherwise also a very amiable personality.

Born on 1 January 1928, at Batala, in East Punjab, he obtained his Masters' in Political Science and History, securing a First Class First in the latter, from the University of the Punjab, in 1951 and 1954, respectively. In 1954 he started his teaching career from the Gordon College, Rawalpindi, where he taught until 1958 when he proceeded to Canada to pursue his higher studies in the discipline of History at the University of Toronto. After the successful completion of his Ph.D. in 1961, he resumed his responsibilities at Gordon College, but soon after he was offered a Readership in the Department of History, University of Peshawar, where he served for eleven years. In December 1972, Dr Waheeduzzaman joined the Department of History of the Quaid-i-Azam University, then known as the University of Islamabad. Besides heading this Department from April 1973 to April 1975, Dr Waheeduzzaman also worked as Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, from April 1977 to June 1979, acting concurrently as Vice Chancellor of the University from June to December 1978.

From August to December 1975, the Southern Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York, invited Dr Waheeduzzaman as a 'Senior Visiting Scholar'; during this period he also delivered lectures at Toronto, Pennsylvania and Harvard Universities.

From June 1979 to June 1982, Dr Waheeduzzaman served as Executive Director of the R.C.D. Cultural Institute, Tehran, and in June 1983 he was appointed the Director of the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad.

During his long and distinguished academic career, Dr Waheeduzzaman attended a large number of conferences and seminars, both within and outside Pakistan. He acted as the Sectional President of the International Congress on History and Culture, held at Hyderabad and Lahore in April 1975, and March 1976, respectively, and served as the Joint Secretary General of the International Congress on Quaid-i-Azam, held at Islamabad, in December 1976.

Dr Waheeduzzaman also participated in the Fourth Pakistan-France Colloquium held at Paris, in May 1984, and the International Conference on 'Contemporary Pakistan', arranged by the Columbia University, New York, in October 1984.

Dr Waheeduzzaman was an eagerly sought after speaker who was both articulate as well as informative. Details of the topics he was generally invited to speak on were always on his finger tips and he could quote chapter and verse from various authorities ad infinitum in support of his ideas but none the less he exhibited utmost courtesy and patience in the face of those who held opposite views.

From universities, centres of excellence, academies of higher training, both civil as well as military, to the University Grants Commission and the Pakistan Television, etc., he was in great demand and year after year he favourably responded to the requests of these institutions for occasional lectures on Quaid-i-Azam, Pakistan Movement, Contemporary Pakistan, Iqbal, Islam and the Iranian Revolution, and for special courses on Muslim Freedom Struggle in South Asia, in addition to his normal functions as Director of the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad. Among the places outside Pakistan where he was invited in recent years for giving talks on Quaid-i-Azam, Iqbal and Pakistan, Abu Dhabi, Al-Ain and Kuala Lumpur, especially deserve a mention here. During his brief visit to the Malaysian capital in November-December 1985 on the invitation of the Pakistan-Malaysia Friendship Society, Dr Waheeduzzaman incidentally watched on TV3 two episodes of *Mountbatten — The Last Viceroy*. In this six-part series, the Quaid-i-Azam and the Muslim community of the Subcontinent had been depicted as villains, while Lord Mountbatten, the last Viceroy of India, had been made a hero. Shocked by this glaring travesty of facts, Dr Waheeduzzaman lost no time in calling a press conference wherein he laid bare before the media the ulterior motives of the makers and promoters of such documentaries.

Quoting extensively from his book *Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah: Myth and Reality*, he stressed at length the sacrifices made by Jinnah for the people and the extent of damage Lord Mountbatten had tried to inflict on the Muslims of South Asia. He described Jinnah as a 'great leader who was intelligent, scrupulously honest and deeply loved by the people'. Dr Waheeduzzaman also spoke against the scenes in the series which showed a group of people attacking Hindus with daggers and other weapons. 'How can you expect the Muslims to attack the Hindus

when the latter represented 75 per cent of the entire population in India then?' he asked.

The views expressed by Dr Waheeduzzaman received wide publicity in the Malaysian press and some of the journals even published his photographs on their title pages.

Besides being an ex-officio member of the Boards of Governors of various centres of excellence located at different universities throughout the country, Dr Waheeduzzaman was also a member of the Research Grants Advisory Committee, Quaid-i-Azam University, Departmental Selection Committee of the Ministry of Education for the Selection of Candidates against the Pakistan Chairs abroad; Review and Apex Committees of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, and the Scanning Committee of the National Documentation Centre, Lahore. In June 1986, the Government of Pakistan appointed him the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Greater Utilization of Various Record Collections in the Country for Historical Research by the Universities. Dr Waheeduzzaman submitted his report to the Government in early 1987.

Dr Waheeduzzaman's major works include *Towards Pakistan*, 4th revised edition, Lahore, 1985; *Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah: Myth and Reality*, 2nd revised edition, Islamabad, 1985; *Quaid-i-Azam: The Founder of the Islamic State of Pakistan* (Persian), Islamabad, 1981; and *Iranian Revolution: A Profile*, Islamabad, 1985.

The Persian translation of this last mentioned book has been serialized in the major Tehran evening paper *Kayhan* over the past few months, while the complete Persian version is expected to be published in book form from the Iranian capital in the near future.

Dr Waheeduzzaman also co-authored *A Short History of Pakistan*, vol. IV, Karachi, 1967, and *Pakistan Studies*, Peshawar, 1975.

He also edited the 3rd volume of the proceedings of the First Congress on the History and Culture of Pakistan held at the University of Islamabad in April 1973 under the title *The Quest for Identity* (Islamabad, 1974).

Besides, co-editing the *Pakistan Journal of History and Culture* and a collection of articles by eminent scholars on the theme of Islam in South Asia, in collaboration with the writer of

To DR M Saleem Akhtar

With compliments and

warmest regards

Wahiduzzaman

June 11, 1985

Autograph on *Towards Pakistan*

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To DR. M. Saleem Akhtar

With personal regards,

Wahiduzzaman

August 20, 1985

Autograph on *Iranian Revolution: A Profile*

these lines, for the last almost two years the main pre-occupation of Dr Waheeduzzaman had been to convince the powers that be of the necessity of publishing a multi-volume series of Documents relevant to the Muslim Freedom Struggle in South Asia, on the pattern of the 12-volume famous *Transfer of Power* series, published by HMSO, London, during the years 1970-1983, and the recently launched *Towards Freedom* project of the Government of India, which has already brought out its first hefty volume pertaining to the year 1937.

Dr Waheeduzzaman had also chalked out an elaborate plan for holding a colloquium on 'Forty Years of Pakistan' to take stock of our achievements and failures as a nation during the first four decades of our independent existence, but it could not materialize during his lifetime because of some unavoidable circumstances.

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The immediate reaction to the death of Dr Waheeduzzaman was that of a national loss. The President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan while expressing his deep sense of grief and sorrow over the death of Dr Waheeduzzaman in a message to the wife of the deceased, said: 'Dr Waheeduzzaman was an eminent scholar of history who had devoted his life for projecting Pakistan's movement and its ideology in their true perspective. His monumental work on Quaid-i-Azam and Pakistan bear testimony to his deep love for Pakistan and its Founder. He was considered to be an authority on Pakistan. In his death the nation has lost a great intellectual whose death will be widely mourned in literary and cultural circles.'

The Governor of the Punjab, Makhdum Sajjad Hussain Qureshi, also sent a condolence message to Mrs Waheeduzzaman wherein he described him as 'a great authority on the culture and history of Pakistan and expressed the hope that 'his valuable services will be remembered in the field of history for ever'.

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X 2245 CA145 ISLAMABAD 4 STE 165/162

WIDOW OF DR WAHEED-UZ-ZAMAN,

H.NO/356, ST.NO.14

F-10/2 ISLAMABAD

I AM DEEPLY GRIEVED TO LEARN ABOUT THE SAD DEMISE OF YOUR ILLUSTRIOUS HUSBAND (.) PLEASE ACCEPT MY HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND SINCERE SYMPATHIES (.) LATE DR WAHEED-UZ-ZAMAN WAS AN EMINENT SCHOLAR OF HISTORY WHO HAD DEVOTED HIS LIFE FOR PROJECTING PAKISTAN'S MOVEMENT AND ITS IDEOLOGY IN THEIR TRUE PERSPECTIVE (.) HIS MONUMENTAL WORK ON QUAID-I-AZAM AND PAKISTAN BEAR TESTIMONY TO HIS DEEP LOVE FOR PAKISTAN AND ITS FOUNDER (.) HE WAS CONSIDERED TO BE AN AUTHORITY ON PAKISTAN (.) IN HIS DEATH THE NATION HAS LOST A GREAT INTELLECTUAL WHOSE DEATH WILL BE WIDELY MOURNED IN LITERARY AND CULTURAL CIRCLES (.) MAY ALLAH REST THE DEPARTED SOUL IN ETERNAL PEACE AND GRANT YOU AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BEREAVED FAMILY COURAGE AND FORTITUDE TO BEAR THIS IRREPARABLE LOSS WITH EQUANIMITY (.) AMEEN
GHULAM ISHAQ KHAN PRESIDENT
OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN ISLAMABAD

O 1525 N 34 ISLAMABAD 6/10 53/51

BEGUM WAHEEDUZZAMAN

HOUSE NO. 356

STREET NO. 14

SHALIMAR 10/2

ISLAMABAD:-

ON THE SAD DEMISE OF YOUR BELOVED HUSBAND WE CONVEY OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES AND PRAY TO GOD TO BESTOW PEACE ON HIM AND GIVE PATIENCE TO YOU TO BEAR THIS LOSS :-

MIR MAHMOUD MOUSAVI

AMBASSADOR OF THE ISLAMIC

REPUBLIC OF IRAN:-

The body of Dr Waheeduzzaman arrived from England on 5 October, 1988, and was laid to rest in the Islamabad Graveyard the same day in the afternoon, in the presence of a huge crowd of his students, friends, relatives, admirers, and top civil and military dignitaries, including the Minister and the Secretary for Education, Government of Pakistan, Chairman, University Grants Commission, and Vice Chancellors of all the three Universities located in Islamabad.

After the burial ceremony was over, floral wreaths were placed on the grave of Dr Waheeduzzaman, on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan, Allama Iqbal Open University, National Institute of Pakistan Studies and the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad.

As a further mark of its appreciation for Dr Waheeduzzaman's contributions in the realm of historical studies in, and about, Pakistan, the Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan, held a reference in 'D' Block of the Pakistan Secretariat, on 9 October 1988, which was attended by a host of distinguished scholars, besides the higher echelons of the Ministry itself.

Addressing the gathering on this occasion, the Federal Education Secretary, Dr S.M. Qureshi, especially referred to Dr Waheeduzzaman's strong desire for the implementation of his project on the Collection of Documents on Muslim Freedom Struggle in South Asia and remarked that Dr Waheeduzzaman was a noted researcher who through his writings and speeches propounded the historical compulsions for the creation of a separate state for the Muslims of South Asia in the shape of Pakistan and always sprang to its defence whenever anybody questioned the necessity and rationale of its existence.

Dr A.W.J. Halepota, Professor G.J. Pareshan Khattak, Professor Saheeduddin Dar, and Professor M.A. Siddiqui also reminisced about their impressions of the late scholar on this occasion and paid glowing tributes to his memory. The reference concluded with the offering of *Fateha* for the deceased.

Condolence meetings were also held at various other places, including the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, the Quaid-i-Azam University Campus, and the Quaid-i-Azam

Academy, Karachi. The following resolution was passed by the latter:

This meeting of the Staff of the Quaid-i-Azam Academy records its heartfelt sorrow on the sad demise of Prof. Waheeduzzaman, Director, National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad. His contribution towards writing an authentic history of the Pakistan Movement and in presenting a balanced image of the Quaid-i-Azam would be long remembered.

This meeting offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prays to Almighty Allah to shower His choicest blessings on the departed soul.

Lest the readers should be misled to conclude from the foregoing lines that the constituency of Dr Waheeduzzaman's admirers comprised only the students and specialists of modern period, we would like to reproduce verbatim two of the numerous condolence messages received by the writer of these lines from a cross-section of scholarly community. The writers of both these letters are senior historians of our country and are reckoned among the foremost authorities on the early medieval phase of the Muslim history of South Asia.

Dear Dr Saleem Akhtar,

On behalf of the members of the Institute and on my own behalf I write to convey our sense of shocked grief on the sad and untimely demise of Dr Waheeduzzaman. He was one of our foremost scholars and was still in the prime of his life. He contributed to national life both in scholarship and in academic leadership. I have lost in him a personal and highly esteemed friend, and we have all been bereaved of a distinguished scholar whose commitment to learned pursuits and to the promotion of such pursuits was exemplary and inspiring.

May God grant him peace, and fortitude to the members of the bereaved family. Could you kindly convey our sincere condolences to them.

Yours sincerely,

Riazul Islam

(Riazul Islam)*

* Professor Emeritus Dr Riazul Islam is former Head of the Department of General History and a Founder Member and Secretary of the Institute of Central and West Asian Studies, University of Karachi.

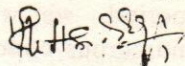
My dear Dr Saleem Akhtar,

It was shocking to hear about the unexpected death of Dr Waheeduzzaman. We already suffer from woeful inadequacy of scholars of calibre and competence in the country, and the loss of a senior teacher of history, who served the cause of historical studies and research in various institutions with distinction and merit, is all the more poignant and disconcerting.

In Dr Waheeduzzaman's death I have lost a personal friend and colleague. I pray to God to rest his soul in peace.

I also offer my heartfelt condolences to you and the staff of the Institute, and the members of the family of late Dr Waheeduzzaman and pray to Allah to give you all the strength to bear the great loss, Amen.

Yours sincerely,



(M.H. Siddiqi)†

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Dr Waheeduzzaman's three-year-long stay in Tehran — June 1979 to June 1982 — as the Executive Director of the R.C.D. Cultural Institute coincided with the turmoil and turbulence following the overthrow of the Shah. Fate had flung him into the most cherished vantage point at the right moment to watch with his own eyes one of the rarest events the like of which seldom unfolds in everyone's lifetime. Undistracted by the din and drama surrounding the American hostages in the US Embassy, the flurry of bomb explosions and frequent shoot-outs among rival groups, Dr Waheeduzzaman observed all the developments with the acute eye of a professional historian and on his return to Pakistan on the basis of these observations and much serious reading he had done to place them in their proper perspective, published a book entitled *Iranian Revolution: A Profile*. His own standing, facile pen and the array of evidence he marshalled to substantiate his conclusions not only allayed the fears of his compatriots about the revolution blooming across our western border, but also won him and his homeland many

† Professor Dr M.H. Siddiqi is also a former Head of the Department of General History and Director, Archives of Freedom Movement, University of Karachi. Presently he is serving as an Honorary Adviser to the latter organization.



بِسْمِ تَعَالَى

شماره ۳۵-۱۵/۵۱۳۹
تاریخ ۱۹۸۸/۱۰/۵
ہفت

رایزنی فرهنگی
جمہوری اسلامی ایران
اسلام آباد

محترمہ بیگم ڈاکٹر وحید الزمان - اسلام آباد

السلام علیکم

رایزنی فرهنگی سفارت جمہوری اسلامی ایران اسلام آباد نے یہ خبر نہایت دکھ اور رنج کے ساتھ سنی کہ پاکستان کے نامور مورخ اور ماہر تعلیم جناب ڈاکٹر وحید الزمان انتقال کر گئے ہیں۔

مرحوم کی پاکستانی تاریخ و ثقافت کے لیے گرانقدر خدمات کے سبب مداح ہیں مگر ہم بطور خاص اسلامی جمہوریہ ایران کے لیے ان کی علمی خدمات کا اعتراف کرتے ہیں۔ ادارہ علاقائی تعاون برائے ترقی تہران میں اپنی ماموریت کے دوران ایران و پاکستان کے باہمی روابط کو مزید مستحکم بنانے کے لیے ان کی مساعی جمیلہ اور بعد میں اپنی قابل قدر تصنیف : IRANIAN REVOLUTION : A Profile کے ذریعے ایران کے اسلامی انقلاب کے بارے میں اپنے فاضلانہ تجزیے کے حوالے سے انہوں نے ایران میں اپنے مداحوں کا ایک وسیع حلقہ بنا لیا تھا۔ ڈاکٹر صاحب کی اچانک رحلت سے یہ پورا حلقہ مغموم ہے۔

رایزنی فرهنگی سفارت جمہوری اسلامی ایران - اسلام آباد - اس علمی فقدان پر اپنی طرف سے تعزیت اور تسلیت پیش کر رہی ہے اور مرحوم کی مغفرت کے لیے دعا گو ہے۔

والسلام

سید کریم حسینی

سرپرست رایزنی فرهنگی سفارت جمہوری اسلامی ایران - اسلام آباد۔

سرودہ ڈاکٹر محمد حسین تسبیحی (رها)

۱۳۶۷/۷/۱۴ھ ۲۱۹۸۸/۱/۱۶

قطعہ مادہ تاریخ گزشتہ

شادروان دکترو حید الزمان استاد دانشمند و مورخ بزرگ پاکستان

به جنت روان شد به دستور
 وحید الزمان شرافت نسب
 به دنبال دانش همیشه طلب
 به لطف و محبت شد او منتخب
 سخنی های او همچو شیرین رطب
 به تاریخ فوٹش قلم شد و حباب
 گشوده به عشق خدایشی رولب

وحید الزمان آن وحید ادب
 یکی از بزرگان تاریخ پاک
 دل و جان او بسند عشق و علم
 نوشت او کتب همچو درخوشاب
 زبان دان و دانا جو او کس نبود
 چو رحمت سفر بست از این تیره
 «وحید الزمان جام بهرست شوق»

۱۳۶۷ھ ش

قلم در کف او به روز و شب
 بنوشید و شد امر حقش سبب

«وحید الزمان فیض گنجور دل»

۱۳۶۷ھ ش

به سوی حیان شد روان با طرب
 دل از رفتنش گشت پر از کرب

«وحید الزمان بادہ خوشگوار»

۱۴۰۹ھ ق

دل و جان ز فقدان او ملتعب
 به اخلاق نیکش شده منتسب

«وحید الزمان رستم ذات پاک»

۲۱۹۸۸

بود رحمت حق بر آن مرد نیک
 هر دمان زین مصیبت خمین
 «رها» دیده او را به ایران زمین

friends in the neighbouring Iran. This was amply reflected in the condolence message of the Iranian Ambassador, Mir Mahmoud Mousavi, to Begum Waheeduzzaman. Besides, the Cultural Counsellor of the Islamic Republic of Iran also separately condoled with the Begum Sahiba.

Yet another important proof of goodwill Dr Waheeduzzaman generated in Iran is the excellent ode in Persian which was composed spontaneously by the renowned Iranian scholar, Dr Muhammad Husayn Tasbihi to mourn his death, and which appears elsewhere in this issue.

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A great deal has been said about the erudition, activities and achievements of Dr Waheeduzzaman. But as far as the human aspect of his personality is concerned, I can hardly do better than invite the attention of readers to a letter to the editor published in the *Pakistan Times*, Rawalpindi, 6 November 1988, by someone by the name of Mr M. Nawaz Qasmi of Multan, who had known Dr Waheeduzzaman for well over three decades and chose voluntarily to depose on the bar of public opinion that:

The hallmark of Dr Waheeduzzaman's personality was commitment — he was a committed teacher, a committed scholar and a committed patriot. He was the true embodiment of "friend, philosopher and guide". I am one of the many beneficiaries of his kindness. Although I came in contact with him only as a student more than thirty three years ago but he continued to shower his kindness on me to his last day. He was a beloved teacher and remained so for his students. All that I may boast of achievement in life, I owe in greater measure to his kindness. I ceased to be his class student thirty years before but he was always prepared to come to my help whenever the need arose. And look at his greatness — he never even once hinted at the kind acts done to me! Dr Waheeduzzaman rose in life and prominence — . . . — but humility, the true mark of humanity, never left him. He was a thoroughly religious and God-fearing person, but he always tolerated difference of opinion with grace, a rare quality found these days. He has left for his heavenly abode much early. Life, however, will not be the same for those who loved him and whom he loved.—

* * * * *

سعدیا مرد نکو نام نمیرد هرگز
مردہ آنست کہ نامش بنکوئی نبرند

