

Indebtedness

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Chapter : 1

Ancient Arabia

1. Panoromic view of Ancient Arabia

Now let us see what Arabia looked then
Where Mohammad *sm* the Prophet was born
To create the world-wide People a great nation
By teaching them love, humanity and passion.

Arabia is a large country, a vast region
In the south-west of Asia-continent
Bounded the east by the *Gulf Persian*
On the south by the *Ocean Indian*
And on the east by the *Red Sea* alone.
This vast tract has several provinces
Seperate more or less from one another
In soil, climate and in colour even.

In olden times it was inhabited by the races
Such as the *Edomites* and *Madines*
From the *Hebrew* and *Testament* time.
We also come to know about the province Hijaj
That embraces *Madinah*, the world-famed holy city
The name of which was *Yathreb* in ancient times.

Also Makka, the holy place of the Muslim World
Which is the birth place of Mohammad *sm*
The last and final Prophet of *al-Islam*.
To the south-west corner does stand *Yaman*

20-Mohammad [sm] : The Glory of God

And to the east of it the province
Also another *Nejd*, a vast plateau region.
The vast land Arabia has no navigable river
Except some rivulets occur here and there
That make the soil fertile now and then
To produce coffee and indigo plant in abundance.
Date trees, vegetables and fruits are also grown
Where rainfall is scanty, and in the winter
Common and mild climate occur not very often.

The land is virtually visited by two seasons a year
One the spring, autumn the other.
Ta'if is another place rich and a fertile region
That offers a smiling growth of enormous greens
Like vegetables, date trees, grapes in abundance.

2. The Arabs and other peoples of the land

Arabia had then been peopled by various races
Such as the *Chaldeans* who were going to be perished
By a *Semitic tribe* now known as the origin
Of the descendents of *Kahtan*, the root and sovereign,
Who were the great conquerors and builders of towns,
Who survived till seventh century of Christian- reign.
They are the last settlers known as *Ismaelites*
From *Ismail* who to the Arabs was the son of
Abraham, the chief of the Jews' tribe
Who infact is the founder of the Arabs' land.

The holy Quran makes us consciously awaken
That Abraham and his son Ismail erected again
The holy *Ka'ba*, a place of worship with veneration
Which is the holiest amongst the world Muslims,

That owns Divine's grace the famed *Black Stone*.
Fihirs, the descendent of the third Christian Era
Known as *Quraysh*, meaning the famed Merchant,
Was Mohammad's the nearest generation.
The people of Arabia are always clearly seen
Divided into two classes : City-dweller or Urban
And the dweller of the deserts - the *Bedouin*.

The city dwellers have the living life on
Tilling and trade with countries near and foreign,
And the Bedouins use to live all through the year
In tents with families and flocks
Roaming hither and thither
In the desert and table-lands
In search of thier cattle's food and shelter.

The *Greeks* and *Romans* called the Bedouins
The *Saracen* that is made up of two words:
'*Sahara*' the desert and '*nashin*' the dweller
And these two together form the word to mean
The desert-dweller or *Shahara Nashin*.

Large number of the Jews and the Christians
Were then seen to have settled in this land,
Who were the followers of their distorted Religion
That had no tie with the Arabs' idolworshippin',
Each Arab tribe in each city had its own gods and deities
With separate temples and forms of rites and rituals
Like those of ancient *Rome* or *Benares* who used to own,
And hence Makkah virtually became the centre of Arabs'
National life based on religio-cultured mind and vision.