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REFORM MOVEMENTS IN INDIA

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THE attempt seriously to adjust the teaching and practice of Islam to modern conditions of life and thought was first made in India by Sir Sayyad Ahmad Khan of Aligarh in the United Provinces (1817-1898). He supported his efforts after progress and reform by a rationalistic exegesis of the Koran, recognizing in it a human as well as a divine element, and teaching that a knowledge of natural law had superseded belief in miracle. His energies were chiefly directed to the promotion of Anglo-vernacular education among his co-religionists, and the chief monument of his life-work is the Anglo-Mohammedan College at Aligarh. In a speech delivered shortly after the mutiny he said: "Hitherto the Musulmans have been rulers in this land, but now it is the divine will that they should pass their lives as subjects of a conquering power. As hitherto they have inscribed their name on the page of history with the blaze of victory and dominion, so now they are called upon to make their name illustrious as good subjects of a just rule."

Another notable result of Sir Sayyad's labours was the establishment of the Mohammedan Educational Conference which meets annually for the promotion of education, both higher and lower.

The Nadwat ul Ulema at Lucknow, and in a smaller way, the Anjuman i Naumaniye at Lahore are societies which endeavour to promote Moslem education on a