

**A STAR IN THE EAST; AN
ACCOUNT OF AMERICAN
BAPTIST MISSIONS TO THE
KARENS OF BURMA**

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A star in the East; an account of American Baptist missions to the Karens of Burma by Edward Norman Harris

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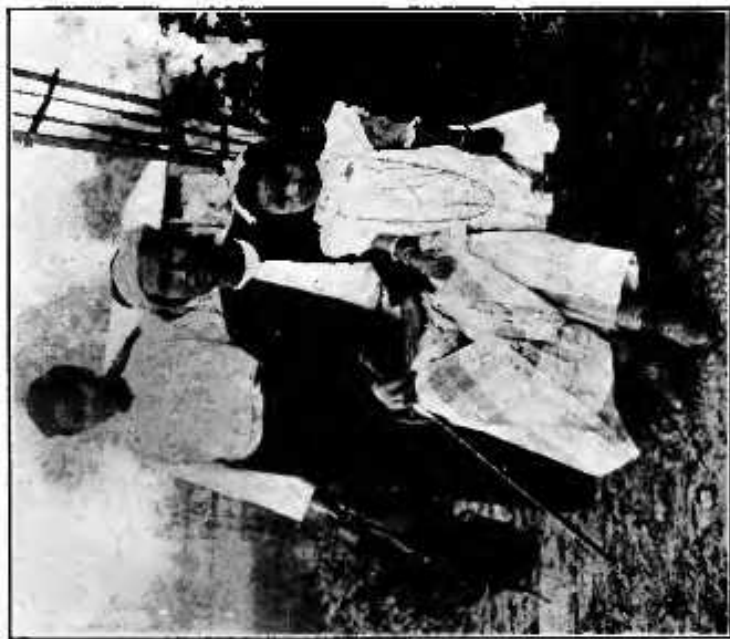
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EDWARD NORMAN HARRIS

**A STAR IN THE EAST; AN
ACCOUNT OF AMERICAN
BAPTIST MISSIONS TO THE
KARENS OF BURMA**



A KAREN CHRISTIAN YOUNG MAN AND HIS
SISTER, THARAWADDY, BURMA



TWO KAREN GIRLS IN NATIONAL COSTUME

A STAR IN THE EAST

An Account of American Baptist
Missions to the Karens of Burma

By

REV. EDWARD NORMAN HARRIS

Missionary of The American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
to The Shwegyin and Paku Karen Missions.

ILLUSTRATED

*"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great
light."—Isa. 9:2.*



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DEDICATION

To the memory of his father, Rev. Norman Harris, who founded the Shwegyin Karen Mission and built up there a rich spiritual heritage by which the son has for twenty-five years gratefully profited, this book is affectionately dedicated by the author.

PREFACE

AMONG the most successful missions in the world today are those to the Karens of Burma, but unfortunately hitherto little material has been available concerning them except in scattered reports and occasional pamphlets, most of them long since out of print. The writer feels that the Christian world needs to have its attention called again, as it was at the beginning of the work, to the great things which God has done, and is still doing, for this truly remarkable people. Tucked away in an obscure corner of the earth, they were not only kept through many generations measureably true to the inner light (Jno. 1:9), but were also prepared in a most marvelous manner for the reception of the gospel whenever it should be brought to them. As inscriptions on rocks and on brick tablets were in the providence of God hidden away for thousands of years to be unearthed in these recent days as evidence of the reliability of the Scriptures, so, it would seem these people were hidden away from the observation of men to be brought forth, within comparatively recent times as a blessed confirmation of the faith of those who believe in God's

exceeding graciousness towards men of all times and of all races who do not wilfully blind themselves to his truth.

Not only so, but the continued workings of the Spirit in the hearts of these people at the present time and the achievements of grace manifested in the development of strong Christian character and quickened intelligence and even in the unlooked for physical rehabilitation of the Karen race as a whole, afford a fresh demonstration in an unexpected quarter of the universal scope and range of the gospel's power. To the devout student of the dealings of God with the children of men, there is here subject matter which must ever be of absorbing interest.

Toungoo, Burma.

E. N. H.

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