

**DÍN I HAQQ KÍ TAHQÍQ; AN INVESTIGATION
OF THE TRUE RELIGION; THE ESSAY TO WHICH
WAS ADJUDGED, BY THE LORD BISHOP OF
CALCUTTA, THE PRIZE OFFERED FOR THE BEST
REFUTATION OF HINDUISM AND
MAHOMMEDANISM AND ESTABLISHMENT OF
CHRISTIANITY IN THE URDU LANGUAGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649563722

Din I Haqq Ki Tahqiq; An Investigation of the True Religion; The Essay to Which Was Adjudged, by the Lord Bishop of Calcutta, the Prize Offered for the Best Refutation of Hinduism and Mahommedanism and Establishment of Christianity in the Urdu Language by Church Missionary Society

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CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

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~~44 A. 54~~

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BY MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

(Translated by one of the Writers of the Essay.)

SECOND EDITION.

“ O Lord..... the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.”—Jer. xvi. 19.

“ Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.”—Matthew, xv. 13.

CALCUTTA :

PRINTED FOR THE CALCUTTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOOK SOCIETY,
BY J. THOMAS, BAPTIST MISSION PRESS.

1850.

* * The plan of treating Hinduism, Mahomedanism and Christianity here adopted is found by experienced Missionaries the most efficient in reference to the natives. It dispenses in a great measure with the necessity of historical knowledge, in which it is well known both Hindus and Musalmáns are so lamentably deficient, and therefore so seldom feel the force of a historical argument.

It was not thought necessary to insert in the *original* language the Sanskrit and Arabic quotations, (amounting to upwards of two hundred,) as they can be consulted in the Urdu and Hindui Editions of the work.

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INTRODUCTION.

1. Glorious is the *one eternal* God, the Creator and Supporter of all. Holy, just, and true is He in all His ways. Him no one hath seen, nor can see; He dwelleth in the light to which no man can approach. *Him we worship!**

2. Praised be God, who, when the whole world was enveloped in darkness, said, "Let there be light, and there was light!"

3. Blessed be God, who, when men walked in darkness, and sat in the shadow of death, a second time issued His gracious mandate, "Let there be light:" and forthwith the day-star from on high began to shine, and the sun of salvation arose, to shew men the way of life, and to guide their feet into the paths of peace!

4. But, notwithstanding the most high God has mercifully caused His light to shine forth, in comparison with which the light of the sun does not equal that of a glow-worm, yet many men are fallen into such error that, casting a veil upon the glorious light of God, they esteem the flickering lamp of their own, or their fathers' lighting, to be the sun; and, consequently, wander on in darkness!

5. Alas, what lamentable ignorance! Is it possible for the light of a thousand lamps to equal the sun? or, for a spark to rival a torch? How then can the glimmerings of their lamps, lighted by themselves, be visible in the effulgence of that glorious sun, one ray of which is sufficient to illuminate us?

* It seems almost unnecessary to observe, that the style here adopted is oriental.