

# The CHOICE



## ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY VOLUME ONE

BY AHMED DEEDAT

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### AHMED DEEDAT

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in the Surat district of India in 1918, Ahmed Hoosen Deedat had no recollection of his father until 1926. His father a tailor by profession had emigrated to South Africa shortly after the birth of Ahmed Deedat.

With no formal education and fighting off the extreme pangs of poverty, he went to South Africa in 1927 to be with his father. His farewell to his mother in India in 1927 was the last time he saw her alive for she passed away a few months later.

In a foreign land, a boy of nine with no formal schooling and command of the English language began preparing for the role he was to play decades later without realizing it.

Applying himself with diligence to his studies, the little boy not only was able to overcome the language barrier but excelled in school. His avid passion for reading helped him gain promotions until he completed standard 6. Lack of finance interrupted his schooling and at the early age of about 16 he took on the first of many jobs in retailing.

The most significant of these was in 1936 where he worked at a Muslim owned store near a Christian seminary on the Natal South Coast. The incessant insults of the trainee missionaries hurled against Islam during their brief visits to the store infused a stubborn flame of desire within the young man to counteract their false propaganda.

As fate would have it, Ahmed Deedat discovered by pure chance a book entitled **Izharul-Haq**, meaning the Truth revealed. This book recorded the techniques and enormous success of the efforts of Muslims in India in turning the tables against Christian missionary harassment during the British subjugation and rule of India. In particular the idea of holding debates had a profound effect on Ahmed Deedat.

Armed with this new found zeal, Ahmed Deedat purchased his first Bible and began holding debates and discussions with the

trainee missionaries. When they beat a hasty retreat in the face of his incisive counter arguments, he personally called on their teachers and even priests in the surrounding areas.

These successes spurred Ahmed Deedat in the direction of Da'wah. Not even his marriage, birth of children and a 3 year sojourn to Pakistan after its independence dampened his enthusiasm or dulled his desire to defend Islam from the deceitful distortions of the Christian missionaries.

With missionary zeal to project the Truth and beauty of Islam, Ahmed Deedat immersed himself into a host of activities over the next three decades. He conducted classes on Bible studies and gave numerous lectures. He established the As-Salaam, an institute to train propagators of Islam. He, together with his family, almost single-handedly erected the buildings including the masjid which is still a landmark today.

He was a founder member of the Islamic Propagation Centre International (IPCI) and became its President, a position he still holds today. He has published over 20 books and distributed millions of copies free of charge. He has delivered thousands of lectures all over the world and successfully engaged Christian Evangelists in public debates. Several thousand people have come into the fold of Islam as a result of these efforts.

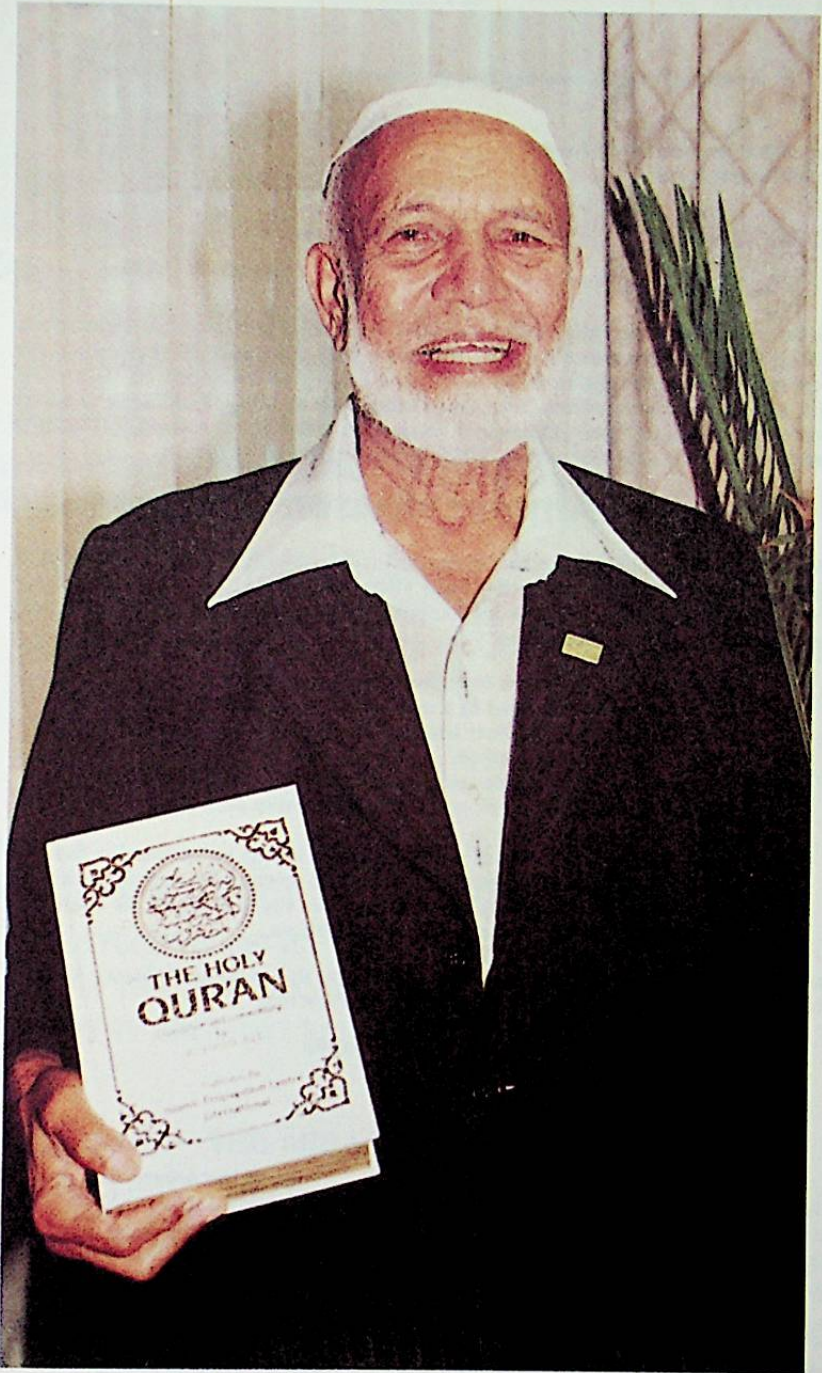
In a fitting tribute to this monumental achievement, he was awarded the King Faisal International award in 1986, a prestigious recognition of enormous value in the world of Islam.

No number of awards and honours can truly capture the man's essence and zeal for Islam. This anthology of books is no exception. It demonstrates Sheikh Deedat's analytical compilations drawn from personal encounters and experiences against Christian distortions.

May Allah (SWT) bless him for this book, the ones to follow and all his efforts for Islam, Insha-Allah!

**EBI LOCKHAT**

20 SHAWWAL 1413 / APRIL 13, 1993  
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA



**AHMED DEEDAT**

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

King Faisal International Award  
for Service to Islam

## Certificate of King Faisal International Award for Service to Islam



The Committee of King Faisal International Award, after perusing the Regulations of King Faisal International Award as approved by the Board of Trustees of the King Faisal Charity Foundation by Resolution No. 11-68-98 dated on 10-8-1398 Hijri, and the Minutes of the Selection Committee of King Faisal International Award for Services to Islam, in its ninth session on 30th Rabi'ul Awwal, 1406 Hijri, corresponding to 12th December, 1985, decided hereby to grant:

### Ustaz Ahmed Hoosen Deedat

King Faisal International Award for Service to Islam jointly of this year, 1406 Hijri, in appreciation to his continuous and serious efforts exerted in propagating Islam for around thirty five years, on the local, regional, international and global levels, particularly as regards the following:

- His serious participation in numerous Islamic conferences.
- Giving numerous lectures in a number of Islamic countries.
- His argumentation against the opponents of Islam, and debating with them in open meetings.
- His founding of "As-Salaam" — an institution — for raising up students and propagators, and training them to take up the task of Islamic propagation.
- His writing of a number of pamphlets and books published for the cause of the propagation and combating missionary activities, in addition to enlightening the Muslims on the principles of their illustrious belief and the rules of their religion.

Verily the Committee of the Award, while presenting this to him supplicates Allah to grant him success, and increase the number of men like him.

*Allah is the Grantor of Success*

Chairman  
of the Award Committee

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خالد الفيصل بن عبد العزيز  
Khalid Al-Faisal bin Abdul Aziz

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL

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