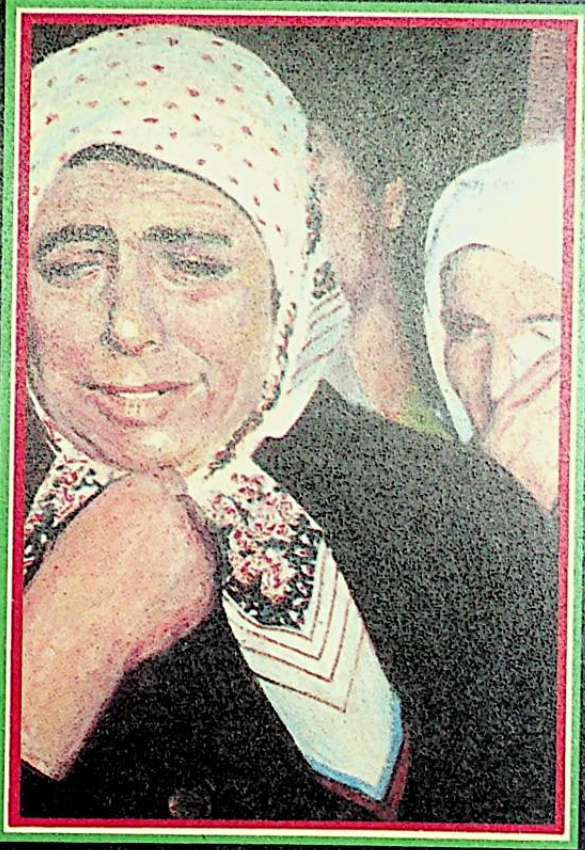




Arabia

The Islamic World Review

TANZANIA
THE SCOURGE OF THE SUNGUSUNGU



BULGARIA'S MUSLIMS UNDER THE HAMMER

MAHMOUD TAHA: THE IDEAS THAT LED TO THE GALLOWS

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Arabia

The Islamic World Review

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 43

Published by the Islamic Press Agency Ltd.

Crown House, Crown Lane,
East Burnham, nr. Slough,
Bucks, SL2 3SG.
Tel. Farnham Common (02814) 5177
(Facsimile 02814 4155)
Telex: 847031 Arabia G
848396 Transh G

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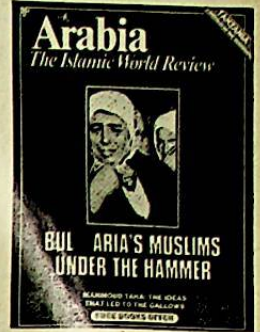
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Bulgarian Muslims under the hammer
"Every new day brings with it the tragic news of further killings of our brothers by the Bulgarian police... In Mestanli, they killed 80 Muslim Turks... I don't know how long I can avoid the Bulgarian police..." The intensification of persecution against ethnic Turkish residents in Bulgaria has, recent reports say, claimed the lives of up to 800 Turkish opponents of the regime's "Bulgarisation" policy, which aims to suppress the Islamic cultural identity of a million ethnic Turks.
Page 10

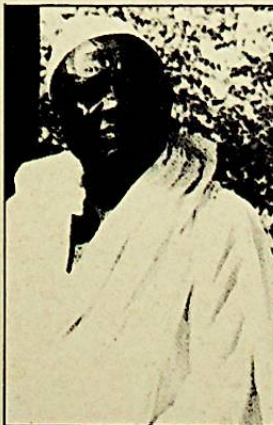


Assad's amnesty offer

President Hafez Assad has offered an amnesty to the "Fighting Vanguard," a military arm of Syria's Islamist movement. Our correspondent sees this as part of Assad's campaign to demonstrate his ability to balance the various political forces in the country and also, more importantly, a move away from "isolated steadfastness" towards membership of "the American club."
Page 39

The view from Teheran

The Iranian revolution has been the focus of attention of the non-Islamic world and yet, six years on, it is still little understood outside the Islamic republic. Iranian writer and journalist *Mohammad Sadiq al-Hussaini* presents a view from inside the revolution on page 14.



Ideas that led to the gallows

The execution in the Sudanese capital Khartoum of Mahmoud Muhammad Taha, leader of the Republican Brothers (formerly the Republican Party), on charges of opposing Shariah has focused attention on the man and his ideas and fuelled debate as to whether his actions constituted an act of "war on the Muslim community," as his accusers charged. *Arabia* profiles the man and his ideas and evaluates the case for and against him. The arguments are not, however, about whether his ideas — which stand condemned by any standard for their anti-Islamic character — are acceptable, but on whether he should have died for holding such opinions. Page 47 and 76

The scourge of the Sungusungu

"Egalitarian socialist" Tanzania is predominantly Muslim, yet Islam is under constant government attack. First came a short-lived "Christian militia," now the Nyerere regime uses the excuse of secularism — but the latest alarming development is the encouragement of the "Sungusungu." This pagan gang of thugs, ostensibly set up to suppress cattle stealing, is being supplied with government firearms and is used as the strong arm of authority to curb restive inhabitants as well as to attack Muslims. Page 30

PRINTED IN THE U.K.

ISSN 0260-4272

March 1985/Jumada Al-Thaniyah 1405 Arabia 3