

Arabia

The Islamic World Review

The mixed harvest of African socialism

INTERVIEW WITH
ANSAR LEADER
SADIQ EL-MAHDI



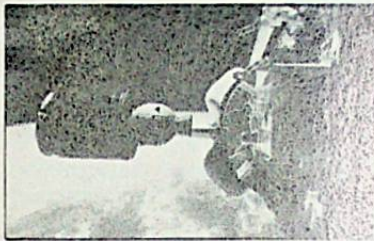
■ **Marxists versus imams in Aden**

■ **Islamic Finance: 18-page section**

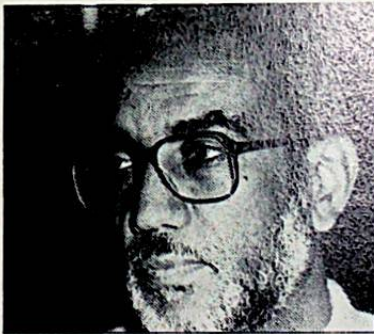
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Letter from the publishers

With this issue of September 1985, *Arabia* concludes four years of true hardship and struggle, and looks forward with hope towards the fifth. *Arabia's* staff are full of enthusiasm and ideas for the magazine, but they realise that this is not enough to be a true representative of *all* the one billion Muslims, spread from Morocco to the Philippines and Indonesia, up to China and the Soviet Union, with sizeable presences in every corner of the world. Very few nations, if any, can claim to be as rich and diverse in resources, heritage and achievements, as well as in problems and agonies, as the Muslims. To cope with all of this, *Arabia* obviously needs the cooperation of its readers in general and of intellectuals in particular; we have already contacted many either in person or in writing. We devote these lines to an appeal — to all those whom we did approach, and those whom we are unable to reach, to extend to *Arabia* whatever help or assistance they can. Our readers, especially those who are already in a position to do so, can keep our fingers constantly on the pulse of the Ummah, and can guide our steps, and show us where we fail, and where we have to try harder. We are aware of the fact that those who can contribute and help are mostly busy and overloaded. Nevertheless, *Arabia* is a vital service for Muslims and non-Muslims alike, and as such some time and effort has to be devoted to it.

What *Arabia* has achieved is very little indeed. What it has not is enormous and cannot be fully accomplished without the help and support of our readers.

Arabia

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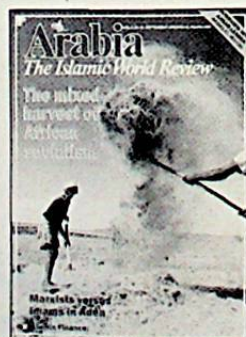
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