

# THE SUFİ RECORD



*Toward the One, the Perfection of Love, Harmony and Beauty, the Only Being,  
united with all the Illuminated Souls who form the embodiment of the Master,  
the Spirit of Guidance.*

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*"My thoughts I have sown on the soil of your mind,  
My love has penetrated your heart,  
My word I have put into your mouth,  
My light has illuminated your whole being,  
My work I have given into your hands".*

PIR-O-MURSHID INAYAT KHAN

We are glad to offer herein a special article from the family of Pir-O-Murshid on their sacred pilgrimage to India, from which they returned on March 28th. The journey will no doubt be of profound influence on their lives and of lasting benefit to the whole Sufi Movement, of which through the Will of God they are so vital a part. All mureeds unite in warmly welcoming «our family» back into our midst, to their home on the outer plane and to that inner home which will always be theirs in our hearts.

## OUR PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY SHRINE IN DELHI.

When we started on our voyage from Marseilles on Nov. 16th we saw to our great joy a lovely crescent moon placed by the hand of God before the ship, seemingly to guide us on our way. After a beautiful and tranquil journey we reached Bombay in the perfection of its fullness on a Friday morning just at dawn.

As we looked upon India, some of us for the first time, our hearts beat fast with sorrow and joy, mingled with intense anticipation of all that Joy before us. It was absorbing and interesting to see the vivid life at the port and the numerous figures with their strange and picturesque costumes, and it seemed to us we were returning home to a world of wonder and of splendor.

After a most interesting railway journey of about 24 hours to Delhi, our first act after arrival was to fulfill the purpose of our journey and the desire of our hearts in a visit to the place where the body of our beloved is resting. The Durgah, or holy shrine, is situated about three miles outside of the town, accessible by a good road, in a compound within which there are also other tombs. As one descends from the vehicle about three hundred yards away one is already struck by the quiet and solitude of the place, where various beautiful oriental trees guard the tombs and silently testify to the unbroken continuity and oneness of all life.

It is beyond the power of language to give any impression of the feeling one experiences at the sacred shrine of our beloved Master. One can only in silence bow one's head in gratitude to God for His blessing which enabled us to pay our homage at this sacred spot. Held in the ecstasy of its spell one lost all sense of time and of space and of limitations.

The sacred task which was a most important part of our mission, of acquiring the land and erecting the Durgah, has with the help of God been begun. A further account of the progress of the work will be given in a later Sufi Record. When completed the Durgah will be a small square building of beautiful red stone outside, faced with white marble inside, with pillars of white stone. The floor is of red stone, and the roof square and open to the sky, to be covered later on by beautiful climbing roses. There is a wall all around the hoh' shrine with a Jil'at in front, and at the entrance is a large Sufi emblem carved in the white marble, together with the words in both Indian and English lettering: «Hazrat Pir'O'Murshid Inayat Khan, 1882-1927. Founder of the Sufi Movement.»

Close to our sacred shrine there is also the beautiful monument of Hazrat Khaja Nizam uddin Olia, a great Sufi saint, where meditations (Sama) and Sufi music (Kawali) take place almost daily.\*

On leaving Delhi we visited Airneer, to pay our respects to the holy tomb of Hazrat Khaja Moinuddin Ch'isti, a very great Sufi. from there we went to Baroda, our birthplace and the home of our ancestors. On our journey we met several Hindu and Sufi saints, among them Gavab Hasan Nizami Swami Shradhananda and Pir Sayad, who are prominent leaders in their particular schools. Apart from all the material progress that is growing in young India, the greatest impression that one receives is of the ancient thought and culture which has prevailed in that land for thousands of years. One feels that spiritual

\*The meaning of Hazrat is "Revered." Khaja is the name of a particular dynasty.

bliss in the very air and encounters it as soon as one opens the right door.

We left Bombay on the 16th of March, on the S. S. «Ralwalpindi» with the love and sympathy of our Sufi friends in the Western world drawing us back into their midst. Our journey back was full of blessing and we are most grateful for the good health that was granted to every member of the party throughout our pilgrimage. We arrived in Marseilles on March 28th, filled with the most wonderful impressions and memories of the Holy Land, which will ever remain with us.

— The family of Hazrat Inayat.