

Sayyid Ahmad Barelewi: Thought and Movement

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Although, Shah Waliullah did not succeed on all fronts, but he did succeed remarkably in providing the foundation for the reconstruction of Muslim religious thought, revival of Muslim religious sciences and the social and moral edification of Muslim society. His successors Shah Abdul Aziz, Shah Abdul Qadir, Shah Rafiuddin, Sayyid Ahmad Barelewi, Shah Ismail Shahid and others worked zealously on the guide lines delineated by their master to bring about an intellectual renaissance of the Muslims of the sub-continent. He was undoubtedly the greatest Muslim thinker of sub continent, a formative influence on modern Muslim thought. His philosophy provides a connecting link between medieval Islamic thought and trends of modern interpretation of the fundamental teachings of Islam. His impact was felt in the religious, social and political spheres. Most of the institutions of religious learning in the sub-continent owe its existence, directly or indirectly to Shah Waliullah. He is as much a source of inspiration and guidance for the '*ulama*' and *mashaikh* as for modern Muslim thinkers like Sayyid Ahmad Khan, Shibli and Muhammad Iqbal to neo revivalists like Mawlana Abul Ala Mawdudi and Sayyid Abdul Hassan Ali Nadwi and many others.

After the death of Shah Waliullah, mission was carried on by a band of pupils and disciples, which he had left behind, including his own sons, who were fully charged with the spirit of his movement. Shah Abd al-Aziz [1746-1824 C.E/1159-1239A.H] the

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