

Prof changes name



Matin Yaqzin

Explanation: I have changed my name (legally) from Abdul Matin Yaqzan to Matin Yaqzan. The reason for the change pertains to my religious association, and therefore, it might be worthwhile to explain my background in this respect.

I was brought up as a Muslim, a follower of Islam. The religion of Islam governs one's life completely in as much as, apart from explaining the mystery of life in terms of an omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent God, it also gives a code of life by which a Muslim must live, and conduct his life from cradle to the grave.

The basic ideas are that the "universe" was "created" by God (the Arabic word Allah -Al ilah literally means The God). Adam was the first human being created by God. God has been choosing throughout history special human beings, called prophets, to guide other human beings on this earth. Moses, Abraham, . . . Jesus, Mohammad, were all prophets and only prophets of God. However, Mohammad was the last prophet, and through him God revealed his eternal teachings that must be followed by all human beings. God's revelations communicated through angel Gabriel to Prophet Mohammad are compiled in the form of Quran. Since Prophet Mohammad was an illiterate person, the style and

beauty of the language used in Quran are considered as evidence of its divine origin. Also, the honesty and integrity of Prophet Mohammad were considered beyond reproach before he became a prophet.

A Muslim is supposed to pray 5 times a day, fast for a month every year, sacrifice an animal in the name of God to commemorate the sacrifice of Abraham, make pilgrimage to Mecca once in a lifetime if he can afford it, give approximately 2 and a half percent tax annually for the poor, not lie, cheat or commit adultery, not eat pork, nor drink liquor, etc. As against Christians, a Muslim need not turn his cheek, but forgiveness is preferable in the sight of God.

Human beings are supposed to have free will, and for this reason they will be held responsible for their acts in this life. After death, on the "day of judgement" every one will be brought back to life, and his good and bad deeds will be weighed. Believers in "one God", like Jews, Christians and Muslims, or peoples with a book from God, will be punished for their "sins" in "Hell", but will eventually go to "Paradise", while those who do not believe in "one God", will stay in Hell forever. Quran describes the miseries of Hell and the pleasures of Paradise in some detail.

I am indebted to the teachings of Islam for some of my basic attitudes and behaviour pattern in life. In particular, it was under the influence of Islam that I learned to be truthful as far as humanly possible. Although I have had certain questions about some of the basic beliefs, I tried, tried very hard to follow the code of life given by Islam. My simple reasoning was that if there is an entity which is responsible for my life on this earth, and if that entity wants me to live in a certain prescrib-

ed way, and if Prophet Mohammad is the messenger and the message is contained in Quran, then I must follow their dictates even if I cannot see the reasoning behind them, because I was and am aware of the limitations of the human mind.

Several years ago after much emotional and intellectual struggle, I came to conclude in consultation with a respected religious leader of Islam, Maulana Abul Ala Maudoodi, whose writings had an impact on me during my formative years, that because of the nature of my questions and doubts about the basic beliefs of Islam, I did not qualify to call myself a Muslim. My main problem has been that I cannot conceive of an entity whose existence will resolve the mystery of life for me, because such an entity itself becomes a mystery. And even if I assume that such an entity "exists" and has "created" the universe and the human beings, I cannot reconcile that such an entity would communicate with human beings in the way Islam and other religions suggest, and will hold them responsible for their facts on the basis of free will.

Although I agree with certain teachings of Islam, it is not sufficient for me to be called a Muslim on that basis. Many of those teachings are shared by other religions, and apparently mere adherence to them also does not qualify me to call myself a Christian, a Jew, a Hindu, a Bhuddist, a Baha'i, etc.

Since I cannot honestly say that I believe in the basic concepts of Islam, and since Islam itself says that there is no compulsion in religion, I feel that I must formally dissociate myself, and since Abdul is a very common prefix of Muslim names, not to mislead other people, I have decided to drop it.

SRC rejects SUB change

By DAVID MOGILEVSKY
Brunswickan Staff

The name of the SUB may be changed. In a unanimous vote the SRC voted against a motion passed by the SUB Board of Directors. This motion stated

"Be it resolved that the Student Union Building Board of Directors approve the proposal to rename the Student Union Building, the Mackay Student Center, subject to the approval

of the UNB Board of Governors, and to designate room 103 of the SUB, The Monsignor Duffie Council Chamber." This motion was passed unanimously by the SUB Board of Directors on June 26, 1982.

The discussion at the SRC meeting was short. Various points were brought up against the motion such as a person should be deceased before having a building named after him to the fact that the students have contributed to the SUB and this fact should be recognized by naming it after the Union.

Spanish Club presents:

The Department of Spanish and the Spanish Club in collaboration with Pat Badani, President of the Local Chapter of CARFAC (Canadian Artists Representation/Federation des Artistes Canadiens) are pleased to invite you to the se-

cond of a series of exhibitions by local artists to be held in the Spanish Lounge (T131) during the Academic year 1982-83. Several "Metal Paintings" by Keitha Crighton will be on display in the Spanish Lounge (T131) from Nov. 22 to Dec. 10.

THE SEARCH LITE

There are very few Christians who at one time or another find themselves caught up in a web of circumstances which strains their faith to the breaking point. Like Job of old, the suffering Christian cries out in desperation: "Oh, that I knew where I might find Him."

David found himself in this same condition when he was surrounded by troubles. "My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God? (Psalm 42:3).

A young man stood in the courtroom as the judge was pronouncing sentence - a punishment for drinking, gambling and robbery. The judge asked, "Young man, don't you believe in God?"

"God? Who's that?"

This boy at one time attended Sunday school, but was later a drop-out when his home was broken up.

Where is your God? The answer comes back from the world: "Your God is dead." John Lennon of the Beatles once remarked, "Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I need not argue about that. I'm right and I will be proven right. Will be proven right. We're more popular than Jesus now. I don't know what will go first -- rock and roll or Christianity."

We are living in Christian America. There are churches in every city and town. The Christian church is on trial. The institutional church needs to answer these questions on bended knees. We have the spectacle of rock and roll in the churches while Christianity eases out the back door.

Former communist leader, Khrushchev asked a group of church leaders, "What is your God doing?" In death, he has surely found the answer. These are all symptoms of a sick society and a backslidden church.

Where is your God? What is He doing? Where are the signs? The answer comes from words of our Lord Jesus. "This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet. For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation. The men of Nineveh shall rise up in the judgement with this generation and shall condemn it: "for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here" (Luke 11:29:32).

We must learn something from the failure of the denominational churches of today and do something about our generation.

The true church of the Lord Jesus is alive today. It has never lost the power invested in its members on the day of Pentecost!

Jesus is baptizing believing hearts with the Holy Ghost and fire today. An experience so genuine, so joyful, so powerful that its witness and spirit cannot be denied.

Jesus is in His church today motivating the members of His body to good works which has caused the gospel to be preached around the world.

Where is thy God? David found Him when "he went to the house of God with the voice of joy and praise." He learned of God's loving kindness when "he came into His presence with song and in prayer."

You, too, can find Him when you approach Him in the right attitude. The gospel is not a failure. If given the opportunity it always works. The gospel of Christ is still the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.

God is preparing a people for eternity. If your name is not written in the Book of Life let me urge you to lay aside unbelief and prejudice and come to Him now.

Agape Fellowship is a group of bible students on Campus all around you. We welcome each and everyone of you to participate in our coming events. Together, we can learn more about God and His ways, through fellowship. Inquire about our home Bible Study courses entitled "Exploring God's Word." Our chaplain, Rev. L. Shalm and our group coordinator can be reached at this number: 472-4112. Call any time for more information.

Tickets are now on sale for Lady Dunn Formal.

Formal is on November 26, 1982
Tickets are \$17.00 per couple.

Tickets available Monday-Thursday
from 12:00-1:00 at Lady Dunn Hall
Cafeteria.