

In a similar manner we can turn to the third of the main cleavages which now divide the nations of the world, namely, the division between the anti-colonial countries and those with dependent territories. Here again the Commonwealth, which showed the way in the Colombo Plan, can provide the example which should help to preserve the unity of the free world. The remarkable friendliness which now exists between the United Kingdom and the newly independent countries of Ceylon, India and Pakistan is a sign-post pointing towards the path which all colonial powers can follow in responding within reasonable time to that yearning for national self-government which has become so marked in recent years. Once again the more advanced countries have an opportunity and an obligation for responsible leadership. If advantage is not taken of this opportunity, the Soviet Union will be given scope for frustrating the unity of the free world.

In all of this effort there is one prime pre-requisite and that is tolerance. This in turn presupposes a knowledge of how other peoples live and think. We can only promote the unity of the free world if we know a great deal about it. Here lies the chief opportunity for our universities, particularly the universities of Canada. We are perhaps more trusted than any other of the developed countries, largely because our history has shown that we have no selfish ambitions to pursue in relation to other countries. Our universities can play an important role not only in making Canada and Canadian skill known to these countries, but particularly in making these countries known to Canadians.

I am proud that my alma mater, McGill, has taken the lead through the founding of an Islamic Institute. I venture to express the hope that the university of which I have to-day become a graduate may respond to the stimulating environment of British Columbia and provide similar opportunities for the studies of other peoples. Here at Vancouver we instinctively look across the Pacific. We see in the Far East teeming millions, representative of civilizations much older than our own. These peoples are now the object of the struggle between two rival doctrines striving for the mastery over men's minds. Unfortunately we know too little about these peoples. We have too few facilities for the study of their cultures their religions and their economies. Perhaps ... the next time I visit Vancouver I will find that an important contribution to the filling of this need will be made by an institution which will be known as the Pacific Institute of the University of British Columbia.

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