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Between two stools

Systematic and rigorous studies on the objectives and results of education in the Muslim world are few and far between. Education in Pakistan: an. Inquiry into Objectives and Achievements by Ishtiaq Hus- sain Qureshi (Karachi, Maaref Ltd, $12.00), is an outstanding contribution. Although the book is a case study of the background, growth and performance of modern education in Pakistan, the issues it discusses, the problems it analyses and the insights it offers are valid for the entire educational landscape of the Muslim world.

After outlining the heritage as it came from Islam and as it was perverted during the colonial period. Professor Qureshi argues that religion must play a decisive role in the education of the new genera- tions. Only then can a morally up- right and integrated personality grow in the individual and a healthy society emerge collective level. At the

He rejects the idea of juxtaposing some religious education with a secular system of education. The Aligarh movement comes in for sharp criticism.

Soviet educational policy and Russian strategy for the Muslim world in general and for Pakistan In particular are fully discussed, the use of foreign languages as a medium of education is sharp'y criticized and its disastrous effects on Muslim India spelled out. Economic approaches to educational planning are systematically examined.

The inclusion of a quantitative profile of Pakistan's educational system would have been of great help to the foreign reader. None the less, Education in Pakistan is a product of rigorous research.

Khursid Ahmad