

# NEWS FROM THE FUTURIST COMMUNITY

## *PAKISTAN: FOUNDED IN FUTURISM*

A recent book published by the Pakistan Futuristics Foundation and Institute shows how the founding of Pakistan was a demonstration of how the future is built. *Iqbal's Futuristics* is a study of Indian poet and philosopher Sir Muhammad Iqbal, who, in association with the Muslim League in 1930, called for a separate Muslim state; this eventually led to the creation of Pakistan. Author Maqbool Elahi argues that the creation of Pakistan was the direct result of this future vision of Iqbal and others (including Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, and Chaudhary Rahmat Ali). "Born in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, Iqbal was a Futurist out and out," Elahi writes. "From his youthful days his writings showed that he had the gifts of keen observation, insight, analysis and foresight." Iqbal saw looming on Europe's horizon a World War in the early twentieth century; he also foresaw the ineffectiveness of the League of Nations, the end of communism, and the conquest of space. Iqbal "visualized problems which the Indo-Pakistan subcontinent was to face in the future," says Elahi. "He advocated that man should be aware of his own potentialities and his role in the world as its most important person. Individuals equipped with this knowledge of self should raise a society and learn to live together respecting each other as equal men." Iqbal's message, the author concludes, "will be valid for times beyond even the twenty-first century. In fact, it is a message to the whole humanity for all times to come."

For more information, see: *Iqbal's Futuristics* by Maqbool Elahi. The Pakistan Futuristics Foundation and Institute, H. No. 37, St. 33, F-8/1, Islamabad, Pakistan. Telephone and fax (92 51) 262116. 1995. 400 pages. \$8. Paperback.

Other recent books published by the Institute include *Towards the 21st Century--Introducing the PFI: Basic Documents (1986-1995)*; *Pakistan and the 21st Century: New Human Order* by Ikram Azam; and *Towards the 21st Century: New Education* by Ikram Azam.