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978-1-107-62605-8 - The Idea of Personality in Sufism: Three Lectures Delivered
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THREE LECTURES DELIVERED IN
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BY

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TO
DUNCAN B. MACDONALD

إذا كانت الضمائر مؤتلفه، لم يضرها أن تكون
الديار مختلفه

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PREFACE

EXCEPTING a few verbal changes and the addition of footnotes, these lectures appear in the form in which they were delivered at the School of Oriental Studies last summer. As they owe their existence to my old friend D. B. Macdonald, I hope he will pardon me for dedicating them to him, though he, no doubt, would have handled the subject in a different way and would have done full justice to some aspects of it which I have passed over lightly. Where so much turns on difficult questions of interpretation, I could only state the general conclusions and give a broad view of the evidence supporting them. My chief purpose was to show, by means of examples chosen from the literature, that Şúfism is not necessarily pantheistic but often bears the marks of a genuine personal religion inspired by a personal God, even if we must beware of attributing to Moslems all that the term "personality" suggests to us.

REYNOLD A. NICHOLSON.

CAMBRIDGE,
December, 1922.