

David Lelyveld started researching at Aligarh in 1967. In this book, the author threw light on the nature of Muslim cultural identity, and the challenges Muslim faced in nineteenth century colonial India, by examining the history of the Mohammadan Anglo Oriental College (Presently Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh).

This edition focuses on the first twenty-five years of the college's existence, the period when the first generation of Muslims educated in English, graduated from the college to confront the ideological and institutional challenges of colonialism and nationalism.

In this book, Lelyveld's main object is to understand what it meant to be an Indian Muslim in the nineteenth century. The Aligarh School serves his focal point. But much more than this, Aligarh's first generation analyses an important group whose role in the nationalist movement has been condemned instead of being understood.

The above mentioned research studies and other publications indicate that major work has been done on the life and works of Sir Syed and to some extent on Aligarh Movement but researcher could hardly find any research study conducted on Aligarh Movement and its educational programmes which became a chapter in the history of Indian Education.