

MOULANA QASIM NANOTWI (RA)

1832 - 15th April 1880

Was an Indian Sunni Hanafi Maturidi Islamic Scholar, theologian and a Sufi who was one of the main founders of the Deobandi Movement, starting from the Darul Uloom Deoband.

Nanautawi was schooled at Nanauta, where he memorized the Qur'an and learned calligraphy. Aged nine, Nanautawi moved to Deoband where he studied at the madrassa of Karamat Hussain.

Under the instruction of Mehtab Ali, Nanautawi completed the primary books of Arabic grammar and syntax. Thereafter, his mother sent him to Saharanpur, where his maternal grandfather Wajihuddin Wakil, who was a poet of Urdu and Persian, lived. In 1844, Nanautawi joined the Delhi College, where he studied with Mamluk Ali Nanautawi.

According to Asir Adrawi, "Nanautawi although was enrolled in the college, he would take private classes at his teachers home, instead of the college". He studied the major books with Mamluk Ali, including "Mantiq" and philosophy, and few other books with Mufti Sadruddin.

After the completion of his education, Nanautavi became the editor of the press at Matbah-e-Ahmadi. During this period, at Ahmad Ali's insistence, he wrote a scholium on the last few portions of Sahihul Bukhari. He established Darul Uloom Deoband in 1866.