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13th August, 1960.194.....

ALAN PATON, Esq.

My dear Alan,

How strange it is that I who has been with you all these years both in spirit and action should be only dimly conscious of the tremendous impact which your mighty pen and word has made upon the world. I was of-course aware of the presence of this great force within you and of the fierceness with which you applied it to your humility, your outspokenness and to the alleviation of human suffering, but because I lived all along so close to you and under your spell, I came to regard and accept it as norm rather than exception.

Many years ago, when I was first drawn towards you, it was precisely these qualities that attracted me. They were so rare and so unusual in those days. They are still very rare today, but by deed and action, you have made them look so simple and so ordinary. This, to my mind, is your greatest achievement.

We, who have been trying to emulate your noble life in our small way feel deeply moved with ecstasy at this true recognition of a dedicated career and to me personally, believe me, the joy and happiness the AWARD has brought cannot be matched by anything else.

...../I pray.....

2.

I pray to God Almighty that He may grant you long life, so that we who live within its shadow shall continue to experience deep joy and happiness in the persuit and fulfillment of our own destiny.

Yours truly,

E. V. Mahomed.

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