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‘19/8 PRINCE AHMAD TAWHID AND JAMAL PASHA’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/R/15/2/595
Date(s)	1 Nov 1931 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (3 folios)
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About this record

This file contains one letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Percy Gordon Loch, Political Agent at Bahrain, to Lieutenant-Colonel Trenchard Craven Fowle, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf at Bushire, dated 1 November 1931. The letter concerns the visit to Bahrain in 1931 of His Highness Prince Ahmad Tauhid [Aḥmad Tawḥīd], grandson of the late Sultan Abdul Aziz [‘Abd al-‘Azīz] of Turkey, and Jamal [Jamāl] Pasha, formerly in the service of Ibn Saud [‘Abd al-‘Azīz bin ‘Abd al-Raḥmān bin Fayṣal Āl Sa‘ūd] as his War Minister and who was on an official mission to discover the cause of the great drop in the number of pilgrims to the Hedjaz [al-Ḥijāz] during Hajj.

'19/8 PRINCE AHMAD TAWHID AND JAMAL PASHA' [front] (1/10)

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File No. 19/8
Collection No 19

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PRINCE AHMAD TAWHID AND

JAMAL PASHA

Previous References.	Later References.

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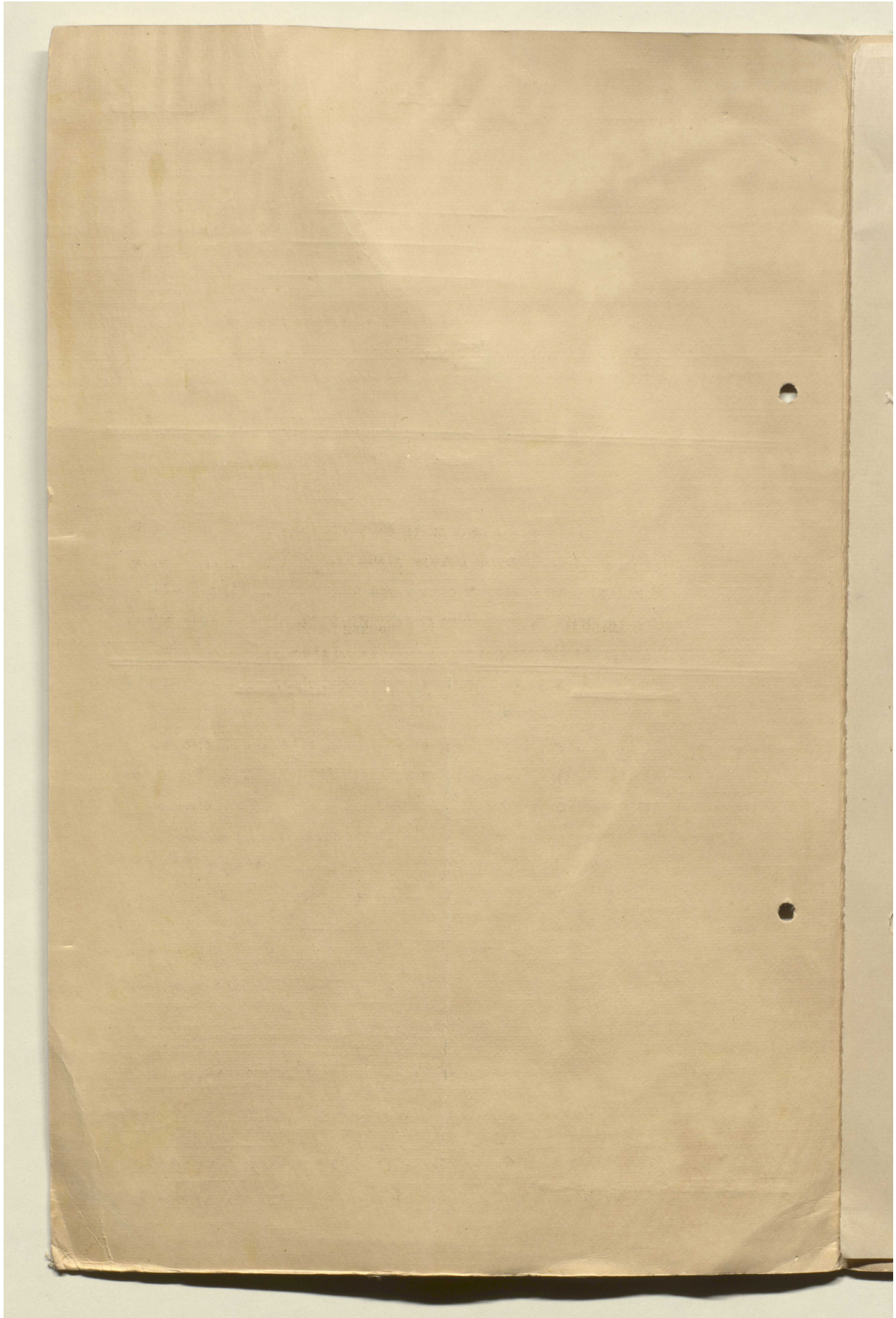
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Confidential.

No:C/97.

Political Agency,
Bahrain, the 1st November 1931.

From:-

The Political Agent,
Bahrain.

To:-

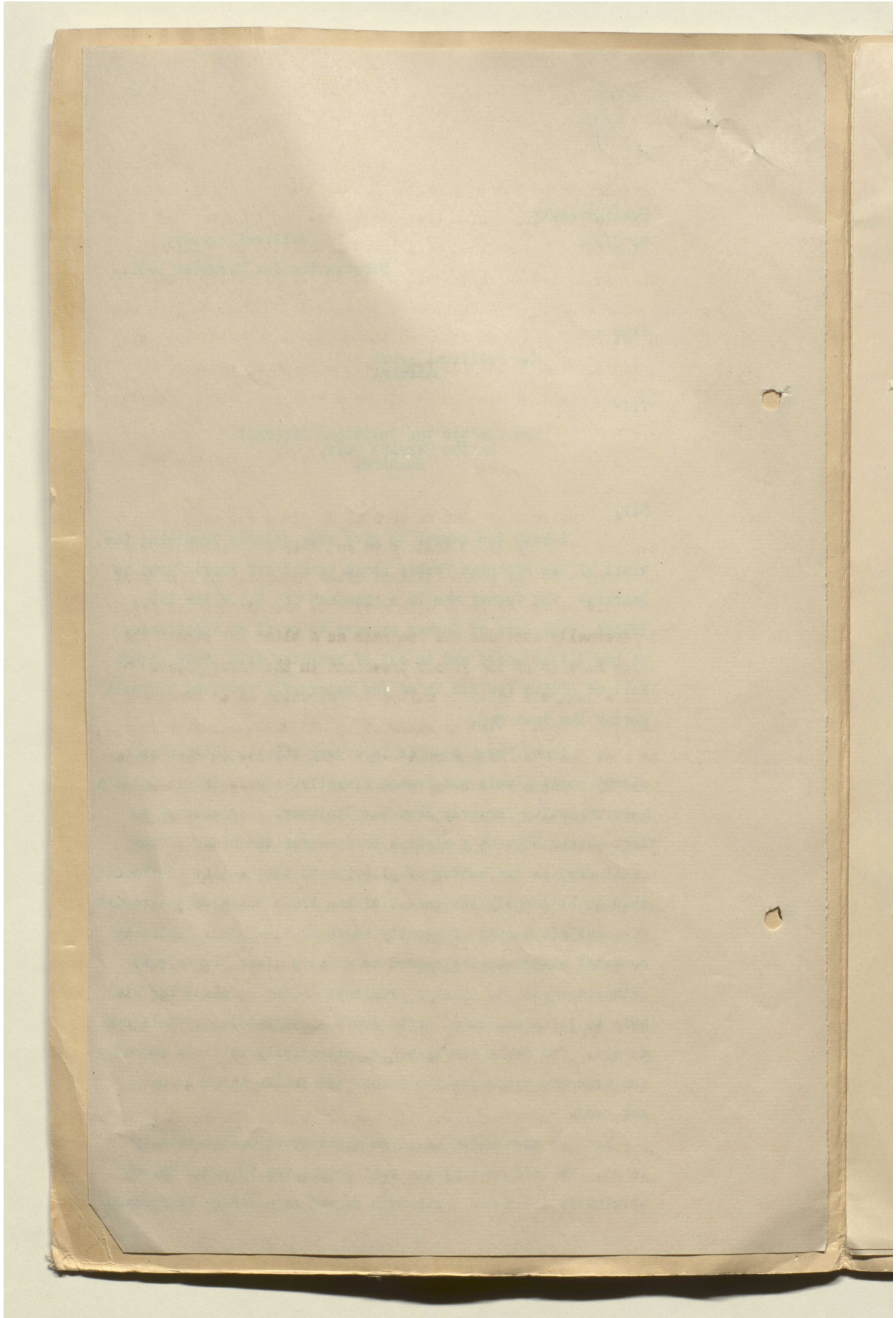
The Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
Bushire.

Sir,

I have the honour to give some details regarding the visit of His Highness Prince Ahmad Tauhid and Jamal Pasha to Bahrain- The former who is a grandson of H.I.M the late Sultan Abdul Aziz of Turkey appears to be of no importance. He has little money and is out of sympathy with Arabs, though full of praise for Bin Sa'ud who apparently received him well during the last Haj.

2. Jamal Pasha however is a very intelligent man and speaks English well and French fluently. He is in Bin Sa'ud's service having formerly been War Minister. He informed me that he had been on a mission to discover the cause of the great drop in the number of pilgrims to the Hedjaz. He found this to be largely the result of bad trade but also the result of a certain amount of enmity shown to Bin Sa'ud. Later he somewhat unnecessarily showed me a letter from His Majesty authorizing him to thank a prominent Bombay merchant for his help to Islam and asked me to draft a congratulatory telegram to him. The Pasha has travelled extensively in India recently and also had visas for the Dutch East Indies which he had not used.

3. He then asked me if he might speak confidentially to me. He told me that his real object was to sound Moslem opinion in India and Syria with regard to a Moslem Conference



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that Bin Sa'ud had in view, the object being to unite the Islamic fold and assist the pilgrimage. He told me that Bin Sa'ud fully sympathized with our difficulties in India and that he wished to rally Moslems to our side. Did I think he could usefully intervene in this matter? Could I give him a letter of any kind which he could use in this connection? I replied that I was far from India and out of touch with Moslem opinion and ^{that he} he no doubt would have had better opportunities of forming an opinion from contact with both officials and Moslems ^{on the spot}. He immediately dropped this line and did not return to it.

4. He told me that on arrival in 'Iraq and more especially in Syria he would give out this suggestion of a Conference to the press and that after reporting to Bin Sa'ud he would return to India with a view to encouraging the Haj. I personally consider the Congress as a blind but report the facts in view of the rumour prevalent in the 'Iraq papers that a Congress is to be called in Palestine under Hashimite influence with a view to reinstating the ex-Sultan of Turkey as Khalifa. The rumour states that the Shaikhs on the Persian Gulf Littoral have been approached and that there has been no sign of any such invitation having been received here, it is just possible that the Pasha may be preparing a counterblast ^{through} but I have ~~not~~ seen ^{no} ~~any~~ sign of it. His real errand in my opinion is to discover the cause of the very serious drop in pilgrims and to find means of combating it.

5. He was emphatic that a collision between Imam Yahya and Bin Sa'ud was only a question of time since Bin Sa'ud could not tolerate any foreign penetration of Arabia and since it was well known that the Bolshevists had gained a very strong hold in the Yemen. He mentioned that while he was War Minister he had been asked to make out a plan for the subjection of the Yemen and to estimate its cost and it was found that it could not be done for less than a million sterling; ~~and~~ so Bin

