

tioned as slain before the triumph of the Messiah Ben David. There is possibly in this some allusion to the Samaritan Taheb, or Messiah, called the Messiah Ben Joseph. Muhammad may, however, have connected the name with that of Joseph, husband of our Lord's mother. Now, according to the Jews (Tal Bab, Sabbath 104 b ; Tal Jer, Sanhed vii, 16), Ben Stada, who is usually identified by the Jews as representing our Lord, was executed at Lydda. So that, from a Jewish point of view, the false Messiah was slain at Lydda. It seems to me that a confused memory of the Talmudic tradition accounts for the Moslem legend, for it is well known that many Talmudic ideas have found their way into the Koran and the Sunna.

Ed Dejjâl appears to originate in the Masdean ideas of the false prophet who is to accompany Ahriman in the last days, for nearly the whole of the Moslem eschatology is founded on Persian ideas, such as may be studied in the Pehlevi Bundahish and Bahman Yast.

C. R. C.

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#### THE CANAANITES.

THE probability of the Altaic origin of the Hittites shows that the Canaanites—like Finns and Akkadians—were probably a race who burned and did not bury the dead. The ashes found by Herr Schumacher under a dolmen agree with this view. The burning of children in honour of Moloch is also connected.

C. R. C.

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#### THE KARNAK LIST OF PALESTINE.

ON the 3rd May, at a meeting of the Society of Biblical Archæology, the Rev. Henry George Tomkins presented his paper on the "Karnak List of Tributary Places in Palestine ; with an Introduction on the Campaign of Thothmes III against Megiddo." The writer traced the line of march from the Egyptian fortress of Tsar (or Tsal), along the ancient road discovered by the Rev. F. W. Holland, by way of Sharukhen (Tell es Sheri'ah, sheet xxiv), to Gaza, an Egyptian station. Thence the route was deflected eastwards by a tract of forest between Joppa and Carmel, as shown by Professor Maspero, in the *Leemans Album*. At Iakhem (el Kheimh) three roads were discussed by a council of war, viz. I, a dangerous mountain defile near 'Arnâ. II, a high road leading to the east of Ta'anak. III,