

Ion Keith-Falconer

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1 Ion Keith-Falconer



Abb. 1 Ion Keith-Falconer (vor 1887)

Ion Grant Neville Keith-Falconer (* 5. Juli¹ 1856² in Edinburgh³; † 11. Mai⁴ 1887⁵ in Sheikh Othman⁶ bei Aden⁷, Jemen⁸) war ein britischer⁹ Theologe¹⁰, Philologe¹¹, Missionar¹² und Radrennfahrer¹³. Er beherrschte mehrere Sprachen, war Professor für Arabisch¹⁴ an der University of Cambridge¹⁵ sowie dreifacher nationaler Meister im Radsport. 1886 begründete er eine christliche Mission in der Nähe von Aden und starb dort im Jahr darauf, mutmaßlich an Malaria¹⁶.

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- 1 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/5._Juli
 - 2 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/1856>
 - 3 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edinburgh>
 - 4 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/11._Mai
 - 5 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/1887>
 - 6 https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sheikh_Othman&action=edit&redlink=1
 - 7 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aden>
 - 8 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jemen>
 - 9 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vereinigtes_K%C3%B6nigreich
 - 10 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theologie>
 - 11 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philologie>
 - 12 [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_\(Christentum\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_(Christentum))
 - 13 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radrennfahrer>
 - 14 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabische_Sprache
 - 15 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Cambridge
 - 16 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaria>

1.1 Biographie

1.1.1 Familie



Abb. 2 Der Familiensitz *Keith Hall* bei Inverurie (1909)

Ion Keith-Falconer war der dritte Sohn von Francis Keith-Falconer, 8. Earl of Kintore¹⁷ (1828–1880) und dessen Frau Louisa Madaleine (1828–1916), geborene Hawkins;^[1] er hatte fünf Geschwister, drei Brüder und zwei Schwestern. Sein ältester Bruder war Algernon Keith-Falconer¹⁸, späterer 9. Earl of Kintore¹⁹ und Gouverneur von South Australia²⁰. Der Clan Keith²¹ führt seine Geschichte bis auf das Jahr 1010 zurück, als ein Ahne den schottischen König Malcolm II.²² in der legendären (nicht historischen) *Battle of Barry* gegen eine Invasion der Dänen erfolgreich unterstützt haben und dafür mit Grundbesitz belohnt worden sein soll.^[2] Die Familie war sehr religiös und der Vater ein prominentes Mitglied der calvinistischen²³ Church of Scotland²⁴.^[3] Im März 1884 heiratete Ion Keith-Falconer Gwendolen Bevan, Tochter und eins von 16 Kindern von Robert Cooper Lee Bevan²⁵, Se-

¹⁷ https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Francis_Keith-Falconer,_8._Earl_of_Kintore&action=edit&redlink=1

¹⁸ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Algernon_Keith-Falconer,_9._Earl_of_Kintore

¹⁹ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Kintore

²⁰ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste_der_Gouverneure_von_South_Australia

²¹ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clan_Keith

²² https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_II.

²³ <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calvinismus>

²⁴ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_Scotland

²⁵ https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Robert_Cooper_Lee_Bevan&action=edit&redlink=1

nior Partner der Barclays Bank²⁶; die kirchliche Trauung fand in Cannes²⁷ statt.^[4] Die Ehe blieb kinderlos. Nach Keith-Falconers Tod 1887 heiratete seine Witwe Gwendolen 1894 in Indien den britischen Offizier Frederick Ewart Bradshaw und wurde Mutter von zwei Töchtern.^[5] Sie starb 1937. Eine ihrer Schwestern war die Autorin Nesta Webster²⁸, die dem Faschismus²⁹ nahestand, einer ihrer Brüder Anthony Ashley Bevan³⁰, ein Arabist³¹ wie ihr Ehemann, und ein weiterer Bruder der Philosoph³² Edwyn Bevan³³.^[6]

1.1.2 Schule, Ausbildung und Beruf

Seine Kinder- und Jugendzeit verbrachte Ion Keith-Falconer auf dem Familiensitz *Keith Hall* bei Inverurie³⁴. Dort wurden er und sein Bruder Dudley von einem Privatlehrer unterrichtet, bis er ab dem Alter von elf Jahren eine Vorbereitungsschule (*Preparatory school*) in Cheam³⁵ bei Epsom³⁶ besuchte; Dudley blieb wegen seiner schwachen Gesundheit zuhause. Mit 13 Jahren wechselte Ion Keith-Falconer auf die Harrow School³⁷.^[7] Er war dort einer der besten Schüler und gewann mehrfach Preise für seine Leistungen in Deutsch³⁸. 1873 verließ er Harrow und wurde fortan mit drei anderen Jungen zur Vorbereitung seines Besuchs der University of Cambridge von einem Vikar³⁹ unterrichtet, vorrangig im Fach Mathematik⁴⁰, das er ursprünglich studieren wollte.^{[8][9]} Auch beschäftigte er sich mit der Tonic-sol-fa⁴¹-Lehrmethode für den Gesangsunterricht.^[10] Im Jahr 1873 starb sein Bruder Dudley, der ihm sehr nahe gestanden hatte, 1877 ein weiterer, jüngerer Bruder namens Arthur.^[11] Im Oktober 1874 nahm Keith-Falconer ein Studium der Theologie⁴² und Religionswissenschaft⁴³ am Trinity College⁴⁴ in Cambridge auf, nach dessen Abschluss er Hebräisch⁴⁵ und Semitische Sprachen⁴⁶ studierte. Mehrfach wurde er für seine akademischen Leistungen ausgezeichnet: dennoch habe er nicht als „Streber“ gegolten.^[12] 1881 erlangte er den Abschluss als Magister⁴⁷ (MA). Da er ein spezielles Interesse für Arabisch⁴⁸ entwickelt hatte, ging er für

26 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barclays>
 27 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cannes>
 28 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nesta_Webster
 29 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faschismus>
 30 https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Anthony_Ashley_Bevan&action=edit&redlink=1
 31 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabistik>
 32 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophie>
 33 https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Edwyn_Bevan&action=edit&redlink=1
 34 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverurie>
 35 [https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cheam_\(London\)&action=edit&redlink=1](https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cheam_(London)&action=edit&redlink=1)
 36 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epsom>
 37 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harrow_School
 38 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deutsche_Sprache
 39 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikar>
 40 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematik>
 41 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tonic_sol_fa
 42 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theologie>
 43 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religionswissenschaft>
 44 [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_College_\(Cambridge\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_College_(Cambridge))
 45 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebr%C3%A4ische_Sprache
 46 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semitische_Sprachen
 47 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magister>
 48 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabische_Sprache

weitere Studien nach Leipzig⁴⁹, wo er unter anderem Vorlesungen bei Friedrich Delitzsch⁵⁰ hörte. In einem Brief berichtete er über den Antisemitismus⁵¹ in den Schriften von August Rohling⁵² und gab seinen Eindruck wieder, dass es in Deutschland eine „generelle antijüdische Agitation“ gebe.^[13] Anschließend reiste er nach Ägypten, um neben dem klassischen Arabisch die Alltagssprache zu erlernen.^[14] Sein Ziel war es, durch das Erlernen der Sprachen verschiedene heilige Schriften miteinander vergleichen zu können, um ein Gesamtbild zu erlangen. So war seine Überzeugung, dass jeder der „heiligen Schreiber“ biblischer Texte eine eigene Inspiration gehabt und Gott diese nicht als bloße „passive Instrumente“ benutzt habe, da Gott es gewesen sei, der ihnen Menschlichkeit und Individualität verliehen habe. Zwar handele es sich dabei um Gottes Wort⁵³, dennoch sei die Bibel nicht „vom Himmel gefallen“.^[15] Nach weiteren Auslandsreisen kehrte er 1882 nach Cambridge zurück, um eine Übersetzung des klassischen arabischen Textes *Kalīla wa Dimna*⁵⁴ aus dem Syriakischen⁵⁵ zu erstellen, die 1885 veröffentlicht und von Kollegen gelobt wurde.^[16] Anschließend wurde er von der Universität mit verschiedenen Lehraufträgen betraut und zum Prüfer für Semitische Sprachen ernannt.^[17] Zudem wurde er gebeten, für die *Encyclopædia Britannica*⁵⁶ einen Beitrag über die Kurzschrift⁵⁷ nach Isaac Pitman⁵⁸ zu verfassen,^[18] die er sich als Schüler selbst beigebracht hatte.^{[19][20]} Diese Schrift hatte er 1878 dazu genutzt, die Reden auf der ökumenischen⁵⁹ *Broadlands Conference* mitzuschreiben, so dass sie veröffentlicht werden konnten.^[21] Als er einmal in einer Kirche die Predigt in Kurzschrift mitschrieb, empörte sich seine Sitznachbarin über den „ungezogenen Jungen“, der während des Gottesdienstes „gemalt“ habe, wie er 1884 in einem Brief berichtete.^[20]

49 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leipzig>

50 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friedrich_Delitzsch

51 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antisemitismus>

52 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/August_Rohling

53 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wort_Gottes

54 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kal%C4%ABla_wa_Dimna

55 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syrische_Sprache

56 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Encyclop%C3%A6dia_Britannica

57 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stenografie>

58 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_Pitman

59 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%96kumenische_Bewegung

1.1.3 Radsport

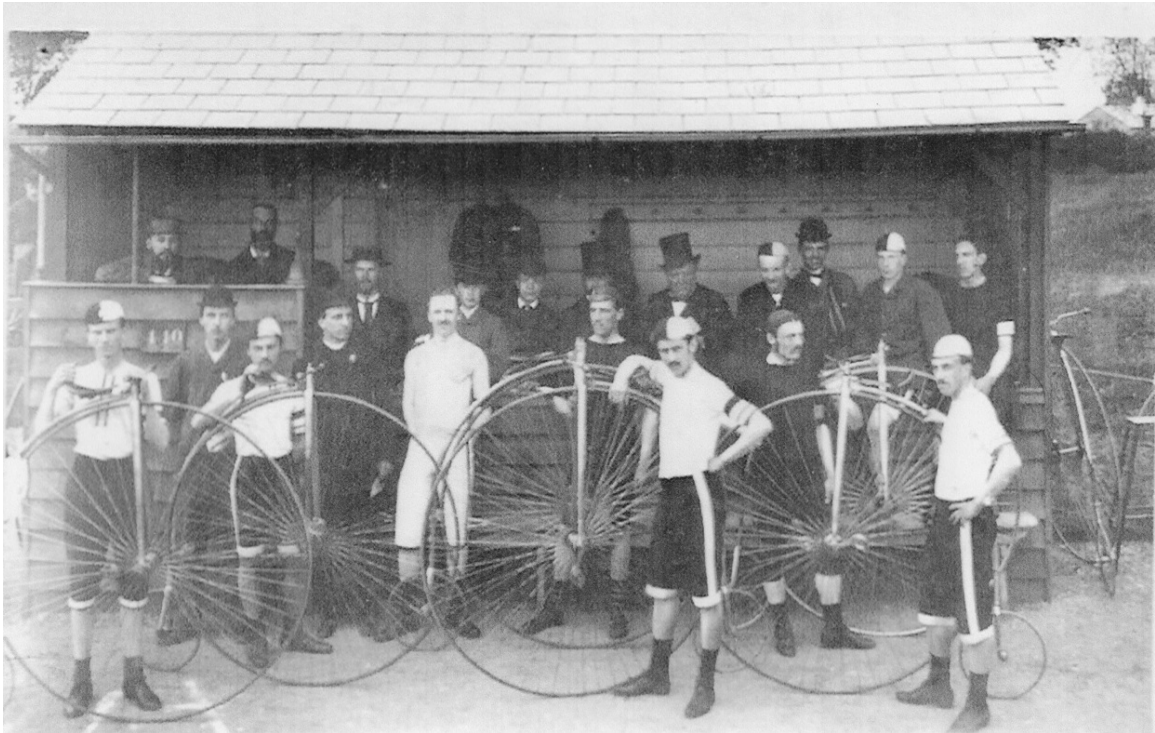


Abb. 3 Ion Keith-Falconer (ohne Kappe, ganz in Weiß) im Cambridge University Bicycle Club, ca. 1877

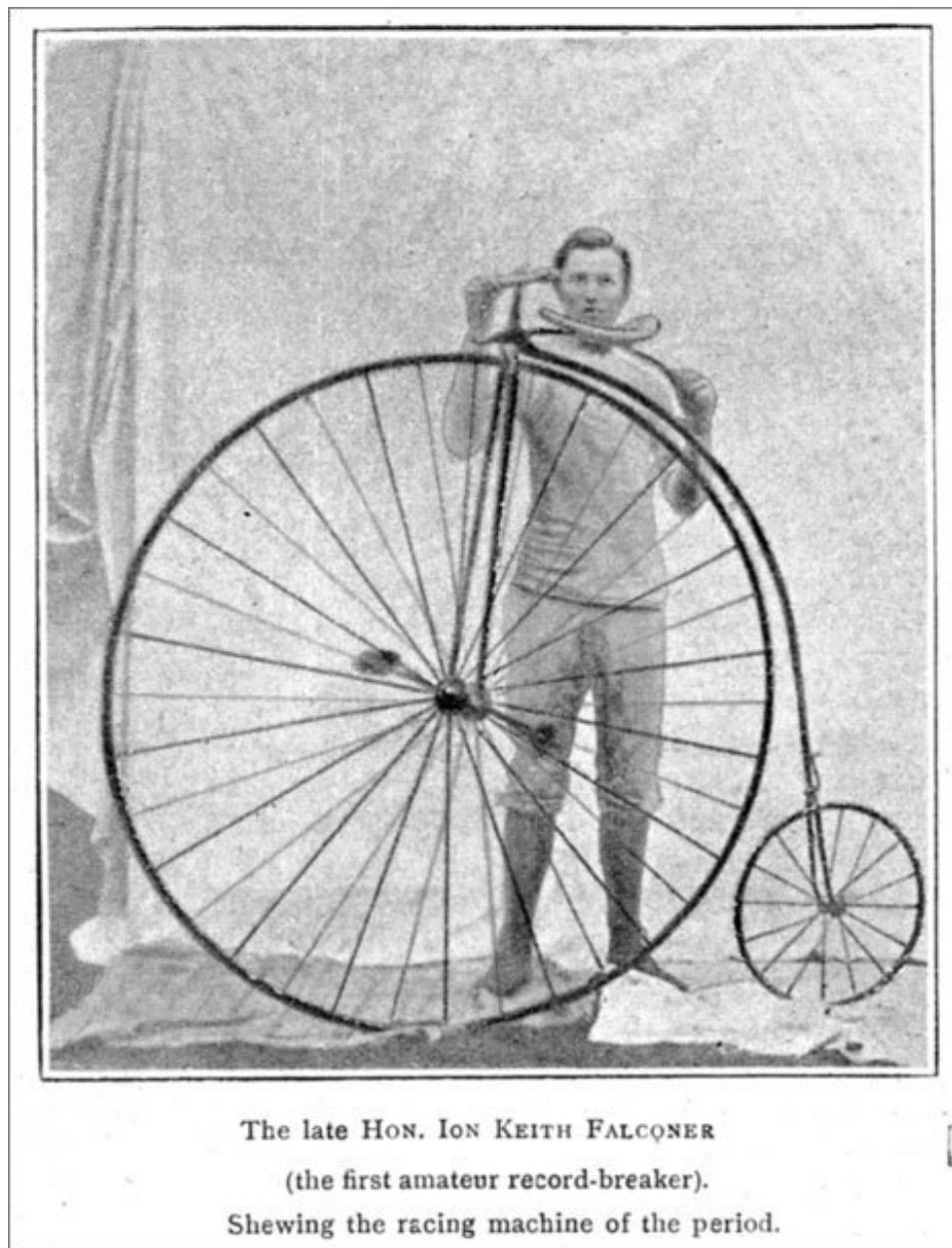


Abb. 4 Mit Hochrad 1878

Keith-Falconer erlernte während seiner Schulzeit in Harrow das Fahrradfahren, zunächst auf einem niedrigen Tretkurbelrad⁶⁰. Als Student in Cambridge⁶¹ wechselte er auf das Hochrad⁶², war von 1874 bis 1882 als Radsportler aktiv und bekam wegen seiner Religiosität den Beinamen „Muscular Christian“.^[22] 1874 unternahm er eine Fahrt mit dem Hochrad von Bournemouth⁶³ nach Hitchin⁶⁴ über 135 Meilen (217 km) in 19 Stunden und 15 Minuten

60 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geschichte_des_Fahrrads#Tretkurbelrad

61 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cambridge>

62 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hochrad>

63 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bournemouth>

64 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitchin>

(reine Fahrzeit ca. 16 Stunden) und schrieb darüber einen Artikel für die Zeitschrift *The Field, the Country Gentleman's Newspaper*. Der Radrennfahrer und Publizist George Lacy Hillier⁶⁵ bezeichnete diesen Artikel als „einen der ersten ausführlichen Berichte, die unserem Sport gewidmet waren“, mit dem Keith-Falconer das Fahrradfahren populär gemacht habe, zumal der Autor „einen so guten Namen wie den seinen“ trage.^[23] Keith-Falconer war mit über 1,90 Metern für die damalige Zeit ungewöhnlich groß. Daher fiel es ihm leichter als seinen Konkurrenten, große Hochräder zu beherrschen, was ihm bei Radrennen Vorteile verschaffte. Aus begüterter Familie stammend, konnte er es sich leisten, die besten (und größten) Fahrrad-Modelle für sich bauen zu lassen und sich Zeit für das Training zu nehmen. In Cambridge pries man ihn als den „schnellsten Radsportler der Welt“, da er mehrfach nationale Rekorde aufstellte.^[24] Trotz allem war er mehr an seinem Studium interessiert als am Radsport, der für ihn nur der Ausgleich für die Arbeit am Schreibtisch war. So vergaß er mitunter bei Rennen zu starten, für die er gemeldet hatte, weshalb Lacy-Hillier ihn, über den sonst nur lobend gesprochen wurde, als „unzuverlässig“ kritisierte.^[24] Keith-Falconer empfahl das Fahrradfahren als Mittel zur „Charakterbildung“, da es „die jungen Kerle von Kneipen, Varietétheatern, Spielhallen und anderen Fallen“ fernhalte. Er verabscheute Alkohol, Fluchen und Wetten; so boykottierte er aus Protest einen Universitäts-Wettbewerb, weil darauf gewettet werden konnte.^[25] Am 1. Mai 1877 wurde er zum Präsident des *London Cycling Club* gewählt und blieb dies neun Jahre lang, was wiederum für seine Beliebtheit bei Altersgenossen sprach.^{[26][24]} Ebenso war er Präsident des *Cambridge University Bicycle Club* (CUBiC), der über eine eigene Radrennbahn⁶⁶ verfügte, und gehörte zu den Mitbegründern der nationalen englischen *Bicycle Union*.^[27] 1876 wurde Keith-Falconer in Lillie Bridge⁶⁷ englischer Amateur-Meister über vier (6,4 km) und 1878 über zwei Meilen (3,2 km).^[28] Im Oktober 1878 schlug er in Cambridge den Berufsfahrer John Keen⁶⁸ bei einem Rennen über zwei Meilen um fünf yards⁶⁹ (weniger als 5 m); solche Rennen „Amateur gegen Profi“ waren damals nicht üblich und benötigten einer Genehmigung des neu gegründeten Verbandes *Bicycle Union*. Gegen den Berufsfahrer Frederick Cooper hingegen verlor er zwei Rennen im Jahr darauf. Im Juni 1881 machte er eine 13-tägige Tour über 994 Meilen (1600 km) von Land's End⁷⁰ nach John o' Groats⁷¹,^[29] sein detaillierter Bericht über diese Fahrt erschien in mehreren Zeitungen.^[30] Im Juli 1882 bestritt er auf dem Gelände des Crystal Palace⁷² bei London sein letztes wichtiges Rennen, bei dem er englischer Amateur-Meister über 50 Meilen (80 km) wurde und dabei den bestehenden Rekord um sieben Minuten verbesserte.^{[31][27]}

1.1.4 Glaube und Missionarstätigkeit

Schon im Alter von sieben Jahren soll Ion Keith-Falconer Bibellesungen gehalten haben, wozu er ohne Wissen seiner Familie Landarbeiter in ihren Häusern aufsuchte.^[32] Während

65 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Lacy_Hillier

66 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radrennbahn>

67 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lillie_Bridge

68 https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=John_Keen&action=edit&redlink=1

69 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yard>

70 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land%E2%80%99s_End

71 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_o%27_Groats

72 [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crystal_Palace_\(Geb%C3%A4ude\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crystal_Palace_(Geb%C3%A4ude))

seiner Studienzeit in Cambridge engagierte er sich in der nahegelegenen Siedlung Barnwell⁷³, die durch den Zuzug von Eisenbahnarbeitern stark angewachsen war und wo in der Folge soziale Missstände herrschten. Gemeinsam mit Freunden und Bekannten brachte er Geld auf, um ein ehemaliges Theater in eine Mission umzuwandeln, wo regelmäßig Gottesdienste stattfanden.^[33] Auch engagierte er sich in der Mission im Londoner⁷⁴ Stadtteil Tower Hamlets⁷⁵, einem mehrheitlich von Armen bewohnten Gebiet; dort fanden nicht nur geistliche Veranstaltungen statt, sondern etwa im Winter 1879, als viele Menschen hungerten, auch regelmäßige Armenspeisungen. Er initiierte dort ebenfalls die Einrichtung einer *Assembly Hall* und engagierte sich selbst finanziell.^[34] Seit seiner Schulzeit in Harrow hegte der „zutiefst pietistische⁷⁶ und durch und durch evangelikale^{77, [35]} Keith-Falconer den Wunsch, sein künftiges Leben religiöser Arbeit zu widmen. Nach der Lektüre eines Aufsatzes von Generalmajor F. T. Haig, Mitglied der Church Mission Society⁷⁸ (CMS), in der Zeitschrift *The Christian* im Jahre 1885, in dem dieser zur Evangelisierung⁷⁹ der Arabischen Halbinsel⁸⁰ aufrief, und nach Gesprächen mit dem Autor beschloss er, zu diesem Zweck in das von den Briten verwaltete Aden⁸¹ zu gehen, um dort die erste protestantische⁸² Missionsstation auf der Halbinsel einzurichten. Keith-Falconer folgte damit dem Vorbild seines Studienkollegen Charles T. Studd⁸³, der als Missionar nach China gegangen war. Ziel seines Vorhabens war die Errichtung einer christlichen Kirchengemeinde für muslimische Konvertiten⁸⁴.^[35]

73 [https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Barnwell_\(Cambridgeshire\)&action=edit&redlink=1](https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Barnwell_(Cambridgeshire)&action=edit&redlink=1)

74 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/London>

75 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Borough_of_Tower_Hamlets

76 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pietismus>

77 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelikalismus>

78 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_Mission_Society

79 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelisierung>

80 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabische_Halbinsel

81 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aden>

82 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protestantismus>

83 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_T._Studd

84 [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konversion_\(Religion\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konversion_(Religion))



Abb. 5 Ion Keith-Falconer in seinem Radsporttrikot (ca. 1875), Gemälde von Edward Clifford

Im Oktober 1885 verließen Ion und Gwendolen Keith-Falconer Großbritannien Richtung Aden, um sich im Stadtteil Crater⁸⁵ niederzulassen, zunächst in einem Hotel.^[36] Aden war zu dieser Zeit verwaltungstechnisch Teil von Britisch-Indien⁸⁶ und mit seiner Lage vor der Einfahrt zum Sueskanal⁸⁷ von besonderer strategischer Bedeutung, zudem trafen sich dort wichtige Handelsrouten von und nach Mekka⁸⁸. Allmorgendlich unterrichtete Keith-Falconer

85 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aden#Crater>

86 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Britisch-Indien>

87 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sueskanal>

88 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mekka>

seine Frau eine Stunde lang in Arabisch, die sich mit der Sprache schwertat. Von den Einheimischen wurde er wegen seiner Kenntnisse des Arabischen und des Korans⁸⁹ bestaunt und respektiert. So pflegte er in einem Park auf Arabisch laut aus dem Lukasevangelium⁹⁰ vorzulesen, weshalb er der „Sāhib⁹¹, der Arabisch spricht wie ein Buch“ genannt wurde.^[37] Nach einigen Wochen zog das Ehepaar in das rund 13 km entfernte Dorf Sheikh Othman, da Keith-Falconer der Meinung war, in diesem ländlichen Umfeld mehr bewirken zu können als in Aden selbst, aber auch um sich von den dort lebenden Briten zu distanzieren und die Missionierung in Richtung Norden in Angriff zu nehmen.^[38] Seine Mission sollte von den Einheimischen nicht mit den ansässigen Briten, den britischen Behörden und somit dem britischen Imperialismus⁹² in Verbindung gesehen werden.^[39] Viele Araber glaubten, so schrieb er in einem Brief, „dass Europäer schlaue Leute sind, die sich betrinken und keine Religion haben“.^[40] Mit eigenem Geld wollte Keith-Falconer in Sheikh Othman eine Schule und ein Hospital einrichten. Nach viermonatigem Aufenthalt kehrte das Ehepaar vorübergehend zurück nach Großbritannien, wo Keith-Falconer als offizieller Missionar der *Church of Scotland* anerkannt wurde. Zudem wurde er *Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic* – ein von der britischen Krone finanzierter Lehrstuhl – an der Uni Cambridge und hielt eine Vorlesung über die Pilgerfahrt nach Mekka⁹³, um seinen Zuhörern deren religiöse und politische Bedeutung zu erläutern.^[41] Gegen Ende des Jahres 1886 kehrte Ion Keith-Falconer zusammen mit seinem Hund *Jip* in den Jemen zurück. Seine Frau und der junge Glasgower⁹⁴ Arzt Baruch Stewart Cowen (* 1863),^[42] der im Krankenhaus arbeiten sollte, folgten auf anderen Schiffen.^[43] Als Unterkunft dienten provisorisch errichtete Wellblechhütten⁹⁵, da der Vermieter eines Bungalows im Jahr zuvor zugesagt, dann aber seine Meinung überraschend geändert hatte. Schließlich wurde ein anderes, kleines Haus angemietet und ein arabischer Koch sowie zwei weitere Bedienstete aus Somalia⁹⁶ angeheuert. Derweil wurde ein neues Wohngebäude für die Missionare errichtet. Sinker, Autor des Buches *Memorials* und ehemaliger Tutor⁹⁷ von Keith-Falconer, beschrieb diese Umstände ausführlich, weil er eventuelle Vorwürfe, „der edle Tote“ habe überhastet oder fahrlässig gehandelt, entkräften wolle.^[44] In den folgenden Monaten litten Keith-Falconer wie auch seine Frau wiederholt an Fieberanfällen, vermutlich aufgrund von Malaria. Trotzdem trieb Keith-Falconer die Arbeit an den Gebäuden voran und machte weitere Sprachstudien, etwa in Somali⁹⁸. Ab Ende April verschlechterte sich sein gesundheitlicher Zustand, und am Morgen des 11. Mai 1887 fand ihn seine Frau tot im Bett auf. Am Abend des Tages wurde er auf dem europäischen Friedhof *Holkat Bay* von Crater bestattet.^{[45][46]} Ein Gedenkgottesdienst für ihn wurde in der *Assembly Hall* in Tower Hamlets ausgerichtet; dabei wurde ein Gemälde von Mitte der 1870er Jahre von ihm ausgestellt, das ihn in seinem Radsporttrikot zeigt,^[47] zudem gab es eine Trauerfeier in Cambridge.^[48]

89 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koran>

90 https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelium_nach_Lukas

91 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/S%C4%81hib>

92 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperialismus>

93 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haddsch>

94 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glasgow>

95 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellblech>

96 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somalia>

97 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tutor>

98 [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somali_\(Sprache\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somali_(Sprache))

1.2 Nachwirkungen

Nach Ion Keith-Falconers Tod einigten sich seine Mutter und seine Witwe Gwendolen mit der *Church of Scotland* darauf, die Mission weiterzuführen und die Kosten, wie mit ihm vereinbart, über mehrere Jahre zu tragen.^[49] Cowen praktizierte in dem Krankenhaus bis 1888 und sorgte für die Fertigstellung der Gebäude, anschließend wanderte er nach Australien⁹⁹ aus, wo er 1948 im Alter von 85 Jahren als angesehener Arzt starb.^{[50][51]} Die Mission, die hauptsächlich aus dem Krankenhaus bestand, wurde unter dem Namen *Keith-Falconer Mission* bekannt, und 1897 wurde in Aden die *Keith-Falconer Memorial Church* eingeweiht.^[52] Das von Keith-Falconer angestrebte Ziel der Gründung einer christlichen Gemeinde für muslimische Konvertiten ließ sich nie verwirklichen, wenn auch die medizinische Versorgung durch das Krankenhaus von der einheimischen Bevölkerung geschätzt wurde. Schon in den ersten Monaten seiner Existenz ließ sich etwa der Sultan von Lahidsch¹⁰⁰ dort behandeln.^[53] Ab 1904 engagierte sich die *Dansk Kirke-Mission i Arabien* (DKM) in den Einrichtungen der Mission und gründete Schulen und Werkstätten. Sie wurde bis zur Unabhängigkeit des Südjemen¹⁰¹ von Großbritannien im Jahre 1967 und nach kurzer Schließung von 1968 bis 1972 fortgeführt.^[54] David D. Grafton¹⁰², Professor für Islamwissenschaft¹⁰³ an der University of Hartford¹⁰⁴, resümierte das Wirken Keith-Falconers im Jahre 2006: Dessen vorbildlicher Ansatz für die Missionierung sei das Interesse an und die tiefgehende Kenntnis für islamische Traditionen sowie die Akzeptanz muslimischer Strukturen gewesen. Man dürfe, so Grafton, bei einer christlichen Missionierung – so wie Keith-Falconer – nicht das Wohl der muslimischen Gemeinschaft aus den Augen verlieren, dies insbesondere auf dem Hintergrund der Terroranschläge am 11. September 2001¹⁰⁵. Selbst wenn es nicht gelänge, Muslime zum Christentum zu bekehren, sei es von entscheidender Bedeutung, sich der heutigen muslimischen Welt, in der das Evangelium¹⁰⁶ oftmals mit westlichen Werten und Imperialismus assoziiert werde, als wahrer Christ zu zeigen. Dies sei Ion Keith-Falconers Vermächtnis.^[55]

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Personendaten¹⁴⁷

NAME	Keith-Falconer, Ion
ALTERNATIVNAMEN	Keith-Falconer, Ion Grant Neville (vollständiger Name)
KURZBESCHREIBUNG	britischer Gelehrter, Missionar und Radrennfahrer
GEBURTSDATUM	5. Juli 1856
GEBURTSORT	Edinburgh ¹⁴⁸
STERBEDATUM	11. Mai 1887

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¹⁴⁸ <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edinburgh>

Personendaten¹⁴⁷

STERBEORT

Sheikh Othman¹⁴⁹ bei Aden¹⁵⁰, Jemen¹⁵¹



Dieser Artikel wurde am 1. Mai 2019 in dieser Version¹⁵² in die Liste der exzellenten Artikel¹⁵³ aufgenommen.

149 https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sheikh_Othman&action=edit&redlink=1

150 <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aden>

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- 1 Nepenthes²²
- 285 Nicola²³
- 1 Scholless²⁴
- 2 Tommes²⁵
- 1 WalterNeumann²⁶
- 1 Waterborough²⁷
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