



INTRODUCTION TO

ISLAM

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Preface

This brief "Introduction to Islam" was originally a mimeographed correspondence course, designed for Christians in India seeking a better understanding of their Muslim neighbours. It assumed the basic Christian commitment of students, but no great previous knowledge of Islam. Its philosophy was that sympathetic understanding of another's faith is the first condition for the communication of the Christian Gospel to him. Hence it aimed to give as objective an account as possible of Islam and its history.

In this first printed edition the form of the twelve lessons has been preserved, with the questions at the end of each, in the hope that those who simply read right through the book will thereby be helped in their understanding of Islam. At the same time the book can still be used by correspondence course students who send in their written answers to each question. Supplementary reading assignments in text-books readily available in India, and appropriate additional questions, are also available from the Henry Martyn Institute. It is hoped that similar supplementary study material will be prepared in other lands with Muslim populations.

The first draft of the original lessons was written by Rev. James S. Moon, and the subsequent additions and editing were the work of Rev. Ian H. Douglas. After a period of operating the course,

The Henry Martyn Institute is a union institution, founded in 1920, and supported by most of the major Christian Churches in India.

The twelve chapters of this book were designed as lessons in a Correspondence Course aimed at giving Christians a sympathetic understanding of the faith and practice of their Muslim neighbours. They were written by two staff members:

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