

spirit. Neither has God a body nor has he a spirit. The Imam El-Ghazzali says: "Allah is not a body endowed with form nor a substance circumscribed with limits or determined by measure. Neither does He resemble bodies, as they are capable of being measured or divided. Neither is He a substance, nor do substances exist in Him; neither is He an accident, nor do accidents exist in Him. Neither is He like to anything that exists; neither is anything like Him. His nearness is not like the nearness of bodies nor is His essence like the essence of bodies. *Neither does He exist in anything nor does anything exist in Him.*"¹

The words "There is no God but Allah" occur in Surah Mohammed, verse 21, but the Surah which Moslems call the Surah of the Unity of God is the 112th. According to Tradition, this chapter is Mohammed's definition of Allah. Beidhawi says: "Mohammed (on him be prayers and peace) was asked concerning his Lord and then this Surah came down." Zamakhshari says: "Ibn Abbas related that the Koreish said, O Mohammed, describe to us your Lord whom you invite us to worship; then this Surah was revealed." As a specimen of Moslem exegesis, here is the Surah with the comments first of Beidhawi and then of Zamakhshari; the words of

¹See *El Maksadu-l-asna* by this famous Moslem scholastic. An extract is found in Ockley's *History of the Saracens* and quoted in Hughes' *Dict. of Islam*.