## 106 THE MOSLEM DOCTRINE OF GOD

came not from the side of orthodoxy, but was entirely the work of heretics, such as Averroës, Alfarabi and Avicenna.<sup>1</sup>

The orthodox philosopher of Islam was Al-Ghazzali, and the result of his work was the complete triumph of unphilosophical orthodoxy.<sup>2</sup>

So utterly barren of ideas and opposed to all reason did this orthodoxy become that Sprenger sarcastically remarks concerning it: "The Moslem student marvelled neither at the acuteness nor yet at the audacity of his master; he marvelled rather at the wisdom of God which could draw forth such mysterious interpretations. Theology, in fact, had now made such happy progress that men looked on common sense as a mere human attribute—the reverse being that which they expected from Deity." And this was one of the results of Moslem speculation on the Koran doctrine of predestination.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>See Ueberweg's Hist. of Philosophy and Renan's Hist. Lang. Semit.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>A special study on the Moslem Idea of Predestination has just appeared from the press by Rev. A. de Vlieger of the Calioub Mission. It is entitled, *Kitab al Quadr*, Materiaux pour servir à l'étude de la doct. de la predestination dans la theologie musulmane. Leiden, 1902.