

cooled by the waves of the Atlantic. History tells of Akba, one of their leaders, that he rode his horse far out into the surf, and cried: "Great God! if I were not stopped by this raging sea, I would go on to the nations of the West, preaching the unity of thy name and putting to the sword those who would not submit." Tarik, finding no lands to the west, crossed over the straits into Spain, and named its promontory Jebel Tarik (the mountain of Tarik), Gibraltar—an everlasting monument to his missionary zeal.

The spread of Islam may be chronologically divided into three periods, and the dates when Islam entered the lands where it is now predominant fall into three groups. The first period is from the death of Mohammed, 632 to 800; a later period, under the Ottomans and Moguls, 1280 to 1480; and lastly the modern spread of Islam, from 1780 onward.

During the first period, the days of the early caliphs, fire and sword carried Islam triumphant throughout all Arabia, Syria, Persia, Egypt, north Africa, and, by more peaceful means, as far as Canton and western China. All these regions had received the faith, and it had become deeply rooted before the year 1000, while Christianity was put under tribute and oppression, as in Asia Minor and Egypt, or en-

**Three Periods
of Conquest**

**Results under
the Early
Caliphs**