

chief sects to-day are the Sunnis and the Shiahhs. The former are the followers of tradition and are the orthodox sect. To them the Koran is the Procrustean bed for the human intellect. Everything is measured by its standard. This sect has four schools of jurisprudence which differ in many details from the ritual and civil law.

The Shiahhs are the partizans of the house of Ali, and they assert that he should have been the first of the caliphs after Mohammed's death. So great is their hatred toward the earlier caliphs that in one of their festivals three images of dough filled with honey are made to represent Abu Bekr, Omar, and Othman, which are then stuck with knives and the honey is sipped as typical of the blood of the usurping caliphs! The festival is named *Ghadir*, from the place in Arabia where their traditions say Mohammed declared Ali his rightful successor.

Shiahhs

The present political division of the Mohammedan world is a startling evidence of the finger of God in history and an unprecedented opportunity for missions. Once Moslem empire was coextensive with Moslem faith. In 907 the caliphate included Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli, Egypt, Syria, Arabia, Persia, Turkestan, Afghanistan, Baluchistan and the region around the Caspian Sea. To-day the empire of Abd ul Hamid, caliph of all

**Political
Divisions**