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ISLAM IN RUSSIA

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I TAKE for granted that you realize what "Russia" means: A state covering 2,816,143 square miles, with one hundred and fifty million inhabitants, belonging to about forty nationalities and tribes, confessing something like twenty different religious creeds. I take for granted also that you realize what Islam in Russia means: twenty million followers of the false prophet, belonging to about seventeen nationalities and tribes, but forming one great Moslem family; the one short creed: "There is no god but God, and Mohammed is the prophet of God" moulding into one these twenty millions with all their differences of blood, race, occupation, ambition. You, who know Islam, will expect to find the Moslem in Russia the same as everywhere: the fanatical, intolerant, proud believer, steadily pushing on the spread of his creed, caring neither for civil nor ecclesiastical power when he finds it encroaching upon his sacred right to perfect liberty of creed and religious practice. Such you know the Moslem in Africa, in East and Central Asia, and such we find him in Russia.

We cannot here trace the history of Islam in Russia, or even the state of Islam in Russia at the present time; this has been done by more than one competent person and has been presented to friends of missionary work in a short essay by Dr. S. M. Zwemer in the *Missionary Review of the World*, and lately in a paper by Mrs. Sophia Bobrovnikoff, whose close acquaintance with Russian