

## *Preface*

THE justification of this historical study is the fact that there exists no book which surveys from the beginning to the present time the missionary efforts of the Christian Church to approach the Moslem. The materials for such a comprehensive review are to be found only in hundreds of books and articles, each covering but a limited portion of the field. In attempting this larger treatment of an enterprise in which I have had almost no direct share, I have relied not only upon the work of historians but upon the recorded experience of scores of missionaries. The wide range of their endeavors, both in space and in time, has obliged me to make the record not comprehensive but selective. I have not tried to produce a complete history of Christian missions to Moslems nor to deal with all countries, all Churches, and all societies. My effort, instead, has been to choose what seemed most significant or typical or most likely to be interesting. Many regions, therefore, have been left out of this survey, and the lack has been partly supplied by brief appendices. Rather because of the limitations of space than through neglect of its importance, I have omitted the work of the Roman Catholic Church since 1800; and for the same reason I have given to the subject of Christian literature for Moslems less attention than its immense importance would require in any more extended study. *In view of the magnitude of world events since September, 1939, it will be well to note that my record does not extend beyond the year 1939.*

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