

lands. The total number of Moslems in the Russian Empire, chiefly in Asia, according to the last census, is 13,906,972, which equals 9.47 per cent. of the total population, while the Russian Jews number only 3.55 per cent. For other lands see the map at the end of the book.

**Distribution  
by Languages**

The sacred language of Islam is Arabic. Mohammed called it the language of the angels. And the Arabic Koran is to this day the textbook in all Moslem schools the world over. Arabic is the spoken language not only of Arabia, but is used all over Syria, Palestine, and the whole of northern Africa. As a written language it has thousands of readers in every part of the Moslem world; and yet to four fifths of the believers Arabic is a dead language and not understood by the people. But all public worship and all daily prayer must be in the Arabic tongue. In the Philippine Islands the first chapter of the Arabic Koran is repeated before dawn paints the sky red. The refrain is taken up in Moslem prayers at Peking and is repeated across the whole of China. It is heard in the valleys of the Himalayas and on "The Roof of the World." A little later the Persians pronounce these Arabic words, and then across the peninsula the muezzins call the "faithful" to the same prayer. At the waters of the Nile the cry, "Allahu Akbar," is again