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### ISLAM IN CHINA

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**A**T the outset of this inquiry as to Mohammedanism in China, we shall do well to bear in mind the very limited sources of information at our disposal. This complex subject is comparatively a new study; there are few authorities to consult, and in this field of inquiry there are no experts to whom we can go.

Further, it may be noted, the sources of the available information are sometimes perforce of Moslem origin. This renders it highly desirable that several opinions should be obtained, if we are to arrive at a fairly correct view of our subject. This may be illustrated by the following example; in making inquiry recently as to the number of mosques, the answers concerning a certain city were as follows:—"seven," "twenty to thirty," and "thirty-six." Careful investigation showed that the last number was the correct one.

The elaborate information collected by Mr. Marshall Broomhall for the Edinburgh Conference, and now embodied in his book recently published, has not been available for this brief paper. What is here attempted—a very inadequate effort it is true—is to throw stronger light on a question of real interest, and of deep importance to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, and who pray for the coming of His kingdom.

To gain a clearer knowledge of Islam in China, and in order to be able to supply information specially requested, further recent inquiries have now been made;