

form of prayer at least seventy-five times a day!

#### Call to Prayer

The call to prayer heard from minarets five times daily in all Moslem lands is as follows: The muezzin cries it in a loud voice and always in the Arabic language: "God is most great! God is most great! God is most great! God is most great! I testify that there is no god but God! I testify that there is no god but God! I testify that Mohammed is the apostle of God! I testify that Mohammed is the apostle of God! Come to prayer! Come to prayer! Come to prosperity! Come to prosperity! God is most great! God is most great! There is no god but God!" In the call to early morning prayer the words "prayer is better than sleep" are added twice after the call to prosperity.

#### Month of Fasting

The month of fasting was probably borrowed by Mohammed from the Christian Lent. There are many traditions that tell how important fasting is. Let one suffice: "Every good act that a man does shall receive from ten to seven hundred rewards, but the rewards of fasting are beyond bounds, for fasting is for God alone and he will give its rewards." The chief Moslem fast is that of the month of Ramazan.<sup>1</sup> The fast is extremely hard upon the laboring classes

<sup>1</sup> This is the ninth month of the Moslem year, but because they have a lunar calendar it can occur at any season. At present Ramazan corresponds to January, and the days are short.