

And while the Church was neglecting the problem, Islam was spreading in all directions and taking root in new lands and among new peoples. Five centuries of inactivity and then the mantle of Raymund Lull fell upon Henry Martyn, saint and scholar, and first *modern* missionary to the Mohammedans. Born in 1781, the story of his early life is well known in the annals of missions. He was ordained in 1803, and arrived in India in 1806 as a chaplain of the East India Company, with his heart on fire to labor for the benighted peoples of the Orient. Before his arrival he had already studied Sanskrit, Persian, and Arabic, and afterward he labored unceasingly by tongue and pen, by preaching and by prayer, "to burn out for God."

Henry
Martyn's
Efforts
for Islam

In 1808 he completed a version of the New Testament in Hindustani, and later into other languages of India. With a special desire to reach the Mohammedans, he perfected himself in Persian and began a version of the New Testament in that language. In 1811 he sailed from Calcutta to Bombay and for the Persian Gulf, partly because of his broken health, but more so, as is evident from his journals, that he might give the Mohammedans of Arabia and Persia the Word of God. On his voyage from Calcutta to Bombay he composed tracts in Arabic, spoke with the Arab sailors, and studied

Scripture
Translation