

that the same diversity of appellation which now prevails, has obtained for seven centuries. In some of them we meet with **MAOMETIS**, from which comes our **MAHOMET**, the most popular and familiar title to the English ear; and in others **MACHOMED**. Other varieties among ancient authors might doubtless be specified. But it will be observed, for the most part, that writers acquainted with the Arabic tongue and who have drawn their materials directly from the original fountains, as well as the great body of recent Oriental travellers, are very unanimous in adopting the orthography of the name which appears in our title page. If the Arabic usage be in fact the proper standard, as will probably be admitted, **Mahomed**, instead of either **Mahomet**, **Mahomed**, or **Mahommed**, is the genuine form of the name, and the mode in which it should be uniformly written and pronounced. The fact, that the example of most Oriental scholars of the present day has given currency to this form, and the probability that it will finally supplant all others, has induced us, on the whole, to adopt it, though with considerable hesitation.

The following list of names and titles frequently occurring in connexion with the affairs of the East, together with their etymological import, will not be deemed inappropriate to the object of the present work.

Mohammed, Ahmed.—From **Hamad**; praised highly celebrated, illustrious, glorious.

Moslem, Musulman, Islam, Islamism.—All from the same root, **Aslam**; signifying to yield up, dedicate, consecrate entirely to the service of religion.

Koran.—From **Karu**, to read; the reading, legend, or that which ought to be read.

Caliph.—A successor; from the Hebrew **Chylaph**, to be changed, to succeed, to pass round a revolution.

Sultan.—Originally from the Chaldaic **Soltan**; signifying authority, dominion, principality.

Vizier.—An assistant.

Hadj.—Pilgrimage; **Hadji**; one who makes the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Saracen.—Etymology doubtful; supposed to be from **Sarak**, to steal; a plunderer, a robber.

Hejim, or Hejra.—The Flight; applied emphatically to Mohammed's flight from Mecca to Medina.

Mufti.—The principal head of the Mohammedan religion, and the resolver of all doubtful points of the law.—An office of great dignity in the Turkish empire.

Imam.—A kind of priest attached to the mosques, whose duty it is occasionally to expound a passage of the Koran. They, at the same time, usually follow some more lucrative employment.

Moollahs form what is called the **Ulema**, or body of doctors in theology and jurisprudence, who are entrusted with the guardianship of the laws of the empire, and from whose number the **Mufti** is chosen.

Emir.—Lineal descendants of the Prophet himself, distinguished by wearing turbans of deep sea-green, the colour peculiar to all the race of Mohammed. They have special immunities on the score of their descent, and one of them carries the green standard of the Prophet when the Grand Seignior appears in any public solemnity.

Pasha.—The title given to the provincial governors. A **Pasha** is to a province or pashalic, what the **Sultan** is to the empire, except that the judicial power is in hands of the **cadis**, the provincial magistrates. The **raias** of a **Pasha** are the standards which he is allowed to carry; one of three tails is one of three standards, which number gives the power of life and death.

Reis Effendi.—This officer may be termed the High Chancellor of the Ottoman empire. He is at the head of a class of attorneys which at this time contains the best informed men of the nation.