

with Austria and for the first time Turkey concluded a treaty on equal terms with an European Power. Ahmad was succeeded by his brother Mustafa (1617-18), who was soon deposed as incompetent. His brother Usman (1618-22) succeeded him. But he was also deposed and replaced by the former Sultan Mustafa, who again abdicated in favour of his nephew. Murad IV (1623-40), the new Sultan, recaptured Baghdad (1638) which had been taken by the Iranians during the disorders that prevailed in Turkey. Ibrahim, his brother, succeeded him in 1640 but was deposed and killed in 1648. Muhammad, a son of the late Sultan, ascended the throne in 1648. He captured Candia and defeated the Poles but a combined attack organized by the Austrians, Russians and Poles, aided by Tuscany and the Pope, resulted in the loss of several towns. The war culminated in a mutiny of his troops. The Sultan was deposed and was succeeded by his brother Sulaiman II (1687-91). He appointed Mustafa Kuprili as *Grand Vazir*. War continued and in the meantime the Sultan died and was succeeded by another brother of his, Ahmad II (1691-95), who enjoyed his throne for four years, and left it to his nephew Mustafa (1695). War continued with varying fortunes and finally peace was concluded with the Allies in 1699. From then, the Turkish offensive in Europe changed into one of defence. In 1703, the Sultan abdicated in favour of Ahmad III. In 1713, Peter the Great, who was surrounded by a Turkish army, had to yield to Turkish terms and to give up Azao and to permit King Charles of Poland, a refugee in Turkey, to return to his kingdom. But the Turkish army was defeated by the Austrians in the West and by the Iranians in the East. The Iranians under Nadir Shah, drove the Turks out of the Iranian provinces. The army revolted and forced the Sultan to abdicate in favour of his nephew Muhammad I (1730). He was successful in his war against Russia and Austria, with whom he concluded an honourable peace in 1739. His successor Usman III, ruled for a short period of three years and died in 1757. The next Sultan was his cousin Mustafa



THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, 1566 A.D.