THE MINARET
AND
ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE MOSQUE IN
EARLY ISLAM

by

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II

Illustrations

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There are a few fragments of the walls of a well-built edifice, perhaps a church, but the presence of modern houses prevents a thorough making of a ground-plan. A Greek inscription discovered here was a church here named in honour of St. Elias, and another inscription.

127. RIMET IL-LUHF.

Situated on the extreme southern edge of the Ledjá, as a Druse settlement of fair size. Fragments of ancient structures may be associated with several of ancient place, some in the upper to which no doubt the name of modern house would disclose this would of a stay was not proper. The undoubted ancient building is on the west (III. 353); the inscription of one K.

counting the podium or basement; but I am inclined to believe difference in the quality of the wall structure, that the uppermost

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were two portals on the south, one on the north, opening back in the west wall, and one on the south side of the diaconicon, broad, enclosed narthex, the width of the church, divided by two columns. The central nave is an oblong toward the west in a semi-circular, with ruins, but having been a confession, extremely low for its walls preserved in the corners. The apse had a simplest profile, and the nave arcades were prothesis was built up in speed window may still be overlooking the aisle, few little remains. The

Fig. 28. Jerāda: Church-tower (5th cent. A.D.)

the northeast angle of the church is a large room, 6.70 m. by 8.20 m., spanned by two well-built arches, one of which is still in situ. Two doorways in the east wall of this room open into two long low chambers. Two inscriptions, or one inscription in two parts, in rather crude Greek letters, were found upon the lintels of these doorways; we learn from them that St. George was patron saint of the monastery, and a date is given, which Dr. Littmann renders as 624-5 A.D. This date is exceedingly

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The interior of the upper stage is entered by a narrow doorway, but all access to the interior of the lower stage is blocked, even the staircase which descended from the upper stage. The walls of this stage are 1.50 m. thick, and the platform outside of it is 2 m. wide. The great wall which surrounds the building is composed of boulders and smaller stones. It forms roughly a square (ill. 374), two angles of which are rounded. The walls are paralleled to the sides of the tower, but are set at varying distances from them. There are three entrances in the form of practical doorways, and the outer walls are joined to the tower by connecting walls at two points. The walls have an exterior thickness of one and a half meters, and there is a platform 2 m. wide outside of them. The great wall which surrounds the building is composed of boulders and smaller stones. It forms roughly a square (ill. 374), two angles of which are rounded. The walls are paralleled to the sides of the tower, but are set at varying distances from them. There are three entrances in the form of practical doorways, and the outer walls are joined to the tower by connecting walls at two points.

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mentioned in the notes of many travellers. St. Rayn gives an\nunimpressive view of\nthe building, and others have published photographs, the best of \nhich are those of\nHinnor and of Konstantow. This mosque is generally believed to have been erected.

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Open space of 53.1/672-3.4.0.

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