

**Final
Labors and
Martyrdom**

Although banished for a second time and with threats against his life if he returned, Lull could not resist the call of the Love that ruled his life. "He that loves not lives not," said he, "and he that lives by the Life cannot die." So, in 1314, the veteran of eighty years returned to Africa and to his little band of Moslem converts. For over ten months he dwelt in hiding, talking and praying with those who had accepted Christ, and trying to win others. Weary of seclusion, he at length came forth into the open market and presented himself to the people as the man whom they had expelled. It was Elijah showing himself to a mob of Ahabs. Lull stood before them and threatened them with God's wrath if they still persisted in their errors. He pleaded with love, but spoke the whole truth. Filled with fury at his boldness and unable to reply to his arguments, the populace seized him and dragged him out of the town. There he was stoned to death, June 30, 1315, and so became the first martyr missionary to Islam. "One step further," says Dr. George Smith,— "but some slight response from his Church or his age, and Raymond Lull would have anticipated William Carey by exactly five centuries." But there was no response.

Between the date of Lull's death and his successors we have to make a leap of centuries.