

# Women In Islam

By TYNETTA DEANAR

It seems to me that it would be appropriate in our exchange of ideas for us to take up the subject of education and its meaning and value to the Muslim women and people.

While many contend that the illiterate and uneducated of our kind become followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the truth is that we, as Muslims, are faced with a far greater educational challenge than is the common experience of the most accomplished of our people in this field. By becoming Muslims we have taken the first and lasting step towards the real learning process. For we have achieved, first of all, a strength and unity which the otherwise educated have not been able to devise or had the time to contemplate.

Whereas the so-called Negro who becomes educated (for the most part) applies it only as a means of acquiring material advantages and social seniority and prestige in his competition in the white man's society, the so-called Negroes, followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, apply their knowledge in the broadest possible sense.

**THE EXTENT OF OUR** education in Islam covers the designing, making and shaping of a New World. That means that we must have men and women of science, of the medical professions, those learned in economics, business administration and jurisprudence. We must have teachers learned in every general and specialized field. We must have

farmers and trained agriculturists, artisans and architectures. In fact, every source of power that we as a people can manifest is the extent of our understanding of the value of education to the Muslim women and to the Nation of Islam.

Perhaps someone is rightly thinking where does Home Economics, Family Care and the place of the woman in the home enter into the picture of the Muslim women? Indeed this is an essential role which when properly understood and organized puts spirit and vitality into the mainstream of all of our educational endeavors.

**WITHOUT THE BEAUTY** and vigor of a happy and well rounded family life, much is left in later years to the growing teams of psychoanalysts and psychiatrists to solve. The mentally disturbed, the frustrated and neurotic masses of people storm into the busy streets of American cities daily, mainly as a result of unhappy family relations.

We cannot overemphasize the importance and the value of education in every avenue of our lives. We can travel as far as our money will go, but our ability to seek and to comprehend knowledge will go as far as our ability to think.