

ISLAM IN TUSKEGEE

By **SISTER ANNA KARRIEM**

Throughout the many years, I have spent at Tuskegee and having been a student under numerous teachers, I cannot thank Allah (GOD) enough for having blessed me to become a student of His Beloved Messenger, The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad. As I sat in my classes taking notes, listening, and observing, the knowledge given to me was limited, in that it could prepare me only for this society and its principles of civilization. When I addressed the students who gathered to hear the truth that the Honorable Elijah Muhammad

had given me to give to them, twenty-four hours after the meeting the white man (Devil) and his Black imps had assembled to decide how to stop "Sectarian Teachings" on the Tuskegee Campus. They were never successful at doing this. Yet, I now understand more fully what the Holy Quran means when it teaches that "HARD TRIALS ARE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH TRUTH."

I DON'T BELIEVE anyone will disagree when I state that struggling grooms a person to such an extent that the breeze of success is soothing to the mind. I am reminded of the Christian

song that says "Nobody knows the trouble I have had." Surely the years in which the Messenger of Allah taught the Black man and Woman of America have not been free of hardships. However, the struggle has not deterred his courage, for he said in reference to making the Nation successful: "I AM DETERMINED BY MY ALLAH THAT I WILL NOT BE OUT DONE." He talks with business men from various fields of endeavor in his efforts to buy more land for farming, businesses and homes for believers. The Nation's ultra-modern printing plant and proposed hospital are prime examples of his tireless efforts to put into practice what he has been teaching us for 39 years — DO SOMETHING FOR SELF.

He, unlike any other so-called Negro Leader, never fails to say, "I love my people; God has given you to me. You will see that I am offering you the best." His accomplishments and works are so meaningful and divinely directed. If one should observe the manner in which he walks, you will see that his steps are not faulty; they are firm and with purpose. His mission has such divine direction that when an orthodox Muslim came to his home seeking to make him alter his belief in Almighty God Allah in return for money; he unhesitatingly said "I will never give up my Allah (God) Who Came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad." Surely this is a sign to the true believer. All Praises are due to Allah.

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