DENMARK, SITUATED IN THE NORTHERN EXTREMITY OF EUROPE WHERE ISLAM HAD NOT REACHED IN ITS FIRST BID OF EXPANSION IS ALSO FEELING ITS IMPACT NOW THROUGH THE ENDEAVOURS OF THE AHMADIYYA MISSION. WE HAVE THERE A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY OF MUSLIMS. MISS KHADIJA (FORMERLY KASA BIRGIT), A DANE, TELLS HER STORY OF HOW SHE ACCEPTED ISLAM. SHE SAYS:

I was born a Dane that is I was born into Christian religion. I heard and believed that God is One and could not bring this to agree with Trinity. Nor did I understand what was the status of Jesus. My associates could offer no solution to my questions which hurt them because "—you are not supposed to understand: you must listen to the church and believe."

Subsequently when I was abroad, Islamic literature came my way and nothing seemed strange to me within the spiritual world that those early readings let me look into. On the contrary, I saw answers to the questions which had puzzled me and confirmation of vague thoughts I had had. By God's grace, His truth as re-instated and expanded through the Holy Quran and the Prophet (Sallallah-o-Alaihi wasallum) was to me so obvious that I could have no doubts concerning my religion, and I could not be otherwise persuaded despite efforts to this effect in discussions which Christian officials who were also countrymen of mine, called me to question when they learned of my denouncing their teachings.

I feel that this submission of mine to Islam was solely initiated by the Will of God, for I had no pre-knowledge of Muslim practice, and yet over the years since I have had occasion to experience that it was the road of spiritual life I had been brought onto. My "apprenticeship" continues and to me is an absorbing education here as well as—and more important—for what is to come, full of purpose and an appreciation which can arise from no activity connected merely with our life here. Forgiveness from God allows for human frailty on the part of those who strive sincerely for Him and is the great encouragement in continued urge towards endeavouring to adhere to Islamic principles; the assurance of God's Care and Mercy is the cure of worldly frustrations and fears. My original belief in the One God remains intact and has been enhanced by belief in Islam as His True Religion, His guidance and His all-awareness; in the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Sallallah-o-Alaihi wasallum) as God's gift for our benefit; and in the Promised Messiah (Alaihissalam) who was so honoured by God as to become His initial force for spreading over to-day's earth the invitation to attain Knowledge of revelations from God, to grasp the help that is extended to us by God through His prophets (peace and blessings of God be on them), and to the promise from God, when we submit to His Will and prove our desire to follow His teachings, of the final meeting with the Creator of the universe, and those who are of Him and, therefore, constitiute the circle that is united in one Love, one Aim.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED OUR DUTCH SISTER, MRS. ZIMMERMANN, WHO HAS TRANSLATED THE HOLY QURAN INTO THE DUTCH LANGUAGE TO COME OVER TO ISLAM.



Mrs. Nasira Zimmearman; **An Ahmadi Lady** *of Holland who translated the Holy Quran in Dutch language.*

My father being himself a clergyman did everything to make me a devout member of the Protestant Church to which he belonged. But the worship as conducted in the Church with music and singing appeared to me as a theatrical performance and as the years passed by and I could look into the Bible critically I found it full of contradictions and interpolations.

In 1946 *I got an employment with a London Firm of Translators and was given the task of rendering the Holy Quran into the Dutch language. The Executive had a Dutch and a Polish Director, an Austrian Secretary and a south American gentleman to supervise the translation work in Spanish.*

In my contacts with the Executive I found out that nobody was serious and that the Holy Quran was being ridiculed by them. When I had almost completed my work the Dutch Director suddenly fell ill and within two days died. After a few days the Polish Director was admitted to a hospital and died on the operation table. I felt awed and the idea struck me that their attitude towards the Holy Quran had something to do with their death.

The Spanish translator was frightened and went back to his own country but could not escape the chasing death. After a few days I was startled to learn that sudden death had overtaken him too in his own country. This convinced me that it was a punishment meted out to them for their ridicule of the Holy Quran.

After completing the Dutch translation I had an opportunity to visit the London mosque (63, *Malrose Road*) *and then I returned to Holland where I kept in touch with the Ahmadiyya Mission in my country and continued my study of Islamic literature. The beauty of Islam convinced me of its truth and by the grace of God I was able to join it soon.*