

Says Messenger's Mission Complete if All Black Americans Accept Islam

By Abdul Basit Naeem
(Continued from Last Week)

In concluding my article in last week's "Muhammad Speaks" I stated, in effect, that a vast majority of the twenty-five million "Asiatic" (Black or so-called "Negro") inhabitants of the U.S.A. have LONG and REPEATEDLY been urged (by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad) to relinquish their alien (European-Christian) names, worship practices and other (so-called) "cultural" embellishments inherited from and, no doubt, suggestive of the bygone era of slavery.

Allow me now to explain: First and foremost, it is an established fact that the great Muslim leader (Honorable Elijah Muhammad) was "called" and duly (i.e., divinely) authorized to embark upon the most awesome and tedious task of awakening and



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imparting "true knowledge of self and kind" to all the "lost-and-found . . . of Allah's people in this wilderness" (American

so-called "Negroes") way back in 1930—which was, for many of us, at least, certainly a LONG time ago!

Second, since receiving his august and solemn assignment, the gentle "Little Lamb" has indeed incessantly and most strenuously strived to spread the "word" and to invite Black Americans of every rank and persuasion to investigate and accept their "own" God (ALLAH) and His True Religion (ISLAM). He has done this "secretly" and privately, that is to say, verbally and through the painfully slow process of person-to-person canvassing, as well as "openly" and publicly.

Even of his efforts in the latter category, I believe it is common knowledge that the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's inspiring and life giving teachings have been readily accessible to Black Americans for at least twelve years—for it was in the year 1956 that his column, entitled "Mr. Muhammad Speaks," first began appearing in the Weekly "Pittsburgh Courier" and later in several other black-oriented periodical publications as well. Shortly afterwards, a collection of his unique and powerful words of wisdom and enlightenment were offered to the public at large in book form—

viz., *The Supreme Wisdom*, Volumes I and II.

In recent years, the U.S. "Nation of Islam" has brought out and distributed hundreds of thousands of copies of additional and substantially superior works of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, MESSAGE TO THE BLACK MAN and HOW TO EAT TO LIVE, as well as a set of three extended-play records. At the same time, the various Muhammad's Mosques of Islam across the United States have experienced phenomenal growth, thereby vastly augmenting the Muslim leader's official, "vocal" strength.

In addition to above, the "Nation" today sponsors a score of regularly-scheduled radio broadcasts, mostly in major urban centers of the United States, as well as a couple of TV programs that amply air the Muslim leader's views on topical matters and exhortations to Black Americans to "go for self."

I cannot, of course, say—because I do not know—just how many printings the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's books have so far undergone, or precisely how many copies of the records containing the Messenger's teachings have been distributed.

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Nor am I in a position to measure the total, overall audience response generated by these or other official Muslim propagation endeavors noted immediately above. However, I think I can still prove my point (under reference in the present essay) on the basis of Messenger Muhammad's writings set down in another "Nation of Islam" literary enterprise, MUHAMMAD SPEAKS.

Reviewing its back issues, I find that the noble Muslim leader's literary production enhancing the seven completed volumes of this newspaper comprises an excellent and incomparable chronicle of his persistent and indefatigable labors in behalf of his mission and people.

The "real, wicked nature" and "deadly deeds" of the "devils" (also invariably referred to as "beasts," "serpents," etc.) are described in no less than twenty separate articles. The "deceivers," "lynchers," "slavers," "false peacemakers" and "hypocrites" constitute the subject matter of another twenty or so essays.

True, one is bound to come across an occasional duplication of content in some of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's writings printed in "Muhammad Speaks." However, it is my opinion that such repetition of material only serves to EMPHASIZE the meaning of his "messages."

In closing, may I add here that, since each of the aforemen-

tioned works of Messenger Muhammad also contains a clear and unequivocal WARNING to Black Americans—usually to the effect that severe DIVINE CHASTISEMENT awaits all who still might ignore or defy Allah's Commandments applicable to "this time and day of the judgment and separation of nations"—it proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has already well-served the principal purpose and objective of his divinely-ordained mission.

I think it should be further clear and manifest to all concerned that the continued existence and survival as well as future growth and prosperity of the "righteous lost-and-found . . . nation in this wilderness" is up to Black Americans themselves.