

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Challenge of The New Moon

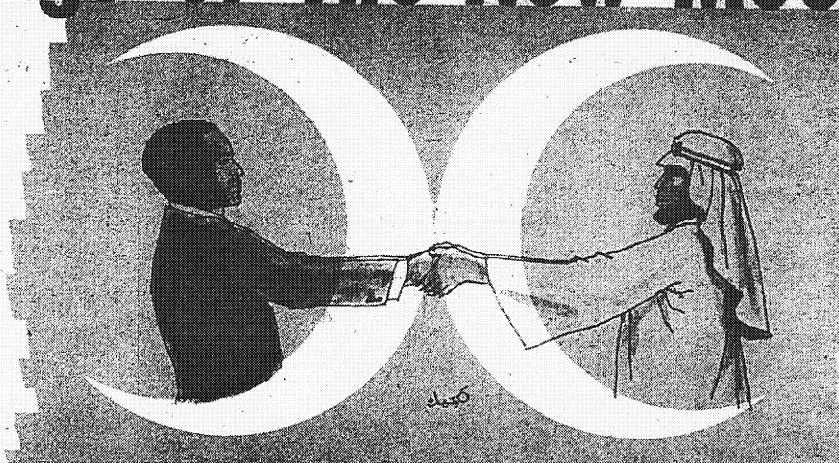
5. It is He Who made the sun
To be a shining glory
And the moon to be a light
(Of beauty), and measured out
Stages for her; that ye might
Know the number of years
And the count (of time).
Nowise did God create this
But in truth and righteousness.
(Thus) doth He explain His Signs
In detail, for those who
understand.

مَا كُنَّا لَنُؤْتِيَهُنَّ حَتَّىٰ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُنَّ
وَالْيَوْمَ نُبْرِئُكُمْ وَنَكْفُرُ عَنْكُمْ
إِن تَكْفُرُونَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَخْلُقُ
مَا يَشَاءُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ
ذَكِيمٌ
يُنزِّلُ الْغَيْثَ لَكُمْ وَيَسْخَرُ
لَكُمْ الْأَنْهَارَ وَاللَّيْلِ لَسْخَرُوا
لَكُمْ

6. Verily, in the alternation
Of the Night and the Day,
And in all that God
Hath created, in the heavens
And the earth, are Signs
For those who fear Him.

بَلَدًا مِّنَ الْأَرْضِ وَاللَّيْلِ
لِلنَّجْمِ وَاللَّيْلِ لِلنَّجْمِ
لِلنَّجْمِ وَاللَّيْلِ لِلنَّجْمِ
لِلنَّجْمِ وَاللَّيْلِ لِلنَّجْمِ

HOLY QURAN translation by Yusuf Ali, Sura X, Verses 5, 6



In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful; Peace and Blessings upon His Servant and His Messenger, Muhammad, forever. Amen.

As-Salaam-Alaikum

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Holy Quran teaches us that the glorious workings of nature provide a wealth of knowledge and wisdom for the mind of the man and the mind of the woman who understand and who fear God. When we observe the moon, in the natural order of creation, we can see a lesson in the natural growth of ourselves as a body of people who have a divine, prophetic mission for the world.

The flag of the Nation of Islam has a moon with a dark sphere on the left side, but with light striking it on the right side. This crescent moon represents the first quarter phase of the moon, or the new moon. The moon is used as a symbol to represent the prophet or prophethood.

In the East, you will find that some Muslim countries represent themselves with flags that have the crescent moon in its fourth (last) quarter. They are saying that they have seen all of the light. In the last quarter, the moon represents fulfillment or completion of the prophecy.

The crescent moon in the first quarter, as seen on the flag of the Nation of Islam, represents the beginning. This is a sign telling us that the prophetic mission of the Body-Christ is not in its fullness or completion, but that it has just started.

The Honorable Master Elijah Muhammad (may the Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon Him) referred to us as a "baby nation" (newly-formed nation) in his time, but today our

prophetic mission is growing and growing and one day it will be complete in the world.

The religious world (society) was not formed with the last quarter first—it was formed first with the first quarter. The Christian religious world and the Jewish religious world date their beginning back to Moses. Although they really go back to Abraham, they start with the five books of Moses (the Torah or Pentateuch) telling about Abraham.

Moses began his teaching by telling the people that a deliverer had come to them and that they were under the rule of an evil, wicked, cruel oppressor. The religion of the Jews started with Moses fighting for their freedom from the Egyptian taskmasters. The Scripture reveals that religious movements start with first things first, such as food, clothing, shelter, good homes, and friendships in all walks of life. This is what people need more than anything else when the religion (religious teachings) comes to them.

When most of the people are fighting for the bare necessities of life and are barely existing, you do not come to them with confusing theological ideas to complicate their minds. You have to reach them where they are already alive. They are not yet alive in the mind, but they feel life in the physical body.

Once you speak to the physical needs of the people, you can put them on the road to moral growth, to intellectual growth, and to growth in the image of Divine. This natural growth in religion is the same as growth in the natural world—from right to left.

The movement in the universe is from

right to left, not from left to right. This world of grafted (unnatural) mentality has been going against the natural order of creation. The universe goes counterclockwise (right to left), but this world goes from left to right.

The movement of the moon through its phases shows us that the heaven begins its writing on the right and writes to the left. The Original Man, who is the first man to get the truth, has a language that is written from right to left. The Arabic language is written in this way but the languages of the West are grafted, "upside down," and are written from left to right.

The Gentiles got their start with civilization in an unnatural and artificial way. They did not study the natural workings and order of the universe to arrive at their knowledge. They accepted a body of knowledge that was grafted for them out of the original body of knowledge (Divine Truth) by the ungodly Jew (Jacob).

This world of grafted, Caucasian mentality came alive in grafted knowledge (falsehood) and was built upon artificial principles and concepts. It will never get in touch with reality unless we who are the living (the Body-Christ) bring it back in touch with reality.

Brother and Sister, the Nation of Islam invites you to join us in the new moon phase of growth in our prophetic mission which will soon rise to fullness throughout the world.

As-Salaam-Alaikum
Your Brother,
W.D. Muhammad