

# John Hassan: Muslim Pioneer passes

By Emam Khalil Abdel Alim

And say not of those who are slain in the way of Allah: "They are dead" Nay, they are living, though ye perceive (it) not.

—Holy Quran 2: 154

After 44 years of service to the cause of Al-Islam, Brother John Hassan has passed physically from among us.

Brother Hassan expired on Thursday, October 6, 1977. Muslim funeral prayers were said for him last week at Masjid Elijah Muhammad. Leaders from the East and West Coasts came to pay their respects to the Muslim worker known and loved by hundreds of members of the WCIW.

Brother Hassan was one of those who labored through persecution and misunderstanding to establish the name and way of life of Al-Islam under the leadership of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him).

He served in many key-roles during his four decades of service to Al-Islam. When the then leader was jailed, John Hassan was one of those instrumental in keeping the community together.

Under the late Honorable Elijah Muhammad, he served as property inspector, bus and transportation supervisor, national investigator, and collector and depositor of finances as well as a trustee of the organization.

He has continued in many of these positions and assumed several others under the present leader of the WCIW, Emam Wallace D. Muhammad.

But impressive titles and offices were not the mark of John Hassan. He will be remembered by many for his persistent, steady and regular service—always on his post no matter what the condition or the crisis.

His distinctive gait and smile, and knowledge of people that earned him a pet name among those who knew him intimately, was a hallmark of the national conventions of the then Nation of Islam.

During one crucial year when the

late leader's life was being threatened, John Hassan was ill, but he came out of his sick bed to support the leader of the Muslim community. He said, "Brother, I wouldn't miss being here today for anything."

John Hassan died the death of a Muslim, working for the cause of Al-Islam while on what proved to be his death bed.

From his hospital bed he signed documents and gave advice for the several organizations and boards on which he served, including vice-president and treasurer of Bilalian News Corporation, publisher of this newspaper. He also was a member of the Board of Directors of Salaam International Corporation, and vice-president and assistant treasurer of Jihad Transportation System, Inc.

It goes without saying that he left many positions to be filled.

Brother Hassan was born in West-point, Georgia on October 21, 1910. He is survived in his immediate

## JOHN HASSAN

By Ahmed Kareem Bilal

Hard working, energetic and full of cheer

An outstanding Muslim "Pioneer" Loyal to the faith he was warm and dear

Fond memories of him will remain fresh and clear

He helped to assist the Family in the early days

A true believer in so many ways Always an encouraging word to say He'll receive Allah's peace in the next world, we pray

A dedicated, resourceful, lovable man

He demonstrated courage and faith again and again

His industrious efforts will not go in vain

This faithful soldier, John Hassan He left a legacy of excellence and pride

May Allah be pleased with his diligent strides

In life and in death Allah is our guide Let us all live and die with his grace on our side



family by his wife, Sister Kamilah Hassan who is also a dedicated worker in the cause of Al-Islam, who continued her many services to the community even while caring for her sick husband.

He also leaves his children, James, Water and Jqy; and sisters, Grace and

Lois; and brother, Ike.

As the many calls, telegrams and cards from all over the country indicated, John Hassan was a soldier who will be missed. But Allah, the Most High tells us in His Quran: "Nay, they are living though you perceive them not."

## The policy of Bilalian News

To fulfill the following policy objectives.

1. Advancement of the moral, and educational development of the entire society.
2. Encourage support for the financial development of economically deprived communities in the society.
3. The presentation to the world of the religious mission of the World Community of Islam in the West, and its community building activities.
4. The presentation of positive Bilalian achievements within and without the United States.
5. The censuring of destructive and negative influences which have traditionally impeded Bilalian development.
6. From a moral perspective, the addressing of sensitive but critical issues such as: physical, psychological, economic, and mental slavery; all forms and means of discrimination, and; the denying of any peoples the opportunity to properly grow in their balanced human form.
7. The fostering of respect for proper government and true leadership that will be responsive to human and societal needs.
8. Encourage support for the rehabilitation of and the successful re-entry into society of prison inmates and the proper education of their families and fellow citizens.
9. Encourage support for the religious unification of the world's Muslims.

### BILALIAN NEWS

Published Weekly

Vol. 2 No. 51, October 28, 1977

Published by

BILALIAN NEWS, INC.

7981 South Cottage Grove Ave.

Chicago, Ill. 60641

(312) 851-7000

Second-Class Postage Paid

at Chicago, Illinois

and additional mailing offices.

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