

Dr. Leo's Travels

How Islam Gave Meaning to Journey Around The World

By Dr. Leo P. McCallum

To those of you who have followed this column as it carried us around the world, I know that it was evident to you that such a trip was a truly exciting experience.

Yet the few things that I tried to bring to you didn't begin to touch the exhilaration and sense of pride which filled me as I journeyed among my own kind. I heartily recommend a trip into the land of black people for any person who is intelligent enough to recognize that everything the white man has taught us



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just isn't true. It becomes crystal clear to the traveler with any real knowledge of the black man's true history that the so-called American Negro definitely has a close tie with a culture and history that extends beyond the cotton fields of Georgia.

IT WOULD be foolish to say there is no poverty or illiteracy in Africa or the East but it is just as foolish to say that Africa and the East are areas of poverty. In Egypt I saw wonderful homes which were not occu-

pled by the very rich. In all areas of Africa I visited, I found a determination to succeed and to become a free and independent people.

I took a special fancy to Kenya. The soil is rich and the climate just perfect all of the time. The people there are friendly and courteous and the feel of Uhuru (Independence, which is to take place on December 12) was in the air.

Nigeria impressed me as a center of learning for there, colleges of all types are found and the Nigerian in the street always reminded you of someone you know.

IN PAKISTAN, I found the world of Islam as it is usually taught and thought of—complete with the Muslim



THE GREATNESS of ancient Egypt remains symbolized by this Pharonic statue in Kharnak Temple in Luxor, Egypt, just an hour's flight from Cairo. Ancient Egyptians, described by earlier historians as "black and woolly-haired," erected the ladder which enabled other civilizations to climb. Some idea of the size of the monument can be seen in comparison to Sister Harriett Muhammad, who stands at base of huge figure.

woman covered from head to toe. I had no difficulty feeling completely at home there, even though I immediately recognized that Islam there does not have quite the fire and zeal as we find it here.

IN CONCLUSION, let me state that the only thing I missed during my travels was my family and the life-giving message of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. For were it not for the identity-giving doctrine of this small-statured but powerful black man my trip would have been but a shadow of what it turned out to be.

I would undoubtedly followed the tourist lanes of the white man into Europe and the like—into countries and areas which are neither mine nor occupied by my

own kind. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad has long taught that if we wish to return to our own kind, we would be welcomed with open arms—if we returned thinking and acting as black people and not as black people with white minds.

AFTER returning home, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad expressed no surprise at all when I spoke to him of the wonderful manner in which I was treated and received.

He informed me that this was nothing as compared to the brotherhood, freedom, justice and equality that the so-called American Negroes could enjoy among themselves if they but come to Islam and to Allah. — The end.