On Life

By Bayyinah Sharrieff

Being born and raised in America, I naturally accepted many habitudes and customs of the American way of life without question. It was not really until I left America and went to Africa, the Republic of the Sudan, and became familiar with their habitudes and customs that I began to question the American society.

THIS NEW environment to me in the Republic of the Sudan was Islamic. I had read of the Muslims in books which I found in the public libraries before I left America and thought that the Muslims were religious fanatics without reason; that they believed in a strange God; that they were savage murderers; that they were very primitive, uneducated peoples. I also thought that the women were slaves to the men and were treated as slaves without due rewards for their efforts.

Living in this society of Muslims I learned through direct observation and experience that these peoples were altogether different from what I had read in American libraries. I learned that they were a gentle, kind, and loving people who shared all that they had with one another. I saw that the young men after they were educated into some trade or special technological field, worked and gave their fathers and families money. This money was not to pay a room and board fee (due to their living at home). It was given of the son to his father to show an appreciation for the many years that his father cared for him. If for example a man has six sons who are grown, each son gives him a portion of their income, he then has enough income to care for the rest of his dependent family. There is no such thing as rent. The land that they have is already theirs. They pay no one else to live on it.

This system of father to son and son to father eliminates social security, and old age pensions which were established in Christian societies out of necessities.

THE FOLLOWING particular incident made me look closely at this facet of American society: One early evening around 5:00 p.m. three of my female colleagues at the University of Khartoum came to me with their anthropology text books in the girls' hostel (dormitory). They thought it very strange to learn of a son leaving his family after he is educated and has a trade and go out on his own to work and provide for himself. The idea of his establishing a home for himself independent of his family was a strange phenomenon to them. They studied the American society in detail in their anthropology courses at the University. For it is definitely foreign to their society which is based on logical goodness.

Now that I am a follower of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and hear his teachings of the decent society (Islam), I have learned that the duty of a child to his parents is respect. And after they have grown up, they are to give to their parents and near of kin from that which they are blessed to achieve or receive.

The Holy Qur-an supports the Honorable Elijah Muhammad:

"And thy Lord has decreed that you serve none but Him, and do good to parents. If either or both of them reach old age with thee say not 'fie' to them, nor chide them, and speak to them a generous word.

"And give to the near of kin his due and to the needy . . . and squander not wastefully."

(Holy Qur-an 17:23, 24)

On Education In Islam

Sis. Beverly 6X

National Director of Education
Muhammad University of Islam

EDUCATION is one of the first and most basic foundations of an evolving and growing nation. The one who is responsible for the education (gives the light of knowledge to those who can not see) is termed the teacher. The teacher must bring forth from within his students that which lays dormant (asleep, inactive, undisclosed) and that which needs cultivation (development or improvement). The teacher must also give to his students the knowledge and wisdom of that which he (the student) did not know. This is not an easy task.

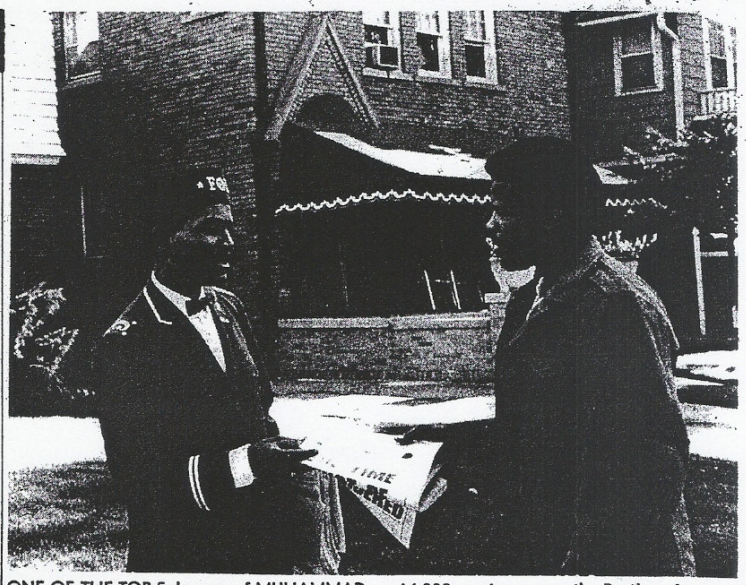
WE THE Black Muslims thank Allah (God) daily for raising from among us, the Black man in North America, the greatest the most dynamic teacher ever The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad. This prayer of thanks should not be from the Muslim alone but from every Black man, woman, and child who has been the deprived victim, willingly or unwillingly, of the white mans' educational system.

You Blackman were taught by a teacher (whiteman) who gave you nothing but slavery, suffering and death; a teacher who did not teach you of the way to accomplish and succeed or of the way to do for self and have for self. As we are being taught by the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the whiteman did not and will not give you the kind of education you need to build a nation (knowledge of self, technology, science and mathematics) for if he did you would come out of his kitchen begging for crumbs and call him master no more. "UP YOU MIGHTY NATION YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH WHAT YOU WILL"—Elijah Muhammad.

The job of our Teacher, Messenger Muhammad, is not an easy task. His classroom is an immense one for it contains not only 30 million "so-called" American Negros but millions more Blackmen all over the planet earth who were put to sleep during the whitemans' rule.

Messenger Muhammad has taught us that the time of the whiteman (devil) is at its end (6,000 years) and he will rule you no more. So while the many

(Continued on page 29)



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Dr. Barnard's 'Little Mistake'

In a recent issue of McCall's magazine heart transplant surgeon Dr. Christain Barnard admitted he once made "a mistake" that cost the life of a 7-year-old Black child.

EVEN THOUGH the cause of death was known widely in medical circles Dr. Barnard was never prosecuted. The chief surgeon at the University of Minnesota where the operation took place is reported to have said, "We've all made these mistakes, the only thing you can do is to learn by your mistakes."

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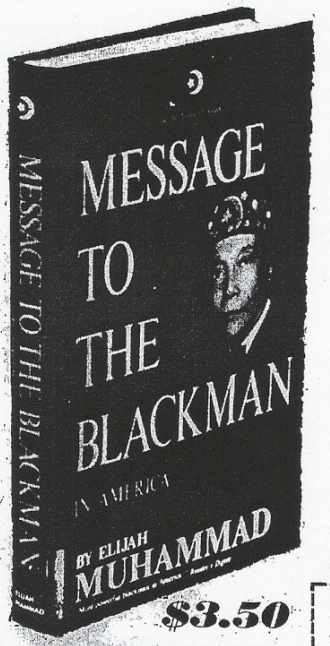

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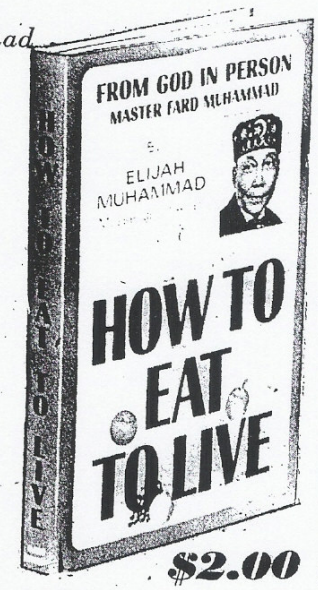

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