

On Life In The Sudan

By Bayinah Sharrieff

One of my greatest desires is to see the Black woman of America respect herself, that she may reclaim her rightful place among the highest forms of intelligent civilization.

I MUST bear witness to the Truth which the Honorable Elijah Muhammad advises the Black woman of America not to style her hair in fashions of traditional Africa, for the old traditions of Africa are no more. Africa is "waking up."

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches the Black woman that by styling her hair in the said fashion, she is limiting her identity to one continent. He teaches us that the whole world belongs to the Black man, not just one continent.

I have lived in Africa practically two years and spent another year in Europe. I know that when the African woman is exposed to the more developed parts of civilization, that she generally covers her hair with a wrap or scarf and she tries to groom her hair to help it grow, then style it and fashions it in a clean and neat

manner. She knows that the short bushy hair appearance identifies her with the underdeveloped parts of Africa from which she is trying to get away. There are however a few exceptions to this fact which is due primarily to the influence of the white man.

Some of my Black sisters who have been educated in the best colleges, and universities of America are showing their lack of knowledge of self by wearing their hair and sometimes dresses of traditional Africa.

Stop giving the world the opportunity to laugh and make mock of you Black Sister: For you have been picking up styles which the African woman is discarding.

You have no excuse for lack of knowledge of self today, Black Sister. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad has uncountable words of truth available to the seeker in this newspaper and in his two books, MESSAGE TO THE BLACK MAN and "HOW TO EAT TO LIVE." Learn about self then put into effect this learning and you will be respected by the best of civilization, and reclaim your rightful position. All you must do is follow Muhammad.

(See article in right - hand column)

to be continued.....

African Scribes Give Views On American Blacks

Taken from Daily Defender, July 18 - 24, 1970 Edition

By Florence Somerville

How would Africans react if blacks in America pulled up stakes and moved to their "motherland?"

"THERE WOULD be trouble" Says Miss Doyansola Abiola Aboaba women's editor of the Daily Sketch, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Commenting on the relationship between Africans and American blacks, at a reception for visiting African journalists held at the University of Chicago, Miss Aboaba said that Stokely Carmichael wasn't a very good representative of the blacks here.

She said that a speech he gave when he came to Nigeria wasn't very well received.

"His belief that blacks in America could just come to Africa and claim land is most naive. He has a very vague knowledge of our country," said Miss Aboaba, and it is wrong for him to tell black people here that they could just move to Africa and everything would be fine. It

would not be so easy, there would be problems."

Manso Nbompa - Turay news editor of the We Yone Press in Freetown, Sierra Leone, said American blacks would be welcome to come live in his country.

Said Turay "so - called problems between blacks here and Africans were manufactured by white racists."

Not so welcome to Sierra Leone, according to Turay, would be the "natural" hair style and "Afro" garb worn by some blacks in this country.

"We don't wear our hair that way or dress in that style. These fashions are evidently styles black Americans have formulated for themselves."

Turay said that the people take pride in their appearance. Our government recently passed a law to make Peace Corps workers dress decent and cut their hair.

The visiting journalists, escorted on their tour of the United States by James L. Hope of the African American Institute, Washington, D.C. were relaxed and spoke freely at the informal affair given by Eddie N. Williams and Paul

Gapp of the University's Center for Policy Study.

The guests were in total agreement on the rights of women to be treated as equals.

Prabhaken Ramlallah of the Mauritius Times said women in Mauritius are free to do anything they want, some are even in politics. Ramlallah, however when asked if any women worked on the Mauritius Times hastened to answer no!

According to the journalist, Africans don't seem to relate to American blacks as much as they appear to be trying to relate to them.

Miss Aboaba thinks this is partly due to the superior attitude of blacks in the United States when they visit Africa, especially the women who, Miss Aboaba said, look down on African women.

Turay agrees that there is little communication between blacks here and in Africa, but said Turay "there's a common link between all people in the world who are not white, because if you are not white you're black."