

Says Life in Sudan Confirms Wisdom of Messenger's Teachings on Cleanliness

By Bayyinah Sharrteff

The women in the Republic of the Sudan do not sit in the company of men. Even within their own families one will find that the men have an area in the home in which they congregate, rest, and eat, separate from the women. The women of the family seldom go to that area when men are there. Separate toilet facilities are in every home for men and women.

THE SUDANESE do not like taking baths. They take showers—two, three, and four times a day. They enjoy using clean water, and they prefer to drain the dirty water off of their bodies than to sit in it.

When I visited the homes of my colleagues in the Sudan, I did not see the male members of their families. I would be introduced to their mothers, aunts, sisters, and female cousins. Often times I would be taken to meet their fathers briefly, but never the male members of their families.

Being solely in the company of

females, the women can easily relax. They would discuss the news concerning their government, country, women at the university and in their towns in general and always the general conversation that women have concerning children, cooking and clothes.

THE MEN likewise could meet and speak freely and openly without having to guard their conversation from offending the female, for she is not present.

The women in the Sudan, especially in the capital city of Khartoum, are very conscious of their dress. They always select their tobes (the national dress), dresses, shoes, and jewelry to correspond. In the daytime, they wear light colored pastels, generally of cotton, and in the evening iridescent, brocades, and chiffon of many colors.

As soon as one enters the home of a Muslim Sudanese, one feels comfort and ease. The visiting women (if with their husbands) are escorted to the female part of the home and their husbands

sit in the main room or on the veranda with the men of the family. Soft drinks, generally lemonade, are served. No one questions whether or not you would like to have a soft drink.

IT IS WARM there and they assume that you would like to have something to quench the thirst. They simply bring the drink to you.

The woman does not serve the visiting men. She or a male servant will prepare the soft cold drinks and bring the tray to the entrance of the room in which the men are sitting, and the man of the house, or one of his male children, will serve the guests. After the cold drinks have been consumed, the guests are asked if they will take coffee or tea and the hot drinks are served.

If a man for some reason is to travel and has to leave his home and family for a few days, or months, he will take her to the home of her father, or to another relative so that she will be in a familiar and comfortable atmosphere, without strain. He will not leave her and his children alone, unattended.

THE MEN in Islam who observe the rules, laws, and regulations of Islam, are those who protect and provide for their wives and families. Women in Islam are very highly respected, world around. Their actions, dress and mannerisms demand respect from those who are not Muslims. Those who are Muslims automatically respect her and will give their lives to protect her.

My dear-sisters, Black women in America, I am certain that you wish to be respected. By following the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, and submitting to the Will of Allah, Who Came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, to Whom

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praises are due forever, Sisters, you will receive this respect.

I know that which the Honorable Elijah Muhammad is teaching the Muslims is Truth, for I lived with it in the Republic of the Sudan for practically two years.

THE HONORABLE Elijah Muhammad teaches us that a true Muslim is clean in mind, body, language and actions. Muslim women cover their bodies in long garments, with long sleeves, and high necklines. She is not to wear tight garments. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us that a woman's hair is part of her beauty. Islam teaches the woman to cover her hair when

away from her immediate family members and in public.

The Holy Qur-an teaches the woman to cover her beauty, "her adornments," when in public. If a woman does not expose her personal beauty in public, the chances of her inviting indecent remarks are rare.

The instructions of manners which The Honorable Elijah Muhammad is giving to his followers will certainly place them in that position to be respected by the Nations of the earth—proof of this is seen daily by the respect that heads of foreign nations give to the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. And he reminds us constantly that this is the purpose of God (whose proper Name is Allah) coming to us.

Average Filipino is Impoverished Teen

LAOAG CITY—Census statistics for the Philippines show that today's average Filipino is seventeen years old, lives in the rural, overcrowded 'barrios' and is poor.

THIS DEFINITION, given by Bureau of Census and Statistics head Ernesto Alcantara revealed that out of an estimated population of 35,883,000 this year, 30 million are below the age of 39, with 21 per cent of the population between the ages of 10 and 19.

According to census counts, 85

population movement like that in urban slums.

According to the census report, the Filipino teenager is better educated than his parents although a fifth grade education still does not prepare him with skills that "people in an advancing economy need."

WITH AVERAGE incomes dipping far below the world average, Filipino youth are still better employed than most teens throughout the world with two out of three working in agriculture and seven of 10 employed in