

On Life In The Sudan

By Bayyinah Sharrieff

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad has pointed out many examples of preludes to the universal change which is taking place, among them have been the vision which Daniel interpreted for the King Nebuchadnezzar of the great bright image whose head was gold, breast and arms of silver, "belly" and "thighs of brass," with legs of iron and feet which were part of iron and part of clay (Daniel 2:31-45). The feet were broken into pieces and the statue could no longer stand, but had to fall. The fact is that with the feet and legs unstable, the body cannot stand.

THE WORKING class and professional class had both joined the students in the Sudan in expressions of discontent with their military government. They were on strike. The legs and feet of the country were thus unstable, and the body falling apart.

The restrictions placed on the people were tight. One could easily see that the military government was afraid of losing its power. The people refused to submit to their government any longer. They demanded the resignation of their government.

The University of Khartoum remained closed. Martial law was still in effect from 6:00 pm to 5:00 am. There were few of us left in the girls' hostel. Most of the girls' families had taken them home to keep them away from any danger, for the students at the university were watched closely, and harassed daily. However the few of us who remained kept ourselves busy.

There is one afternoon during these times, which I shall never forget. It had been our (those of us left in the hostel) practice to make a daily check of the campus and the area around the campus one half an hour before the curfew went into effect. We female students divided ourselves into small groups of two's and three's and each group was to check over an area in or around the campus. The few employees left at the hostel were afraid for our safety, but to me it was an adventure, at that time.

We put on our tobies and went to our assigned areas. We were to collect the news of any hap-

pening of the country's situation, for the news bulletins were absent of any such reports. Sitinefar (one of my colleagues) and myself were to check the main campus area.

AS WE approached the administration building a boy student on a bicycle approached us and gave us some mimeographed papers to be distributed among the students informing them of the next steps which were to be taken. We took them and quickly hid them under our tobies, for to be caught with such papers would mean our immediate arrest, and my being a foreigner, probably my deportation.

Right after we hid them a truck loaded with soldiers armed with rifles fixed with bayonets drove up and slowed down as it approached us. We looked at the soldiers and turned our heads with a haughty gesture. I was afraid, but tried to look sure of myself. We kept our eyes on the truck as it passed. Suddenly the truck stopped. The soldiers jumped down, then it seemed as if everyone was running. They were coming in our direction. We ran, and ran. The closest building to us was the administration building, but it was closed. Our safest place would be back at the girls' hostel. We made it. But by that time we were exhausted.

After checking in, we found that three of our girls were not there. It was already 6:00 pm. We were worried for their safety, because the curfew was in effect. After a while they came in crying and shaking and their tobies were disarranged.

THE TRUCK of soldiers which had passed Sitinefar and myself stopped them and asked about the mimeographed papers. Although they had some, they denied having any. One of the soldiers took his bayonet and tore at the tobe of Fatma. She began crying and the others begged to be left alone and repeatedly said that they were innocent. This drew sympathy from some of the other soldiers and they told the soldiers to let the girls alone to return to the hostel.

This could have happened to me, and if it had, I might not have been able to stay in the

(Continued on page 27)

Life in the Sudan

(Continued from page 26)

Republic of the Sudan those two years.

The next day the hostel was closed down completely.

All of this commotion and disruption in the normal state of affairs in the Sudan was brought about by student unrest, and defiance to their governments restrictions. America is afraid

now, for she has seen this prelude of student unrest bring about changes in many governments. Many of her students are now discontent. Daily there are protests by both Black and white students of the American power structure against normal codes of behavior. They have drawn sympathy from many in the working and professional classes. The workers in America are striking as they were in the Sudan. That government fell, and as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad teach-

es us, this government will also fall for the feet of this body are no longer stable. The body cannot stand without strong feet.

Let us consider too that students are protesting in France, England, Germany, Italy, and South America. These could be preludes to the Universal change, if the series follows its pattern.

To Be Continued

Subscribe NOW!

\$1.50 PER YEAR

News,