

Strictly-Enforced Islamic Laws Sudan's 'Inoculation' Against Western Customs

By Sister Christine

The University of Khartoum is really the first place where young people meet members of the opposite sex (other than their families).

THE university was organized by the English and is patterned on the style of an English university, offering the same curriculums for advanced degrees of study. It is a branch of the London Cambridge University in England.

Having been organized by the English, the majority of its educators are Englishmen or Europeans. This brings the habitudes of the Western society to the midst of the Islamic society of Khartoum, Sudan, and is presented directly to the youth of the country.

Sudanese students seeking the university degree are learning of the Western civilization: habitudes, history, literature, sociology, psychology, economic, medical and agricultural systems and methods. In short they learn how to be good Europeans in Africa, as is the case of most universities in Africa.

PROGRAMS of African studies have only recently been introduced to African universities. If the student looks up to the European for his educational qualifications, and study the Europeans' patterns of life to be the best way of existence, they will naturally — unless guided otherwise — copy the ways and mannerisms of the Europeans.

Last week I wrote of the laws existing in the Sudan which restrict the display of emotions expressed freely and openly between males and females. I cited an example of a European having to submit to these black laws and also mentioned the possibilities that the European's behavior might have in influ-

encing the moral conduct of the Sudanese.

There was one such incident that I do recall at the university concerning two of the students, both of whom I believe were in the Faculty of Arts (college of Liberal Arts).

THESE two students were caught embracing and kissing not far from the girls' dormitory by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts. As a result of their misconduct, the young man was suspended from the university for one year and the girl, forbidden to live at the dormitory, was also suspended briefly from the university.

The Sudanese officials at the university wanted to dismiss the boy permanently and suspend the girl for a term of one year, but due to the plea of a student union representative, who knew both of the parties involved, the lighter punishments were applied.

The students argued that Europeans behave in this manner in Europe, and that they did not see any wrong in their behavior, that theirs was a natural desire and behavior.

WELL, THEIRS was a natural desire and behavior, but one which must be done in the private homes between married couples, not openly in the streets. It is natural for one to brush one's teeth, but not openly in the streets.

The students at the university knew of the punishments inflicted, and this served as a warning to them. Had the news of this incident slipped out to the general public,

most of the parents would have taken their girls home and kept them from attending the university.

I have given this example to illustrate the strictness of that Islamic society. Not only did these two pay a fine in dollars, but they also were suspended from the university and practically lost their chances to receive a formal education.

THE SUDANESE do not play with such matters of misconduct. The government censors the scenes of love plays. Petting in the films which come into their country are censored before showing them to the public. Books and literature from the West also are censored by the government, before they are made available to the general public.

In all reality, they have to have these restrictions on the Western society's infiltration into their society in order to uphold a clean Islamic society. It would be impossible to keep people living the Islamic laws if the government upheld, supported and permitted the indecent mannerisms of the Europeans to be practiced in their society.

Allah's Messenger, Elijah Muhammad, is in the midst of the devil's so-called civilization, and is cleaning our people—with the will of Allah—of the filthy ways of the devil.

IT IS easier for one to clean a small spot of dirt on a very clean surface than it is for one to make clean a totally dirty surface. It takes a lot more work and energy for the latter.

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