

## Finds Sudanese Women Put High Value on Speaking Softly, in 'Feminine Way'

By SISTER CHRISTINE

As I was passing Kisha's (a female colleague at the University of Khartoum) room, I peeped in. She was sitting on the edge of her bed, crying and trembling. I knocked on her door, called her name and went in. I tried to comfort her, and asked if I could be of some help. She told me that no one had ever raised their voice to her prior to my doing so.

**EARLIER**, that day Kisha made me quite angry in a teasing manner, and I, in anger and in a loud voice, told her that I did not like what she was doing. She had walked out and left me stewing in the juices of my anger. After cooling off, I went looking for Kisha, (she was one of my closest friends at the dormitory). This was when I found her in this upset state. The Sudanese are a very sensitive people.

She told me that no matter how angry I was that I should not have shouted at her. She told me that in raising my voice I put her on the defensive. She said that a resistance came up in her against me, and this made her upset. She had not experienced this feeling before.

**SHE TOLD** me that I was a woman, and that I was supposed to be feminine. It was not feminine of me to raise my voice to her in the manner I did. She said that she had taken me as her sister, and that none of her sisters ever shouted at her.

She added that by speaking in a soft manner in explaining my opinions and

discontent, she would listen and be more apt to understand. My loudness made her only aware of the disturbance that I had caused in her peaceful atmosphere.

I explained to her that I shouted to make her realize how angry she made me. I also told her that in America I shouted with my sister, and that in America one shouts in anger. She said that I spoke too loudly and that this was very unbecoming to my person. She said that if I continued to speak in this manner no one would want to be in my company.

**I APOLOGIZED** for offending her, and spoke to her in a quiet manner. I had upset her spirit of peacefulness and true sisterly love. I had caused a disturbance in the peace of the charac-

ter of my friend, Kisha.

Here was another reform in the adjustments of character that I underwent among my Muslim sisters and brothers in the Sudan: Softening my voice and learning to speak in a feminine manner. Again I was not aware of this change until I returned to America.

In America I found Americans seemingly barking at each other, not speaking to one another. Americans are loud people in general. It is not uncommon to hear one speak over another's words in this Western society, each person trying to monopolize the conversation, or state his opinions at a time when another person is speaking, preventing one from really hearing or listening to the

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## Suez Blockade Costs British

**LONDON** — A definite strain on the British shipping economy is making itself felt due to the closing of the Suez Canal. British ship-owners claim the closing is costing \$420,000 per day.

**THEY SAY** that since the Suez closing, the British merchant marine has lost \$5,600,000. The figure, they stated, is based on the average cost of keeping a ship at sea for one day multiplied by the extra days it takes for longer voyages around the "Cape of Good Hope" at the southern tip of Africa.

The daily cost is estimated at about \$1400, although precise figures vary according to the ship, its speed and cargo.

British government author-

ities are studying the possibility of price increases on imported goods to offset the losses, but they have said any increases must be within the framework of Britain's current restrictive prices and incomes policy.

**A SHIPPING** industry spokesman said 16 ships remain stranded in the canal, four British, two American, two West German, three Swedish, one French, one Bulgarian, two Polish and one Czechoslovakian.

**MUHA**  
A Message of

## The Ways of Sudanese Women Reflect Humanism and Stress Femininity

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views of the other. One will not find the Muslims in the Sudan loud in this manner.

**THERE IS** no charm in the manner in which Americans speak. They speak in a rough loud manner. In this devil's society, the soft-spoken girl is overlooked. She is thought to be dull, uninteresting. She is considered plain. The American girl portrayed on television and in the movies has a "hot temper," and is outspoken.

Our women who follow these stories on television and radio and movie screen, subconsciously, if not consciously, try to imitate these characters. This is following the devil's personality. This harshness, and outspokenness is not in the nature of

the Original people.

**I HAVE** stated these examples to try and illustrate our need for a reformation of self. This is needed down to the roots of our language (as I stated last week) and the manner in which we communicate our feelings.

The Honorable Messenger is preparing you, through his teachings, for another day, another time — a time when the wicked world will no longer be in existence. His teachings will prepare you for meeting with and

joining on to your own kind in brotherly love.

I have said before that our language is a confusing and misleading language, as are the people who made this language. By our usage of this language and the manner in which we use it, we are very likely to repel and turn away from us that with which we wish to have contact. I repeat, as the Honorable Messenger teaches, all things in connection with this world must be left behind.

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