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# Life in the Sudan

## Sudanese Personality Shows Virtue of Following Allah

The Gezira, continued  
By Bayylnah Sharrieff

After listening to the short wave radio and the OUD, we began to discuss the stars. I was surprised to learn that the Sudanese had the same names for the different groups of stars as do the Americans and Europeans.

THE BIG Dipper, the three sisters, the big bear, etc. are the English equivalents for the Arabic terms used to identify the same groupings. This seemed strange then, but now that I realize that Arabic is the original language of the Black Man, and that the Black man is the original man, and from him came all men, I can now understand the significance of these names being derivatives of Arabic.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us that there have been many Gods (those of supreme wisdom and knowledge), one ruling at a time. And, that each one of these Gods added something to the universe. One created the big dipper, another the three sisters, another the milky way, etc. to make the beauty of the universe more beautiful.

We left the roof of the house and, after going down the stairs, carried our beds (five in all) out on the wide screened-in porch. Fatma, her sisters and I slept on one side of the house. Bashir (their brother) slept on the other side.

The beds on which we slept were not like the ones in the capital city of Khartoum. They were of four mahogany posts, one at each corner, with woven fibers similar to rope which made up the matting of the bed and connected the four posts. A cotton mattress was placed upon the matting. This bed stood about 2½ feet high. It was a comfortable bed, and the weather in May in the Gezira was very good for sleeping. We covered ourselves with light tobés (the national dress) acting as sheets.

AS I LAY THERE in bed, I reflected on the Sudanese character. They were such a patient people. They quoted the Holy Qur-an many times during the day and applied what they understood of its words to their daily life. I began to understand that Islam was not just a religion, but a way of life. Moral and ethical codes and laws were stated in the Holy Qur-an and these were the laws by which they lived.

The Europeans and Americans termed them a complicated people. But this was due to the westerners not understanding the conformity of the Muslims to the life of Islam; which is also the feelings here in America among those who are not Muslims and do not understand the teachings of Islam as taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

Whenever a problem arose for one, the others would comfort that one by a reminder of the Holy Qur-an, saying that it must have been the Will of Allah that this thing happened and not to worry over it, "Ma Lish" (never mind). Often when away from the one with the problems the women would say, "mis kena" (poor dear), but this was an act of compassion. They shared the sorrows of their sisters as well as the joy; true sisterhood according to the Holy Qur-an and the teachings of Islam as taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

In general they did not ponder over what would happen in the future. They took their time in doing whatever had to be done. Often the white man called them lazy, but they were not lazy people. They were living a clean life, from the earth, and they were not interested in self, personal gain at the expenses of another brother or sister, which is the teachings of the Holy Qur-an.

"O you who believe devour not usury, doubling and redoubling and keep your duty

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## Virtue of Trusting Allah Shows in Sudanese Minds

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to Allah, that you may be successful," (3:129).

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, our Divine Leader and Teacher, teaches us, his followers, to want and do for our sisters, and brothers what we want and do for ourselves. This type of teachings brings unity and peace, but then peace is the abode of true Muslims everywhere.

**THE HONORABLE** Elijah Muhammad teaches us to live each day as it comes remembering Allah much, for it is by His will that all things happen:

"And Allah's is the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. And Allah is possessor of power over all things."

"And to Allah belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth and Allah suffices as having charge of affairs." (3:188, 4:132)

We plan for the future, but we pray to Allah that it be His Will that our plans be successful. We must have patience for what will be has already been written, and we cannot, nor have we the pow-

er to, change that which has already been written.

Do not grieve over what has been ordained by Allah, for He is "the Best Knower" (Holy Qur-an 2:1).

(to be continued)

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