

On Life In The Sudan

By Bayyinah Sharricff

Marriage in an Islamic society is one of the largest and gayest celebrations in Islam. This is a time of happiness for man is now complete. As the Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us the woman is a complement to man, and man is a complement to woman. All that man could need or desire is found in the woman for this is why she was made in the beginning.

I ENJOYED attending the wedding celebrations in the Republic of the Sudan, for it was unlike any kind of celebration or party that I had ever seen in America.

The actual ceremony in Islam is very short, and is generally not done in the presence of many people, just the groom and his father and the bride's father and brother or a male relative are present with the one who has charge of affairs. The bride has given her consent to her father who speaks for her to the intended husband and signs their signatures to a document of agreement in marriage. While this is going on there is music from five or six instruments to entertain the guests. There are also a few clowns to joke and make merriment among the guests. There is an abundance of food and refreshments served to the guests and everyone is invited to partake in this festive celebration. There are no special invitations all in the village, town, or city are welcomed.

After the signing of the agreement, then the musicians play more enjoyable music and the bride and groom are brought before the guests and sat on a special platform for all to see. The women sit separate from the men, similarly to the way the Muslim followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad sit in the Mosques.

Often times after the ceremony the bride and groom and members of the wedding party traveled in a motor caravan to the home where the celebrations of merriment took place. Often this caravan comprised of as many as six to 12 vehicles which were similar to small buses. The front vehicle carried the musicians who played to announce the coming of the bride and groom. The clowns rode in a separate vehicle, then came the bride and groom with their relatives and sometimes just guests.

THE FIRST Muslim parade which was planned by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad this past Sunday was even greater than any Muslim wedding celebration which I have seen in the

east, and I spent two years there.

The beautiful floats which carried the musicians, the clowns, the bride and groom and the followers of the honorable Elijah Muhammad surpassed by far any which have carried wedding parties in any other country, I am sure. The fact that many open floats were used was an amazing wonder to the eye. Often only one platform was prepared in the east with decorations for the bride and groom, but never the 15 as was the number in the Muslim parade.

Then to have a dining area such as that at the Salaam Restaurant. Not only were the bride and groom situated for all to see, but so were the representatives of the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. This was a clear showing of the teachings of the Honorable Eli-

jah Muhammad; Illustrations of the realities of the Muslim businesses and farms were shown to the public.

AS I HAVE already mentioned, I lived in the east in an Islamic society two years and in Europe one year and I have yet to see either the Muslims of the east or the atheists and Christians of Europe and America present or meet the programs of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad for the advancement of the Black man.

Black readers who are not yet registered with the Muslims examine for yourself that which the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has put in print, and the businesses and farms which are owned and operated by the nation of Islam and see if you cannot see improvement for yourself in such a life.



KILLERS MARCH on tiny hut in Viet Nam in one of many infamous raids on innocent women and children in south-east Asian villages. Family sought in this mission managed to escape. Heavily armed troops, such as these are dropped

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