

Life

Sport and Play Is Not Glorified in the Sudan

By Bayyinah Sharrieff

Being born and primarily raised in the United States of America, the society which promotes one to partake in the arts and in the entertainment world, I was quite surprised to find that the Muslim Sudanese society in general did not encourage any youngsters to play musical instruments nor study and learn dance or dramatics.

THE MUSLIMS in the Sudan do not encourage their children to be musicians or entertainers of any sort. Nor do they encourage their youngsters to spend time on what Westerners term "the fine arts" (drawing, painting, sculpture, etc.).

In one Sudanese family, whose home I frequently visited, I noticed that the male children were very much discouraged from drawing. The father grew very angry when he heard that one of his male children wanted an "Ud" (a popular string instrument in the east of the lute family). He said that he would

not have any "idle sporters" in his home.

At the University of Khartoum, Sudan, no courses of study were had in music or the fine arts. The courses of study found in the faculty (college) of Arts were in the languages, history, philosophy, anthropology, and archaeology. When I inquired of the students the reasons why no courses of study in the fine arts were taught at the university, they looked at me in amazement and said that theirs was a university. They seemed shocked that I would even question their not having such courses of study at their university. They said that they came to the university to learn, not to play and waste time. For them the university was a place to advance in the sciences, and gain knowledge of man, and the world.

THEY SAID that their country was undeveloped and that they needed all of the skilled and scientifically trained persons that they could have, and for the same reasons their work week consisted of six days. The seventh day, Friday, was their day of rest (on which preparations for the next week were made). They would not permit themselves to spend much time in games, nor on sports. They believed that the one who indulged in the entertainment world and the worlds of sport and play to be other than Muslim.

They looked down on entertainers. And, although they appreciated their music, they would not speak highly of the life of an entertainer, nor of ambition to be one. They, being students, had to be serious whereas entertainers were known to not be serious.

As I spent more time in the Sudan, I noticed that practically every student with whom I came in contact could draw very well, and could copy nature very exactly on paper. Many of the male students could sing and play the "Ud" just as a professional, but none of them studied

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CORE Invites Foremost Black Leader to Talks

COLUMBUS — The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah and only Divinely Missed Black leader of modern times, was recently invited to attend the national convention of the Congress of Racial Equality in an effort to create a progressive Black political and economic front.

"WE INVITED PEOPLE who are representative of the Black opinion and who will help us mature in the role of bringing leadership to the Black community," said national CORE chairman Wilfred Ussery.

Also invited to the conference as members of "representative" Black organizations were Stokely Carmichael of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee and H. Rap Brown. The convention is scheduled here for July 3-7.

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NATURAL FRIENDS, Black soldier on leave in Saigon takes Vietnamese child shopping. In Saigon, as in every country occupied by U.S. troops, Black soldiers are highly favored over their white counterparts from America who invariably have attitudes of superiority and look down on peoples of other nations.

Educator to Head Job Training Unit

A former public school teacher and vocational counselor has joined the American Oil company as coordinator of its new training center.

FRED R. JOHNSON, 47, who head a staff of instructors and counselors in the center, now being established adjacent to the company headquarters in the Standard Oil building.

American Oil, national manufacturing and marketing subsidiary of Standard Oil company (Indiana), is participating in a federal program to employ and train persons previously considered unemployable, under sponsorship of the National Alliance of Businessmen.

A 1952 graduate of George Washington college, Chicago, Johnson said the company facility will be into operation early in July.

THE FIRM will hire individuals who otherwise would fail to meet normal employment requirements, then provide them with pay and 12 weeks of instruction—emphasizing basic remedial education, self improvement, counseling and pre-job orientation.

JULY

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CORE Director Asks, Why Integrate With Cancer?

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 beyond, is born out of a deep sense of humanity, the CORE director cautions that sentimentality and system-serving "morality" have no place in the battle for freedom.

"There is no such thing as humanity when you are dealing with the white monster. You can't deal with humanity or morality because he has none," Gant avows. "You are talking about a group of people who are banding together to rip this oppressor. It is not a wrong-right situation anymore. It is now a Black-white situation.

"BLACK PEOPLE are acting

in the interest of mankind," the CORE leader states. America is racist and corrupt, he says. "You can throw a dart at the map. Any city on which the dart lands can serve as an example of just how this country is. "Where they say this country was built up on competition and free enterprise, this country actually was built on murder, rape, stealing and robbing. And the people who helped build the country were rapists, murderers and robbers. Talk about a foundation — they say the building is only as good as its foundation — well this country's foundation is geared strictly to violence and exploitation."

Africa's Nyerere on Official Chinese Visit

PEKING—Crowds cheered wildly as an official motorcade bearing Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere drove through the streets of the Chinese capital in honor of the African leader's official state visit.

THE TANZANIAN head, in later talks with Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai stressed the growing bond between free nations of the non-white world.

Prior to the official visit to China, Nyerere paused briefly in Karachi, Pakistan where he was warmly greeted by members of high interior offices.

The Chinese state visit was carried out at the invitation of the People's Republic of China. This is Nyerere's second visit in

three years to the productive, far-eastern nation.

At a state banquet honoring his official visit, President Nyerere told Chinese dignitaries that "China and Tanzania are, we believe, working for the same objective—the sovereignty of the people, and their freedom from exploitation and discrimination."

President Nyerere is expected to engage in talks with Chinese officials to further technical and industrial development currently underway in Tanzania.



Nyerere

Rhodesian Boycott
 A United Nation trade boycott imposed on Rhodesia caused a drop of more than 87% in imports and more than 71% in exports by that country's major trading partners in 1967.

UN Secretary General U Thant reported these the most damaging figures since 1965, a peak year in the economic boycott.

World Bank Grants Development Loans
 WASHINGTON—Four independent African nations were on the receiving end of a total of \$37.1 million in loans. Ghana received \$10 million for improvement of its electrical distribution system; Sudan, \$3.5 million for its educational system; Kenya, \$2.1 million to expand tea production; and \$10.7 million for reconstruction of roads; and the Ivory Coast, \$3.8 million, for construction of roads.

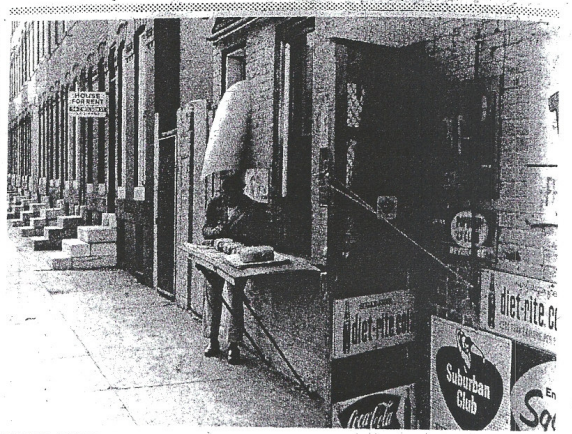
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LONELY BLACK newspaperman mans his makeshift stand on a slum street in Baltimore against backdrop of gaudy soft drink signs and faceless row of houses where Black families are herded in ever-increasing numbers.

Baltimore has an unemployment rate of 1 in 10 for whites and 1 in 4 for blacks. The city has long been listed as one of the most potentially explosive in the nation.

Sport and Play Frowned on in Sudan

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 these arts. I was told that these talents were natural and that it was not considered much of a talent to be able to play an instrument.

NOW THAT I am a follower of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and am learning of myself, my God, whose proper name is Allah, and my religion, the natural religion of the Black man, Islam, I realize that it is in the nature of the Black man to be gifted in expression.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us that the original man is the Black man, and the original man created the world,

and the universe. It is therefore in the nature of the Black man to be gifted in expression.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us that we, like the Muslim Sudanese, have no time for sport and play. Sport and play are occupations of those in the devil's world. He teaches us that the devil makes a sport of practically everything with which he comes in contact. The fact that harm can come to one who indulges in their sport is hardly considered.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad does not encourage us to be mad, but he does encourage us to be mad as he says, "Be mad as the mad men are, but not as the mad men are."

female entertainers who were there were foreigners, mostly Syrians, Greeks, and Italians.

THE HONORABLE Elijah Muhammad has directed, and is directing us onto the path of advancing self and kind by using the divine knowledge which Allah, Who came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, to Whom praises are due forever, has revealed to him.

He has told us not to waste our time studying music, and fine arts. He directs us to study science and mathematics and courses which will help us to build a nation.

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