

Editorial

The Messenger of Allah And the Phoenix Address

The Book records the fact that Jesus chose an unlikely site to deliver his unforgettable Sermon on the Mount in Palestine — and thereafter, not only the great wisdom imparted thereof was glorified but the site itself became permanently significant.

AND THIS week ancient history is repeated as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the last Messenger of Allah, the only divinely-missioned leader in the world today, similarly honors the site of Phoenix, Ariz., with a message which the world will record as one of the most momentous to be delivered during this time of the changing of the Old World into the New.

Messenger Muhammad, whom God, in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, chose from the midst of the enslaved and oppressed black people of America and gave him—and to him alone—the keys to the doorway of their salvation. The Messenger often has utilized the climate of Phoenix to bring to the world the penetrating messages of God. He has brought the salvation of Islam for the 30 million black descendants of African slaves in their crucial struggle for freedom, justice and equality.

It is understandable therefore that African and Asian leaders throughout the world have alerted their correspondents and press to record the unique appearance of Messenger Muhammad on November 26 at Convention Center in Phoenix.

THE DIVINE success of this amazing leader is approaching its highest pinnacle.

The world has never had a leader like Muhammad with such a record of prophecies borne out in his own lifetime.

It was Messenger Muhammad who, more than three decades ago, pointed out the elements of the program Almighty God had imparted to him. It was Messenger Muhammad alone who saw the necessity for separation of this black nation from the genocide of its white slavemasters.

It was Messenger Muhammad who first dared to characterize correctly the true nature of the enemy of black America; it was Messenger Muhammad who first brought forth the complete program (see back page) for the deliverance of his people. Further, it was Messenger Muhammad who held out—and still holds out—the arm of unity and friendship in Islam to all black Americans.

Of "black power," it was Messenger Muhammad who pointed out that "unity is the power" and that without black unity, without a united black front, there could be no so-called "black power" regardless of demonstrations, rebellions, struggles.

"THERE IS no force on earth that can destroy the black people," the Messenger has said. "Islam is the son of law and earth. . . I am your doorway out. He has given me the key to let you in or shut you out."

And it was Messenger Muhammad who first analyzed the predicament of America thus:

"Though in appearance, America seems steadfast, she is moving towards an ultimate end. One great problem to be solved in the 'Fall of America' is the liberation of the so-called American Negro (the lost-and-found people of the original black nation of the earth). They have been here for four centuries, mistreated and brought into a state of corruption and shame. They now are being helped . . . (through ISLAM)."

Thus the message which the Honorable Elijah Muhammad delivers in Phoenix is destined to go down as one of the great pronouncements of our time.

"Remember these things," the Messenger once pointed out. "An ancient people with gray hair kinky like wool are ready to take over. They are not GETTING ready—they ARE ready."

It is, therefore, incumbent upon black people throughout the nation, not only those in or near Phoenix, to become a part of history in the making—for the "sermon" to be delivered by this courageous, unselfish and humble black man in Phoenix will be of far greater importance to their future than any delivered, even by Jesus on the famed mount or by any prophet, past or present.

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Urges Muslims to Fast in Sympathy with Vietnamese on This 'Christmas'

By Abdul Basit Naeem "Suddenly it's Christmas!" pronounced a major New York department store advertisement appearing in last Sunday's local newspapers. So it is. As a matter of fact, most New Yorkers, as Americans everywhere else, have been aware of the "presence" of the Christmas "spirit" for over two months, i.e., since September, when the annual "holiday season" customarily commences.

TO BE SURE, there is considerable color and substantial rush in the "Great Society" merchandise marts. Bright lights and sounds of gay, lively music mark the homes of the "Christian faithful." Both the U.S. Post Office and private package delivery firms report accelerated business. Liquor, cigarette and tobacco, jewelry, perfume and candy sales are on the increase; so are bank and finance company radio and TV commercials, coaxing the listeners and prospective customers to "take advantage" of their newest, "attractive and con-

venient" credit plans. Also a part of the scene is that "jolly ol' soul" —the stocky, amply bearded, bell-clanging, red-and-white clad and fast (albeit mercenary) friend of merchants and ad-men, named Santa Claus. Another imposing, slap-bang "highly spirited" figure — and no less a benefactor and source of seasonal bliss to business clans than Saint Nick — around town is the Rev. Mr. Preacher.

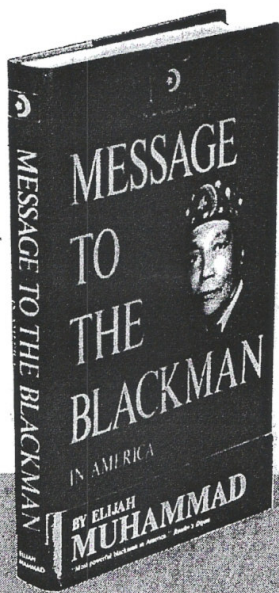
ALL THIS IN spite of the fact that there is no valid (historic) basis for the celebration or merry-making Christmas is believed to call for: Jesus, the son of Mary, wasn't (and isn't) "God," and he wasn't born on the twenty-fourth or any other day of December. Besides, many enlightened scholars of the Bible openly concede that almost all current Christmas rituals are not of true (early) Christian but relatively recent and pagan (Roman) origin. It goes without saying that the highly commercialized "holiday" here bears practically no resemblance to the sol-

emn "holy days" known to and commemorated with great piety and devotion by "Eastern" (non-European, orthodox) Christians in Christ's native land (Palestine) itself.

In view of above (i.e., the false or fictitious nature of Christmas) and the additional fact that the traditional holiday cheer of "peace on earth, good will to men" is no more meaningful or allusive than empty, boisterous shouts emanating from powerful political wheeler-dealers' quarters (One might ask here: why the continued devastation of human and material resources in far-off Vietnam, an Asian Buddhist land, at white, Christian hands?), I think it is extremely significant that the Muslim followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad totally ignore the "holiday season" and spend the entire month of December in fasting, contemplation and self-improvement instead.

I AM AWARE of course, that the twelfth month of an alien (Christian) calendar (Continued on page 26)

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE Alone of all the Negro leaders Elijah Muhammad has a vivid awareness of the vital need of a new birth.



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Facts on U.S. Muslims' Ramadan

(Continued from page 10)

system cannot permanently be designated as the (U.S.) Muslims' RAMADAN — which, in fact, is the ninth month of the "Eastern" Islamic calendar and, being lunar, begins at a different time each successive year. For the present, however, I am satisfied and indeed fully appreciate why the wise and divinely-raised American Muslim leader, Honorable Elijah Muhammad, regards December as the most suitable and ideal period for fasting, prayers and self-

discipline here: The still-infant "Nation of Islam in the wilderness of North America" consists, in the main, of ex-Christians. Its members were thus for years (or decades) in the past exposed or involuntarily subjected to all sorts of evils. Of these, the tremendous temptations generally

prevalent at Christmastime — in December — were always the most difficult to resist. Now that the Muslims are — thanks to Allah's infinite mercy and grace and the tireless efforts of the Honorable Messenger (Elijah Muhammad) — altogether free of the shackles of old (that is to say, of mental as well as physical bondage to white man's Christianity and civilization), it behooves them to continue observing the month of December, at least temporarily, as a period of fasting and heartfelt thanksgiving to the Supreme Being.

Urge Developed States to Lower Debt Burdens

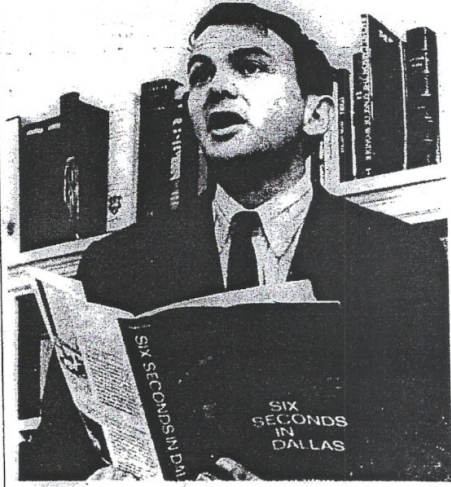
NEW YORK — A recommendation by the Economic and Financial Committee of the U.N. has been unanimously adopted, calling for developed nations to ease the terms and conditions on which external resources are made available to developing countries, with a view to minimizing the debt-serving burden.

IN THE SAME recommendation, the Committee proposed that Member states do everything possible to increase the resources of the United Nations Development Program.

Malawi Disposes Of Witnesses Assets

BLANTYRE, Malawi—On the heels of deportation orders affecting eight top Jehovah Witnesses officials, President Hastings Banda has appointed Malawi's registrar general, W.S.A. Warren, to wind up the affairs of the banned religious group.

BANDA ALSO instructed the registrar general to dispose of their assets, conservatively estimated at \$70,000.



CHARGING FOUR shots were fired from three guns in the assassination of John Kennedy, philosophy professor Josiah Thomsons detailed his theory in new book "Six Seconds in Dallas." Thomsons' contention violently disagrees with Warren Commission report.

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