

Uganda Muslim leader applauds Nation of Islam as 'true Muslims'

By Salim Muwakkil

(Special to Muhammad Speaks)

KAMPALA, Uganda — "Black Muslims in America are true Muslims," said Yusufu Sulieman, leader of the Muslim community in Uganda. Mr. Sulieman, whose title is Chief Kadhi, said he had never believed that America could produce a true Muslim but after questioning the National Representative of the Nation of Islam, his opinion was changed.

Min. Abdul Haleem Farrakhan, who headed the three-man Muslim delegation in the East African country was questioned closely by leading Ugandan Muslims after delivering a short historical account on the Nation of Islam in a nearby Mosque.

PRAYING IN Nakesomo Mosque was "one of the real highlights of my journey," declared Min. Farrakhan, recounting the rich experience.

Ironically, the minister noted, "this event, which I consider to be one of the most momentous of the entire trip, did not even take place until a day after we were actually scheduled to leave Uganda."

Although the three-man delegation from the Nation of Islam spent a total of nearly three weeks in the East African nation, "our schedule was so tight that we could not arrange the time to pray in any of the local Mosques," the minister explained.



CHIEF KADHI, Yusufu Sulieman (left) said that before questioning Min. Abdul Haleem Farrakhan the Nation of Islam's National Representative, he did not believe that America could produce a true Muslim. However, after hearing the minister's responses, he has changed his mind. Also pictured are Abdul Salaam (center) and Capt. Muhammad Jumah, two officials of the Ugandan Muslim Supreme Council.

(Muslim Supreme Council Photo)

Influence of Third World growing

CARACAS — The influence of non-white countries in international affairs is becoming more pervasive, in the opinion of Latin American leaders assembled at a conference here.

"The change in the equilibrium of political-economic power has made the Third World countries prominent," stated Diego Arria, a Venezuelan governor, who was speaking at the conference on behalf of President Carlos Andres Perez.

Mr. Arria refuted the accusation of "economic aggression" brought against Third-World countries by certain industrialized nations.

ALSO SPEAKING at the conference, Gabriel Valdes the former Chilean Foreign Minister (under the government of President Frei), said that unjust

relations exist between big power centers and Third World countries.

"...the developing countries had contributed financially to the development of the rich countries, but they did not benefit from the market economy.

"In a market economy," Mr. Valdes added, "the weak always work for the strong as long as freedom is exercised among-unequal people. This is known to all; and Latin America has experienced it."

He said a new situation has now developed because the people of Third-World countries no longer want to work for the rich countries.

As the balance of economic power shifts throughout the world between developed and developing nations, the pains of adjustment are being felt in all concerned nations.



TANZANIAN PRESIDENT Julius K. Nyerere is urging a rededication to Pan-African principles, but in the view of many observers Pres. Nyerere set the cause of Pan-Africanism back when he refused to attend the recent Organization of African Unity Conference in Uganda.

(U.S. Photo)

HOWEVER, AFTER unforeseen — but benign — complications delayed the scheduled departure of the Muslim delegation, plans for prayer at the Mosque were hastily arranged.

"It was a very beautiful experience," Min. Farrakhan exclaimed. "I recounted the history of the Nation of Islam in America and they were strongly touched by the story."

MUSLIM OFFICIALS allowed the minister to speak to the assembled Ugandan Muslims, deviating slightly from tradition because of "completely unique circumstances."

"After I told them the terrible story of our experience in America, I could see the tears streaming down many of their faces," the minister said.

"I told them that in America we look at every true Muslim as a martyr, for he has already lain down his life to live the life that Allah wills in America," Min. Farrakhan explained.

The Muslim audience was particularly receptive to this subject for just two days prior, a new Mosque was dedicated in honor of 70 Muslim martyrs who "lost their lives merely for believing in Allah."

THE MINISTER continued, "so it is not necessary for a Muslim to prepare to die for Islam, but if he lives for Islam it is automatic that he will die for Islam."

After the short lecture, Min. Farrakhan explained, "the Muslims just began crowding

around me, with their hands reaching just trying to touch a Muslim from the West."

After speaking in the Mosque, the articulate minister met with several leaders of the Ugandan Muslim community and was asked several questions on articles of faith and the teachings of the Hon. W.D. Muhammad.

Min. Farrakhan explained to the Muslim leaders that Islam came into America's Black communities through a method that, "although considered unorthodox, was extremely effective."

HE SAID, "there were many unsuccessful attempts to bring Islam to the Black man in America before the appearance of Master Fard Muhammad and the work of the Honorable Master Elijah Muhammad (May the Peace of Allah be upon them)

"For 44 years we were told to clean up, for we were dirty morally, mentally and physically," Min. Farrakhan said. "So, in essence, we can liken the 40-year mission of the Messenger to a period of Wudhu (In Islam Wudhu is the period before prayer in which the believer cleanses himself

"We would have to be cleaned up before we could be united with our people all over the earth. Now the Muslims in America are ready for true service to Almighty God and we're clean enough to approach that service," Min. Farrakhan said.

After boycotting OAU Conference

Nyerere urges stand on African unity

DAR ES SALAAM — Tanzanian President Julius K. Nyerere recently expressed his nations deep faith in the future of African unity.

HE RECALLED that Africa has gone through centuries of suffering at the hands of slavery, colonialism and all types of exploitation. He said the only logical thing for Africa is unity.

"There are differences between states and tribes, but this does not affect our basic unity," he stated at a press conference.

President Nyerere who reportedly boycotted the recent organization of African Unity Conference is nearby Uganda, Nyerere said, "There are forces in the world trying to divide Africa and keep it disunited. But they are pitting themselves against history."

He stressed that awareness and vigilance on the part of Africa would ensure the defeat of these forces, and said, "The more Africa becomes aware of the need for unity, the harder we will fight against divisive forces."

At present, this awareness is growing more and more in Africa, he noted.

Children's toys dangerous

WASHINGTON — Children's slides, swings, seesaws and other playground equipment are potentially dangerous and should be made safer, the government recently said.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission said an estimated 55,000 serious injuries occurred on playgrounds during 1973.