

Emam Muhammad calls for 'genuine patriotism'



IN HIS ADDRESS to followers during "New World Patriotism Day" activities, Emam Wallace D. Muhammad told a national audience that "you will rob yourself if you don't come into this world, come into this mind and live in the present."

cooperation, working together as equals.

I see Bilalians (blacks), standing over Caucasians telling them what to do, what not to do. Telling them if you don't do it I'll fire you.

In the North and in the South, just a few decades ago, if he had looked at that Caucasian like he wanted to say something to him wrong, he probably would have been beat to death or lynched.

I see a country, a world, America, that used to believe in their hearts, many of them, that they were right before God to mistreat Bilalian people and to keep them segregated

"The following text is part of Emam Wallace D. Muhammad's "New World Patriotism Day" address delivered July 3 at the Masjid Elijah Muhammad No. 2 in Chicago, Ill.)

Dear beloved people, Muslims, brothers and sisters. This is a great day for us and I hope every year we will celebrate, come together in the spirit of genuine patriotism, not having any old emotional hangups with the American flag or the American government.

Let me tell you something. You might not like it, you might not like to hear it from me, you might say it sounds Uncle Tomish but America is the greatest land on the face of the Earth.

How do we measure greatness? We measure greatness by the amount of growth that was made from one point to another. Isn't that how you measure greatness?

Well, I can go into many parts of the world and find people who are greater morally than Americans. But when I look at the point from which they have grown, I must say America's greater.

Now I can't say America is greater than the Holy City of Mecca. That wouldn't be a fair comparison. That's a sacred land, a holy land. I'm talking generally about nations. I've been to Egypt, I've been to other nations and it's only there in their holy, sacred precincts that you find greatness, so much so that you have to say that this is a greater land.

But that greatness there is in terms of obedience to God. They enforce obedience to God there. But I'm not talking about that kind of greatness. I'm talking about human greatness.

In America I find people who just a hundred years ago, couldn't stomach the sight of each other, now sitting down in the same company, the same

and inferior.

Some actually believed in their hearts that they were right to do so. They thought that we were "the cursed sons of Ham" and that God had cursed us to be black and had made us to be the servants of Caucasian people.

This is what they were taught in many American and Western churches.

The Book says that there will come a time when people will be going around with the word of God and some people won't be able to handle it. But the Book also says that there will be a message from God, that when you take it in your mouth it will be bitter. You won't be able to handle it. But it says that in your stomach it will be sweet as honey.

And there'll be another one of which it is said when you take it in your mouth it will be sweet, so nice. But once it reaches your stomach it will be terrible.

So what I'm giving you sometimes when you take it into your mouth you can't handle it. You want to spit it out. It's so hard for you to hold in your mouth. Know that it's bitter medicine but good for the stomach. Let it go on down. Force yourself to swallow it. Make it to down because it's what you need in your stomach to correct a bad condition that your mind and your heart and your nature is in.

In this short period of time this great change, has been made in America without a civil war. The Civil War took off the physical chains but let me tell you something.

The worse form of slavery wasn't

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