

Historic appearance before Hebrew Congregation

Muhammad addresses Jews

Greeting the audience, "In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, Most Compassionate," Emam Muhammad expressed hope that this occasion would mark the beginning of constructive Muslim and Jewish relations in the U.S. "And I hope all over the world," he added.

By Ghayth Nur Kashif
(Special to Bilalian News)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The historical significance of Emam Wallace D. Muhammad's speech before more than 1,000 Jews and Muslims at the Washington Hebrew Congregation will be assessed and reassessed for years to come. Inevitable it will be recorded as a major world religious genesis for the revival of religious cooperation and commitment throughout the world.

Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman, who

Repeating his appeal for closer cooperation, Emam Muhammad said that he was "anxious" to see the Muslims and Jews come closer together "so that we can fight together the evils that are plaguing the good life of all of us."

extended the invitation to Emam Muhammad to address the city's largest Jewish congregation, told the audience that the Emam has given the World Community of Al-Islam, "a new inspired direction." Emam Muhammad has "called for cooperation between Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders and people. He has called for cooperation and a common front against poverty, against drug abuse, against drunkenness, and against the ever progressive destruction of the family in the United States. And we are with him all the way in this fight; it is our fight as well."

Noting that Emam Muhammad was a recent recipient of the prestigious "Four Freedoms" Award—accorded only to former President John F. Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Dr. Ralph Bunch

before him—Rabbi Haberman declared that Emam Muhammad was "among the foremost important religious spokesmen in the world."

Rabbi Haberman said that after the announcement of Emam Muhammad's expected visit was made, he received a number of phone calls asking him about the nature of the invitation. One reporter, he said, asked him whether it took great courage for him to do so.

He said that he had responded that it did not take courage for people "who believe in one God, to pray together or to participate in raising the moral standards of society." It would have been an act of "apathy and indifference" not to have invited him, he concluded.

HOPE FOR THE WORLD

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Turning immediately to the Holy Quran, Emam Muhammad quoted several verses confirming the Oneness of God, and His order and plan for mankind. "The Quran says that God created us as races or tribes and families that we should know each other and not despise each other. Again Almighty God says in the Quran that if God had wanted the religious people to be one religious community, He could have made them so," the Emam explained.

"Again God tells us in the Quran, that there will be Christians, Jews and Muslims till the end of Judgment. And again God tells us in the Quran, that whether you are Christian, Jew or other, if you believe in Almighty God, and if you be faithful and live a good life, you will have your reward from your Lord, there will be no fear



Emam Wallace D. Muhammad



Rabbi Joshua Haberman

Honorable Elijah Muhammad Memorial

Dr. Mikal Ramadan, president of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad Memorial Health Facilities Corporation announced that the Chatham-Grand Crossing Community Health Facility will open its doors to the public for an Open House and Dedication Program, Saturday, Feb. 25, 1978.

The Dedication Program will begin at 1:00 p.m. sharp, and the doors will remain open until 5:00 p.m. for tours and inspection of the new health facility.

A welcomed new addition to the community, the Chatham-Grand Crossing Community Health Facility is housed in the beautiful Pioneer Building at 7801 Cottage Grove Avenue.

Dr. Ramadan stated that the health facility upon completion will provide a full range of outpatient services to the community including adult medicine, pediatrics, OB/Gyn, optometry, dentistry, pharmacy, X-ray,

laboratory, children and family services, nutrition information and counseling, and patient and community health education programs in preventive medicine.

He further stated that the doors to the new health facility will be open to "everyone."

Included in the Feb. 25 festivities are displays and demonstrations along with a Health Fair designed for the entire family. Many community leaders and other health agencies will be involved in both the Dedication Program and Health Fair.

The dedication is scheduled to coincide with "Ethnic Survival Day" activities sponsored by the World Community of Al-Islam in the West that same day.

Those seeking more information may call the Honorable Elijah Muhammad Memorial Health Facilities Corporation from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily at (312) 651-5900.