

# A Brief History of the Messenger



By Samuel 17X  
**THE COMING OF ALLAH**  
 DETROIT — 1931

Blue shadows hung over the Black ghettos of North America in the year 1931. Scattered from east to west, north to south, were seventeen million Black people wandering adrift in a veritable wasteland like sheep long lost.

**HUNGER** was all about. Evictions were everywhere. People were falling sick in the streets; some were trying to commit suicide. Alleys were ravaged for food. Many people searched high and low looking for stale bread, meatless bones, raw potato peelings, or spoiled vegetables from which to make stew or soup, or the image of soup.

One of the sleeping Black people in North America at the time was a little Black man, Mr. Elijah Poole, who had come up north to Detroit eight years ago from his hometown, Macon, Georgia, which was not many miles from his birthplace in Sandersville. A family man, he too was confounded and bewildered by the Great Depression which gripped America. But there was nothing he knew to do. He, like his fellow Blacks, could not understand the

overwhelming hell which engulfed them.

Mr. Elijah Poole wished to God that there was something he could do to help his people. He loved his people and wanted to do something. Long before the Depression, he'd wanted justice for the Black man. "My father was always sympathetic to Black people less fortunate than we," his oldest son, Brother, Emanuel Muhammad, told **Muhammad Speaks**. "He would often loan out his pay on payday before he got home from work."

The seventh child of thirteen children, Mr. Elijah Poole had been born in 1897 in Sandersville, Georgia. A perceptive paternal grandfather had given him the name Elijah, and always addressed him as "Elijah The Prophet." He'd often tell the boy's parents that one day he'd be a prophet of God.

At an early age the boy Elijah showed unusual signs of leadership, and love for justice. Although he was one of the youngest of the children, the others would always come to him to settle their disputes. At fifteen he was a foreman over a crew of men much older than he. Once when he heard about a lynching, he

vowed that one day he would do something about it.

But there was nothing he knew to do about the Great Depression which gripped America. Neither did anyone else seem to know.

**FOR BLACK FOLKS** it had become so tough that they couldn't turn to the middle class white folks to beg because they too, were in a pretty bad way. Their savings were gone, their insurance policies had been cashed. After awhile they were evicted from their homes. Their butlers, maids, errand and shoe shine boys had to go.

However, for white folks there was at least some little hope. They could always get the job of a loyal Black worker who would be fired in order to be replaced by the white.

The condition of Black people grew worse. Although some would go to church and do much shouting, nothing happened. Preachers would stomp, holler, lie, but nothing happened. Old men and young boys would stand on street corners staring at the pavement. Others would sit around on broken-down

*Continued on page 4*

Continued:

## Short History of the Messenger

chairs, "waiting for times to get better," but nothing happened; except when occasionally, a truck would come to the ghetto from downtown to pick up a few day workers.

So wretched, filthy and poor were the Black ghettos that in some cities, twice as many Black babies as white babies were dying. The Black death rate exceeded the birth rate. Many suffered from heart trouble, high blood pressure, and malnutrition. Some suffered from fever, headaches, chills, hay fever, rheumatism, toothache and even aching feet.

Yet no relief was in sight; not for Black folks. Many were being squeezed out of factories onto the "relief roles," while others were still being evicted from homes which had become "firetraps."

In one northern city, a young Black woman with two small children was evicted from her house. Her furniture was set out on the sidewalk. She had been out of work eight months, and was five months behind in rent. There was no place for her and her two children to go.

It was in 1929; still no relief was in sight.

The great Marcus Garvey had come and gone; so had Noble Drew Ali. Both virtuous and dedicated men had tried their best to lift the oppressed Black people from their terribly deep slumber. But neither had quite the master - grip needed to perform such an awesome task. It would take one mightier than them.

### A PROFOUND MEETING

Then all of a sudden, in 1930, a forceful and powerful new voice was heard in the wilderness. It was a voice speaking words which had never been heard before in America; words such as ALLAH, ISLAM, ASIATIC BLACKMAN, ORIGINAL MAN, YAKUB, GRAFTED MAN, PATMOS, THE WHITE MAN IS THE DEVIL, and CAVE MAN.

Strange but fascinating words; appealing to a certain Black sense, a sixth (or seventh) sense — a natural sense for truthfulness and righteousness in the Black man.

Then one day someone went excitedly to tell Mr. Elijah Poole that there was a Certain Man in town teaching that which he just had to go and hear for himself.

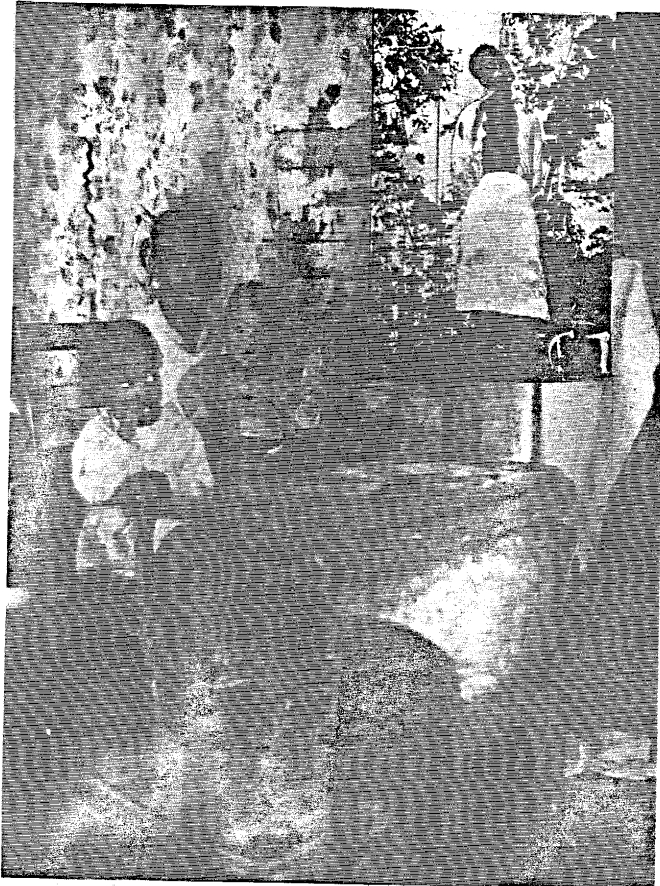
So Mr. Elijah Poole went down to the meeting hall to hear this Certain Man speak. According to the best reports, as soon as he walked into the room he realized that the One Who was speaking was God Himself. It was the one Who had come speaking of Islam, The Original Man, The Asiatic Black Man.

When shaking the man's hand after the meeting, Mr. Elijah said to him, "I know who you are. You're God Himself." The Certain Man whispered to him, "That's right. But don't tell it now! It is not yet time for it to be known."

Mr. Elijah learned that the Certain Man's name was Fard. He learned that He had come from the East; from the Holy City Mecca. Without effort, Elijah gave his heart to Master Fard, on the spot. It was an instant, eternal act of submission. He began doing everything Master Fard told him to do.

One of the first things he was told to do was to give back to his former slave master, the white man, the slave name, Poole. He would from then on live up to the name "Karriem." Later he would be given the praiseworthy name of Almighty God (Allah) Himself — Muhammad.

Continued on page 5



HANGING BLACK man (inset) is merely one of many innocent Black people lynched by fiendish white mobs during the early days of the coming of Allah, Master Fard Muhammad. Woman and children are symbolic of the poverty and despair - ridden seventeen million who suffered from a Depression which they did nothing to cause.

Continued:

# A Brief History

## AN EARLY CONVERT

One of the first Black men to hear and accept Muhammad as The Messenger was Brother Karriem Allah. He told **Muhammad Speaks** that "During the time the Messenger was visiting here in Chicago in 1933 he first started teaching on the West Side, in churches and meeting halls.

A brother (Blackman) Clifford Williams, came to my house and said to me: "There's going to be a man here from Egypt Friday night. He's going to speak at 'The Hall' (Universal Negro Improvement Association) which was then located at 1841 W. Lake Street, at eight o'clock Friday night. I was eighteen years old then.

"Come on go with me to hear him," Brother Clifford said to me. It was on Thursday evening during my working hours. The time I was working at Drisco Plating Company, 1400 W. Carroll. I said to him that 'I couldn't go then — on Friday night, but I asked him to find out where the man would be speaking on Sunday afternoon. We'll get together and go hear him then.' I didn't see him again for about three weeks.

"In the meanwhile I got with another Brother, Alphonso Hatchet, the oldest brother of the present Supreme Captain, Raymond Sharrieff. I told him what Clifford Williams had told me. 'So let's you and I find out where this man is going to speak this Sunday afternoon.'"

"It was one early Sunday afternoon in August, around the third." Brother Karriem Allah told **Muhammad Speaks**.



*IN 1955 the righteous followers of The Honorable Elijah Muhammad had the desire to see him live in more comfortable dwellings than which he had been living. Therefore they helped him to secure the present dwelling (above) at the famous 4847 S. Woodlawn address. 'And you should have seen it when he got it!' One of His followers said. 'It was in real bad shape. White folks had lived in it for a long time, and it had all kinds of need for repair.' But Muhammad and his followers were able to rehabilitate the old house, just as he's been able to rehabilitate so many disrepaired lives over the years. Although the Wise ones of his followers are ashamed that he was allowed to live so long in such inappropriate dwellings. They are thankful to Allah that at last they are able to help him move into more fitting quarters.*

Somewhat a sunny day. A little summer breeze was in the air." After explaining to Brother Alphonso about this man who we did not really know at the time, I learned from him (Alphonso) that he too had heard Mr. Muhammad speak; at a little church on Damen and Warren Boulevard. But Alphonso didn't

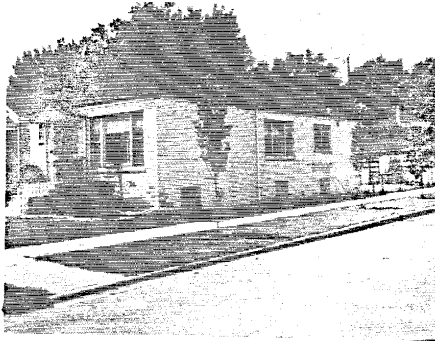
really know then who he was either. It was fun to him. He was about my age. He too was fascinated by the Messenger's wisdom."

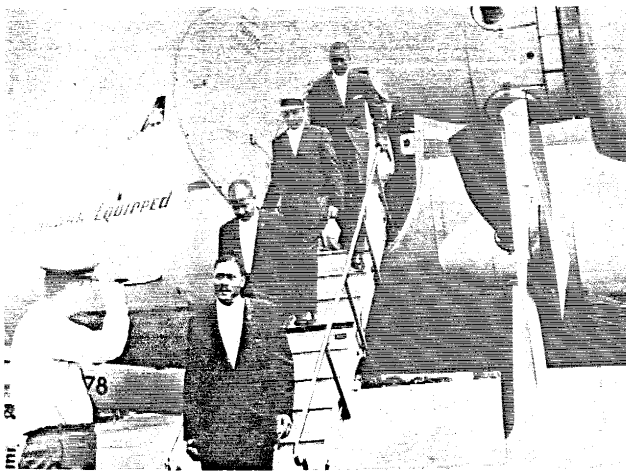
"In discussing the Messenger, we decided we should go hear him. So we went in search of where he was to speak.

*Continued on page 6*

*'FOR MY PEOPLE', the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has said, 'I want money, good homes and friendship in all walks of life.' The two modest houses below are owned by the Nation of Islam, and are but minor examples of what our beloved Leader strives to do*

*for his followers. Even more appealing are the truer, inner homes they contain, where peace and happiness reign when His teachings are really put into practice.*





**ROYAL TREATMENT** was given to Muhammad when he returned to Washington in 1959 for mass meeting at Uline arena. It was seventeen years since the governmental authorities there had sought to interfere with his mission. However, they eventually proved to be much wiser than some of his own people; at least they recognized that he was the true Messenger of Allah. Above he is shown leaving plane with some of his aides.

Continued:

## A Brief History

First we went to the near Southside, near 13th and Loomis. We thought he would be there at the UNIA hall meeting to be held at 1 p.m. But he wasn't.

However there was a large gathering of people there. After sitting down for about half an hour, we decided that he wasn't going to be there. We left the hall and went in further search of him to find out where he would speak that afternoon.

### SEARCHING FOR MUHAMMAD

We walked down 13th Street to 12th and Morgan. We saw groups of people going into a hall. We walked up to some of the men who were standing on the outside and asked them if there was "going to be any speaking here this afternoon. They said 'Yes, there's a man up there speaking now.'" Upon hearing this, we entered the hall from the ground floor and walked up one flight. There we saw the Messenger of Allah, The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad, standing before a large gathering of people. He had just begun speaking. There was no room to sit, all seats were taken; there was standing room only.

### A FIRST VIEW OF THE MESSENGER OF ALLAH

"He was a young-looking, dynamic, smiling, and cheerful man. He was full of the fire of Islam and the spirit of Allah to deliver his message of truth to we, the lost members of the aboriginal Black nation," continued Brother Karriem Allah.

"He began to teach the history of our

first parents. Of how they were kidnapped and brought over here by an English trader, John Hawkins. He taught us how the children of the slaves were taken from them; how the parents were killed outright by the enemy. He told us how we, the children of the first parents were sold into chattel slavery. He told us that we remained in this state of slavery for 310 years until our Savior Allah appeared in the person of Master Fard Muhammad To Whom Praises are due forever. We Thank Him for the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad."

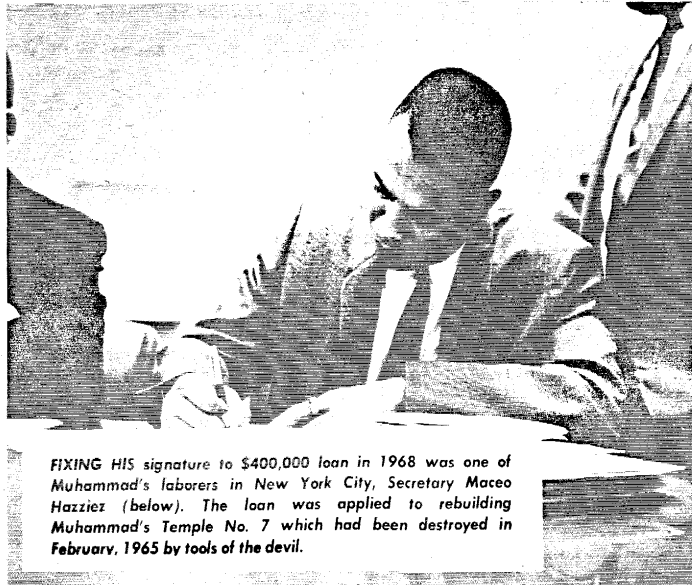
### THE MESSENGER'S WISDOM

"The people, upon hearing this history about our parents, began to stand up! They were enraged at the way we had been treated by our former slavemasters. The Messenger of Allah saw this. Saw that they were angry. He quickly changed the subject because everyone in the hall had stood up in anger at the slavemaster."

"Then the Messenger of Allah went to the blackboard. He drew a large round circle on it, and began to teach us the knowledge of this circle. He went to the Bible, to Ezekiel 1:9. There in Ezekiel he pointed out to us where Ezekiel saw this wheel (The Mother Ship) or circle in his vision. He described it as a wheel-in-a-wheel. And on the wheel he said there were four living kinds of creatures?"

"Everybody sat down. The Messenger was cooling their anger." The Messenger went on teaching; 'When the

Continued on page 7



**FIXING HIS signature** to \$400,000 loan in 1968 was one of Muhammad's laborers in New York City, Secretary Maceo Hazziez (below). The loan was applied to rebuilding Muhammad's Temple No. 7 which had been destroyed in February, 1965 by tools of the devil.

Continued:

## A Brief History

wheel lifted up, the four living kinds of creatures were also lifted up. The Messenger explained to the audience who the four living kinds of creatures represented. He said they represented four living kinds of creatures the four great colors of man — the Black (Original), brown, yellow and red man."

"The audience, upon hearing this great truth, became fascinated! And coming from the mouth of this little man! We were so quiet that you could hear a pin drop on the floor."

### MUHAMMAD'S DURABILITY

"The Messenger started the meeting at 2 p.m. that Sunday afternoon. He ended it at 2:30 a.m. the next morning. I think it was August 4, 1933. Just before dismissal," Brother Karriem Allah continued, "He asked the audience where would they like to have future meetings — on the Westside or on the Southside? 'I want you to tell me where you want to meet because I know where we can rent a place on either side of town,' he said. 'Although we were all from the Westside we agreed on the Southside because there were more original (Black) people on the Southside than on the Westside.'

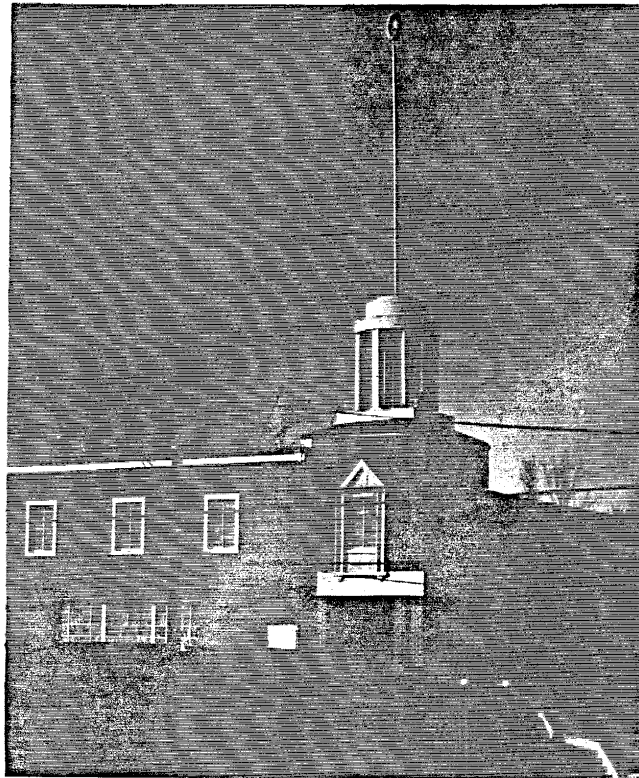
"When we made our choice known, he said to us: 'I want you to meet with me next Saturday at 3335 S. State (site of the present Illinois Institute of Technology). I can rent a hall there from the Odd Fellows.'"

On Sept. 20, 1942, Brother Karriem Allah faithfully went to jail for peace with his beloved teacher, The Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

### ALLAH'S CHOICE—MUHAMMAD

The Savior Master Fard Muhammad used a system of permitting the student ministers to select their own minister from among themselves. They would always select the most articulate, smooth - talking one. Then came the day when the Savior decided to select His Own. "I've let you select yours for awhile," he told the student ministers. Now I'll select mine.

"Hey, you over there, Karriem!" Master Fard called out to the humble little man seated in the corner rear of the classroom. "Who me?," The Messenger asked humbly. "Yes, you, Elijah Karriem," The Savior



*IN A SENSE, Muhammad's Temple No. 15 (above) and other temples represent the long sought freedom, justice and equality of the Black man in that state as well as throughout the south. Established in 1956 in a previous building, it now stands on the Bankhead highway.*

commanded, 'Come up here with Me.'

"The humble little man went to the front of the class and stood beside his Master.' The Savior put His right arm around the little man's shoulder and said, "From now on this is my minister." Muhammad was given the title Supreme Minister until later on when he received the title, Messenger Of Allah — a title which he was not to use until after the Savior had gone because it was not to be revealed until then that The Savior Himself was Allah in Person.

### 1935-1946 FLIGHT, PERSECUTION, AND IMPRISONMENT

Sometime in 1934, Allah left. As they had agreed before Master Fard left, Muhammad began teaching that the one who had been known as Prophet Fard was in fact Allah (God) Himself, in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad.

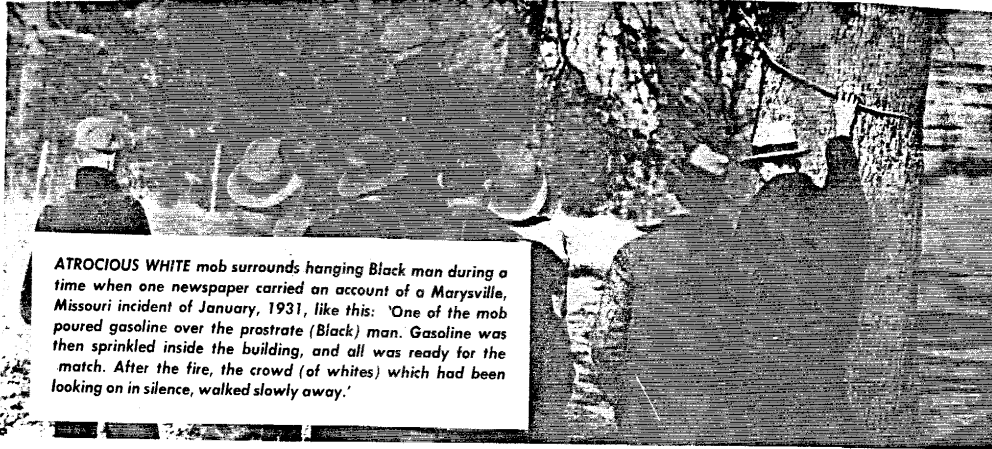
Some of the former student ministers disagreed. They didn't want to believe that the most humble among them had

been chosen to be The Messenger of Allah — they began disbelieving in Allah after they had said they believed — they became hypocrites.

In September, 1934, Muhammad moved to Chicago. This was the fulfillment of Muhammad Ibn Abdullah's moving from Mecca to Medina fourteen hundred years before. His reason for moving was simple; as stated in Message To The Blackman, "I committed myself to the jail in Detroit after learning that the Michigan State Board of Education had arrested the Muslim teachers of the School of Islam and the secretary of the Temple on false charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors." This false charge was dropped, and the teachers were freed.

"I was at that time given 6 months' probation to put our Muslim children back in their public schools under

Continued on page 8



**ATROCIOUS WHITE** mob surrounds hanging Black man during a time when one newspaper carried an account of a Marysville, Missouri incident of January, 1931, like this: 'One of the mob poured gasoline over the prostrate (Black) man. Gasoline was then sprinkled inside the building, and all was ready for the match. After the fire, the crowd (of whites) which had been looking on in silence, walked slowly away.'

Continued:

## A Brief History:

Christian teachers. This I did not do, and I moved in September of the same year to Chicago."

### A STRANGER IN WASHINGTON

In the year 1935 The Honorable Elijah Muhammad fled to Washington, D.C. from the hypocrites. He lived with a Mr. Benjamin Mitchell, who is presently Brother Benjamin X, (Minister of Muhammad's Temple No. 24, Richmond, Virginia. Brother Minister Benjamin wrote for Muhammad Speaks the following account of The Messenger's stay at his home in Washington.

"He came to my home in reply to a "Room for rent" sign in my window. He introduced himself as Mr. Evans to my sister, who was attending to our home in the absence of my wife and I. He was permitted to see the room and informed my sister that he would return at 5 o'clock to discuss the matter with me.

"True, he did return at 5 o'clock and after being admitted, he introduced himself and stated pointedly that he had seen the room, that it pleased him and asked if he could move in. When I replied 'yes,' he mentioned that he would like me to black out a glass transom over the door to the adjoining room. He explained that he would be using much light but he would pay for the extra light, and did not wish to disturb us. I assured him that he could use all the light he desired and no pay was necessary."

"I worked from 4 P.M. to 12 A.M. Each night when I arrived home I would

find Mr. Evans and my family still up; and we would listen to him talk. He said he was doing "Missionary work among our People." He said to me 'Brother, I met with God and He gave me a Message to give to my people.' Astonished, I said, "God!" Have you seen God? 'Yes,' he said softly. You can't see God and live!" I said, "What did he look like?" Calmly, he replied, 'He is Black and he told me to tell my people to hurry and join on to their own kind because the end of this world has come.

"He had been with us about seven days or more, I had not known him to go out for food. One Wednesday he asked me, "Brother, do you drink coffee?" At about 9:30 A.M., he said, "How about putting my name in the pot the next time you make coffee." Eagerly I said, "Yes sir! I seized this opportunity to invite him to dinner. He accepted the invitation and he went out and bought all the food, took off his coat, put on an apron and taught my wife how to prepare the dinner. Imagine that!

"Brother," he said, "How are we going to eat all this food?" "Don't ask me!" I replied, "I was wondering the same thing when I saw you bringing it in here. Again he smiled and said, 'Don't you have some friends that you could invite over to dinner.' Thus, was the beginning of my weeks and months of TALKS with him. He was a wonderful mystery to us. He never ceased to amaze us, even to this day."

"One day, after he had lived in and out of my home for a number of years, he said 'Brother, I'll be out for a while and I'm expecting a letter here, it may be in the name of J. Bogan.' Immediately, I

retorted, 'I thought you said your name was Mr. Evans?' He smiled and said, if it comes, keep it for me. I related the conversation to my wife and we wondered what kind of man is this, carrying two names. But then a few weeks later he came saying that he was expecting another letter, this time in the name of Mohammed Rassoul."

"WE HAD no idea of the true identity of this magnificently mysterious man but we were awed by the wisdom and the density of his teachings and his plans for us. We could not begin to comprehend the greatness of this little man nor the profound effect that this plan given by his God, would have on our lives these many years later, but we loved him and obeyed him and we followed him throughout the land, even to jail (smile).

Now this little man, that we know today as The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah, has proven to the world that Allah, in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, to Whom Praises are due forever, has indeed visited these western shores and has indeed talked to him face to face and has raised him from the depths to the heights.

During his ascent, he has, through his suffering and his struggling, raised the Blackman of America to bring him (the Blackman) to his God, Allah, for He is truly deserving of the position that he holds today, that is the Most High, the Mighty, the Wise, the Wonderful Counselor. All Praises are due to Allah, Master Fard Muhammad for Our leader, teacher and guide, the Last and Greatest Messenger of Allah, The Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

# My Father's Message Fearless and Forceful!

By Samuel 17X

(Muhammad Speaks is grateful to The Messenger's oldest son, Brother Emanuel Muhammad, for granting us the following interview.)

## A SON LOOKS AT A GREAT FATHER

**Muhammad Speaks:** Would you please describe for us some of your first impressions of your father?

**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "My first impressions of my father were of his wisdom and generosity. He would teach me how to build a fire and how to avoid being hit in the face or eyes by flying splinters. He also taught me how to sift the ashes and what to keep and spread over the new fire to make it last longer. He would also teach me what to do when he was not at home and what the others should do to help me.

**Muhammad Speaks:** What are some of your most memorable experiences with him?

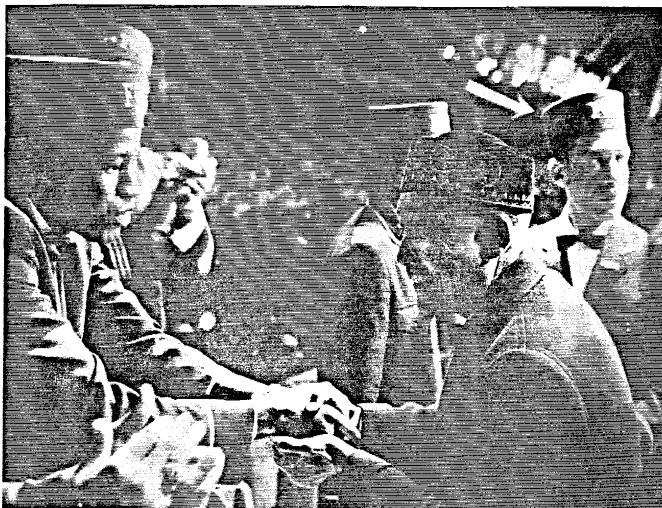
**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "My most memorable experience with my father was the gift of my first brown suit; until today brown is still my favorite color. This suit was given to me when I was five years old and was so dear to me; I would fold it carefully and place it with my shoes at the foot of my bed before retiring.

"I also recall seeing my Father reading the Bible after breakfast; or whatever they called breakfast during the depression. He would read all day and this reading would bring tears to his eyes. The tears would fall at the time he was reading...

**Muhammad Speaks:** What were your early impressions of his mission?

**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "The first thing that impressed me about my Father's mission was hearing him teach in the Mosque, in Detroit, at 3408 Hastings Street. My father's message was so fearless and forceful! The great number of people who came to hear him teach was also very impressive. There was thunderous applause in acceptance of what they heard.

"What has impressed me most however, I think, was my stay with my Father in prison. He set up a Temple in the prison despite the difficulties he



**HAPPY MOMENT** for Messenger of Allah is Savior's Day Convention of 1970, where he's shown greeting one of his ministers, Min. David Pasha (left) while his oldest son, Bro. Emanuel Muhammad stands in rear right.

experienced; with the black board and all, he set up classes right there in prison. He would teach on Wednesday and Friday evenings until the bugle was blown for us to go to bed. He also taught on Sunday afternoons at 2 P.M. He made many, many converts in prison. Even the devils who came by to steal an earful and wound up bowing in agreement, an unconscious bearing of witness to the truth The Messenger taught.

"Once in a group discussion with my father, a white physician admitted that it is a known medical and scientific fact that white people came from Black people.

"Inmates who worked in the fields would secure food for us to eat because of the difficulty we had getting something we could eat.

**Muhammad Speaks:** Did you, as one of the Messenger's family, suffer many hardships during the Depression?

**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "Work was difficult to find. To get money for us to live on I would have to search for pop bottles, scrap metal and anything I could sell for junk. At times I would have to climb on freight cars filled with coal to get coal for heating our three

room house at 8774 Manhattan Street, in Detroit.

**Muhammad Speaks:** Would you tell us what kind of love you saw between Allah and the Messenger?

**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "There are, in my mind, many memorable instances of my father's love for Allah. But the one that sticks in me most is of the tears Allah and the Messenger shed the day Allah left us."

## MUHAMMAD'S BEST HELPER

**Muhammad Speaks:** And your mother, Sister Clara Muhammad, what kind of wife and mother was she?

**Bro. Emanuel Muhammad:** "My mother has always been a perfect mother to us and wife for my father." When my Father was unable to find work my mother would work for "Lilly-white" families; scrubbing floors, washing, and ironing clothes to get money to feed and care for us.

"She has always been a sympathetic wife of encouragement for Him. She was

*Continued on page 10*

# A son remembers his father



SAVIOR'S Day Convention, 1970, brought many people to the Coliseum to hear the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. He's shown above greeting a woman who wants to accept Islam and return to her own.

## Continued:

the first of our family to accept His mission.

"She held our family together all the while he was on the run. And while he was in prison the remaining officials would seek information from her.

"She would bring understanding from my father on questions she could not answer — She gathered and sent or brought to my father and I whatever literature the prison permitted.

"She typed verses from the Holy Quran and sent them to us. In general she held the family together all the while my father was in prison.

"Even now, she's up late at night to help nurse Him in times of illness. She's a living, continual witness to my father as Allah's last and greatest Messenger.

"When my father and I were in prison, the F.B.I. approached my mother and told her that she would have to return the children to the devil's school. She told them she would rather die first.

## THE FAMILY'S LOVE FOR THE MESSENGER

"My Father has always been Master of the household. He was always deeply loved and respected by all of His children.

"Even now, the entire family suffers

when He is ill — I have left my bed (and my brothers have too) to sit up with Him when he was ill. This applies to all the members of His family.

"I would give my very life if Allah would restore my Father's health.

Muhammad Speaks: Would you tell us a little bit more about the Savior and the Messenger together?

Bro. Emanuel Muhammad: "My father was always overjoyed to see the Savior. I remember the Savior's first car. It was a black Chevy (or Ford). When he left us he was driving a Black Ford.

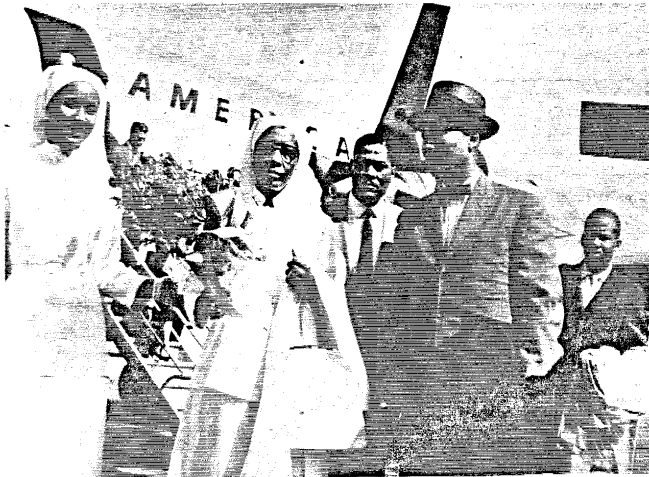
The Savior taught my Father how to drive; He taught my mother how to cook. I received my first lesson from the Savior — I have rode with Him while searching for my father.

Muhammad Speaks: Has the Messenger's family helped him in spreading the teachings of Islam?

Bro. Emanuel Muhammad: "We have been able to hold many important posts in the Temple until He could secure more qualified help. I myself have been at one time or another: school teacher, principal, secretary, chief doorman, searcher, manager of the Nation's cleaners, an assistant at the grocery store, a security guard and also helped teach Islam.

"We must learn how to train our Children into The Knowledge of Self and into higher education from the kindergarten to the universities. We must get away from that old kindergarten of letting our Black children lay around and play and stay there for months studying the alphabet. We must use the faster method of advanced education in order to begin our Black children's qualification and keep them busy studying while in the classroom instead of playing."

The Hon. Elijah Muhammad.



THE HONORABLE Elijah Muhammad on one of his trips away from Chicago to deliver a lecture in another city. Despite attempts to turn Black people away from him, Blacks have come out in large numbers to hear him at every public appearance which he has made.



# Pioneers remember early years of Islam

By Nathaniel 10X

(Photos by Nathaniel 10X)

CHICAGO — "When I first attended the Temple in the Spring of 1941, as soon as I entered the door, that Sunday — the feeling that I had — the atmosphere of the whole Temple got next to me — it gave me the feeling that I was in the right place," said Minister James Shabazz of Temple No. 2.

"THE CLEANNESS of the sisters with their beautiful white garments on, and the discipline of the brothers, the brothers were so well-dressed, there was such an atmosphere of discipline..." as the modestly dressed Muslim minister continues to talk it is obvious to see that he is still very excited about that spring day nearly 32 years ago.

"The Minister opened with prayer," Minister James continued. "Then he began talking. Everything he said was just what I wanted to hear. Long before the minister finished his lecture, I was already convinced of the Truth of Messenger Elijah Muhammad's Teaching—his Mission. I accepted on the spot, immediately!"

These remarks, the treasured remembrance of that first time hearing the Teaching of Islam, as taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, is a highlight in the hearts of all believers.

"When I first came to the Nation of Islam the Nation was small and struggling," Minister Shabazz continues. "Most of the brothers were working at supporting their families and the Temple by selling junk...They collected junk from the alleys and sold it to meet their financial obligation. Sisters worked at odd jobs, doing 'days work,' to help supplement the up-keep of the family and the Temple."

Nearly ten years prior to Minister Shabazz's treasured experience, in 1932 Brother Sidney Shah was walking down South Park near 42nd St.

"I was a very sick man," Brother Shah remembers, "but I was out walking that day, when I saw two men standing on the corner of South Park (Dr. King Dr.) and 42nd Street. One of them was telling the other about a meeting that he had been to the other night. He said, 'I never heard a teaching like that before.'"

"SO I STOPPED to hear and see if the Brother would say where the meeting was. When I got home I told my wife about it. My wife said if you are going I'll get all the children ready and we will all go. I had five children at the time."

"When the Honorable Elijah



Brother Minister James Shabazz  
A follower since 1940



Brother Fletcher Majied  
A follower since 1933



Brother Sidney Shah  
A follower since 1933



Brother Leslie X  
A follower since 1934

Muhammad came in, he was walking very fast, down the aisle, he was being escorted, he ran up the steps, and when I knew anything he had done an about-face and was facing the audience.

"He said As-Salaam-Alaikum, then everybody jumped up to their feet and greeted him. The place was just packed.

"I felt that I was a part of the meeting that night. Then he began to teach. He was teaching how we should live, how we should carry ourselves, how we should raise our children, and how we should live at home with our family," Brother Shah states.

"And then he said to be healthy, to be happy, and raise your family, and make them healthy and happy, you must begin to live according—he told us what we should eat, when we should eat, and how we should eat. This was very interesting to me!"

"We were there real late that night, and it was so much that he said, but everything he said was most wonderful, and it

was good, and I found joy and I received happiness, and my blessings began from that night, as far as my health is concerned and my home, because the next morning, I took all the pork that we had in the house, and I told my wife, I'm going to throw it out—every bit of it." Brother Shah said.

Brother Fletcher Majied said he came to the Odd Fellows Hall at 33rd and State for the first time in the fall of 1933.

"The Messenger told us about this white man (JOHN HAWKINS), and how he brought our forefathers here.

"He said that John Hawkins anchored his ship down on the Nile River, he was flying our Flag—he was sailing the banks of the Nile, where our people were doing trade. He had nude women on the ship, and our people had never seen anything like this, so they crowded on the ship.

"OUR FLAG was flying, our Flag was a red flag, Freedom, Justice and Equality. When he got out to sea, they lowered our flag.

"Some of our people jumped off the boat, and began to swim back to shore—they look back at the brothers on the ship and said—good-by you're going to hell," Brother Majied states.

Brother Leslie X came to Islam in 1934. He says, "The first day I went there I joined the Fruit (F.O.I.). When they were Teaching, they told me just what I wanted to know. I thought it was just great.

"I love the righteous Teaching and how valuable we are—the so-called Negro. I love the law, Allah and His Messenger, the Teachings.

"I've had a lot of proof about Islam—in prison the only Teaching that stood up was Islam."

This is their story, the fearless first fighters for Islam in North America, but it is really the story of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. Because his followers' most treasured memories are times spent with him, or some memorable wisdom he gave to them, as he had been given by Allah in the Person of Master Faru Muhammad.

Many of the believers speak of his way of instructing and correcting with the greatest finesse.

"Sometimes what he said might seem funny," Minister James Shabazz states. "But in the humor was always a message or something for us to take note of, either by way of warning or instructions. It was something to study, to soothe you, yet instruct you. The Messenger never did joke, just to be joking," Minister Shabazz said.

"The Messenger would always stress—he'd say don't let nobody cause you to lose your reward—Islam is fire! If you don't want it leave it alone," said Brother Leslie X.

Although times were hard in those days, and even though all the believers remember the hard times, it is not the hard time that they want to dwell on, they want to talk about the great progress of the present and beauty of the past.

They speak of the bold steps taken by the Apostle, his actions, his compassion, his love and devotion to the Teaching that Allah has given to him, the way he has weided a group of Black men and women in a bond of unity that has never been known in the history of men.

"My first impression of the unity of the Muslims was when we were arrested in 1942, when the police made a raid on the Temple. All of the Muslims wanted to be in on it, not trying to avoid it. They were saying, 'Yes arrest me, I want to be with my brother' this was really my first impression of unity solidarity," states Minister James Shabazz.

Another typical memory of every Muslim is described as follows by Minister James Shabazz.

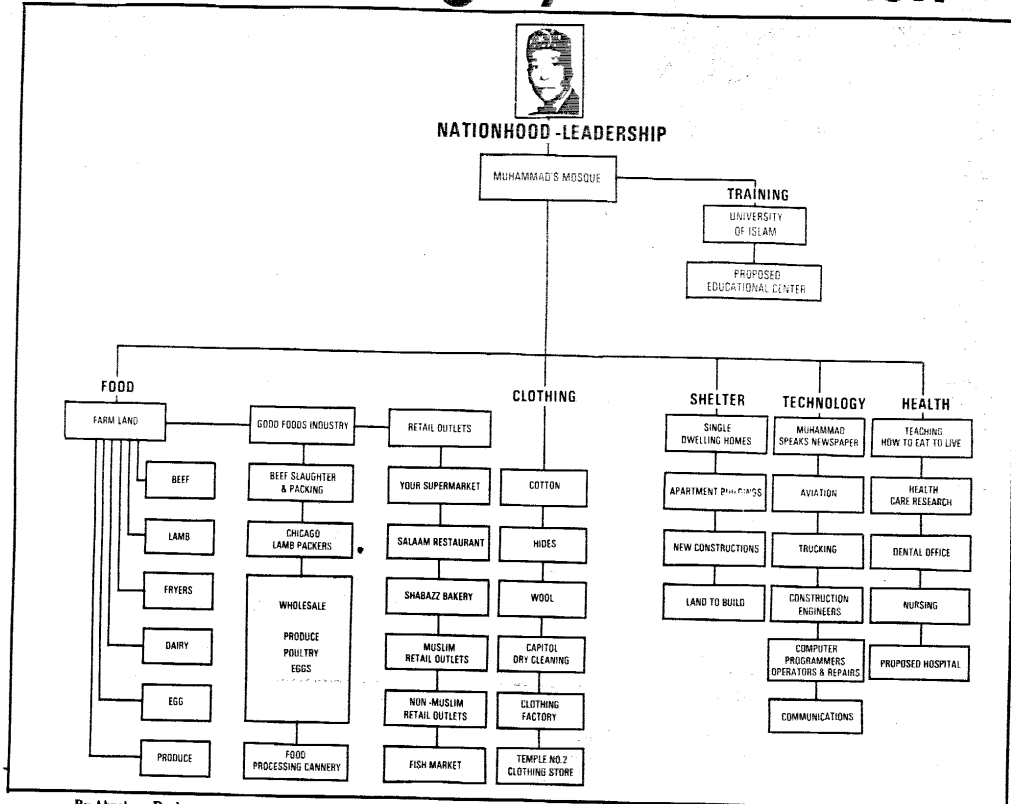
"I'LL NEVER FORGET that moment. When Messenger Muhammad came on the speakers stand, Minister Sultan Muhammad lifted him off the floor. He was so happy to see him!"

"That was the most dramatic event that had ever happened in my life, and the most memorable event in my life, the first time I saw Messenger Muhammad. It was a beautiful sight!" he said.

Ed note: It is not the intentions of Muhammad Speaks to slight any of the early Believers, all of the early Believers who were with the Honorable Elijah Muhammad in Detroit, Milwaukee, Washington, D.C. and those remaining in Chicago, both Brothers and Sisters will be contacted by Muhammad Speaks before the series on the history of the early years of Islam is completed.

'Nationtime' no longer slogan

# Muhammad's bold ventures shows how: builds mighty Black Nation



By Abraham Pasha

CHICAGO — Today, Messenger Muhammad's Program is unquestionably the most relevant and complete program among Black people. His leadership and guidance is the most outstanding among the varied spectrum of Black leadership. Wherein most others talk 'Nation Time' it is Messenger Muhammad who is building that Nation within a nation.

IF WE WERE to examine in detail the plight of Black America we would see that beyond that age old thirst for freedom lies an equal thirst for food, clothing, shelter, jobs, and good health. What wiser leadership could there be than one which tunes itself to the needs and wishes of the people.

Messenger Muhammad's Program for Black America is not just a fly by night program, nor is it only for today; it is

lasting, real, right now and right on into the future.

For years the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has taught that freedom requires land ownership. He has led us to the purchase of great tracts of land in the South and Midwest. On this land we produce enough food so that none of Mr. Muhammad's followers are hungry.

Not only are we able to feed ourselves, we also provide farm goods to the total Black community as no other Black group is doing. Our land and its products so teaches Messenger Muhammad, are for the services of all Black people who have the sight to see the wisdom of producing your own needs, and we do need food.

We do not yet produce all of the beef, lamb, chicken, dairy products, eggs and produce consumed by Black America, but Messenger Muhammad can lead us

to that goal. Presently, we are miles and years ahead of all others, we are producers.

What we produce, we process and market through another network of enterprises under the Good Foods Industries. Black people are accustomed to taverns, rib joints, pool halls, etc. But during the 'Nation Time' phase of the Blackman in America's growth we must accustom ourselves to industries which satisfy the hunger of our people and make available to them the good foods of life.

Not only does the Messenger's Program call for producing and processing these good foods, he makes them available through retail outlets - supermarkets, restaurants, bakeries, fish markets, Muslim and non-Muslim retail outlets around the country. We cannot service them all at this time but

Continued:

# Muhammad's Nation of Black men

we wish to. Goods and services at the Muslim enterprises are priced at the poverty level but are very high quality goods.

ONCE WE CAN ELIMINATE the people's hunger — and Messenger Muhammad is trying in a realistic way — his program does not stop there. He says, "A Nation must have clothing." It is one thing to preach about the unclothed condition of Black people, but it is another thing to take steps to become producers of not only the clothing materials but the styles of that clothing as well.

From our cattle comes hides useful in the manufacture of leather for clothes and shoes. Wool from our sheep and cotton from our fields — are useful in manufacturing clothing. All budding enterprises closely related to our clothing factories whose primary concern, at this point, is to keep our women in styles appropriate to their very life style, as we call them, 'Mothers of Civilization.'

We are not trying to be number one. We are number one, under Messenger Muhammad's leadership.

FOOD, CLOTHING and now shelter indeed, an urgent need of Black people. Here again Messenger Muhammad's Program is leading the way. Although very seldom publicized, the Nation of Islam is providing above average housing to hundreds of Black families around the country.

Housing which comes in single dwelling middle and upper level homes, 3-4-5 bedrooms for no more than \$150.00 monthly rent.

Apartment buildings, rodent and pest free, well kept, and lived in by happy tenants. New construction is under way and much more is planned to provide good housing for Black people. Hundreds of Muslim families are living in homes which they own themselves; home ownership acquired by directly following Messenger Muhammad's

teachings on family life and doing for self.

The Nation of Islam and Messenger Muhammad places great emphasis on education. Through our own school system the young are taught not only the standard academics which generally are above the public school systems; they are supplemented with a complete knowledge of themselves not found in any other school system, public or private. Indeed, this education equips them to search for knowledge wherever it may be found, but to use that knowledge in behalf of themselves and their people.

Technology is an important part of 'Nation Time'. Messenger Muhammad has taken unskilled Black men and women who had the aptitude to learn and trained them in skilled professions involved in the production of Muhammad Speaks Newspaper—an offset printing job comparable to all others in the profession.

Black pilots and airplane mechanics busy themselves in our Aviation section, though limited to a jet, it is growing. The Nation of Islam has a fleet of trucks owned, operated and repaired by Blacks carrying commodities produced by Blacks.

The Nation presently has skilled forces, busy at the work of building a Nation, construction engineer's, proven in their fields, doctors of medicine, mathematicians, chemist, doctors of Orthodontics, communications experts, well trained and versed in radio and TV operations, plus computer programmers, operators and repairmen all trained through Messenger Muhammad's efforts to fulfill the Nation's needs. And these skilled men are followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

Health is a prime part of Messenger Muhammad's teachings and through those teachings on How to Eat to Live,

one's health can be improved if the teachings in these areas are obeyed.

Yet, we as a people have been led to eat the wrong food; food only fit for cattle and work animals. Therefore, we become sick and unable to care for ourselves.

MESSENGER MUHAMMAD'S followers are presently doing health research in some parts of the country. We have dental offices, nursing staffs and propose probably one of the most needed facilities for Black people in this day - a hospital to heal our sick and wounded.

The chart and businesses you see pictured here represents many years of hard, dedicated labor on the part of our Nation's head, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah.

His love for Black people is unmatched and has led to the creation of a program so astounding until if you don't see it, it's hard to believe. Yet it exists, and is the only Divine Program in which all Black people can concretely benefit. Each of these blocks represents a phase of building a nation; each represents jobs provided for a people who have gone without for too long.

The wisdom of their economic interrelationship is Divine within itself. One enterprise compliments the other in such a unique masterful way until we can see only success, under the leadership of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

It is prophesied and written onto the pages of history what is taking place today. The handwriting is on the wall, but can we read?

What we ask of you is that you examine Messenger Muhammad's works and accomplishments and then examine others. Who satisfies the thirst for food, clothing, shelter, education, health, jobs, money and heaven? You be the judge.

## NOTICE:

TO THE DONORS TO THE EMERGENCY DRIVE.

Please put your name and complete address in your letter with your donations so that we will know how to thank you and we will be able to make a record of your donations. THANK YOU.

ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, Messenger of Allah

Hear  
Mr. Muhammad  
Speak on radio

NEW TIME:

SUNDAY

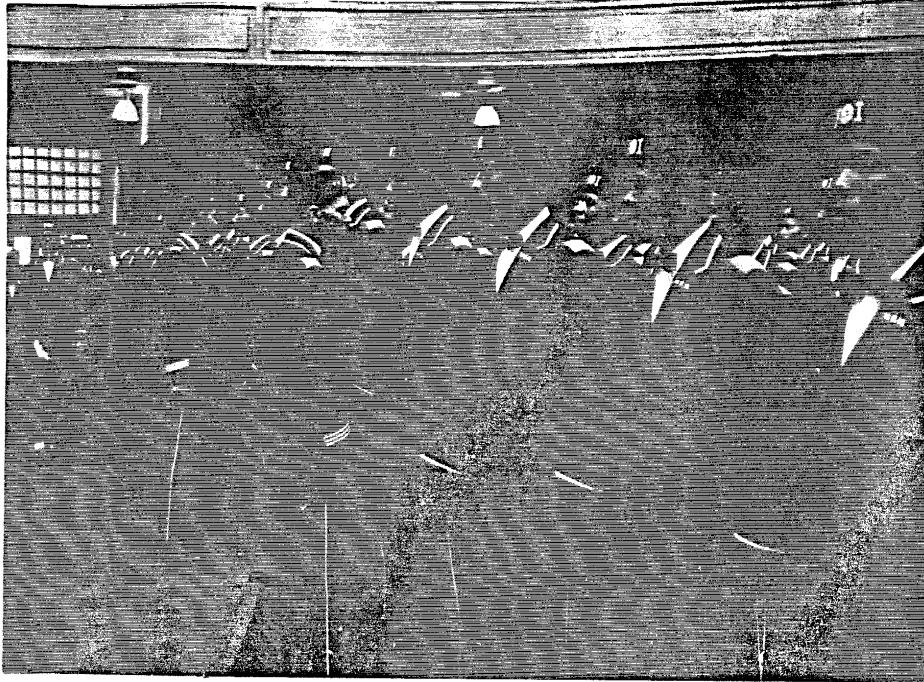
4:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

WEAW

1330 (AM)

EVANSTON-CHICAGO

# The Fruit Of Islam



*FRUIT OF ISLAM is the name given to the military training of the men of all the labors of Islam the F.O.I. is the result. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us that the equal of these men is not to be found that belongs to Islam in North America. This name was given by Allah Himself. Of all the plants in the earth, the fruit is most fabulous. And anywhere.*

**By Edward Rashed**  
 Capt. of Temple No. 2,  
 Los Angeles, Calif.

The most meaningful, purposeful work ever done for the Black man in America is now being done by **The Honorable Elijah Muhammad**. Mr. Muhammad has produced a new Black man, of the present and the future. The Black man and Black woman of today, who utilize the intelligence and divine wisdom of **The Honorable Elijah Muhammad**, not only enjoys good jobs, money, good homes and friendships in all walks of life, but they also become self-reliant. They epitomize what action the true concept of self-help is. Not only do they refrain from the old cry of "please hand me out something," but they have eliminated the begging systems within their ranks among their followers.

**THE HONORABLE** Elijah Muhammad has eliminated the waiting for the dole, today the followers of **The**

**Honorable Elijah Muhammad** are creative and masterful in all his undertakings, so then there is a future and a special feature in **The Honorable Elijah Muhammad's** work that stands out so profoundly, it is often taken by the observer as something unusual. The feature I speak of is that feature that is put in the Black man that has never been there before.

This is not often seen and recognized for a substance. The simple ingredients that make a man total in his concept are such principles as integrity, honesty and the well-rounded character that provides for the Black man. It feeds the mind and the body and feeds the humanity and the future of our people in a way that will be everlasting where a job depending on the economy serves to feed us, the integrity, honesty and those types of ingredients feed and nurture the

essence of the man and make him a forever blossoming, prosperous, loved and respected person among all civilized society.

**The Honorable Elijah Muhammad's** feats in my lifetime in the Nation of Islam have been so many and have been so outstanding, that you cannot speak of a single event in one's life when you make reference to **The Honorable Elijah Muhammad**. As Black men, our lives touch the pain, frustrations, the loneliness, and eagerness for belonging to something of greatness and being successful. This desire is so great and has gone so lacking that when any Black man speaks of what has been done for him **The Honorable Elijah Muhammad**, he in essence speaks for us all.

The greatest single event in my life to prove to me that **W.F. Muhammad** is

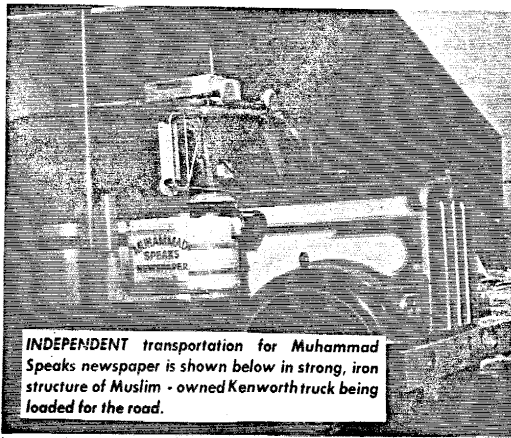
*Continued on page 14*

Continued:

# Ready for the road



**SALUTATIONS** are due to Lt. Douglas X (above right), Paper Captain of Temple No. 2, and all the other paper officers around the Nation, who work diligently day and night training and instructing men in the sale of Muhammad Speaks newspaper. Not restricting himself to any single job, Lt. Douglas can often be seen performing various chores, such as helping load Muhammad Speaks trailer with papers for long haul across country. With him from left to right are Brother Robert 54X, Clayton 2X, and Lafayette 2X.



**INDEPENDENT** transportation for Muhammad Speaks newspaper is shown below in strong, iron structure of Muslim - owned Kenworth truck being loaded for the road.

acceptance of Islam, the explanation of it (Islam), first of all, listening to the teachings of The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, then to epitomize this particular feeling, was the first time I saw The Honorable Elijah Muhammad speak in person some eleven years (11) ago here in Chicago, Illinois. At this particular time it was unusual to have seen people come from all over the planet though they were not large in number, but the representation from all over the Planet Earth was unique.

They came from cities as far West as California. San Pedro and even Asia. And people from other Continents were present to witness The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the magnificence of his speech, and the magnificence of his presence was so profound that it had removed all possibility of doubt to look for any other leader. His conversation, and his teachings removed all the pain and ills that I had been plagued with all my life. It was a life of deprecation, a life of eagerness, and a life of trying to be a part of a world that would recognize me as a human being. I have been going through all institutions of learning, having been exposed to all types of ghettoized situations and criminality and every kind of immoral situation that is imaginable to our way of life as we call it.

The cleansing myself of this by The Honorable Elijah Muhammad was the greatest single event of my life and since then watching all the other miracles as they have been called, as they have been performed, before my eyes, on other people. It is one thing to have a feeling of yourself, for yourself and then be able to recognize this work being done on others and sharing in this work. It was one thing to listen and another thing to see The Honorable Elijah Muhammad and still another great phase in my life in helping him to get people exposed to this great worker of wonders, The Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

The promise from Allah

# Money, good homes and friendship

By Lonnie Kashif

The year: 1931. The great colossus of America was in the thorns of an economic depression. Food and other consumer items were being rationed under strict government control. The suicide rate of once wealthy businessmen climbed at a frantic rate. Panic had set in and had numbered a once - proud populous nation. THE MIGHTY DOLLAR had been shaken. War was on the horizon. Unemployment reached an unprecedented level. Black people — the last hired, the first fired, the most expendable in a crisis of the white world — were in the long soup lines: some went off to camps, others clung to faint hopes of a white saviour — but the days grew bleaker.

But already in the land was a voice — a strong VOICE. Unlike the whines and pitiful, hopeless pleas of the Christian preachers and their flocks calling upon a mystery god to do for them what they could get up and do for themselves. This voice was the voice of Master Fard Muhammad, Who had come and Who had declared "Babylon the Great has Fallen..."

This year 1931, this Great Man met with Elijah, the son of a sharecropper, and for Black people in America a

biblical prophecy had thus been fulfilled: "Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the dreadful day of the Lord: And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." (Mal. 4:5-6)

Master Fard Muhammad gave unto Elijah a name of His Own — Muhammad, "Praised much, and worthy of much praise. And He told him of His promise of "Money, Good Homes, Friendship in all walks of life, Peace and Happiness" for him and his people who submit and believe. Messenger Elijah Muhammad says today that he "was able to recognize Him by His help and by the help of Scripture." He had met with Allah, Almighty God Himself.

THIS GREAT PROMISE, Messenger Muhammad took to his people in those early years, and for those who believed, there was almost an instantaneous change in their lowly state of condition. A new hope, and a new vision, a new pathway had been opened for them. But for many others there was disbelief — "how could such a promise be true in the midst of a depression?" they mocked. And their "blind guides," the Christian preachers and educated class warned them of this "new religion," and told

them to love their slavemaster and beg of him his wealth.

But Messenger Muhammad taught the people despite the opposition of the open enemy, the devil, and his blind followers who had taken him for their master despite his cruel inhuman treatment against them. In time, the Messenger and his followers grew in prosperity, but there was hunger, and there was sacrifice even as the Muslim body grew and took firmer hold on his teaching: "Unite and do something for self."

The devils, seeing the growing success of Messenger Muhammad and his followers exerted every effort possible to destroy the promise of Allah for the believers: "Money, Good Homes, Friendship in all walks of life." The believers were harassed by the state police, the F.B.I. and internal revenue agents. As soon as one would visit the Temple, they would go to him or her and try to frighten them, even offer them money to become stool pigeons and spies. But the True believers chose Allah and His Messenger and His promise, and despite the hardships and harassment they continued to prosper.

In some cases Muslim brothers were hauled off to jail on false and unjust

Continued on page 16



PUTTING A SHOULDER to the work, the Black man of America, must now build a Nation for himself. (photo by Alif Muhammad)



BLACK MEN WORK to build beautiful homes for the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. Beautiful Eastern styled homes are being built near the home of the Messenger in Chicago. Construction has also started on a new home for the Messenger of Allah. (Photo by Alif Muhammad)

Continued:

## Beautiful homes!

charges; taken from their families in hopes that their faith would weaken and their "promise" would be annuled. Messenger, Muhammad was the first to be arrested, and others followed — charged for not participating in the white man's wars of violence and destruction.

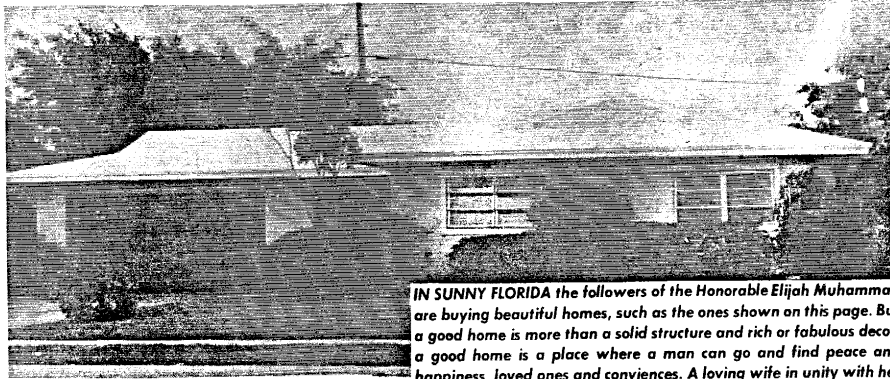
But none can deny the promise of Allah — look today: see the example of

Messenger Muhammad and his followers in your midst. The promise then is true. The Muslim follower is prospering, he is industrious, he is doing something for self. Visit a Muslim home, visit a Muslim school, visit a Muslim business. This success grows in the midst of economic chaos in America!

But this is not 1929, the year of the crash, or 1931, the thorns of depression

you say. No, but this is 1971 - 2, years of the devaluation of the dollar, the years of economic paradox: inflation and deflation at the same time, the years of plus 6.0 national unemployment figures — 10.7 per cent for Black males, with the Black teenage unemployment figure nearly tripling that. Yet look around you, and you will see the Muslim prospering.

Let now a doubter step forward.



*IN SUNNY FLORIDA the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad are buying beautiful homes, such as the ones shown on this page. But a good home is more than a solid structure and rich or fabulous decor, a good home is a place where a man can go and find peace and happiness, loved ones and conviences. A loving wife in unity with her husband to produce well - adjusted, obedient children. All this and much much more is what the Believers have been promised by the Almighty Black God (Allah) Who Came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad to Whom Praises are due forever.*



*LONGTIME beneficiary of Messenger Muhammad's teachings is Brother Raymond 9X; shown above with wife and children. A member of the Nation of Islam for more than 13 years, Bro. Raymond says that his successful marriage is a direct result of the forceful teachings of the Messenger. (Photo: Robert 9X)*



*STRONG FAMILY UNITY instilled in followers by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, is displayed by Bro. Frank J. X, his wife Isabel and children. Messenger Muhammad teaches his followers that the building of a nation begins in the home. (Photo: Robert 9X)*

## Strong family ties a must in Islam

# THE TEACHINGS OF THE HON

## TO HIS SONS...

By Herbert Muhammad

One of my first lessons from my father was: "The best preparation for the future is to see that your present duties to Allah are well done."

Attend to your responsibilities to those who love you, like you, depend upon you and follow you.

And with justice, deal with those who dislike and despise you and Allah will always give you the best solution.

All praise is due to Allah for our Deliverer, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad (May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him ) the Sun at the dawn of our deliverance.

Allah is life eternal and we seek refuge in His loving enfoldment. Allah is the source of all love, Creator of beauty and harmony. Because of the love Allah has for my father we are blessed.

By staying steadfast in His light and in His blessings and following our beloved leader, the Honorable Wallace D. Muhammad, we will be among the blessed ones.

The very thought of my father gives me unearthly joy. Allah's

light illuminated his life's path. Allah's words inspired him with Divine wisdom. I will follow his light that is in his son, the Honorable Wallace D. Muhammad all the days of my life: which leadeth me to my eternal goal.

My father taught me to consider my duty as sacred as my religion which is Islam. And not to spare myself in the work which I must accomplish. Be merciful, loving and kind to those who are in your care and do not confront them with an attitude that is of a beast of prey trying to prosper by devouring them. And whosoever oppresses the servants of Allah, Allah will be his Opponent. For Allah is responsive to the prayers of the oppressed. And He is always ready to deal justly with the unjust.

Do not neglect those who depend upon you. They may commit mistakes, suffer from weakness and do damage intentionally or inadvertently... give them your forgiveness and forbearance as much as you would like Allah to give you of His Forgiveness and Forebearance.

Take not as consultants misers who deter you from the road of generosity and frighten you with poverty. Or a coward who discourages you from taking the proper measures.

And render your services faithfully and be very generous. When possessing something, think of those who do not possess it. Do not make a show of your generosity nor ask a favor of those whom you know will not grant it to you.

Do not look down to those who look up to you. If what you have of authority occasionally makes you feel glorious or conceited, look at the magnitude of Allah's Authority which encompasses the whole universe, and His Ability to do to you what you cannot do for yourself...this will lower your pride.

Be polite at all times. Place people rightly in your estimation and you should regard the feelings of everyone, using tact in all occasions.

Be a defender of truth. Judge others not by your laws but by their understanding of the laws. Meet the world with a smile in all conditions of life. Keep your principles in prosperity as well as in adversities.

"Son, you should be firm in your faith through life's tests and trials." Be in control of your desires and dignify yourself by avoiding what is un-permitted to you. Self-dignification is to make you do right in what Allah likes or dislikes.

Guard the secrets of your brothers and sisters in Islam as your most sacred trust. Break not your word nor your honor whatever befalls you.

The righteous are known by what Allah puts for them of good on the tongues of His Servants. Do nothing which will make your conscience feel guilty. Seek not profit by putting someone else in straits.

Be truthful and if the truth would upset the peace and harmony of the innocent worse than a lie, you remain silent.



# ORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD



I asked my father, "What do you hate most?" His answer was, "A peace breaker."

He taught me to be sympathetic to the feelings of others and to try to have an understanding of all things and beings. Be tolerant, forgiving, considerate and kind. Untie the knots of grudge through kindness. And stop the cycles of revenge through reconciliation.

My father showed innocence in his everyday life. He knew when someone was telling a lie, but he did not accuse them. He was above it. He knew all the plays of this world and he looked at them all passively.

My father was very modest and a lover of beauty. In his justice there was mercy and in his punishment there was forgiveness.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad (May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.) held up his honor at all cost. He taught me to prove myself trustworthy in all my dealings and not to make any false claims and to hold fast to the truth in all circumstances.

He taught me to speak nothing of others in their absence that you

would not say in their presence.

Take neither advantage of a person's ignorance nor boast of your good deeds. Do not claim that which belongs to another. Challenge no one for the sake of challenge, but be ready at all times to defend the truth of Allah against the adversaries of Allah.

My father (May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.) is a caller to those whom Allah has chosen to be awakened; and he is a warner to those who continue to sleep.

**ALL THE QUALITIES** mentioned in this article, can be found in strong degrees in the person of Supreme Minister Wallace D. Muhammad; in his person; in his character and in the atmosphere he creates by his presence.

The Supreme Minister, Wallace D. Muhammad will not be discouraged.

He has accepted the mission of his father, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, (May the peace and blessing of Allah be upon him.)

He is teaching the truth and

casting aside that which is false. He has taken the initiative and he is moving forward for the salvation of his people. No, he will not give up until he joins truth and justice together and let them kiss each other.

Supreme Minister Wallace D. Muhammad is a great leader and teacher of the spiritual and material world. When he is preaching his message from Allah to his people, all those within the sound of his voice are fascinated by his eloquence and oratory.

It is so impressive and captivating on hearing it that it penetrates deep into the minds and hearts of the listeners, thereby removing all fear and ignorance from them.

The Honorable Wallace D. Muhammad's aims and purposes are to save his people from sharing in the chastisement of Allah, which is upon this world.

Hasten yourself to see and hear the Honorable Wallace D. Muhammad every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Muhammad's Temple of Islam, 7351 S. Stony Island Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

# THE LAST SERMON

(The following article is the transcript of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon Him, 1974 Saviour's Day Address: The Last Sermon.)

By Elijah Muhammad  
Messenger of Allah

MY BELOVED BROTHERS and sisters, we have here today a very beautiful day from Allah. We are a people that do not think that we are big 'I's; we think that we are little 'I's, and not big 'I's.

We're so greatly blessed by Allah, and by you visiting us that we cannot help but to be happy and proud of your presence.

WE WANT YOU to know that you have seen the setting of the Sun, but that Sun is rising again. It set, but she is rising again, bringing us a new day.

The coming of God, the coming of our Saviour. He's not a spook. I want you to know that we are trying our best—since we have met face to face with God—in trying to remove from you that old idea that God is some spirit that is formless. We want you to get out of that old slavery idea.

This is all-wise use of a pronoun, calling Him, 'He.' You feel pretty cheap calling Him 'she'; you feel pretty cheap just to say, 'spirit.' You've got to say, 'He.' I am here to tell you that He's not a she nor is He some formless spirit.

The Bible says of the DAY OF JUDGMENT you will see God as He is. This is the day that I can gladly say that He is a 'He.' There are many people that have not known God, and there are many people that know Him. The white race knows Him. The white race knows God, but they cannot represent God, as you and me know—they'd be giving away the power to rule.

THEY WERE NOT to rule under the teachings of reality of God; they were made to hide the reality of God in order that they themselves can be worshiped. I don't get angry with them the way that they rule and what they teach.

How in the world can they teach and turn us away from the God of reality? If they get the rule they've got to take us away because we've got the reality. Every time you look at the Black man you're lookin at God.

Some of you say 'No, I'm no god and you're no god.' Okay, get your god and show him to me. You can't do that; you say that god is a spirit, show him to me. You cannot show me your spirit god!

Then you say he's not to be seen—well then, I don't want to see him if he doesn't want to see me. We worship that which we know; you worship that which you want. We're not going to hold your attention to this kind of subject—we've got lots of work to do.

FOR 43 YEARS, I have been teaching that God is man. For 43 years I have been teaching you that one day you'll wake up and know; you'll wake up and agree with me. From the looks of your numbers here today, it seems that you're waking up.

The professors and scholars over at the colleges and universities would look and laugh if you would tell them to go and worship something that they don't know anything about, and I don't blame them.

We're very happy we have with us two great scientists sitting over here to my right. They are great scientists visiting us.

If we had been worshiping the space, the atmosphere for God, they would not have taken a seat over there. We are truly happy to be honored by them. We are glad that they are visiting us to know that the spiritual Sun is vice versa itself—rising from the west.

ALLAH HAS COME to raise us up to give us kingdoms. The Bible says it's His own good will to do so. He takes the kingdom from whom He pleases and gives it to whom He pleases. So we have to take what He's now giving to us to take.

Get up, brothers and sisters, and recognize your brother who was lost and is now found. Get up, give him a place at home. Come on in brothers! Praise be to Allah; he was lost, now he's found. He was dead, now he's alive. Come on in brothers; have a seat brothers—put him on top!

SINCE THE COMING of God, in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, and Him teaching you and me that He has searched the earth for us, we cannot sit down, we must not lie down; we must get up and go to work.

We want to thank the Chicago white people for making it possible for us to obtain

(the South Shore) country club. For it was impossible for us to get in such position where we can prove ourselves worthy of freedom. They have done us a great favor. I don't think that we should have anything to do but honor and thank them for putting us in such a position. This is their armory and we're here teaching the truth.

(Editor's note: The above references to the South Shore Country Club were made at a time when the Honorable Elijah Muhammad had been assured of it's availability for the use of the Nation of Islam.)

They're not objecting to me teaching the truth, as there are white Muslims in America, and lots of them. We have them all over the world and they recognize and respect you. You must recognize and respect them. You don't disrespect people who are trying to respect you.

I REMEMBER the last time that I was out at the airport; they let me and my followers get on first. Now remember, their flag is still flying over America; honor and respect the man—because He still has this land.

There is much that can be interchanged between them and us in that way of respect. We don't have to get up to try to take from them just because you have learned yourself, and now you have learned them. Just remember that they show you respect after you have learned yourself—show them respect too, because when you didn't know yourself you didn't respect self or anyone else. We were a disgrace to ourselves and them too because we didn't know ourselves and them. But now we respect ourselves and we respect them. Praise be to Allah.

We don't go out and disrespect the owners of this land as long as they are in power. I think that you would be showing disrespect for high honor that has been conferred on you and me by God.

RESPECT EVERYBODY—everybody will respect you. This I mean from my heart; everywhere we go respect people and people will respect you. Don't think that you're so great now just because God promised you the Kingdom; wait until you get in.

Again you must remember that by the ruler being dishonorable and dishonoring people; he's dishonoring himself. My beloved brothers and sisters, He does not mean for us to waste our time looking to see who can we make mockery of, looking and trying to show people up.

WE MUST show the world that we are a righteous people trying to set up the characteristics of people of righteousness. We don't want our people acting unrighteous regardless to who acts unrighteous to us. We must not do so ourselves since we represent ourselves as being righteous people.

If we say there goes the devil, then don't try to fashion after him if you say you're righteous. Show the devil that you're righteous because he's watching you.

Let us remember these words, that there is much you must learn to do to show forth to the world who we are. We were not raised up to sit around and make mockery of people; we were raised to show the world what righteousness looks like and what it feels like to be righteous.

EVERY MAN looks for the one who will lift him and put him on the right road; this is a wonderful Man. In the Bible He said to Israel, I am you God.

Now He says to you and I, 'Remember my faith that I bestowed upon you. Take a lesson from Me that if I bestow upon Israel those great blessings, what do you think I'm going to do for you? If I blessed Israel to bring her from out of the bondage of Pharaoh, what do you think I'm going to do for you?

I found Israel in the wasteland and I found you in the wasteland and you are my own.' So if God says, and He has said, that we belong to Him, all Praise is due to Allah.

'I only wanted to show to Israel that I am God.' So, this same thing, brothers and sisters, has come to us. I want to show you, O my lost-found, that He that found you and me is God. He owns us and He wants to do for you that which will stand forever.

THE EARTH belongs to you; it didn't belong to you but now you are the true owner. It was taken away from you; come on, I want to give it back. The lost and found has been lost from his brethren for a long time.

(Continued on page 14)



THE HONORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD  
Messenger of Allah

## LAST SERMON: Messenger's Saviour's Day 1974 Address

(Continued from page 11)

Now he is found and we must bring him in and sit him down in the midst of his brother, and tell him this is your home. So today, you're on your way to become the owner and ruler of the earth.

Once you lay hold to that handle, that will not break off, you must keep it. You don't have to worry about the people coming to you; they all will come to you. As the Bible teaches you: 'Look and see, they all come to thee.'

A VERY BEAUTIFUL people that has been marred and spoiled—but as you come into Islam, Allah will gradually restore your beautiful appearance. You will become a beautiful Nation that never before lived on the earth. If you don't like any ugly part about you, He says He will cause you to grow into a new growth.

WHAT MUST BE DONE? We have God with us; we have Him as our guide. We don't have to sit around here and ask the question, 'What must be done?' Get up and let's go and do something! We're trying to do something with whatever the white folks will let us have. We're trying to do something with it to make them feel that they didn't give it over to a bunch of lazy fellows that wanted to sit down and turn our face back to them, begging them to carry us right on. When you have been given a chance to go for self, go for self.

I SAY THAT the Black man in North America has nobody to blame but himself. If he respects himself and will do for himself, his once slave-master will come and respect him and help him to do something for self.

You cannot say that they don't help you do something for self. They're helping us to go for ourselves. Who would want to help an old horse that doesn't want to do anything but lie down in the lot? Why it's really disgusting!

Rouse him up and tell him to get up—if you can't pull the tractor pull the plow. I don't believe in us now, in this modern time lying down on the white man looking for him to give us something. He gave us something when he gave us freedom.

That's all you wanted, to be free to do something for self. Well, now that you have that don't lie down around his doorstep asking him to help you; go help yourself. That's right! He's taken the shackles off of you, and you are free—go for yourself.

WHY SHOULD YOU still lie under his gate saying "Give me, give me"?—give you nothing! That's the truth. What is he going to give you now after he let you go free to get

for yourself? You don't need to blame him now; blame yourself! The earth is large, and there is enough of it for you to have some and for them to have some.

IF GOD WANTS to continue to help them to live on this earth, you just have the part that He gives you, and don't be worried over it. Take that which God gives you and that only. Go to war with no man for that of his own. No, you don't fight anybody over what is theirs. Just get yours and keep yours and let him keep his.

If God gives it to him, that's between him and God. God, just give me some. Now God has given me something; let us do the best we can with what He has given to us.

Take somebody's property?—take nothing. Just take that which God has given to you and make something out of it. You take nothing—you go to war with no man! No—you go to war with yourself. Trying to rob people out of their own—that's wrong. The earth is too large. Well, he has taken it from me you say. Well, you let him do it. I don't blame him...if you're going to let him take it, well, that's okay.

I SAY TO YOU, my beloved brothers and sisters—Allah has loosed us. All we have to do is go to work and try and make the best out of what He has given to us, and stop looking at other people's property, looking for them to give you theirs. You don't take anything.

Well, he has taken it from me and he has taken it from my brothers. Well, if he has taken it from the Indians, let the Indians fight for his own.

One thing I can bear witness with the white man—the Indian wasn't doing anything with it.

Not that I said that because I hate the Indians, who were lost. No, I love the Indians, but he was not smart enough to keep his home, so he let a stranger take it. Well, we're strangers too. We must have some of this earth that we can call our own; and regardless to who he is, we've got to have some of this earth. We've got to have a place that we can call our own. There are over 30 million of us running from one state to the other just like wild animals. We've got to have a home.

IN THE BEGINNING you have to take whatever you can find and make you a home. Then we must get a home because no one is going to give you theirs. So we must find a home that we can call our own. I can't wear a crown with no country. I have got to have some of this earth.

A man with a crown that has no country is like a ship out

there at sea—it is a ship but it has no rudder; therefore, it can't travel. We've got to have a home.

If God comes to bless us, He must bless us with the help of giving us some of this earth that we can call our own. If the Bible is true that the Lost-Found was given a home, we thank Allah to bless us, and speedily bless us—with a home.

We cannot anymore go around making mockery of no one because remember that once upon a time you were mocked—and you deserved it. You didn't have anything to get something. So, I say, brothers and sisters, since the arrival of Allah, I think that we should not sit still; we should arise and be like the Book says, arise and shine. No more living in the dark; you are living in the light. So let us arise and shine forth and go forth to do something for self.

IT ACTUALLY HURTS me to hear our people—and some of them are leaders—over there begging the white man to give them something. Give you nothing—you can give yourself something now. Whatever he has given to you and me that is freedom to go for self, you don't need anything else since you claim the earth and he's living on it and it belongs to you and you are not intelligent and smart enough to dig out of it right under your feet...so don't blame him for digging up that which you were not digging up.

These things are fair and plain. Look at self before ever you start charging others with your own fault. I don't say this to say the white people treated us as they should. No, they did not treat us as they should and if they had treated us as they should that would have been freedom, justice and equality, and that, nature did not put in them. He gives you what nature gave him, so now don't blame him for that which by nature you put in him. Blame yourself for putting in him.

I WANT US TO REMEMBER that the Lord has established Himself among you and has given you a Flag, representing your freedom, and that you are justified to be free, now. If He has given to you a Flag and that you are justified in having that Flag to look up to the people of earth we can do something for self. We have the greatest Flag that has ever been raised by any man.

We must remember that the fault is not in the slave-master anymore; since he says today he is not hindering us—it is we who are hindering ourselves. Give justice to whom it is due. We glorify in making fun and charging the slave-master with keeping us a slave. He

can't hold you a slave now; you are holding yourself a slave.

I say to you, my beloved brothers and sisters, give justice to where it belongs and don't try to rob people out of justice. If the white man, and he has, freed you and me to go to work for self and you go all around the earth, he doesn't object—you go wherever you want to. And he is not to blame today; you are the one to be blamed.

THIS IS A VERY SLY and spooky way that we have of dumping the burden on someone else. Right is right and we are of the Nation of righteous. Take our place among the righteous doing right. I love you...But I love you to do something for self and stop putting your fault on the slave-master.

If you say, "Well, he won't let me do so-and-so"—the earth is big. Go somewhere where you can do something for self without being hindered. Regardless to him trailing us to make it hard for us—the Indian and the buffalo trailed him. But that didn't stop him from opening up a great country that you and I are sitting here in glorifying our freedom.

The Indian was not doing anything with the country but hunting and fishing.

WHAT I AM TRYING to say to you, we cannot put all the fault on the white people. No, he doesn't deserve us charging him with all the fault because, you are free, and to make it clear to you Allah came and gave to you a Flag representing freedom, justice and equality. We hoist the flag right here on this soil. He didn't say take it down. Nope—he did not hinder you from hoisting your own flag right beside his.

So we must get up and do something for self seeing that nobody is hindering us from doing for self. We must go and do for self and stop charging the old slave-master for being our hindering cause—he is not; it is ourselves.

Now, since you have known self and now you know your once slave-master and he is not trying to hinder you from being yourself I say he is yourself. We all love to be equal with other people who are equal. Well then, do something to make them to accept us as their equal. We can't set up there on the curbstone and tell him to come and sit down with us—no! We are a lazy people who like something for nothing; that is what we are—lazy.

WE CANNOT TAKE A country like this and build up cities from one end of it to the other like the white man has done. "Well we helped him." Well, that was your fault.

Certainly he was going to use you if you did not use yourself. He takes our woman, you say, and makes a dog out of her. You are not trying to make anything out of her yourself.

Take her and make them to know and see that you are intelligent enough and love your woman enough to make something out of her. We are making an example—there they are.

HE IS A DESTROYER. You can't ask a destroyer to restore or fix up that which he has destroyed—he is destroyer. Take your own, restore her back in her place. Keep her in her place. Don't let him see her running Saturday night—nope. He didn't tell you to send your woman out there on the street. You did it yourself, and you should have kept her at home—at home where she belongs. And if you don't keep her in your home naturally she is acting like a wild beast out here and she is subjected to anybody.

Look at it now—take your woman off the streets out of the public eye and then the public will respect you. Nowhere do you go and find women with so much freedom as you find in America. They are free to ramble all night long and come home whenever they please, and they are out there looking for them, helping them; they cannot be respected with any such power. We've got to clean up our house and make our people win self respect then others will respect them and respect you.

IF YOU WERE UP HERE where I am, you look very beautiful out there. So I say to you that you cannot put on a white dress or a black dress and expect people to respect the dress.

I am about now, to discontinue our subject this afternoon. But I want you to remember—if you put on a white dress, clean, spotless and in that dress is unclean, you cannot be respected like that. We cannot go out and tell the public "I'm a Muslim," unless we practice the principles of such. We've got to respect and practice the principles of Islam.

I HAVE VISITED the Muslim world. I have made pilgrimages to Mecca and Medina—and I have seen and I have heard. These people don't believe in foolishness; so I am trying to clothe you not only with the garments of salvation but clothe you with the principles of our religion. These men are not here to look at you just trying to be Muslims—they are here wanting to know whether or not that you are a Muslim at heart.

News of Messenger Muhammad's illness evokes

Growing expressions of concern

Messenger Muhammad suffers for us

By Min. Yusuf Shah
(Special to Muhammad Speaks)

CHICAGO—"In all their affliction, he was afflicted; and the angel of his persence saved them: and in his love and in his pity he redeemed them: and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old." (Isaiah 63:9)—"Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted." (Isaiah 53:4)

Let us read on with understanding. "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him: and with his stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) Messenger Muhammad suffers for us and the sins we have committed—the more than 33 million Black men in America.

We are a people no one wanted but Almighty God Allah, and the price for redeeming us, Messenger Muhammad has to pay. If Messenger Muhammad did not suffer for us we would be destroyed right along with the devils.

Let us read on. "He was opposed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a Lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." (Isaiah 53:7)

Think for a minute: this could not have been the Jesus of 2,000 years ago. He did open his mouth according to Matt. 26:39—"And he went a little farther and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me."

"St. Mark states in the 14th

Chapter, 36th Verse: "And he said Abba Father, all things are possible unto Thee: take away this cup from me." Luke 22:42—saying "Father if thou be willing remove this cup from me." Luke 22:42

The 44th Verse of Luke tells us how hard he prayed for this cup to be removed—read carefully. "And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

When the Jesus was on the cross he cried again "My God, my god: why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46 and Mark 15:34) This clearly states that he did not want to suffer, but Messenger Muhammad does not open His mouth. Let us read a little farther.

In Isaiah 53:10 it is written: "Yet it pleases the Lord to bruise him: he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin (our sin), he shall see his seed, and he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. We thank Almighty God Allah, who came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, for His Divine Messenger—the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

'Get Well' sentiments arrive in 'avalanche'

CHICAGO — The recent illness of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad spawned an avalanche of "Get Well" cards nationwide around the globe. Messenger Muhammad's stay in Mercy Hospital, where reports originated testifying to the gravity of His illness, aroused a host of sympathizers and well-wishers who were heretofore unknown.

LETTERS FROM civic and

Speedy Recovery

The news of the illness of the Honorable Elijah Muhammed, the Messenger of Allah, is cause for concern to those outside of the faith as well as his followers.

He has given many years of leadership to black Americans. His teachings have had profound influence in many areas. When he assumed the highest office in the movement, it was still a fledgling idea, born out of the frustrations of American Negroes who were hopelessly mired in poverty and segregation.

Under his guidance, the faith has grown strong in membership and economic power. There are temples and thriving industries in cities all across the nation. Character building, discipline, cleanliness of mind and body and health are some of its most outstanding tenets. Through the Muslim teachings, thousands of persons have been redeemed from lives of crime, drug addiction and degradation.

While we may not all agree with the ideology of the Muslim religion, we acknowledge that it has raised

Chicago Defender

CHICAGO'S DAILY PICTURE NEWSPAPER

In Our Prayers



the principle of self of The Messenger. We hope development to a new high. To that he will enjoy many more his followers and family we useful and productive years of express our sincere best leadership. As Salaam Alaikum! wishes for the speedy recovery

national dignitaries, television and radio editorials—some of which had completely ignored, or granted slight and unfair coverage to the Messenger's great work—all applauded the progressive and civilizing influence of the Nation of Islam in the Black community under the leadership of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

The Messenger's followers at Temple No. 2 in Chicago offer

thanks to all who joined us in prayers for the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's speedy recovery.

AMONG OTHERS, we extend our gratitude to: Ms. Alice Fountain and family, Dorchester, Mass.; Bernard Matthews and Sandi Matthews, Detroit, Mich.; Bro. Lloyd X and Family, Detroit, Mich.; Bro. Kelly P. Michaels Rogers, Chicago, Illinois; Marvin and Marva

and Family, Detroit, Mich.; Mustafa Siam, The Palestinian Voice, Los Angeles, Calif.; Saints' Memorial Community Church, Willingboro, N.J.; Sheila Spikes, Miss Black Arizona, Phoenix, Ariz.; Standford X Davis and Family, Bronx, N.Y.; the Followers of Temple No. 53, Flint, Mich.; the Peruvian Government; and Congressman Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

Contents

Table listing various articles and their page numbers, including Editor's Article, Middle East Report, The Early Days, Faith and obedience to Allah and His Messenger, News of Messenger's illness evokes concern, Mayors pay tribute to Messenger Muhammad, Perils of alcohol often ignored by Blacks, Klan terror increases in W. Va. book fight, Kuwait official predicts oil embargo, Elderly, poor, hard hit by U.S. budget cuts, What Islam has done for me, Oil field take-over seen, Letters from our readers, Arts and letters, National pattern seen in New York school fight, Raw materials conference, Slain man's mother files million dollar suit.

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