

Wallace Muhammad Says Women Not Forbidden To "Make-up"

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SON OF LEADER GIVES LOW DOWN ON MAKEUP

By Edwin Moss
PHILADELPHIA, PA.—
According to a statement made here recently in a press interview with Mr. Wallace D. Muhammad, son of Renown Muslim Leader, Elijah Muhammad, Muslim women are not restricted in their use of face make-up.

Wallace, who presides over the Number Twelve Temple of Islam in Philadelphia expressed this view when asked—"Are Muslim Women forbidden to use face make-up, and if they are, how does this cosmetic differ from many Christian Sects who also restrict their women from using make-up?"

Expecting to hear the usual tirade against the evils and sins of this most popular and solicitous feminine art, we were surprised when he said, "No restriction on the use of facial cosmetics is imposed on the Women in Islam." Continued Wallace, "Rather, the Muslim Women are enlightened as to how morally harmful facial cosmetics can be if used for ulterior purposes, and is taught of the nefarious or unlawful facts commonly used in its grease base. Also, the oft-times deadly chemicals which compose its coloring agents and the subsequent effect on health, and the overall effect on the complexion and general hygiene of the individual. She then abstains according to her level of understanding and her confidence in her God-given beauty."

Young Muhammad, then offered as his comparative statement, "On the other hand, the use of facial cosmetics is completely outlawed by various Christian Sects of whom the only reason offered for this ban is that, 'it is sinful — worldly — we just don't believe in it.'" The Christian public which lately largely brush aside such so-called sinfulness as old-fashioned and whose tenant of faith seems to be that, "everybody is saved by their own belief," consider such a mere moral taboo as an infringement upon the personal preference of the individual. So you see, there is a great difference, and this difference is mainly one of education."

Continued Wallace, "Through the years, the Messenger of Allah, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has stressed to his many vast audiences that the naturally-beautiful black women protects herself in many ways when she refrains from the use of facial cosmetics. Due to their lack of understanding, his advice has been received with both hostility and amusement by many non-Muslims. But just recently, nation-wide news agencies announced that some of the chemicals used for the coloring in facial cosmetics were found to cause cancer. Think of the irreparable damage these chemicals have done. What about the chemicals that are yet to be analyzed?"

The United States Food and Drug Administration recently banned 14 orange, red, and yellow lipstick coloring agents which had been in long use by the public, as toxic agents capable of causing cancer when tested on laboratory animals. Continued young Muham-

mad, "It is little known to the Negro women, before she accepts Islam, that the common grease base for many face paints and lipsticks is most often made from the decayed carcasses of animals from slaughterhouses. This includes the carcass and entrails of dead hogs, a filthy scavenger that fills the regular diet of Christians, but which is unlawful to Muslims, for religious and hygienic reasons. Other grease yielding offal from many other sources such as dead cats, rats and dogs, plus garbage are all processed by heat or chemicals, the fats derived are dried, colored, perfumed and packaged. This is the make-up used by black women to alter their natural beauty to fit the Caucasian standards of beauty."

Wallace explained further, "Muslims welcome all women visitors to our religious meetings and affairs, with or without make-up, and I do not think anyone can blame us for telling them the truth about face make-up."



Mr. Muhammad says that Black Women are the Mothers of Civilization, and by nature they are the most beautiful women on earth. Although Islam does not forbid cosmetics, most enlightened Muslim women shun the poison-laden cosmetics for health reasons.

Impact Of Islam On The Muslim Woman

By Minister Wallace D. Muhammed

For four centuries the so-called American Negro has been trying to adjust himself to this "western society," but he is even yet being looked down upon as a "mis-fit" in the American way of life. Despite his increasing hardships and struggles, his continuous efforts to solve his problems with patient, passive, "peaceful suffering" tactics show his desire to belong or be accepted by this society.

Messenger Elijah Muhammad says that the so-called Negroes' problems stem mainly from the mis-education forced upon them by the whites. But, the Messenger has made amazing progress in solving these problems for the so-called Negroes who have become his followers, and his rapidly spreading teachings are also having notable effect upon even the non-Muslim Negroes throughout America, in all walks of life.

EQUALITY OF SEXES

Among the Muslims, the training of men and women is given equal attention, because the Holy Quran makes women the equal of men, the two being mates of a single being. They excel each other in some respects, yet they are both equal in the sight of God.

Some of the activities of the F. O. I. (Fruit of Islam), a class for the registered brothers, are congratulated by both white and black critics. The militant, disciplined, well-mannered, and clean cut young men produced by the F. O. I. has been highly complimented even by the Messenger's most severe critics, and these compliments as well as criticisms have been widely publicized.

But very little has been said of the M.G.T. and G.C.C. (Muslim Girls Training and General Civilization Class). This is also a well organized class for the Muslim Sisters, which is producing some of the most beautiful, refined, and well-mannered Black women in America. The women who are accepted in this class (M.G.T.) must be dedicated toward the general upliftment of their race, and are expertly trained in the art of eliminating all forms of juvenile

delinquency, for they realize that the very future of our people depends upon the proper training and care of our children . . . the future generation.

The activities of the men and women who belong to our growing Nation of Islam are kept separate to a great degree. This is due to the natural and basic differences in the potentialities of men and women that compels them to seek much of their work in different fields.

"CHOICE"

These two classes could easily be called "finishing laboratories," where the "choice" so-called Negroes are being "reformed, refined, and restored." The most important part of this process is in being taught "SELF-KNOWLEDGE."

Prophet Muhammed Ibn Abdullah (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said over 13 centuries ago, that "One learned man is more destructive to the Devil than a thousand pious worshippers." He also preached that "prayer is better than sleep, and God's Aid is obtainable through patience and prayer."

God is known by His knowledge, or His unlimited wisdom, which is one of His attributes (which means His characteristics, or His names).

God is the Giver of health and wealth, but without some knowledge of Him we may not be able to reach this Great Giver even through prayer. Knowledge is essential. A fool is never successful at anything, not even his folly, or foolishness.

Messenger Elijah Muhammad says that the so-called Negro is

the greatest victim of mis-education, and is still constantly being misinformed. The whites refuse to give the so-called Negroes SELF-KNOWLEDGE because they desire that we forever remain a race dependent upon them.

The so-called Negroes, after being cut off and stripped of all ancestral ties, and deprived of his true history, finds himself here in America ill-equipped for adjustment in this "white society," and at the same time without sufficient knowledge of SELF to enjoy or benefit from the fruits of his own ancestral society. The answer to this problem, as well as the other problems faced by the so-called American Negroes can be found in the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

FUTURE GENERATIONS

He is known throughout America and abroad for the miraculous progress he has made in recent years toward making the so-called Negroes aware of the importance of PROPER EDUCATION, and filling them with a desire to gain more control over their own economic future. The Muslim women's class (M.G.T.) is best suited for lasting results in this direction, because of their position over the rearing of the children, which allows them to shape the thinking and therefore the destiny of the future generations.

The Muslim Girls Training and General Civilization Class emphasizes proper training for children. This Class was named by our Saviour and Founder of the Lost-Found Nation of Islam here in America, who came to us in the Person of Master W. D. Fard, and missioned our beloved Leader and teacher, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. One of the purposes of the M.G.T. is to teach our women and girls how to be good housekeepers, how to fulfill their obligations as wives, and the mothers of the future generation.

HIGH MORALS

In this class they are taught how to act at home as well as abroad. They are taught cooking, sewing, and how to carry out the highest principles of hygiene, which insure the health of their children, their husbands and themselves. Emphasis is placed on cleanliness and high morals.

RESPECT

How to act at home and abroad includes proper dress, posture, mannerisms, attitudes, and language. After finishing her studies as a student of the M.G.T. and G.C.C. the Muslim Sister is never again seen wearing vulgar, immodest or indecent attire. All of her body positions and movements reflect her finest qualities, highest morals, and in a way that demands the respect of everyone, black or white, Muslim or non-Muslim.

Her words are carefully chosen and spoken in tones that reflect the finest qualities of the Muslim woman, for she is taught that Allah hates boisterous, loud or rough voices . . . according to the Holy Quran.

CURSED

A woman who speaks loudly or forcibly, or in a demanding voice to her husband is cursed with unhappiness because she destroys her man and his respect for her. These bad characteristics greatly detract from the delicate, soft, feminine beauty which is the very nature of the woman.

How to rear children comprises more than just providing food, clothing, shelter and recreation. The most essential part of proper child care is true spiritual guidance. In many cases nature and just plain common sense (or Mother-wit) fulfills these basic necessities, until "outside intervention" creates a problem. When this is the case, proper spiritual guidance becomes even more necessary.

CORNERSTONES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A true knowledge of God allows us to obtain SELF-KNOWLEDGE, which makes more possible. In early childhood the Muslim woman molds the character of her baby after the Character (characteristics or attributes) of the Creator Himself. Our children must have proper spiritual guidance if we hope to produce the type of personalities suitable for a righteous society, or the New World of Righteousness that God is now establishing upon the collapsing ruins of the Old World. The children reared by these well trained Muslim Mothers in the M.G.T. will be the "cornerstones of righteousness" that God will use in building the New World.

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