

## We need our own textbooks

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**THE TEXTBOOK** is one of the teacher's basic tools in the classroom, especially in the areas of reading and social studies. The textbook is important in that it furnishes a structure for instruction.

Therefore, when a teacher selects textbooks, he tries to select the best ones printed and available. For the lack of our own textbooks, our Black students have been using the whiteman's textbooks.

Knowing this, a good teacher will analyze the treatment of these texts to non - white cultures and try to measure the quality of that treatment, as well as quantity of material devoted to non - white cultures.

It can be readily seen that textbooks used in the American educational system are white oriented and tend to stress the whiteman's values. These texts are written, not objectively, but are slanted toward white America's culture, ideals, and practices — explicitly and implicitly.

Apparently, white people do not feel it necessary to devote space and writings to black culture, ideals, and practices, and why should they?

The devil (whiteman) permits our black students in his schools and through his textbooks and teachers he

trains, he pours his white ideals into the black heads of our students and produces black students with white minds, who then, want not to help themselves, but to help the devil.

The devil's blatant textbooks (1) consistently stress superiority of their culture over everyone else's; (2) assume that their white values are good and others are either bad or non - existant; and (3) discuss problems of others (non - whites) which they show in their textbooks, can only be solved by them.

Moreover, Black teachers, particularly the Black Muslim teachers, are aware of these white oriented textbooks, and must begin to do something about this.

We have been given the Divine Knowledge of self by Messenger Muhammad and He has inspired us to do for self.

We have college training, which with the Divine Truth given to us by Messenger Muhammad, we are able to select, evaluate, organize, and use good factual information obtained in college and other places of higher learning and add this information to our Islamic Education.

We Muslim Teachers have the ability to write our own textbooks and to incorporate the spirit of Islam as taught by Messenger Muhammad, in our textbooks.