

Turn attention to Self (Nation) first

By Sister Carolyn 10X (Wakefield)
Temple No. 4

Some time ago, Messenger Muhammad wrote an article in **Muhammad Speaks** under the title—**SELF FIRST**. In this article, he was telling the Black man to turn his attention to the needs of Black people and to stop trying to solve the problems of Africa, especially when

we have failed to address the problems of self and kind here in the wilderness of North America.

To each of us **SELF FIRST** should have special meaning. For the next few words, I would like for us to come together in thought and reflect on **SELF FIRST**.

How extremely important yet unselfish and natural it is to put **SELF FIRST**. Did Allah not create

himself first? Many of us, myself included, have failed many times to put **SELF FIRST** and we have suffered because of it. Many of us have failed to bring to the surface all of the inner beauty that exists in us because we have not dealt with **SELF FIRST**.

Inside each of us is a "gold mine" waiting to be explored but we must work like miners to bring the riches to the surface. How? Let's start with the way we think.

All great things are first conceived by a thought—a belief in self. **SELF FIRST**.

Messenger Muhammad teaches the Black man to believe in himself and he shall have whatever he desires that is good and righteous.

Messenger Muhammad teaches us an exact truth, an exact knowledge that makes us think, that makes us continue to pursue knowledge and truth about self. For we know that as we think about self, so are we.

The way we are on the outside is but a reflection of the way we are on the inside. Whatever we develop in the inner self will surely radiate to all around us.

We must, therefore, be ever conscious of not permitting negative ideas to become a part of how we think. We must resist the temptation to listen to that which is

negative as well as resist the temptation to speak what we know is negative.

The greatest power that each of us has is the power to choose. None of us are born with evil minds. No force of nature is evil. It depends upon how we use the powers of nature. We have the power in us to bring about happiness or sadness, good, or evil, encouragement or discouragement.

We each have a choice. We each have the choice to be a beacon of light for Messenger Muhammad or a cloud cover.

SELF FIRST? I say yes. Self must be first. How can we truly help our Nation, our families, each other unless we deal with straightening out the problems of self—unless we deal with our negative thoughts and attitudes. It is only through knowledge of self that we can truly understand our own kind.

Messenger Muhammad teaches us to pray often. He teaches us beautiful prayers, as he has been taught by Allah. In one of these prayers, we pray that we are "Trying to be upright to Him, Who created the heavens and the earth." How beautiful are our prayers.

But we must keep in mind even when we pray that our prayers must be said with a positive attitude and a sincere desire to improve **SELF FIRST**.

Michigan boosts hospital

By Charles D. X
Temple No. 1

Thousands of Messenger Elijah Muhammad's followers brought out more thousands of well-wishers and visitors to participate in a very successful drive throughout the State of Michigan, addressed by Minister Yusuf Hazziez.

Hundreds came forth at the call of Messenger Muhammad through Minister Hazziez, formerly known as Joe Tex, star entertainer. He directed the words of the Messenger of Allah to many of his former friends and associates still in show business and some others who aspire to stardom, rallying them to the side of Messenger Muhammad.

Record crowds turned out from Grand Rapids, Flint, and Detroit.

Muhammad's Temple No. 1 was forced to request many Muslims and visitors to attend the meeting later in the day that Sunday as there was no room to accommodate them in the bulging facilities used for the occasion.

Messenger Muhammad's drive for a 500 bed hospital received a great boost from the large crowds as they contributed generously to this much needed project.

Minister Hasty Muhammad and Captain Roscoe Muhammad said the great attendance and enthusiastic response is typical of the Love of Black People of the State of Michigan for The Honorable Elijah Muhammad and they expressed their thanks to Him for allowing Minister Hazziez to come.