

The Woman

By MARGARY HASSAIN
THE WOMAN IN ISLAM, under the Divine Guidance of THE HONORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, begins the work of becoming civilized. We were not civilized when we were under the teachings of the devil. Neither the white man nor his religion Christianity, taught us to be civilized Black men and women.

THOSE of us Black men and women of America, who went the highest in the education of the devil's schools, colleges and universities, cannot say that we were civilized under the white man nor even civil, for that matter.

THE dictionary gives us many explanations of the word 'civil', such as "having the characteristics of or befitting a citizen; polite or courteous, cultivated, refined; not barbarous." True the education of the devil taught our Black educated people to disguise themselves under the banner of having these qualities, but the wrap is off today and the teachings of Messenger Muhammad shows all things in their true colors and deficiencies.

WE must work, and in thought and action become, civilized and of the noblest character. We have to be taught, by Messenger Muhammad what 'noble' is, in order for us to become noble and acquire all of the highest attributes.

ONE of the simplest and the hardest steps, on the high road of Islam, is for the Black woman to get control of her tongue. Her mouth, as it is commonly put.

THE WOMAN IN ISLAM does not gossip, slander or speak loud vulgar language. This is the law of ISLAM, the law of kindness.

She holds fast to her salvation, Islam, and works toward acquiring the highest dignity, by closing her mouth and opening her mind; eyes, ears and heart and by putting her idle hands to work in her homemaking and care of husband and family. She learns the right way of life and teaches her children, daily.

MESSENGER MUHAMMAD, teaches us that the WOMAN IN ISLAM, must learn to partake only in wise and holy conversation. Study constantly and speak and practice the teachings of Islam, as a reminder of the Divine Guidance of Messenger Muhammad, from Allah (God) Who Came in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, to Whom Praises are due forever.

THE HOLY QURAN, verifies this, see Ch. 6:68 . . . "And when thou seest those who talk nonsense about Our messages, withdraw from them until they enter into some other discourse. And if the devil cause thee to forget, then sit not after recollection with the unjust people."

THE BIBLE, also verifies, see Ps. 1:1-3 . . . "BLESSED is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

THE WOMAN IN ISLAM gives Eternal Holy Praises to Allah for Messenger Muhammad.

By TYNETTA DEANNAR

What we, as Black women should know about prophecies and the time is so manifold and pertinent to our existence, that if we take a little time to starve our bodies and feed our souls, we will be blessed to become so much the better for it. Yes, we will be made healthy, wealthy and wise.

THE HOLY QURAN teaches that the path to Heaven and the Hereafter will be tread by the Believing woman-as well as the Believing man. The true believer is one who is well grounded into the Faith of the Righteous Servants of Allah, for so by doing does he become recognized by his works.

How tall is the stature of the Messenger among us who sits in the midst of the arrogant fools, the vainglory and the bellicose in spirit of a people whose hearts are tainted with the reviling spirit of rebellion and hypocrisy.

As we think over the history of King David and review the stiff-necked arena of opposition, we see that his enemies were many and diverse. They sprang from among aliens and foreign elements as well as from among his own kith and kin, even his hypocritical allies from the steps of his own throne. It is hoped that by reviewing the past errors of

those whose history is written, we may nobly pass by what has been the reproof of the nations. Although each Prophet's history followed in the course of a similar history that had preceded it, yet, each people, in their own stride offered the Baal-like sacrifice of persecuting and often destroying the very man who was raised for their salvation.

IN THE time of King David, when his house was divided and they amassed troops numbering in the thousands to oppose him in great array, they slandered and reviled him, yet, none more compassionate came forth but King David, who in the end, when victory was assured, forgave his most bitter enemies and wept and caressed the dead body of his son, Absalom.

We may recall the reviling man, Shimei, mentioned in II Samuel 16:—he boasted loudly of David's temporary misfortune and called him 'a bloody man'!

And Shimei said before all the people and to King David's face (II Sam 16:7). "Begone, begone, bloody and vile scoundrel!" And as David and his men passed by, this arrogant one continued "along on the hillside parallel with him, cursing as he went, and threw stones and continually cast dust at him!"

David's response and lessons

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West, African Cultural Traditions Still Strong in Music of the Mande Peoples

By Frederic de Saint Michel
The ancient empire of Mali covered the vast area of West Africa, drained by the upper and middle courses of the rivers Niger and Senegal. Throughout this huge territory, inhabited by various Mande peoples—Bambaras, Malinkes; Khasonkes, etc.—you can find, with only a few variants, the same instruments and the same musical genres.

SOMETIMES, IN THE evening, friends and neighbors gather round the head of a family and listen to the griot recounting his genealogy to the accompaniment of his cora or san, telling of the bravery of ancestors and the deeds of the great chiefs who founded the society.

On other occasions, several musicians play, often making up a small orchestra; with balafons, coras and drums accompanying women singers and dancers. This happens on high days and holidays, such as a wedding, the arrival of an honored guest, the harvest festival, and so on.

Everyday life, too, has its music, work songs in the fields,

lullabies hummed by the women to send their babies to sleep while they do the housework, songs to accompany the dances and games of the girls who congregate in the evening on the village square.

THUS, MANDE MUSIC can be divided into two categories: popular or folk music, usually vocal, and ceremonial music, performed only by trained musicians.

THE INSTRUMENTS
There are many different instruments in both string, wind and percussion categories:

THE CORA is a harp-lute with 21 strings, stretched in two rows along a long shaft. The sounding box is a half gourd covered with skin. The instrument is played on the musician's knees and held in position by the two little fingers; the other fingers strain the strings, each hand playing one of the two rows of strings. Both hands play at once, one accompanying the other, thus emphasizing the execution of constantly repeated chords and arpeggios

while the musician sings a melody or recounts an epic tale.

THE SIMBY is also made of a half gourd covered with skin, with a long shaft and seven strings. This is the hunters' instrument. Metal rings attached to the end of the shaft give the instrument an original timbre, less subtle than the Cora. There are other string instruments: the BOLON, much longer than the Simby, with three strings, whose sound is rather like that of a double bass, and the NGONI, a kind of small guitar with four strings.

THE BALA (or Balafon) is a xylophone consisting of 17 or 18 slats of wood fixed by the fire. Each slat is attached to a sounding box in the form of a gourd whose size varies with the pitch of the sound. The musician strikes the notes with two sticks, the end of which is round and bound with "beige"; sometimes he will strike the same note at different places, and sometimes different notes together.