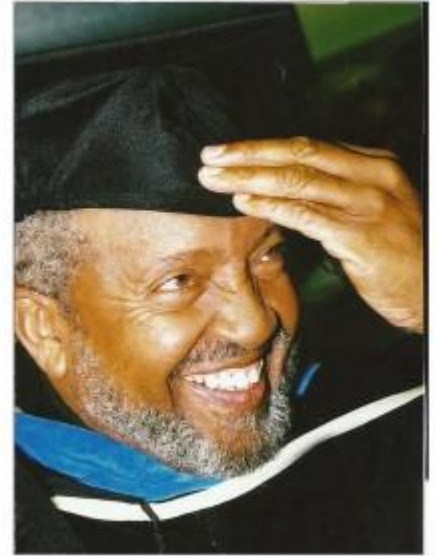




With Allah's Name The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Benefactor

**The National Convener of Imams
Supporting
The Leadership of Imam W.D. Mohammad
Presents**



REIMAGINING

THE GEMS OF THE PAST FOR A MODERN DAY GENERATION



SPRINGFIELD MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 6-8, 2017
AL-BAQI ISLAMIC CENTER FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE
PRESENTERS
IMAM KASHIF ABDUL-KARIM





إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ
وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَ
مَنْ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ



All the praise is due to Allah, we turn to him seeking assistance, we turn to him seeking forgiveness and we turn to him seeking refuge, protection and guardianship from the evil that come from within our own souls.

We recognize that Allah is he who is best able to guide and without his guidance we have no guidance at all. We recognize that if we have gone off the path of good it is only Allah who can return us back to the way that is right. We bare witness without any hesitation, reservation, or frustration that there is no G-d worthy of worship but the one G-d, Allah, and we bare witness that Muhammad of whom the Qur'an was revealed over 14 centuries ago is Allah's last prophet, his messenger, and the universal liberator for all of mankind.

Today's topic

REIMAGINING

CAN THE GEMS OF THE PAST BE INTRODUCED TO A MODERN DAY
GENERATION?



Defining imagination

im·ag·i·na·tion

iˌmajəˈnāSH(ə)n/
noun

1. the faculty or action of forming new ideas, or images or concepts of external objects not present to the senses.

"she'd never been blessed with a vivid imagination"

- the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful.

"technology gives workers the chance to use their imagination"

- the part of the mind that imagines things.



Defining imagination

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"**technology** gives workers the chance to use their imagination"

- the part of the mind that imagines things.



New ideas, or images not present

- New immigrant Muslims focusing on new image through building of Masajid and redefining Americas picture of Foreign Islam and Muslims.

Be creative or resourceful.



Technology



New ideas, or images not present

Be creative or resourceful.

- Muslims are involved with service to the community.

Technology



New ideas, or images not present

Be creative or resourceful.

Technology

- Using social media to get out our message and thinking



“Muslim Futurists”



According to the latest data from this report, digital and social media are playing a vital role in engaging a group of people that researchers are calling “Muslim Futurists” – individuals aged 15 to 35 who are particularly eager for brands to communicate to them in a truly relevant way. They are young, tech-savvy, brand-conscious, worldly and vocal. They feel connected to a multinational audience by being part of the Ummah, the global Muslim nation. Another report conducted by WPP calls this group “New Age Muslims” – consumers who are religious but don’t expect others to conform to religious practices. They believe in societal progression, female empowerment and gender equality. They are pro-media and recognize the advantages of the Internet. They’re also very interested in trends in general but fashion and beauty in particular.

“New Age Muslims”



Conflict

With how religion is presented

re·im·ag·ine

ˌrēiˈmajən/

verb

1. reinterpret (an event, work of art, etc.) imaginatively;
rethink.



RECONSTRUCT REMAKE
RECYCLE REJUVENATE
REVAMP REDESIGN RENOVATE
REIMAGINE
RETHINK REUSE RECREATE
REFURBISH RESTORE RENEW
REMODEL REDO REVISE

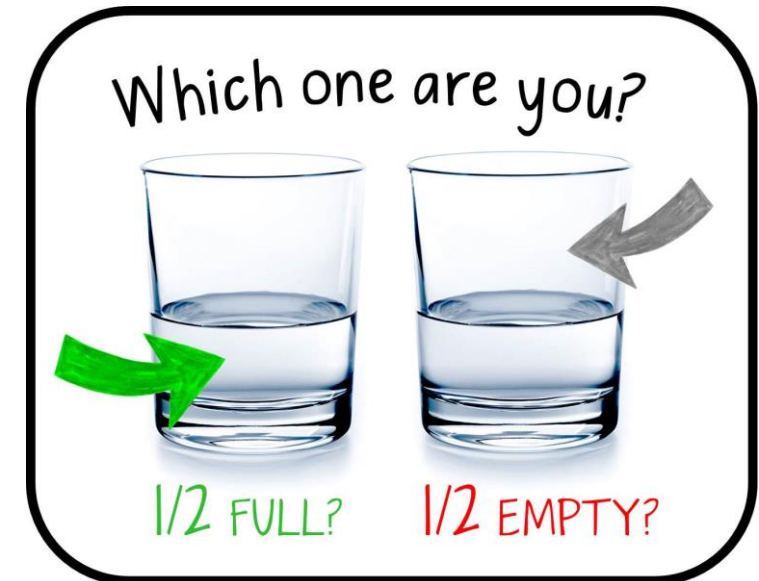
re·im·ag·ine

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REINTERPRET



Rethink

verb

rē'THINGk/

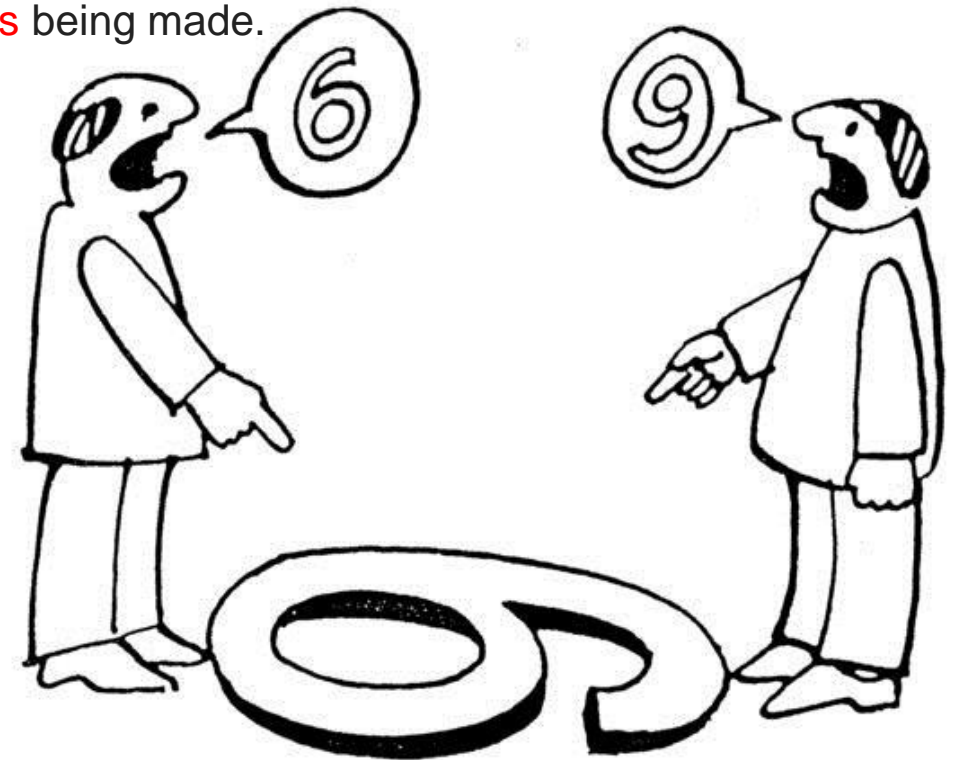
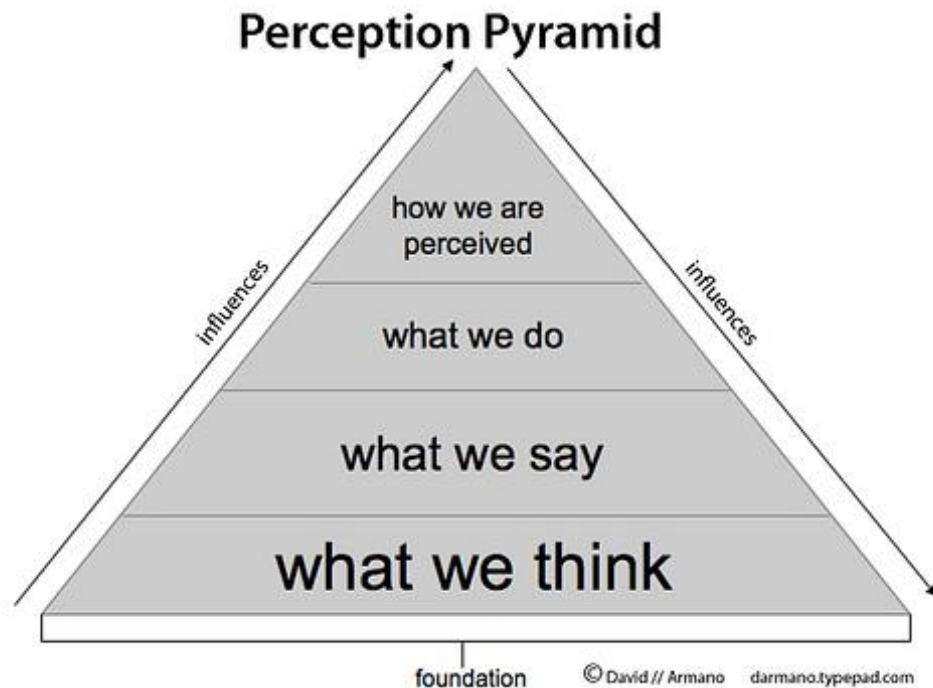
1. Think again about (something such as a policy or course of action), especially **in order to make changes** to it.
"the government was forced to rethink its plans"

noun

'rē,THINGk/

2. a **reassessment** of something, especially one that **results in changes** being made.

"a last-minute rethink of their tactics"



Lets think about what attracted African Americans to The Nation of Islam!

Lets think on what attracted African Americans to The Nation of Islam!

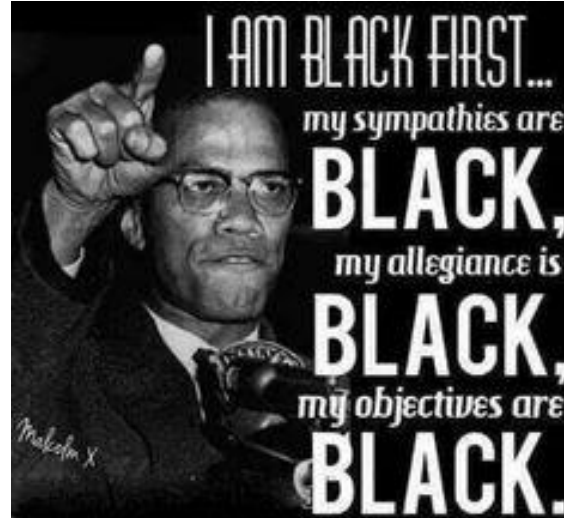


**THE FRUIT OF ISLAM,
DISCIPLINE,
BROTHERHOOD,
DRILLING,
UNIFORMITY.**

Lets think on what attracted African Americans to The Nation of Islam!



**THE FRUIT OF ISLAM,
DISCIPLINE,
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**BLACK NATIONALISM
BLACK RELIGION
BLACK CULTURE
BLACK STUDIES
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**MGT.
DISCIPLINE,
SISTERHOOD,
TRAINING, FOOD,
RESPECTED,
FAMILY.**



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL
I BEAR WITNESS THAT THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH AND I BEAR
WITNESS THAT MUHAMMAD IS HIS MESSENGER

Restrictive Laws of Islam

This means all believers must strictly obey these laws. Mere belief counts for nothing unless carried into practice.

1. Obey Allah, His Apostle and believe the Message He has sent to you and me by His Messenger.
2. Obedience to the Apostle is obedience to Allah, as the Messenger is the bearer of Allah's Message. Respect to the Messenger is respect to Allah.
3. Worship no God but Allah. The one the Messenger represents to us.
4. Fear no one but Allah.
5. Obey those in authority among you and obey non-believers in authority over you as long as it does not conflict with your religion.
6. It is forbidden to commit fornication or adultery.
7. It is forbidden to commit indecent acts on another (sodomy).
8. It is forbidden to eat the pig or it's by-products.
9. Honor Allah and respect His Messenger, who is the bearer of His Message to you and me.
10. Insubordination is forbidden.
11. Slack talk and gossip is forbidden.
12. Do not associate with those in bad standings or out of the mosque.
13. It is your duty to report all slackness, weakness and wrongdoing.
14. Do not deal with the hypocrites or show sympathy towards them.
15. No gambling of any kind (numbers, dice, cards, games of chance)
16. No smoking of any kind (reefers or cigarettes, cigar or pipe).
17. No dope (heroin, cocaine or any other).

Restrictive law

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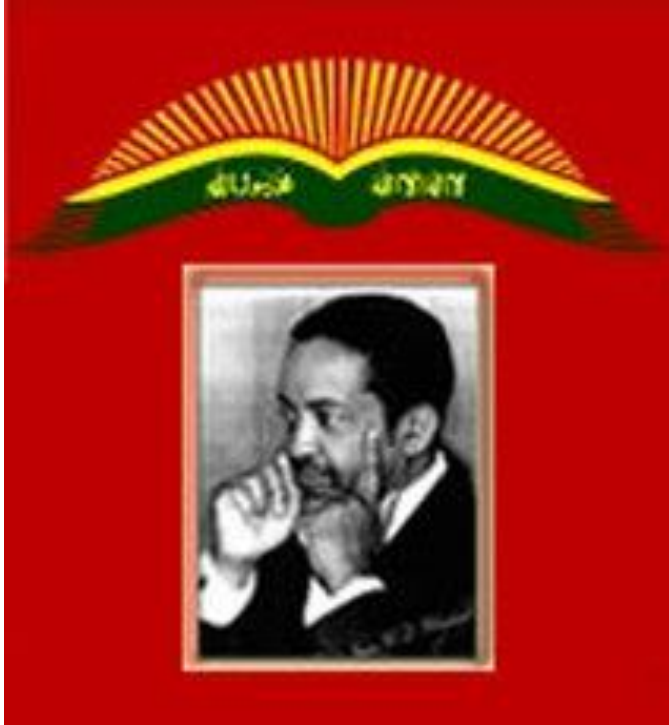
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1975. Imam WD Mohammad made us rethink who we were and transitioned the community.



Of the things we enjoyed, what can we still accept.
Rethink what we love!

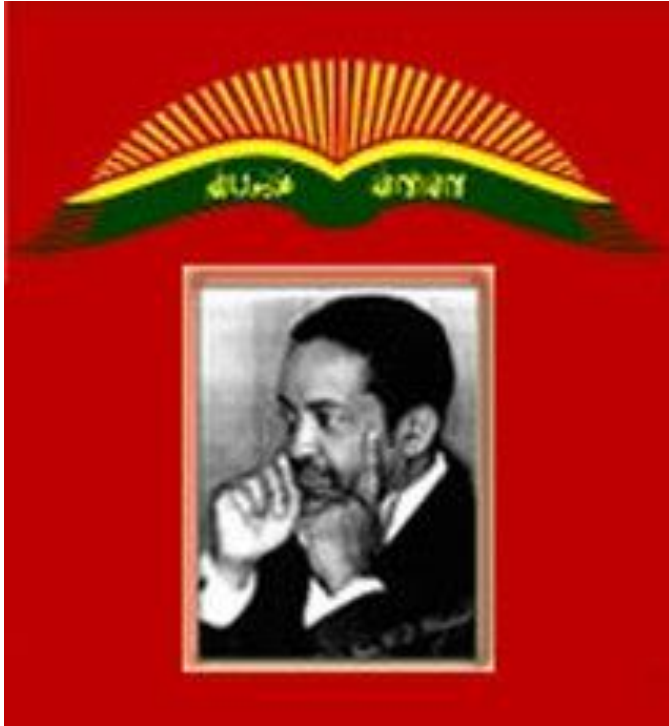
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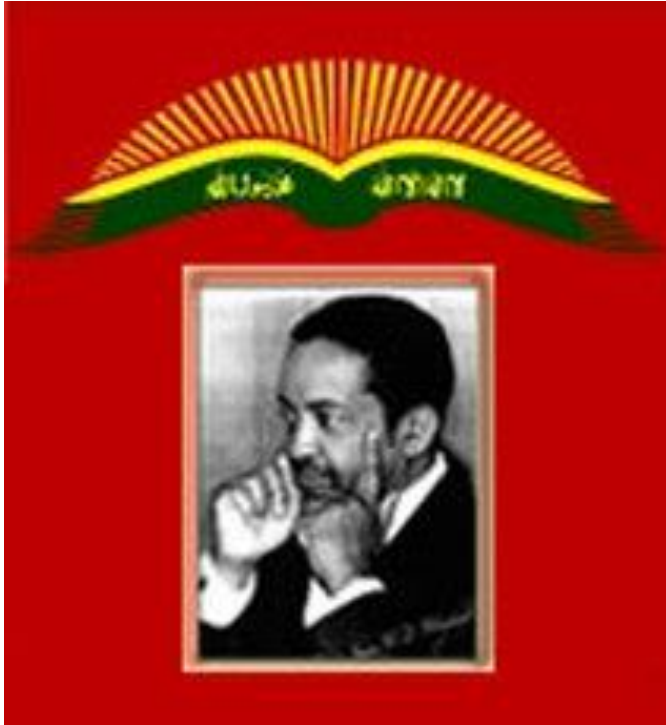
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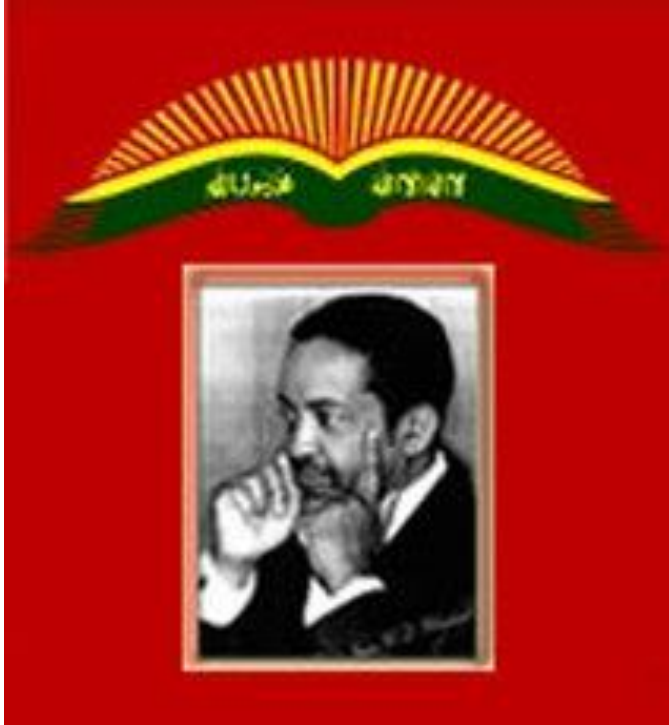
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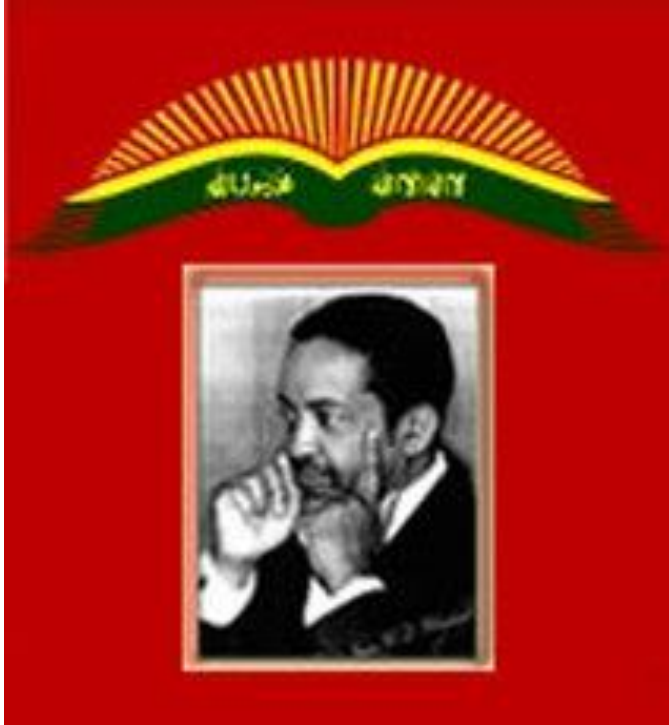
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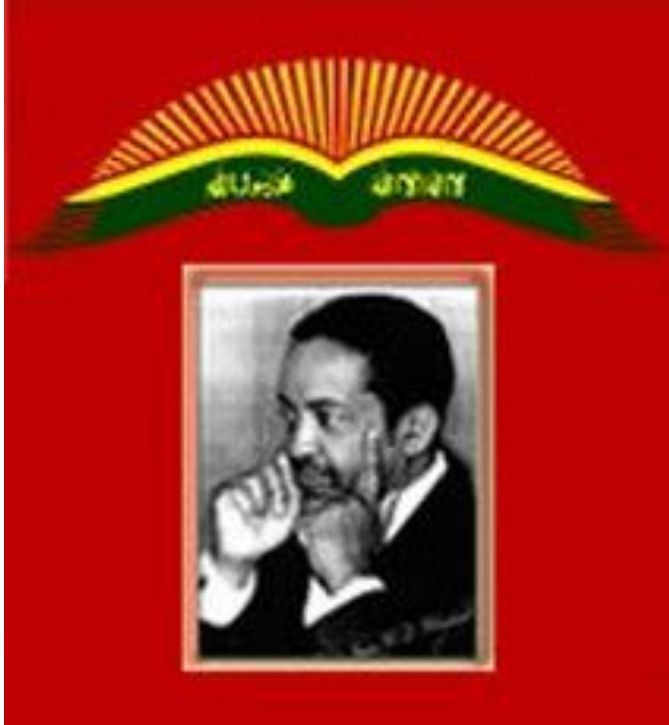
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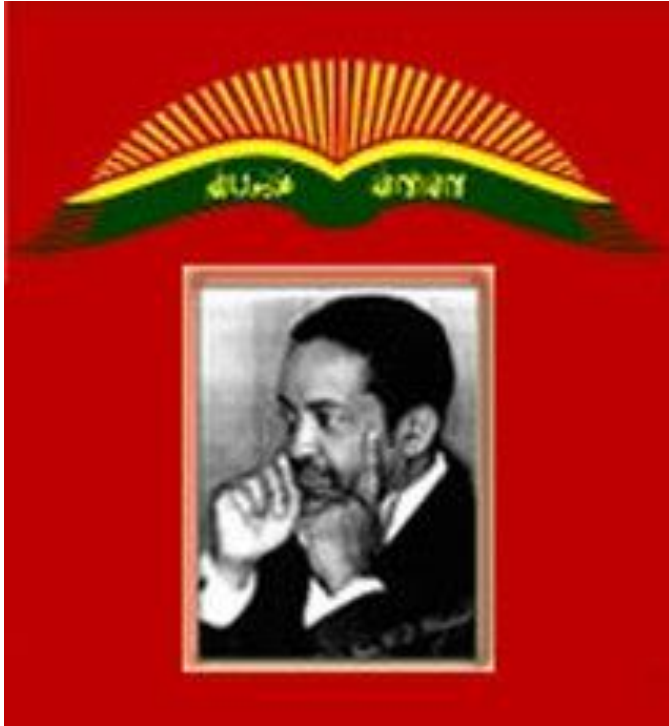
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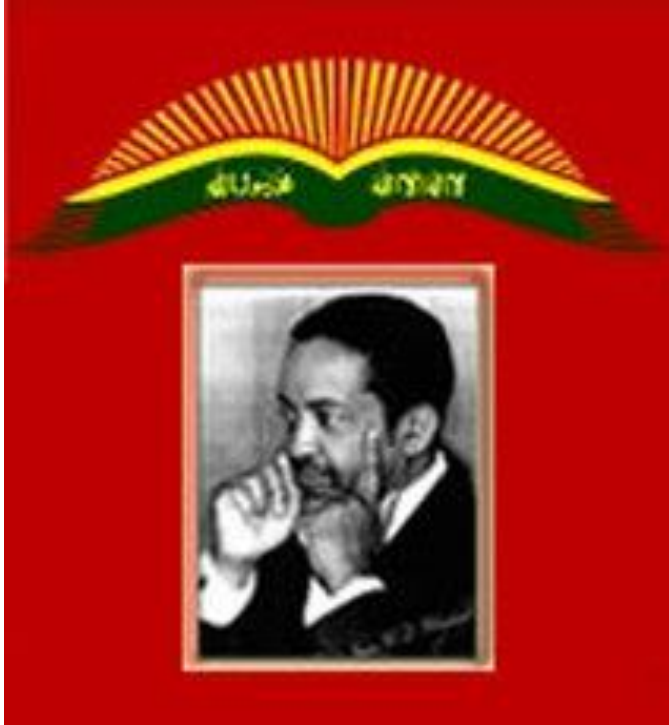
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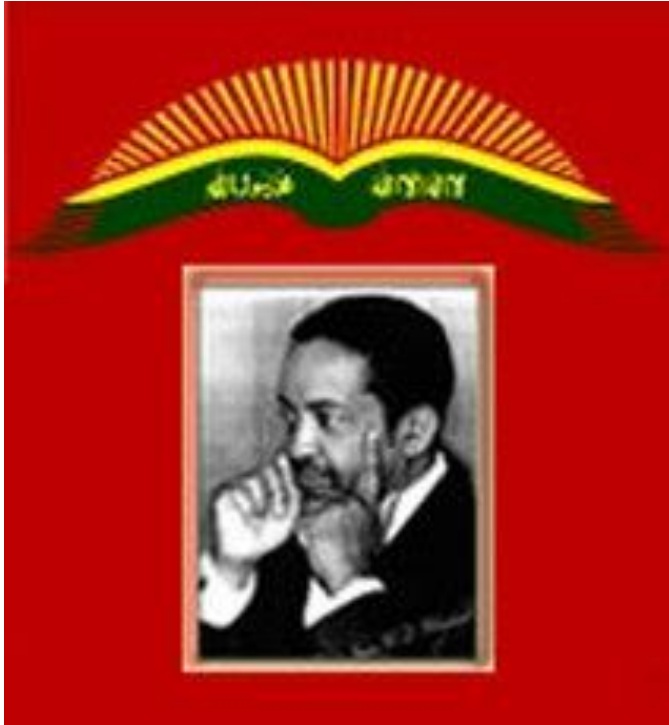
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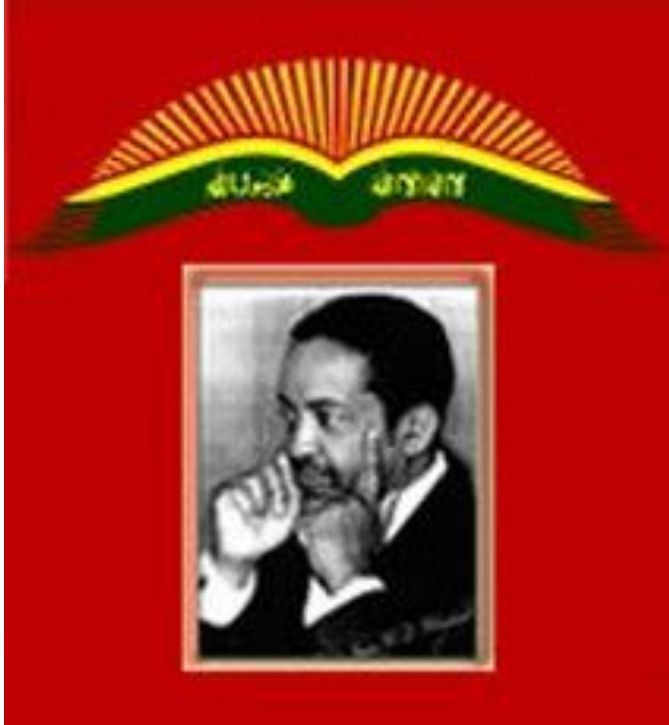
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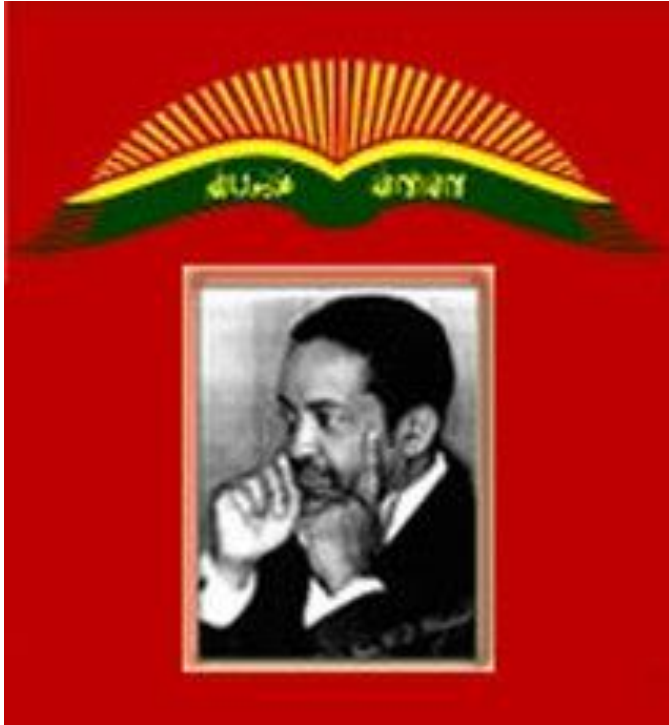
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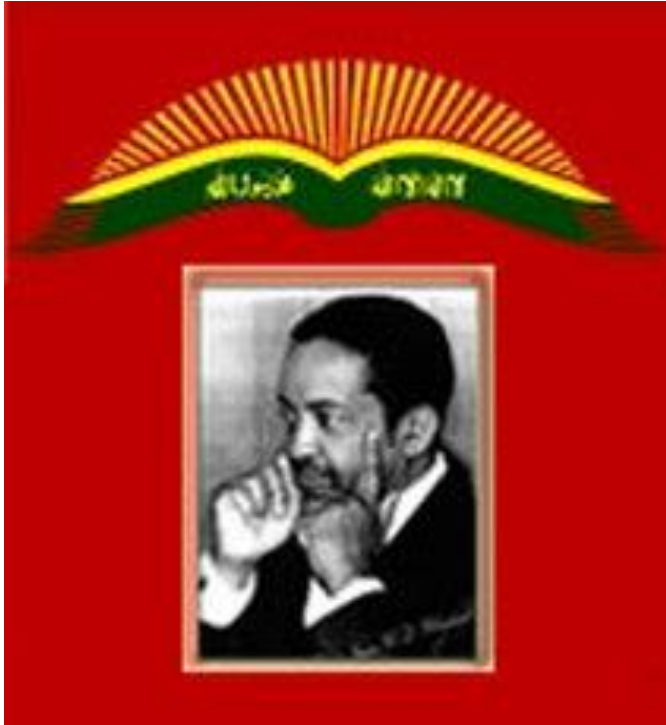
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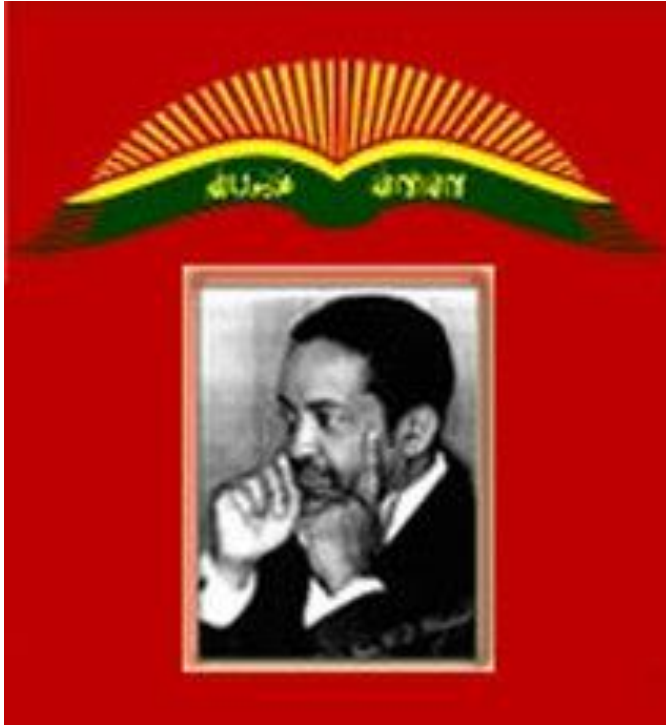
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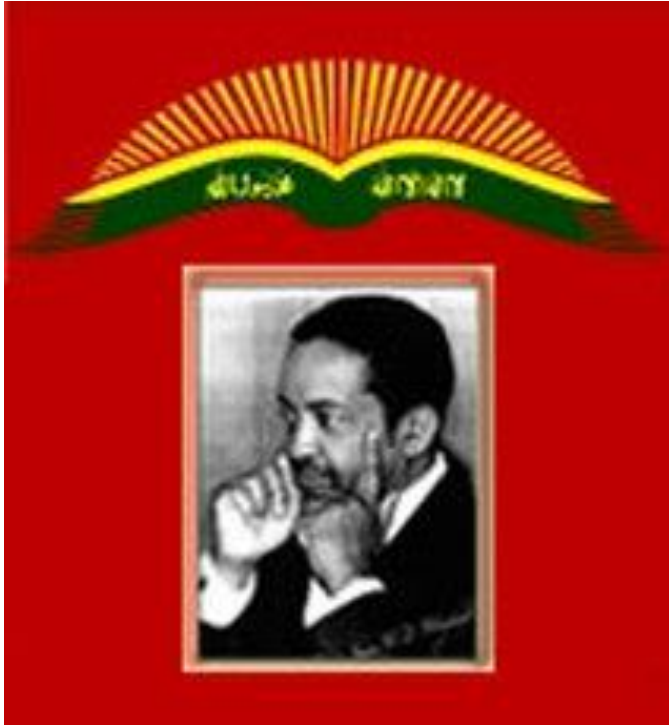
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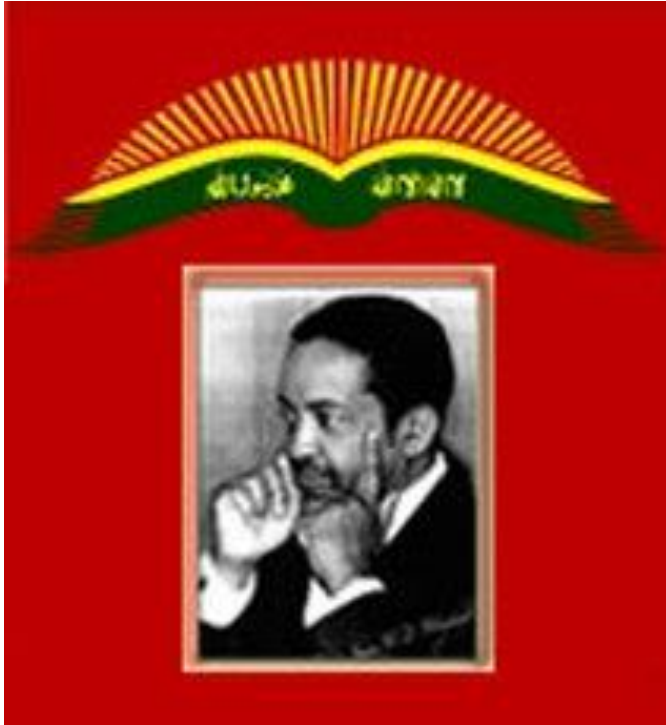
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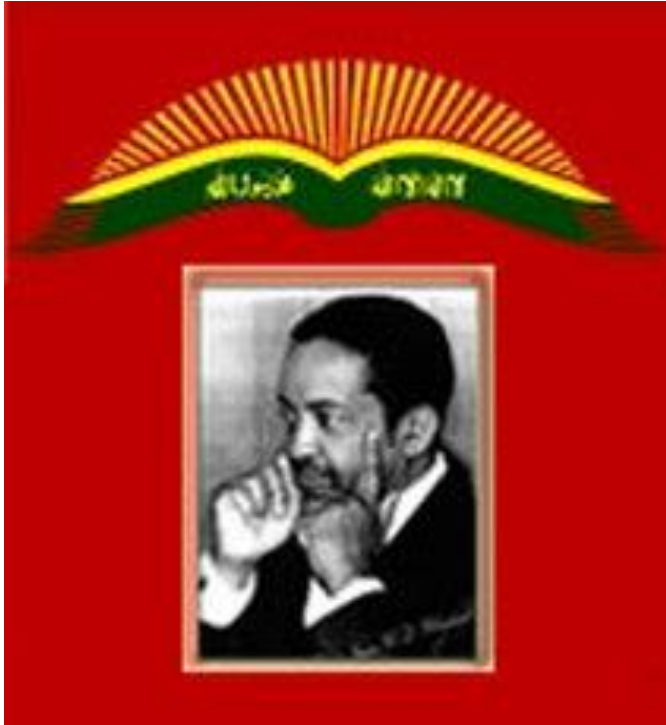
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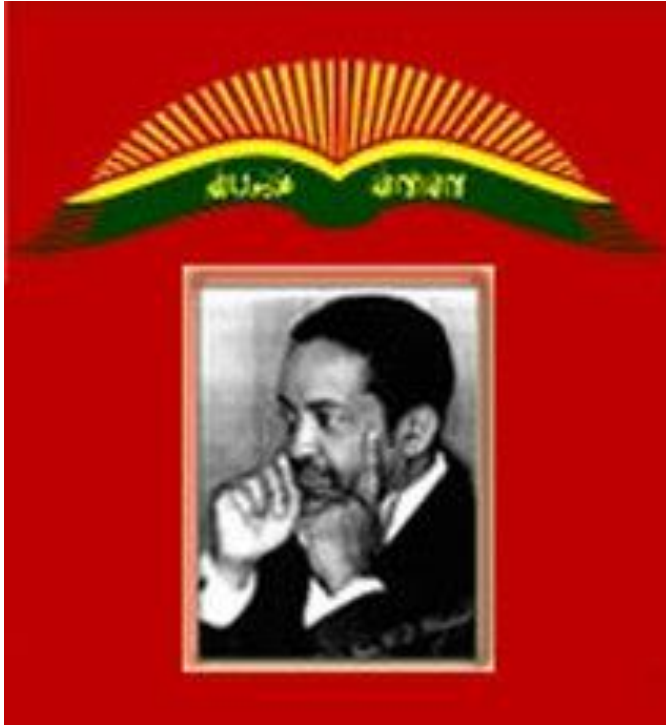
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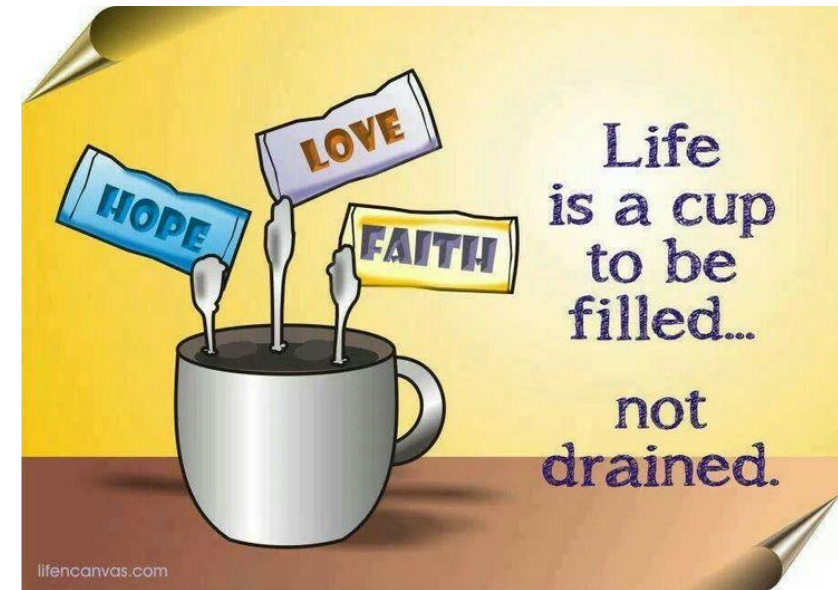
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Islamic tools



Filling Up My Cup

"We are cups, constantly and quietly being filled. The trick is, knowing how to tip ourselves over and let the beautiful stuff out."- Ray Bradbury



**Imam WD Mohammad returned to Allah
September 9, 2008**



What has happened to us?

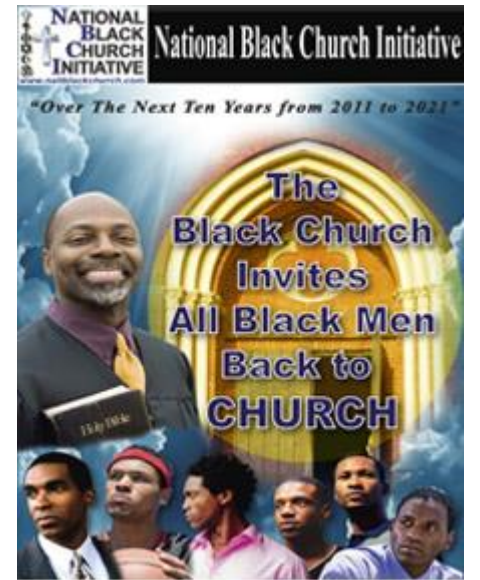
- Mourning,
- Division,
- lack of Certainty,
- Complacency,

What this has lead to!

- Masajid closing
- The rewriting of our narrative
- Lack of upfront positions and leadership
- Following leadership of others.
- Becoming Frankenstein Monsters
- Lost of generational continuity, our youth, and millennials



What's pulling our next generation to the church vs the masjid!

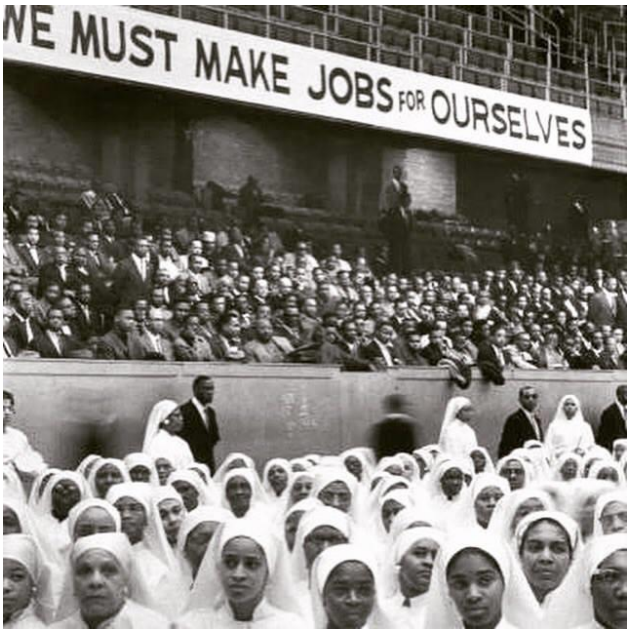
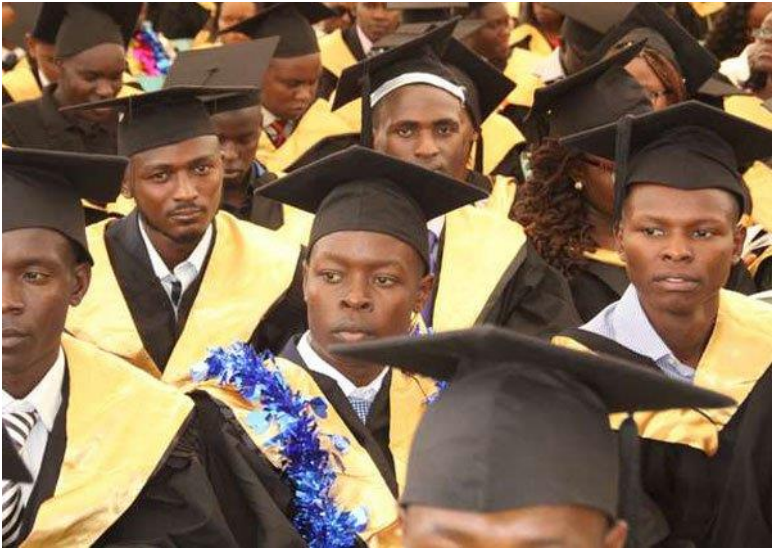


Fun, Friends, Peers, Music, Fitting In, Conformity with peers



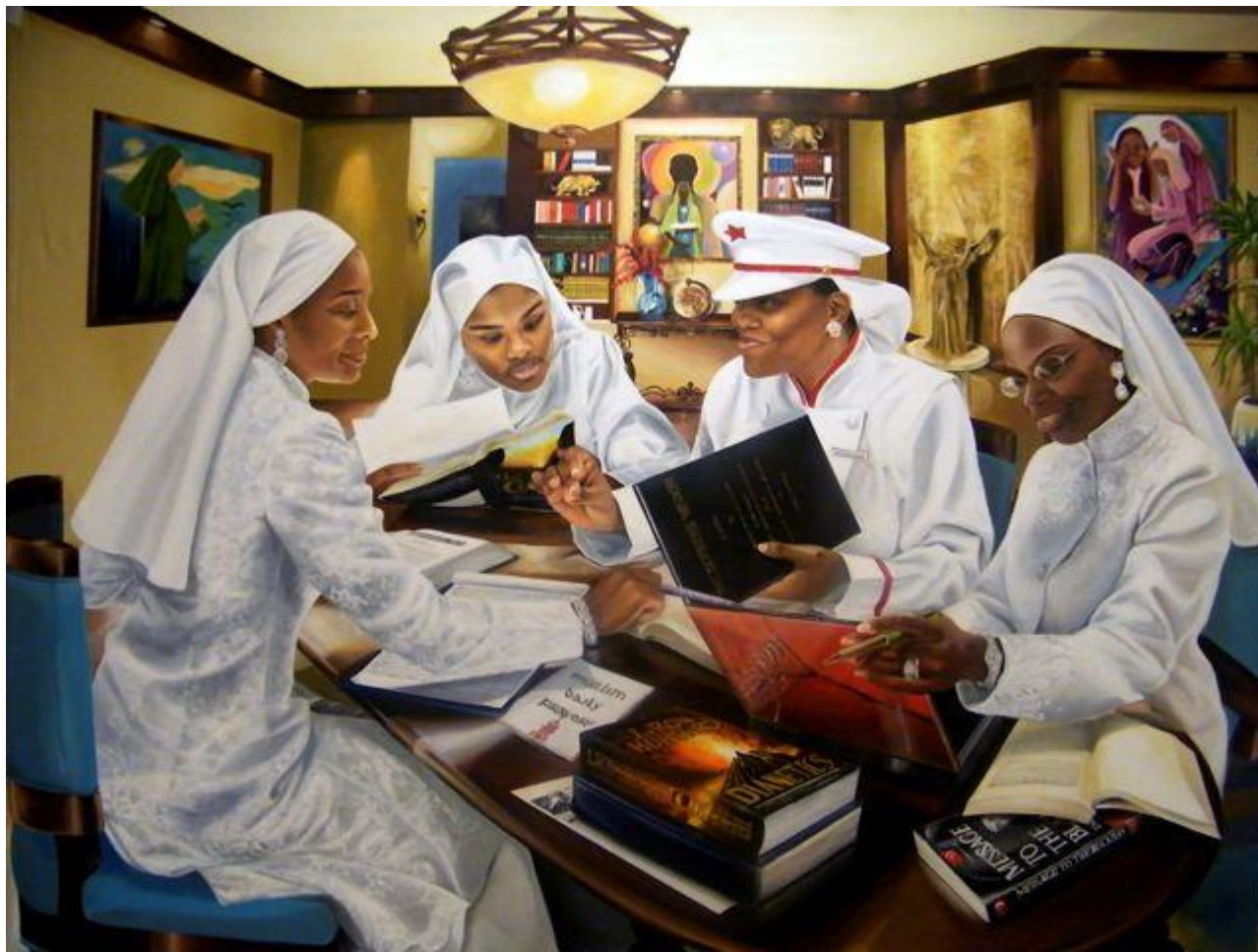
What's fun and attractive.





Professionals vs Do for Self



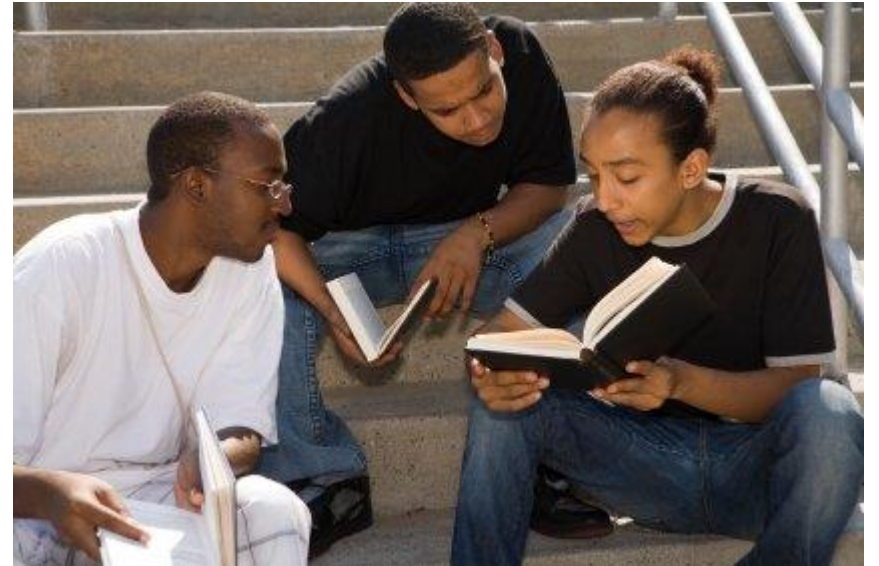


Education - Learn.

Read and study.

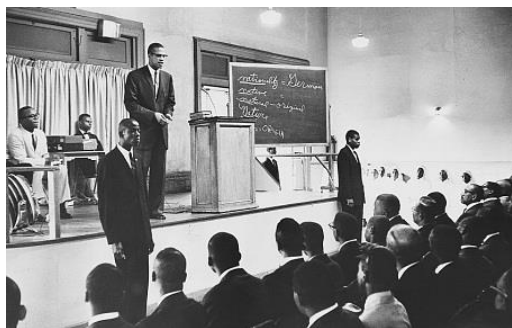
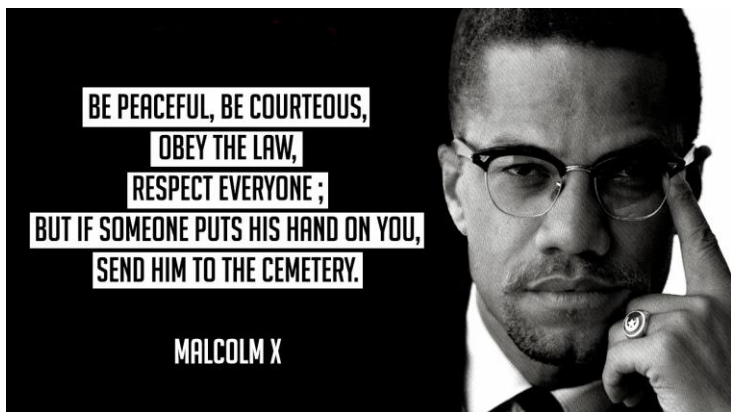
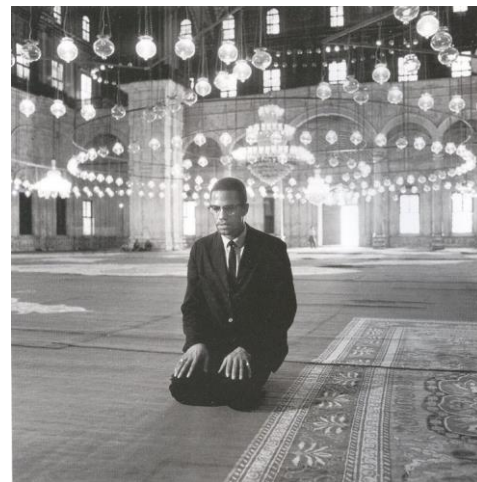
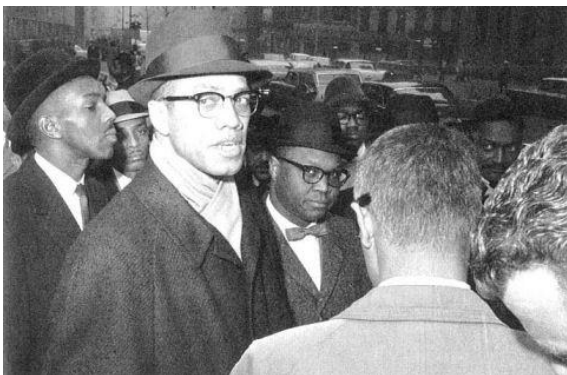
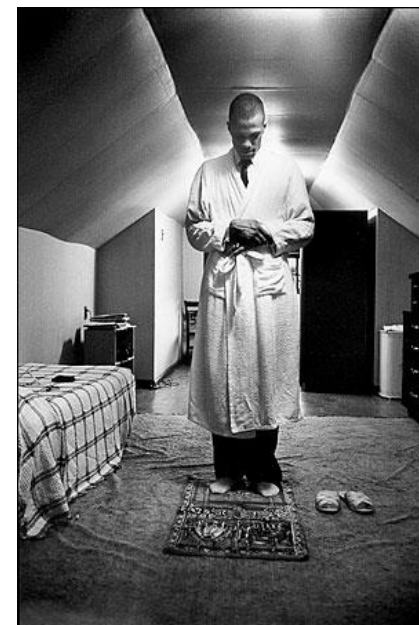
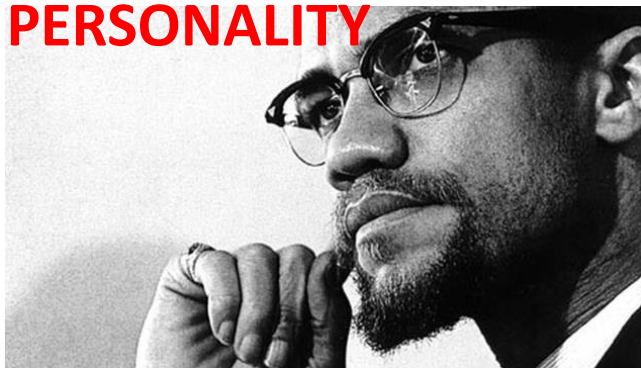
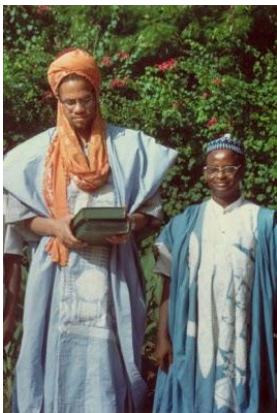
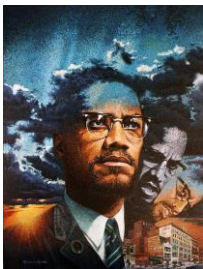
Teach the need for knowledge of Self.

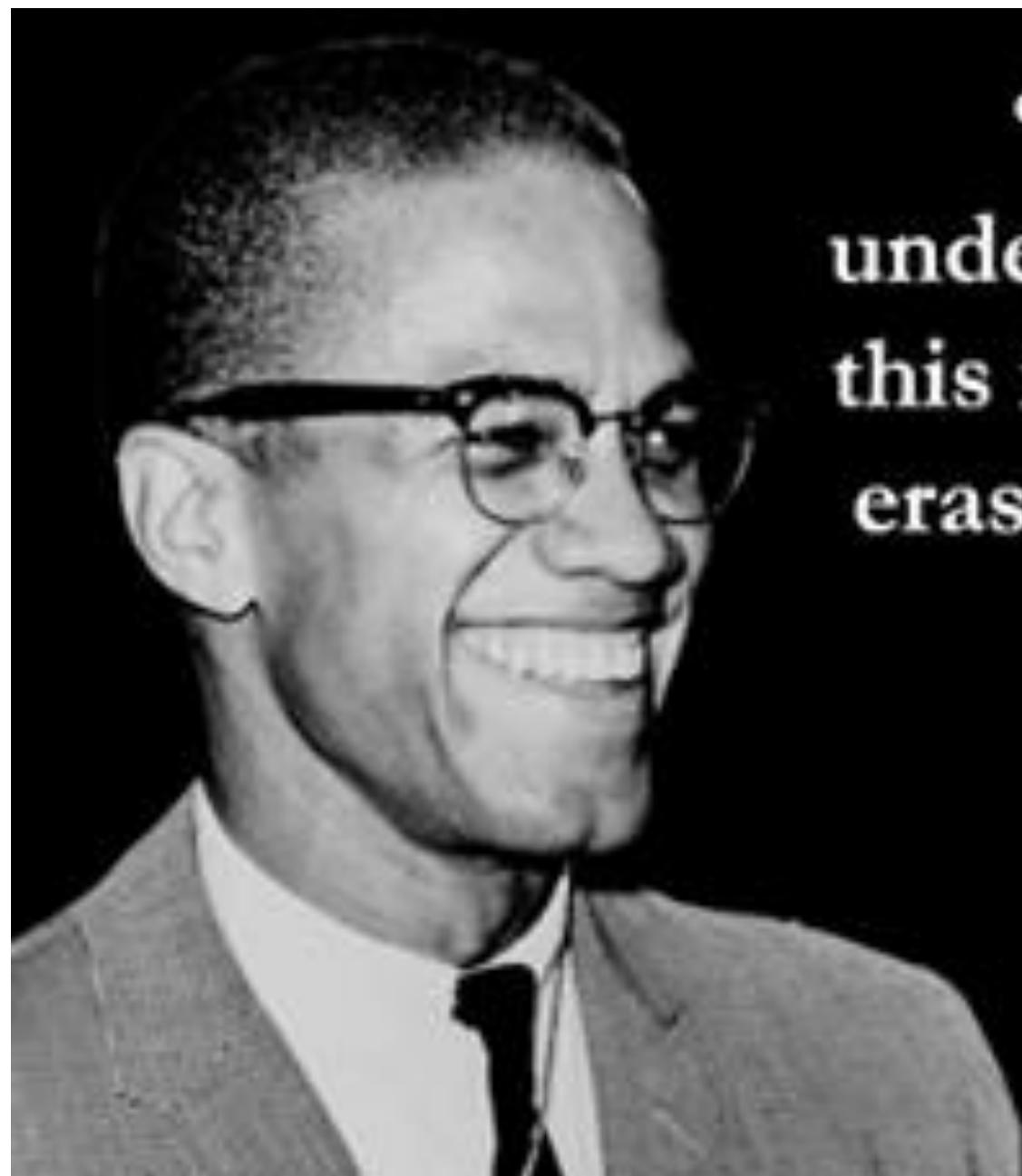
Knowledge is power.



ATTRACTION TO THE MALCOLM X VS THE SHABAZZ PERSONALITY

Black Nationalism vs Humanism





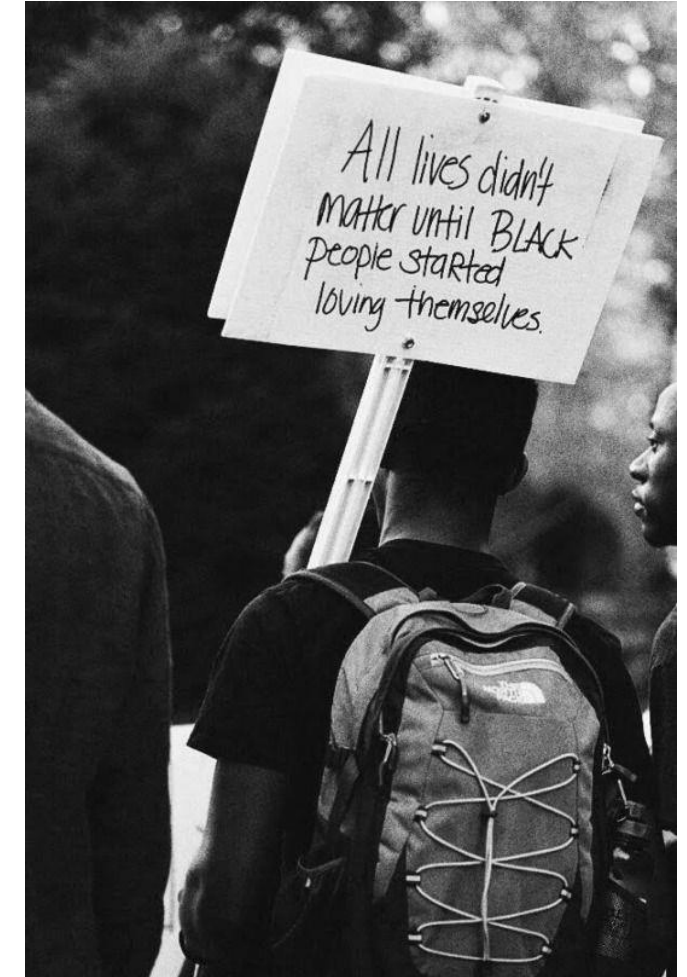
“America needs to understand Islam, because this is the one religion that erases from its society the race problem.”

- Malcolm X

Black lives matter is movement is prime for Islam in America



YES, ALL LIVES
MATTER
BUT WE'RE FOCUSED ON THE
BLACK ONES RIGHT NOW, OK?
— BECAUSE IT IS VERY —
APPARENT
THAT OUR JUDICIAL SYSTEM
DOESN'T KNOW THAT.
PLUS, IF YOU CAN'T SEE WHY WE'RE EXCLAIMING
#BLACKLIVESMATTER
YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM.



Generational continuity through Music, Sports, Fashion, Politics, Family, and New Relationships

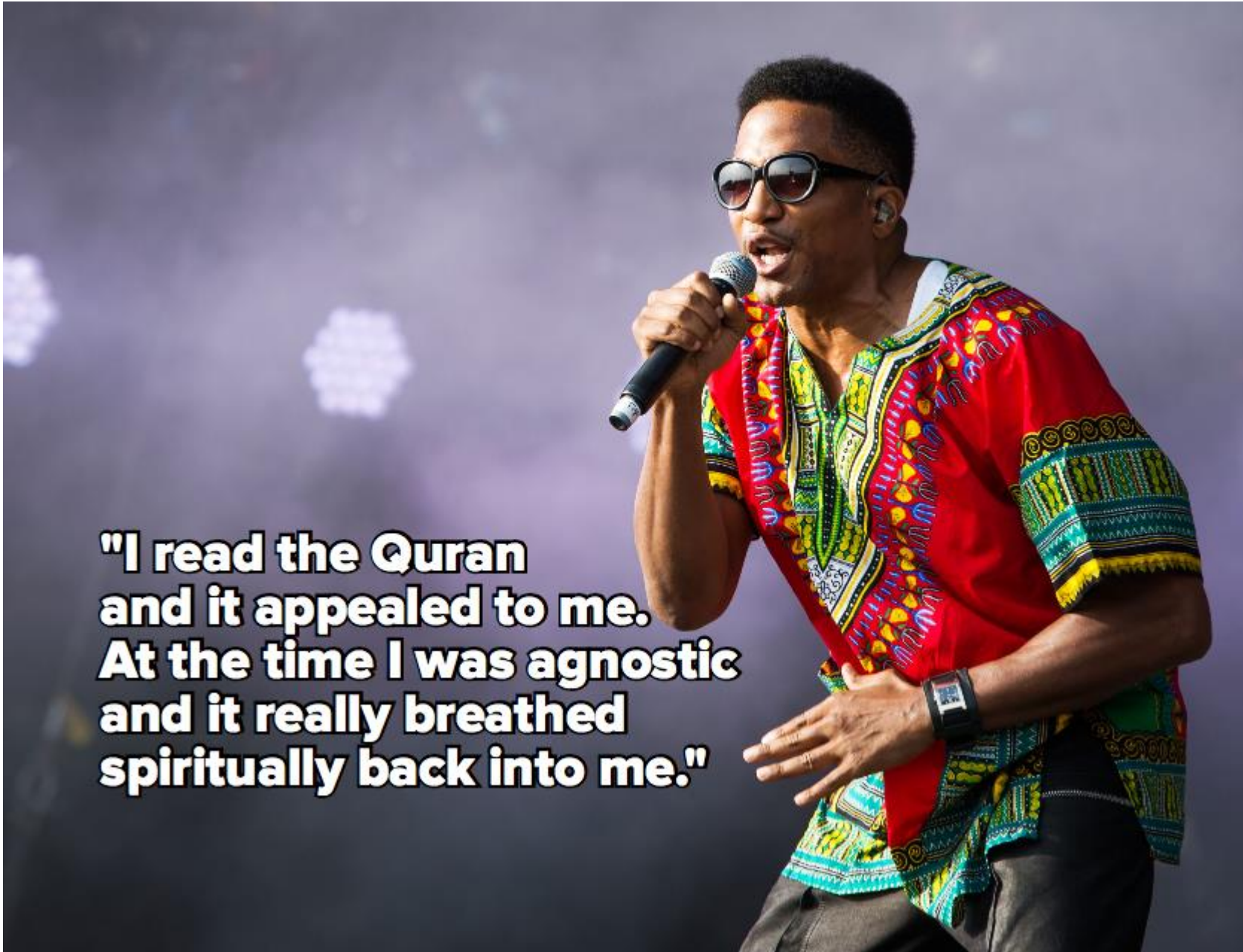




Salma Slims black female rapper



On being a female rapper with immigrant muslim parents: “I am Muslim myself so being Muslim alone in the United States has brought hardship. My last name is “Conteh” so I get a lot of questions already. The media portrays Muslims as terrorists, however the religion itself practices peace. Every race and religion has bad guys, and not all of us are the bad guys. Some people judge me because they think I’m not actually from a certain “hood” and they like to call my bluff and say “you’re from Africa you’re not even from Atlanta” then a lot of other people think that because we pray five times a day, that I shouldn’t even be a rapper, and that’s why it took so long for my family to accept the music because modesty has nothing to do with rapping. It gets frustrating sometimes because people are gonna say what they want.”



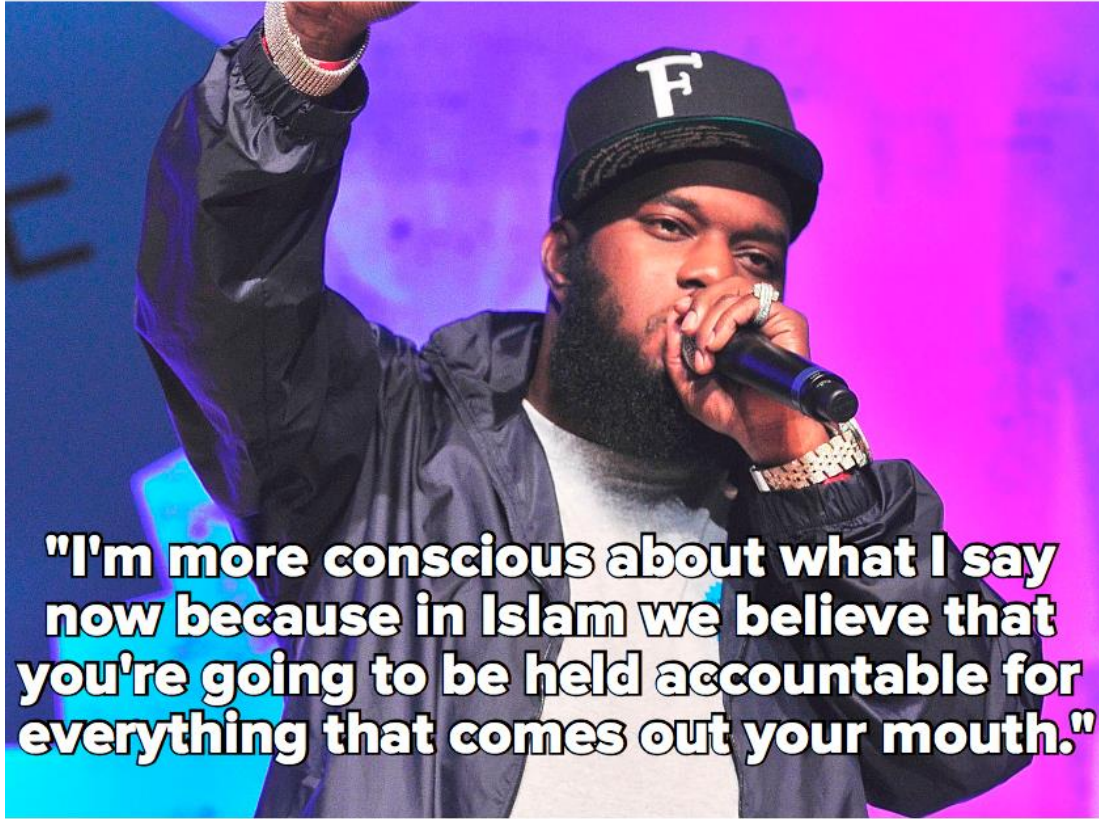
**"I read the Quran
and it appealed to me.
At the time I was agnostic
and it really breathed
spiritually back into me."**

Q-Tip

A Tribe Called Quest [MC](#) Q-Tip converted to Islam in 1996, and after taking Shahada, [changed](#) his name from Jonathan Davis to Kamaal Ibn John Fareed.

He's [practiced](#) the faith ever since. "I think everyone should just be allowed to believe what they want to believe, as long as they don't transgress against the next person,"

he [told](#) the *Guardian*. "It doesn't make a difference what you are. I read the Quran and it appealed to me. At the time I was agnostic and it really breathed spiritually back into me. For me it's really a cushion, it's cool, I'm cool with it."



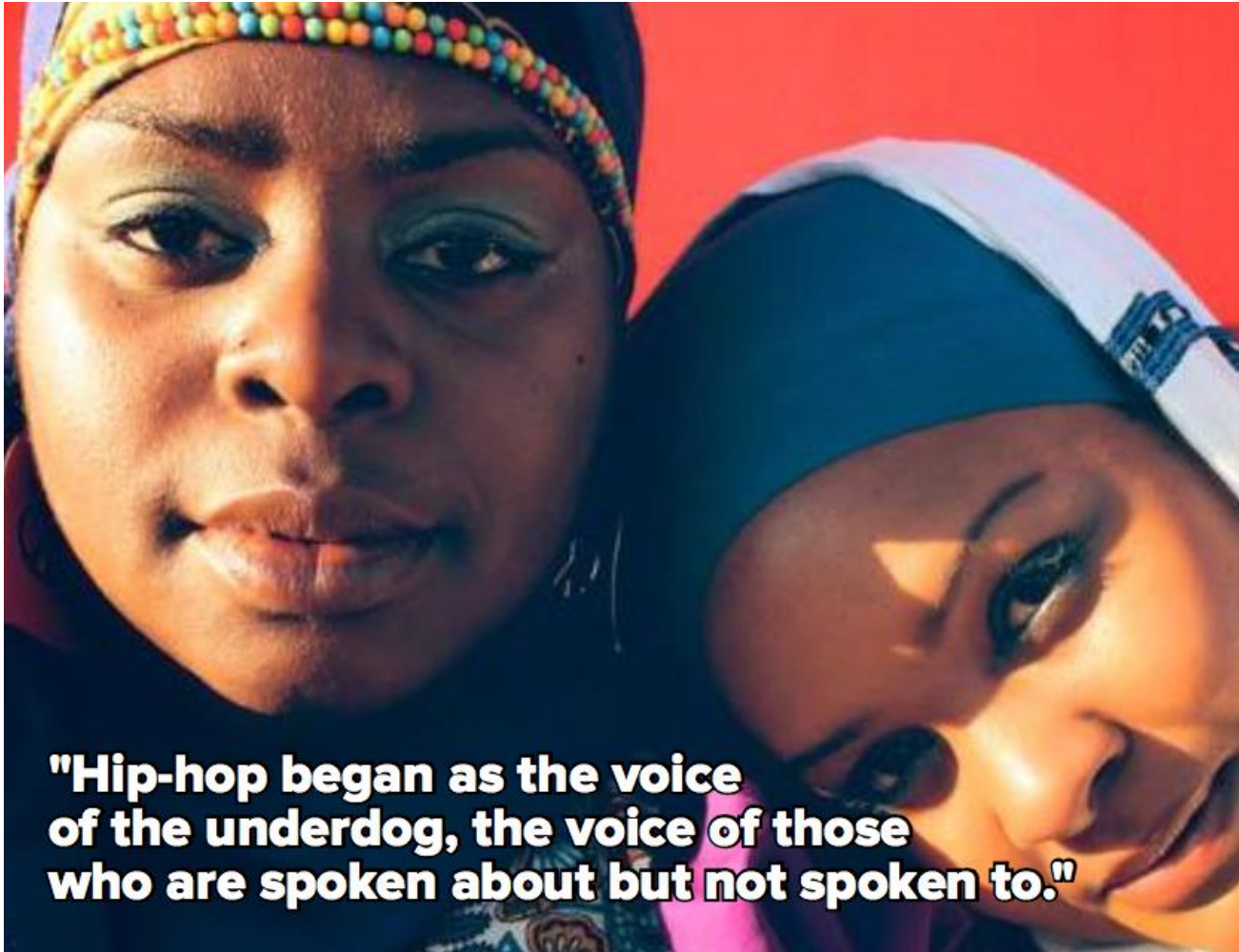
"I'm more conscious about what I say now because in Islam we believe that you're going to be held accountable for everything that comes out your mouth."

Freeway

Lupe Fiasco

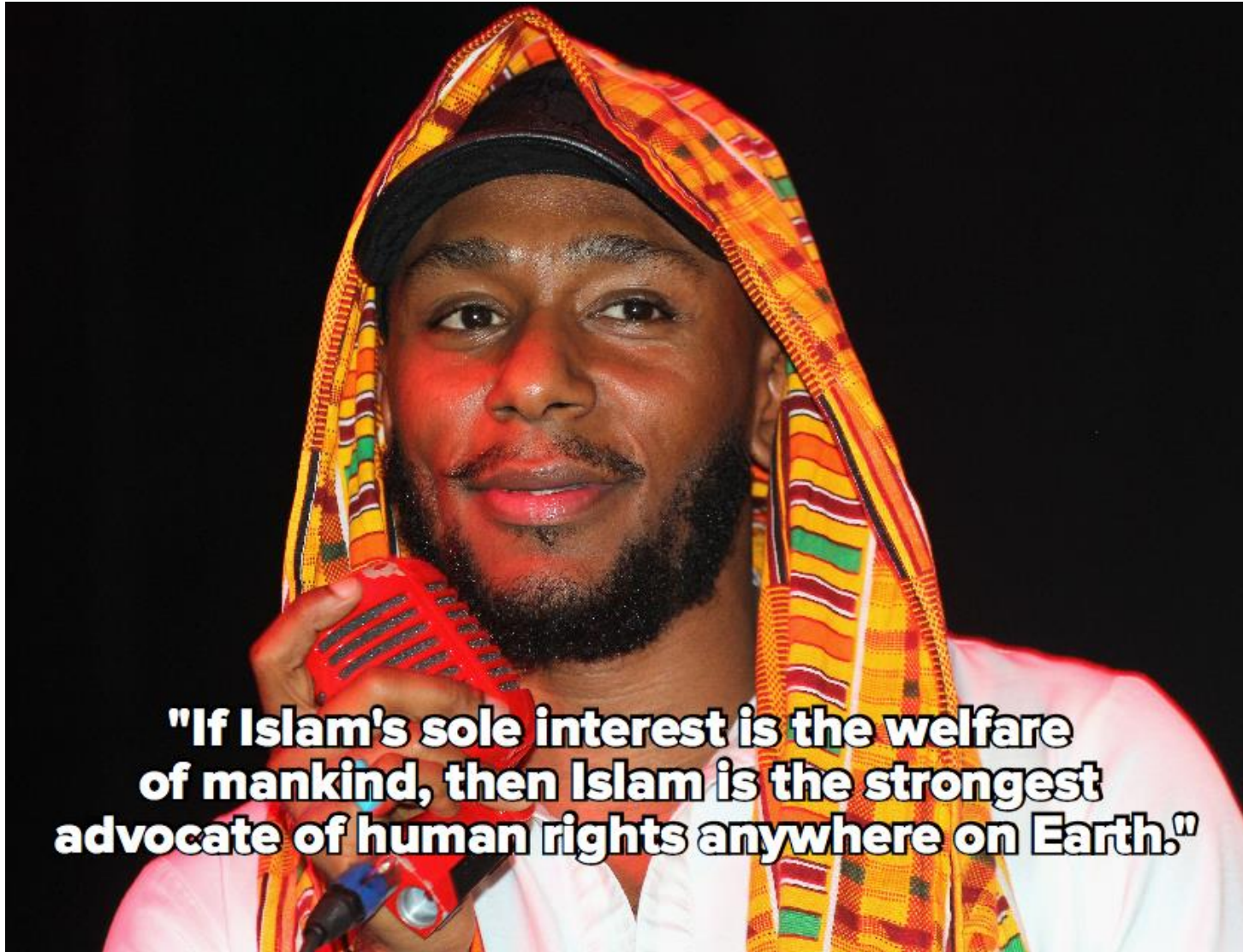


"I try not to judge anybody in any capacity. My fellow Muslims, non-Muslims, Christians, whomever. At the end of the day we're human, we have faults, we make mistakes."



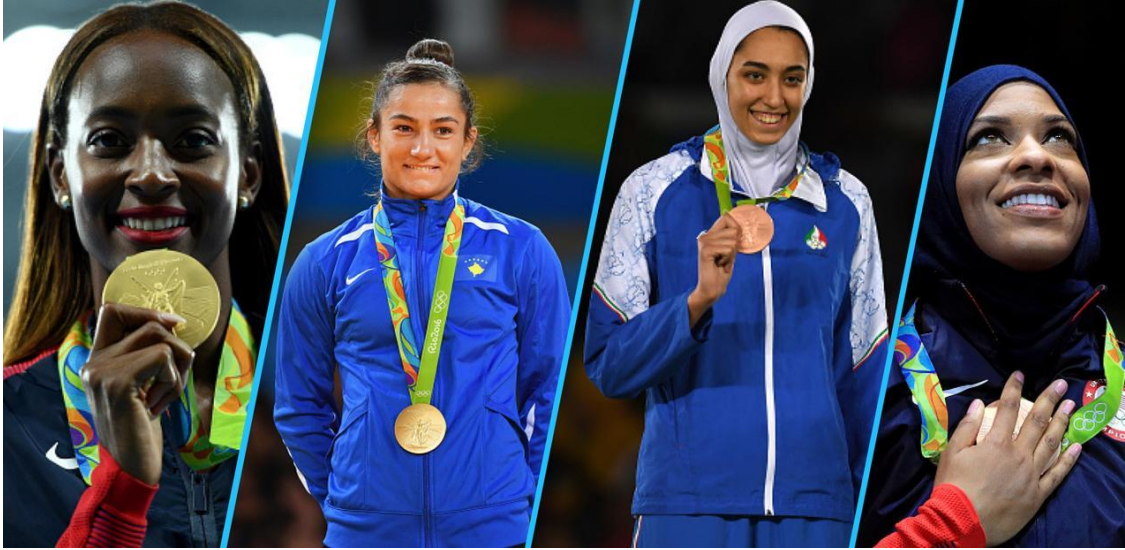
"Hip-hop began as the voice of the underdog, the voice of those who are spoken about but not spoken to."

Rappers Muneera Williams and Sukina Owen-Douglas [make up](#) the London-based hip-hop duo Poetic Pilgrimage. According to *Huffington Post*, the women [met](#) during college and both converted to Islam after learning of *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* in class. Their [goal](#) as rappers is to show that Islam and Western culture aren't incompatible, and that women have a place both in rap and as outspoken members of the Muslim community. They wear hijabs onstage, and have met their fair share of criticism, but that doesn't stop them from making music.



"If Islam's sole interest is the welfare of mankind, then Islam is the strongest advocate of human rights anywhere on Earth."

Hip-hop legend and actor Mos Def, also known as Yasiin Bey, was [introduced](#) to Islam at 13 by his father, who was a member of the Nation of Islam. At 19, Mos Def [took](#) his Shahada, or declaration of faith, and in the '90s [debuted](#) as an artist in the socially conscious movement hip-hop that [emerged](#) then. Many of his albums and live performances begin with the Islamic prayer, "Bismillah ar-Rahman ar-Raheem," or, "In the name of God, the most gracious, the most merciful."



14 incredible Muslim women athletes won medals at the 2016 Rio Olympics

Dalilah Muhammad, USA, track and field



Muhammad became the [first American woman](#) to win an Olympic gold in the 400-meter hurdles. Rio 2016

Bronze medal: Ibtihaj Muhammad, USA, fencing



Ibtihaj Muhammad, now a bronze-medalist sabre fencer, became the [first](#) American woman to compete in the hijab at the Olympic Games.

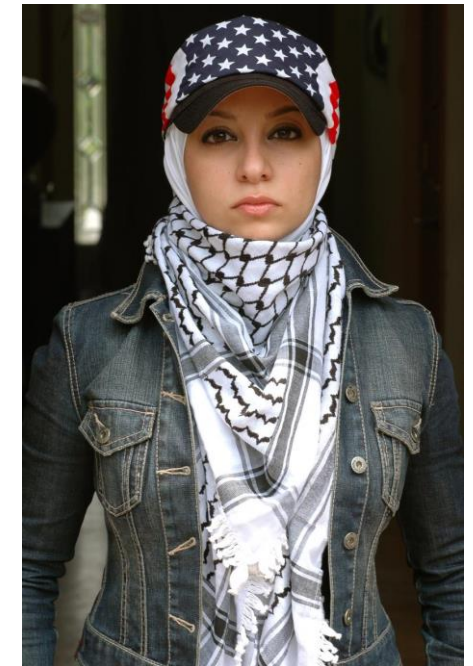


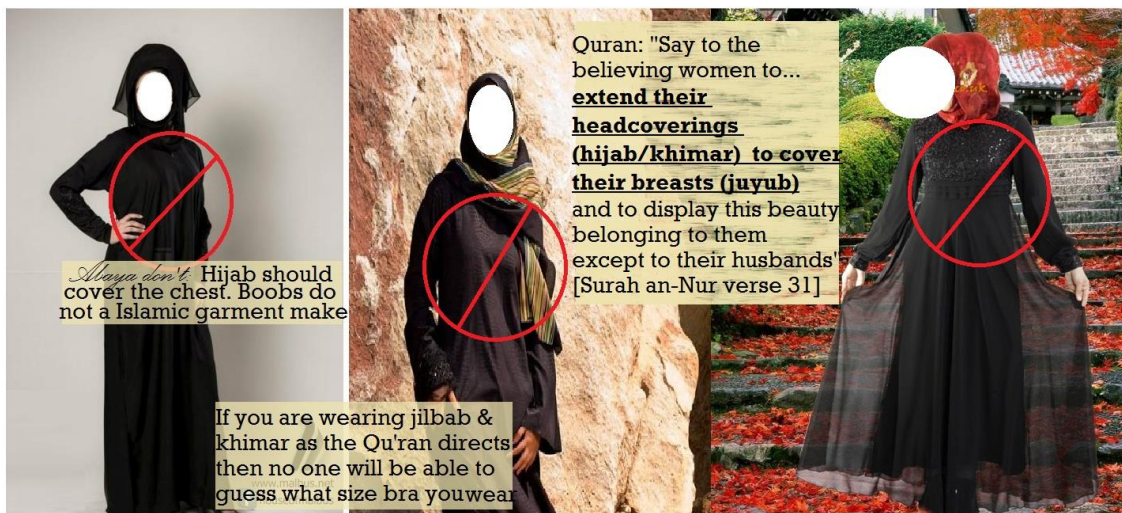
Relationship
building with
second and
third
generational
Muslims like
ourselves



Fearlessly changing relationships

Establishing their own Styles and Fashions





Young Muslims are coming up with new styles but are confronted with this.



I honestly love the styles of all these clothes, but skinny jeans are clothed-but-naked, something the Prophet S.A.W warned could get one thrown into the hellfire. I don't want any of my sisters who I love to go there for something so silly as a pair of tights, or skinny jeans, or a belt.



**R
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**C
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Family life



Family Values



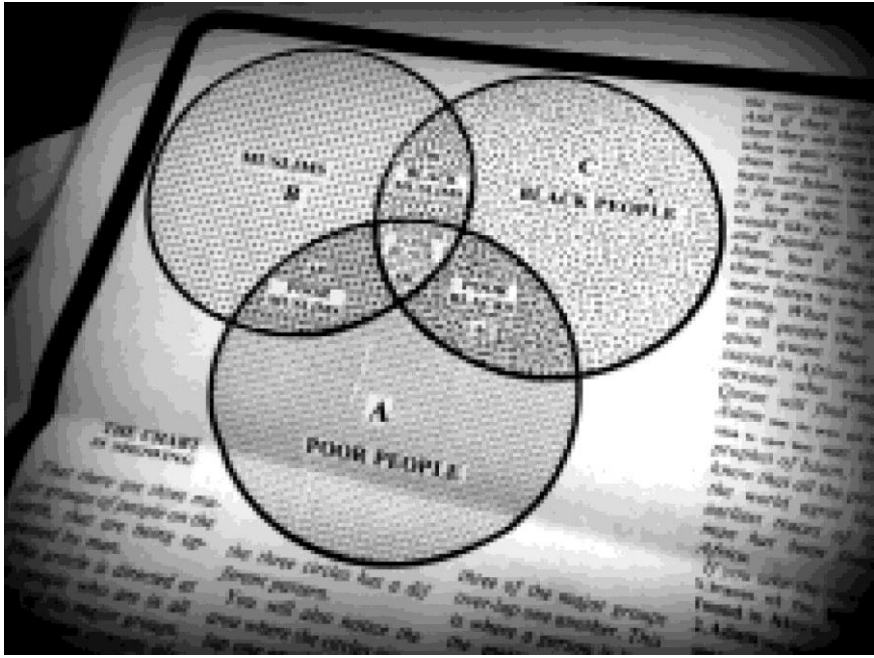
Family life and related pressures are very top-of-mind for Muslims both male and female. The constant strive to be the perfect husband, father, son, mother, wife, daughter can be seen and heard constantly across the social web here in the Middle East – with people putting enormous pressures on themselves and their other family members. So, brands wanting to be relevant to this target audience should really understand this focus and be culturally aware of the stories and ideas that support family bonds and help maintain ties. They also need to provide platforms where individuals can demonstrate their significance within the family unit.

Interfaith Family life



Family Pressure





**Muslim Engagement
with Politics and
Social Justice.**

The challenges we will face once our youth do come.

- Find out how to present Islam with a Modern voice without changing the religion
- Be willing to change what we have been doing
- Give youth opportunity and responsibility
- Welcome a new process
- Allow youth to feel comfortable

Allah is a progressive God who likes to give man new things.

What was good in the past was right for the past.

What is good for the present is also good for the present.

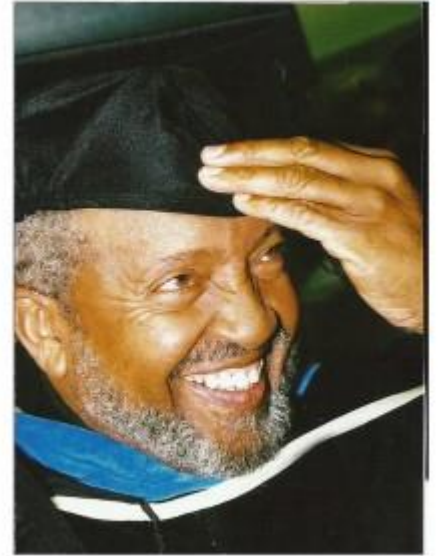
Allah is always good.





With Allah's Name The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Benefactor

**The National Convener of Imams
Supporting
The Leadership of Imam W.D. Mohammad
Presents**



REIMAGINING

THE GEMS OF THE PAST FOR A MODERN DAY GENERATION



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