



Guide to the Nation of Islam Muhammad's Temple Records, 1972-1983 and 2003

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Summary

Collection Title:

Nation of Islam Muhammad's Temple records, 1972-1983, 2003

Source:

John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture

Abstract:

The Nation of Islam (NOI) is a religious and political Black nationalist organization that was founded in Detroit in July 1930 by Wallace D. Fard (Farad Muhammad). Collection includes sermons, training materials, Muslim-American newspapers, and a photograph of Fruit of Islam members.

Extent:

1.2 Linear Feet

Language:

Materials in English.

Collection ID:

RL.11995

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m10t76>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Nation of Islam Muhammad's Temple Records, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection comprises primarily typescript or photocopied materials prepared for in-house use in the period before Elijah Muhammad's death. Many were stored in three-ring binders. There are sermons written by Elijah Muhammad and Louis Farrakhan, a list of Elijah Muhammad's sayings, copies of a semi-regular monthly Temple newsletter, "The Great Message," and a single issue of the "Black Nation Information Bulletin" (April 1973). Also present is an

orientation packet containing teachings and guidelines for new converts or members, especially intended for their first thirty days as Muslims. The packet holds answers to general questions, lists of dietary restrictions, guidelines for dress and appearance, as well as other directives for behavior, along with study guides, prayers, Arabic phrases to be learned, laws, instructions on authority and obedience, and suggestions for how to deal with non-believers as well as the dangers of addictions. Some items were prepared for use in prison systems.

The collection also holds a set of weekly ongoing training messages for the Fruit of Islam (F.O.I.), the organization's all-male paramilitary wing. Topics include military discipline, chain of command, and general security roles, obedience, submission, cigarettes, food and eating, even Christmas. There is a black-and-white group photograph of about 45 F.O.I. members, all dressed in a uniform of white, button-down shirt and bow tie. In addition, there are ten single issues of Muslim newspapers (mostly incomplete, dated 1975-2003), along with newspaper clippings. Acquired as part of the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History.

Biographical/Historical

The Nation of Islam (NOI) is a religious and political Black nationalist organization that was founded in Detroit in July 1930 by Wallace D. Fard (Farad Muhammad). In 1977 Louis Farrakhan rejected Warith Deen Mohammed's leadership and re-established the Nation of Islam on the original model created by Elijah Muhammad. He took over the national headquarter's Temple, Mosque Maryam (Mosque #2), located in Chicago.

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Arrangement

Newspaper issues are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the Rubenstein Library's Citations, Permissions, and Copyright guide.

Acquisition Information

The Nation of Islam Muhammad's Temple Records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase in 2013.

Processing Information

Processed by Alice Poffinberger, January 2014, and Leah Tams, April 2022.

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2013-0205.

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Names and Subjects

- Newspapers
- Black nationalism -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Black nationalism
- Black Muslims
- African Americans -- Photographs
- John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture

Collection Inventory

Sermons and sayings, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 1
Temple orientation packet, 1974, circa 1970s	Box 1
Fruit of Islam training messages, 1972-1974	Box 1
The Great Message newsletter, 1973-1974	Box 1
Black Nation Information Bulletin, 1973 April	Box 1
Fruit of Islam group photograph, circa 1970s-1980s	Box 1

Scope and Contents

Black-and-white group photograph of about 45 Fruit of Islam members, all dressed in a uniform of white, button-down shirt and bow tie. On the left, two men are holding a sign that says "Muhammad's Temple of Islam." In the center, two men are holding the Nation of Islam's crescent moon and star flag, and on the right two men hold a sign that says "Which one will survive the war of Armageddon," with the options as Christianity or Islam.

Newspaper clippings, circa 1970s	Box 1
Newspapers: Muhammad Speaks, 1975 August 29	Oversize-folder 1

Scope and Contents

1 issue.

Newspapers: Bilalian News, 1975 December - 1976 March	Oversize-folder 1
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Scope and Contents

5 issues.

Newspapers: American Muslim Journal, 1983 March	Oversize-folder 2
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Scope and Contents

2 issues.

Newspapers: World News Examiner, 1983 March
25

Oversize-folder 2

Scope and Contents

1 issue.

Newspapers: Muslim Journal, 2003 February 07

Oversize-folder 2

Scope and Contents

1 issue.