



Islam and the Search for African American American Nationhood

By Dennis Walker

Clarity Press, United States, 2006. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 155 mm. Language: English Brand New Book. The presence of Islam in America is as long-standing as the arrival of the first captive Muslims from Africa, making Islam one of America s formative religions. But the long-suppressed indigenous Islam didn t resurface in organized form until the 1930s, when it infused the politico-spiritual drive by the Noble Drew Ali and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad to address the appalling social conditions of the ghettoized black masses of the North. Elijah Muhammad s Nation of Islam would prove to be the most extensive, influential and durable of African-American self-generated organizations. Combining black cooperative entrepreneurship with indigenous Islam-tinged culture and spirituality, the NOI pursued a collectivist nationalist agenda which sought to advance the black masses cause--within America or without it. At its collectivist height, the NOI achieved a \$95 million empire of interlocking black Muslim small businesses and farms--providing a model for bootstrap self-development by the marginalized and dispossessed, worldwide. Bourgeois elements developed within, or engaged by, the NOI sought to weld a united African-American nation out of a range of classes. Outstanding second generation leaders--Warith Muhammad, Louis Farrakhan and Malcolm X--would...



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