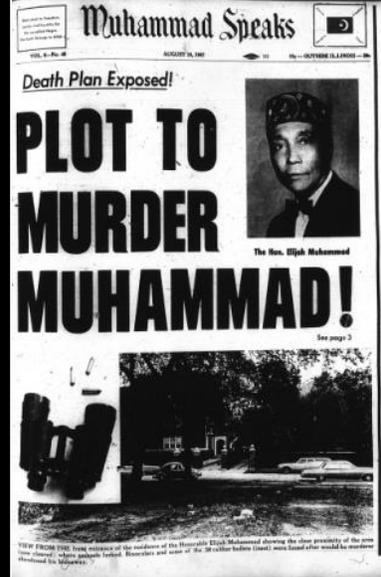


# THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A MUSLIM MINISTER

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A Historical Exploration and Analysis of the mysterious deaths of Black Islamic Leadership in America and the Western Hemisphere.



# The Mysterious Death of a Muslim Minister

A Historical Exploration and Analysis of the mysterious deaths of Black Islamic Leadership in America and the Western Hemisphere. Looking at what happened to Minister Robert D. Muhammad? And why I don't believe our brother just simply drowned!  
By Demetric Muhammad

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**Minister Robert Dione Muhammad**

Whenever I think about the death of Student Minister Robert D. Muhammad of Grand Rapids Michigan I feel the same way I did when I first heard the news-distraught, hurt and angry. We are living in troubling times and Minister Robert's death highlights the peculiar state of the world in which we all live. Pain and mourning are our frequent companions in such a time as this. However nowadays it is difficult to mourn for those whom we love due to the fact that by the time we are able to process our emotions and thoughts over the loss of a family member or friend the news of another who has been killed or died is made known to us. And another cycle of mourning begins.

Perhaps my own experience is not too different than most people today. If I'm not hearing a news report of the killing of unarmed Black men and women by police, my radio and social media newsfeed is filled with news of a 9 year old child being gunned down by senseless gang violence. To this the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan has called for 10,000 fearless men and women to establish a presence in America's inner cities to serve as soldiers in a war that is on 2 fronts. The primary function of such a bold cadre of "10,000 fearless" is to provide avenues for conflict resolution to individuals and groups so that resolvable disagreements don't morph and escalate into violence and murder. This "army" of 10,000 fearless will also be teachers and instructors; guides and facilitators in the process of learning a new way of life. They will also serve as living models of that better way of life and the high degree of civilization that we should aspire to. This is so that the hurting people living in these impoverished communities, which are now saturated with violence and corruption, may have a chance to look upon

and be impacted by some of their brothers and sisters; an army of living, breathing, walking, talking, saviors.

Brother Minister Robert D. Muhammad was such a brother.

And even though the idea to call for 10,000 fearless had not yet crystallized in the mind of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan before we lost Brother Robert, a study of his works and impact in his almost 40 years of life prove to me that he was a fearless brother who sacrificed much so that he might serve as a model and example of the high civilization taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan.

The thought to write about him has weighed on me since he passed away. For his death deeply impacted me. There is so much about Brother Robert that I identify with. So this essay is dedicated to him and his wife and their 8 children. I pray that they will all grow and be what Minister Farrakhan prayed for on the mall at the 10-10-15 gathering. The Minister prayed that every unborn child now growing inside the womb of their mother, who was in attendance, would come to birth and grow up to be the generation that brings about a new world and be the answer to the prayers of our suffering people.

Again, I am not too different than most of us, we all have many priorities and responsibilities that we juggle. So for several months Brother Minister Robert's death was not on my immediate "radar". So I am very thankful to Nation of Islam Student National Secretary Brother Berve Muhammad and Student Assistant Supreme Captain Anthony Muhammad for organizing a group of believers to travel to Grand Rapids, Michigan to pursue justice for Brother Minister Robert D. Muhammad. This act not only put Brother Robert back on my radar, but it also officially made his tragedy a part of the Justice or Else movement.

## **Holes in the Official Account**

This essay seeks to look at what happened to Minister Robert D. from a historical, scriptural and geo-political perspective. There is no event in life that is not a part of a larger historical context. Students of scripture and sacred texts will agree that the events and happenings of our world also fit within a definite scriptural or prophetic context.

The official report from the medical examiner/coroner is death by drowning. But we in the Nation of Islam don't believe the official story. The facts of the case give us reason to disbelieve the official explanation.

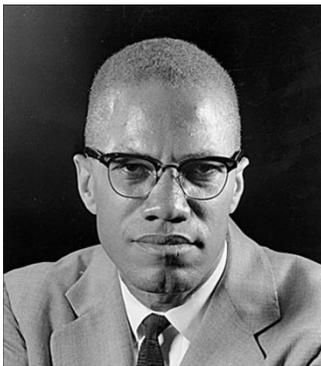
In the coverage of the Student National Secretary's speech in Grand Rapids found online at the Final Call's webpage the public learned for the first time the conflicting conclusions inside the Muskegon County official report.

[http://www.finalcall.com/artman/publish/National\\_News\\_2/article\\_102692.shtml](http://www.finalcall.com/artman/publish/National_News_2/article_102692.shtml)

According to the facts presented by Brother Berve in his address, when Minister Robert's body was pulled from the lake his face had bruises on it and showed the signs of a physical altercation having taken place. Informational brochures circulated by the believers showed gruesome photos of Minister Robert's body that was found in 28 feet of water. His right hand was clinched in a fist. And all we have to go on is the story of a group of Minister Robert's white co-workers. Their story is that while gathered together for a work related function, they all went out on a boat and Minister Robert went into the water for a swim eventually going under the water and drowning. Brother Berve revealed that the Muskegon County police investigators did not interview any of Minister Robert's white co-workers the day of the incident. This delay in questioning of the on scene witnesses is significant because it gave them time to corroborate their story prior to being interrogated by the police. Brother Berve went on to say that there was no forensic testing or photographs taken of the boat that they all claim to have been in when Minister Robert drowned. So any evidence that remained in the boat could be conveniently destroyed.

We simply do not believe that our brother died this way.

## **A History of Murder and Attempted Murder of Muslim Ministers**



**Min. Malcolm X**

Not only do the facts of the case give us reason to disbelieve the official story. History also strengthens us in our rejection of such a cockamamie story. Over the long 85 year history of the Nation of Islam's presence in America the Ministers of the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad have been targets of hatred and acts of violence. And several have been actually murdered and serve as reminders of the covert and overt hatred of the religion of Islam by many powerful forces inside America.

The most famous murdered Muslim Minister is Brother Minister Malcolm X. Information available today 50 years after Brother Malcolm was assassinated shows that responsibility for Brother Minister Malcolm's death rest wholly in the hands of the law enforcement apparatus of the U.S. government and specifically the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Through a whole host of nefarious activities that span from the creation and development of informants and agent provocateurs inside the Nation of Islam to their refusal to release the more than 2300 pages of documents related to Malcolm X -the bureaus imprint is all over his assassination. The murder of Brother Minister Malcolm is even more diabolical in nature when we consider that the goal of the FBI was to destroy the movement of Black Nationalist Islam in America in one fell swoop. By this I mean that in murdering Malcolm X and blaming his murder on the Nation of Islam. The wicked forces behind his assassination would kill "2 birds with 1 stone."

And as Brother Malcolm's secretary would later reveal, Malcolm's last day on this earth was the day that this nefarious plot had crystallized in his own mind. And he had planned to retract his public accusations that it was the Nation of Islam who was "out to kill him." According to his secretary Ms. Sarah Mitchell, "**He said now anyone could kill him and everyone would blame the Muslims," Mitchell said. "He said, 'We've been set up, and they succeeded.'"**

And even though Malcolm was the most famous case of efforts to destroy Black Islamic leadership, he was not the first. Nation of Islam lore and legend includes an oral history of the Great Mahdi –**Master Fard Muhammad**-himself being violently hit in his mouth by a man who hated his teachings and reform of Black people in the impoverished Black Bottom areas of Detroit.



**Min. Troy Bey**

**X. Cade** (aka Troy Bey and Abdul Bey Muhammad) of Monroe Louisiana. Monroe police officers beat him severely and threw him into a lake to drown. But thanks be to Allah (God) Minister Bey survived.

In the June 25, 1965 issue of the Muhammad Speaks newspaper, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad offers a \$25,000 reward for information on the death of his **Minister Louis X.**

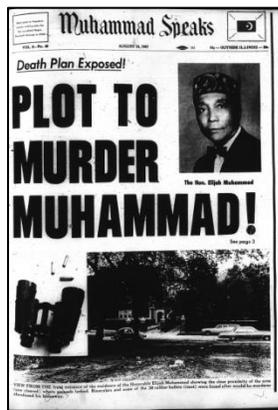


**Minister Clyde Rahman**

of Winston Salem, North Carolina. At that time the official explanation for Minister Louis' death is that he had shot 2 persons in the head with a gun and then turned the gun on himself. Yet the persons alleged to have been shot had no head wounds neither were they under hospital care.

The Muhammad Speaks newspaper also covered the attempted murder of **Minister Clyde Rahman** of Muhammad's Temple No. 28 located in St. Louis Missouri. Minister Clyde survived being shot in the left arm and the right side of his head. The bullet entered his head just below his temple and exited through his left jaw. The gun man also shot the mosque

secretary Brother Timothy X Hoffman and the first officer Brother John W. X. Moore. Brother John's wounds were fatal.



The most powerful Black man in America is **the Honorable Elijah Muhammad**, according to the popular publication Reader's Digest. This most powerful Black man and globally recognized Islamic leader was the target of an assassination plot in 1967. This plot was uncovered and foiled upon finding an assassin's lair along with an arsenal of weapons in an area across the street from the front entry of Mr. Muhammad's national residence.

The Nation of Islam was also deeply saddened by the cold blooded murder of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's Minister in Tyler, Texas- **Minister Joe X Pease**. Minister Joe left behind a wife and 9 children after he was shot down by KZEY disc jockey "King Byrd."

During the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad's 5 years of incarceration he impacted the lives of many men. One such man was the late **Minister James Shabazz** of Newark, New Jersey. Minister James became a follower of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad after initially meeting him in prison. He went on to serve the cause of the liberation of Black people in several cities but his most significant work was in the building of Muhammad's Mosque No. 25 in Newark. The strong presence of the religion of Islam in the state of New Jersey today is largely due to the work of Minister James and the many Muslims in the Nation of Islam that labored there since the early days of the Nation of Islam. Minister James was violently murdered in 1973.

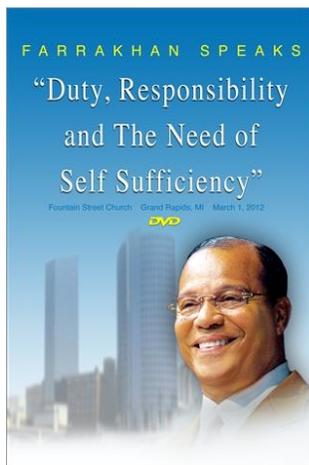
The murder of Minister James Shabazz was the occasion for a famous classic message delivered by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan entitled the "Murderer of a Muslim." Many were reminded of that profound message during the janazah (funeral) service for **Minister Robert D. Muhammad** in Grand Rapids, Michigan which was officiated by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan.

During the Minister's remarks at Minister Robert's janazah he let the audience know that the Nation of Islam would not rest until we find out exactly the truth of what happened to our brother. And he reminded us of some important and relevant words spoken by the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad told Bob Lucas in a Cavalier magazine interview that his teacher, the Great Mahdi, Master Fard Muhammad promised him that **"If they kill one of your least ones, I'll kill ten of their best ones."** And the Minister followed up that divine reminder with saying ***"and Brother Robert was not one of his least ones."***

Brother Minister Robert's mysterious death by drowning is strangely similar to the death of **Brother Assistant Minister Donald X** of the Nation of Islam's Seattle, Washington mosque. Writer Vaughn Taplin covered the death of Brother Donald for the Muhammad Speaks newspaper and his report discusses the community feeling that foul play was the cause of Brother Donald's death. Brother Minister Donald, who also served as captain of the Seattle mosque, was found drowned in Lake Washington. Over 500 people attended Minister Donald's janazah to show their love for a man who was not just loved by the Muslims, but was loved and respected by all who knew him. Brother Donald was lauded by several Black Seattle newspapers. Fitzgerald Beaver, editor of the *The Facts*, wrote that Brother Donald "was loved and admired by everyone who knew him. If he walked into an office, his whole surroundings seemed to light up because of his pleasant smile and his attitude and whole outlook on life. It was the same whether he was talking to a businessman or in the Mosque or standing on 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Union selling Muhammad Speaks newspaper. He was always smiling and he always had a kind word for everyone."

This is the same kind of love and respect the citizens of Grand Rapids had for Minister Robert Dione Muhammad. Brother Robert and the Grand Rapids Study Group of the Nation of Islam hosted and coordinated 2 of the most significant messages delivered by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. In these 2 events, the first in 2012 and another in 2013, we see the broad based support that Minister Robert's work produced for the Minister in Grand Rapids.

## The Importance and Significance of Brother Robert's Work



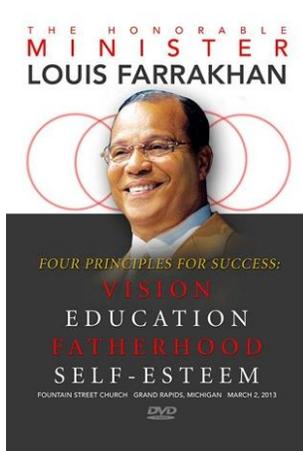
Brother Minister Robert and **Sister Mary X** worked in conjunction with the students of Grand Rapids Community College to host the Minister in both of these epic messages spaced one year apart. Several of the program speakers during these events discussed the hurdles and obstacles that Grand Rapids Community College placed in the student's path to host the Minister. And when it appeared as though the Minister would not be permitted to speak to the students on the campus, the students began to seek other accommodations. Ultimately the planning group that also included Benton Harbor **Student Minister Marcus Muhammad** were able to secure Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids to host Minister

Farrakhan's address. Fountain Street Church is significant because it has a white pastor, Rev. Fred Wooden. Pastor Wooden not only was courageous enough to host the Minister twice, but he also shared encouraging words during his introductory remarks on the program.

I place a lot of emphasis on these messages by the **Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan** in Grand Rapids, not only because Minister Robert was an integral part of its success-both

behind the scenes and as the program master of ceremonies- but also because of what they represented and what is contained within them.

Consider the themes that the students requested the Minister to address. In the 2012 message, the Minister discussed the themes “Duty, Responsibility and the Need of Self-Sufficiency.” In the 2013 message, the Minister’s themes were “Education, Fatherhood and Self-Esteem.” The Minister delivered these universal themes to some of the most diverse audiences that I have ever witnessed him speak to.



As the camera frequently panned the audience, one could see White, Black, Hispanic, and Asian audience members. There were students present as well as the general public. The audience was possessed of many nationalities, ethnic groups, religions, age groups, and both genders. The picture of the audience who came to see Minister Farrakhan in Grand Rapids was a portrait of America-a snapshot of the world. And Brother Robert was the leader of the group that made this happen-a Black group, a Muslim group.

From my vantage point, Minister Robert and the Grand Rapids group gave the powerful forces who hate Minister Farrakhan the worst picture that they could ever see. As the camera fastened its lens on the faces of many whites in the audience it found them nodding in agreement with the Minister. The camera’s lens settled upon many from the “incorrigible youth” population who were applauding and nodding in agreement with the Minister’s message. The camera found the smiling faces of women and elders along with “white collar” workers and “blue collar” workers in the audience-all in agreement with Minister’s inspiring message.

Anyone who knows the history of Black movements for justice and equality in America understands the nefarious role that the American government has played in seeking to discredit, defame, de-magnetize and destroy these movements. Longtime head of the FBI J. Edgar Hoover wrote in internal bureau memos that he wanted to prevent **the rise of a Messiah** who could unite all the disparate elements of the Black community. This unifying Messiah among Blacks in America must be a Muslim based upon the observations of Harvard scholar and infamous eugenicist T. Lothrop Stoddard who wrote about Islam’s role in the destiny of Blacks in Africa. According to Stoddard, “Mohammedanism (Islam) ...can still give the natives a motive for animosity against Europeans and **a unity of which they are otherwise incapable.**” Minister Farrakhan’s long record of organizing and forming coalitions of diverse groups within the Black community makes him fit the description of the unifying Messiah perfectly. And there is no better example than the Million Man March (es).

Minister Farrakhan's messages in Grand Rapids were powerful portraits showing that Minister Farrakhan is not only the indispensable force for unity among Black people, but that he also has a broader more universal appeal that extends even into the white community. So what we have in the 2 events in Grand Rapids, both of which can be purchased through The Final Call Incorporated in DVD format, is the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan producing agreement with the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad among a representative sampling of all of the American people! The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches that ***"agreement is the basis of love."***

Both messages showed and proved that if Minister Farrakhan is allowed to teach the American people without hindrance or obstacle, he will convince them all of the truth of his divinely inspired ministry. The Biblical messiah-Jesus-also possessed a universal and broad based appeal. So much so that it angered the Jewish leadership of his time. Their conspiracy to kill him is recorded in the Bible's New Testament: *"Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, 'What are we doing? For **this man is performing many signs. If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.**'"*(John 11:47-48)

The plot to kill Jesus is well known however what is less known is the plot to kill Lazarus. We find this plot in the book of John in the Bible. *"The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. **But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also; because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus.**"*(John 12:9-11)

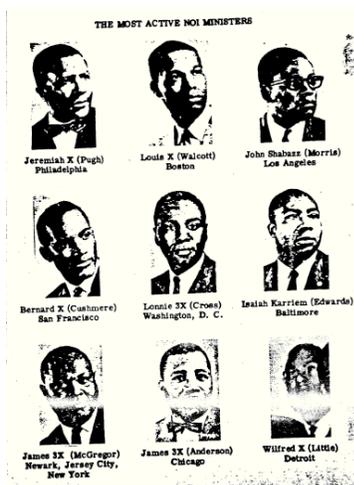
As strange as it sounds, what this verse reveals is that **Lazarus was Jesus' best minister.** Lazarus produced converts by being an example of the power of God operating within Jesus that was capable of "raising the dead to life." The fact that the Sanhedrin leadership had determined to kill him because of his ability to recruit followers for Jesus makes a strong case that his mere existence alone served as the most effective minister Jesus had at that time. This certainly takes nothing away from the subsequent ministry of the Apostle Paul. But Paul's ministry is post Jesus' crucifixion; Lazarus is pre-crucifixion.

Minister Robert and all of Minister Farrakhan's ministers and students are like Lazarus. The teachings that we heard from Minister Farrakhan awakened us from a mental and spiritual slumber. Our mental and spiritual sleep made us other than ourselves and caused us to live self-destructive lifestyles. Minister Farrakhan in his penetrating ministry touched us and instilled in us a desire to get up and take off our "grave clothes." We were not physically dead, but neither was Lazarus. The Bible records Jesus reacting to the claim that Lazarus was dead by letting it be known that he was not dead but **"only sleeping."**

## Black Muslim Leadership through the Eyes of the Oppressor

We were once asleep like Lazarus and now we are awakened and working to show the world the spirit and power of God operating in the person and ministry of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan.

Has the Jewish leadership in America conspired to destroy the Muslim Ministers? Are the powerful forces in government who now wage war in many Muslim countries abroad planning the demise of Islam inside America? Did Minister Robert's role as a Muslim Minister have anything to do with his mysterious death? Based on the history of murder and attempted murder of men who have occupied the position of Muslim Minister, we have to strongly believe that it did. This history along with the dubious facts of the case causes us to disbelieve in the conclusion drawn by the Muskegon County officials.



Hoover Profile of NOI Ministers

It was during the height of J. Edgar Hoover's infamous COINTELPRO operations that he discussed preventing the rise of a Messiah among Black people. And while he considered all of the most prominent Black spokesmen on the scene at that time, he devoted considerable time and bureau resources into the destruction of the Nation of Islam and its leadership. As a Moslem Shriner, Hoover understood scripture, history and most importantly the future destiny of the Black man and woman of America. And his strategy of eliminating the "Black" Messiah can best be described using the words of Jesus in the Bible- "for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.-Mark 14:27." The "smite the shepherd" strategy is considered by popular author Robert Greene one of the most important principles or laws that are used by powerful people and groups. In Greene's popular book *The 48 Laws of Power* he lists it as Law No. 42 and suggests, "**One resolute person, one disobedient spirit, can turn a flock of sheep into a den of lions...**Do not waste your time lashing out in all directions at what seems to be a many-headed enemy. Find the one head that matters-**the person with the willpower, or smarts, or, most important of all, charisma....**Finally, **the reason you strike at the shepherd is because such an action will dishearten the sheep beyond any rational measure.**"

As far as the Nation of Islam, Hoover did not stop at his efforts to thwart the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad. He actually profiled and placed under surveillance the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad's 9 most active Ministers. Hoover placed **Minister Jeremiah Shabazz**(Atlanta, GA & Philadelphia, PA), **Minister Louis Farrakhan**(Boston, MA & New York, NY), **Minister John Shabazz**(Los Angeles, CA), **Minister Bernard Cushmeere**(San Francisco, CA & Phoenix, AZ), **Minister Lonnie Shabazz**(Washington, DC), **Minister Isaiah Karriem**(Baltimore, MD), **Minister James Shabazz**(Newark, NJ), **Minister James Shabazz**(Chicago, IL) and **Minister Wilfred X**(Detroit, MI) in the crosshairs of the most powerful law enforcement agency in the world.

In addition to the murders and attempted murders of Nation of Islam leaders that occurred prior to 1975, the period known as "the rebuilding" of the Nation of Islam under the leadership of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan, has not been immune from mysterious deaths. In 1982, the

Nation of Islam mourned the cold blooded murder of Houston's **Minister Raymond X**. Another mysterious death involved the death of **Andre Jones** in a jail cell in Mississippi. Brother Andre was the son of Nation of Islam Minister Charles X Quinn and his wife Sister Esther Jones Quinn who served as the local president of the NAACP. Both of Andre's parents were activists in the struggle for the liberation of Black people in the state of Mississippi. The strange circumstances of Brother Andre's death were discussed in a presentation by Minister Charles to the Schiller Institute on April 8, 2000. Minister Charles reported that , ***"On Aug. 22, 1992, our son, Andre Jones, was stopped at a routine sobriety check, or road block, in Brandon, Mississippi, which is located about 12 miles south of Jackson. Within 19 hours, our son was hung in a Simpson County jail, in Mendenhall, Mississippi. The officials said that he hung himself with his own shoelaces. Of course, we know that our son was taken out of that jail, on that night, and he was hung, and brought back into the jail, and hung up again in a dingy shower stall. And since that time, we have been fighting for justice on behalf of Andre"***.

If Hoover were alive today he would certainly have taken note of the work of Brother Robert and the Grand Rapids group's 2 epic events; events that were profound demonstrations that provided for Minister Farrakhan a complete representative sampling of the American people to win over with his powerful arguments of truth. But, as a reflection of Hoover's posthumous influence, the Department of Homeland Security was forced to confess in 2007(just a few years ago) that they had been illegally spying on the Nation of Islam.

Moreover, we also have reason to disbelieve the official narrative based upon other information. Consider first that the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us of the careful study of scripture that takes place by the ruling powers. According to Messenger Muhammad, ***"The white man of America is well informed through his scientists and scholars, who are paid just for studying the problems of prophecy and especially the future destruction of America which he knows is fast coming. His greatest mental burden and physical strain at the present time is how to prevent the spread of Islam among his ex-servitude slaves in these last days."***



**Professor Genovese**

In another relevant quote he wrote ***"The ultimate aim of this world should be known to everyone; especially the righteous...The (arch-deceivers) ultimate aim is to do as their people have done-try to destroy the preacher of truth and those who believe in him."***

From these powerful truths and insights we know that the Black man and woman's infamous oppressors understand scriptural prophecy and based on that understanding have determined that instead of accepting and complying with the truth, they will work to eliminate the truth by destroying the human vessels that possess the truth.

There is a history that involves the Trans-Atlantic slave trade and the Black man and woman's suffering as chattel slaves that strengthens us in our disbelief in the official report on the death of Minister Robert D. Muhammad.

We know that Muslim slaves were feared and hated. According to Professor Eugene Genovese **“Muslims were the most troublesome and rebellious slaves in the New World.”** Author and scholar Matthew Restall’s article Black Conquistadors: Armed Africans in Early Spanish America talks about lengths to which slave societies went to bar entry to Muslims. Restall writes, “In the early sixteenth century Spanish Crown legislation aimed at reducing the incidence of slave rebellions attempted to prevent the importation into the colonies of **Africans deemed most pugnacious**. The Crown and its colonial officials varied on their opinions as to which Africans were the most bellicose, but two categories appeared most consistently in such commentary and legislation. **These were Muslims (or anyone of African descent who may have been exposed to Islam, which periodically included mulattos, ladinós or Hispanized Blacks, and anyone from Guinea); and Wolofs, described in royal legislation of 1532 as “arrogant, disobedient, rebellious and incorrigible.”**”

## Revolutionary Muslim Leadership in Haiti



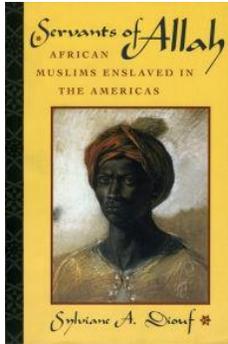
**Lothrop Stoddard**

T. Lothrop Stoddard in his classic work *The Rising Tide of Color* against White World Supremacy said that the religion of Islam has an influence and power over Black people. According to Stoddard as a believer in Islam **“the negro’s warlike propensities will be inflamed.”**

There is no stronger example of the truth of Stoddard’s observation than in the history of the Haitian Revolution. For the record, it is a tremendous accomplishment that should never be forgotten by Blacks in the diaspora that the Haitian people are the only Blacks under slavery and European colonialism that rose up to defeat their oppressor and win freedom for their people.

Recent scholarship has unearthed the hidden Islamic presence in the history of the Haitian Revolution. Scholars such as Sylviane Diouf have done pioneering work to uncover and document the presence and importance of the religion of Islam and Muslims within the millions of Africans taken from the continent to be made slaves in the Americas. In Professor Diouf’s excellent book *Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the America* she provides us histories of the revolution’s leaders who were also Muslims.

In Professor Diouf’s book we read of the history of **Francois Macandal**: “What the French did not realize was that their most profitable colony, Saint-Dominique (now Haiti), was fertile ground for Muslim maroons and rebels. ...These Muslims were well known and feared, but the most famous of the pre-Revolution maroon leaders was without a doubt **Francois Macandal**.... an African born in “Guinea,” Francois Macandal was in all probability a Mandingo. He came from an illustrious family and had been sold to the Europeans as a war captive. **He was a Muslim who “had instruction and possessed the Arabic language very well,” emphasized nineteenth-century Haitian historian Thomas Madiou, who gathered information through the veterans of the Haitian Revolution. Macandal was most likely a marabout, for French official documents describe him as being able to predict the future and as having revelations.** He was also well known for his skills in amulet making—so much so that gris-gris were called macandals. **In addition, he was said to be a prophet, which indicates that he was perceived as having a direct connection to God.** Thus besides being a



marabout he may have been a sharif, a descendant of the Prophet Muhammed; but this is only speculation, as no evidence exists to confirm or inform this hypothesis.”

Professor Diouf also discusses the history of **Boukman**: “Another popular leader who attained quasi-mythical status in Haitian history was Boukman. Very little is known about him. He was not born in Saint-Domingue but came from Jamaica, smuggled by a British slaver. As a slave, he became professional and rose to the rank of driver, later becoming a coachman. Using a position that allowed him to travel from plantation to plantation, as well as his charismatic personality, he had built a network of followers in the north. He definitely entered Haitian history when he galvanized a large assembly of slaves gathered on the night of August 14, 1791, in a clearing in the forest of Bois-Caiman. During this voodoo ceremony, Boukman launched the general revolt of the slaves with a speech in Creole that has remained famous. He denounced the God of the whites, who asked for crime, whereas the God of the Slaves wanted only good. *“But this God who is so good, orders you to seek revenge,” he pounded. “He will direct our arms, he will assist us. Throw away the image of the God of the whites who is thirsty for our tears and listen to freedom which talks to our hearts.* A week later, two hundred sugar estates and eighteen hundred coffee plantations were destroyed by the slaves, who were said to have cut the throats of a thousand slaveholders. At the beginning of November, Boukman was shot dead by an officer as he was fighting a detachment of the French army with a group of maroons. His severed head was fixed on a pole and exposed on a public square in Cap-Français.

*There are indications that Boukman was a Muslim. Coming from Jamaica, he had an English name that was rendered phonetically in French by Boukman or Boukmann; in English, however, it was Bookman. Boukman was a “man of the book,” as the Muslims were referred to even in Africa—in Sierra Leone, for example, explained an English lieutenant, the Mandingo were “Prime Ministers” of every town, and they went “by the name bookman.” It is likely that Boukman was a Jamaican Muslim who had a Koran, and that he got his nickname from this.”*



**Professor Diouf**

In her conclusions on the role of Islam in the Haitian Revolution we read: *“There is thus compelling evidence that two major leaders in Haitian history—Macandal and Boukman—were not only Muslims, they did not embark on a jihad, but they were the leaders of the slave population, irrespective of religion. What they provided was military expertise coupled with spiritual and occult assurance that the outcome of the fight would be positive. Both skills were of extreme value, each in its own way; but put together, they conferred on these leaders the aura of mythical figures. Because of their marabout knowledge they could galvanize the masses, push them to action and to surpass themselves.*

Other marabouts, and *the Muslims in general, played a crucial role in the Haitian revolts and ultimately in the Haitian Revolution through their occult skills, literacy, and military traditions.* The marabouts provided protections to the insurgents in the form of gris-gris, as Colonel Malenfant recorded, and the Muslims used Arabic to communicate during uprisings.

***Though their role and contribution have not been acknowledged, the Muslims were essential in the success of the Haitian Revolution.”***

## **Conclusion:**

***“Absence in the Ministers’ Class must always be investigated”***

*-Original Rules of Instructions to the Laborers of Islam, No.6 by Master W.D. Fard Muhammad*

From what we have presented in this report, it becomes clear that the mysterious death of Muslim Minister Robert Dione Muhammad fits within a historical pattern, not a pattern of accidental deaths but a pattern of intentional deaths by murder. Thus, we cannot see his death as an isolated incident. His death is tied to the historical deaths of Muslim Ministers. His death is tied to the history of the American government’s crusade to destroy Islam in America. His death is tied to the history of enslaved Blacks in the Western Hemisphere who believed in Islam and drew from this great faith the strength to fight and, in the case of the Haitian people, overcome their oppressors.

The 2 events hosted and Brother Minister Robert demonstrated to many his great value as a helper to the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. It signaled that he was a critical and key representative of the Minister in the important state of Michigan.

Those events that assembled such a diverse audience of Blacks, Whites, Asians and Immigrants in the second largest city in the state of Michigan, flew in the face of COINTELPRO objectives as well as Jewish Leadership denial objectives where Black leaders like Minister Farrakhan are concerned. Consider that in 1968 the FBI’s internal communications included the following stated objective: ***Prevent militant Black Nationalist groups and leaders from gaining respectability, by discrediting them to three separate segments of the community.*** The goal of discrediting Black Nationalist must be handled tactically in three ways. You must discredit these groups and individuals to, first, the responsible Negro community. Second they must be discredited to the white community, both the responsible community and to "liberals" who have vestiges of sympathy for militant Black Nationalist simply because they are Negroes.” *(March 4, 1968 Memo from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to Special Agents In Charge of 41 cities throughout America)* In the more recent history of Minister Farrakhan’s rebuilding work of the Nation of Islam we find the 1994 memo written by Steven Freeman of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith (ADL). Freeman’s memo entitled **Mainstreaming Anti-Semitism: The Legitimation of Louis Farrakhan**, is a candid exposure of the reaction of Jewish groups to the growing appeal of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan among Blacks in the traditional Civil Rights Movement. Freeman discussed actions that the ADL and its Jewish constituents would inflict upon all who help to “legitimate” Minister Farrakhan. Freeman is found using coded language when he writes that the Jewish community must ***“impose an obligation on those who deal with him, or, as in the case of universities, give him a platform.”***

Michigan is now and has always been an important state to the Nation of Islam. Michigan is the state and Detroit is the city chosen by the Great Mahdi, Master W. Fard Muhammad, to begin the establishment of Islam in North America among the descendants of the enslaved Blacks. He chose Michigan. And today Michigan is the 5<sup>th</sup> most populous state for Islam as of 2010 Census report. Dearborn, Michigan which is a suburb of Detroit possesses one of the largest, if not the largest

population of immigrant Muslims in the entire United States of America. Michigan is also a state where the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan has a residence. And very recently Nation of Islam Student Minister Marcus Muhammad was elected as the mayor for the city of Benton Harbor, Michigan.

So in this historic state where the Nation of Islam was founded, Islam has grown and established itself. From Detroit to Benton Harbor to Grand Rapids to New Buffalo the Nation of Islam is a reality in Michigan. And as a pioneering Muslim reality dating back to the 1930s, it is at the root of the growing number of immigrant Muslims who see the state of Michigan as a welcoming landscape where the religion of Islam is not seen as an oddity as it is in many places in America. One of the first areas assigned to Elijah Muhammad to teach by his teacher Master W. Fard Muhammad was the small enclave called Hamtramck. A recent article from **The Guardian** reports that the once predominantly Polish enclave now had a 60% Muslim population. And according to the Guardian report, the voters in Hamtramck have recently elected a majority Muslim city council, a fact considered a first in all of America. These facts let us know that while these kinds of developments are considered progress to Muslims, anti-Muslim forces in powerful positions view these achievements as “probable cause” for further efforts to “disrupt, discredit and neutralize” Islamic and Black Nationalist groups like the Nation of Islam.

The quote above is from the Original Rules of Instructions to the Laborers of Islam and is a part of a cherished sacred text used by all members of the Nation of Islam called **The Supreme Wisdom Lessons**. But this cherished text is addressed specifically to the “**Muslims of Number One Michigan**.” And the word Michigan appears 7 times within the entire 40 pages of the Supreme Wisdom Lessons.

The above quote “*all absence in the ministry class must be investigated,*” is more than 80 years old. It was written by Master W. Fard Muhammad and serves a guidance to the Nation of Islam in our quest to find out the truth of what happened to our brother Minister Robert D. Muhammad. I believe that Master W. Fard Muhammad was giving us a principle and a posture to take knowing that His enemies and ours would seek the destruction of Islam through the elimination of its leaders.