

The IWDM Preservation Project

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The following is an article that I wrote back in July of 2010 to highlight a noble effort that was underway by a number of people in the community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. The article was considered a little too controversial at that time, so we decided not to publish it. However, two years have passed, the climate is different, and with some editing to make the article more current, I think this is a good time to share with you some information about important work that has been underway.

In Al-Islam, a good wife protects the sacred property of her husband in his absence. Who is the wife of Imam W. Deen Mohammed, the body of knowledge? It is the society; the Ummah, who has bonded with and is married to that body of knowledge and is committed to producing offspring from the DNA of that knowledge body. “Man Means Mind,” taught Imam Mohammed. “Woman means Womb of Mind,” he said.

The womb is the place where the mind is protected and nourished and evolved. The knowledge body of Imam Mohammed contains a new mind for a new people and this womb, called the Community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed, is obligated and responsible by the command of Allah to protect, nourish, and evolve this knowledge body.

“Dear Ummah, don’t throw away your tapes or your old newspapers!” was a plea that I wrote in this article back in 2010. The article continued: There is an effort in motion to collect, preserve, and organize the knowledge and teachings of Imam Mohammed. In fact, this effort has been in motion throughout his leadership by those of us who collected and saved our newspapers and tapes over the many years. Many of you have thrown away your collections, but just as many have saved their collections. You have been saving them, because you knew that one day they would be needed. Now is that time.”

I was working with motivated followers of Imam W. Deen Mohammed on what we called the IWDM Preservation Project. With this project, we hoped to collect, preserve, and make available the vast majority of the knowledge body for your study and research. It is our belief that this great gift of knowledge from Allah to Imam W. Deen Mohammed is an inheritance of all the people, whether they are rich or poor; whether they can purchase every lecture the Imam taught or cannot afford to buy even one lecture.

So, the call went out and brothers and sisters who were preserving the knowledge in their own ways came together to support each other, encourage each other, and help each other get the job done. We realized that it was critical that the Ummah of Imam Mohammed succeed at cooperating, because the enemy is also going to publish what he or she claims is the knowledge of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. But, what he or she publishes will also aim to graft and dilute the pure water that was sent down. In fact, he or she will publish so much of his or her own version in hopes that he or she can drown out and make us forget the sound of the voice that trained us.

This is the key. We have to preserve the Imam's knowledge, **in his own words**, so that his voice can continue to train us and we won't forget its sound and message. This is the only way that we can be sure that we respond to the proper call.

In this article I said, "The good news is that I believe we, the Ummah, have the majority of the body of knowledge in our possession (in our personal collections). All we have to do is collect it, convert it from decaying newspapers and tapes to Microsoft Word documents and to digital (electronic) audio and video files. It is our hope that you will share your unused materials with us for this project rather than throw them away or leave them in storage until they are too old to be of any good."

At that time, I wanted to tell you what was going on and how you all could be of help and I wanted to share with you the extraordinary work that was being done by some of the people that I was and still am working with.

All of these people are humble individuals, who seek not fame or fortune in this work, but the pleasure of Allah and the preservation and promotion of the teachings of the leader with whom their loyalty is firmly rooted. I hope they do not mind my sharing with you, their community, a small glimpse of their generous work.

The following is an excerpt from the article as it was written back in 2010.

Start of Excerpt—“There are three areas of focus: 1) the gathering of materials; audio tapes, video tapes, and the centerfolds of the Muslim Journals from 1975 – 2008, 2) the conversion of the audio tapes to mp3 format, the video tapes to a digital video format, and scanning the MJ centerfolds into Microsoft Word documents, and 3) finding the best ways to make the knowledge available; such as providing materials to WDM Publications to assist with their production, sale and distribution of the knowledge to the public, uploading the transcribed documents to the New Africa Radio website and the Language Commentaries of Imam W. Deen Mohammed website and to the A Three Day Journey Website to serve as database repositories for students, teachers, researchers, and dawah propagators, and finding a way to make the audio and video lectures available to the Ummah.

First, I would like to say thank you to the many of you around the country who valued the knowledge so much that you kept it in your houses over the past 33 years so that we would have this body of knowledge available to preserve. I don't know who you are so I cannot call your name, but we thank you and appreciate you. Now, let me share with you a little about the people that I am currently working with.

I want to thank the late Imam Ar'miya Nu'Man of Jersey City NJ who was one of the early recorders and collectors of Imam Mohammed's lectures. He has a collection of thousands of tapes; both audio and video. I want to thank Zakiyyah Nu'Man, his widow who after his passing was conscious enough and had the love in her heart for the Imam's message and her late husband's work to hold on to and maintain the collection over many years and through trying times. She protected that precious collection and we thank her. Zakiyyah, you truly protected the sacred property of your husband in his absence.

I want to thank Nashid Abdur-Rahmaan of Kernersville NC to whom we are extremely thankful. Nashid has made a tremendous contribution in the sheer volume of lectures he has converted from old decaying tape to mp3 files. His contribution to this preservation effort cannot be over-appreciated. Nashid is also the creator of the website www.athreedayjourney.com, which contains excellent information about Imam Mohammed. Nashid, you have been a true Saabiquun in this purpose.

We must thank the great Leslie Taha and his great wife of Tacoma Washington for developing that precious website, www.newafricanradio.com, which contains so much information about Imam Mohammed. With regards to preservation, he carries on that website many audio lectures of the Imam and the copies of the Imam's lectures from the centerfolds of the Muslim Journal. This website will be one of the repositories for our work. Les, one of our giants in defending Al-Islam recently confessed to me that he relied on your website when he has had moments of unhappiness and doubt. He told me he would go to your site to listen to the Imam and have his spirit and confidence rejuvenated. We thank Allah that your efforts make this possible for us all over the country.

I cannot thank my brother Yahya Muldrow of Houston Texas enough for the great work he has done with his great Yahoo Group, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Language-Commentaries-of-WDeenMohammed>. His website is used purely for the words of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. Yahya's website contains hundreds of lectures by Imam Mohammed and facilitates keyword searching to bring up those lectures where Imam Mohammed touched a particular topic in the lecture. Yahya, your site has been an indispensable resource for me and the writing I do. This website is also a repository for the transcribed lectures of the Imam. In addition, Yahya has created a Language Commentaries facebook group, which allows for discussion of the lectures that are posted.

I must also thank and commend two young men that have been extremely productive in helping to move this project along, Mujahiddeen Mohammed of Willingboro NJ and Abdul-Raqeeb Uqdah of Bethlehem PA.

Mujahiddeen Mohammed is one of our rising dynamic young men. He joined the effort and started working on converting Zakiyyah Nu'Man's collection of audio and video tapes. In a short time, he surpassed my efforts and has been blazing ahead. Mujahiddeen is a young businessman and he is taking care of business with the preservation project. Thanks Mujahiddeen.

Abdul-Raqeeb, who is my oldest son, took on the challenge of helping me by scanning the centerfolds of the large collection of Muslim Journals I had in storage. He diligently scanned hundreds of lectures which he provided to me and I format and pass

along to New Africa Radio and Language Commentaries website. Abdul, I really appreciated your assistance.

I want to thank Qadir Ali Wakkiluddin for contacting me and suggesting that it was time for us to meet and collaborate on this humongous effort and for his willingness to take on the hugely meticulous task of transcribing the Imam's speeches.

Let me also thank Mustafa Abdur-Rahmaan for joining the project. Mustafa is working to create a database to help with cataloging and categorizing the many lectures we are collecting.

I must thank Sameeh Ali, a leader with the Muslim American Veterans Association (MAVA) for helping with some financial support. He purchased equipment for Mujahiddeen, which has enabled the young brother to do his part and he assisted me on a few occasions with the bill on the storage unit where we housed Zakiyyah Nu'Man's huge tape collection for over a year. He has told me that he is always available to share any financial burdens associated with the project with me. Thanks Sameeh.

Finally, I recently met with Imam Nasir Ahmad, who many of you know Imam Mohammed trusted with the responsibility to transcribe and preserve a large body of his lectures; including Qur'anic commentaries and Ramadhan sessions. We have agreed to cooperate and collaborate together on this monumental project. He is doing an outstanding job.

In less than a week after meeting with Nasir Ahmad, I have had contact with a couple of individuals with large collections of the Imam's talks, which they have maintained and stored. We are working on ways to collaborate now so that we can preserve the body of knowledge so that it can be available and of service to you and the generations that follow."—*End of Excerpt*.

Now let me bring you up-to-date from 2010; considerable progress has been made. I am happy to let you know that it is my strong belief that we have collected and preserved the vast majority of the body of knowledge of Imam Mohammed. Because of you around the country, those who saved their tapes, videos, and their Muslim Journals, and selflessly shared them with us and thanks to those who dedicated their time to

digitally convert thousands of tapes and scanned thousands of pages of Muslim Journal centerfolds, we have saved the vast majority of the knowledge.

In addition to this, Dr. Nasir Ahmad, with the assistance of foremost Imams in our association is preparing thousands of pages of material that was given to him by the Imam for our benefit. Part of that work is a commentary on the Qur'an by our beloved Imam. We are waiting for its arrival, as well as the other materials.

Furthermore, with the advent of Facebook, other Social Networks, and Blog Talk Radio, there is even more material being shared and exposed to others from Imam Mohammed. Let me give the following recognition and thanks.

We want to thank Khalid Abdullah Islam, the founder of the WE ARE WITH IMAM W. DEEN MOHAMMED discussion groups and co-founder of the blog talk radio program, A Conversation With A Purpose. We thank Mustafa Abdul-Raof and Mohammed Hassan founders of the STUDENTS OF IMAM MOHAMMED discussion groups. They both can be found on Yahoo Groups and Facebook. These groups are dedicated to studying and discussing the knowledge of Imam Mohammed.

We also thank Bilal Mustafa and Ishaqq Rahim (Izzy the Artist) for creating two popular Muslim social networks, Ummah1 and YOU R A Creator, each with thousands of members. These groups facilitate a wide variety of discussions between a wide variety of Muslims. As members of Imam Mohammed's association, his works and language are prominent on these sites and many Muslims have the opportunity to learn about him and his teaching.

Another notable Facebook group founded by two young dynamic brothers, Shareef Abdul-Malik and Muhammad Jamal Abdul-Malik, and their friend Nashid Muhammad, called N.A.S.I.M (New Africa Students of Imam Mohammed). Their group is dedicated to purely posting quotes and excerpts from Imam Mohammed. It has become a tremendous source of learning about what Imam Mohammed said.

Three other noteworthy efforts to preserve and promote the Imam's language are made by Rafeeq Mohammed, better known as Bilalian Speaks on Facebook. Rafeeq has dedicated himself to posting hundreds of video excerpts on YouTube, which have found an audience of viewers around the world. Go to www.youtube.com and search for

Bilalian Speaks to see his videos. Also, Omar Hashim Sharif, who has created WDM Speaks 24/7 Online Broadcast, which plays lectures of the Imam non-stop, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/wdm247>. Thirdly, Imam WaliyyudDeen Shakir, who has set up the Muezzin Broadcast, which is a telephone conference call where those who don't have computers can listen to many lectures of Imam Mohammed on your telephone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call (641) 715-3800 and enter code 53525# and then a number to listen to a speech.

There is WDM Ministry and WDM Publications, led by Wallace Mohammed II, where the public can find on their websites professionally produced CDs, DVDs, and books for sale by Imam Mohammed covering a wide array of topics and they are adding to the list of available products continuously. Visit www.wdmpublications.com. They have also recently set up a W. D. Mohammad Library; visit www.wdeenmohammed.com.

We must not forget The Muslim Journal and Ayesha K. Mustafa, which has been the longest standing source for carrying and promoting the Imam's lectures every week as its keynote centerfold article. All of the Internet groups, websites, and Facebook groups owe a debt of thanks to MJ, because we have all drawn the written information from her pages. And....she is still promoting the Imam's words in the centerfold to this day.

I have also set up the Imam W. Deen Mohammed Study Library at www.iwdmstudylibrary.com. We are currently uploading our full collection of materials, written, audio, and video lectures for your free study. This will be an ongoing work, as the library is extensive.

One of our projects is to collect every centerfold article, carrying a lecture of IWDM, of the Muslim Journal from 1975 through 2008. Alhamdulillah, we have all of them except 370. A list of the missing papers can be viewed by going to www.newafricaradio.com and clicking the link there. If you have any of those issues, please send them to a great and longtime supporter of the Imam's work, Les Taha. The address is on the website.

There are radio shows, the largest being American Muslim 360 with its leader Thomas Abdul Salaam, the Twin Servant of Peace. Thomas's program has many great

programs on 24 hours a day 7 days a week where you can find programming of all types. Faheem Shuaibe, Yahya Abdullah, Qasim Ahmed, Saleem MuMin, Benjamin Bilal, Politics, Business, Culture, Music, and on and on. The majority of these programs emanate from the productivity of associates of Imam Mohammed. We thank brother Thomas for his dedication and devotion to such a successful idea.

We also have William Kareem and Yusuf Ramadan, hosts of New Day of Al-Islam. William Kareem is also the founder of M.A.M.A. the Muslim American Media Alliance where he is working for cooperation and collaboration amongst the media outlets in the community.

I must bring this article to a close, so please pardon me if I have missed anyone. I am sure that I have, because there is so much good work going on I cannot keep up with it. My purpose is simply to let people know about some of the great work that is going on by some of the great people in our association in the area of preserving the knowledge of the Imam.

Let me conclude this article by calling on all Resident Imams in our association to strive to preserve the body of knowledge of Imam W. Deen Mohammed by ensuring that your Masjid has a class where the believers can hear, read, and discuss the words of Imam Mohammed. Expose your people to his lectures via the tapes, via halaqa circles or ta'aleem with his books or the lectures from the centerfolds of the Muslim Journal. You can also obtain many lectures from the websites mentioned for your classes.

Let me encourage all believers to make sure that you have classes in your Masjid to study the teachings of Imam Mohammed and that you participate in the study. You are the Ummah. You are the wife of this knowledge body. You are the wife of this new mind; this new man. You must strive to preserve your marriage and you must strive to protect the sacred property of your husband in his absence.

Let us avoid adultery. The Imams and the Believers are the same. We are one Ummah; one family, one people. We are not enemies of each other. We have the same hope, same dream, and we share a common vision with our leader, Imam W. Deen Mohammed.