The Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America

Noble Drew Ali (c. 1927)

Timothy Drew was born in the southern United States, but like many other African Americans in the early 20th century, he migrated north. He settled eventually in Chicago, where, calling himself Noble Drew Ali, he founded a Shriners-like organization for African Americans, the Moorish Science Temple of America. Regarded as a prophet by his followers, Drew Ali taught an alternative history that traced the ancestry of African Americans back to the Middle East. Rejecting the labels Negro and black, Drew Ali and his followers referred to themselves as Asiatic or Moorish. They also rejected Christianity, which Drew Ali characterized as a religion for whites (though he drew a distinction between Christianity and the authentic teachings of Jesus). Instead, Drew Ali's followers called themselves Muslims.

The Divine Origin of the Asiatic Nations

The fallen sons and daughters of the Asiatic Nation of North America need to learn to love instead of hate, and to know of their higher self and lower self. [...]

The key of civilization was and is in the hands of the Asiatic nations:

> The Moorish, who were the ancient Moabites and the founders of the Holy City of Mecca.
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> The Egyptians, who were the Hamitites and of a direct descendant of Mizraim.
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> The Arabians (the seed of Hagar), Japanese, and Chinese.
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> The Hindoos of India, the descendants of the ancient Canaanites, Hittites, and Moabites from the land of Canaan.
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> The Asiatic nations and countries in North, South, and Central America: the Moorish Americans and Mexicans in North America; Brazilians, Argentinians, and Chilians in South America; Columbians, Nicaraguans, and the natives of San Salvador in Central America, etc.

All of these are Moslems. [...]

The Beginning of Christianity

[...] Jesus himself was of the true blood of the ancient Canaanites and Moabites and the inhabitants of Africa. Seeking to redeem His people in those days from the pressure of the pale-skinned nations of Europe, He was crucified by Rome according to their law. Then Europe had peace for a long time, until Mohammed the First came upon the scene and fulfilled the works of Jesus of Nazareth.

The holy teaching of Jesus was to the common people, to redeem them from under the great

pressure of the hands of the unjust; that the rulers and the rich would not oppress the poor; also, that the lion and the lamb may lay down together, and neither would be harmed when morning came. These teachings were not accepted by the rulers, neither by the rich [...]

All nations of the earth in these modern days are seeking peace; but there is but one true and divine way that peace may be obtained in these days, and it is through Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom, and Justice being taught universally to all nations, in all lands.

Egypt, the Capital Empire of the Dominion of Africa

The inhabitants of Africa are the descendants of the ancient Canaanites, from the land of Canaan. Old man Cush and his family are the first inhabitants of Africa, who came from the land of Canaan. His father Ham and his family were second. [...] In later years, many of their brethren from Asia and the holy lands joined them.

The Moabites, from the land of Moab, who received permission from the Pharaohs of Egypt to settle and inhabit Northwest Africa—they were the founders and are the true possessors of the present Moroccan Empire, with their Canaanite, Hittite, and Amorite brethren who sojourned from the land of Canaan seeking new homes. Their dominion and inhabitation extended from Northeast and Southwest Africa, across the great Atlantis, even unto the present North, South, and Central America, and also Mexico and the Atlantis Islands, before the great earthquake which caused the great Atlantic Ocean.

The River Nile was dredged and made by the ancient Pharaohs of Egypt in order to trade with the surrounding kingdoms. Also, the Niger River was dredged by the great Pharaoh of Egypt, in those ancient days, for trade [...]

According to all true and divine records of the human race, there is no negro, black, or colored race attached to the human family, because all the inhabitants of Africa were and are of the human race, descendants of the ancient Canaanite nation from the holy land of Canaan. What your ancient forefathers were, you are today, without doubt or contradiction. [...]

Through sin and disobedience, every nation has suffered slavery, due to the fact that they honored not the creed and principles of their forefathers. That is why the nationality of the Moors was taken away from them in 1774, and the words *negro*, *black*, and *colored* were given to the Asiatics of America who were of Moorish descent—because they honored not the principles of their mother and father and strayed after the gods of Europe, of whom they knew nothing.

The End of Time and the Fulfilling of the Prophecies

[...] In these modern days, there came a forerunner who was divinely prepared by the great God-Allah, and his name is Marcus Garvey, who did teach and warn the nations of the earth to prepare to meet the coming Prophet, who was to bring the true and divine creed of Islam. And his name is Noble Drew Ali, who was prepared and sent to this earth by Allah to teach the old-time religion and the everlasting gospel to the sons of men, that every nation shall and must

worship under their own vine and fig tree, and return to their own, and be one with their Father God-Allah.

The Moorish Science Temple of America is a lawfully chartered and incorporated organization. Any subordinate temple that desires to receive a charter, the prophet has them to issue to every state throughout the United States, etc., that the world may hear and know the truth, that among the descendants of Africa there is still much wisdom to be learned in these days for the redemption of the sons of men under Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom, and Justice.

We, as a clean and pure nation descended from the inhabitants of Africa, do not desire to amalgamate or marry into the families of the pale-skinned nations of Europe, neither serve the gods of their religion; because our forefathers are the true and divine founders of the first religious creed for the redemption and salvation of mankind on earth.

Therefore, we are returning the Church and Christianity back to the European nations, as it was prepared by their forefathers for their earthly salvation, while we, the Moorish Americans, are returning to Islam, which was founded by our forefathers for our earthly and divine salvation.

[...] Come, all ye Asiatics of America, and hear the truth about your nationality and birthrights, because you are not negroes. Learn of your forefathers' ancient and divine creed, that you will learn to love instead of hate.

We are trying to uplift fallen humanity. Come and link yourselves with the families of nations. We honor all the true and divine prophets.

Source: Drew Ali, *The Holy Koran of the Moorish Science Temple of America* (n.p.: Moorish Science Temple of America, [1927?]), 56-60 (chaps. 45-48), https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.amed/amedsaid1831.dw019. Omar Ibn Said Collection, African and Middle East Division, Library of Congress. The contents of the Library of Congress Omar Ibn Said Collection are in the public domain and are free to use and reuse.

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These edited excerpts from Drew Ali's book are intended for ***teaching*** purposes only. For ***research*** purposes, you should consult, quote, and cite the source publication listed above.

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