They Thought They Were Followers Of Elijah Muhammad, But Then It Was Too Late

By Your Name

In the 1960s, the Nation of Islam (NOI) was one of the most influential religious and political movements in America. Led by the charismatic Elijah Muhammad, the NOI preached a message of black nationalism and separation from white society. Thousands of African Americans were drawn to the NOI's message, seeing it as a way to achieve racial equality and self-determination.



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But behind the NOI's public facade, there was a dark secret. Elijah Muhammad was a ruthless dictator who used his power to control and manipulate his followers. He preached a bizarre mix of religious dogma and racial hatred, and he demanded absolute obedience from his followers. Many of the NOI's followers were unaware of Muhammad's true nature. They were drawn to the NOI's message of black empowerment, and they believed that Muhammad was a genuine leader who would lead them to a better future. But as time went on, more and more followers began to realize that they had made a terrible mistake.

This book tells the story of those followers who finally broke away from the NOI. They were men and women who had once been true believers, but who eventually came to see Muhammad for what he really was: a dangerous cult leader.

Chapter 1: The Early Years

The NOI was founded in Detroit in 1930 by Wallace Fard Muhammad. Fard Muhammad claimed to be a prophet from Mecca, and he preached a message of black nationalism and separation from white society. Fard Muhammad's teachings quickly gained a following among African Americans who were frustrated with the racism and discrimination they faced in American society.

In 1934, Fard Muhammad disappeared mysteriously, and Elijah Muhammad took over the leadership of the NOI. Muhammad was a charismatic speaker and a gifted organizer, and he quickly expanded the NOI's reach across the United States. By the 1960s, the NOI had millions of followers, and it was one of the most influential religious and political movements in America.

Chapter 2: The Rise of Malcolm X

Malcolm X was one of the most famous and influential members of the NOI. He was a brilliant orator and a passionate advocate for black

nationalism. Malcolm X quickly rose through the ranks of the NOI, and he became one of Muhammad's most trusted lieutenants.

But in the early 1960s, Malcolm X began to have doubts about Muhammad's leadership. He realized that Muhammad was not the infallible prophet that he had once believed him to be. Malcolm X also began to question the NOI's message of black separatism. He came to believe that integration was the only way to achieve racial equality in America.

In 1964, Malcolm X left the NOI. He founded his own organization, the Muslim Mosque, Inc., and he continued to advocate for black empowerment. Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965 by members of the NOI.

Chapter 3: The NOI After Malcolm X

After Malcolm X's assassination, the NOI went into decline. Muhammad's leadership became increasingly erratic, and he began to make bizarre claims about his own divinity. Many of the NOI's followers began to leave the organization, and by the late 1960s, the NOI was a shadow of its former self.

In 1975, Muhammad died, and his son, Wallace Muhammad, took over the leadership of the NOI. Wallace Muhammad made significant changes to the NOI's teachings, and he moved the organization away from black nationalism and towards mainstream Islam. Under Wallace Muhammad's leadership, the NOI became a more traditional Muslim organization, and it dropped its message of black separatism.

Chapter 4: The Legacy of the NOI

The NOI has had a profound impact on American history. The NOI's message of black nationalism inspired a generation of African Americans to fight for their rights. The NOI also played a major role in the development of the Black Power movement in the 1960s.

But the NOI also has a dark legacy. The NOI's teachings on black separatism and racial hatred contributed to the climate of violence and division that plagued America in the 1960s. The NOI also has a history of violence and intimidation, and it has been linked to numerous crimes, including murder and arson.

The Nation of Islam is a complex and controversial organization. It has played a major role in American history, both good and bad. The NOI's legacy is still being debated today, and it is likely to continue to be a source of controversy for years to come.

This book has provided a brief overview of the NOI's history and legacy. I hope that it has helped you to better understand this complex and fascinating organization.



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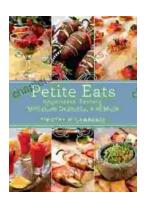


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By Neil Shearing, Ph.D

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