



An Original Man: The Life and Times of Elijah Muhammad

By Claude Andrew Clegg

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The compelling biography of Elijah Muhammad. The visionary leader whose ideals and political actions have shaped a century of African-American History.

Elijah Muhammed, the founding father of The Nation of Islam and the forbear to Louis Farrakhan, has no emerged as one of the most significant black leaders of this century. Claude Andrew Clegg II examines Muhammad's life from his birth in 1897 in Georgia, to his creation of the American Nation of Islam, to his final split with Malcolm X. Through this brilliant biography, we are finally able to understand the origins of Islam and black nationalism that has helped form the consciousness of African-American society for the last half-century.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Malcolm X and Louis Farrakhan get more attention, but Elijah Muhammad indelibly defined the Nation of Islam from the time he assumed its leadership in 1934 until his death in 1975. This much-needed book illuminates the impact of Muhammad's personal history on the movement, particularly its stress on economic independence for black Americans. Historian Claude Andrew Clegg's balanced appraisal acknowledges Muhammad's financial and sexual misdeeds but credits him with promoting racial pride and "moral living." Clegg makes a strong case for the Nation of Islam being "as homegrown as the NAACP or the Ku Klux Klan."

From Library Journal

Head of the Nation of Islam for 40 years, Muhammad was a charismatic leader. In this portrait, historian Clegg reveals how this visionary figure relied on religious ideals and political action to shape African American history in this century.

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From [Booklist](#)

Although Elijah Muhammad was well known, having scores of proponents and critics, his life has not been well documented. Now, Clegg has ended all that with this masterful analysis that stresses Muhammad's role in the evolution of black nationalism and the concurrent rise of Islam as an alternative religion among African Americans; the economic factors that had a critical impact on his leadership; and the historical context that brings texture to his struggles. Clegg traverses Muhammad's life through his coming-of-age in Georgia, the wilderness and his ascent in the Nation of Islam, the so-called keys of the kingdom and his sovereignty as the messenger of Allah, and the judgment and his final years. Clegg asserts that Muhammad has not been given credit for his leadership and vision in shaping African American racial consciousness, and that most accounts of his disciples, Malcolm X and Louis Farrakhan, overshadowed him. If initiating the study of a key player in the Muslim movement and its role in twentieth-century American history was the goal, Clegg wins a gold star. This is an exceptional discussion of the man behind the Nation of Islam for more than four decades. *Lillian Lewis*

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The book with title An Original Man: The Life and Times of Elijah Muhammad possesses a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. This particular book exist new knowledge the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world today. That is important to yo7u to know how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you inside new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

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Catherine Ng:

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