

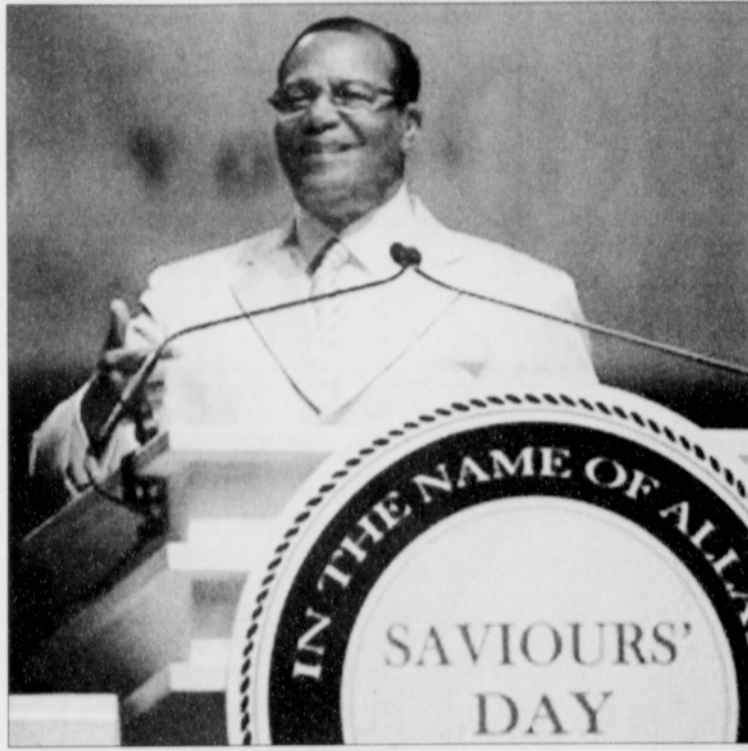
Farrakhan: Obama is 'Hope of the Entire World'

(AP) — In his first major public address since a cancer crisis, Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan said Sunday that presidential candidate Barack Obama is the "hope of the entire world" that the U.S. will change for the better.

The 74-year-old Farrakhan, addressing an estimated crowd of 20,000 people at the annual Saviours' Day celebration, never outrightly endorsed Obama but spent most of the nearly two-hour speech praising the Illinois senator.

"This young man is the hope of the entire world that America will change and be made better," he said. "This young man is capturing audiences of black and brown and red and yellow. If you look at Barack Obama's audiences and look at the effect of his words, those people are being transformed."

Farrakhan compared Obama to the religion's founder, Fard



Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan delivers a speech in observance of Saviours' Day on Sunday in Chicago.

Muhammad, who also had a white mother and black father.

"A black man with a white mother became a savior to us," he told the crowd of mostly followers. "A black man with a white mother could turn out to be one who can lift America from her fall."

Obama campaign spokesman Bill Burton said, "Sen. Obama has been clear in his objections to Minister Farrakhan's past pronouncements and has not solicited the minister's support."

Farrakhan has drawn attention for calling Judaism a "gutter religion" and suggesting crack cocaine might have been a CIA plot to enslave blacks.

In recent years, however, officials with the Nation of Islam have promoted unity and tolerance among religions. Farrakhan now often quotes the texts of other religions, such as the Bible, in his speeches.



Ask Deanna!

Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

My niece is involved with a man old enough to be her father and I feel he's taking advantage of her. My sister, who is her mother, is willing to go along with this if it makes her daughter happy. I think it's statutory rape and is sickening because my niece is young and inexperienced. I'm at the point where I may call and report this to the authorities because it's not right. Is it worth the risk of losing my sister and my niece or should I leave it alone? —Worried Aunt; Long Island City, N.Y.

Dear Aunt:

It takes a village to raise a child and if your niece is underage then you should report it to the authorities. However, you should respect your sister and talk with her before making your move. Also, many people are going to be hurt by your decision and you must also ensure you have all the facts about the interaction between your niece and this man. If your research indicates you niece is truly being taken advantage of, the authorities need to put him under the jail.

Dear Deanna!

I can't tell you how tired I am of watching my sister go out with bad guys. She seems to have a magnet on her head that attracts unemployed men, drug dealers and guys that look shady. She has access to

decent men in her circle. I don't understand it. My sister has a college education, a good job and nice friends. You would think that after a while, she would be tired of financing men, getting abused and dealing with drama. How do I get through to her? —Carl; Portland, Ore.

Dear Carl:

Some women will overlook good guys because they seek excitement, good sex and thrills. These relationships often crash and burn after a financial wipeout, unplanned pregnancy or a few fights with other women. You can help by introducing her to quality men, exposing her to positive relationships and social networking opportunities. The choice is up to her and if she continues the "choke me, pull my hair" lifestyle, then support her and be there when she falls.

Dear Deanna!

How do I apologize for interfering in my best friend's marriage? I want to apologize to her but I don't know what to say to her without any physical confrontation. There were some things that I did and said that caused problems in her relationship. I just want to apologize and let her know that I didn't mean to come between her and her husband. How do I apologize? —Hurting; Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Hurting:

You owe an apology to her husband as well because your actions affected him too. You're an adult and know you shouldn't do anything to jeopardize another person's relationship. If you did something so bad that it would get physical, you should communicate with a card or a phone call. Then again, if this is your friend and you truly have her best interests at heart, you should be able to respectfully apologize face-to-face without drama and keep it moving.

Write: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211.

Garments Ignite Debate

(AP) — A photograph circulating in the Internet of Sen. Barack Obama dressed in traditional local garments during a visit to Kenya in 2006 is causing a dustup in the presidential campaign over what constitutes a smear.

The photograph portrays Obama wearing a white turban and a wraparound white robe presented to him by elders in Wajir, in northeastern Kenya. Obama's estranged late father was Kenyan and Obama visited the country in 2006, attracting thousands of well-wishers.

The gossip and news website The Drudge Report posted the photograph Monday and said it was being circulated by "Clinton staffers" and quoted an e-mail from an unidentified campaign aide.

In December, a hoax e-mail falsely said Obama is a Muslim. Obama is a member of the United Church of Christ and says he has never been a Muslim.



Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. (right), is dressed as a Somali Elder by Sheikh Mahmed Hassan, during his August 2006 visit to a rural area in northeastern Kenya, near the borders with Somalia and Ethiopia.

Civil Rights Activist Dies at 97

Led bus boycott with Rosa Parks

(AP) — Johnnie Carr, who joined childhood friend Rosa Parks in the historic Montgomery bus boycott and became a prominent civil-rights activist over the past half century, died Friday. She was 97.

Carr succeeded the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as president of the Montgomery Improvement Association in 1967, a post she held at her death. It was the newly formed association that led the boycott of city buses in the Alabama capital in 1955 after Parks, a black seamstress, was arrested



Johnnie Carr

for refusing to give up her seat to whites on a crowded bus.

A year later the U.S. Supreme Court struck down racial segregation on public transportation.

She played a prominent role in 2005 on the 50th anniversary of Parks' refusal to give up her bus seat, speaking to thousands of schoolchildren who marched to the Capitol.

"Look back, but march forward," Carr urged the huge crowd of young people.

Just days before a stroke on Feb. 11, Carr participated in King Day ceremonies in Montgomery.

Thomas Edison had an idea and a light bulb went on.

Lewis Latimer had an idea and a light bulb **stayed on.**



Lewis Latimer

The incandescent light bulb was one of the world's greatest ideas. But in 1879 the first bulbs went out not long after they were turned on. Or they got hot and shattered. Inventor Lewis Latimer knew he could make Edison's bulb better. He found a way to protect the carbon filaments inside the bulbs, making them last longer and less expensive to use every day. Today, inventors designing the latest energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs follow in his footsteps.

The only African-American member of the Edison Company's "Pioneers," Lewis Latimer was a creative genius who improved the way things work. It is in his spirit we strive to make our service to you the best it can be.

You can find ways to save energy and money, safety tips and more at www.pacificpower.net.

Celebrating
Black History
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