

Church

IMAM LARRY ABDULLAH, LEADER OF MASJID MUHAMMAD, FOUND 'A WAY OUT OF NOWHERE'

By Louise H. Jordan
SENTINEL Church Reporter

Imam Larry Abdullah, is the local leader of the Masjid Muhammad (formerly the American Muslim Mission) located at 711 Morgan Street.

It was not easy for this young man to make his chosen decision, but he feels

too hard.

The five boys and seven girls played mostly together; they were relatively poor but were innovative. They had learned early how to improvise, for prior to leaving Los Angeles they had lost almost everything in an earthquake in 1953 or '54.

Brother Abdullah was

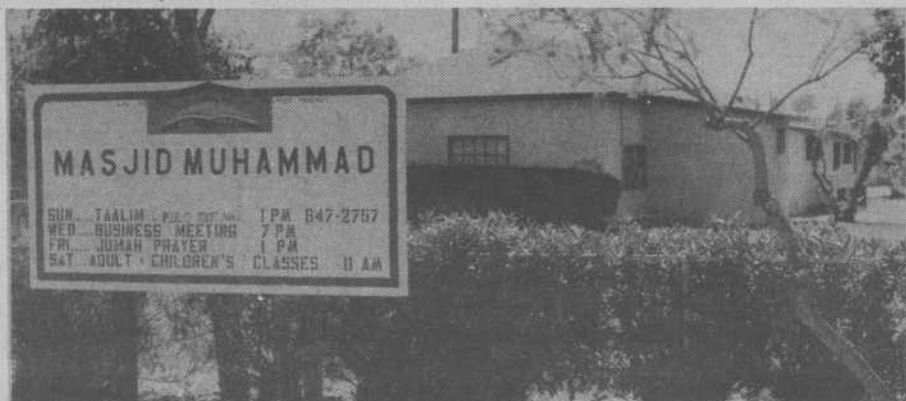
begun as a small child because of his need for a father. Had he remained a Catholic Brother, Abdullah said he would have been a priest. He had many questions and could get very few answers. He foresook the Catholic faith and became a Baptist. When he could find no answers, he became a

Black people, it was said, were trying to be everything but "Black." It was reasoned that everything that was Black was bad, Black cats, Black Book, etc.

Today the local (Majid House of Prayer) works towards cleaning up the moral parts of the Afro-American and all people.

Imam Abdullah, quotes the Holy Quran, Essential Sura 112: "Say He is Allah, The one and only God, Allah, the Eternal absolute. He begetteth not, nor is he begotten, and there is name like unto him."

Minister Imam Abdullah is married to the former Jackie Ladd and they have four children.



that his search for truth was always increasing insurmountable, therefore he went through various religious faiths before acknowledging that he had found what he believes to be lasting light in a darkened world.

Brother Abdullah was born in Los Angeles, California to Dorothy and Charles Molette along with many other siblings. His father died when he was two years old and his mother found it increasingly difficult to provide for her family in that area. She had to work more than one job and also care for the children, therefore it was necessary to return to their families in Beaumont, Texas. Imam Abdullah related that his father died of overexertion from working

raised as a Catholic and attended Catholic schools. He grew up with good values and worked hard along with his brothers to help out, mostly by caddying for the golfers and retrieving golf balls in the lakes and woods. They had to be alert to stay a step ahead of the truant officers.

Because of mixed up school records when the family left California, his twin brothers were left behind in school, therefore he and they were all in the same grade. After graduation, all three enlisted into the United States Air Force.

His search for God had

Penecostal in the Church of God in Christ. Still he felt that he had no answers; so he became a Buddhist and was an assistant Gura while stationed in Vietnam. Still looking for a personal relationship with God he became a Jehovahs Witness. While still a Jehovahs Witness, his brother gave him a book entitled "Message to the Black Man" by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, who established the Nation of Islam. At that time the Mission of Islam was to encourage the Afro-Americans to "Do For Self," "Know Self," "Love Self," and "Be Self" because

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