

Holidays for the Muslims

Holidays set aside to Honor The Messenger

March 29 "The Honorable Elijah Muhammad Day"

On March 27, 1974, at a time when it was extremely unpopular for public officials to openly laud the achievements of the Nation of Islam, **MAYOR RICHARD DALEY**, who served as Mayor of **Chicago, Illinois** for 21 years (from 1955 until his death in 1976), issued a proclamation declaring March 29, as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad Day in Chicago that read:

"WHEREAS, on the evening of Friday, March 29, 1974, a citizens' committee will hold a testimonial dinner at the Conrad Hotel to the Honorable Elijah Muhammad; and

"WHEREAS, mutual respect and brotherhood are essential for people to live in harmony everywhere; and

"WHEREAS, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad has exhibited strong leadership to provide quality education, to establish prosperous business, to organize recreational activities and to develop good citizenship in the community; and

"WHEREAS, the proceeds from this testimonial dinner will be used to support the construction of a 300 bed hospital on the South Side:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard J. Daley, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby proclaim March 29, 1974 to be HONORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD DAY IN CHICAGO and call upon all citizens to take cognizance of the special events arranged for this time."

Dated this 27th day of March, 1974

Richard J.Daley, Mayor



RICHARD J. DALEY (pictured) who served Mayor of Chicago, IL. for 21 years (1955-1976) cited the Nation of Islam for being a "consistent contributor to the social well-being of Chicago for more than 40 years...and for serving the community with a solid program of social reform which has been responsible for assisting Black people all over America..."

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