



AFRICAN AMERICAN JOURNEY TO ISLAM



... and they prayed too.

As the community moved into the 1980s, its roots were firmly planted in cities across America, the immigrant community had grown significantly and African-American Ahmadis from the 1950s and 1960s had established Muslim families well-grounded in their respective communities and Islam. A fourth generation of African-American Muslims were being raised in a time when names like Jamal and Kareema had

become more common, non-muslims could be seen with head coverings and the diversity of Islam was more recognized. It was a time for appreciation for those elders, women and men, who dared to choose their God and accept equality of all humanity. The sacrifice and commitment of these members of the Ahmadiyya Movement provided the foundation for Islam in America.

Special thanks to all those that contributed stories and photos to produce this historical exhibit. In remembering the pioneers highlighted in this exhibit and the countless names of pioneers not mentioned, we pray our most earnest prayers of gratitude for their service, steadfastness and dedication in blazing the path that American Muslims continue to travel today. May Allah bless their efforts and raise them to paradise in the hereafter. Ameen.

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