

would have to have responsibility to keep that money.”

Bi People want to know if Dwayne is going to change his name legally.

D “The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the names that we have in America aren’t our legal names. You have Eatmon, or like my brother, Professor Hall. Hall isn’t his last name. What is Hall? Our foreparents, coming from Africa, a lot of them were Muslims and they already had holy names. But they were taken from us by the slave master. So as a Muhammad, we don’t have to change our names legally because they are not our legal names in the first place.”

Bi How have your perceptions of the Nation changed? What was it like when you first came into the Nation?

D “When I first came into the Nation, I was always hyped. The first book I read was *Message to the Blackman*. And as I gained knowledge, I’d try to teach my brothers and sisters. And in school, it caused a lot of problems, but I didn’t care. Because when you first join the Nation, anybody, when you hear the knowledge of self—the teachings of the most Honorable Elijah Muhammad, it’s like the explosion of an atomic bomb, the energy that’s released. You’re extra-energized and you want to share it with everybody. As I grew in the Nation of Islam, I learned more of the trials and of the tribulations we had to go through to try to teach our people. It’s a hard job trying to teach the Black man and woman in America. A lot of times, the

Black man and woman act like they don’t want to be taught or like they don’t need to be taught. But all of us can learn from one another. So now, my outlook in the Nation is just to be patient with our people, but not too patient. Time is running out. The Nation of Islam, whether people like it or not or believe it or not, is fulfilling the fulfillment of the scriptures of the Bible and the Holy Qur’an. So now, it’s not time to joke or play, it’s time to get to work.”

Bi What are some misperceptions people have of the Nation?

D “At times, people have told me that the Nation of Islam was a gang and that the brothers carried guns and had weapons like it was a Mafia type thing, like a black Mafia.”

Bi Because of stuff that happened in the projects in DC and stuff like that?

D “Right, but with the brothers, as far as like security, we’re taught to come to other brothers that may be selling drugs or acting disrespectful with love. We’re taught that they’re God too. The essence of God is within them as within us. And usually, if you ask a brother to leave an area, they’ll leave. Every once in a while, you’ll have a few hardheads, but we’re taught never to be the aggressors. So if they aggress upon us, then we fight in the name of Allah.”

Bi Have you noticed any difference in the way people respond to you since you’ve gotten your Muhammad?

D “One instance, a friend of mine and I were talking about how people would react to me having a Muhammad. And I figured it wouldn’t be different. I’m still Dwayne, I’m still your brother. You’ve known me however long you’ve been at Carolina, so if you know me, you’ll talk to me regardless.”

Bi So Dwayne X turned 21 and Dwayne X became Dwayne Muhammad. Where is Dwayne Muhammad ten years from now when he turns 31?



D *(Long Pause)*
“That’s a pretty difficult question because with minister Farrakahn’s Friendship Tour, he’s opening up doors for us to go to other countries where our brothers and sisters are. Hopefully, I will be in one of those countries in Africa or the so-called Middle East, helping those who are my brothers advance their civilization. Hopefully, I won’t be here in America, but that’s on the positive tip.”