



Dear Good People,

I am happy to have come across you. My name is Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver and I am an author with my first book, "Soul on Islam," recently published.

I come from an African-American family that has a history of leadership in the struggles for justice and equality in America. My book tells my story of how a young African-American raised in a Christian family of Civil Rights Activists began to be attracted to Islam while a student at Cornell University, then studied the faith and became a Muslim. Within its pages I illustrate my family life, background and how the principles of social justice were instilled in me during my upbringing. I narrate my journey from when I was first drawn to the call for social justice, human brotherhood and the powerful Monotheism in the Quran.

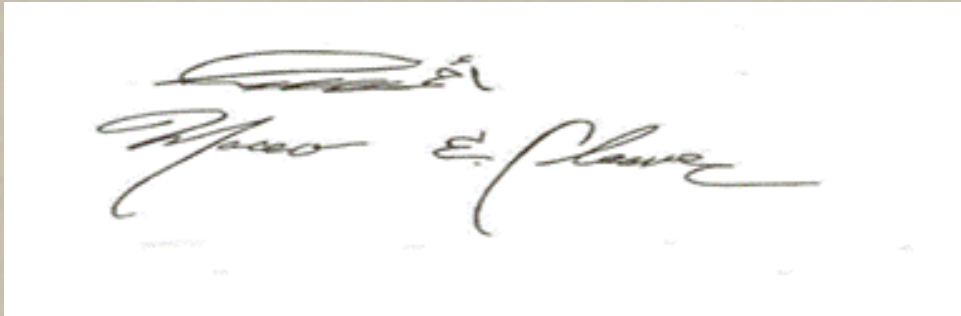
I speak from a quite different perspective, as an American with roots in the Black Panther Party who has lived as I have now for a decade, as a Muslim among the Muslims in the Middle East. I am thirty-seven years old and before moving abroad, have lived much of my life among my own African-American people in America's ghettos. I am honored to invite you to read my book which I am confident you will find a work relevant to us, well written, enjoyable and informative. I feel that I have a voice that can bring understanding to Americans, to wipe away misconceptions with clear words, to explain the misunderstood. To let you hear someone from your own neighborhoods clarify and enlighten readers to what the cultural differences between East and West really mean.

My father and mother, Eldridge and Kathleen Cleaver, were leaders in the Black Panther Party during the turbulent days of protest and social change in

the 60's and early 70's. My late father's well-known book, "Soul on Ice" was an important expression of African-American resistance to injustice that is still read in universities. My mother continues to work towards justice and she teaches African-American Studies at Yale University and Law at Emory University.

You will find below a Book Review of my book, "Soul on Islam," from Barnes & Noble's website Ad for the book. Please take a look. Thank you kindly for reading my email.

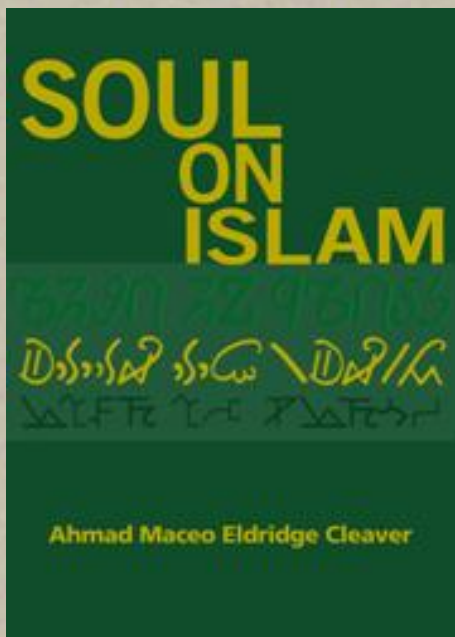
Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a white background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver". The first name "Ahmad" is written in a slightly larger and more prominent script than the last name "Cleaver".

Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver

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The Beginning of Wisdom is the fear of God.



A BOOK REVIEW



Sandra E. Bowen, retired college teacher/ writer, 08/29/2006

AN ENLIGHTENING AND CLARIFYING BOOK

SOUL ON ISLAM (Paperback ISBN: 1-59232-097-X)

By Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver

Seaburn Publishing Group P.O. Box 2085 Astoria, NY 11102

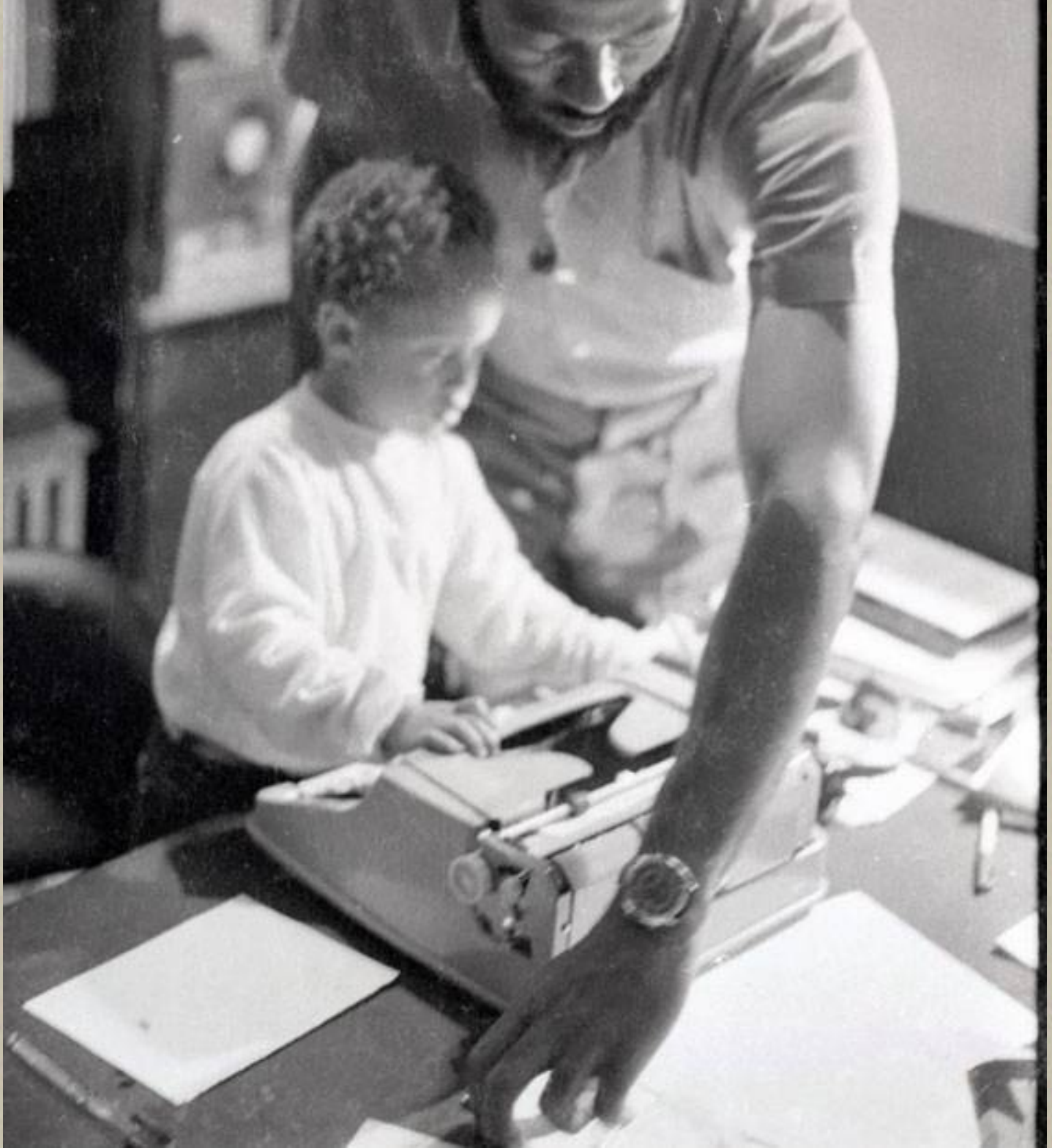
SOUL ON ISLAM is the first book written by Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver, son the late Eldridge Cleaver, 1960's Civil Rights Leader and Minister of Information, the Black Panther Party. His father's Soul on Ice (1968) was a best seller and still in print today. Born in Algiers in 1969, young Cleaver lives with his family in Doha, Qatar, where he teaches English as a Second Language. Ahmad Cleaver's book comes at a time when the public, Western and Eastern, seeks and needs information about Islam and its Mission as recorded in the Quran. Cleaver's story entails his odyssey, the journey of an African American college educated young man that led to his embracing Islam. In 104 generative pages, he includes biographical chronicles, erudite comments about Islam from scholars, and statements from persons who have become Muslims, along with footnotes and glossary. Mr. Cleaver tells of his becoming a Muslim twelve years ago after much study, research, and consultation both in the East and West. Although Mr. Cleaver's text is positive as expected from the pen of a sincere Follower, it is not designed to recruit, but to present why he became a believer in Islam and the influence its concepts and precepts had on his life, life style, and spiritual growth.

In tones of an autobiography and a memoir, Ahmad Cleaver briefly sketches his lineage and presents insights into the 1960's. He includes the incident when his father Eldridge was arrested at the age of seventeen for a murder that occurred ten years ago when he was seven years old and of his father's later flight from America via Canada to Cuba, Algiers, and France, and his voluntary return to America. Young Cleaver tells of his becoming years when he was raised in a Christian home where his parents provided books on Black Historical figures for him and his younger sister and "instilled in them that crime was another form of slavery." Cleaver narrates SOCIAL JUSTICE that Islam offers and the "The true message of Islam." He states, "I never confuse and mix the justifiable struggle for justice with the unjustifiable terrorism, suicide bombs and the murder of innocent bystanders." In the Chapter "How I Came to Embrace Islam," Ahmad Cleaver tells of reading stories in the Quran that he had learned during childhood, of his pondering over how different Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, "yet they had many of the same stories and held on to most of the same prophets." The foregoing is a chapter that readers should read again and again. Cleaver explains reasons for the Muslim women's dress code the function of the Hijab. He addresses the true status of Muslim women as opposed to the interpretation that they are considered inferior. He explains true manhood according to Islam and clarifies that Mohammed is a Prophet, a human being, a messenger of God, and not Allah. He explains "Polygamy in Islam vs. the Myth of Monogamy in America," another chapter that a reader may want to read more than once. With the Foreword by Dr. James (Jimmy) Jones, Chair of World Religions, Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY Director, Islamic Transitional House, New Haven, CT, 2006, the entire book is a Must Read Again and Again whether the reader rejects portions or all of its concepts. Soul on Islam is enlightening, devoid of wordiness, and narrated with sincere intellectual literary simplicity.

~ Sandra E. Bowen Retired College Professor

Father and son, Eldridge Cleaver and Ahmad Maceo Eldridge Cleaver





[http://cornell-magazine.cornell.edu/Currentissue/depts/Authors.
asp](http://cornell-magazine.cornell.edu/Currentissue/depts/Authors.asp)



