

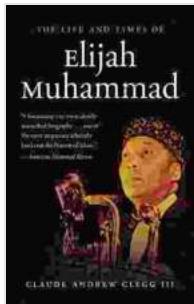
# The Life and Times of Elijah Muhammad

## Early Years and Formative Influences



Elijah Muhammad, born Elijah Robert Poole in 1897, spent his formative years in Sandersville, Georgia. Born into poverty, he faced hardships from

an early age, including the loss of his father and the struggles of a single mother.



## The Life and Times of Elijah Muhammad

by Matthew Jude Barker

 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1350 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 380 pages

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Muhammad's spiritual journey began in 1929 when he encountered Wallace Fard Muhammad, the founder of the Nation of Islam (NOI). Fard Muhammad became his mentor, teaching him the NOI's teachings and indoctrinating him into its principles.

### Rise to Leadership in the Nation of Islam



After Fard Muhammad's disappearance in 1934, Elijah Muhammad assumed leadership of the NOI. He established the organization's headquarters in Chicago and dedicated his life to advancing its teachings.

Muhammad's unwavering belief in the innate superiority of Black people and his condemnation of white society resonated with many African Americans who felt marginalized and discriminated against.

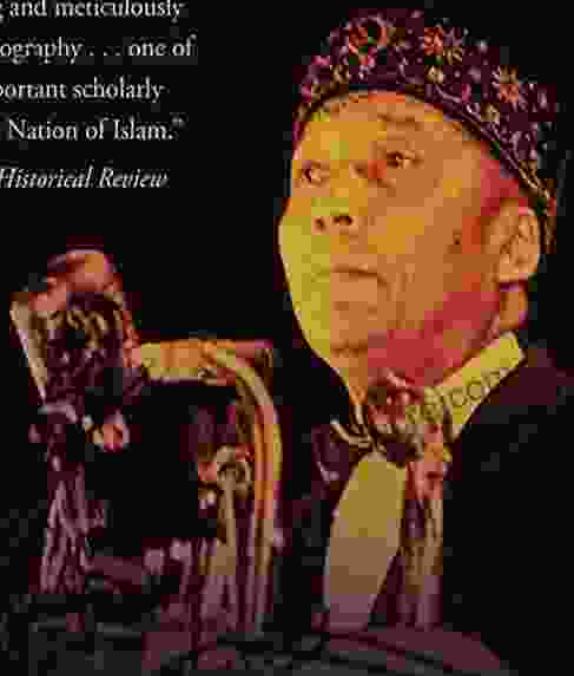
### **Controversial Teachings**

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF

# Elijah Muhammad

"A fascinating and meticulously researched biography . . . one of the most important scholarly books on the Nation of Islam."

—*American Historical Review*

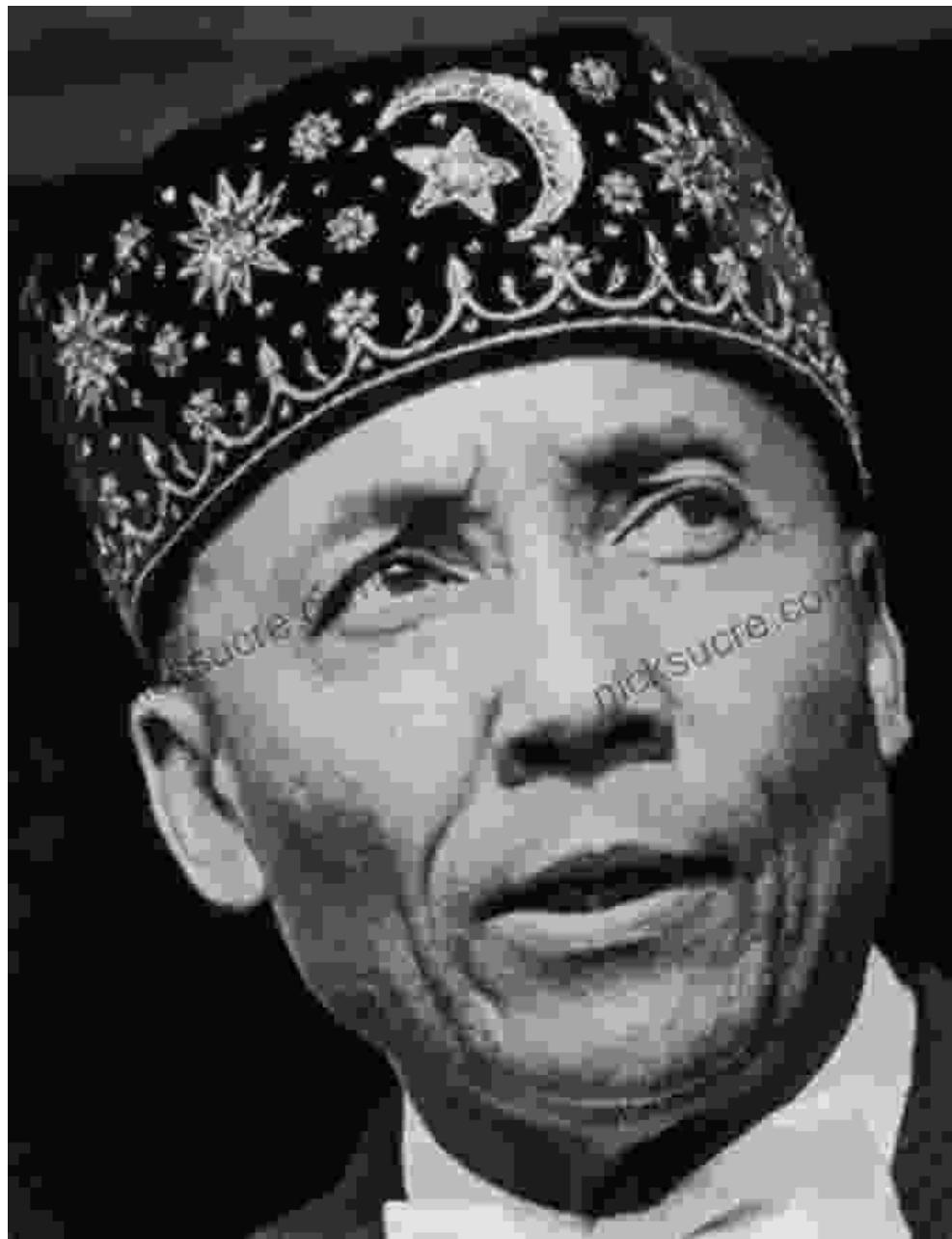


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Throughout his leadership, Muhammad espoused a range of controversial doctrines. He taught that white people were descended from a race of devils and that Black people were the true children of God.

Muhammad's teachings also included elements of anti-Semitism, which drew criticism from both Black and white communities. He believed that Jews had infiltrated and controlled the media, banking, and government.

## Social and Political Activism

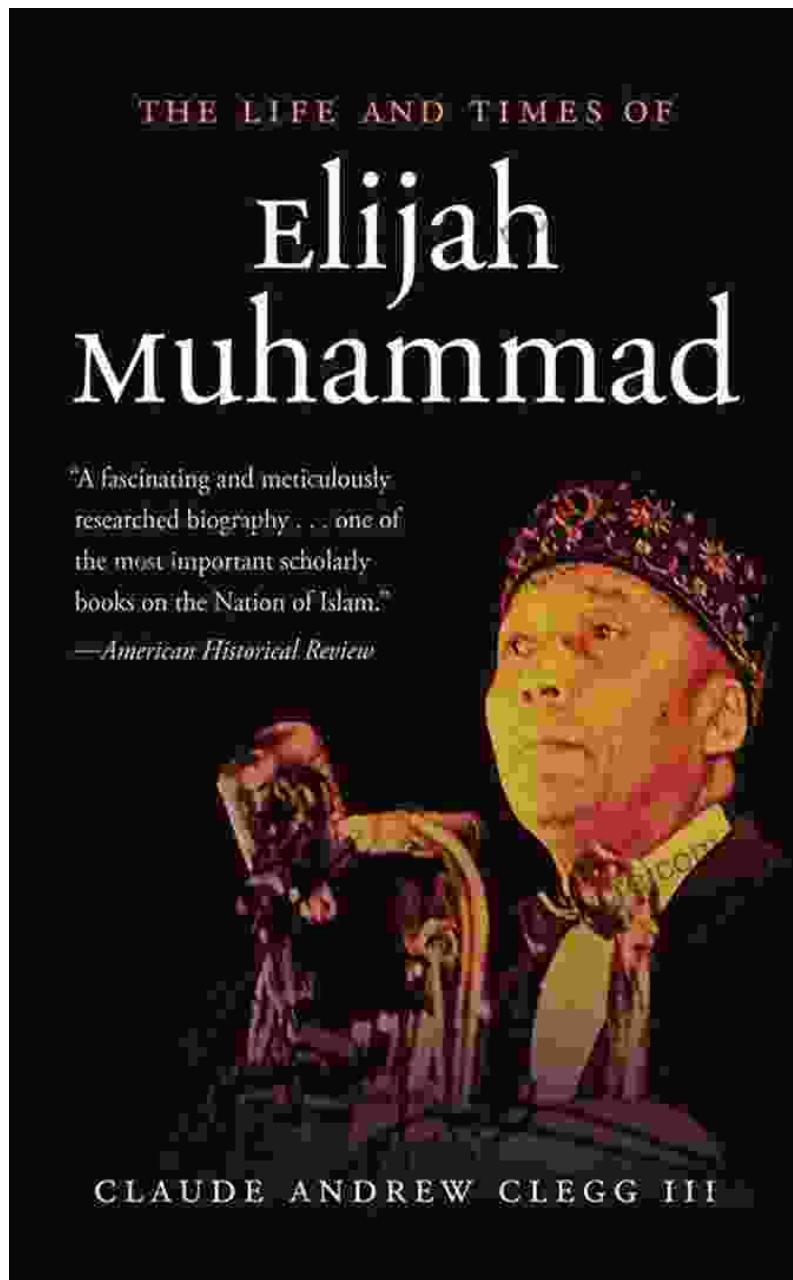


In addition to his religious teachings, Muhammad was an active social and political activist. He demanded equal rights for African Americans and condemned racial segregation and discrimination.

Muhammad's influence extended beyond the NOI. He had a close relationship with Malcolm X, who served as his national minister until his

departure from the organization.

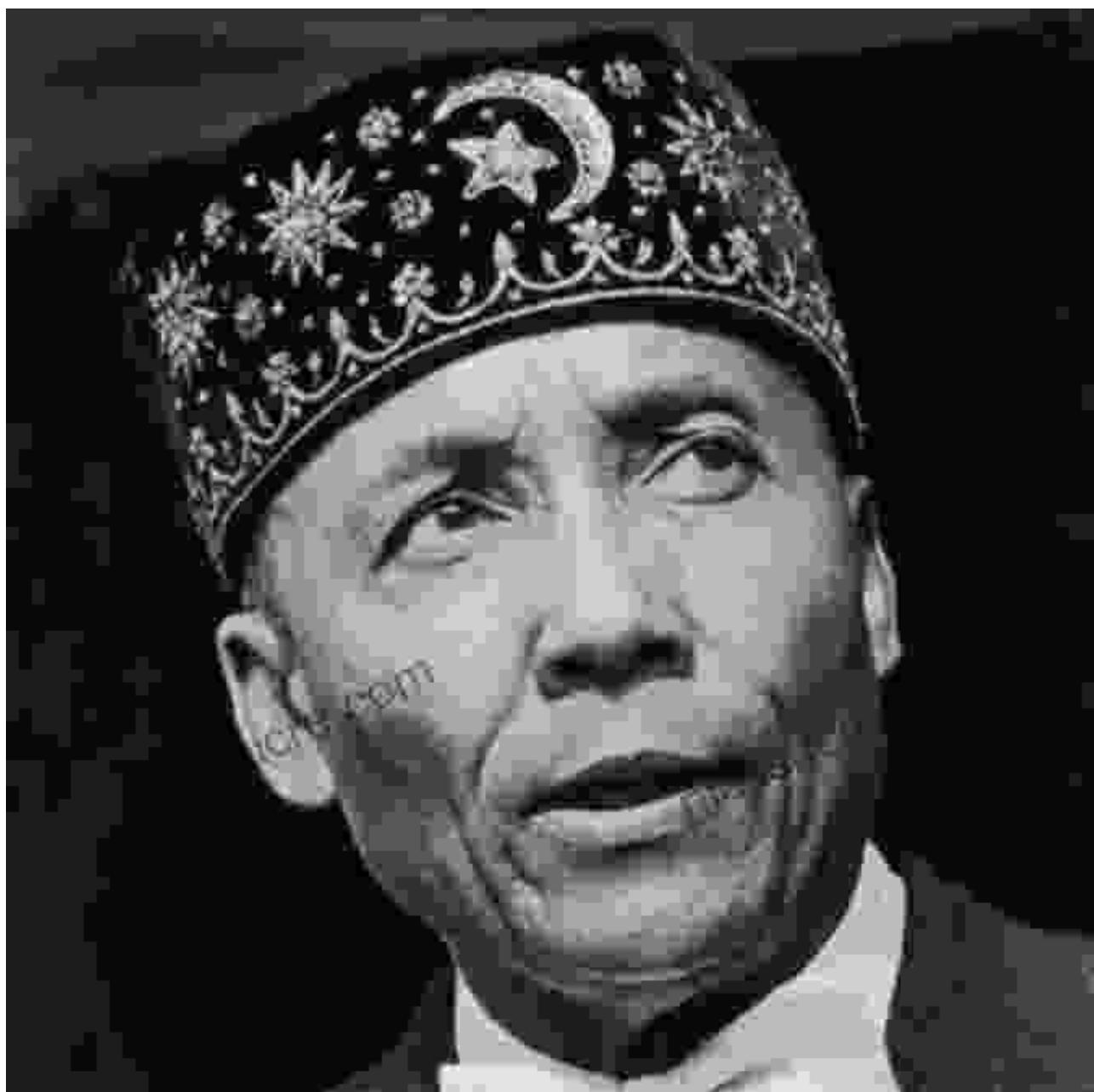
## Legacy and Impact



Elijah Muhammad's impact on American society was profound. His teachings inspired a generation of African American activists and thinkers, including Stokely Carmichael and Angela Davis.

The NOI, under Muhammad's leadership, became a prominent voice for Black empowerment and self-determination. However, his controversial teachings continue to be a subject of debate.

### **Later Years and Death**

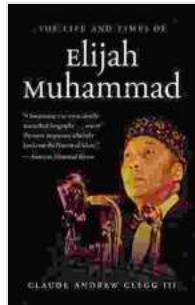


Muhammad remained a revered figure within the NOI until his death in 1975. He had a significant impact on American history, leaving behind a complex legacy that continues to inspire and provoke.

Today, the Nation of Islam remains an active organization, with Elijah Muhammad's teachings continuing to shape its beliefs and practices.

Elijah Muhammad's life and teachings continue to be a subject of fascination and controversy. His enduring legacy as a leader of the Nation of Islam and an influential figure in the African American civil rights movement ensures that his ideas and impact will continue to be debated and discussed for generations to come.

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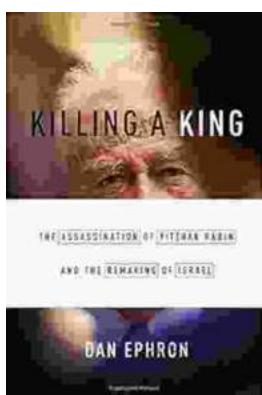
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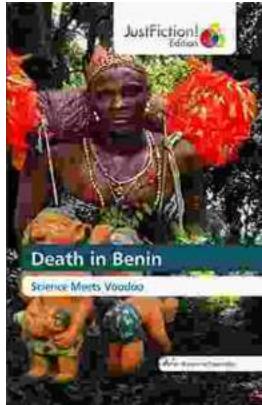
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