Ali Calls for Total Separation of Races'  

Former Heavyweight King Rejects Integration; Calls Racial Issue 'America's Worst Problem'

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Muhammad Ali said last night that the only peaceful solution to the racial crisis in America is "total separation of the races.

The former World Boxing Association heavyweight champion and the keynote speaker at Colloquy, labeled racism as America's worst problem. "Wrong, much worse than the conflict in Asia." He said black and white in this country will never find peace together.

"By nature, black Americans are peaceful people. Americans will never get along," Ali said. "They're opposites, like yin and yang. If it's your opposite, it's your opponent - then it's your opponent.

"Just Nature.

"This is not race hatred; it's just nature." Ali said.

Dressed in a black suit and looking fit enough to step into a ring, the 27-year-old Ali rejected integration.

"The Negro slaves are marching all over America thinking they are trying for equality with whites," Ali said. "In reality they are seeking equality with the whites' dogs.

Ali labeled the integrationists as "Frankenstein" stealing his hands out of front of him at the same time. "In imitation of the literary creation of Mary Shelley.

"Like a Bull"

Ali compared them, in their fight for integration, to a bull running down a truck head-on into a train. "You might say the bull is brave." Ali said with a sarcastic smile.

"Known as Cassius Clay before his conversion to the Black Muslim religion, Ali defined the crowd of approximately 4000 the difference between a "Negro" and a "black".

"The Negro wants to force himself into white life, wants to eat with whites and marry white women," he said. "The black studies his own culture, marries black women, and tries to make his own people clean and respectable.

Whitewashed Negro

Ali said the Negro is still the slave of 200 years ago. "He has to be re-brainwashed," he said. "He has already been brainwashed.

"All said separation could be the only answer because black people are still servants of a white economy. "We are 4 million, two nations within a nation, and we don't have two feet of land to call our own," he said. "If we were your equals you would make our own jobs, have our own restaurants.

"We wouldn't have to ride donkeys in the jet age to get with you," he said sharply, referring to the Poor People's Campaign last year in Washington.

Black survival

Ali said the secret of black survival in America is realizing where the "bootheel" lies. Said he know how far he could go in dealing with whites.

"The trouble with many of our people is they don't know where to go or how to go," he said. Then Ali seemed to hold some hope for racial reconciliation.

"If all black people knew this you wouldn't have no trouble. How can we integrate when we're not one, a whole people? As soon as we're done cleaning up ourselves, then we'll think about integrating," he said.

Ali said the Negro needs a knowledge of his own culture and history.

"Black people must be free mentally before they are free physically," he said. "They must be taught to know themselves before they can be free.

Pointing his finger at the crowd, Ali charged white society with creating the racial problem. He said the blacks brought to America as slaves were robbed of their Islamic religion and respected only for their ability to work and produce more slaves.

"They were robbed of their knowledge of self." Ali said, "and this is what started the problem.

Ali said this problem was inscribed by "white power." Everything of authority and power in this country, he said, was made white.

"Who ever heard of a white tornado?" Ali asked mischievously, referring to the television commercial. "Everybody knows tornadoes are black.

While extreme in his proposed solution to the racial problem, Ali said he rejected the fighting and looting as have plagued urban ghettos in the last five years.

"Picking up a rifle is a joke," he said, reminding his black brethren, in the audience that white America owned the forces of repression.

Although he made no mention of his boxing career in his speech, Ali reaffirmed in an interview yesterday that he is through with the sport and will retire as the world's only undefeated black heavyweight champion.

Through with Boxing

"I am through with boxing forever," Ali said. "My leader, Elijah Muhammad, says violence is suicide. I want to be a 100 per cent follower of Elijah Muhammad.

Ali was stripped of his heavyweight crown in this country in 1967 on grounds of his federal indictment for refusal to serve in the armed forces. He recently expressed interest in returning to the ring to help pay off about $200,000 in legal fees stemming from his draft appeal. He was subsequently suspended as a Muslim minister as a result.

Ali said he would not resume his boxing career even if offered a shot at Jimmy Ellis or Joe Fraizer. Currently recognized as heavyweight champions in different states. But he said he was confident he could whip either man.

"It would be no contest," he said.

Muhammad Ali  
Colloquy Speaker