

# GRC ANNUAL REPORT

## **A word from the President**

To all our stakeholders, Members and Supporters

The Guyana Rastafari Council Foundation has successfully completed another year in spite of the many challenges and setbacks. These setbacks include the passing of our organization Founding Leader and Elder and its longest serving patron.

The GRC though impeded by this and other constraints has fulfilled its duties to the best of its ability. These duties include the staging of the 10<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Rastafari Conference and the administration of the Guyana Rastafari Council.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Rastafari Conference which was our major undertaking for this year has taught us a lot of lessons. These lessons will definitely guide and direct our future vision and undertakings. Of all these lessons learnt, I definitely have to share two of those with you.

1. “All activities of the children of men which are not guided by the counsel of [Haile Selassie I] will bear no lasting fruits, will not be acceptable in His sight, therefore will come to naught just as the Tower of Babel came to naught.” Haile Selassie I
2. “Unity is the accepted goal” Haile Selassie I

I do pray that those that will be responsible for guiding the destiny of the thousands of Rastafarians locally will take note of those two lessons.

Yours Respectfully

*Ras Simeon*

President

## **Letter of Transmittal**

Greetings President

I, Ras Ashkar, take pleasure in submitting to you the Guyana Rastafari Council Annual Report for the period 2004-2005.

The report and financial statement have been prepared in accordance with the Friendly Societies Act and the constitution of the GRC.

Yours Respectfully

Ras Ashkar

Asst. Secretary

## **General Overview**

The year 2005 started with GRC channeling its vision on the successful staging of the 10<sup>th</sup> Regional Rastafari Conference. The initial plan for this conference had its genesis in early 2004 when it was the intent of both the GRC and the CRO to hold this conference in Dec., 2004. Though June 8<sup>th</sup> plenary session at the Multi-lateral school hadn't achieved its stated objective in the stipulated timeframe, when viewed axiologically, this session had its significance and benefits. These benefits would definitely include the acceptance of the local Rastafari Community of gathering in a particular space to deliberate on issues of social, cultural and economic consequence.

It is with this sense of the importance of gathering and deliberating to strategically plan and implement programmes that another committee was formed to take up the mantle of successfully staging the 10<sup>th</sup> Regional Rastafari Conference. This new committee being aware of the onus of the 10<sup>th</sup> Regional Rastafari Conference embarked upon a broad base method to include as many resourceful persons as possible. This New Conference committee was made up of other sub-committees such as

- PR Committee
- Transportation Committee
- Accommodation Committee
- Food Committee
- Security Committee

The public and private sectors, along with the government were called upon to partake and contribute to this cause. Toward this end the Government pledged 3.2 million, 2.9 of

which were utilized by the committee. The Public and Private sectors had also contributed their lot financially. All these factors combined made the 10<sup>th</sup> Regional Rastafari Gathering a successful one.

## **Setbacks**

One of the major setbacks for the GRC was the passing of one of the Founding Leaders of the Guyana Rastafari Council. Bongo Isdras was taken away on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

Another major setback for the Guyana Rastafari Council Foundation was the unprecedented flood which occurred in February that submerged the East and West Coasts of Demerara thereby hampering any works and plans.

## **Achievements**

Guyana Rastafari Council has applied for ownership of 500 acres of land for agricultural and other usage. The land is situated at Aruwai, Linden, region 10. The papers for the acquisition of the land are presently in process.

In terms of administration, the Guyana Rastafari Council has achieved both tangible and intangible possessions.

### **Tangibles include**

- 2 Computers for Headquarters
- Filing Cabinets
- 2 Printers
- 1 Scanner
- 1 laminating machine

### **Intangibles include**

More administrative knowledge( Thanks to Ijahnya Christian, ERC and UNDP

## **Five-Year Development Objectives**

Increased and participative membership amounting to at least half of the local Rastafari Population.

Land development in the areas of:

1. Housing
2. Agriculture

Structural reconfiguration of the Headquarter to ensure efficient and effective operation.

Establishment of a lucrative micro-economic entity with job creating capacity

Establishment of an educational facility to provide alternative education for Rastafari youths who are falling through the crack in the conventional education system.

Fully paid secretariat

Establishment of representative bodies in the other two counties, viz. Essequibo and Berbice.

### Financial Statement for 2005

12/17/2005

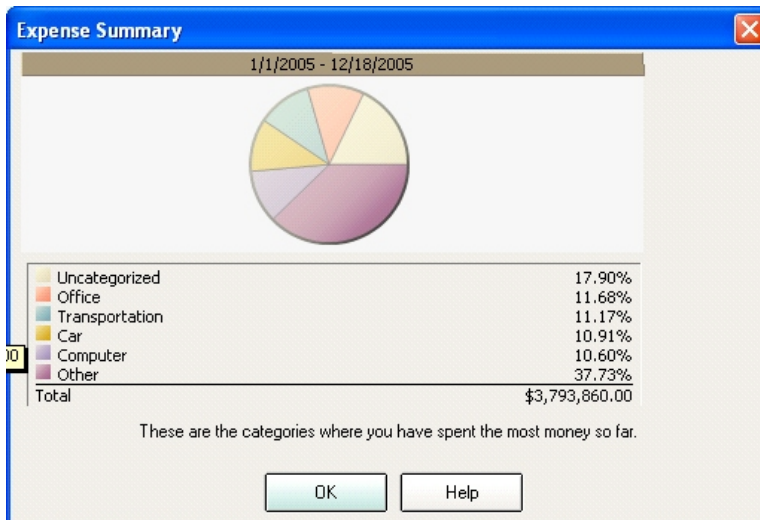
Category Description	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>	
Uncategorized	21,320.00
Gift Received	3,374,066.00
Invest Inc	61,600.00
Loan	21,320.00
Other Inc, Bus	3,000.00
Registration	314,760.00
Services	1,420.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,797,486.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Uncategorized	696,207.00
Car	414,000.00
Clothing	3,000.00
Computer	402,300.00
Conference	30,000.00
Entertainment	150,000.00
Gifts Given	1,500.00
Groceries	194,287.00
Household	18,590.00
Housing	335,000.00
Meals & Entertn	3,000.00
Misc	40,361.00
Miscellaneous, Bus	9,763.00
Office	443,145.00
Parking	1,400.00
Printing and Repr...	19,086.00
Rent	29,000.00
Rent on Equip	4,500.00
Rent Paid	50,000.00
Repairs	1,500.00
Repay loan	43,820.00
Subscriptions	3,000.00
Transportation	423,800.00
Utilities	239,981.00
Wages	248,000.00
Water	620.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENS...</b>	<b>3,805,860.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-8,374.00</b>

# Net Worth - As of 12/18/2005

As of 12/18/2005

Report

Account	12/18/2005 Balance
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	
GRC Savings	308,340.00
Penny Bank	9,470.00
GRC Cash	47,000.00
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>364,810.00</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
Canon printer	25,000.00
Dell Flat Screen	300,000.00
Dell Desktop	300,000.00
Hp printer	20,000.00
Scanner	15,000.00
<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<b>660,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,024,810.00</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>1,024,810.00</b>



**Faces that made this year a successful one**



Haile Selassie I



Ras Simeon



Ras Abdallah



Ras Lester



Ras Ian



Ras Richie



Ras Supa



Sis. Isis



Sis. Tessa



Sis. Tekla



Ras Kent

And there are definitely many others whose photos aren't here but had immeasurably contributed to the success of the GRC.