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Black Repertory Company, November 15th, Providence, Rhode Island, USA



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Respectfully
TTRU Central Committee



RASTAFARI SPEAKS



"On the 17th Maskaram 1909 (27th September 1916) I was chosen heir to throne and regent, with Queen Zawditu occupying the throne; and when I had patiently carried out the work of government, for fourteen years, in my office of regent plenipotentiary, Queen Zawditu died on 24th Magabit 1922 (2nd April 1930) and, consequently, on the morrow I was proclaimed Emperor and assumed the throne.

"As regards the succession to throne and crown, we have read in history that, at a time when Ethiopia lived in isolation and before she had established relations with foreign countries, the prevailing custom had been, at the demise of the Emperor, for his death often to remain carefully unannounced. They would then place his son and heir on the throne and crown him immediately that very day. Only after the son's reign and coronation had been announced by proclamation, would they give a ceremonial burial to the dead King.

"At other times, at the demise of the Emperor, the officers of the royal household would take him clandestinely and bury him, before anyone could hear about it, and on the morrow they would place his son and heir on the throne; after they had conducted the royal installation service and crowned him, the death of the father and the new reign of the son would be announced by proclamation at the same time.

But now that Ethiopia had concluded treaties of commerce and friendship with twelve foreign governments, had entered the League of Nations, and had established firm friendly relations, We were convinced that it was proper - in accordance with the practice of the most civilized governments in the case of their coronations - to invite to Our coronation the countries which had set up legations and consulates in Ethiopia. But as it would require a long time to dispatch the letters of invitation and to await the arrival of the delegates, as well as to make all the necessary preparations for the coronation, We arranged for the ceremony to be postponed for seven months."

"My Life and Ethiopia's Progress, Autobiography of Haile Selassie I " - Page 171-3



Joy Comes in the Morning— Baba Lance Seunarine

In the name of the father, your father, my father, our father Haile I Selassie I, INI am only a messenger. INI come here to night filled with joy for the Bible says to make a joyful noise and as such we have Black Rebels, the DJ, my Empress, and all of us to partake in this wonderful event. First, I want you to turn to your next door neighbor and say Neighbor it is good to be in the House of Jah. Idrens, give thanks to Baba Don King, Brother David and Flambeau for once again sponsoring this event, sister Irese, and most of all yourselves. Give yourself a round applause.

When we were planning this event, my mind immediately went to Black Rebels. After all, when you are in difficulty, your first line of defense should be your family. So, I turned to the Black Rebels and without any doubt in their minds, both Manu and his empress Kalpana, answered yes. This is why I love them so much! They are a selfless group of musicians whom I have the honor to know since 1998 when I first met them in New Paltz, NY. Then, I was promoting *The Lion Roars*, one of my books.

But, today, I want to touch base with the present by invoking the past. The NY Times announced on Saturday November 12, 2005 that Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf the newly elected President of Liberia was the first women leader in African Modern history. What they did not tell you is that if we are defined by them, then they are correct but if we are all Africans then they are incorrect for in the Caribbean we had sister Bynoe the first Governor of Barbados and The Iron Hearted Lady Dame Eugenia Charles the late Prime Minister of Dominica who is now known as the sistren who paved the way for the US Invasion of Grenada.

What the story did not tell you is that Africa is no stranger to women leading government ministries, working to place men in position of authority, or fighting alongside the bredrens in armed struggle.



L-R— Drummer for the Black Rebels of Western Massachusetts Imani and Keyboardist Kete w/ their father Wes @ TTRU Fundraiser Providence, Rhode Island, Nov 15th 2005

The history books will show that women were in the forefront in the struggle of Ethiopia against Mussolini, in the struggle in Guine Bissau, where the PAIGC were victorious against the Portuguese or setting up schools in Mozambique in liberated areas when the struggle was also against the Portuguese. Women are now in control in over 50% of the parliamentary legislative body in Rwanda. A woman, Empress Desta and Rasta is the interim director of Africa Forum in the Diaspora. The latest peace Nobel winner from Kenya is Sister Wangari Muta Maathai whose undaunting task was the replanting of trees through out Africa. Today, Malawi is suffering from erosion for the bredrens are turning the greenery into charcoal holes for their livelihood. Yes, in Malawi one works for 34 cents per day.

My idrens, some of you know that once I am aboard this train I can speak for days but today I promise you I will only mention a few things to stimulate your thoughts about Africa, and Africans. And, when I say Africans, it is inclusive of all in the Motherland as well as the Diaspora.

Please forgive me but I think in the terms that whether you are from Westmoreland, Cape Verde, Trinidad, or Grenada, we are all Africans. I am simply echoing the dictum of Kwame Nkrumah the first President of Ghana and Peter Tosh the great Reggae Artist. I asked you in the name of Michael Manley the former Prime Minister of Jamaica that you first come to terms with your Africaness before any form of development can take place and especially,



if we are to move forward.

Let me remind you that although there have been massive killing in Germany there has been no outcry to ostracize the Germans from the white community. When Ethiopia defeated the Italians the Italians were rewarded with aid; when the Germany was defeated in WW II, there was a Marshall Plan (\$25 Billion) for its rebuilding and redevelopment. But when it came to reparation for Ethiopia, Ethiopia received a paltry amount of \$25 million or \$41.66 per Ethiopian for the 600,000 Ethiopians who die as Mussolini, Graziani and Badoglio attempted to gas them out of existence. In 1994 in Rwanda, 800,000 WaTutsis were slaughtered by the Wa Hutus in 90 days, and make no mistake for this was genocide. The western world failed to respond in time. The West responded buy sending aid after the atrocities were committed. One can read Colonel Dallaire's account (2003) of the mishaps of both the UN and the US in this fiasco in his book Shake Hands with the Devil. As a follow up, you should read The Shallow Graves of Rwanda by Ambassador Khan (2000). In fact, The UN and the western world were spending \$2 billion a day in Humanitarian Aid in Rwanda to cover the botched attempt of their assistance. We must borrow from the Jews "Never Again."

My idrens there is talk that we must return to Africa to assist the Motherland. Ras Nathaniel has designed a Repatriation Census form, Empress Desta speaks highly of also creating a skills Bank. Both are echoing what Brother Malcolm X spoke of, 41 years ago. Malcolm, according to George Brietman (1965) in The Last Year of Malcolm X, was the first to speak of creating a "Technician Bank" so that we can be ready for this day. Ethiopia, the Africa Union, Ras Nathaniel and Empress Desta echo the call.

But as we strategize for this move, we must remember that there are almost a million Africans from the Mother Land here in the US according to the US Census. Elizabeth Grieco, says that the greatest migration to the US come from Ethiopia, Nigeria and Egypt. What is so ironic is that Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in Africa and it sends the most skilled personnel to America.-135,000 per year! Rumbaut and the US Census record that from 2000, the Caribbean sent 1.2 million of its educated sons and daughters to the US with Trinidad leading the way. There is a large Cape Verdian community in Lebanon, PA. Furthermore, as we agree to design a skills bank, we must be realistic that not all will make the trek back to the mother land. And for those who stay behind, it must be clear that they too, should also be committed to helping the homeland, make an attempt to visit the Homeland at least once in their lifetime or better yet, help any community that is predominantly African. As Kwame Ture AKA Stokely Carmichael says that "we are African. Africa is our Home even if a man cannot return home it is his dying wish." Ho Chi Minh also asked Stokely the same question as to when will we return to help liberate Africa? Yes! You must read Ready for the Revolution by Brother Stokely (2003). We must take care of our selves! That is why when Kevin Garnett says that he will donate \$1.2 million to Oprah Winfrey's Angel Network Foundation. We must applaud him. He is putting his money where he believes will help the most. His money will go to the victims of Katrina. It is on this note that I want you to understand that this fund raiser is for The Trinidad and Tobago Rastafari United (TTRU). We are building an Educational, Cultural and Health Center in one of the poorest region in Trinidad -- in our home town. I want to assure all who are here tonight, that any donations given to this cause will not go to the administrative running of the center. You have our word on this. We are dedicated to bringing about a change in our country and we have solicited assistance from all regardless of color for we are Rasta not racist.

Continued on next page



Baba Lance @ TTRU Booth at the fundraiser November 15th Providence, Rhode Island.



Joy Comes in the Morning— Baba Lance Seunarine

While there is much talk that Africans in the Diaspora should return home and assist Africa, I do not want to leave this session tonight with anyone thinking that Africa does not have skilled workers and that it cannot function on its own or without the Africans in the Diaspora. Africans have always been in the forefront for their independence starting with the Pan African Movement at the first gathering in 1900 called by Sylvester Williams in Westminster Abbey, London. At this conference, Africa's representatives came from Ethiopia (Benito Sylvian was representing both Haiti and Ethiopia), Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gold Coast (Ghana), and the Ivory Coast. In 1945, at the 5th Pan African Conference, the joint leadership was in the hands of Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and George Padmore, a Trinidadian and advisor to Kwame Nkrumah. Also participating at this time, were Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya and Grantley Adams of Barbados and leader of the Barbados Progressive League. The decision for change was in the hands of Africans from the Motherland. (See Tony Martin (1983) *The Pan African Connection*, MA: Majority Press). In 1946, as a follow up, the Africans from the continent met once more to put into action the plan arrived at the 5th Conference (also referred to as the Manchester Conference). On October 21, 1946, over 700 delegates met at Bamako and issued the now famous declaration known as the Bamako Declaration where they declared that Africa should have its independence. It also called for Unity for the entire Continent. So my idrens, Africa was always involved in the plans for its own liberation. Let us not forget this!

I want to address another issue: transportation and trade to Africa. There is much talk about the resurrection of the Black Star Line. As I read more about this valiant attempt, I want to say that although many have associated this thought with Marcus Garvey, the credit should really go to Rev Turner of Chicago who spoke of this plan in 1895 and then Chief Sam of Ghana.

According to Esedebe (1982) in his excellent book *Pan Africanism: The Idea and Movement*,

he records this event where Chief Sam purchased The Curityba from the Germans and then renamed it SS Liberia and sailed it under the British flag in 1914. The British were leary of Chief Sam's plan just as they were afraid of King Ja Ja of Opobo. The latter was exiled to Grenada after he had become a successful businessman in Palm Oil in the Lagos region of Nigeria. King Ja Ja was in direct competition with Tate and Lyle. Both knew that the best way to win over the minds of Africans is through Trade. Brother Robert Hill (1983:541-542) in *The Garvey Papers* records the beliefs of Chief Sam as the British pursued ways to end this stalwart brother's plan. Chief Sam states that the British were firmly entrenched in Ghana which at that time was called Gold Coast; that they were afraid of competition, and that they were afraid of Blacks who would introduce skills that would make them less dependent on the British and the British did not want any trade diverted from the "mother Country." Eric Williams (1944) records in *Capitalism and Slavery*, the role of Africa during slavery and how Liverpool, Manchester and Lancaster expanded into metropolitan cities from fishing villages. It was still the same in 1914! This is one of the main reasons in 1966 for the overthrow of Osagyefo Kwame Nkrumah. And, finally, they were afraid that Blacks would disturb the racial harmony / peace in the colony.

And I want to say finally, this dream to build in Trinidad has been kept alive for over 30 years by TTRU'S Global Coordinator Ras Ravin. Without his leadership, we would not be here tonight. He is a champion for our rights at Home. I salute you my bredren and thank you for allowing me to take part in this struggle. To all the TTRU members, here and abroad, I give thanks. Africans tonight and as we pass the bag around, we ask you to dig deep into your pockets to assist us in this worthy cause.

Jah bless Misgana! Jah Rastafari!
Brother Lance

Given at the TTRU Fund Raiser @ The Black Repertoire theater, Rhode Island, 11/15/2005.





TTRU members stand for photo



TTRU members in Trinidad



Bongo Lenny



TTRU

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO RASTAFARI UNITED

Trinidad and Tobago Rastafari United Inc.

We would like to thank the following people for all the wonderful help and support that they gave free-heartedly , on the 15th of November at the TTRU fundraiser in Providence, Rhode Island. Thank you all very much.

- Black Repertory Company— Venue
- Black Rebels— Music
- Soullution— Music
- Sister Irese Shea— Food, Advertising, Promotion
- Sister Gladys Portalatin— Door
- Bro David— Flambeau Representative/ Sponsor
- Baba Lance— Lecture, Book Sales/ Information Booth
- Bro. Don King— Black Rep Company

And last but not least, the TTRU house in Trinidad for their spirit and support.

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Columbus and the Origins of Resistance in the New World— By Brett Alvere

Greetings my bredren.

I write to you from the land of the most supreme injustice, the Belly of the Beast, Imperial America, heart of Babylon. In these last days Babylon's self-worship is manifested in the annual celebration and commemoration of the murderous thief Christopher Columbus. Schools closed, businesses closed, and throngs of people filled the streets to watch parades held in his honor. Babylon celebrates the myth of Columbus, her subjects revel in their ignorance and ambivalence to the actual deeds of he, his crew, and those who came after him. Surrounded by this wickedness which has no ears to listen, I cry out to thee my bredren so I truth may be heard.

Rastafari know Columbus' voyage was the beginning of European genocide, downpression, and domination in the New World. Columbus himself founded the Trans-Atlantic slave trade when he returned to Spain with kidnapped Arawaks, setting in motion the mechanisms that would later comprise the horrors of the Middle Passage. The enslavement of Africans by the Portuguese had already begun centuries earlier but the conditions they endured in the mansions of Europe were far better than the hell of plantation life in North America and the Caribbean. Columbus set all of this in motion. He set the precedents of greed, corruption, rape, and genocide that would become a model for every other European oppressor that came after him.

Columbus had made promises to the regents of Spain, who answered to the Pope in Rome, guaranteeing a significant profit on the investment they made in outfitting his voyage. Although Africans calculated the exact circumference of the earth thousands of years prior to his journey, Columbus was ignorant to these findings and foolishly thought he could find a shorter route to the Orient via the Atlantic. His error caused him to land in peaceful island nations, not driven by greed for gold and material wealth. Refusing to acknowledge his blunder and desperate to make good on his promises, Columbus forced the true owners of the land, who had reached out their hands to him and his crew in friendship and hospitality,

to mine for gold and pay him tribute. Anyone who failed to bring tribute was executed or mutilated so as to serve as an example to others who refused to submit to Spanish authority.

Babylonian history books say that the Arawaks and Caribs quickly disappeared, fleeing or dying of European diseases, but the truth is many stood up to fight. Just as H.I.M. Haile Selassie I would repel invading Italians in Ethiopia centuries later, Caribs and Arawaks fought to eradicate the Spanish occupiers from the time of their arrival. Indian coalition forces destroyed the first European military base ever installed in the New World, La Navidad, its 39 inhabitants were executed for charges of thievery, rape, and other crimes against humanity. Thousands of Arawaks on Hispaniola wreaked havoc on European settlers and when the colonists retaliated, they died fighting in battle or took their own lives and those of their children rather than live under Columbus' yoke. In Cuba and Haiti, thousands took refuge in the hills and provided food and shelter to enslaved Africans who had been brought in to replace Indian labor. These 'maroon' communities became hotbeds for political, cultural, and military resistance and revolution.

The point, my bredren, is that this resistance should be celebrated, this resistance should be commemorated. Rather than shunning Columbus Day for its celebration of Euro-American greed and violence, InI should celebrate the courage and bravery of those who fought like true Rastas to remove those shackles or refused to wear them altogether. Let us not lament Columbus Day as the beginning of European domination in the Western Hemisphere, let us instead celebrate the achievements of those who fought against the unholy Europeans. Just as Columbus' wickedness established the model for European genocide, the resistance of the Caribs, the Arawaks, the Maroons, the Freedom Fighters established the model of resistance that InI trod this day: from the victory at La Navidad, to the Haitian Revolution, to Nat Turner's war, to the NUFF movement in Trinidad, to the current mission of TTRU and Rastafari outernational. Let our fallen bredren know they did not die in vain in their fight against Babylon. Their fight is our fight, the one battle against the Beast of Revelations.

Columbus and the Origins of Resistance in the New World— By Brett Alvare

And now that Selassie I come to reign let us rejoice on this Columbus Day, for behold, the Conquering Lion of Judah has opened the book and loosed the Seven Seals thereof and Babylon is falling. And once she is downstroyed, the fallen Freedom Fighters will take their rightful place in the new history of Jah creation, and InI will continue to celebrate their courage and inspiration.

Give thanks, Bretton Alvare.
Temple University

Letter to the Trinidad Express Newspaper

Dear Express Editor,

Please permit us to address the community of Fyzabad. It is with a concern for security and safety that we write this letter to the community.

To the Fyzabad community:

The Trinidad and Tobago Rastafari United (TTRU) was formed in Fyzabad by Rastafari brethren and sisters, who reside and work amongst you. We have grown up and have lived in Fyzabad all of our lives. We are your children, your neighbors, your friends and co- workers.

In August of 2005 we launched our organization which is geared toward community development. On July 23rd 2005, we held a successful motorcade commemorating the birth of His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie1; we also held a free health clinic in which the village was invited to participate and where 47 residents were afforded free health check-ups. On October 30th 2005 we held a family day and sports meet on the Gallows at Delhi Rd.

We are in the process of building a multi-purpose learning center on land that we have purchased at Gowers Well Rd, Fyzabad. This learning center will be made available to the community of Fyzabad. We have already started a free library, which is being used by members of the community.

Our office in the United States has so gratefully supplied us with the necessary tools and funding to carry out these projects.

On the 10th of November 2005 our compound at Gowers Well Rd was vandalized and the thieves carried away tools and equipment worth several thousand of dollars. This we see as a blatant attack on our security and safety. We ask that the community not purchase the following stolen items:

- 1) Echo chain saw— \$ 1400.00
- 2) Rayobi brush cutter— \$ 1200.00
- 3) CD /cassette player— \$ 600.00

These items are part of a lager inventory of TTRU working tools. The perpetrators are well known to the larger community and information has surfaced as to the identity of the three criminals.

Thank you,
Respectfully,
TTRU Central Committee.



Presence of Spirits—By Ras Ravin-I

To understand the mystical revelation of Rastafari, one has to transcend the realms of physical realities; a study of the world's religious, spiritual, socio-economic, historical and geographical philosophies will be required to come to terms with inner concept of "I." Also the knowledge of African and Indian spiritual concepts and livity will help the reader to visualize the author's vision of mystical wisemind of Rastafari.

One would have to weave the thread that's connects Africans and Indians to their respective ancient traditions. It is important to understand their day to day spiritual and cultural experiences, their geographical connections, as well as food and clothing, in short, their very existence as a people.

African traditional religion is faith based. It is faith that does not call for evidence to be displayed amongst its practitioners, and yet does not engage in metaphysics. It simply is. Nothing is taken for granted. This faith has been the subject of serious scrutiny by White western "scholars," who, by reasons of their inherited privilege believe that without "their" analysis, the African spiritual concept is not real faith.

Throughout the world's aboriginal societies, spiritual practices can vary from village to village and country to country, but the commonality is the same, since all of these variations were at one time part of a whole, and became divided up by man's experiences and adaptation to environmental changes, and technological developments.

In all of its variations, the African spiritual thought and traditions remain as elusive as ever. The common thread that runs through them all, is the same thread that runs through the ancient religious practices found on the Indian sub-continent amongst the Dalits and Dravidian peoples, and which is found inherent in the aboriginal peoples of Australia and the Americas.

The presence of spirits is an important aspect of aboriginal spiritual thought; spirits can be found in everything, and oftentimes moulds the behavior of the people. Spirits are said to communicate the wishes of the Gods and are pleased by the performance of tribal rituals executed by the local shamans or priests. Through dance music and art these rituals are kept alive and passed on from generation to generation.

Physical symbolisms are often used in different practices to establish a link between the spirit world and the world of the living,

and one can see the presence of these symbols adorning homes, persons and places of worship, but the differences in the symbolisms and practices do not take away from the common African thought that Jah is in everything and has created everything.

Symbolisms can be found in abundance in the Hindu tradition, all of which represent different fractions of a whole. Many of the Indian sub-continent's spiritual practices have it's roots in African traditions, all of which was brought with the Dravidian arrival into Northern India. The intervention and invasion of the Aryans, mangled and raped the ancient spiritual culture of the Dalit/Dravidian Africans, thus creating the practice we now call Hinduism, this religious practice is rooted in a complexion based caste system.

*The following explanation is from
The Mahabharata,
THE FOUR ORDERS OF HUMAN BEINGS
From The Mahabharata
Santi Parva, Section CLXXXVIII

Brigu said, ".... (The Creator created) human beings with their four divisions, viz., Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, Vaisyas, and Sudras. The complexion the Brahmanas obtained was white; that which the Kshatriyas obtained was red; that which the Vaisyas got was yellow; and that which was given to the Sudras was black."
[The commentator explains that the words expressive of hue or colour really mean attributes. What is intended to be said is that the Brahmanas had the attribute of Goodness (Sattwa); the second order had the attribute of Passion (Rajas); the third got a mixture of the two, i.e., both goodness and passion (Sattwa and Rajas); while the lowest order got the remaining attribute, viz., Darkness (Tamas).]
*The Mahabharata
Udyoga Parva, Section XXIX*

*KRISHNA Says:
"The following are the duties declared for a SUDRA (black skinned) from the olden times.
He should serve the Brahmanas and submit to them; should not study; sacrifices are forbidden to him; he should be diligent and be constantly enterprising in doing all that is for his good. The king protects all these with proper care, and sets all the castes to perform their respective duties.*

A VAISYA should study and diligently earn and accumulate wealth by means of commerce, agriculture, and the tending of cattle. He should so act as to please the Brahmanas and the Kshatriyas, be virtuous, do good works, and be a householder.

Presence of Spirits—By Ras Ravin-I

A KSHATRIYA should protect the people in accordance with the injunctions of the law, diligently practise the virtue of charity, offer sacrifices, study the whole Veda, take a wife, and lead a virtuous householder's life. If he be possessed of a virtuous soul, and if he practices the holy virtues, he may easily attain the religion of the Supreme Being.

A BRAHMAN should study (the Vedas), offer sacrifices, make charities, and sojourn to the best of all holy places on the earth; he should teach, minister as a priest in sacrifices offered by others worthy of such help, and accept gifts from persons who are known."

The word 'Hinduism' does not appear anywhere in Hindu scriptures, the proper name for Hinduism is 'Sanatan Dharma' Sanatan = eternal Dharma = religion.

The above quotation clearly shows the division of people by caste (skin color). Here, we can see the conversion of an ancient African people being subjected to Aryan influences, both cultural and physical. In truth, Hinduism was never the religion or at no time was it a spiritual concept of the Black people of India. The Aryan invasion recreated the spiritual attitudes of the Ethio/Indian people. The Black people of India were forcefully "trained" and subjected to these foreign influences, which later became "their" religious belief. It has come to the point of being "born" into this particular religious behavior. We can, however conclude that Hinduism is racially motivated.

“Lower caste Hindus in South India (Tamil Nadu) tend to be black skinned because, unlike the rest of India where the caste system was introduced by the Aryans by enslaving the indigenous Dravidians, the caste system was introduced in Tamil Nadu by making the Dravidians (Tamilians) accept the caste system under the garb of "religious conversion" by making the black Tamil kings convert from Buddhism and Jainism to Hindu caste religion.”
By INIYAN ELANGO, M.D.

It has become evident, that the Aryan (White) race has been hatching a master plan for centuries. It was their desire to control the wealth of the world, through their barbaric conquests and war mongering; the "spoils" of war became theirs.

Through trickery and manipulation, they have elevated their personal holdings, which they then passed down to their descendants for generations.

And this privilege we see being translated into modern day lifestyles of the Caucasian and Anglo peoples.

Ras Ravin-I



Dalit Dravidian woman from South India





Ras Jahaziel The Revelator

HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS is the faculty that causes one's eyes to truly see. Without it one is virtually blind, and so, it is true to say that ...

WORTHWHILE OPINIONS CAN ONLY BE FORMED BY AN INFORMED PEOPLE

TO KNOW GOD YOU MUST KNOW YOUR SELF

TO KNOW YOUR SELF YOU MUST KNOW YOUR HISTORY, for therein lie the seeds of ACUTE NEGRO PSYCHOSIS, the now wide-spread disease that prevents knowledge of self.

Some would ask, "But why do you have to draw so many analogies with THE PLANTATION, THE FIELD NEGRO, THE HOUSE NEGRO, THE SLAVEMASTER, AND THE SLAVE ?"

The answer is, that in Black life today there are too many similarities, and too many unchanged realities which indicate clearly that the names have changed but the drama remains the same.

One can only deny this if one has made a stubborn committment not to see the slave master's ghost that hovers menacingly over every institutional arrangement that governs Black life to-day ...or if one has become so accustomed to the way of the plantation, that long familiarity and long internalization have made it invisible to one's eyes.

YOU ARE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELF IF YOU SAY YOU KNOW YOURSELF BUT DO NOT KNOW YOUR HISTORY, and just hearing that "we were slaves" is not really KNOWING your history.

KNOWING must involve having an intimate knowledge of the historical circumstances that triggered our present-day MENTAL DISORDERS. With such knowledge, one would be able to look at a blonde haired black woman or a "PERMED" Black woman and make the connection with the days when Black people were forcibly made to believe that their lack of STRAIGHT HAIR AND WHITE SKIN is a curse from God. One would be able to trace the long ongoing psychosis that resulted from this belief, and one would understand why Blacks have struggled for so long to escape THEIR REAL HAIR AND THEIR REAL SKIN COLOR.

Many of these present day psychological disorders can only be explained and understood by taking into account the major roles that sexual abuse, terrorism, and brainwashing played in our slave experience.

KNOWING OURSELVES must therefore involve the recognition that violent RAPE on a day to day basis is the main factor that helped to make many of us look less like our African ancestors, and therefore when we show an inordinate preference



BY RAS JAHAZIEL
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WORTHWHILE OPINIONS CAN ONLY BE FORMED BY AN INFORMED PEOPLE

for the slave master's race in any form whatsoever we are actually giving our back-dated consent to the rape of our fore-mothers.

TRUE KNOWING of our history will also not omit the fact that the Black male too was subjected to frequent rape by his degenerate Greco-Roman captors. This is an important element of our slave experience, which though shameful, cannot be overlooked because it is responsible in large measure for much of the presently unquestioned homosexual frame of mind that has evolved in the Black community since then.

Too often we have failed to realize that continued domination and subjugation necessitated the continued EMASCULATION of the Black male. Either by castration as was the case with many of the publicly lynched victims, or by rape of Black youths, Black masculinity was constantly under attack

When a Black male was lynched and castrated, all Black males were at the same time being psychologically emasculated by the terror and the helplessness that resulted from the spectacle.

Through a knowledge of these historical attacks on Black manhood, we are better able to understand that the inordinate incarceration of the Black male today, and the tacit encouragement of homosexuality in the prison system are part and parcel of the same scheme of BLACK EMASCULATION.

When we begin to understand that psychological phenomena can sometimes span many generations, it becomes less difficult to comprehend the relationship between past experiences and present behavioral manifestations. Therefore, true healing of ourselves can only come after a thorough examination of our slave history.

This is what KNOWING YOURSELF is all about. It necessarily involves knowing the source of one's thinking and one's actions, so that one can be better able to correct them. With such knowledge of our history one would be less apt to collaborate with THE RAPIST,

and less likely to embrace the corruption that comes from long subjection under the weight of degenerate Greco-Roman pirates

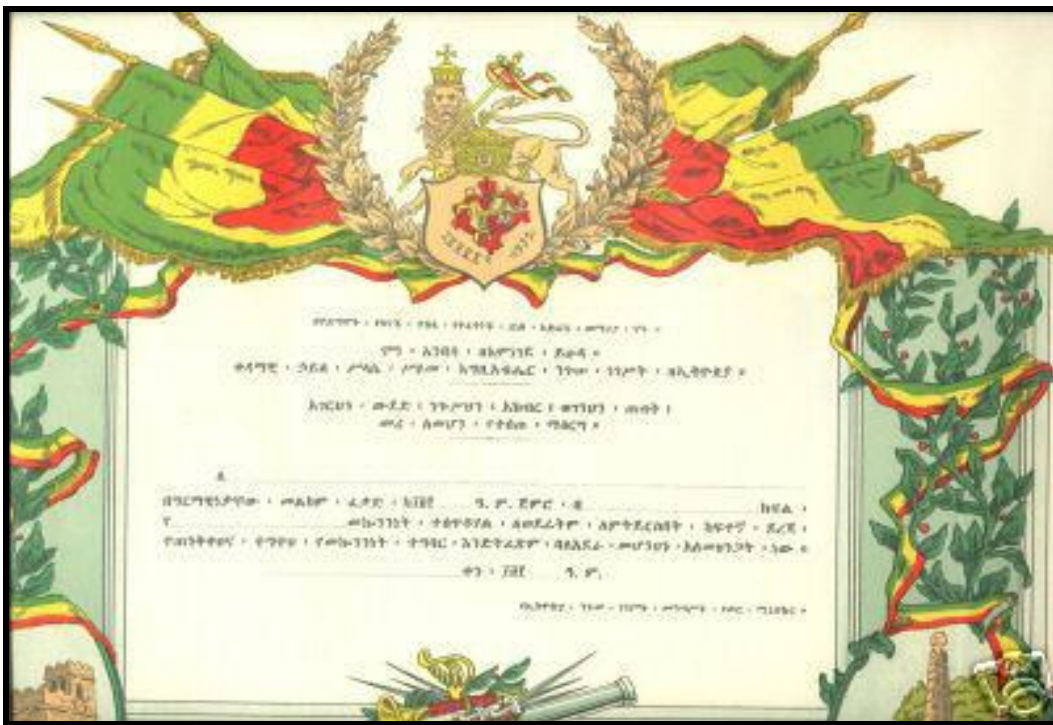
Most of us who are slave-descendants do not even have a memory that stretches as far back as our grandfather's father, and the little that we have heard about those that have gone before is only sketchy and vague. Why is so little really known about our foreparents other than that they were slaves? It is because up to this day they have been treated as history's "NO-PEOPLE." They were the anonymous tools that were used to create white wealth, and when they were worn out and useless to their white slave masters, they were then discarded with less dignity than was bestowed on the slave master's pet dog or horse.

Countless are the white ancestral slave masters who are commemorated up to this day, but the peoples of Africa who gave of their tears, sweat, and blood, are still considered as the invisible collateral damage of white nation building. As an African slave descendant, you were taught to be ashamed of your foreparents, and to treat them with the same lack of respect that the white man showed them. That is why today we so often shun the discussion of slavery and collaborate in maintaining the solid blanket of silence that continues to rob our foreparents of their humanity.

As a people we have consented to keep our foreparents buried in shame like so many nameless dogs, because we have been trained to proudly remember the white man's ancestors like Jefferson, Lincoln, Columbus, and Santa Klaus instead of our own.

So herein lies the reason for the continuation of Black self-hate, because any people whose ancestors are buried in shame and ignominy are themselves bound to live ignominiously under the spell of perpetual shame and self-hate.

To every generation is handed down a unique historical imperative. The imperative of this generation is to break the silence and restore dignity to our nameless, unrecognized, uncompensated, and dehumanized foreparents, upon whose ragged dead bodies great affluence now boasts itself



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