



Layers of Blackness

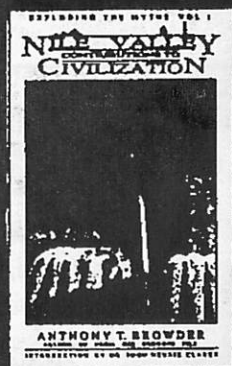


BLACK REBELLION

GABRIEL PROSPER
NATURAL R
MARDON
MARK V. DEY
HAITIAN REVOLUTION
ARISTARHUTNY
CREOLE MURDER
TONGUE REBELLION



Race and History



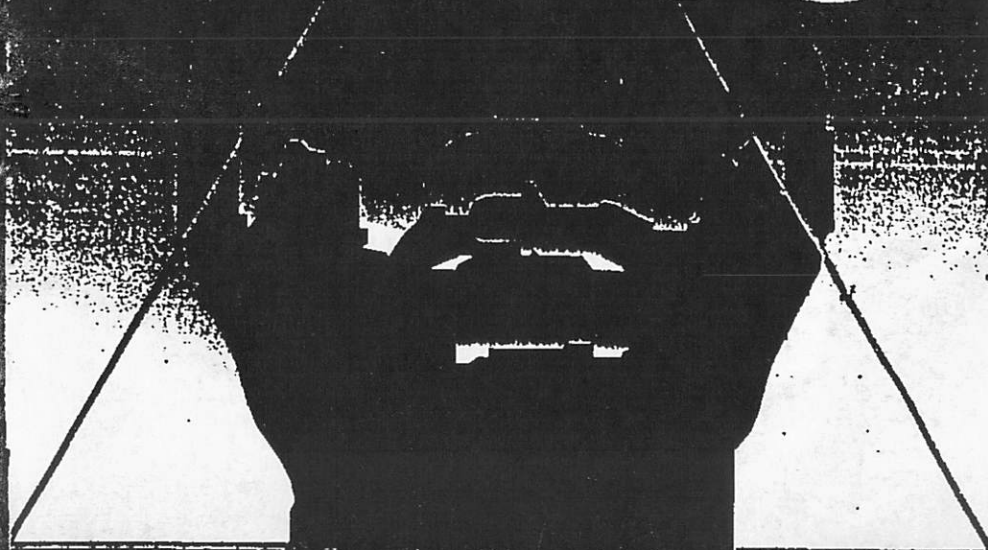
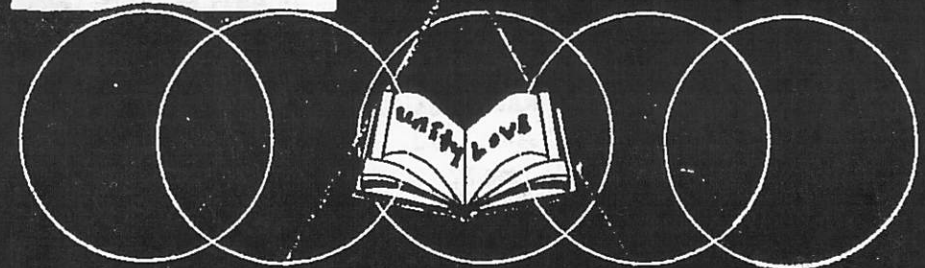
South Chicago ABC
Zine Distro
P.O. Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430

Tribute to Marcus Garvey
The Moorish Science Temple of America
and
The Rastafarian Community
WELCOMES YOU TO CELEBRATE:
Marcus Garvey's Birthday

KNOW
THY
SELF



Selected Writings
and Speeches of
Marcus Garvey



"WE LACK KNOWLEDGE OF SELF"

- 12:30-12:45 MUSICAL PRESENTATION: THE BAND
 12:45- 1:00 ETHIOPIAN PRAYER: RAS JAH LAW
 1:00- 1:05 MOORISH AMERICAN PRAYER: BRO. D. LEWIS-BEY
 1:05- 1:10 POETRY SELECTION: BRO. HO-TEP
 1:10- 1:20 PRESENTATION: NATION OF GODS AND EARTH BY
 BRO. JUSTICE
 1:20- 1:30 PRESENTATION: MOORISH SCIENCE TEMPLE OF
 AMERICA, BY BRO. NEWBY-BEY
 1:30- 1:35 PERFORMANCE: MERCENARY MARTY & YOUNG YAB
 1:35- 1:45 PRESENTATION: RASTAFARIAN COMMUNITY, BY
 RAS JAH LAW
 1:45- 1:55 PRESENTATION: CHRISTIAN, BY BRO. BIG FIVE
 1:55- 2:00 PERFORMANCE: RAS PANIC I
 2:00- 2:05 POETRY SELECTION: BRO. HO-TEP
 2:05- 2:15 PRESENTATION: SUNNI COMMUNITY, BY
 BRO. OLE SCHL
 2:15- 2:25 PERFORMANCE: MERCENARY MARTY & YOUNG YAB
 2:25- 2:35 PERFORMANCE: RAS PANIC I
 2:35- 2:45 PRESENTATION: NATION OF ISLAM, BY
 BRO. CHRIS X
 2:45- 2:55 PRESENTATION: MOORISH TEMPLE SCIENCE OF
 AMERICA, BY BRO. RAGLAND-EL
 2:55- 3:00 CLOSING REMARKS: BY RAS JAH LAW &
 BRO. D. LEWIS-BEY

PAMPHLET DESIGN: BY RAS KING

TRIBUTE TO MARCUS GARVEY

August 17, 1887 - June 10, 1940

WHERE WE ALL COME TOGETHER



Study History

The study of history cannot be a mere celebration of those who struggled on our behalf. We must be instructed by history and should transform history into concrete reality, into planning and development, into the construction of power and the ability to ensure our survival as a people. If not, Black History Month becomes an exercise in the inflation of egos; it becomes an exercise that cuts us further off from reality. Ironically, we now see even other people who are not our friends joining us in this celebration, which means that they must see in it some means of protecting their own interests, and see in it something that works for them, and possibly against us. If they can celebrate our history and see it as something positive, then it means that we are not using it in a revolutionary sense. They do not see our study of it as a threat to their power. If we are not studying it in a way that it is a threat to their power then we are studying it incorrectly, and our celebration of it is helping to maintain us in a state of deception. So let us make sure that we look at and study history in a light such that it advances our interests, not inflates our egos and blinds us to reality.

Therefore, think again when we celebrate Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, King, and others. We should begin to look at the central issues. If our study of Black history is merely an exercise in feeling good about ourselves, then we will die feeling good. We must look at the lessons that history teaches us. We must understand the tremendous value of the study of history for the *re-gaining* of power. If our education is not about gaining real power, we are being miseducated and misled and we will die "educated" and misled.

QUOTES FROM MARCUS GARVEY

"The Black skin is not a badge of shame, but rather a glorious symbol of national greatness"

"If you have no confidence in self you are twice defeated in the race of life. With confidence you have won even before you have started."



"This propaganda of dis-associating Western Negroes from Africa is not a new one. For many years white propagandists have been printing tons of literature to impress scattered Ethiopia, especially that portion within their civilization, with the idea that Africa is a despised place, inhabited by savages, and cannibals, where no civilized human being should go, especially black civilized human beings. This

propaganda is promulgated for the cause that is being realized today. That cause is COLONIAL EXPANSION for the white nations of the world."

"Behind the murder of millions of Negroes annually in Africa is the well organized system of exploitation by the alien intruders who desire to rob Africa of every bit of its wealth for the satisfaction of their race and the upkeep of their bankrupt European countries."

"Present day statesmen are making the biggest blunder of the age if they believe that there can be any peace without equity and justice to all mankind."

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

"Up, up, you mighty race! You can accomplish what you will."

Garvey's Legacy in Context: Colourism, Black Movements and African Nationalism

It is on the shoulders of Garvey that tenets of political, social and economic self-determination for Africans and the creation of a global African nation were built. In fact the widespread influence of Garveyism as a Pan-Africanist and liberation ideology far outstripped his actual achievements in his lifetime.

"Take down the pictures of white men and women from your walls and elevate your own men and women to that place of honor... We have a beautiful history, and we shall create another one in the future. When savages, heathens, and pagans inhabited Europe, Africa was peopled with a race of cultured Black men, who were masters in art, science, and literature. Whatsoever a Black man has done, a Black man can do." — Marcus Garvey

"You have been very careful, very careful, introducing the truth to the Black man who has never previously heard the truth about himself, his people, and the white man. The Black brother is so brainwashed that he may even be misled when he first hears the truth. Reginald advised that the truth had to be dropped only a little bit at a time. And you had to wait a while to let it sink in before advancing the next step." — Malcolm X

"Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph." — Haile Selassie I

Breaking the Chains of Psychological Slavery

Read:

Leadership

Probably one of the most destructive influences which has grown out of slavery is the disrespect of African-American leadership. The allegory is seen throughout nature that the most certain way to destroy life is to cut off the head. From the turkey to the cow to the human being, the most immediate way to bring death to a body is to remove its head. This is especially true as a social principle. One of the things that was systematically done during slavery was the elimination of control of any emerging "head" or leader. Slave narratives and historical accounts are full of descriptions of atrocities brought against anyone who exemplified real leadership capability. The slave holders realized that their power and control over the slaves was dependent upon the absence of any indigenous leadership among the slaves.

Any slave who began to emerge as a natural head, that is, one oriented toward survival of the whole body, was identified early and was either eliminated, isolated, killed, or ridiculed. In his or her place was put a leader who had been carefully picked, trained, and tested to stand only for the master's welfare. In other words, unnatural heads were attached to the slave communities. They furthered the cause of the master and frustrated the cause of the slave.

The slaves were taught to view with suspicion natural leaders who emerged from among themselves. Such heads were identified as "uppity" or "arrogant," and were branded as the kind of trouble-makers who were destined to bring trouble to the entire slave community. This idea was reinforced by the public punishment of such indigenous leadership and any of his/her associates or sympathizers. The entire slave community was often required to carry an extra burden or be deprived of some small privilege, primarily because of such "uppity slaves."

Such practices rather firmly entrenched the opposition to natural leaders. They were often isolated by their own community, and were usually the victims of fellow slave "snitches" who reported to the master that someone was brewing trouble. The "snitches," having demonstrated their loyalty to the master, were usually promoted to the position of slave leader, and another grafted leader was born—i.e., with a slave body and master's head. The slave community was encouraged to view the greater power given to the master-trained leader as an indication of his superior worth as a leader. The master-trained leader was rewarded, praised and given privileges as an inducement for the slaves to follow this manufactured leadership.



willing to sell their neighbors for promises of wealth and power, so are African-American leaders of today's street organizations, who strive to create a large drug addicted clientele, selling the lives of their neighbors for promises of wealth and power. And those who buy and sell drugs, creating criminals who must support expensive habits, eventually find themselves behind bars, locked up alongside those who were previously victims ... just like those who sold slaves often found themselves chained on the bottom of a slave ship.

Civic leaders speak out against crime, begging for more job programs for youth to keep them out of gangs, pleading for more police patrol of neighborhoods to cut down on violence. But seldom is the question asked, or answered: Where are these young people getting the guns and the drugs?

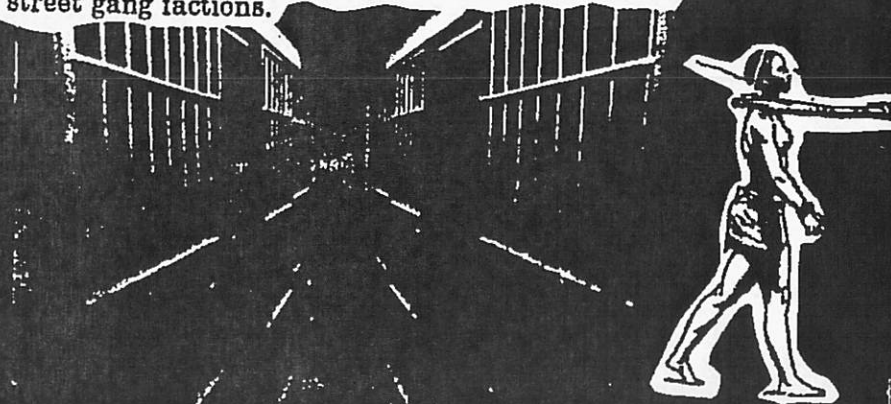
Certainly major shipments of processed drugs and sophisticated weaponry could not enter the country and circulate throughout major urban centers without the knowledge of top government officials. The drug problem is by no means confined to any one race. But despite all the signs that this is an industry controlled by big business, the mass media continues to place bulk of the blame on the shoulders of poor urban blacks.

WORDS FROM BEHIND THE WALL

YOU HAVE TO CHANGE IT.

GUNS AND DRUGS BUILD PRISONS

The widescale availability of drugs has made it necessary for groups to fight for control of territories where drugs may be sold. And thus we have the present day urban Drug Wars. Just as Europeans sold guns and whiskey to rival African nations in return for their prisoners of war, much of the violence conducted on America's urban streets today are instigated by the sale of guns and drugs to rival street gang factions.



In a society which deliberately manufactures people to be prison bound, illiterate, unemployable, destitute, and drug/alcohol induced, we can never afford the luxury of not taking the initiative in the welfare and safety of our communities. Prisons are a multi-million dollar industry in this state. They are springing up everywhere, and they employ mostly Caucasians. Again, our welfare is taken out of our hands. Prisons are strategically placed in regions predominantly Caucasian, that way no one having an interest in the people inside will be anywhere around should they decide to exterminate us.

Prison has become the new slave market, where those captured are chained by the wrists and locked behind walls of concrete and steel, to be given a new identity (a prison number), and forced to labor and languish in helpless hopelessness.

Just as African leaders of yesterday were

YOU CAN'T WIN THIS GAME...

This suspicion is manifested in a rather pervasive disrespect for Black leaders, unless they come equipped with a supply of token or mystical power. The token power usually comes in the form of a limousine, some ostentatious clothing, and some rather impressive jewelry. The mystical power requires identifying one's leadership as having some kind of "divine legitimization." These leaders often gain considerable followings of an intensely emotional form.

The other "leaders" who gain strong support are projected by the "master's" media and press, and are often chosen from uninformed athletes, politically naive preachers or even entertainers. The leadership of such persons seldom extends beyond their faddish and transitory stardom. Meanwhile, all other forms of small scale and large scale leaders, indigenous and otherwise, are destroyed by suspicion and disrespect.

As a people, African-Americans must begin to recognize the disposition which has been conditioned in us to reject natural, effective leadership. If we understand that we have been programmed through our history to reject our natural heads, we may begin to become more conscious of recognizing true leaders. It can be easily demonstrated that the persistent distrust and limited support given to African-American leaders has its origin in the many inappropriate heads which have been affixed to our bodies historically.



RASTA CREED

We are Unorthodox Rastafarians, we do not belong to any "House," and have not established a body of rules and regulations to govern the affairs of others. Neither do we suggest to brethren and sistren how to worship, pray, eat, nor live. We abide under the Natural Law of God (JAH) and encourage each human being on earth to seek JAH in his/her own heart and to allow JAH to guide them in the light of truth and righteousness.

We believe that there is no religion greater than truth and that there is one God called by many names and one truth spoken in many different languages. In this regard, belief must not (should not) be a basis for fellowship—there are many roads leading to the city of God. When we do teach, we do so via educational and spiritual seminars, and workshops where we teach the history, way of life and basic tenants of the Rastafarian faith. We also endeavor to teach by setting positive examples.

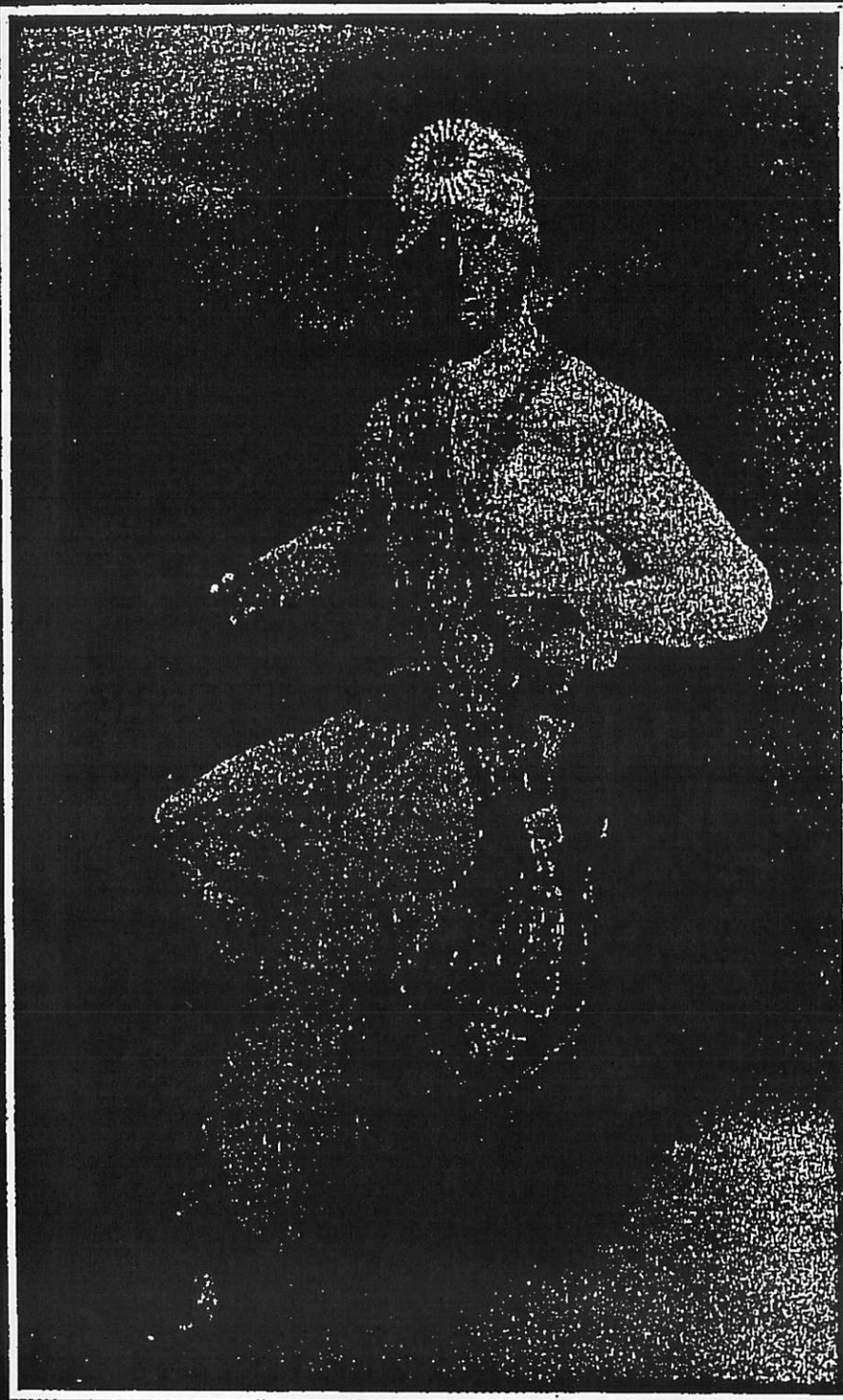
We do not have a set time to pray (meditate), except Sacred and Holy days, to us prayer is a continuous daily meditation. We give thanks and praises to JAH throughout the awakening hours of the day and night.

We do not Try to convert others to our belief, nor do we engage in debates, nor argue about whose path is the only way or the right or wrong way, but we will share knowledge with those who are seriously seeking to understand our sacred African-centered way of life—this is our duty and obligation.

Blessed are a people who seek their own, beautify and maintain it, for in their barns there shall be plenty; great shall they be among men. The Lord shall glory in them and their daughters shall be the wives of mighty men.

Woe be unto a people, a race who seek not their own foundation; their wives shall be servants for the wives of other men, and their daughters shall be wives of poor men and of vagabonds, and there shall be tears because of privation, then in the end hell everlasting for there shall be no reward in the kingdom of heaven for slothful nor the unconcerned.

Woe be unto a race of people who forsake their own and adhere to the doctrine of another. They shall be slaves to the people thereof.



The nationality of Prophet Noble Drew Ali was Moorish American, the same as the people he came to uplift. The Prophet uplifted his people by teaching them the Truth—the truth as to their creed, and the truth as to their customs. He taught them to be themselves, and the things necessary “to make better citizens” of men and women. He let them know that the Moorish-Americans are a part of this government, The United States government, and they must obey the laws thereof. As a result the Moorish-Americans are good citizens, and an asset to the country also, they endeavor to uplift others who have fallen along the way of life, to redeem them so as to make them an asset to the government, rather than social detriments and wards of the government.

Marcus Garvey was given credit, by Prophet Noble Drew Ali, of being his forerunner. Garvey's teachings about national issues were similar: Garvey stated in Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey: “we will have to build our own government, industry, and culture, before the world will stop to consider us. Until then, we are wards of a superior race and civilization, and the outcasts of a standard social system. The race needs workers at this time, not plagiarist, copyist and mere imitators; but men and women who are able to create, to originate and improve, and thus make an independent racial contribution to the world and civilization.”

Prophet Noble Drew Ali taught the people termed “Negroes” in the United States are “Asiatic” and specifically that they are Moorish whose forefathers inhabited Northwest and Southwest Africa before they were enslaved in North America.

“According to all true and Divine records of the human race there is no negro, black or colored races attached to the human family, because all the inhabitants of Africa were and are of the human race,

In a Moorish Message to America printed in the Moorish Guide, August 1928, Noble Drew Ali appealed to the people, “There is work enough for all to do in helping to build a better world.” The problems of life are largely social and economic. In a profound sense they are moral and spiritual. Have lofty conception of your duties to your country and fellowman, in general, and especially those with whom you deal. This includes such honesty and righteousness as will cause you to put yourself in the other fellows place. Look for the best in others and give them to best in you. Have a deeper appreciation for womanhood: Brighten the hopes of our youth in order that their courage will be increased to dare and do wondrous things; and adhere at all times to the principles of Love, Truth, Peace, Freedom and Justice.



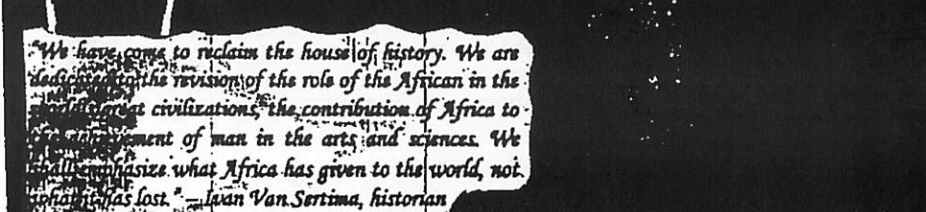
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taf

His Imperial Majesty Speaks on Spirituality

The temple of the Most High begins with the human body which houses OUR life, the essence of OUR existence. Africans are in bondage today because they approach spirituality through religion provided by foreign invaders and conquerors. WE must stop confusing religion and spirituality. Religion is a set of rules, regulations and rituals created by humans, which were supposed to help people to grow spiritually. Due to human imperfection religion has become corrupt, political, divisive and a tool for power struggle. Spirituality is not theology or ideology. It is a simple way of life, pure and original as was given by the Most High of Creation. Spirituality is a network linking US to the Most High, the universe and each other. As the essence of OUR existence, it embodies OUR culture, true identity, nationhood and destiny. A people without a nation that they can really call their own is a people without a soul. Africa is OUR nation and is in spiritual and physical bondage because her leaders are turning to outside forces for solutions to African problems when everything Africa needs is within her. When African righteous people come together the world will come together. This is OUR divine destiny. -H.I.M.-



I used to dream of being a
 police officer, I told you that
 I was. I am serious. I'm not
 kidding in me that made me
 further. Now I spit revolution. I'm
 a hood genius. Nas, nigga.

Black
and Child
and portraits were
of the focus, and
the world by
Empire. vi

Quiet Storm

Until the 1960s, only a quarter of Black households were headed by single mothers. After the destruction of the Black community (politically and economically) in the late 80s, this shot to 75%.

Power to the people.
Beyoncé.

