

# CROSSROAD

VOL. 12, #1 Oct-Dec 2003



*It is with great sadness that we convey our loss in the passing of our beloved sister and comrade Safiya Bukhari this morning due to illness. Safiya was a true freedom fighter for her people, a strong, concerned and loving sister who lived for what she believed in. A former Black Panther and member of the Black Liberation Army many years back, Safiya was the co-chair of New York City Free Mumia Coalition and a leader of the Jericho Movement and will be sorely missed. Peace, love and blessings to Safiya and her family and loved ones. You are with us always.*

*International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, 8/24/03*



**Safiyah Bukhari**  
**1951 - 2003**



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WE, New Afrikan People in America, in consequence of arriving at a knowledge of ourselves as a people with dignity, long deprived of that knowledge; as a consequence of revolting with every decimal of our collective and individual beings against the oppression that for three hundred years has destroyed and broken and warped the bodies and minds and spirits of our people in America, in consequence of our raging desire to be free of this oppression, to destroy this oppression wherever it assaults **humankind** in the world, and in consequence of inextinguishable determination to go a different way, to build a new and better world, do hereby declare ourselves forever free and independent of the jurisdiction of the United State of America and the obligations which that country's unilateral decision to make our ancestors and ourselves paper-citizens placed on us.

We claim no rights from the United States of America other than those rights belonging to human beings anywhere in the world, and these include the right to damages, reparations, due us from the grievous injuries sustained by our ancestors and ourselves by reason of United States lawlessness.

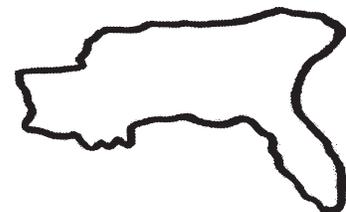
Ours is a revolution against oppression—our own oppression and that of all people in the world. And it is a revolution for a better life, a better station for **all**, a surer harmony with the forces of life in the universe. We therefore see these aims as the aims of our revolution:

- To free black people in America from oppression;
- To support and wage the world revolution until all people everywhere are so free;
- To build a new Society that is better than what We now know and as perfect as **We** can make it;
- To assure all people in the New Society maximum opportunity and equal access to that maximum;
- To promote industriousness, responsibility, scholarship, and service;
- To create conditions in which freedom of religion abounds and the pursuit of God and/or destiny, place and purpose of **humankind** in the Universe will be without hindrance;
- To build a Black independent nation where no sect or religious creed subverts or impedes the building of the New Society, the New State Government, or achievement of the Aims of the Revolution as set forth in this Declaration;
- To end exploitation of **human beings** by **each other** or the environment;
- To assure equality of rights for the sexes;
- To end color and class discrimination, while not abolishing salubrious diversity, and to promote self-respect and mutual understanding among all people in the society;
- To protect and promote the personal dignity and integrity of the individual, and **his or her** natural rights;
- To place the major means of production and trade in the trust of the state to assure the benefits of this earth and **our** genius and labor to society and all its members, and
- To encourage and reward the individual for hard work and initiative and insight and devotion to the Revolution.

**In** mutual trust and great expectation, We the undersigned, for ourselves and for those who look to us but are unable personally to affix their signatures hereto, do join in this solemn Declaration of Independence, and to support this Declaration and to assure the success of the Revolution, We pledge without reservation ourselves, our talents, and all our worldly goods.

1. i believe in the spirituality, humanity and genius of Black people, and in our new pursuit of these values.
2. i believe in the family and the community, and in the community as a family, and i will work to make this concept live.
3. i believe in the community as more important than the individual.
4. i believe in constant struggle for freedom, to end oppression and build a better world. i believe in collective struggle; in fashioning victory in concert with my brothers and sisters.
5. i believe that the fundamental reason our oppression continues is that We, as a people, lack the power to control our lives.
6. i believe that fundamental way to gain that power, and end oppression, is to build a sovereign Black nation.
7. i believe that all the land in America, upon which We have lived for a long time, which We have worked and built upon, and which We have fought to stay on, is land that belongs to us as a people.
8. i believe in the Malcolm X Doctrine: that We must organize upon this land, and hold a plebiscite, to tell the world by a vote that We are free and our land independent, and that, after the vote, We must stand ready to defend ourselves, establishing the nation beyond contradiction.
9. Therefore, i pledge to struggle without cease, until We have won sovereignty. i pledge to struggle without fail until We have built a better condition than the world has yet known.
10. i will give my life, if that is necessary; i will give my time, my mind, my strength, and my wealth because this **IS** necessary.
11. i will follow my chosen leaders and help them.
12. i will love my brothers and sisters as myself.
13. i will steal nothing from a brother or sister, cheat no brother or sister, misuse no brother or sister, inform on no brother or sister, and spread no gossip.
14. i will keep myself clean in body, dress and speech, knowing that i am a light set on a hill, a true representative of what We are building.
15. i will be patient and uplifting with the deaf, dumb and blind, and i will seek by word and deed to heal the Black family, to bring into the Movement and into the Community mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters left by the wayside.

**Now**, freely and of my own will, i pledge this **Creed**, for the sake of freedom for my people and a better world, on pain of disgrace and banishment if i prove false. For, i am no longer deaf, dumb or blind. i am, by inspiration of the ancestors and grace of the Creator — a **New Afrikan**.



## Remembering Safiya Bukhari

by Herb Boyd  
(Special to WBAI)  
August 25, 2003



Safiya A. Bukhari was a courageous and resilient freedom fighter and a vital cog in a number of movements and organizations for social and political change. Many will recall her leadership in the Jericho Movement on behalf of political prisoners, others will remember her forceful presence in the Black Panther Party, the Black Liberation Army, and as co-chair of the New York City Free Mumia Coalition. Bukhari, 53, died on Sunday due to a long illness.

“She also served as Vice President in the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika, an organization working towards the formation of a separate Black nation comprised of five states — South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, states built on the backs of enslaved Africans,” said Sally O’Brien, who co-hosted “Where We Live,” with Bukhari on WBAI-FM. (This Thursday’s edition of the show, aired from 8 to 9pm, will be devoted to Bukhari, and pay tribute and audio retrospective of her life.)

O’Brien said in a statement that Bukhari “established a website and traveled throughout the country organizing people to the cause of those behind the walls. Coming from a strong family spiritual tradition, Safiya came to embrace Islam.”

Two years ago when I was completing *Race and Resistance*, an anthology published by South End Press, I commissioned Bukhari to write an essay about the status of political prisoners, but because of space limitations that piece was never used. Here is just a snippet of her profound insight and the passion she possessed for her comrades, a situation she knew first-hand.

Concluding her definition of political prisoners, Bukhari offered, “Finally, there are those prisoners whose arrest and subsequent imprisonment stem directly from their political beliefs, affiliations and activities in furtherance of their political beliefs and goals. These are brothers and sisters who dedicated their lives to fighting for the freedom and liberation of people of Afrikan descent. Those brothers and sisters who looked at a situation that was untenable and made a decision to fight back through political organizing, agitation and education and were framed by government agencies because they were too effective at what they were doing.

“Criminal evidence was manufactured, charges were leveled and they were tried in criminal courts and sentenced to lengthy prison terms. Those brothers and sisters who, like Nat Turner and Denmark Vesey and those who fought wars of liberation before them, took up arms against the criminal government of the United States, were captured and, in defiance of international law governing the treatment of prisoners of war—were tried as criminals in the courts and given lengthy prison terms. There is no question that these brothers and sisters are political prisoners.”

And it seems irrefutable that she too was a political prisoner—and a maligned and tortured one—during her years of incarceration for allegedly taking part in actions to bring down this country’s reactionary government.

Bukhari joined the Black Panther Party in 1969 and began working with the Free Breakfast Program for the Party in Harlem. Two years later she was head of the Party’s East Coast Information and Communication section. In 1973 she was arrested, along with others, and charged with attempting to liberate some comrades from the Manhattan “Tombs.” The charges were dropped but she found herself on a “police hit list.”

When she discovered a bounty was placed on her head, she went underground. During this period, she worked clandestinely for the Black Liberation Army and the Republic of New Afrika. Bukhari was captured in Virginia in 1975. One of her comrades was killed in the shootout and another seriously wounded. At first she was sentenced to death, following a trumped-up

trial, but that sentence was overturned when the state eliminated capital punishment. After one escape and recapture, she served three years and seven months in maximum security before being released to the prison community.

Bukhari was eventually freed on parole in 1983. She is a founder of The Jericho Movement that has been actively involved in the rights and the liberation of political prisoners. Concurrent with this activity, she worked tirelessly with several coalitions to free Mumia Abu-Jamal and was a consultant with the Brooklyn Legal Services Corp.

“Organizations come and go,” Bukhari said at the close of her essay on political prisoners, and the words stand as a kind of epitaph, “but we have to create within our people the spirit of struggle. We have to build a movement to liberate our people. The issue of political prisoners is part of that movement that we are building and in building that movement we must understand that this is not a separate issue. It is an integral part of that movement; it can’t be put in front of the movement and can’t be an after-thought. It must be woven into the very fibers. We have to change the dynamics of how we deal with the issue of our political prisoners - Organize, Educate, Liberate to FREE OUR POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR!”



#### **WE MOURN THE LOSS OF PRODUCER SAFIYA BUKHARI**

by Sally O'Brien, co-producer, co-host, Where We Live  
August 24, 2003

Dedicated, nationally known Black liberation fighter and longtime WBAI producer Safiya Bukhari (Where We Live, Thursdays, 8-9 pm) died in the early hours of the morning from complications due to prolonged illness. She was 53. Safiya joined the Black Panther Party in 1969 after witnessing a vicious police beating of another Panther standing on a Harlem street corner selling the Party's newspaper. "I tell people straight up that it was the New York Police Department that made me decide to join the Black Panther Party." She said, "In college I supported the war in Vietnam. I was so far to the right it was ridiculous. But by the time the summer of 1969 was over, in November, I was in the Party."

A disciplined and dedicated revolutionary, Safiya went on to join the Black Liberation Army. She spent close to nine years in prison for clandestine actions on behalf of the BLA. After her release, Safiya dedicated her life to the freedom of her comrades she left behind, and used every means at her disposal. She wrote prolifically about individual cases, designed and made political prisoner T-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, and mouse pads, wrote fact sheets on each individual case and in 1992 cofounded the New York Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition which she co-chaired until her death. She also served as Vice President in the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika, an organization working towards the formation of a separate Black nation comprised of five states – South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, states built on the backs of enslaved Africans.

In 1998, Safiya became the cochair of the Jericho Movement to Free U.S. Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War. She established a website and traveled throughout the country organizing people to the cause of those behind the walls. Coming from a strong family spiritual tradition, Safiya came to embrace Islam.

Safiya Asya Bukhari, Revolutionary, Mother, Grandmother, singer, writer, comrade, sister and friend. Our loss reverberates throughout the ages.

## **Kamau Sadiki**

by Safiya Bukhari of the Jericho Movement

Sitting in a cell in the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta, Georgia under the name of Freddie Hilton is Kamau Sadiki. Kamau is awaiting trial on a 30-year old murder case. A Fulton County Police Officer found shot to death in his car outside a service station. A case that they refused to try 30 years ago because they didn't believe they could win it. The question is "Why him? Why now?"

### **Who is Kamau Sadiki?**

Kamau Sadiki is a former member of the Black Panther Party. At the age of 17 he dedicated his life to the service of his people. He worked out of the Jamaica office of the Black Panther Party. Having internalized the 10 Point Program and Platform, the 3 main Rules of Discipline and 8 Points of Attention, Kamau used his knowledge to guide his organizing efforts within the Black Community.

He worked in the Free Breakfast Program, getting up every morning, going to his designated assignment and cooking and feeding hungry children before they went to school. When the Free Breakfast Program was over for the day, he reported to the office, gathered his papers and received his assignment for the day, and went out into the community to sell his papers. While selling his papers he continued to educate the people, while organizing tenants, welfare mothers, whomever he came in contact with. At the end of the day, he reported to the office. He wrote his daily report and attended political education classes.

Kamau Sadiki was one of the thousands of young Black men and women who made up the Black Panther Party. The rank and file members of the Party who made the BPP the international political machine it was. While the media followed Huey Newton, Bobby Seale and others, the day to day work of the Party was being carried out by these rank and file brothers and sisters, the backbone of the BPP. They were these nameless and faceless tireless workers who carried out the programs of the BPP, without whom there would have been no one to do the work of the Free Health Clinics, Free Clothing Drives, Liberation Schools, and Free Breakfast for Children Program. It was to these brothers and sisters that the people in the Black community looked when they needed help and support.

### **COunterINTElligencePROgram**

It was because of this tireless work in the community that J. Edgar Hoover, the then FBI Director, declared the Black Panther Party to be the greatest threat to National Security and sought to destroy it. It was not because we advocated the use of the gun that made the Black Panther Party a threat. It was because of the politics that guided the gun. We had been taught that politics guide the gun, therefore our politics had to be correct and constantly evolving. We had to study and read the newspapers to keep abreast of the constantly changing political situation. But this was not the image that the government wanted to portray of the Black Panther Party. It preferred the image of the ruthless, gangster, racist gun toting thug. Every opportunity that came up to talk, or write about the BPP was used to portray this image.

When the opportunity didn't arise on it's own, they created situations and circumstances to make the claim. An all out propaganda war was waged on the BPP. Simultaneously a psychological and military campaign was instituted. The government's

war of terror against the BPP saw over 28 young black men and women of the Black Panther Party killed over a period of less than four (4) years, hundreds more in prison or underground, dozens in exile and the Black Panther Party in disarray.

Even though the Black Panther Party, as an entity, had been destroyed, the government never ceased observing those Panthers who were still alive. Whether or not others believed it, the government took seriously that aspect of the Black Panther Party's teaching that included the 10-10-10 Program. If one (1) Panther organized ten (10) people, and those ten people [each]organized 10 people, exponentially we would organize the world for revolution. The only way to stop that was to weed out the Panthers. Not only must the BPP be destroyed, but all the people who were exposed to the teachings must be weeded out and put on ice or destroyed. During this turbulent time, Kamau had been among the members of the Party who had gone underground. He was subsequently captured and spent 5 (five) years in prison. While he was on parole he legally changed his name from Fred Hilton to Kamau Sadiki.

### **The Waters are Muddied!**

About eighteen (18) months ago a story appeared in the Daily News in New York about a former Panther being arrested and charged with child sexual abuse. The newspaper identified the former Panther as Freddie Hilton. The first thing that comes into the minds of most people when such an allegation is read in the newspaper is that it must be true. We, in the Black Panther Party, have been taught from day one, the adage, "no investigation, no right to speak". In a case like this, a political case, it's extremely important to get to the bottom of such an allegation as quickly as possible. Part of the pattern of COINTELPRO has been to demonize individuals, destroy their credibility, and discredit their character, thereby making them vulnerable to the enemy because their base of support has been eroded.

It appears that the charge was brought against Kamau by the woman he had been living with for a number of years to get him out of the house. Kamau had been, and still is, very sick and suffering from Sarcoidosis, Cirrhosis of the Liver and Hepatitis C. He had been out of work sick for an extended period. Everyone believed he was going to die. However, he didn't die. He went into remission, got better and returned to work. The problem was his woman friend had moved on with her life and wanted him out of the way. She told the police that he had abused her daughter three (3) years earlier. When that didn't stand up to scrutiny they were told he had a gun in the house and where it could be found and that he was a former Black Panther etc.

Even though the government did not initiate this arrest, they seized the opportunity, based on today's climate, to get Kamau off the street. A domestic dispute was handled in an incorrect manner and a man's reputation and character has been sullied and destroyed. People are more interested in the fact that this allegation was made than they are about the fact that he is going on trial for the murder of a police officer. Says Kamau, "All I have is my name and my honor. They can't be allowed to take that away from me." The molestation charge was dropped and Kamau pled guilty to a disorderly conduct charge. While he was serving his sentence the warrant from Georgia was issued.

The damage had already been done. A seed had been planted in the minds of the people. While the story of the charge being made had appeared in the newspaper, there was no story of the disposition of the case. Kamau Sadiki had never, at any time, molested any child.

**Why Him? Why Now?**

While the people who would normally come to his defense were still reeling from these charges and being told not to make a big deal out of it, the state was using this time to put pressure on Kamau. Knowing that he suffers from Hepatitis C, Cirrhosis of the Liver and Sarcoidosis they told him that unless he helped them capture Assata Shakur that he would 'die in prison'. They told him that if he worked with them and got Assata to leave Cuba and go to some other country where they could apprehend her that they would not prosecute on the police killing.

This seemed to be the right time to play this card. So many different forces were congealing in the world that had changed the mood of the country in favor of mania and fear. The conflict in the Middle East had heightened the stakes with 9/11. The Patriot Act had been passed, giving new meaning to what it meant to be patriotic and making disagreeing with or not going along with the policies of the government unpatriotic. Police and other uniformed personnel were heroes/heroines and above the law... un-touchables. What would not have been able to be prosecuted thirty (30) years ago was now, in this climate, possible.

Then too, Kamau has not been in the spotlight in the last 25 years. What people don't know is he never was. After being released from prison, he went to work. Having two daughters and himself to support, he went to work. He worked for the telephone company in New York for over eighteen years. Both of his daughters finished college and are now married with families of their own. No, Kamau wasn't out beating the drums, he was being the quiet warrior that he is. He is a Muslim - another liability in these United States where the term is almost synonymous with 'terrorist' now.

**The Lies... The Distortions... The Drawbacks**

There are many lies and distortions of the truth that come to play in this case. The most glaring and insidious is that Freddie Hilton had been hiding under the name Kamau Sadiki and that's why it has taken so long to find and indict him. A bald-faced lie. The entire five (5) years Kamau spent in prison he wrote and signed all his mail under the name Kamau Sadiki. All of his mail was censored. When he was released from prison he was on parole and while he was on parole he had his name legally changed to Kamau Sadiki. His parole officer was aware of this. When he went to work, he didn't obtain a new social security number under Kamau Sadiki, but his name was changed on his old card to Kamau Sadiki. There was never an attempt to hide from anything. How could he? One of his daughters was also the daughter of Assata Shakur and he couldn't hide from that. He was always under the scrutiny of the federal government, if for this reason alone.

Kamau Sadiki did not 'come to the attention' of the police because of the molestation charge, but the charge was a convenient way to arrest him and keep him in jail while they attempt to use him. They knew who he was and where he was all the time. What they didn't have

**The Friends for Kamau Committee**  
invite you to

**A Day in Solidarity with Kamau Sadiki  
(aka Fred Hilton)**



Kamau has been arrested and is being held in Atlanta, GA in New York jail. Kamau is a former Black Panther and member of the Black Liberation Army and police officers are spying on his work and home life.

His trial begins in September in Atlanta.

Please join us now! We need to show to everyone that we have our freedom! Please join us now!  
Learn more about Kamau at [www.gulab.com/press/afm/kuh/](http://www.gulab.com/press/afm/kuh/)

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was a convenient excuse to arrest him that wouldn't get everyone up in arms. Once in jail, they knew they didn't have a lot of time because the molestation charge would not hold up. So they placed the warrant from Georgia on him to give them additional time to put pressure on him.

New evidence?! No. No new evidence. The same old story from the 70's that was supposedly told to them by Sam Cooper. The same old story that was not enough to indict at the time of the death of the police officer in 1972, is now enough to indict in 2002. Thirty years later, they are able to find independent witnesses to corroborate Sam Cooper's story. It boggles the mind that they have found a way to make memories that usually fade over time, reverse themselves and grow stronger.

### **The Implications of this Case**

We have long held that there is a diabolical scheme going on in the minds of those who run this government. It is not something that started yesterday or the day before. It is not something that will end tomorrow or the day after. This scheme is to rid the world of those who disagree with the politics of the United States. The Black Panther Party was such an entity and it no longer exists. It was systematically and meticulously destroyed almost thirty (30) years ago. But the effort to destroy the legacy of the Black Panther Party continues. Books are continually written attacking the Party. Daily, articles still appear in newspapers and periodicals redefining the work of the Black Panther Party. Panthers are still in prison and still going to prison from cases dating back to the 60's and 70's.

The further We get away from the 60's and 70's the more likely that people forget what happened and what we were really about. When issues are taken out of their historical place and placed into another day and time, people tend to get confused. The government banks on that. Historically, it has worked for them.

In this new day and time, in the shadow of 9/11, in Atlanta, Georgia one of the greatest historical figures of the civil rights/Black Power era was convicted and sent to prison for life without the possibility of parole. The response of the community was, 'We told you we were capable of convicting him.' This gave impetus to the government's plan to clean up the streets of dissent. In 1967 it was declared that one of the goals of COINTELPRO was to "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize... no opportunity must be missed to exploit through counterintelligence techniques... for maximum effectiveness... long range goals are being set... prevent [them from] gaining respectability... and a final goal should be to prevent the long range growth of militant black organizations, especially among youth."

COINTELPRO didn't go away. It continues today. This case, as well as the cases of Mumia Abu Jamal and Imam Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin are prime examples of the existence of COINTELPRO and it's agenda. We have a tendency to forget and think that things have changed. The enemy doesn't forget. They maintain files and lists. They maintain think tanks and, when it is convenient and at the proper time they move. The movements of the 60's caught them by surprise. They rushed to catch up and won the first skirmish. We still have casualties. While We were busy they were preparing so they wouldn't be caught off guard again. This round of activity on the part of the state is their efforts to clean up the books. We must not allow them to do this. We must defend Kamau Sadiki. We must push back the state. We must not allow them to use Kamau as a scapegoat... We must free Kamau Sadiki and all Political Prisoners.

for more info, contact

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**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT IMAM  
JAMIL ABDULLAH  
AL-AMIN (the former H. RAP BROWN)  
547 WEST END PLACE, SW ATLANTA, GA. 30310  
fax 404-756-1714 [www.geocities.com/ICSIJAA](http://www.geocities.com/ICSIJAA)**

AUGUST 1, 2003

IMAM JAMIL ABDULLAH AL-AMIN (the former H. Rap Brown) was found to be qualified as a Political Prisoner by the Judgement and Decree of the African - American Tribunal of December 2001 CASE # 1C-2001-1 in accordance with definitions accepted by the United Nations Council on Human Rights and World Court, Geneva, Switzerland and in any case should be so adjudged and treated in conformity with INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAW. He continues to be held illegally by the government of the United States of America, in the custody of the State of Georgia.

Fulton County Court Judge Stephanie B. Mannis, in a recent one paragraph long written decision cited absolutely no case law in support of her refusal to retry the case of Fulton County/ State of Georgia vs Imam Jamil Al-Amin. Georgia State and U.S. Federal Law provides that a presiding judge can both set aside a conviction as well as retry a case in which a jury reached a verdict that was grossly inconsistent with the evidence; such as primary state witness Deputy Algenon English's claims that he identified Imam Jamil Al-Amin through a rearview mirror from two blocks away at approximately 9:30 at night. The same witness claims that he shot Al-Amin twice in the chest and once in the head. Deputy English's testimony was contradictory to the physical evidence found at the crime scene. Until the Appellate Court hears and acts on the case which could be three, four or more years from now Imam Jamil Al-Amin is confined to a Georgia State Prison at Reidsville, Georgia. He has been held in Administrative Segregation not due to any infraction of the rules of the Prison, but ever since his being transferred into the custody of the Department of Corrections / Bureau of Prisons State of Georgia, USA.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO FOR HIM ?

*He can be written to at:*

IMAM JAMIL AL-AMIN GDC#1104651 • GEORGIA STATE PRISON • 100 HIGHWAY 147 • REIDSVILLE, GA. 39499-9701

*Financial Contributions can be sent to:*

The Justice Fund • P.O. Box 93963 • Atlanta, GA 30377

- financial assistance can be sent to his family at:

Amir Sahib Abdul-Salaam • 185 Indian Creek Road • Tyler, Alabama 36785 (memo\_family of Imam Jamil Al-Amin) - and to assist with his son's college tuition:

Karima Al-Amin • 420 14th Street NW Suite 208 • Atlanta, GA 30318 (memo\_tuition)

**PROTEST HIS UNJUSTIFIED ILLEGAL CUSTODY CONDITIONS: TWENTY -THREE HOUR A DAY LOCK DOWN. NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES NOR WORSHIP WITH WITH OTHERS. THE NEARLY TWICE WEEKLY RAIDING OF THE CELL WHERE HE IS HOUSED, AND REMOVAL OF READING AND WRITING MATERIALS.**

Contact Warden: Hugh Smith, Counselor: McGowon, and Grievance Coordinator: Rebeca Geiger; let them know We at least want the Imam immediately released from administrative segregation, and all his religious rights restored. Georgia State Prison, 100 Highway 147, Reidsville Ga. 39499-9701- Also contact Comissioner: Jim Wetherington and Assistant Commissioner: Joe Ferrero and the following Board of Directors members: Fifth District, Atlanta: A.D. Frazier; members-at-large (atlanta): John Irby and William Whaley at:

Georgia Department of Corrections • #2 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. East Tower • 8th floor Atlanta, GA. 30334-4900

**DEMAND HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND END TO THIS CRUEL &  
UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT  
FREE IMAM JAMIL AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS BEING ILEGALLY HELD IN U.S  
PRISONS**

**5206 S. Harper • Chicago IL 60615 • [crsn@aol.com](mailto:crsn@aol.com)**

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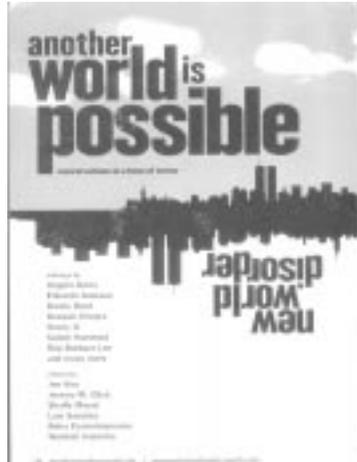
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new world new order




FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!



**25 YEARS IS ENOUGH!!!**



Q. "Who shot James Ramp?"  
A. "I haven't the faintest idea."

-Trial Judge Edwin Nelson's answer to a reporter's question several days after consulting and reviewing the MOVIE # 33 in 200 years back for the alleged murder of James Ramp.

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## The George Jackson University

by Dr. Donald R. Evans & Rashad Ali

For the past eleven and a half years, the National Association of Brothers and Sisters In & Out (NABSIO) has been doing everything in it's power to "turn every prison into a university and every prison cell into a classroom for Afro-Centric Study." An incredible task you might say. Yet today, that idea is about to become a reality through the "George Jackson University". For the past eleven years, We have been on the cutting edge of making this vision a reality, We have been consistently asking those brothers and sisters to step up to the plate and formulate this concept. That too is becoming a reality. The George Jackson University is unique. The uniqueness of this university lies not only in the concept itself. It is the fact that this university is the embodiment of mobility. It cannot be destroyed, only internalized. The Marcus Garvey Study Group campuses will exist on every prison yard.

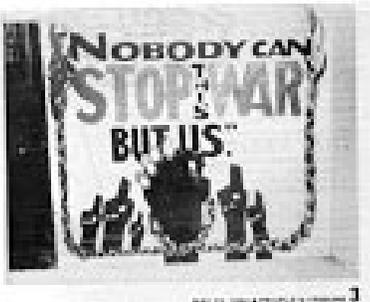
With the genius of Brotha Abdul Olugbala Shakur and the New Afrikan Institute for Criminology 101, as well as the New Afrikan Revolutionary Nationalist Collective Think Tank (NCTT) coming together with NABSIO to establish the "Council of Scholars" and form the Marcus Garvey Study Groups, "now is the time for all good New Afrikans (i.e. Black People) to come to the aid of their New Afrikan nation."

This university will be structured and operated just like any other correspondence school, only this one will be Afro-Centric. Yes, the only Afrikan-centered correspondence course in existence. With the brilliant assistance of Brothas like: Abdul Olugbala Shakur, Sitawa Nantambu Jamaa, Abasi Ganda, James Hodari Benson, Kubwa Jitu, Khalfani M. Khaldun, Bashir Hameed, Richard Mafundi Lake, Saani Muraad Al-Aziz, Paul Sangu Jones, William Jackson, Imara Rafiki and others of the New Afrikan Institute, who have stepped up to the plate, they have come up with a strategically planned, sound curriculum, developed for the New Afrikan/Black prisoner by New Afrikan prisoners.

Words cannot begin to describe the genius of these sistas and brothas like, Romarilyn Baker, Sandra Lawrence, McCree Reed, and Betty McKay. They are extremely powerful in knowledge and have made an enormous amount of input into the construction of the George Jackson University.

We are now ready to launch the Marcus Garvey Study Group in full swing to combat functional illiteracy and cultural ignorance, which has been our main drawback as a people. Our biggest enemy is not knowing who We are and what our purpose and role as a people and our contributions to forming and shaping the world history and events. But guess what? It's time.

(reprinted from *The Cutting Edge News*)



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## LETTERS

To the Editor:

It was good to see the PAC statement on the white settler farm seizures in Zimbabwe in your last issue. Those who only see the u.s. media coverage of this, with its crocodile tears over the "tragic" troubles of Zimbabwe's dwindling white plantation owners, need reminding that all this land & labor was stolen at riflepoint from the Afrikan peoples by the British-Boer invasion in the 1890s. Liberation of the Land and eviction of all the white settler occupiers has always been the first goal of the Zimbabwe liberation struggle. That this is happening now—over ten years after state power shifted hands to an Afrikan government—is only a taste of too long overdue justice.

But some of your readers not familiar with Zimbabwe class politics may get confused into thinking that the Mugabe regime is acting honestly, in the interests of the people. The reality is more twisted than that, as these neo-colonial conspiracies always are. And this is a conspiracy.

1) The majority of the persons evicted from these farms are not white settlers but Afrikan. Many thousands of Afrikan farm laborers have had their shanties burned or torn down, their livelihoods removed, and have been forced into a form of internal exile from the farms where they once lived and worked (although you wouldn't know it from the u.s. media, the white settlers weren't doing the actual farm labor). One of Mugabe's main objectives has been to drive the Afrikan farm workers off the land, so that it could be re-stolen a second time around for capitalist enrichment. Only this time for an Afrikan bourgeoisie.

2) Even during the present semi-famine, much of this seized land is lying unused. Because the Mugabe regime, which cares nothing about the misery of the Zimbabwe peoples, is pursuing phony "reform" policies exactly following the u.s. Bureau of Indian Affairs' infamous "allotment system", where communal tribal lands were divided up at gunpoint into many tiny plots, each of which was solely owned legally by one Indian. This was done so that u.s. white settlers could buy up piece-by-piece the majority of former Indian reservation land cheaply, without any interference from the Indian Nations themselves. Of the 138,000 acres that Indians lived on in 1887, by 1933 they had lost 91,000 acres from allotment sales (the Israeli settlers are using the same system in the Arab quarter of Jerusalem and other Palestinian cities). So the Mugabe regime is in good capitalist company.

Giving a few individual Zimbabwean men small plots of land without tools, seed, fertilizer, irrigation systems, loans or training has meant that at best a bare subsistence farming is being scratched out (women are poorly represented in the "lucky" land allotment recipients, although some are doing the labor on "their" husband's land). Many plots have never been started at all or have been abandoned in the present drought. This deliberate plan for mass failure only sets the way for buy-ups of these tiny plots by politically-connected Afrikan bourgeois men, who can get the bank loans to restart big plantation agriculture. Only this time the man who is living in the Big House and driving around in his Land-Rover supervising his laborers has a black face. We say "man" not generally but precisely, since women are largely excluded from the Mugabe programs. This has already started.

3) The present crisis of mass unemployment, plague and semi-famine in Zimbabwe is totally artificial, created by capitalism. During all this the neo-colonial Mugabe regime (installed by the C.I.A. during the Jimmy Carter administration) has only further enriched itself & done nothing to solve the crisis. Just as Robert Mugabe, who for years stressed his shared values with the Roman Catholic Church, has only stood by and attacked Zimbabwe women and gays while at least 25% of the adult population has become HIV Positive. This is the greatest catastrophe since Zimbabwe won self-rule.

Before the Mugabes and their euro-imperialist godfathers came, Zimbabwe had no concept of private ownership of the Land (just as in the Indian Nations in the u.s. empire) and had no concept of starvation. People farmed individually and communally (the two are not opposed), women and men alike. Most Zimbabweans then had never known hunger or want. A British historian tells us:

“Thus, the first white settlers in Melssetter in 1893 listed ‘mealies, poko corn, kafir corn, millet, ground-nuts, beans (five sorts), egg fruit, cabbages, tomatoes, peas, pumpkins of sorts, water-melons, cucumbers, sweet potatoes, chillies, tobacco, bananas and lemons, and all those grown to perfection!’ At the same time an early settler in western Mashonaland was describing the successful and varied agriculture of Chief Mashian Gombi’s people: ‘The path wound through fields of mealies, kafir corn, rukwaza, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, peanuts, and then across rice beds in the marshes’; cattle and goats were herded; and game abounded to provide further fresh meat. All Shona were involved in this cultivation except specialists in the arts of government and religion. The men cleared the ground and together with the women planted, weeded, and harvested. The young men also hunted, usually in communal groups.”

These early British colonists were amazed at the communal agricultural abundance they found in Zimbabwe, and at the fact that the average standard of living was much higher in Zimbabwe than in industrial England. As early as the 15th century their capitol was connected by trade to China (who supplied porcelain dishes and silk) and Northern Europe (who supplied early firearms and tools for Zimbabwe’s early iron-working). The communal non-ownership of the Land and agriculture for self-consumption was much more effective for the people than any modern capitalist agriculture, much less the Mugabe regime’s wretched neo-colonial land schemes.

4) The Mugabe regime, although it grew out of a radical guerrilla war for anti-colonial liberation, has always been reactionary. Robert Mugabe himself had been an underpaid servant schoolteacher for the plantation families on white settler prime minister Ian Smith’s plantation. Ambitious to be like his master in a colonial society, he became secretary-general of ZANU, (the Zimbabwe African National Union) the anti-colonial party that represented the Shona ethnic majority and would lead the long guerrilla war. But Mugabe spent the war years mostly in prison, and took no part in the new movement that had arisen among the young in the guerrilla camps. When he was finally released by the C.I.A. he was ready to make imperialist deals and kill his way to money and power. So Mugabe and an opportunist, “get rich” clique around him took power in a coup within ZANU, imprisoning in turn almost all the young guerrilla commanders who had guided the fighting.

After he became president, he then bought up or purged remaining radicals who were fighting for anti-capitalist positions. His most dangerous rivals were the heads of the ZANU and ZAPU military wings, who were both openly

critical of Mugabe's sellout to Western interests (ZAPU was the other liberation party, which was based in the Ndebele ethnic minority). Both ZANU military commander Joshua Tongogara and ZAPU military commander "Nikita" Mangena were assassinated after liberation, although both deaths were announced as car accidents by the Mugabe regime. There were so many fatal "automobile accidents" of Zimbabwe radical activists then that the new government had to ban press reporting of the popular gossip and cynical jokes about the assassinations. Finally, the High Court ruled that the government could not claim a death was an "accident" when the car crash was caused by AK-47 bullets killing all the car's occupants. That was the crazed atmosphere of the start of the Mugabe "lootocracy"—one of his cabinet cronies actually bought his entire home town, every last shop and gas station, using special bank "loans" arranged as part of the neo-colonial deal with imperialism.

5) In his deal with the u.s. and Great Britain, Mugabe literally killed many of his comrades to protect the white settler plantations and their racist economy. That was comparatively straightforward treachery. But, really, he was also hoarding these 15,000 white settlers as his emergency weapon. When the opposition to his lootocracy grew so large that even the capitalists had to come aboard and pretend to lead it, then he could just pop out the settler farm seizures and regain more popularity, draping himself in the rotting rags of his former anti-colonialism. "In emergency just break glass and inflate". The Western imperialists who put Mugabe into power (true, he won elections but anyone who represented ZANU and the guerrilla revolution would have won that popular support) are dumping him now that he's outlived his usefulness, just like they dumped their man Charles Taylor in Liberia. And if Mugabe has to pretend to be militant again to cling to power a bit longer, then he's going to play that charade. What both fear is any opening for Afrikan communalism to take hold on the land again. For the people themselves to take over in an Afrikan way.

So politically there isn't the old 19th & 20th century two-sided struggle of colonized vs. colonial power. The new political dynamics of the 21st century are three-sided: the oppressed world vs. the imperialism of the globalized corporations vs. the demagogic pseudo-nationalism of small-time hustler bourgeoisies. We have to train ourselves not to be taken in by the hustlers. Not to misread the more complicated map of new class wars & new capitalist conspiracies. In Zimbabwe the powerless white settler remnant should be swept away forever. This is just leftover old business, not anything decisive. Now the struggle in Zimbabwe centers around neo-colonial capitalism trying to prevent the breakout of Afrikan communistic agriculture and life as the only solution to all its growing crises.

Rebuild!  
J.S.



WE ARE OUR OWN LIBERATORS!

# JUSTICE

## for the MOVE 9!!!

Since August 8th, 1978, members of the MOVE Organization have been sitting in jail for a crime it was physically impossible for them to commit. After a brutal police raid on MOVE headquarters and a lengthy trial saturated with corruption, nine MOVE members were convicted of murdering one police officer who was killed with one bullet. MOVE is stating now, as in 1978, that the MOVE 9 are INNOCENT, but were nonetheless arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced 30 to 100 years each for a crime that government and police officials *know* that MOVE didn't commit. The fact that MOVE people are still in prison today is a travesty of justice that testifies to this system's intention of neutralizing MOVE for nothing more than exposing the poison, disease, and oppression that this culture and the institutions that uphold it, continue to inflict on all life.



*The MOVE Organization in the mid 70's.*

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### A Brief History of MOVE

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*MOVE's work is revolution. JOHN AFRICA'S revolution. A revolution to stop man's system from imposing on life, to stop industry from poisoning the air, water, and soil and to put an end to the enslavement of ALL life. People, animals, ANY form of life. -MOVE*

MOVE is a revolutionary organization which formed in the early 1970's to confront oppression on all levels and work towards animal liberation, environmental and social justice... the struggle to free all life from the imposition of this system. Naturally locked hair, communal living, a principled unity and commitment to this way of life often characterized MOVE people. MOVE members follow the example of a wise, perceptive black man named JOHN AFRICA. He taught that we need to destroy the illusion that humans are the masters of the living world and to start living in harmony with, rather than above, natural law, as equal members of the community of life. Among their early activities, MOVE demonstrated against zoos, pet stores, and police brutality. MOVE confronted industrial polluters, mediated between gangs, fed poor children natural food and generally helped uplift the community. But this holistic, consistent and revolutionary example set by JOHN AFRICA and MOVE became a threat to those who profit from the subjugation of life. Throughout the 70's, this conflict continued to escalate, with Philadelphia police regularly beating and arresting MOVE members. Police even resorted to a starvation blockade of MOVE headquarters, beating several women into miscarriage, and on one occasion, stomping a 3 week old MOVE child to death. MOVE, refusing to break or compromise MOVE belief in the face of such atrocity, took a militant stand against this abuse, forcing this system to either do the right thing or openly display their intentions of genocide against MOVE.

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### August 8th, 1978 Police Assault

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By August of 1978, the corporate owned media had successfully lied to the public to reduce support for MOVE while the city manufactured the appearance of a legal basis to arrest them. In the early hours of August 8th, based on these illegal eviction orders and unjustified arrest warrants, hundreds of police officers armed for war, surrounded the headquarters of the MOVE Organization. Construction vehicles proceeded to tear down the fence and break out the windows with people still inside. Once police had concluded that all of the people had retreated to the basement for safety, they shot tear gas and thousands of gallons of water from deluge hoses towards the house. Gunsblots rang out from a house across the street, and in response police throughout the area fired a barrage of bullets at the MOVE basement, which they knew contained children. MOVE adults found themselves wading in rising water, trying to keep children and animals from drowning, while a frenzy of police bullets came in their direction. When the gunfire subsided, police officer James Ramp lay dead. As MOVE members, miraculously alive, attempted to surrender, they were beaten and arrested. Delbert Africa emerged from the basement with empty, outstretched arms and was smashed in the face with a police helmet and shotgun butt, dragged by his hair and savagely beat by four police officers. (Despite this event being caught on videotape and shown on television, all officers involved were acquitted.) And although destroying the evidence of a crime scene, particularly one involving the death of a cop, is *illegal*, that day police sent in bulldozers. The area was leveled by noon, demolishing the house, the foundations, and the trees in the yard. No efforts were made to preserve the crime scene, inscribe chalk marks, or measure ballistic angles. In other words, all evidence that could have proved MOVE innocent *was destroyed*.

Q. Sir, Could You describe this window that you were telling us about where you believe you saw these [first shots] come from?

A. There is a house at 33rd and Baring St. It is a long house. There is an addition to it in the back with a side door... there is a window above it. It was from that window.

-Richard Maloney's testimony from the MOVE 9's trial.

"A preliminary autopsy disclosed that slain officer, James Ramp, died of a bullet penetrating the left side of the base of the neck and traveling downward."

-Chief Inspector Joe Golden

Q. Who shot James Ramp?

A. I haven't the faintest idea.

-Trial Judge Edwin Malmed's answer to a reporter's question several days after convicting and sentencing the MOVE 9.

## Justice Denied

With the house, trees, etc. completely destroyed, the stage was set for one of the most extraordinarily corrupt trials in recent Philadelphia history. Two people who were in the house with everyone else were not committed MOVE members. One was let go, the other given a light sentence, thus exposing the real intentions of this government towards committed-MOVE members.

During the pre-trial hearings, the testimony of Assistant Medical Examiner, Dr. Robert Catherman, was filled with discrepancies concerning the location of Ramp's fatal wound. Also, Detective James O'Hara testified that tests of bullet fragments taken from Ramp's body had not been completed. Despite all this, and even with the house gone, Judge Merma Marshall upheld that the MOVE 9 could be tried for murder based on photographs of MOVE headquarters. Even though there were no photos of police taking any weapons out of the house, no photos showing alleged angles that bullets traveled from MOVE to cops, and no photos or videos of MOVE people pointing or shooting guns from the basement on August 8th, 1978.



During the trial by Judge Edwin Malmed, the police raided another MOVE house, this time in Richmond VA, where children, whose parents were August 8th defendants, were residing. The MOVE 9 demanded the trial be recessed until they could ascertain the whereabouts and welfare of their children. Malmed refused. Shortly after, due to the objections of concerned parents, he removed the MOVE 9 from the rest of their trial and illegally appointed back up attorneys to represent MOVE despite their insistence that no one was to represent them.

The trial continued for 47 days without the defendants in the courtroom. During this time, the medical examiner who conducted the autopsy, Dr. Marvin E. Aronson, testified that the bullet that killed Ramp traveled through his body without deviation up or down. Despite this, on May 4th, 1980, Malmed pronounced all MOVE defendants guilty of third degree

murder, and excessively sentenced them 30 to 100 years each. He said that he found MOVE guilty based on video tapes. Tapes that don't show MOVE doing anything, but clearly show police trying to kill MOVE, and tapes that all *blanked out* at the moment Ramp was shot. Since the trial, all three video tapes that were used as the basis of the MOVE 9's conviction have *mysteriously disappeared!*

There were 12 people in the basement of MOVE headquarters that day, six feet below street level where James Ramp was located. Yet only the 9 committed MOVE members were convicted. It would be physically impossible for any of them, let alone all nine of them, to have shot Ramp at the angle reported. Moreover, they were being shot at, holding babies and animals from drowning. There's no way anybody in that basement could have stood up against this type of water pressure, debris and simultaneously aim and shoot a gun.

## The Truth Revealed

Despite police claims that MOVE fired the first shot that day, thus attempting to justify their crimes against MOVE, many witnesses report the first shots coming from a house across the street from MOVE headquarters at the corner of Baring Street. Several bullet holes were in fact found in the house at 3300 Baring. Shots that were impossible to have come from MOVE. Shots that could have only come from police who were responding to someone shooting from inside. In statements never introduced at trial, even police officers admit to seeing or hearing shots from 3300 Baring. In fact, one man and two women were arrested from that house after the shoot-in of MOVE headquarters. The man, Larry Manning, was identified by Officer Bundy as the same man he saw in the window of 3300 Baring. In addition to everyone inside the MOVE house, the two women from 3300 Baring were hand tested for gunpowder residue. Larry Manning was never tested! Why would a man involved in a shoot out in which a police officer was killed not be tested to see if he fired a weapon? In addition, there is no record of police ever recovering the gun used at 3300 Baring. What is being covered up and why?

**MOVE didn't fire any shots, let alone the first shot. MOVE didn't kill James Ramp. YET THE MOVE 9 ARE STILL IN PRISON!**

On March 13th, 1998 Merle Africa, one of the MOVE 9, died under suspicious circumstances.

We must ensure not another MOVE person dies in those prisons.

**DEMAND JUSTICE FOR THE MOVE 9!!! FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO HELP, WRITE US:**

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