



AFRICAN HERITAGE STUDIES ASSOCIATION

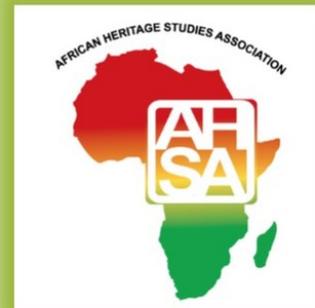
AHSA

July, 2016



*“Unity is strength,
division is weakness”.*

~ Swahili proverb



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www.africanheritagestudies.org

Message from the 2016 Conference Program Chair

As the newly enstooled Vice President of this prestigious organization, I have been given the charge of organizing the program for our 2016 conference to be held in Washington, DC., November 3-5th.

The present condition of African descendants can only be described as one of being under siege! We have gone from three-fifths to one out of five: One out of five is incarcerated; can't vote; in the just-us system; impoverished; and on narcotics. All are experiencing a "living death". One in 122 African descendants are displaced and living within the ravages of war. Thus, what needs to be discussed is how we are to first survive and then move beyond our circumstances in order to build strong communities.

I would like to see us revive the activist spirit that distinguishes AHSA from other African centered conferences. Therefore, I propose we bring to life the theme "Scholar Activism" by having a traditional conference as well as spaces to liaison with organizations in the throes and develop strategies to address our dire conditions.

Please participate by recommending social activists as well as paper proposals, panels and films. Most importantly, visit our website, africanheritagestudies.org and renew your membership and register. I am open to your energy and feedback on my recommendations.

In Struggle,

Ife Williams, PH.D
AHSA Vice President

The Relevance of Global African Scholar-Activism in the 21st Century Lisa Aubrey, PhD

African Heritage Studies Association (AHSA), President
Arizona State University, USA Associate Professor
University of Yaounde I, Cameroon, Fulbright Scholar

The African Heritage Studies Association (AHSA) makes a deliberate call to you to participate in our Annual Conference November 3-5, 2016 in Washington, DC.

We, the AHSA executive body, make this deliberate call as Global Africa faces today variegated challenges that require urgent interventions and solutions. These multifaceted problems threaten not only our advancement, but also and more fundamentally, our survival.

These problems span from health—physical and mental, to jobs, gainful employment, and fair wages, to equal and human rights, to education that does not value Africa's past and present, to the fight for de jure and de facto recognition of full citizenship—sometimes more pronounced for women and youth, to police brutality, to institutionalized violence of almost genocidal proportions, to the rudimentary acceptance of the African Black body in public spaces, and more. These problems persist and deepen despite public acknowledgement that they are real, and often despite programs created with the stated intent to eradicate them or lessen their deleterious effects.

Understanding the sources of our problems as Global Africa and formulating and implementing the culturally appropriate solutions for us is the work of our collective community, each one of us having a role to play. Hence, just what is the role of Global African scholars? Are we doing what we should do to ensure Global Africa's survival? To whom are we accountable? Do we have a responsibility to be accountable? What is the role of activists? Are activists still relevant in the 21st century? Who are activists?

Should there be, can there be, must there be a collaboration between scholars and activists to ponder our problems and fate in order to plan for our future as Global Africa? Where are the elders in this collaboration? Do the elders have relevant wisdom to share about our fate and our future? Is the collaboration between scholar-activists enough to communicate to the world that "Black Lives Matter"? Can one person effectively embody the scholar-activist? Can one person effectively embody the scholar-activist-elder?

In 2016, as we, Global Africa, face the structural power of international institutions that continue to articulate modernized versions of Georg Hegel each and every day which pound into our subconscious that "Africa is no historical part of the world" and has "no movement or development," the questions of our survival become more pressing, especially for our youth as they grow into our emerging leaders.

Our questions are indeed exigent as, in the political Global North, extremely conservative neo-liberals take center stage and attempt to normalize white

supremacist policies and programs that endanger our lives as people of African descent and our survival across the world. What do we do to make it clear that Global African lives are not disposable? Are we not part of the social contract in the countries in which we live, and vis-à-vis the governments that are to represent us?

We, Global Africa, are facing an ontological crisis—on the continent and in the Diaspora.

Some argue that 'scholar-activism' is the key for making the needed and urgent change for Global Africa. Some prescribe “applied Black Studies” as the way toward social transformation and justice for Global Africa, not to mention survival. Some argue that we must find our center again. Is African tradition that center?

Be counted among the village as we find solutions to our problems as Global Africans. Register today for the AHSA Annual Conference in Washington, DC November 3-5, 2016. We are making a deliberate call to YOU.

Annual Membership and Conference Registration Fees

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

\$75 Regular Membership

\$30 Student Membership

\$500 Lifetime or Institutional

General Conference Registration (rates include all meals)

\$100 Member Early

\$110 Non-Member Early

\$110 Member as of August 1

\$125 Non-members as of August 1

\$50 Students

Special Conference Registration Day Rates

Thursday, November 3: Donation-based

Friday, November 4th

\$65 includes meal

\$30 Conference only

\$50 Conference and Banquet-Students and Elders

\$15 Conference Only-Students and Elders

Saturday, November 5th:

\$45 includes meal

\$20 Conference Only

\$40 Conference and Luncheon-Students and Elders

\$15 Conference Only-Students and Elders

Friday, November 4: Banquet Ticket Only- \$80

Membership dues and registration fees can be paid via paypal.com through the African Heritage Studies Association account. Instructions for paying via PayPal:

1. Login to the AHSA website: www.africanheritagestudies.org.
2. Click on pull down window to indicate Payment Preferences
3. Click the Subscribe and/or Buy Now Button
4. Choose a Payment Method: Pay with My PayPal account or Pay with debit/credit card
5. Enter the requested information to complete the payment. {Due to very rigid fraud alert policies, problems may be experienced with some cards. Please call PayPal Customer Service at 1-888-221-1161(U.S.);1-402-935-2050 (International)}

Payments may be mailed to the African Heritage Studies Association at:

3645 Market Place Blvd Ste.130-661

East Point, GA 30344

Click Here: www.africanheritagestudies.org



Call for Proposals

THE AFRICAN HERITAGE STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Founded 1969

In Collaboration with the Ronald Walters Leadership

& Policy Center, Howard University

Annual Conference

“SCHOLAR-ACTIVISM IN AFRICA AND THE DIASPORA”

November 3-5, 2016

Washington, D.C.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS-SUBMISSION DEADLINE

AUGUST 15TH 2016

Social Activism in Pan African communities has historically been informed by Scholar Practitioners. African nationalists and African in the Diaspora such as Kwame Nkrumah, George Padmore, W.E.B. Dubois, Amilcar Cabral, and others led the struggle against colonialism and imperialism. Frederick Douglas set the mark in his indefatigable fight against slavery and for the rights of women.

AHSA is celebrating this legacy by assessing the role of Black scholars in historical and present struggles with the aim of informing our future. We are reaching out to academics as well as social activists to coalesce around the Conference Theme, “Scholar-Activism in African and the Diaspora” Therefore, we encourage the submission of proposals that focus on some aspects of the following topics:

1. Perspectives on Scholar Activism
2. Dr. Ronald W. Walters: The Scholar Practitioner
3. Pan-Africanism, Activism, and Liberation Struggles in Africa and the Diaspora
4. Pioneer Activist Ancestors and the Struggle Against Racism, Colonialism, and Imperialism in Domestic and Foreign Relations
5. Social Injustice, Community Engagement, and Social Movements
6. Women, Politics, and Culture
7. Democracy, Prison Reform, and Land Reform
8. Scholar Activism and the Struggle for Civil Rights
9. Globalization, Militarization, Resistance and Terrorism in Africa and the Diaspora

10. Politics, Economic, and Interventions in Africa
11. Non-Governmental Organizations and other Non-State Actors in Africa's International Relations
12. Technology, Social Media, and Mobilization of the Masses
13. Reparations and Repatriation: Revisiting the World Conference Against Racism
14. The African Union and the Quest for Peace and Development
15. Organizing for the Future

Please send a 150-400 word abstract for sessions, roundtable or workshop. You must include an abstract with title, organizer, and participants along with the contact details for each: name, address, institution or organization, email and phone number.

Proposals must be submitted to the AHSA Program Chair:
ifewill56@gmail.com or call 215-208-3972.

STATE OF THE BLACK WORLD CONFERENCE IV

Dr. Ron Daniels

Founder and President of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century

November 16-20, 2016, Newark, NJ.

Dedicated to the Memory of Amiri Baraka

In 2012 the Institute of the Black World 21st Century (IBW) convened State of the Black World Conference III (SOBWC III) at Howard University in Washington, D.C., focused on the Theme – State of Emergency in Black America: Time to Heal Black Families and Communities. SOBWC III was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Ronald Walters, Black America's leading Political Scientist. November 16–20, 2016, after the U.S. presidential elections, IBW will convene State of the Black World Conference IV in Newark, N.J., dedicated to the memory of the brilliant poet, playwright and political activist Amiri Baraka. This time the Theme of this major domestic and global gathering of people of African descent will be – It's Nation Time... Again. The State of Emergency still persists in Black America and indeed in the Pan African world, but there have also been dramatic changes over the past four years which will serve as the context for what will be one of the great

gatherings of Black people in the 21st century.

For years IBW has been crying out that there is a State of Emergency in Black America characterized by persistent joblessness, poverty, economic underdevelopment, inferior education, health disparities, crime, violence, murders/fratricide, police occupation and repression, racially-biased criminal justice policies, mass incarceration of Black people and gentrification. These crises are most severe in America's "dark ghettos," marginalized urban and suburban communities where Black working class and poor people struggle to subsist and strive against great odds to achieve a glimpse of the "the American dream."

The root causes of the State of Emergency in America's dark ghettos are not hard to discern. The "White backlash" against the "progress" of the civil rights and social justice movements of the 60s, decades of blatant neglect, calculated defunding of social programs, massive disinvestment in urban America and deindustrialization have wreaked havoc on Black poor and working people confined to communities that have been marginalized. Rather than fulfill the vision of the Poor People's Campaign that Dr. King was articulating at the end of his life, the "promissory note" he spoke of at the March on Washington has continued to come back marked "insufficient funds."

Rather than finish the unfinished civil rights/human rights agenda, demagogic, right wing politicians fueled and played on White fears and resentment of "Black progress" to eliminate or drastically cut social programs perceived to be of benefit to Blacks. President Nixon declared a "War on Drugs" that was waged almost exclusively in Black communities. President Reagan went even further by launching a not so subtle assault on policies and programs helpful to Black people. He charged that remedies for racial injustice like affirmative action constituted "reverse discrimination" or "Back racism" and shamelessly branded Black people as "welfare queens" and "food stamp cheats." Reagan also associated crime with Black people and used this imagery to dramatically escalate the "War on Drugs." This while continuing to dismantle social programs he claimed were a "burden on the backs of taxpayers." Democrats were not immune from riding a racist conservative tide primarily aimed at rolling back Black progress to appease disgruntled Whites. Hence, William Jefferson Clinton, lauded by some Black people as "America's first Black President," pushed for an "end of welfare as we know it" and sponsored one of the most draconian crime bills ever; a bill which contributed significantly to the mass incarceration of Black people and the explosive growth of the prison-jail industrial complex.

Rather than finish the unfinished civil rights/human rights agenda, demagogic politicians abandoned urban policy, ramped up the War on Drugs with all of its

intrusive, oppressive, demeaning and damaging racially biased policing and criminal justice policies and practices. In a real sense, Ferguson and Baltimore, cities that have recently erupted in rebellion, epitomize the myriad crises that afflict America's "dark ghettos." The State of Emergency in Black America is a direct consequence of the calculated neglect and overt assault on Black people by actors functioning within a Capitalist system infected with white supremacy; a system in which Black lives do not matter!

At this remarkable moment in our history, the Institute of the Black World 21st Century declares that It's Nation Time... Again, time to gather ourselves to create spaces to heal Black families and communities from the past and present traumas of enslavement, cultural aggression, racial violence, economic exploitation, internalized racism, fratricide and self-destruction; time to reaffirm our Africaness/Blackness, to re-embrace the cultural and spiritual values and principles that have enabled our people to resist, survive and thrive in the face of horrendous oppression and genocide; It's Nation Time... Again, time to redouble our efforts to build and strengthen Black institutions as a foundation to sustain wholesome and healthy families, communities and nations; It's Nation Time... Again, time to strengthen bonds of principled unity, cooperation and collaboration to utilize righteous Black Power to protect and promote the interests and aspirations of Black people; It's Nation Time... Again, time for a Pan African Renaissance that will propel Black people to our rightful place at the forefront of transformational change in the U.S. and the World!

It's Nation Time... Again, time for a convergence of some of the most visionary and powerful movements, scholar-activists, organizers, institution-builders, opinion-makers, a new generation of freedom fighters, conscious and concerned Black people, African people from the U.S. and the Pan African world to network, share information, love and learn from each other to forge a more unified and formidable movement to fight for a new future for our people!

And, so in that spirit and for this purpose, the Institute of the Black World 21st Century calls upon people of African descent/Black people to gather in Newark, New Jersey, November 16-20, 2016 for State of the Black World IV. It's Nation Time... Again. In the name of our ancestors, let the organizing/mobilizing begin!

For more information: www.sobwc.ibw21.org or call 888-741-2921



**ROOTS &
RECONNECTION**



SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!

**Re-member, Recover, Realign, Reconnect with Africa
Immersion into Tradition, Culture, Arts, History, More**

December 28, 2016 to January 8, 2017 Cameroon, Central Africa: (Via France)

**Highlight: PILGRIMAGE TO BIMBIA & VILLAGE SARACCA with Dr. Lisa Aubrey, Fulbright Scholar
Your ancient ROOTS in Africa are at the core! Organized by Roots and Reconnection and Valeurs d'Afrique**

Sign Up Now

NOTEZ LA DATE ! NOTEZ LA DATE !

**Commémorer, réconcilier, renouer avec le passé,
se reconnecter en s'immergeant dans les traditions,...**

**du 28 décembre 2016 au 8 janvier 2017 PELERINAGE A BIMBIA,
ancien site de déportation des Africains dans le cadre de la traite négrière transatlantique,
avec le Dr Lisa Aubrey, boursière Fulbright et Valeurs d'Afrique.**

**Points forts : Les cultures, les arts, l'Histoire de l'Afrique, et bien plus encore.
Renouez avec vos RACINES en Afrique !**

Inscrivez-vous dès maintenant



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France: contact@valeursdafrique.org

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