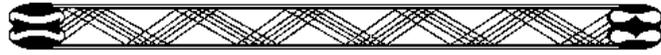


# REPARATIONS NOW!



*Official Membership Quarterly Newsletter*

**NATIONAL COALITION OF BLACKS FOR REPARATIONS IN AMERICA**

**P.O. Box 90604, Washington, DC 20090 Phone 202.291.8400**

Issue 1

Volume 4

August 2009

A. Lukata Chikuyu, Editor

## Dallas Chapter Brings Attention to Sankofa/MAAFA



### **Publication Content**

Sankofa Experience	1
09 Conference Update	2
United Voices for Reparations Campaign	2
Youth Leadership Update	3
WADU Pan Afrikan Summit in Atlanta	3
Membership Application	4

According to Dr. Safisha Hill, The Sankofa Experience is an interactive cultural and historical experience that allows the public to participate in the re-enactment of our African Ancestors' forced journey from Africa to America. This Juneteenth Celebration is held on land initially purchased in 1876 by newly freed Africans, near Hutchins, TX., and owned by their 80 year old great grand daughter, Mrs. Murdine Berry.

It begins in the African village, complete with huts, drumming, dancing, and a marketplace. Participants are "kidnapped from the village and placed in the human cargo area of a slave ship. They are then sold on the auction block, made to work in the fields, and those bold enough can escape to freedom on the Underground Railroad. This is a unique historical experience was a part of the 2009 National N'COBRA Conference in Dallas, TX that and gave conference goers a true feel of what it must have been like to be in chattel enslavement.

Andre Coe, Associate Press, wrote, one weekend each year, Esudele Fagbenro and Safisha Hill transform a Texas farm into an 18th-century African village, replete with thatched huts, craftsmen and rites of passage into adulthood. Hundreds travel to the village to learn about life in Africa and to hear a history that's been largely untold. They taste foods from around the African Diaspora and enjoy the rhythmic sounds of tribal drumming in the village. The tranquility, however, is suddenly shattered by the arrival of slave traders, who raid the village, capture hundreds of men, women and children and herd them, bound and chained, into the crowded bow of a replica slave ship. Some cry, while others simply stare off into space.

Every american should endure the Sankofa Experience in order to truly understand the truth of (African) american history and empathize with Africans about the inhumanity and crudity of chattel slavery and the need for atonement by america.



Atlanta, Ga., The National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America ( NCOBRA) members stood together in press conferences, speak-outs, and media blasts across the U.S. in “ United Voices for Reparations” on Monday , July 27, 2009 in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, South Florida, Philadelphia, Indianapolis, Memphis, Jackson, Miss., New Orleans St. Louis and California. Standing in demand for reparations, NCOBRA members and supporters made it clear to the media acknowledgment of the intent of both of the apologies from the U.S. House (HR 194- 7/29/2008) and the Senate (SR 26-6/18/2009) .as a first step in the dialogue around exposing and resolving the

residual effects of the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade experience for millions of Africans as American slave descendants of the past into the present day.

“United Voices for Reparations” included members of NCOBRA and supporting organizations including: The National Black United Front; Malcolm X Grassroots Movement; World Afrikan Diaspora Union, Atlanta Rainbow Coalition; African Community Centers for Unity and Self-Determination; Disabled In Action, Inc (DIA); New Black Panther Party; Collective Black People Movement. Resolutions have been passed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Juneteenth Commemoration Committee, National Association of Black Social Workers; State of the Black World; National Association of Black Psychologists; Association of Black Firefighters and the Green Party USA.. Also standing in support of US House Bill HR40, which laid the foundation for studying the impact of slavery, is: The American Bar Association and the National Diocese of the Episcopal Church.

These masses of NCOBRA membership held press conferences, called into radio talk shows, web radio, and networked from word of mouth to proclaim the acknowledgement of the Congressional apologies and to launch an on-going campaign to continue to mobilize a unified plan of action to set up the field for winning reparations

**Here are some of the highlights of the “United Voices for Reparations” that was held on Monday, July 27, 2009:**

In **Atlanta**, under the leadership of Sis. Njere Alghanee, along with Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely of the New Future Foundation; Hon. Martha Oasamor of the U.K; were joined by Joe Beasley of Rainbow Coalition and various students stood at the historic APEX Museum followed by participation at the Congressional hearing on healthcare that was convened by Rep. John Lewis at the historic Ebenezer Baptist. NCOBRA activists took advantage of the press in attendance then linked with activists at the historic APEX Museum on Auburn Avenue.

In **Chicago**, led by Sis. Adjoa (Barbara Baker), Midwest Regional Rep of NCOBRA, Bro. Kamm Howard, At-Large Rep held a news conference in front of the historic DuSable Museum. They expressed that measures should be viewed as a means to open dialog about our reparations issues. They stated that due to the fact of the Trans- Atlantic Slave trade, we as a group of people have been dismembered and reparations will remember that group” ( our ancestors) according to Pat Hill of the African American Police League. The demonstrators say that five areas of injuries should be compensated for: human rights; education; health poverty; and criminalization (in photo above).

In **Philly**, led by Mzee Ari Merretazon, Northeast Regional Representative, alongside Bro. Frank Tyson, At-large Rep, Sis Charlotte Harris, At-large Rep. and who stood together at the Constitutional Center where the historic Liberty Bell is housed. They declared that “America should never forget, 1) reparations is/are the cross-road solution to our human capital infrastructure, ” and 2) reparations are ways and means; the really real reality of human capital infrastructure development comes with The Reparations Accord for Blacks in America, which will coordinate the many ways and means of repairing the damage as a matter of public policy.”. They held a press conference attended by local affiliates of ABC, CBS, The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Philadelphia Tribune.

Posted: Monday, 27 July 2009 12:54PM

## Group Rejects Senate Slavery Apology, Seeks Reparations

A national coalition of African-Americans seeking reparations for slavery has rejected a U.S. Senate resolution that apologizes for the enslavement of blacks. The local chapter of the group repeated its call for monetary damages to be paid.

"A reparations accord for blacks is needed now."

Charlotte Harris of the Philadelphia chapter of the group N-Cobra spoke at a news conference on Independence Mall, saying an apology doesn't go far enough to compensate the descendants of slaves for what she says are disadvantages faced in education, poverty, health, and in the justice system:

Harris argues that the senate resolution also falls short of taking full responsibility for the ills of slavery:

"A resolution that inserts disclaimers that prohibit the just reckoning of the atrocities committed is a resolution that offers insufficient redress."

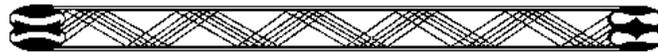
Harris says the senate should be working on how to make meaningful reparations.



**In Dallas, TX, Indianapolis, IN, California, Florida, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, and Tennessee, numbers of members expressed their voices on this great demand. More and more are expected to join into this campaign “United Voices for Reparations” sine the declarations by the joint Congressional statements of apology to the Africans for slavery, racial segregation, and the residual effects of that crucial experience.**

Some of the national organizations that have committed their own agendas to unite within the reparations movement include: Africa Unite!; African American Freedom and Reconstruction League; African Community Centers for Unity and Self-Determination; All For Reparations and Emancipation; Almighty Rastafari Community (ARC); Black Farmers; Black Radical Congress; Collective Black People Movement; Black Left Unity; Detroit Council of Elders; Disabled In Action, Inc (DIA); Federation of the Independent / agenda; Malcolm X Grassroots Movement; NAACP; National Association of Black Social Workers; National Association of Kawaida Organization; National Black United Front; National Conference of Black Lawyers; News Afrikan Peoples Organization; New Black Panther Party; New Black Panther Vanguard; Organization of Tribal Unity; Pan African Association of America; Pan African Reparations Committee (U.K.); Reparations United Front; Republic of New Afrika; The Association of Black Psychologists; Sankofa Church of Christ; The Drammeh Institute; The Jericho Movement; The Self-Determination Committee of St. Louis, Missouri; Trans- Africa Forum; Trinity United Church of Christ (Chicago); United Black Trade Unionist; Universal Negro Improvement Association Association-African Communities League; Western PA Black Political Assembly and more to join.

**STAND WITH US !!!!!!!**



## **World African Diasporan Union Convenes Pan African Summit in Atlanta**

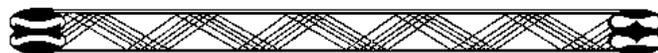
Atlanta, Ga. Hundreds of Pan Africanist participated in a 4-day summit at the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta University Center in the heart of the West End community hosted by Bro. Mganga P.O. Menelik, Sis. Aswan; Sis Jabena; Bro. Kofi Adjei; Sis. Atompoka, Sis. Sharifa (WRFG-Atlanta), and led by Baba Attorney Dudley Thompson of Jamaica, WI.

WADU's primary goal is to unify the African Diaspora as an integral part of a Pan African continental system after 500 hundred years of captivity, enslavement, and 'colonialism.' To accomplish this, WADU is led by the 92 year old His Excellency Dudley Thompson (a living legend) and the foremost veteran Pan Africanist in the world who fought for the liberation of Africa and the African Diaspora. Baba Dudley Thompson was a participant in the famous 5th Pan African Congress (PAC) with Kwame Nkrumah, Jomo Kenyatta, WEB Dubois, Amy Garvey, George Padmore, etc. He was recently elected as the President of WADU at the 2007 Diaspora Summit in Jamaica. Our Ancestors are calling you to join WADU in 2009 as wecelebrate the 109th anniversary of the formal launching of the Pan African Movement and redouble and recommit our efforts to build a unified and an **ECONOMICALLY POWERFUL Africa & African Diaspora.**

Presenters included: Dr. Leonard Jefferies; Queen Mother Dorothy Lewis; Baba Mukassa Dada; Nana Yaa Farika Berhane (JA); Dr. Jooyce King; Dr. Ron Daniels; Dr. Shelby Lewis; Bro. Joe Beasley; Queen Nzingha; Hon. Martha Osamor (U.K.); Line Hilgros (Guadelope); Dr. Nicholas Aghobou (France), Ajamu Baraka (US Human Rights Network), Kali Akuno (Malcolm X Grassroots).

Special guests included: Dr Julius Garvey (son of Hon Marcus Mosiah Garvey); Ambassador Amina Ali of the African Union; and Hon. Barryl Blekman of Holland.

Some of the topics focused on Economic Self- Determination for Political & Cultural Rebirth; Blueprints Power sessions; And Collective Security of joining the African Union. A special tribute was held to honor Dr. Asa Hilliard, Dr. John Henrike Clarke and Queen Mother Audley Moore.



## **Join the Youth Commission**

“Many are called, but the chosen are few”, an African proverb says, which describes the participation of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National NCOBRA Conference held in Dallas, TX. According to Biko Alghanee, 20, one of the youth leaders present” This was a great opportunity for us to learn from our elders, what should our role become once we have heard their experiences”. “We now know what to focus on” said Nation, 16, “I will commit myself to this movement”. Little sister Umajah of Fort Worth, TX stated the New Afrikan Creed fluently and committed herself to the movement. Biko, Tekesta, and Nation traveled from Atlanta to participate in the First Annual Youth Summit of NCOBRA that will be repeated in the 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference to be held in New Orleans June 25-27, 2010. NCOBRA thanks Dr. Marimba Ani, Baba Hannibal Afrik, Queen Mother Dorothy Lewis, Baba Mukassa Dada, Bro. Yusef Malik Shabazz of Florida, Baba Thabiti Shabasi-nole Hashim, Baba General Kuratibsha X Ali Rashid for the ‘armchair conversation with the youth.

**YOUTH! Please contact: [youthviews4wrfg@yahoo.com](mailto:youthviews4wrfg@yahoo.com) for more input and participation.**

Reparations is the healing and repairing of our community from the devastating consequences of the “*Peculiar Institution*” of African Enslavement and subsequent racial hatred, bias, and discrimination that is so deeply rooted in American culture. Reparations is **the work we must do** to heal and repair ourselves with the atone-ment restitution resources coming from the criminal elements responsible for our injuries. Will you to join us?

N’COBRA National Board Action Step #10 from the 2008 National Conference, Miami, FL - - Develop an overall strategic trajectory which shall guide, evaluate, and build our work to win reparations.

Please help continue the organizing and expansion efforts of N’COBRA in building our National & International Movement for Reparations. Reparations are obtainable in our lifetime. A committed people with a righteous cause is a force that cannot be denied. **Join the Battle for Reparations! Join N’COBRA!**

One Year Membership (as best for your budget)	Multiple Year Membership (as best for your budget)	Life Membership (as best for your budget)
\$ 15.00	2 years	Full Payment - \$ 500.00
\$ 20.00	3 years	2 Installments (\$ 250.00 each)
\$ 25.00	4 years	
<b>Sponsor a Membership</b>	5 years	

*Additional fees may be assessed at the local chapter level*

**Other means to Support the Reparations Work - - Commission Donations**

Economic Development	Education	Human Resources
Information & Media	International	Legal
Legislative	Youth	General Donation

**Membership Information**

Name	Street Address	
City, State, Zip		
Phone #s (h)(c)&(o)	/	/
Email	Fax#	

Total Contribution - Membership \_\_\_\_\_ + Donations / Commission & General \_\_\_\_\_ = Total \_\_\_\_\_  
**make check/money order payable to N’COBRA**

Signature & Date	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
------------------	---

Mail to the N’COBRA National Office PO Box 90604, Washington, DC 20090-0604  
 Tel: 202.291.8400 \* Fax: 202.291.4600 \* website: <http://www.ncobra.org>