



The Community Newsletter for Self Respect, Self-Defense & Self Determination

Next Steps: National Take Back the Land Movement

A year after gathering in Atlanta, Georgia to discuss how to combine forces on a national level to build and inspire a transformative movement to change land and property relations in the US, the organizations of the Land and Housing Action Group (LHAG) – the Chicago Anti-Eviction Campaign, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, Survivors Village, and Take Back the Land (Miami) – met in Chicago, Illinois to discuss what's been done, how things have progressed, what was accomplished, where were going, and how we seek to get there in the period ahead.

In this discussion, we also met with allied organizations from the mid-west region that embarked on the journey to Take Back the Land and realize the human right to housing, these organizations were: Take Back the Land (Madison) and the Toledo Foreclosure Defense League. Collectively we arrived at some basic conclusions about the state of social dynamics since September 2009, including:

-That despite decreased coverage in the mainstream media the foreclosure and eviction crisis is in fact deepening, resulting in ever increasing homelessness, both hidden and visible;

-That the banks, transnational corporations, and both major political parties are intent on advancing, rather than retreating from, neo-liberal strategies and policies, to resolve the housing crisis in favor of the interests of finance capital over and above those of the working class and the poor who are being displaced and dispossessed by the crisis;

-That despite the lack of media coverage, there has been a tremendous amount of resistance against displacement, including

non-compliance with foreclosure and eviction notices, quiet squats, land reclamations for community gardens and local food security, and protest initiatives against new measures to destroy public housing; however the bulk of these resistance measures remain individualized and scattered.

Resolved to deepen the reach and impact of the Take Back the Land Movement to address the crisis and realize our human rights, participants in the meeting agreed to execute the following measures to consolidate, strengthen, and advance the movement:

-To expand the Land and Housing Action Group;

-To formalize a division of labor within the Land and Housing Action Group;



-To create a broader movement Coordinating Committee, composed of Local Action Groups, Strategic Partners, Allied Organizations, and individuals committed to the principles of the Take Back the Land Movement to strengthen communication and collaboration;

-To create several national working committees

to strengthen overall coordination;

-To pursue funding to support a national coordinator, movement trainings in various areas (direct action, demand development, human rights, monitoring, etc.), and base building initiatives in several strategic cities and/or regions;

-To engage in an October action offensive in collaboration with the International Alliance of Inhabitants;

-To conduct a Demand and Strategy Development meeting in December;

-And to conduct a national speaking tour to spread the message of the movement and inspire more families, communities and forces of resistance to engage in transformative action.

We believe that little by little, and step by step we are playing a part in building the transformative movement this country so desperately needs and which its oppressed, exploited and excluded peoples, so rightly deserve. But, we have a long, long way to go. We invite all progressive forces to join us in building this movement during the next phase of struggle by supporting the October offensive, or organizing a teach-in, speaking event, or fundraiser for the LHAG in your community.

For more information: email housingrights@ushrnetwork.org or visit www.ushrnetwork.org or www.takebacktheland.org.

-Land and Housing Action Group
Friday, September 17, 2010

FREE THE LAND!

The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement is an organization of Afrikans in America/New Afrikans whose mission is to defend the human rights of our people and promote self-determination in our community. We understand that the collective institutions of white-supremacy, patriarchy and capitalism have been at the root of our people's oppression. We understand that without community control and without the power to determine our own lives, we will continue to fall victim to genocide. Therefore, we seek to heighten our consciousness about self-determination as a human right and a solution to our colonization. While organizing around our principles of unity, we are building a network of Black/New Afrikan activists and organizers committed to the protracted struggle for the liberation of the New Afrikan Nation - By Any Means Necessary!

OUR 6 CORE PRINCIPLES

1. We actively support and struggle to defend the Human Rights of Afrikan people in the United States and around the world.
2. We demand Reparations, or repayment for four hundred years of slavery, colonialism and oppression of our people in the United States of America.
3. We promote Self-Determination and must organize for the liberation of the Afrikan nation, held colonized in the United States.
4. We oppose Genocide or the acceptable and calculated killing of our people by individuals, institutions and organizations of the United States government, through lynching, disease, police terror and any other means.
5. We demand the release of activists who have been imprisoned because of their commitment in seeking human rights and liberation for our people. These brothers and sisters are Political Prisoners and should be recognized as such.
6. We actively struggle to End Sexist Oppression. We oppose any form of oppression that limits women from reaching their fullest potential, as manifested in our cultural, economic, political and social institutions, practices and beliefs. We actively oppose those beliefs, ideas, terms, etc. that limit the human worth of women and contribute to violations against women.

THE MALCOLM X GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

Black August Chapter Reportbacks

Atlanta, GA: We kicked off Black August with our Annual Dr. Mutulu Shakur Concert with headliners Dead Prez. The event also gathered 50 signed handmade birthdays for Dr. Mutulu. The New Afrikan Women Caucus is full steam and hosted an open house and welcomed 4 new members. Members of the chapter participated in the organizations delegation to Haiti. We have held a community reportback and continue to do active solidarity work with Haiti stateside. Contact: adjoa_taliba@yahoo.com.

Ft. Worth, TX: This years Black August was really a month of sacrifice and reflection on the ongoing struggle of emancipation. With respect to the many, too numerous to name, continued and transitioned prisoners of war, some of our members held a thirty day sun up to sundown fast. We engaged in ongoing study of Frantz Fanon's, Wretched of the Earth and intensified our self defense program. With respect to our elders and forefathers we outreached on two occasions for the Annual Marcus Garvey collaboration. Members of Ft. Worth chapter held the event at the Sankofa center and followed that with annual ialbration in Dallas. Work with the One Accord Coalition (home of ban taser/memorial) continues. The Ft. Worth chapter in accord with various organizations and churches announced formal establishment of ACCORD @ inaugural program. The chapter also participated in STOP the VIOLENCE MARCH t h r o u g h l o c a l neighborhood where black on black crime rates are high. Contact: royalgraphic7@yahoo.com

New York, NY: On August 1st MXGM-NY hosted a Black August community forum at Fort Greene Park, in which folks came to learn about the origins of Black August, the importance of good health, and to engage in calisthenics Self defense training. On August 13th there was the 13th annual Hip-Hop concert in honor of our Freedom fighters featuring tributes to those who have transitioned and those behind the walls. Dead Prez, Cody Chestnutt and Pharoel Monch were some of the headliners. August 20th was the 1st annual Black August art show which was held at the Brecht Forum. The art on display represented our freedom fighters and our resistance to OUR oppression. Over 200 people came thru. On August 26th, there was the premiere screening of Black August, and a Hip-Hop concert was delivered to a packed house at

Lincoln Center. August 28th was the 1st annual Black August film festival showcasing films that represent OUR resistance to OUR oppression. Contact: lalitic@mxgm.org

Oakland, CA: Oakland members fasted, worked out and recommitted to the Black Liberation Movement through weekly chapter meetings, and engaged in internal political education. In conjunction with Youth Together, a 15-year old youth organizing non-profit in Oakland, MXGM facilitated Black August Day for 13 high-school aged youth of color. On August 29th, as a culmination to our Black August activities, we co-sponsored a movie showing and community forum with the East Side Arts Alliance and Black August Organizing Committee of Oakland. We watched clips from "Confrontation in Philly", "Passing it On" and "Eyes of the Rainbow." Our featured film was "Day of the Gun". Youth, students from San Francisco State's BSU, elders who were incarcerated with George, former Black Panthers, prison activists, and longtime movement and cultural workers all shared perspectives and great discussion on the movie, as well as good food together! Contact: adamslaureen@yahoo.com

Washington, DC: DC participated in the local action for the Free the Land Campaign orchestrated by One DC & the National Free the Land Movement. Proposition 42 was land designated for the construction of affordable housing by Mayor Adrian Fenty. We camped out on the lot in tents. Volunteers came to meetings, participated in activities such as youth classes and gardening, and weighed in on the compounded issue of the home for the elderly & local housing projects being evacuated for more profitable governmental & large corporate use. MXGM DC held a kickoff to Black August at Sankofa Bookstore catered by Sankofa's cafe. The event educated the public on the history of Black August within the African Diaspora and gave activists and newcomers a chance to mingle and network. In solidarity with the MXGM New York Chapter, DC members attended the Black August Concert in NYC. Members of MXGM DC also volunteer to do community gardening with Heal Our Hood in Ft Dupont Park. Contact: mxgmdc@mxgm.org

Black August Haiti Delegation

In Solidarity with the Haitian people, the popular organizations, and the Return of Aristide



The Black August delegation to Haiti was one of the most important and urgent trips the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (MXGM) has ever taken. Little more than seven months after a devastating earthquake that killed over 200,000 Haitians, the resiliency of the people is a marvel. The people express themselves in various ways about their distrust for their own government, the elite, the United Nations (UN) occupation, and the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), most of which have become parasites on the Haitian body. Graffiti writing on the walls of the crumbling National Palace displaying statements like "Aba Ministra" - down with the U.N occupation, "Aba Preval" - down with Preval (the current President), and calls for Aristide's return, tell of a

heightened political consciousness and a fight for a true peoples democracy.

The Haitian people are in a literal life and death struggle for control of resources, aid and a working popular democracy. The popular organizations and the Haitian masses are recovering and assisting their people by creating and recreating indigenous community groups to support their suffering masses. As part of the delegation we visited camps where Haitian people live in the thousands sometimes hundreds of thousands. Many of these places have only been visited once or twice by UN or other so-called aid groups seven months after the earthquake. Literally billions of dollars have been

either collected or pledged, but the vast majority of the monies have not reached the Haitian people. Instead the Haitian people have self-organized to provide some protection against violence and rape, sought out resources for the hungry and created makeshift schools for the youth. The popular organizations have worked to rebuild schools and colleges, women's groups, micro-lending organizations, organizations dedicated to freeing Haitian political prisoners, and aid sites that provide mental health and other material services. Amongst popular organizations there is a call to delay the upcoming elections to allow for full participation from Haitian people instead of the cynical US backed process that is moving forward. For example, while knowing

full well many people lost almost everything after the earthquake, the current voting process is requiring ID's from all participants. Indigenous groups at the Institute for Justice and Democracy, the Aristide Foundation, the September 30th organization and others have continued to support accountable aid efforts, justice and human rights for the Haitian people even through this catastrophe.

The Black August delegation, a representation of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement expresses full support for the demands of the Haitian people. Our delegation was named for a fallen comrade Javad Jahi who as a member of MXGM dedicated himself to solidarity with the Haitian people. Our trip was built off of some

of those relationships. As we support financial aid efforts sponsored by the Haiti Action Committee and Haiti Emergency Relief Fund that have direct ties to indigenous Haitian organizations we call for a new solidarity movement that will support the demands of the Haitian popular movements. Towards that end we have helped create the "Haiti will Rise Again Coalition" to fight against continued US foreign policy that seeks to protect the interests of the Haitian elite, at the expense of a true popular democracy.

COALITION POINTS OF UNITY

1. Be in Alliance with the Haiti Action Committee and the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund -- www.haitisolidarity.net
2. Be a multi-national, multi-racial and multi-tendency alliance composed of various political, social, spiritual, and cultural organizations in the metro-Atlanta region committed to pressuring the US government, multi-lateral institutions (i.e. IMF, WB, WTO, Inter-American Bank, etc.), and trans-national corporations to comply with the principled demands of the progressive people's movement in Haiti
3. Engage in organizing, mobilizing, resource generation, and educational activities that realize the demands of the Haitian people's movement, this would include, but not be limited to, petitioning, lobbying, demonstrating, marching, direct action, and providing material aid

DEMANDS OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

1. An immediate end to the United States and United Nations occupation of Haiti
2. The elimination of all IMF, World Bank, Inter-American Bank, US, and G20 debt and the structural adjustment and privatization programs required of these debts
3. The nationalization of all Haiti's natural resources
4. Reparations and restitution from France and the United States for the forced indemnities, illegal blockades and occupations
5. Freedom for all political prisoners from the 2004 coup and its aftermath
6. Residency and amnesty for Haitian refugees
7. End the ban on the Fanmi Lavalas Party to ensure that there are legitimate "free and fair" elections
8. The immediate return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide Brown people. The Prison Industrial Complex is a clear act of genocide against an entire race of people. academic achievement, or the lack thereof, and subsequent imprisonment. 🗑️

-Kamau Ade Abiodun
Atlanta, GA

ALL.US.WE.

Fighting Sexism, Heterosexism & Patriarchy

Free the Scott Sisters!

On December 23rd, 1993 two New Afrikan women, Jamie and Gladys Scott, visited a neighborhood store. When they left the store, their car would not start so they began to walk home. Two men, the Duckworths, stopped and offered them a ride. Since Jamie and Gladys knew one of the men from work they accepted the invitation. One of the men began to sexually harass Gladys forcing them to exit the vehicle. After they left the vehicle, Jamie and Gladys witnessed what they believed to be suspicious interaction with the Duckworths and a group of men who they later learned to be the Patricks. Soon thereafter, the Duckworths accused the Patrick men of armed robbery. The Patrick men, in turn, implicated the Scotts as part of a conspiracy to rob the Duckworths. Jamie and Gladys Scott were arrested on December 24, 1993 of an alleged armed robbery where no one was injured and the amount netted was approximately \$11.00.

Mississippi's proven history of slavery and oppression clearly manifested itself in racist Judge Marcus Gordon and a jury that administered a sentence considerably less than humane. Despite witnesses testimony that the sheriff coerced and threatened them to lie and despite no physical evidence linking the Scotts to the alleged robbery; both Jamie and Gladys were given double life sentences each in October 1994. Both women are mothers with Gladys giving birth in prison. These New Afrikan mothers were forcibly separated from their children by the government's genocidal weapon of cruel and unusual punishment. They were labeled as criminals by chief of all criminals; the united states of amerika. Sadly, Jamie Scott is diabetic, suffers from hypertension and has lost both of her kidneys. She is on dialysis three times a week, does not have access to a proper diet, and does not receive the adequate medical attention she desperately needs.

This entire fiasco is nothing more than a modern day lynching. Their lives have been hanging from the tree of injustice for over 15 years. Even with the rallies, protests, marches, and demonstrations given on the behalf of their release; Jamie, Gladys and their families are left to wonder when this massacre of innocent lives will cease. Their incarceration is a small sample of the constant unmerciful physical and psychological warfare waged against New Afrikan people. These young ladies, and other New Afrikan people like them, have suffered too much



for too long. Someone needs to answer for this atrocity.

It is terribly apparent that the punishment does not fit the alleged crime. Committees around the nation are mobilizing, organizing and standing up for human rights by raising awareness surrounding this case. To start, the "Free the Scott Sisters" committee in Jackson, MS has initiated a letter writing campaign petitioning Governor Haley Barbour to free Jamie and Gladys Scott now. For more information please call 1-888-600-5311. 🗑️

-Halima Olufemi
Jackson, MI



The Prison Industrial Complex

Modern Day Genocide Against an Entire Race of People

Some believe its freedom that comes with a US citizenship, but whether it is the Oakland, California verdict, sb 1070, 3 strikes you're out, no access to healthcare, shutting down all public housing, or selling imprisoned labor to private corporations, it is clear that we are not 'free' here, but that we have been held here under a consistent genocidal attack since the creation of this country. The Prison Industrial Complex (PIC) is our current form of Genocide. It is a steady, low- intensity (although at times high-intensity) warfare on the Black community-at-large, in the form of widespread imprisonment. The interruption of reproduction and the prevention of cultural norms being passed through generations are also signs of this genocide. The institutionalization of these genocidal attacks by the State against our people is a conscious and premeditated attempt to maintain its power.

The interruption of biological reproduction of the Black population is one blatant result of the massive incarceration of Black males and females. The ages of arrests are now becoming lower, as the rate of youth

arrests has continued to increase for young Black males and is on an alarming 300% increase for young Black females. This is also the primary reproductive age of young men and women (US census 2000). With the individuals of the same communities being physically restricted within the Prison Industrial Complex, it makes reproduction physically impossible.

The Prison Industrial Complex has a relationship to the State's dominant youth control infrastructure; also known as the education system. The gap in educational advances and achievements between Blacks and whites in this country is steadily increasing, in direct comparison to the increase in the disproportionate rates of mass incarceration of Blacks in this country. This is often times described as the school to prison pipeline, which correlates to the relationship between academic achievement, or the lack thereof, and subsequent imprisonment.

The PIC is sustained through social control and the denial of access to social, political and cultural resources. The imprisoned

individuals suffer continual punishment even after their release. Persons charged with felonies often cannot access education or economic and political infrastructures and are therefore unable to change their realities through the outlined societal means. Felony charges account for a large portion of Black male (and female) arrests, and Black people account for nearly half of all those imprisoned (despite being less than 15% of the total population), which makes us the main target for socio-cultural sterilization and political disempowerment.

Prison is not a place of restitution, restorative justice or humane rehabilitation. The practice of systematically caging a specific demographic has continued to be a means of profit gaining for the few and social control for the masses Black and Brown people. The Prison Industrial Complex is a clear act of genocide against an entire race of people. 🗿

-Taliba Adjoa
Atlanta, GA

CAMP PUMZIKO IS BACK!



MXGM re-launched Camp Pumziko in Jackson, Mississippi this summer. Camp Pumziko (Pumziko means we come in peace – ready to defend) had been a staple of MXGM community programming for over ten years in the south. The one week overnight camp operates on a culture of community and activism that provided leadership training and community development skills for our youth. Pumziko had to take a two year hiatus as MXGM was making plans for a permanent site for the camp. Unfortunately creating such a site has taken longer than expected and we decided to move forward on the camp as we continue to plan for the future.

Pumziko kicked off on July 25th to August 1st and included some of the best elements of past Pumziko camps. Our youth engaged in training exercises, military style drilling, swimming, survival games, unique Pumziko camp songs, building and cooking on an open camp fire and more. We established an atmosphere of learning and fun to make sure the youth walked away with new

experiences and skills to take back into their everyday lives. This year because of our location in Jackson we were able to add new programming, that included an obstacle courses, a pond for fishing and archery training. The low expense of renting the site in Jackson also allowed us to discount much of the overhead cost involved in putting the camp together.

With our members working as counselors we decided to re-launch with a mini-camp with 17 young people to begin the process again of mentoring and teaching our youth to become activist and organizers for self-determination in our community. Many of the campers had some experience as part of various New Afrikan Scouts programs from various chapters. The young people had a chance to meet and develop lasting friendships with one another.

This year's camp could not have happened without great work from members in New York, Atlanta and Mississippi. Their follow through and drive in making this year's

camp a reality really needs to be applauded. Special thanks goes to Sala, Thairu, Efua, Kamau and Mikea for being the lead counselors and giving us something great to build on for 2011 - Camp Pumziko, when we return to a full camp schedule. 🙌

-Kamau Ade Abiodun
Atlanta, GA

freedomfightergallery

We demand the release of activists who have been imprisoned or exiled because of their commitment to seeking human rights and liberation for our people. This issue focuses on our sister freedom fighters who are political prisoners and should be recognized as such. We give honor to those who have transitioned.



Nehanda Abiodun
New Afrikan freedom fighter and warrior. Lives in exile in Cuba where she continues to fight for the rights of political prisoners.



Janet Afrika
Member of the Philadelphia Move 9. Incarcerated since 1978 on a 30-100 year sentence.



Merle Afrika
Member of the Philadelphia Move 9. Incarcerated since 1978 on a 30-100 year sentence.



Marilyn Buck
Long time ally of and warrior for the Black liberation and anti-war movements. Incarcerated for 33 years. Transitioned in August 2010.



Safiya Bukhari
Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army fighter and activist. Incarcerated for 9 years. Continued activism upon release. Transitioned in 2003.



Lolita Lebron
Advocate and warrior for Puerto Rican independence. Incarcerated for 25 years. Continued activism upon release. Transitioned in August 2010.



Dylcia Pagán
Fighter in Puerto Rican Independence Movement. Served 19 years in prison. Granted clemency in 1999. Continues to resist U.S. occupation.



Reverend Joy Powell
Activist against police brutality and state oppression. Incarcerated since 2007 on a 16 year sentence.



Ida Luz Rodriguez
Fighter in Puerto Rican Independence Movement. Incarcerated for 19 years. Granted clemency in 1999. Continues to resist U.S. occupation.



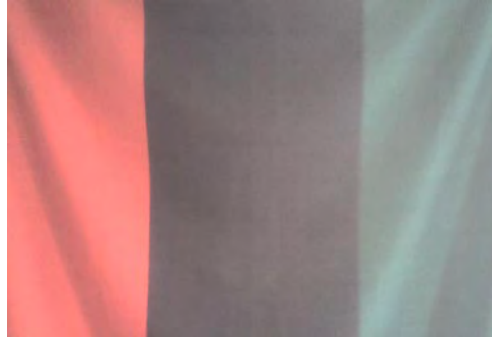
Assata Shakur
New Afrikan freedom fighter and warrior. Incarcerated for 6.5 years before she was liberated in 1979 and now lives in exile in Cuba.

Our Pledge...

We must build the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement for Self-Determination, Self-Respect, and Self-Defense. The Black Nation charges genocide!

We must Free the Land...Free the Land...Free the Land...

BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!!!



MESSAGE TO THE GRASSROOTS

SEASON YEAR



Community Member
123 Any Address
New Afrika, 00000

10 things you can do to
join the movement:

1. Write a letter to a political prisoner
2. Make a donation to the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement by visiting www.mxgm.org
3. Join the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement!
4. Get trained to be a part of a neighborhood Copwatch
5. Get trained to conduct Know Your Rights workshops in your school, church, community center, corner store.
6. Coordinate a Know Your Rights workshop in your neighborhood
7. Volunteer to help with petition signing campaigns
8. Show your support by attending an upcoming rally or protest in your area
9. Share the knowledge! Pass this newsletter on to someone else!
10. Speak your piece! Write an article for this newsletter!