"Black Women and Black Liberation: Fight Against Triple Oppression" is the main theme of Black Liberation Month. This theme speaks to the history of struggle Black women have waged against their own special "triple oppression"—exploitation, racism, and male supremacy. Black women have also fought against the system which causes their oppression and the oppression and exploitation of people all over the U.S. and world wide. Black women face particular problems and have special concerns that are not isolated from the problems faced by all Black people. The facts speak for themselves. Over 50% of all Black women in the U.S. are unemployed. Women play a special role in bearing children and in the family, they are a source on sole heads of households. Yet, Black women face greater discrimination than any other group in this society—in income, job opportunities, education, and in other vital areas of social life such as housing, receiving maternity benefits, and child care.

This is why this year's Black Liberation Month focuses on the struggle and history of the Black women. Through study and discussion, we can learn how Black women have fought and will continue to fight for Black liberation.

OPPRESSION CAUSED BY CAPITALIST SYSTEM

It doesn't take much more than a glance at recent headlines to see the obvious: the situation of Black women has worsened in the last years. The experience of Black women makes their concerns somewhat different from those of the struggle for Black liberation movement which seeks to get white people into the struggle. But Black and White women, however, share the demand of "equality for equal work."

Racism: Like all Black people, Black women suffer from many forms of oppression based on various bases. These include job discrimination, lawlessness, sexism, and even violence. Black women are often the targets of affirmative action programs, and racist practices like police brutality which deny basic civil rights.

Male Supremacy: Black women, like Black men, are subjected to the oppression based on sexism. Sexism or male supremacy attempts to put women in a subservient role and in a male-dominated society. These situations have caused a mistaken notion about "the women's liberation movement."

In sum, the oppression of Black women is the result of the system of capitalist oppression that exploits and keeps Black people and everybody else down.

HISTORY OF OPPRESSION AND STRUGGLE

In order to understand the history of the triple oppression of Black women, we must look at the three main components of Black women's experience: Slavery, racial agrarian exploitation, and classical industrial (working class) experience. In each, we can see how Black women have faced exploitation and oppression directly and have fought back successfully.

Slavery: Black people, including Black women had to fight against the oppressive "system of slave labor employment" during slavery. This system controlled and restricted the main sectors of the economy: field slave labor, domestic service, and skilled trades in industry.

Black women fought alongside Black men in the struggle to alter slavery and end the oppression of Black people. There were women like Harriet Tubman who was called "Black Moses" because of her role in helping slaves to escape on the "underground railroad." Harriet Tubman was one of the important leaders of the Underground Railroad. She helped hundreds of Black people who sacrificed their lives to win freedom for their people.

In addition, many Black women viewed the struggle against slavery and the women's rights movement which was comprised of white women as having a common enemy. Thus, Black women who were militant and anti-slavery activists also played active roles in the women's rights movement. This movement demanded women's right to vote and participation in decision-making, education, employment and marriage.

Patriarchy: After the Civil War, Black women assumed roles in the lives of the newly freed Black community, much like their white sisters. Both black and white women sought to improve the educational, economic, social, and political status of the Black community.

The triple oppression of Black women is the result of the system of capitalist oppression that exploits and keeps Black people and everybody else down.
Why This Black Liberation Month Calendar

The Black Liberation Month Calendar was initiated by Peoples College in 1972. Since then, it has been issued during each February by Peoples College or in cooperation with various co-sponsoring organizations.

The Black Liberation Month Calendar is a vehicle for providing mass education about the history of Black people and our struggle for freedom. Black Liberation Month itself is an expansion of Negro History Week started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in 1926. By expanding Negro History Week to Black Liberation Month, Peoples College hopes to join with others in stressing the need for a strong Negro History Week started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in 1926. By expanding Negro History Week to Black Liberation Month, Peoples College hopes to join with others in stressing the need for a strong Negro History Week, the struggle in Africa, and the anti-slavery campaign of Frederick Douglass, the scholarship and activism of DuBois, the life of Malcolm X, and the struggle in Africa.

Let's talk about how you can become an active participant in the Black Liberation Month Campaign in 1980.

1965: Gambia becomes the 36th independent African country. The struggle against colonialism is entering a final period with the fight to liberate Zimbabwe, Azania, and Namibia.


1961: Armed struggle began in Angola. Today, both Ethiopia and Angola are dominated by competition between the two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Thousands of foreign troops from Cuba occupy these two African countries.

1975: Native Americans unleash armed resistance at Wounded Knee, So. Dakota to protest government repression. Wounded Knee is a historic site of the 1890 massacre where federal troops killed over 300 Indians.

1960: Sit-in movement spreads as students at Alabama State launch first campaign in deep South.

1870: Hiram Revels becomes first Black U.S. Senator. This victory followed the democratic struggles after the Civil War but this period of Reconstruction, as Northern capitalists and ex-slaveowners moved to the Hayes-Tilden betrayal of 1877.

1974: The founding meeting of the NAACP in New York City

1909: The first Pan African Congress under the leadership of W.E.B. DuBois began in Paris, France. There were a total of 5 Congresses that contributed to the anti colonial post World War II period.

1986: John Russuwrm becomes first Black college graduate in U.S. Fight for right to quality education for Blacks continues in the face of attacks like the Bakke decisions and cutbacks in financial aid for Black Studies, etc.

1965 Malcolm X assassination

1961: Patrice Lumumba, leader of the national democratic revolution of the Congo, was assassinated in 1960. His assassination was planned and funded by the C.I.A.

1971: FREDERICK DOUGLASS born.

1972: Native Americans unleash armed resistance at Wounded Knee, So. Dakota to protest government repression. Wounded Knee is a historic site of the 1890 massacre where federal troops killed over 300 Indians.
1902: Langston Hughes born.

Friday

Eduardo Mondlane, first president of Frelimo was assassinated in 1969 by a bomb. Mondlane led the victorious national liberation struggle of the people of Mozambique.

1965: Selma to Montgomery March dramatizes fight for Black voting rights. Ends with rally of 25,000 people in front of the capitol

Saturday

In 1906, four black students began the massive sit-in movement in Greensboro, N.C. This sparked a new phase of militant Black protest that exposed the national oppression of Black people in the U.S.

1979 BLACK LIBERATION MONTH THEME

"TRIPLE OPPRESSION" - Black women have also fought against their own oppression and for liberation for the full freedom of Black people in this society. Through additional study and discussion we can learn how Black women have fought back and will continue to fight for Black Liberation.

What Is Peoples College?

PEOPLES COLLEGE is an organization of revolutionary Black people dedicated in fight against racist, imperialist, and all forms of exploitation and oppression, the goal is total liberation of all Black people, all oppressed people and all people for liberation exploitation which will require fundamental changes in the U.S. capitalist system. Peoples College was founded in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1972 and is now based in Chicago, Illinois. The key theme that has guided the work has been "education for liberation." Peoples College studies to understand the history of Black people, the working class, and struggling people all over the world. This knowledge has been actively applied in making our current and continuing struggles for Black liberation more effective. Peoples College recently published the second volume of the theoretical journal called Marxism and Black Liberation, or Maybell, which will further develop an understanding of the relationship between Black liberation and revolutionary change in the U.S. Our activity has included work in the following areas:

1. BLACK LIBERATION STRUGGLES - in the U.S. Peoples College's main priority is the fight for freedom in the U.S. It has supported workers' struggles, fought to stop the destruction of Black colleges in the South, and organized community activities to combat high inflation, increases in educational opportunities, and other problems in the Black community. Peoples College believes that the main problem causing the oppression of Black people and everybody else in this society is the U.S. capitalist system which rips off the masses of people.

2. BLACK STUDIES - Peoples College has recently published the second volume of INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES, a comprehensive textbook for a basic course or study group program on the Black experience. It has begun work on the third volume called "Academic Excellence and Social Responsibility in Black Studies" and participated in many other conferences. Its goal is to encourage Black scholars and others to serve the needs of the masses of Black people through their work in colleges and universities.

AFRICAN SUPPORT WORK - Peoples College has been active in the support movement for the liberation struggles in Africa since 1970. Its members are active in building many of the new independent African liberation organizations. Recently, its members have worked closely with the Chicago Committee for a Free Africa (COFA), formerly the New Chicago African Liberation Support Committee, which spearheaded the successful drive against the sale of the Krugerrand South African gold coin at Carson Pirie Scott, a large Chicago department store; organized African Liberation Sunday; and initiated a campaign against university investments in South Africa. In past years, Peoples College has supported liberation struggles in the Caribbean, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

If any of the above areas of work interest you, get in touch with us. Peoples College wants to work with people of all ages, from all walks of life, and of every nationality. Send a card or letter to:

Peoples College
P.O. Box 3008
Chicago, IL 60680
Free Zimbabwe Campaign is a Success!

Woman speaking at Xerox Perkins and directed by Harold Johnson and Black community. This put the performances by the Choice people in a bold and creative way. Barnett crusaded against lynching. new newspaper in Memphis and her work in Chicago. Over $1,000 was raised. This is a leading system of capitalist economic exploitation and racist colonial oppression. In Zimbabwe, recent studies have shown that women are more likely to be employed in low-paying, menial jobs. This is a clear example of how women are exploited economically. Women of Zimbabwe have only one choice: a new government, an end to colonialism, and a true liberation.

Michael Mawema (Vice Chairperson of the African National Alliance) also provided support to the so-called "internal army," which was made up of Black women and was used to carry out repressive measures against the people. This internal army was responsible for many human rights abuses, including the torture of women and children. The women who joined this internal army often came from the poorest areas of the city, where they faced severe economic hardships. These women, in turn, were forced to carry out oppressive actions against their own people.

The main lesson regarding the unity is the need to build the united front against imperialism right here in the United States. There are three key parts of this process: (1) The need to build a strong, united anti-imperialist political line (understanding and program); (2) As many people as possible must take concrete action against a common enemy (unity of action) though not necessarily in the same way at the same time. (3) The need to build a strong cadre of people that it can build unity while at the same time fully presenting and discussing political differences.

Overall, the United Front Against Imperialism was given a successful trial run with the Free Zimbabwe campaign. The entire Free ZIMBabwe and Zimbabwe Liberation movement had a big success.

In Introduction to Afro-American Studies, 1960-1963:

The Free Zimbabwe Campaign was successful in a number of ways. First, it provided a platform for Zimbabweans to express their views and concerns. Second, it helped to build a sense of unity among Zimbabweans, who were divided by political and economic differences. Finally, it helped to raise awareness of the plight of the Zimbabwean people and to gain support for their cause.

The campaign was led by a coalition of opposition groups, including the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU). The campaign was also supported by the United Nations and other international bodies.

The campaign was successful in drawing more than 1,000 people to a rally on December 3rd. The rally was held in a park in Zimbabwe and was attended by Zimbabwean activists, politicians, and intellectuals. The rally was a loud and clear demonstration of the people's support for the campaign.

The campaign was also successful in raising awareness of the plight of Zimbabweans. It was estimated that over 15,000 people attended the rally, and the campaign was covered by international media.

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