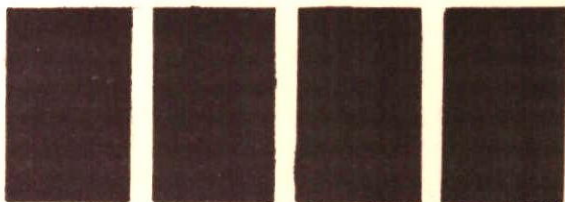


"The colonized man who writes for his people ought to use the past with the intention of opening the future, as an invitation to action and a basis for hope. But to ensure that hope and to give it form, he must take part in action and throw himself body and soul into the ... struggle."

Frantz Fanon



INSTITUTE  
OF THE  
BLACK WORLD



## History and Purpose

After a planning committee had worked for more than a year to develop basic concepts and goals, the Institute of the Black World began its first program of work during the summer of 1969. It was clear to us then that our deepest historical roots were connected to the long tradition of politically conscious black scholarship which W.E.B. Du Bois had established in Atlanta at the beginning of this century. Our contemporary ties were to the revived post-World War II struggles of the non-white, colonized peoples to seize control over the definitions and conditions of their own lives—past, present and future. Most immediately, we were born into the midst of that contestation for Black Education popularly known as the Black Studies Movement.

Originally, the Institute developed as a part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center. Since September, 1970, it has been a fully independent institution of research and political analysis, placing special emphasis on the need to shape all elements of black education into effective instruments which may be used to advance our total struggle.

From the outset we have attempted to develop our collective life in the context of these traditions and goals, and to subject our work to the standards of the concrete needs of the black community. As different stages of history require different methods and approaches, we constantly reassess our work, viewing Black Scholarship as always at the service of black struggle.

While the basic emphasis in our work is on black struggle in America, exploring many of its essential political, economic and cultural aspects, we also attempt at every point to place these developments into the context of the larger African and other anti-colonial movements of the Third World. For we see ourselves as part of *that* mainstream.

Essentially, then, we are attempting to take seriously the summons of our poet/sister Mari Evans to "Speak the truth to the people." For we are convinced that from the base of that truth we can move with others to build

"A black strength which attacks the laws  
exposes the lies disassembles the structure and  
ravages the very foundation of evil."

4. *Contact Us About Other Ways to Help.* In many cases, we can develop means of mutual support and assistance through individual contacts. Sometimes this is focussed on finances, sometimes on cooperative research and analysis.

We do not ever expect to “flourish” in terms of financial affluence, and we will therefore continue to develop a lean, functioning organizational apparatus. What we *do* expect is that with your help we will find the necessary financial basis to move our work steadily and surely in those directions which will advance our common struggle. With that goal in mind, we realize that our only true base of ultimate political, economic and moral support is the Black Community. We are glad for that.

*ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORK OF  
IBW ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE*

## **Staff and Associates**

Currently a staff of 18 persons works from our base in Atlanta (physically this base consists of two somewhat crowded rented houses—one of which was frequented by Dr. DuBois). The staff members are:

Sharon Bourke, Patricia Daly, Augustine Dempsey, Janet Douglass, Sylvia Ferrell, Micahel Fisher, Thulani Gcabashe, Sybil Griffin, Vincent Harding, Ruth Harmon, Robert Hill, Shessie Johnson, Arlon Kennedy, William Strickland, Farrel Thomas, David Townsend, Derek Wheeler, and Aljosie Yabura.

In addition to the Atlanta-based staff, we call regularly upon a network of IBW Associates to assist us in various phases of our work. Located in this country, Canada, the Caribbean, and Africa, this group of brothers and sisters provides a crucial reservoir of knowledge, encouragement, counsel, and skills which immeasurably strengthen our collective efforts. (Many of them also make regular financial contributions to IBW.)



## Research, Analysis, and Advocacy

In the midst of our long-term projects of research and writing—and as an integral part of those projects as well—we are constantly attempting to understand the significance of the present moment of black struggle. Central to our ongoing work of analysis and advocacy is the development of “A Black Agenda for the Seventies,” a task which IBW initiated early in 1970, and at which we have continued to work—with others—in various forms and situations. Some members of IBW, acting in individual capacities, were able to bring this perspective to the Black Political Convention of 1972 as well.

If the Black Agenda is to be adequate to the task before us, it must constantly be tested and remain firmly grounded in the realities which face us at any particular moment of our struggle. It must come out of our answers to such questions as: What is the meaning of the black liberation struggle? What are its dimensions? What relation has it to developments at-large, such as those facing American society and the world today? And what paths are likely to be taken, in the course of the struggle, by the various social strata?

To carry forward our work in answering such questions, we experimented during the summer of 1971 with a new form of collective research and analysis in a six-week Summer Research Symposium. The experience brought together students, a faculty of seasoned Black Scholars, and interested members of the local community, in a project of combined research, analysis, and lectures designed to study the significance of the Black Movement of the 1960's and to assess our own roles in the continuing black struggle. We are attempting to develop means for making the methodology and results of the Symposium available to others who are committed to the same tasks, and we are eager to establish contact with other persons who are engaged in research and writing on the life and struggles of African peoples — here and overseas. Indeed, we must now move to create a National Black *Research Agenda*.

Our major ongoing vehicle for the sharing of our analysis is the monthly column Black- World-View. It is made available to some thirty black newspapers, journals and radio stations. The column is also used in many kinds of teaching situations, and we are currently seeking to expand its readership by making collections of columns available in pamphlet form. expand its readership by making collections of columns available in pamphlet form.

In addition, IBW is regularly called upon by black caucuses, organizations and institutions to prepare position papers on issues relating to the political, economic, and social and cultural struggles of these and earlier times. There is also a continuous movement of our staff and our point of view into high schools, colleges, prisons and many special meetings through lectures, video-tapes and personal encounters.

## What You Can Do To Support IBW

At a time when this country is in serious economic trouble, the fight for survival for any independent black struggle institution is more difficult than ever. The Institute is no exception to that rule. Nevertheless, we intend to move forward.

Currently our programs operate on a minimal budget. Our funds come primarily from individual contributors, occasional contractual work, honoraria for lectures and articles, small foundation grants and through income from our own publications.

In almost every situation where funds are obtained from foundations and other funding agencies, we have gained our most significant assistance and support from brothers and sisters who are based in those institutions. Still, we have no illusions about such sources of income as an ultimate answer to the Institute's need to survive and develop its work.

Therefore we are currently working to build into the program of IBW a solid mechanism for generating income out of our own work. The publications program is becoming one of our major bases for such income generation.

Meanwhile, we are reaching out to an ever-growing constituency in the Black Community. And as we do, the question is constantly put to us: "How can we help IBW?"

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP IBW?

1. *Make Individual Contributions.* Such contributions are crucial to our work, for economic as well as political purposes. Although we know that you brothers and sisters have also been hit hard by the current economic crisis, we cannot stress too strongly the fact that contributions of any size—especially if they are consistent—are central of the maintenance of our independence.
2. *Encourage Groups to Make Contributions.* Various organizations, church fellowships, fraternities and community groups make contributions to IBW. These are important not only for the reasons cited above, but because they help to expand our circle of contacts. (One of our more inspiring groups sent their contributions from a state prison.)
3. *Order Our Publications.* We see our publications as central to both our political and economic program. Individual or bulk orders serve to support and share our work in both ways. (See elsewhere in brochure for a description of the available publications.)



## Cooperative Work and Mutual Assistance

Whenever possible, IBW attempts to work in close cooperation with other individuals, organizations and institutions who are seeking, with us, to play a positive role in the irresistible movement of our people towards self-determination. Such cooperative arrangements and direct services represent our contribution to their sector of the struggle, but more is involved as well. For these working relationships also serve to bring us in touch with new black constituencies and to expand the range and effectiveness of our own analysis and program. Selected examples of these cooperative relationships and services include:

- + Creation of selected bibliographies and course outlines for use by black teachers and students.
- + Consultation with black students and other young people to develop new roles for black youth at this stage of the struggle.
- + Work with the National Association of Black, Urban and Ethnic Studies Directors to develop a set of national goals and purposes for such black-directed academic programs.
- + Cooperation with Howard and Fisk Universities and institutions within the Atlanta University Center in the recruitment of faculty and staff and the creation of new programs.
- + Development of position papers for black caucuses and individual black executives in various professional areas, attempting to help define issues and set directions.
- + The work of some IBW members with other analysts and practitioners to create a Platform and Black Agenda for the National Black Political Convention of 1972.

## Writing in Progress

One of the focal points of our collective work is research and writing, with individual and group projects developing through constant interaction. (Indeed, the challenge of developing an effective style of collective black intellectual work which can itself become part of the struggle is constantly before us.

Staff members are currently working on such long-term research and writing projects as:

- + The Revolt at Attica and the Recent History of Black Struggle
- + Marcus Garvey and His Movement: Their Meaning for Today
- + A History of Black Radicalism in America
- + The Struggle for Black Education

In addition, research associates of IBW are at work on the following:

- + A Chief Albert Luthuli Biography and Reader
- + A field research project: The retrieval of primary pre-colonial documents from Islamic African Archives

Of course staff members are constantly producing shorter articles, essays and reviews for various publications and meetings.

## INFORMATION AND ORDER BLANK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please place my name on your mailing list.
- ☐ I would like to order the following publications, and I note that all orders must be pre-paid (by check or money order payable to the Institute of the Black World):

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *IBW and the Challenge of Blackness*  
(\$1.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *Beyond Chaos* (\$.50)

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The Redemption of Africa and Black Religion* (\$1.50)

\_\_\_\_\_ copies of *How I Wrote JUBILEE* (\$1.00)

- ☐ Please send me price information on *Black History As Black Struggle* when available.
- ☐ I am enclosing \_\_\_\_\_ in payment for publications, and/or I am making a contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ to IBW's overall program.

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_.

INSTITUTE OF THE BLACK WORLD, INC.  
87 CHESTNUT STREET, S. W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

## List of Current IBW Publications

In addition to our *Monthly Report* and the *Black-World-View* column, the Institute's ongoing publication work exemplifying the black perspective is to be found in our Black Paper pamphlet series. So far, four of these have been published and several are forthcoming under our joint publishing program with Third World Press in Chicago. They are presented not as an alternative to white scholarship on their subjects, but as its replacement. The Black Papers available are:

- + *The Challenge of Blackness* by Lerone Bennett, Jr. A seminal statement of the challenge posed by serious black life and work to the systems of western values, especially in regard to education. (Soon to be republished as *IBW and The Challenge of Blackness*, \$1.00)
- + *Beyond Chaos*, by Vincent Harding. A discussion of the political and intellectual role of black history in the redefinition of the black and white experience in America. \$.50
- + *The Redemption of Africa and Black Religion*, by St. Clair Drake. The studies of history, anthropology and religion are joined to trace the deep roots of the relationships between Africa and its children in the New World. \$1.50
- + *How I Wrote JUBILEE*, by Margaret Walker. A fascinating account of the way in which the gifts of the poet/novelist may be merged with the craft of the historian to make the black historical experience come alive in fiction.

More Black Papers by authors such as Sylvia Wynter and C.L.R. James will be available in 1972.

A select annotated bibliography and study outline, focused on the topic of "Black History As Black Struggle" will also be available soon.