

IFÁ (Yorùbá for 'Wisdom'):

Intro for All

A free short course on Black Studies

You are invited
to five
FREE lectures
on five
fundamentals



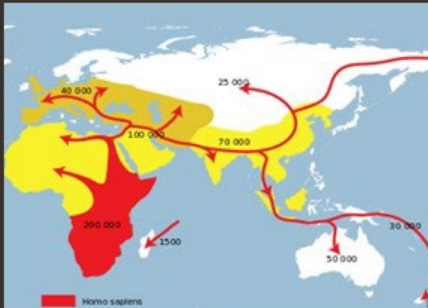
Aug 26:
Color

Sep 2:
Class

Sep 9:
Culture

Sep 16:
Gender

Sep 23:
Consciousness



Saturdays 10–11:30 am US Central time (UTC-5)
Register at <https://go.illinois.edu/ifa>

Abdul Alkalimat,
Instructor

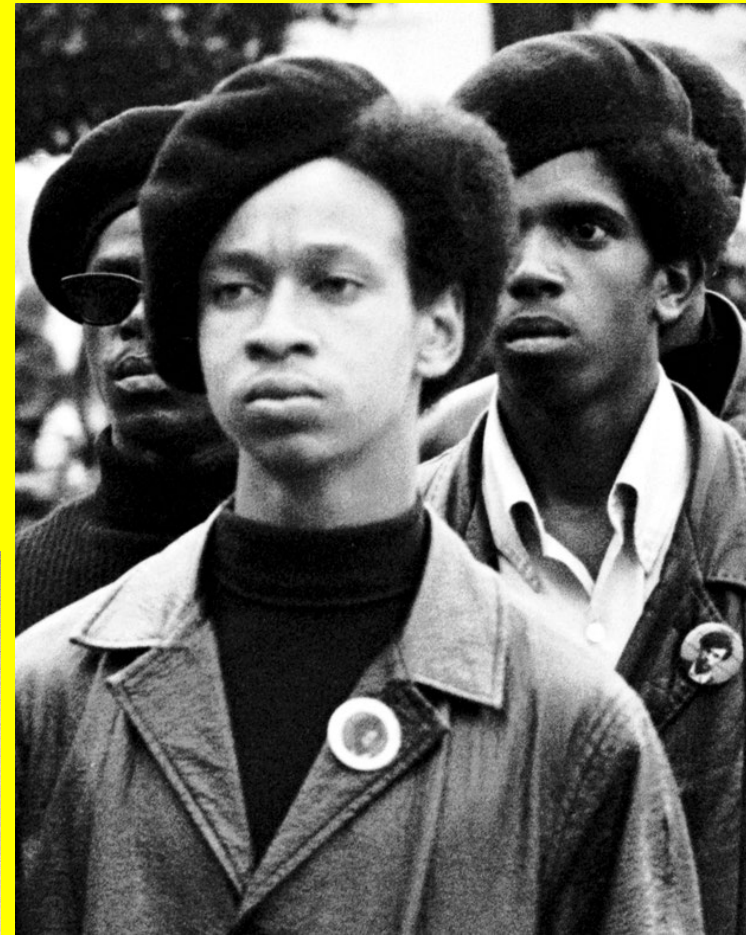
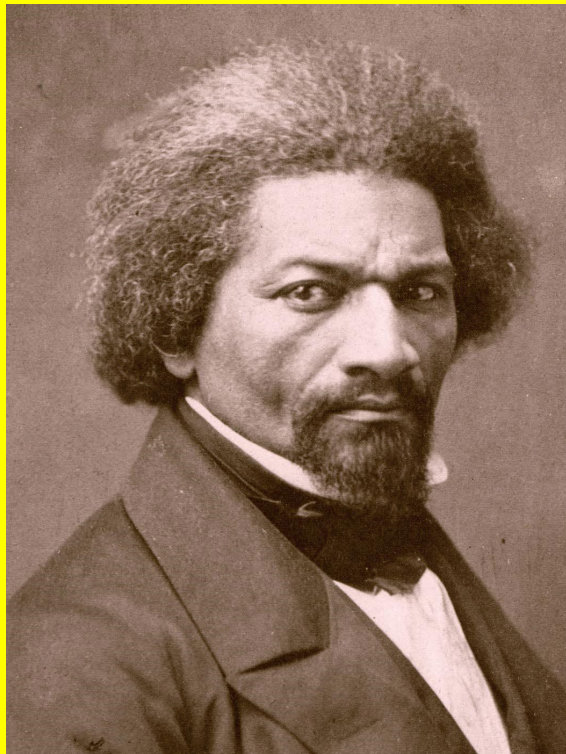
Welcome!
We'll start a few
minutes after 10am
US Central Time

Consciousness

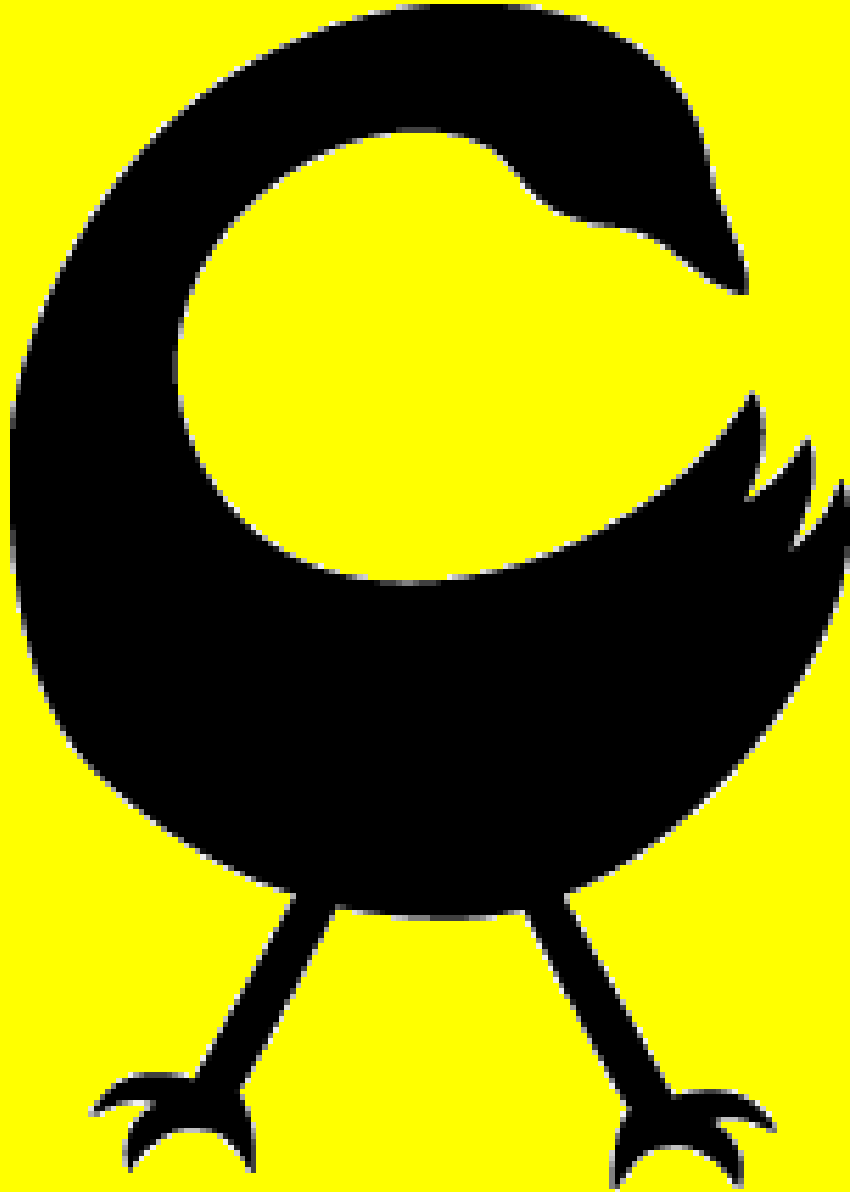
Abdul Alkalimat
IFA: Intro for all
Community Lecture #5
September 23, 2023

Outline

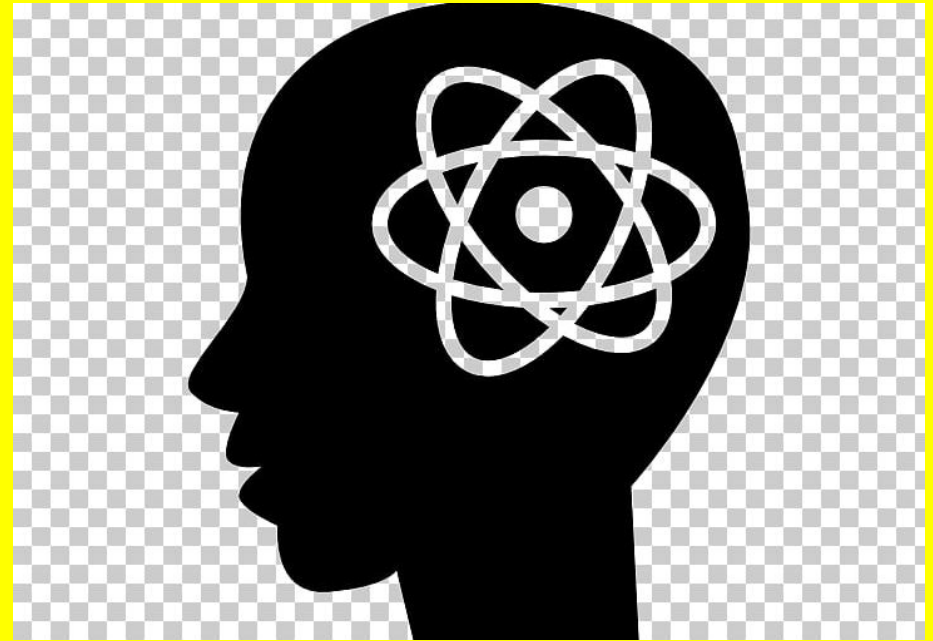
1. What is consciousness?
2. Objective vs subjective
3. Five ideological traditions
4. Three Great Debates
5. Agency



**FEAR OF BLACK
CONSCIOUSNESS**



Sankofa

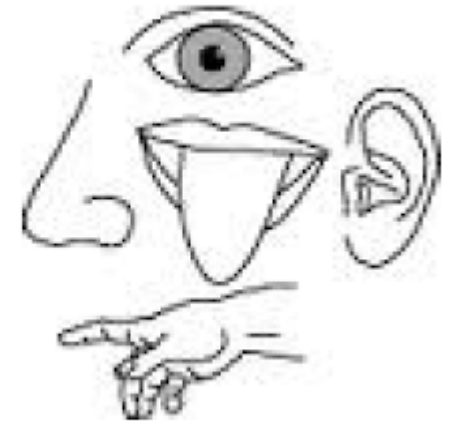


Epistemology

Perception \leftrightarrow Cognition

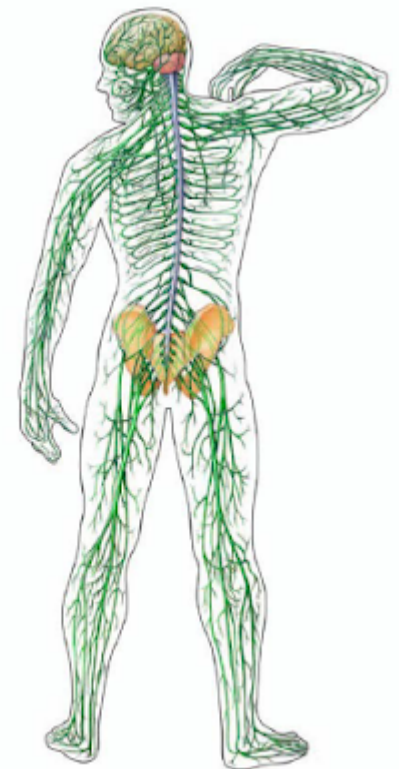
Epistemology: a theory of knowledge

a. Perceptual knowledge – using our five senses to gather sense perceptions of the world around us



b. Rational knowledge – using our brains to analyse (name and code) these perceptions to find meaning

c. Practical knowledge – verification by using rational knowledge in practical application

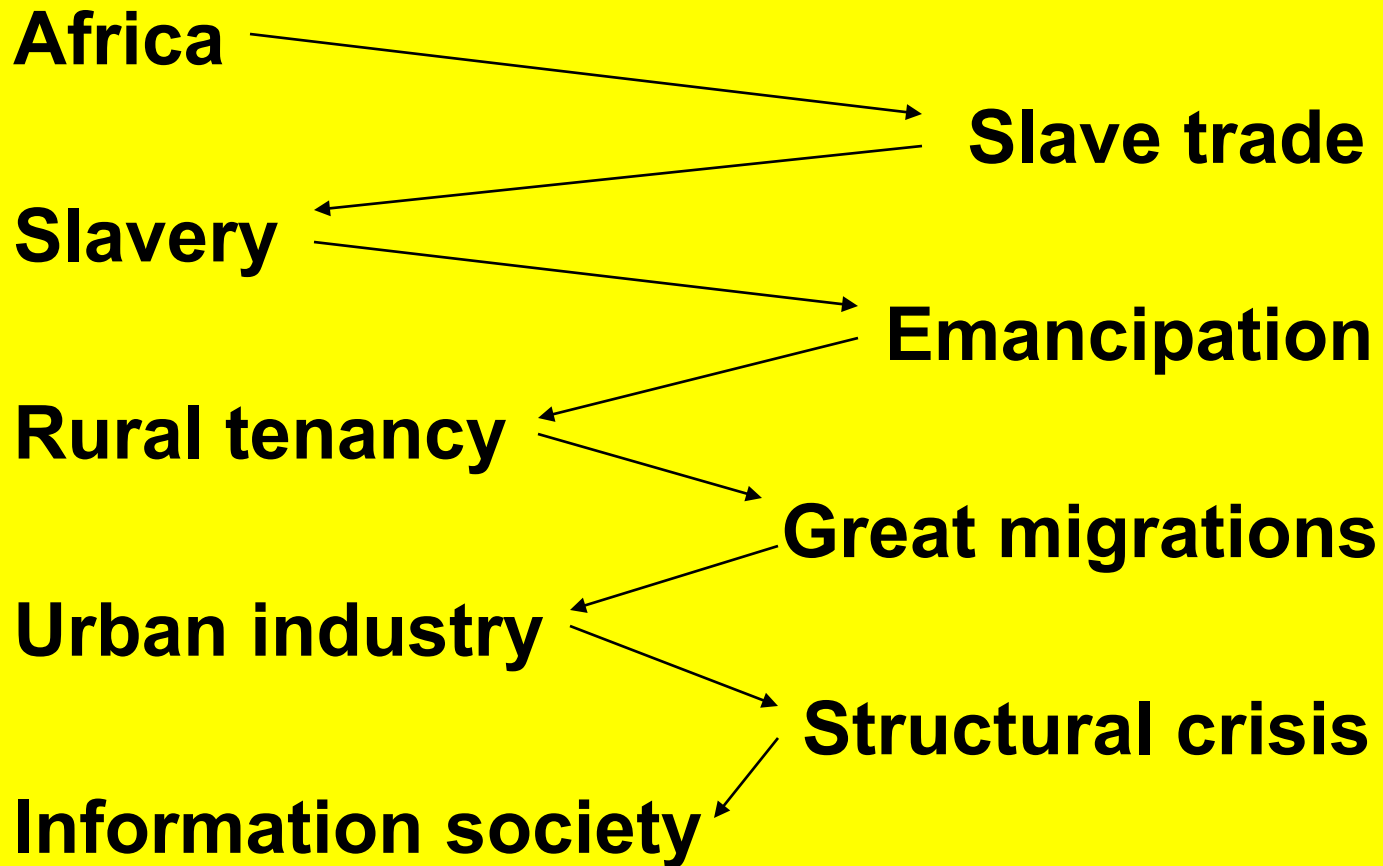


“Freedom is the recognition of necessity.”
— **Friedrich Engels**



The objectivity of Black history:

modes of social cohesion, modes of social disruption



The Black Experience

Objective

Color (Biology)

Class (Political economy)

Culture (Community)

Gender (Community)

Subjective

Consciousness (Psychology, Philosophy)





Many Black people wonder what would happen if we could flip the script, and reverse roles with white people.

Class consciousness

Capitalist class

Form the mainstream

Middle class

Perform the mainstream

Working class

Reform the mainstream

Anti-class

Transform the mainstream



**But what about false
class consciousness?**

Self affirmation or self negation



Black culture versus racist culture



THE GOOMPHIER OF SOUL
JAMES BROWN
THE PAYBACK

WE INSIST!

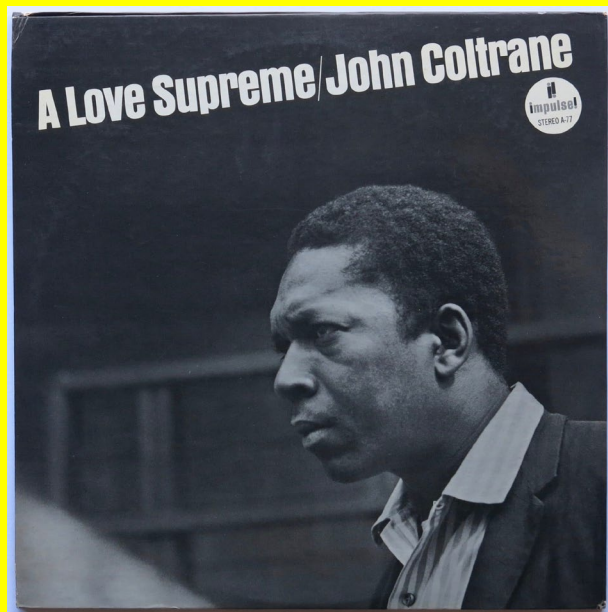
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MAX ROACH'S - **FREEDOM NOW SUITE**



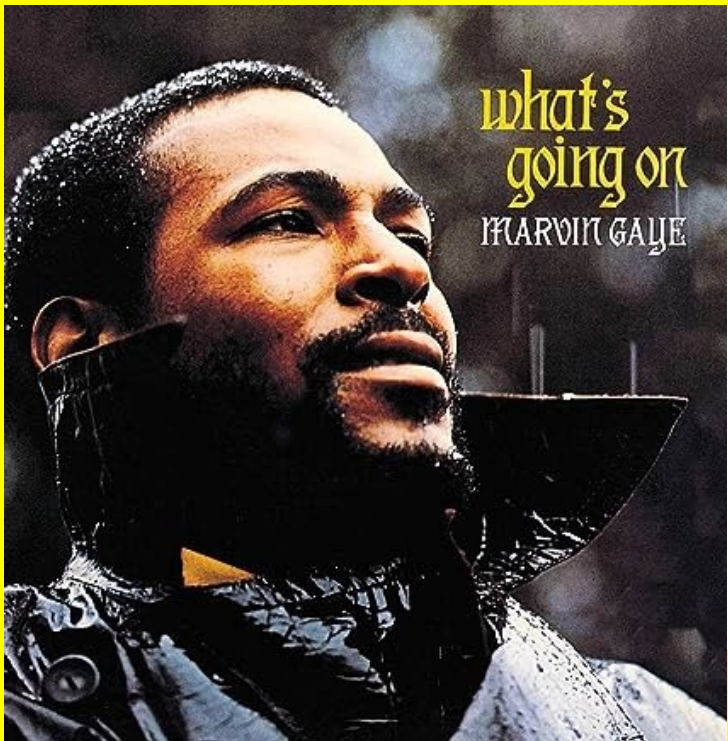
FEATURING **ABBEY LINCOLN**
COLEMAN HAWKINS, OLATUNJI **CANDID**

OLATUNJI APPEARS THROUGH THE COURTESY OF COLMBIERA RECORDS



A Love Supreme / John Coltrane

Impulse!
STEREO A-77



**what's
going on**
MARVIN GAYE



Aretha Now

ATLANTIC



**All genders
are beautiful**

Main Black ideologies

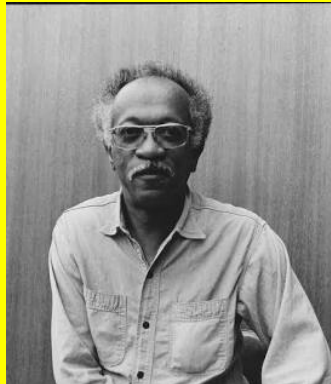
Black liberation theology

Pan-Africanism

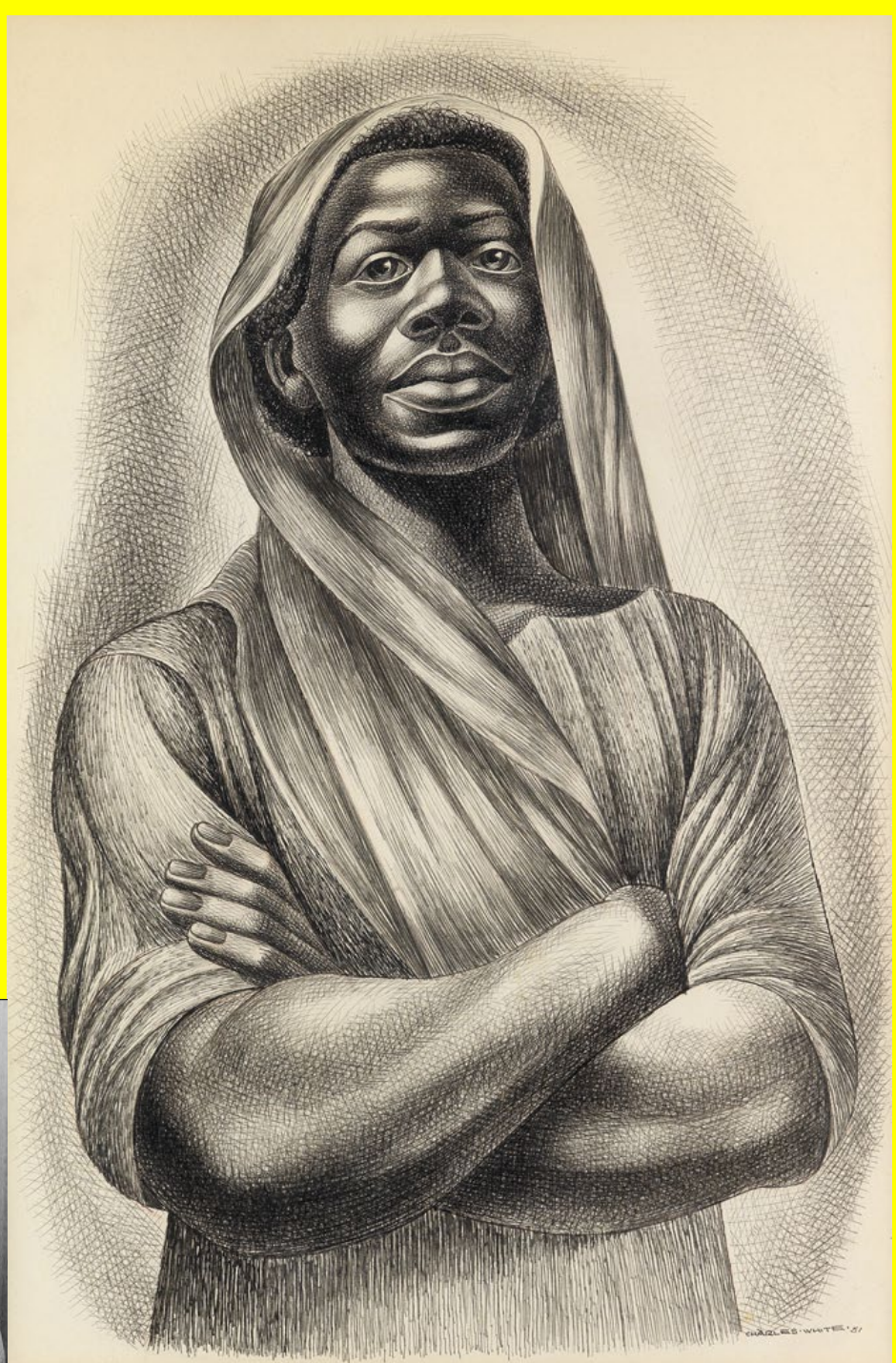
Nationalism

Womanism

Socialism



Charles White

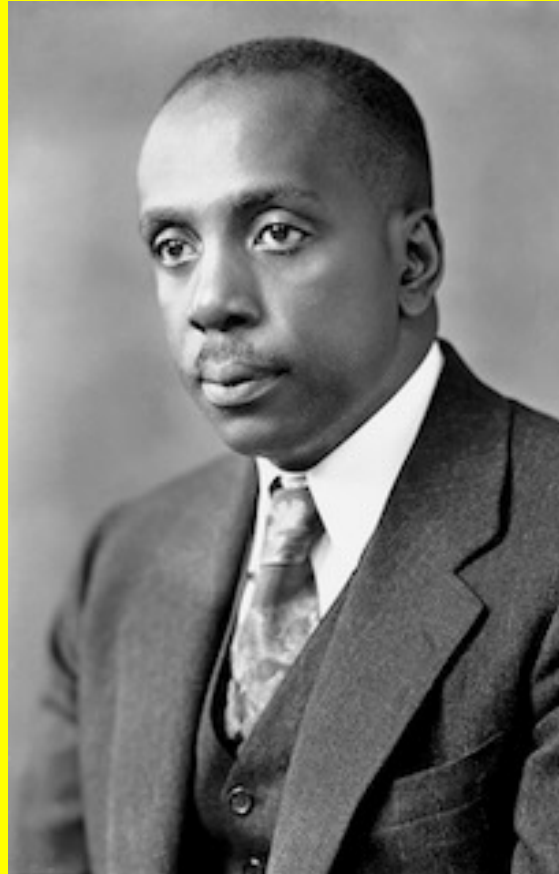


Black Liberation Theology

A theology that sees God as concerned with the salvation of the poor and the weak.



George McGuire



Howard Thurman



James Cone

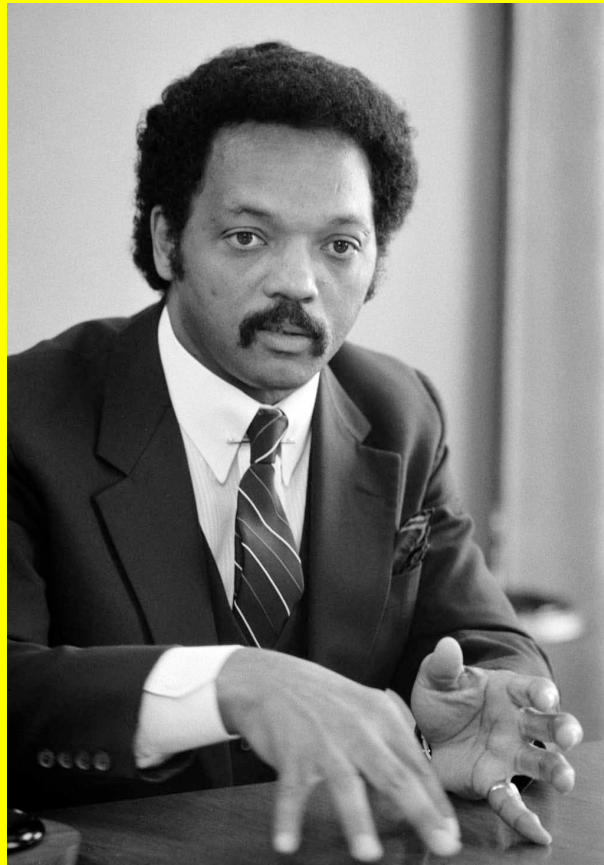
The Black Church

Transforming social justice with morality

“Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, and please the widow's cause,” (Isaiah 1:17).



Adam Clayton Powell Jr.



Jesse Jackson



Raphael Warnock

The Nation of Islam



Dedicated to Freedom,
Justice and Equality for
the so-called Negro.
The Earth Belongs to Allah

VOL. 3--No. 13

MARCH 13, 1964

111

15c--OUTSIDE ILLINOIS 20c

Muhammad Speaks



Savior's Day Message --- :

TAKE THE ROAD TO FREEDOM.....

Seek Peace in Times of Chaos

By Elijah Muhammad

Never since the creation of Adam and Eve have there been such chaotic times as we are witnessing today -- with the worst yet to come! There is no peace among the nations of the earth.

The only few people who enjoy peace of mind and contentment in this day and time are the elects of God, though they are persecuted from city to city and falsely accused and denied the credit due them because of their righteousness in the midst of the wicked who have ruled the world.

By no means can the righteous be represented for their righteous sake by the evil-doers of the world.

"God is despised and rejected; evil is accepted and honored; justice stands afar off, and equity cannot come in," says prophet Isaiah of the Bible.

THE Holy Qur-an warns us to fear a day when evil is spread far and wide in the days of God's presence at the end of the satanic world to bring it to naught.

Allah (God) causes the evil world to be upset since they have been the enemies

(Continued on page 12)



The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah

Our Day Is Near At Hand

At the most notable convention to take place this year in America, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah and leader of the Nation of Islam, addressed more than 5,000 followers and visitors from throughout the country and overseas here in a dynamic speech of far-reaching significance in its bold message of truth.

Mr. Muhammad's Savior's Day address here at the Coliseum set forth the origin and destiny of the so-called Negro in America and outlined the path towards the inevitable obtainment of liberty, equality and justice for black people in America.

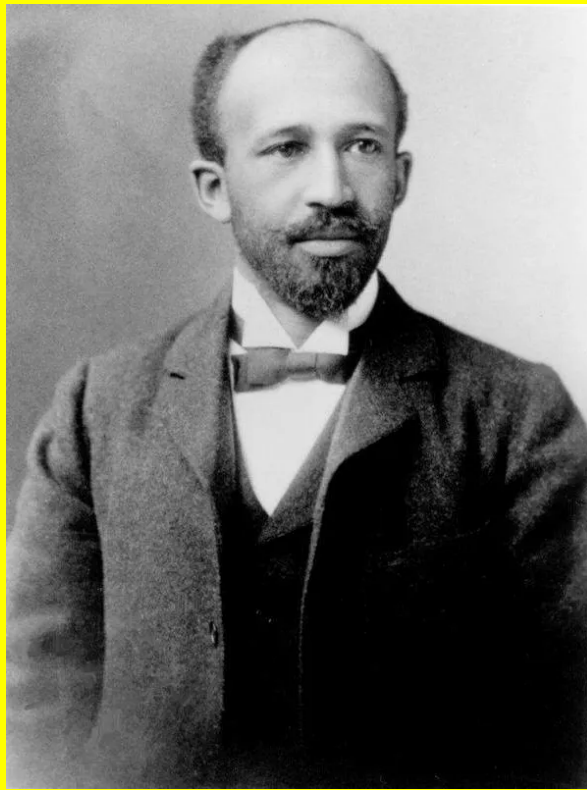
In a two-hour address, delivered with strength and vigor before a cheering throng and the world's news and television medias, Mr. Muhammad warned the time of white-supremacy rule was at an end and that a final showdown against the evils and op-

(Continued on page 3)

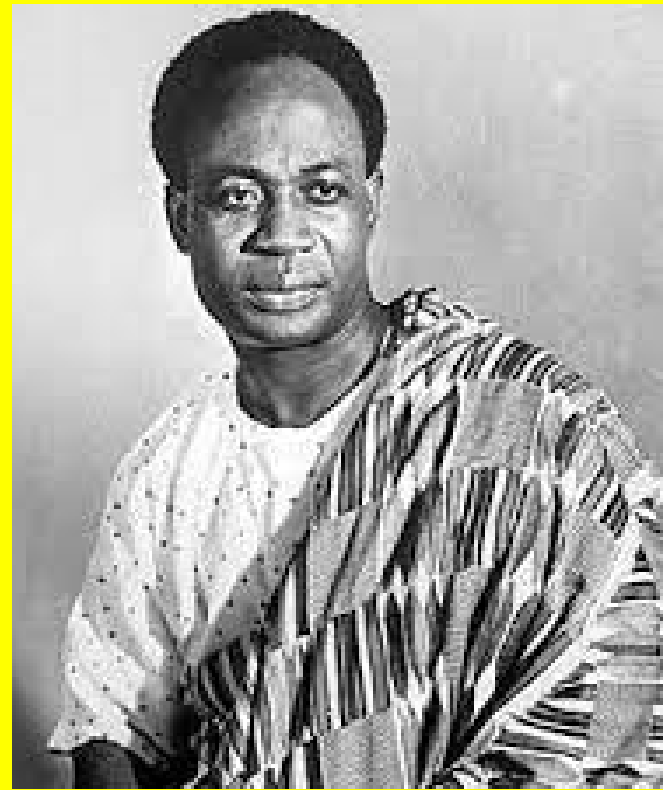
Pan Africanism



Marcus Garvey



W.E.B. DuBois



Kwame Nkrumah

“We are saying that we identify with the African people of the African continent. We are saying that we are an African people. And when we make this identification, we have no illusions about the fact that this is a very revolutionary initiative; it is a rejection of every other form of identification which the white society has asked us to accept.”

Walter Rodney

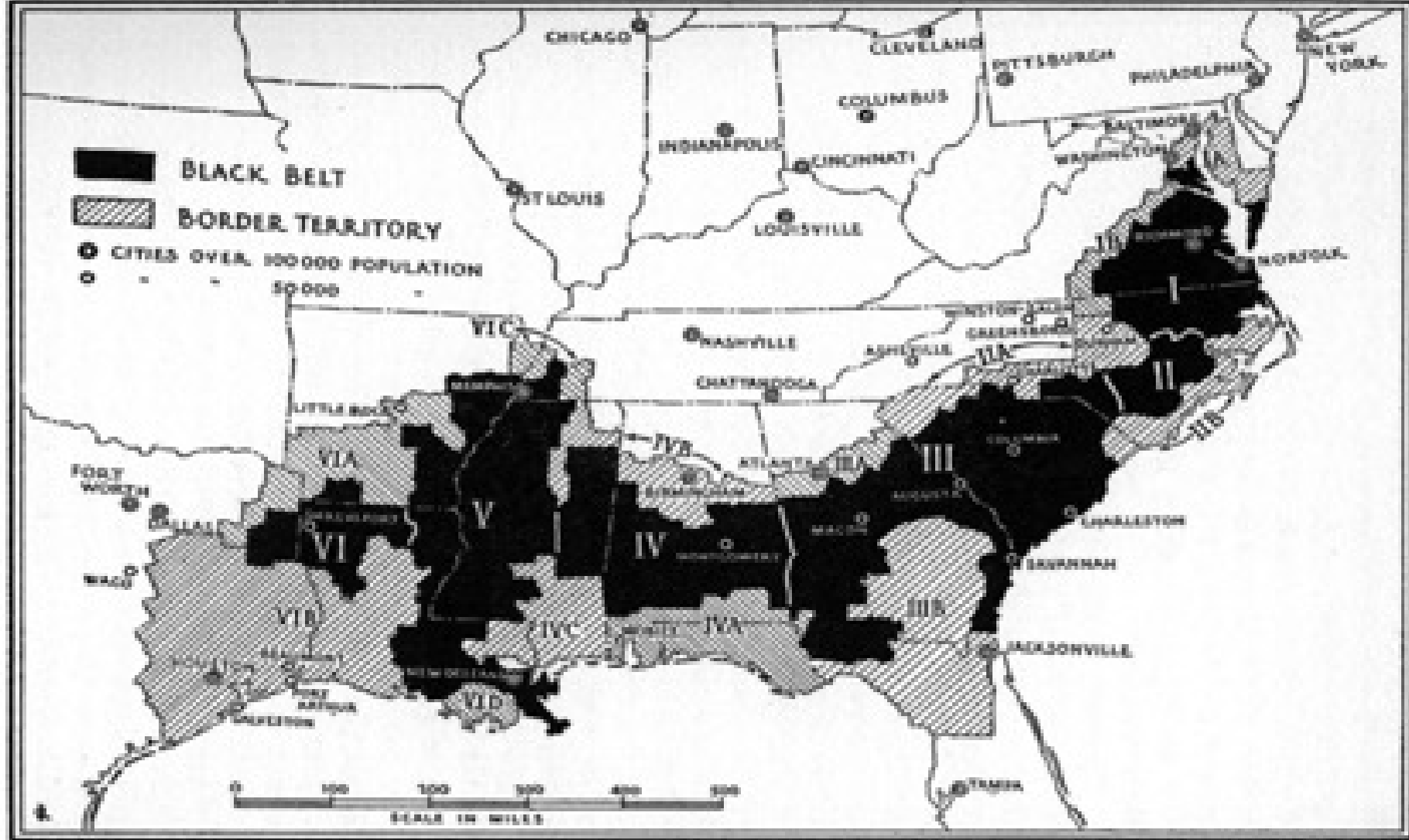


African Liberation Support Committee Executive Committee





African Liberation Support Committee Demonstration

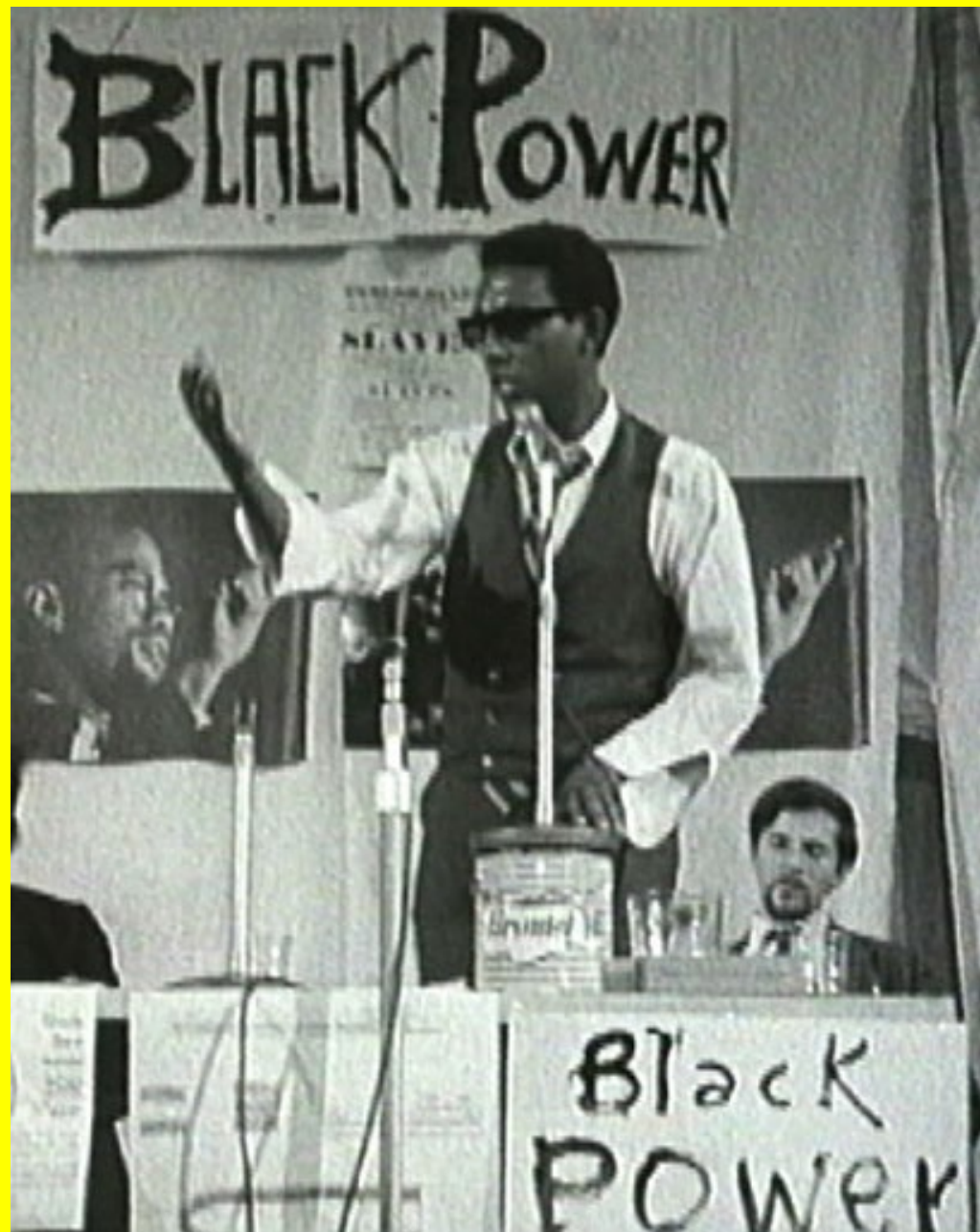


BLACK BELT AND BORDER TERRITORY

A **nation** is a historically constituted, stable community of people, formed on the basis of a common language, territory, economic life, and psychological make-up manifested in a common culture



Huey Newton



Stokely Carmichael – Kwame Ture



July 20, 1967: The first national Black Power conference in Newark, NJ







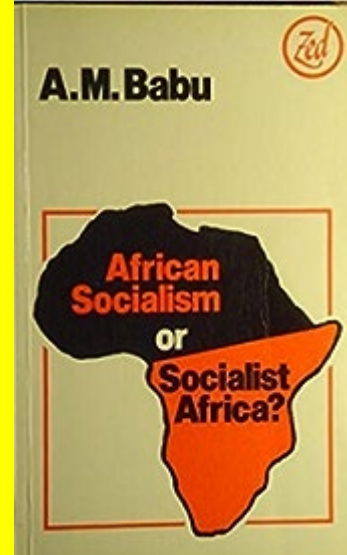
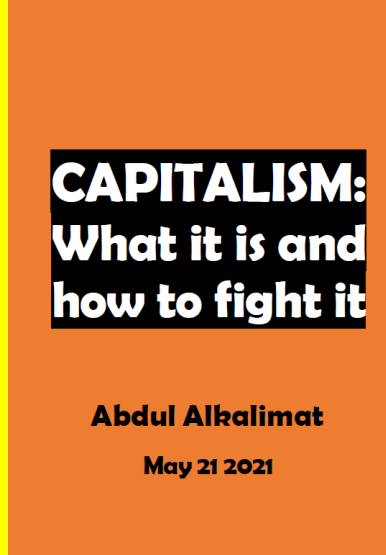
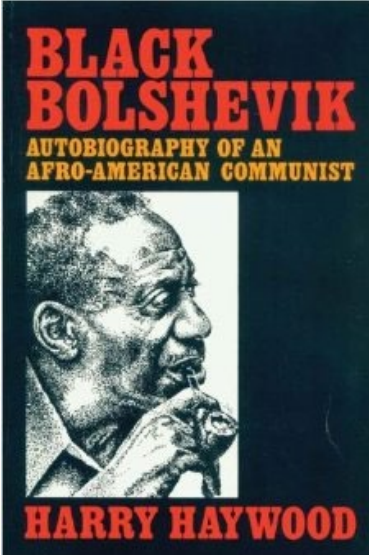
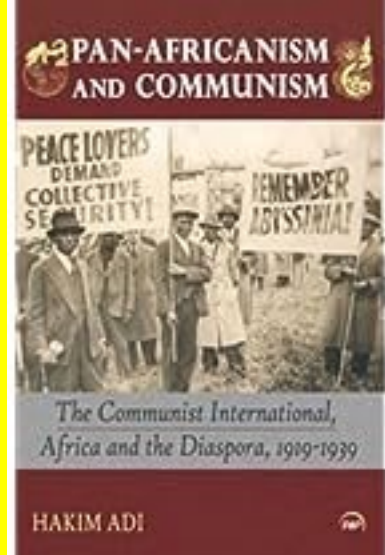
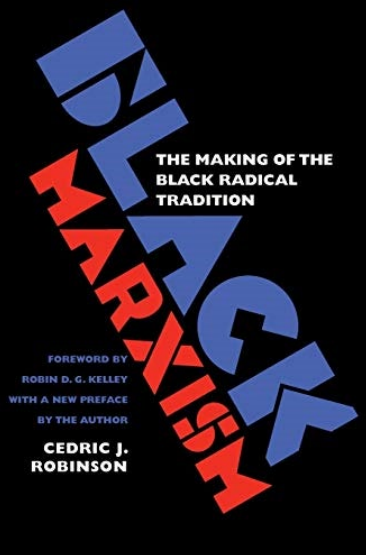


Otto Huiswoud (left) and Claude McKay (right) at the Fourth Congress of the Third International in Moscow in 1923.



**Leading Black
Communists**





Historical context for Great Black Debates

Modes of
Social cohesion

Modes of
Social disruption

Africa



Slave trade

Slavery



Emancipation

Great Debate #1

Rural



Great migrations

Great Debate #2

Urban



Crisis

Great Debate #3

Information



Emancipation Debate: How can Black people get free?



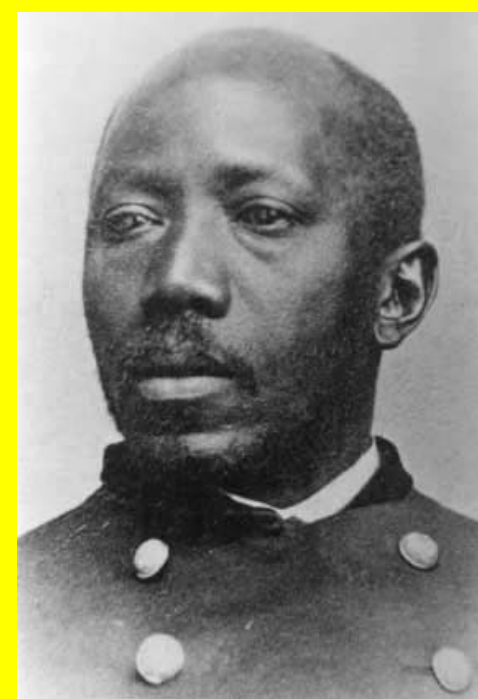
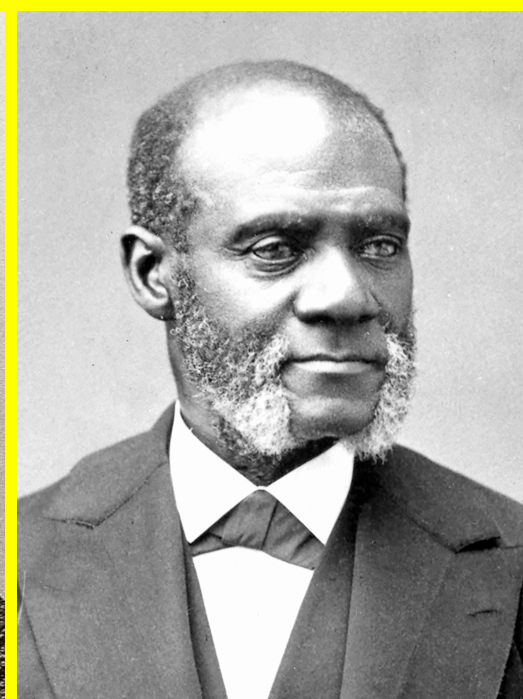
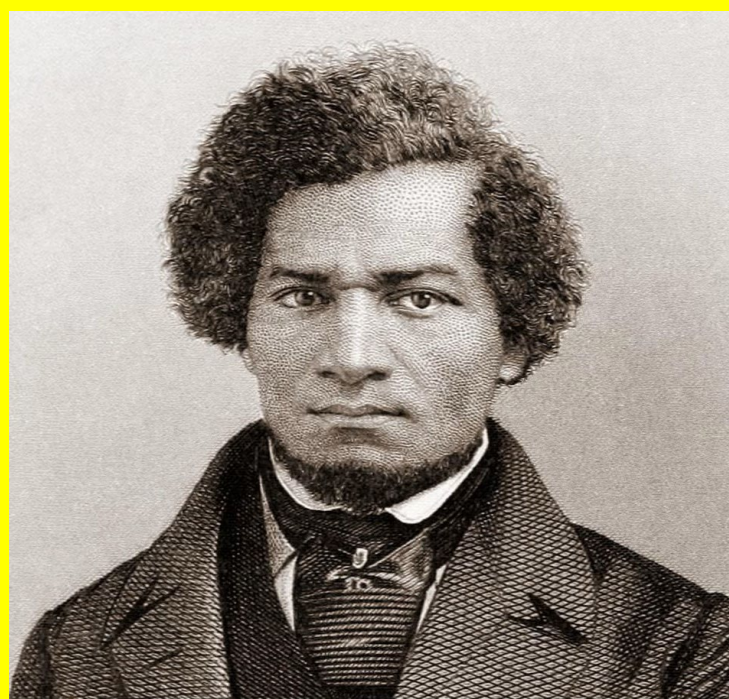
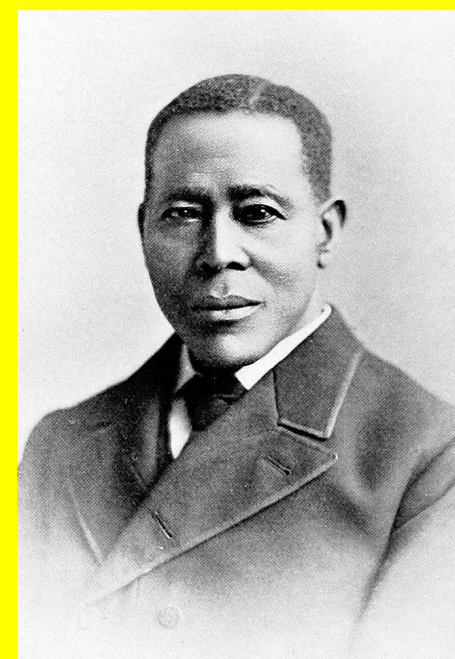
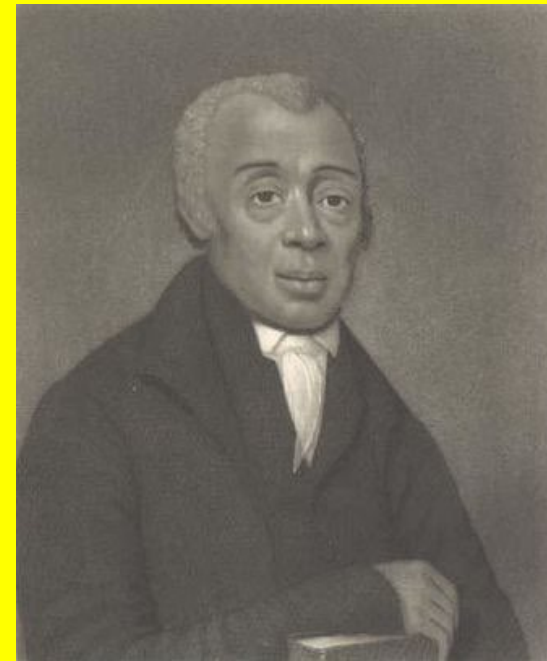
The Abolitionist Movement, The Civil War, The Reconstruction

First National Negro Convention



BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PHILAD^a

Founded in 1786 by the Rev. Richard Allen, Bishop of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States. — Rebuilt in 1807.



Self-Determination Debate

How should Black people organize their “freedom”?

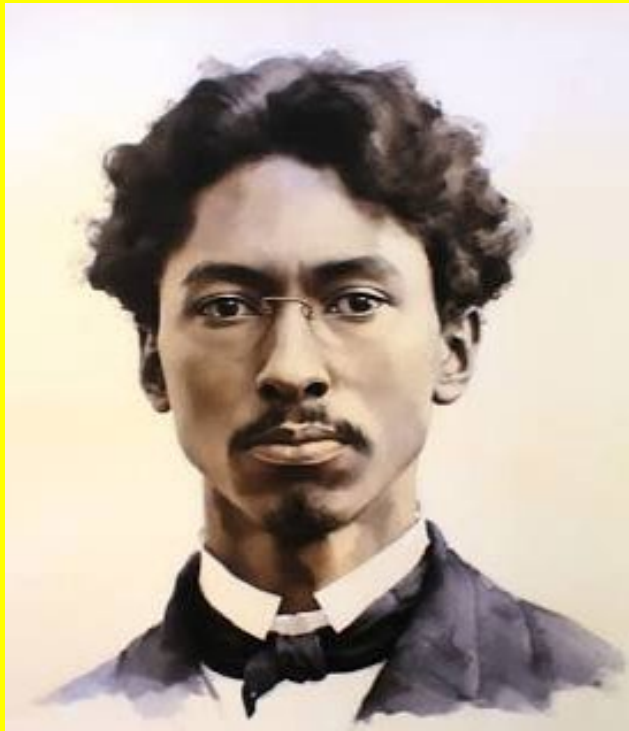
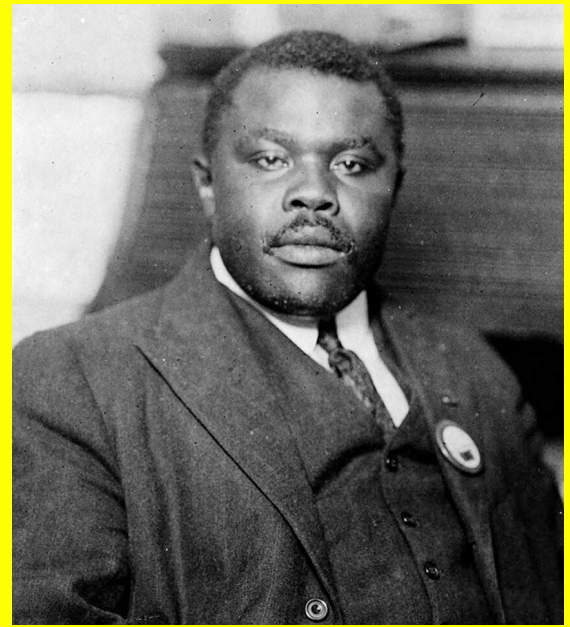
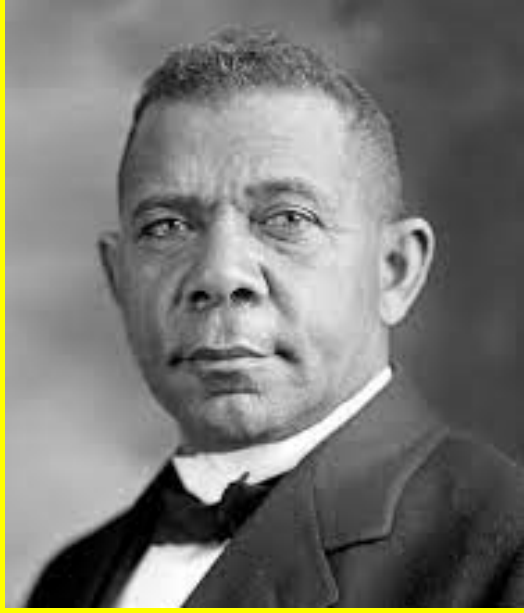


Niagara Movement



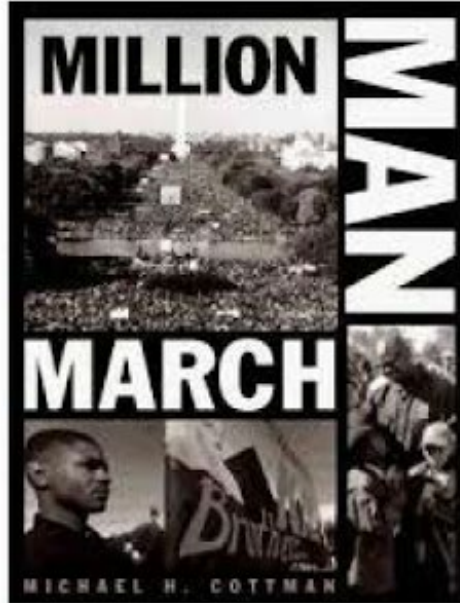
National Negro Business League

Segregation, Migration, Integration



Black Liberation Debate

The debate made a revolutionary leap to changing all of society!



Martin Luther King and Malcolm X



Black Radical Congress 1998

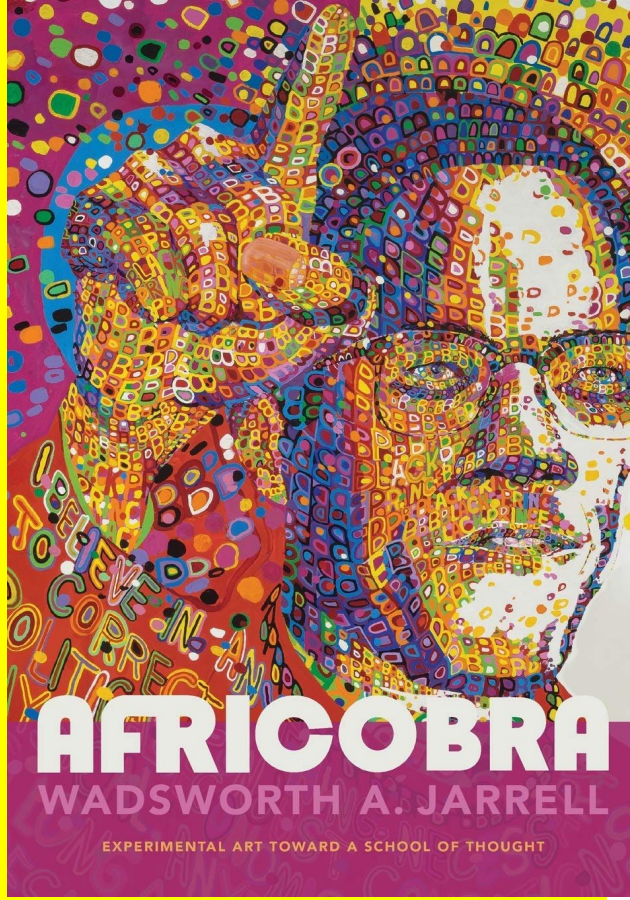


**Founders: Barbara Ransby, Bill Fletcher,
Abdul Alkalimat, Leith Mullins, Manning Marable**

What is 21st century consciousness?

1. The language of the past is insufficient, because people have changed – check the opinion polls.
2. The ideologies of the past continue as the foundation of Black social thought.
3. How can we change our thinking from what was relevant in the industrial society to relevance in the information society?





Summary

1. Black consciousness made a paradigm shift after the 1960s
2. It has reflected the Black Experience: color, class, culture, and gender
3. There have been five Black ideological traditions: Black liberation theory, Pan Africanism, Black Nationalism, Womanism, and Socialism
4. There have been three great debates: Emancipation debate, self-determination debate, and the Black liberation debate