

VOLUME 1



BLACK HISTORY FLASHCARDS

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1968 Olympics Black Power Fist



- Demonstration conducted by African-American athletes, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, after winning gold and bronze medals. Each athlete raised a Black-gloved fist and kept them raised until the National Anthem finished.
- Wore human rights badges on their jackets.
- Over and above winning medals, these athletes made names for themselves by an act of racial protest.
- The raising of the Black Power Fist stood for those against the political and racial injustice in America.
- Smith and Carlos received death threats from racist Americans for making the gesture.
- The gesture and American backlash can be compared to modern day feelings of Colin Kaepernick, who kneeled during the National Anthem for similar reasons.



Angela Davis

January 26, 1944 – Present

Photo: RIA Novosti archive: image #36716 / Yuriy Ivanov / CC-BY-SA 3.0

- Political activist, academic scholar, and author.
- The Leader of the Communist Party USA in the 1960s.
- Advocate for prisoner rights, she co-founded Critical Resistance, an organization working to abolish the prison-industrial complex.
- Membership in the Communist Party led to former Governor of California Ronald Reagan's request, in 1969, to bar her from teaching at any university in California.
- Conducts research on feminism, African-American studies, critical theory, Marxism, popular music, and social consciousness.
- Twice a candidate for Vice President on the Communist Party USA ticket during the 1980s.



Barack Obama

August 4, 1961 – Present

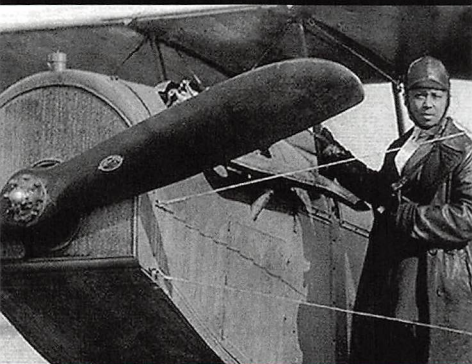
- Served as 44th President of the United States, 2009 - 2017.
- First African-American to serve as president.
- First president born outside the contiguous United States.
- In 2010, enacted the Affordable Care Act (often referred to as “Obamacare”), designed to increase health insurance quality and affordability, reduce the costs of healthcare, and lower the uninsured rate by expanding insurance coverage.
- The first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review.
- Negotiated and normalized U.S. relations with Cuba in 2015.



Benjamin Banneker

November 9, 1731 – October 9, 1806

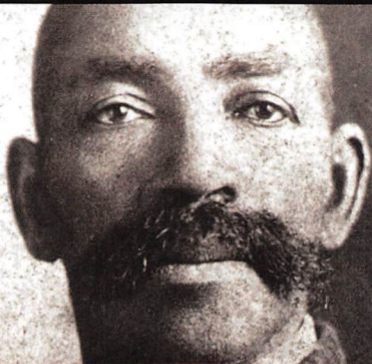
- A free, self-taught, African-American mathematician, astronomer, almanac author, and farmer.
- At age 15, he took over the family farm and created an irrigation system to control the flow of water to the crops.
- In the 1750's, he invented the first clock in America. It was this invention that put his talents on display for the country.
- Responsible for surveying of territory for construction of the nation's capital in 1791 after the lead architect quit.
- Authored commercially successful series of almanacs.
- Corresponded with Thomas Jefferson, drafter of the United States Declaration of Independence, on the topics of slavery and racial equality.



Bessie Coleman

January 26, 1892 – April 30, 1926

- American civil aviator, known as “Queen Bess”.
- First woman of African-American and Native American descent to hold a pilot license and first American to earn an international pilot’s license.
- In 1921, she received her international pilot license in France because no flight school in America would train a colored woman.
- Her goals were to expose her people to the world of aviation. She desired to speak to audiences, children to inspire them to get involved in the flight industry.
- In 1926, She fell to her death while practicing for one of her famous stunt shows. Evidence later indicated her plane may have been tampered with.
- Inducted into National Aviation Hall of Fame in 2006.



The First Black Cowboys

Image of Bass Reeves

- One in four of America's cowboys were African-American.
- Many of the slaves in the 17th and 18th centuries were familiar with herding cattle from homelands of West Africa.
- Federation of Black Cowboys maintained the legacies of Black cowboys in America.
- Hollywood gave little attention to Black cowboys who made their mark in western history.
- Notable Black cowboys: Bass Reeves, Ned Huddleston (aka Isom Dart), and William "Bill" Pickett.



Black Wall Street

Greenwood, suburb of Tulsa,
Oklahoma: 1906 – 1921

- One of the most successful Black economies in American history.
- O.W. Gurley, a wealthy African-American from Arkansas, moved to Tulsa, purchased over 40 acres of land, and sold to other African-Americans in 1906.
- During oil boom of the 1910s, area of northeast Oklahoma, around Tulsa flourished.
- Tulsa Race Riot of 1921, a two-day massacre of hundreds of Black residents started by a White mob.
- Over 800 people admitted to area hospitals, estimated 10,000 homeless, 35 city blocks housing 1,256 residences destroyed, and 600 successful businesses lost.
- The community mobilized its resources and rebuilt the Greenwood area within five years of the race riot in spite of political efforts to prevent reconstruction.

Photo: By Bjavhlanbayr - Bob Marley under
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Bob Marley

February 6, 1945 – May 11, 1981

- Jamaican singer-songwriter, musician, guitarist, and activist.
- Music became closely associated with the movement toward Black political independence, prominent in America and several African and South American countries.
- First global pop star to emerge from a developing nation.
- Posthumously inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.
- Although Marley never received a GRAMMY nomination, was recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.



Carter G. Woodson

December 19, 1875 – April 3, 1950

- Historian, author, and journalist.
- In 1903, he earned a B.L. degree from Berea College. In 1908, he earned an M.A. in History from University of Chicago. In 1912, he earned his doctorate in History from Harvard University.
- Co-founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (later known as the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History) in 1915.
- Authored *The Mis-Education of the Negro* in 1933, one of the most important books of the 20th century.
- Established *The Journal of Negro History* in 1915.
- Launched the celebration of “Negro History Week” in 1926, eventually expanded and renamed Black History Month.



Claudette Colvin

September 5, 1939 – Present

- Pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement.
- Nine months before Rosa Parks, on March 2, 1955, at only 15-years-old, she refused to move from her seat on a Montgomery bound segregated bus. She had paid the fare and felt it was her constitutional right to board the bus.
- She was dragged off the bus, handcuffed and taken to an adult jail.
- Colvin is not a much-celebrated figure in the African American Civil Rights Movement, many believe this is because she was perceived to being darker toned and pregnant.
- Colvin had a child born out of wedlock at the age of 16.
- On February 1, 1956, Claudette Colvin served as the star witness alongside four other plaintiffs in the Browder v. Gayle case.
- This landmark federal case, chaired by a three-judge panel, ended the history of segregation on public transportation in Alabama and other states in America.



Dick Gregory

October 12, 1932 – August 19, 2017

- Civil rights activist, social critic, writer, entrepreneur, conspiracy theorist, comedian, and occasional actor.
- Began studying African history after being told that Africans had no history before European colonization.
- Took on a range of issues including ending the Vietnam War, feminism, Native-American rights, and apartheid in South Africa.
- Regularly fasted in protest of world events; was arrested dozens of times for his causes.
- In 1961, joked in front of a white audience: *"Last time I was down South I walked into this restaurant and this white waitress came up to me and said, 'We don't serve colored people here.' I said that's all right. I don't eat colored people. Bring me a whole fried chicken."*
- Authored the controversial *"Nigger: An Autobiography"* in 1964.



Elijah McCoy

May 2, 1844 – October 10, 1929

- Canadian-American inventor and engineer.
- Son of former slaves from Kentucky who escaped via Underground Railroad to Canada.
- Although a great financial sacrifice, McCoy's parents sent him to Edinburgh, Scotland; he studied mechanical engineering.
- Noted for 57 U.S. patents, most involved the lubrication of steam engines.
- Sold many of his patents for a fraction of their worth; never capitalized on his own inventions; the devices he designed made others millionaires.
- His oil-drip cup invention was so amazing, people termed the phrase "The Real McCoy" which now refers to something authentic and of high quality.



Elijah Muhammad

October 7, 1897 – February 25, 1975

- Born in the Jim Crow south, moved to Detroit.
- Converted to Islam and studied under Master Fard.
- After becoming Master Fard's Representative for the Nation of Islam, he became the Leader.
- Mentored Malcolm X, Louis Farrakhan, and Muhammad Ali.
- Refused induction into the military during WW2, jailed for 5 years, and is believed to be the inspiration for Muhammad Ali to do the same.
- Oversaw the largest growth in the history of the Nation of Islam.
- Established the newspaper Muhammad Speaks, a University of Islam (private elementary and high school), grocery stores, restaurants and more.
- Purchased land and businesses to provide housing and employment for the members of the NOI and beyond.
- Authored "Message to the Blackman in America" & "How to Eat to Live".



Fannie Lou Hamer

October 6, 1917 – March 14, 1977

- Voting rights activist, civil rights leader, and philanthropist.
- Worked for the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).
- Helped poor and needy families in her Mississippi community.
- Vice-chair of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP).
- Elected as a national Democratic Party delegate in 1972.
- Died on March 14, 1977, and according to The New York Times, “None of us would be where we are today had she not been here then.”

Photo: By Elvert Barnes - Dr. Frances Cress Welsing
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Frances Cress Welsing

March 18, 1935 – January 2, 2016

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- American-born Afrocentrist, psychiatrist, and author.
- Believed people of color needed to “liberate” themselves psychologically from White domination.
- In 1974, authored *The Cress Theory of Color-Confrontation and Racism (White Supremacy)*, that states people of color must gain a better understanding of the “behavioral maneuverings” of Whites in order to avoid being “manipulated into a subordinated position.”
- In 1991, wrote, *The Isis Papers: Keys to the Colors*, a collection of 25 essays examining the neuroses of White supremacy.
- Wrote about “melanin theory,” a claim that White people are the genetically defective descendants of albino mutants.
- Felt Whites strive to maintain a superior social position and manipulate non-Whites and themselves into thinking that they are a worldwide numerical majority instead of the minority.



Haile Selassie I

July 23, 1892 – August 27, 1975

- Ethiopia's regent from 1916 to 1930; emperor from 1930 to 1974.
- Served as chairperson of the Organisation of African Unity.
- A former member of the Solomonic Dynasty.
- Forced into exile after Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1936; became the face of the resistance and went before the League of Nations in Geneva for assistance. He secured the help of the British in reclaiming his country and reinstating his powers as emperor in 1941.
- Internationalist views led to Ethiopia becoming a charter member of the United Nations.
- Rastafari movement perceives Haile Selassie as a messianic figure who will lead a future golden age of eternal peace, righteousness, and prosperity.



Haitian Revolution

1791 – 1804

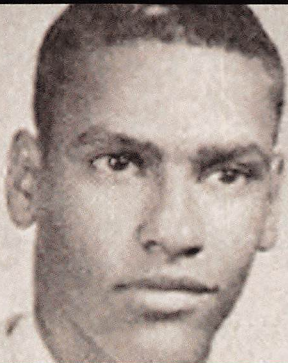
- Successful anti-slavery and anti-colonial insurrection overthrowing the French.
- Led to the West pulling out of the institution of slavery throughout the Americas.
- Only slave uprising that led to the founding of a state, free from slavery, and ruled by non-Whites and former captives.
- Self-liberated slaves destroyed slavery, fought to preserve their freedom, and with the collaboration of mulattoes, founded the sovereign state of Haiti.
- Challenged long-held beliefs about Black inferiority and enslaved person's capacity to achieve and maintain freedom.



Harlem Renaissance

Harlem, New York: 1920s – Mid-1930s

- A cultural, social, and artistic explosion, “New Negro Movement.”
- Grew out of the changes that had taken place in the African-American community since the abolition of slavery.
- Period of time when African-Americans were encouraged to celebrate their heritage, racial pride, creative expression, and intellectualism.
- Significant figures included: Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Claude McKay, Zora Neale Hurston, Bessie Smith, Paul Robeson, and Langston Hughes.



Huey P. Newton, Ph.D.

February 17, 1942 – August 22, 1989

- Political activist and revolutionary.
- Co-founded the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense in 1966.
- Overcame illiteracy and attended Merritt College and the University of San Francisco School of Law.
- In 1980, he earned a Ph. D. in social philosophy from the University of California, Santa Cruz.
- Allied for freedom, full employment, decent housing, education, and military exemption for African-Americans.
- Sponsored a free breakfast program for children, sickle-cell anemia tests, free food and shoes, and a school.
- He was shot and killed in Oakland, California August 22nd, 1989.

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Frederick Douglass

February 1818 – February 20, 1895



- Abolitionist, author, social reformer, and diplomat.
- He was born enslaved in Maryland and learned how to read and write at 12-years-old.
- He taught other enslaved people to read and write.
- In 1838, he escaped by pretending to be a sailor.
- He joined the abolitionist movement by delivering speeches and writing in the *Frederick Douglass Weekly*, *The North Star*, and many other newspapers.
- He supported women's rights and was the only African-American to attend the Seneca Falls convention.
- After the Civil War, he became president of the Freedman's Savings Bank.
- In 1872, he received a nomination for Vice President of the United States, making him the first African-American on the presidential ballot.



Photo: By L Selah Alexander - Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, at The Arena Play House under Creative Commons Share Alike 4.0 International license.

Ivan Van Sertima

January 26, 1935 – May 25, 2009

- Guyanese-born literary critic, linguist, and anthropologist.
- Associate professor of Africana Studies at Rutgers University in New Jersey.
- In 1976, published the book, "They Came Before Columbus," that features his arguments for an African origin of Mesoamerican culture in the Western Hemisphere.
- Achieved widespread attention within the African-American community for his claims of prehistoric African contact and diffusion of culture in Central and South America.
- In 1983, authored "The Lost Sciences of Africa: An Overview," that discusses early African advances in metallurgy, astronomy, mathematics, architecture, engineering, agriculture, navigation, medicine, and writing.



Photo: By Allan warren - James Baldwin in New York City, 1963. Photo taken at Central Park, London under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 International license.

James Baldwin

August 2, 1924 – December 1, 1987

- Novelist, essayist, playwright, poet, and African-American social critic.
- Explored palpable yet unspoken intricacies of racial, sexual, and class distinctions in Western societies, most notably in mid-20th century America.
- Fictionalized fundamental personal questions and dilemmas amid complex social and psychological pressures, thwarting the equitable integration not only of Black people but also gay and bisexual men while depicting some internalized obstacles to such individuals' quests for acceptance.
- Became a spokesman for the Civil Rights Movement in 1963.
- Published a long essay, *The Fire Next Time*, in which he predicted the outbursts of Black anger to come.



Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable

1745 – August 28, 1818

- Was born in San Domingo, Haiti, but the actual date is unknown.
- Frontier trader, trapper, farmer-entrepreneur, peacekeeper and protector of Native Americans.
- Founded a settlement that later became the City of Chicago in 1779.
- Well known for trading goods throughout Midwest; expanded his cabin to a trading post, which later became a small community with a church, school, and store.
- Had commercial buildings, docks, a mansion house with fruit orchards, and livestock in 1776.



Joan Higginbotham

August 3, 1964 – Present

- Engineer and former NASA astronaut.
- Third African-American woman to go into space.
- Actively participated in 53 space shuttle launches during nine-year tenure at Kennedy Space Center.
- Logged over 308 hours in space during her mission with the crew of STS-116; her primary task was to operate the Space Station Remote Manipulator System.
- Mae Jemison was the first African-American female astronaut and the first into space in 1992 aboard the Endeavour.



John Henrik Clarke

January 1, 1915 – July 16, 1998

- Pan-Africanist writer, historian, professor.
- Pioneer in the creation of Africana studies and professional institutions in academia starting in the late 1960s.
- Founded the African Heritage Studies Association and the Black Caucus of the African Studies Association in 1968.
- Challenged the views of academic historians and helped shift the way African history was studied and taught.
- Actively deconstructed the lies, propaganda, and miseducation of White supremacy via lectures, debates, academic research, and books.
- Met and mentored many of the great minds throughout the African diaspora.
- One of his landmark works is a documentary called “A Great and Mighty Walk”, about his life and the history of Africans throughout time and across the globe.

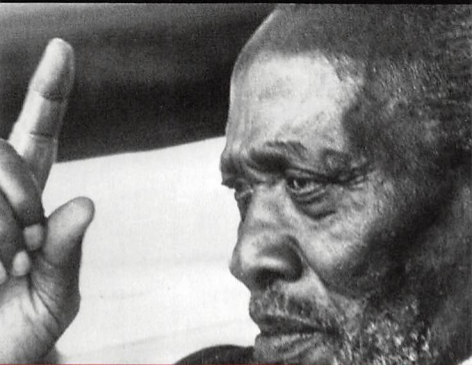


John Horse

1812 – 1882



- Black Seminole leader.
- Helped renew resistance in the Second Seminole War with two dramatic escapes in 1837.
- Served as a U.S. Army Scout in Florida, helped negotiate the surrender of more than 500 Native Americans in 1838.
- Led the largest mass slave escape in U.S. history from Oklahoma to Mexico (1849-1850).
- Founded free Black settlements in Oklahoma (1849) and Mexico (1851).
- Secured the communal title for the Black Seminoles to their land grant in Mexico, where descendants still live today.



Jomo Kenyatta

October 20, 1891 – August 22, 1978

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- Kenyan politician; became Kenya's first president and considered founding father of the Kenyan nation.
- Led Kenya African National Union (KANU) delegation to the first and second Lancaster Conference in London where Kenya's independence constitution was negotiated in 1960 and 1962.
- Supported reconciliation and consistently asked White settlers not to leave Kenya.
- His policy was that of continuity and gradual Africanisation of the government, keeping many colonial civil servants in their old jobs as gradually replaced by Kenyans.
- Oversaw peaceful land reform process, Kenya's admission into the United Nations, and established institutions of independent Kenya.



Kwame Nkrumah

September 21, 1909 – April 27, 1972

- Prime Minister of Ghana between 1957 and 1960.
- President of Ghana from 1960 - 1966.
- Helped organize the Fifth Pan-African Congress in Manchester, England in 1945.
- Declared the independence of Ghana from the United Kingdom in 1957.
- Announced plans for a new constitution, which made Ghana a republic, in 1960.
- Was awarded the Lenin Peace Prize by the Soviet Union.
- Ghana became a founding member of the Organization of African Unity in 1963.
- In 2000, he was elected the greatest African of the millennium, by a vote in Africa.



Madam C.J. Walker

December 23, 1867 – May 25, 1919

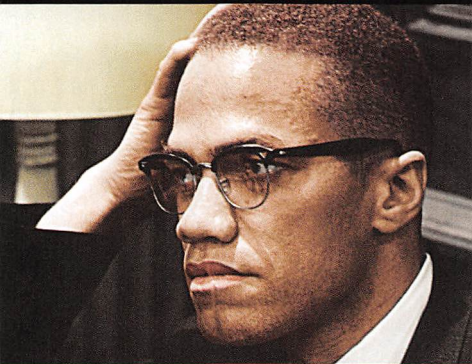
- Entrepreneur, philanthropist, and political/social activist.
- First Black female self-made millionaire in America.
- World's most successful female entrepreneur of her time, and one of the most successful African-Americans.
- Made her fortune by developing and marketing a line of beauty and hair products for Black women.
- Made financial donations to numerous organizations and became a patron of the arts.
- In 1993, inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca, New York.



Maggie Lena Walker

July 15, 1864 – December 15, 1934

- In 1903, founded St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in Richmond, VA.
- First female bank president of any race to charter a bank in the United States.
- Served as chairman of the board of directors when the bank merged with two other Richmond banks to become, The Consolidated Bank and Trust Company.
- She said, "Let us put our money together; let us use our money; Let us put our money out at usury among ourselves, and reap the benefit ourselves."
- A visionary, she established a newspaper, The St. Luke Herald, to promote closer communication between businesses and the public.
- Received an honorary master's degree from Virginia Union University in 1925.
- Inducted into the Junior Achievement U.S. Business Hall of Fame in 2001.



Malcolm X

May 19, 1925 – February 21, 1965

- Muslim minister and human rights activist.
- Born Malcolm Little; considered “Little” a slave name and chose “X” to signify his lost tribal name.
- Appointed as assistant minister of Temple Number One in 1953.
- In 1960, founded the newspaper, Muhammad Speaks, to further promote the message of the Nation of Islam.
- Terminated relationship with Nation of Islam in 1964 and created the religious organization, Muslim Mosque, Inc.
- Changed name to El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz and converted to traditional Islam during his pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia in 1964.



Marcus Garvey

August 17, 1887 – June 10, 1940

- Jamaican political leader, publisher, journalist, entrepreneur, orator, and proponent of the Pan-Africanism movement.
- Founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) in 1914.
- At its height, the organization had over 5 million paid members worldwide, the largest African diaspora organization of its time.
- In 1919, established the Negro Factories Corporation and founded the Black Star Line, a shipping and passenger line which promoted the return of the African diaspora to their ancestral lands.
- One of the most influential leaders of the 20th century in Jamaica.



Martin Delany

May 6, 1812 – January 24, 1885

- Abolitionist, journalist, physician, writer, and arguably the first proponent of Black Nationalism.
- Led the Vigilance Committee that helped relocate fugitive slaves.
- Joined integrated militia to help defend the Black community against White mob attacks.
- Founded, The Mystery, the first African-American newspaper published west of the Allegheny Mountains.
- One of three, first Black men to enroll in Harvard Medical College, in 1850.
- Commissioned as major, and first African-American field officer in the United States Army, during American Civil War.



Mary McLeod Bethune

July 10, 1875 – May 18, 1955

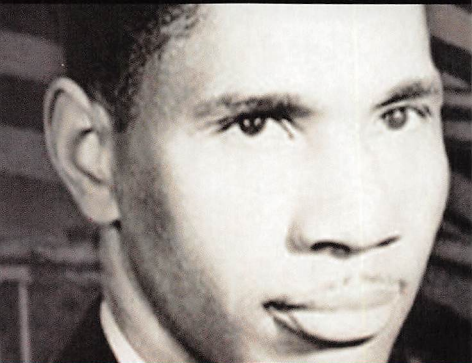
- Educator, stateswoman, philanthropist, humanitarian, and civil rights activist.
- President of the Southeastern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs from 1920 to 1925.
- Founded the Daytona Beach Literary and Industrial School for Training Negro Girls, which eventually became a college, merged with the all-male Cookman Institute, and formed Bethune-Cookman College in 1929.
- Founded the National Council of Negro Women in New York City in 1935.
- In 1938, hosted the White House Conference on Negro Women and Children, which highlighted the importance of Black women in democratic roles.
- Notable quote: "Therefore, there can be no discrimination, no segregation, and no separation of some citizens from the rights which belong to all.... We are on our way. But these are frontiers which we must conquer..."



Matthew Henson

August 8, 1866 – March 9, 1955

- First African-American Arctic explorer.
- Recognized as the first person to reach the North Pole in 1909.
- Recorded his Arctic memoirs "*A Negro Explorer at the North Pole*" in 1912.
- In 1937, became the first African-American accepted into the exclusive international Explorer's Club due to his achievement.
- Made six voyages and spent a total of 18 years in expeditions.
- At the age of 70, received an award from the U.S. Navy and a gold medal from the Chicago Geographic Society.



Medgar Evers

July 2, 1925 – June 12, 1963

- American civil rights activist from Mississippi.
- Worked to overturn segregation at the University of Mississippi and enact social justice and voting rights.
- Secretary for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
- Worked on voting rights and registration, economic opportunity, access to public facilities, and other changes within segregated society.
- Murdered by Byron De La Beckwith, a member of the Ku Klux Klan.
- His murder and resulting trials inspired civil rights protests, as well as numerous works of art, music, and film.



Photo: By Administrator - Bus Number
The Henry Ford and under Creative Commons License Alike 4.0
International University

Montgomery Bus Boycott

Montgomery, Alabama 1955 – 1956

- Political and social protest campaign against the policy of racial segregation within public transit system of Montgomery, lasted 381 days.
- Prominent figures in the Civil Rights Movement participated in the boycott; Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Ralph Abernathy, and Rosa Parks demanded Montgomery busing segregation laws be eliminated.
- Proved economic boycotts by the African-American population could lead to great results in the battle for civil rights as the racial segregation of public transport crumbled under the financial losses of the companies, but we should have formed and supported our own companies.
- Despite this proof, the collective African American efforts to economically boycott seem to have stagnated. We wish this energy and effort would one day find a rebirth.



The Moors

711 AD - 1492 AD

- Muslim inhabitants of the Maghreb (North Africa), Iberian Peninsula, Sicily (Italy), and Malta, 711 AD - 1492 AD.
- Occupied Mazara, on Sicily, developing a port in 827.
- Intellectual achievements of the Moors in Spain had lasting effects; when Europe had two universities, the Moors had seventeen.
- During the 10th century, Cordoba not just the capital of Al Andalus, but also one of the most important cities in the world; had street lighting, 50 hospitals with running water, 300 public baths, 500 mosques, and 70 libraries.
- Held extensive knowledge of irrigation and cultivation of crops.

Photo: Dutch National Archives

Muhammad Ali

January 17, 1942 – June 3, 2016

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- Professional boxer and activist.
- Won the gold medal in the light heavyweight division at the 1960 Summer Olympics.
- In 1967, convicted of draft evasion, sentenced to five years in prison, fined \$10,000, and banned from boxing for three years, after refusing induction into the United States Armed Forces, due to religious beliefs and opposition to American involvement in Vietnam.
- Promoted racial pride for African-Americans and resistance to White domination during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.
- Widely regarded as one of the most significant and celebrated sports figures of the 20th century.
- Ranked as the greatest athlete of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated and the Sports Personality of the Century by the BBC.



Nat Turner

October 2, 1800 – November 11, 1831

- Enslaved African-American who led a rebellion of slaves and free Blacks.
- Nicknamed “the Prophet.”
- He was a Christian preacher that traveled from plantation to plantation ministering to the so-called slaves about the Word of God.
- He said God spoke to him and told him to lead a revolt and to kill his oppressors.
- He used his preacher network to build his rebellion for freedom.
- His fight for freedom killed 55 White supremacists.
- Hanged after being judged and sentenced to death.

Photo: Ron Kroon / Anefo , Dutch National Archives

Nina Simone

February 21, 1933 – April 21, 2003

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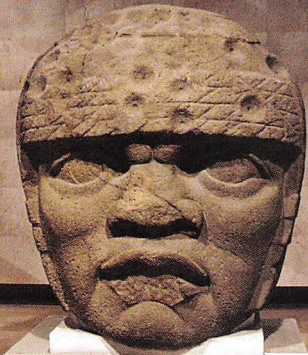
- Singer, songwriter, pianist, arranger, and civil rights activist.
- Always included songs in repertoire that drew upon her African-American origins.
- Openly addressed the racial inequality prevalent in the United States with the song “Mississippi Goddam” in 1964. Song called for racial relations to change and for more immediate developments.
- Message to the public signified the transition from non-violent approach to social change that was advocated by Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Received Grammy Hall of Fame Award for interpretation of “I Love You, Porgy” in 2000.
- In 2010, statue in her honor erected on Trade Street, in her native Tryon, North Carolina.



Noble Drew Ali

January 8, 1886 – July 20, 1929

- Born Timothy Drew, but known as Noble Drew Ali.
- Founder of the Moorish Science Temple of America in 1913.
- Promoted belief that African-Americans are of Moorish ancestry, specifically from “Moroccan Empire.”
- Rejected derogatory labels such as “Black,” “colored,” and “Negro.”
- Included the projected ideologies of spiritual growth and evolution, as well as, enlightenment and oneness of Allah.
- Urged Americans of all races to reject hate and embrace love.



Olmecs

Early as 1200 BCE to about 400 BCE

Photo: By Maribel Ponce Ixba (frida27ponce) - San Lorenzo Monument under Creative Commons 2.0 Generic license.

- The first great Mesoamerican civilization.
- Olmecs appeared to practice ritual bloodletting and played the Mesoamerican ballgame, hallmarks of nearly all subsequent Mesoamerican societies.
- The Olmec civilization was first defined through artifacts that collectors purchased and considered among ancient America's most striking.
- Monumental sacred complexes, massive stone sculpture, ball games, chocolate drinking and animal gods were features of Olmec culture.
- Believed to be of African ancestry by African scholars and are heralded as one of the foundations of the book by Ivan Van Sertima entitled "They Came Before Columbus".
- The distinctly African features of a broad nose and thick lips led many to these conclusions.
- Some say the noses and lips are thick because of dull tools, however, they have impeccable eyelids and hair. If one can carve an eyelid, then why not a narrow nose?



Paul Robeson

April 9, 1898 – January 23, 1976

- Athlete and performing artist who became involved with Civil Rights Movement.
- First Black actor to play Shakespeare's Othello, on Broadway.
- Supported Pan-Africanism, sang for Loyalist soldiers during Spain's civil war, took part in anti-Nazi demonstrations, and performed for Allied forces during WWII.
- Labeled a communist and staunchly criticized by government officials, as well as some African-American leaders.
- Blacklisted from domestic concert venues, record labels, and film studios due to his advocacy of anti-imperialism, affiliation with communism, and criticism of the United States government.
- In 1950, barred by the U.S. State Department from renewing his passport to travel abroad for engagements.

Patrice Lumumba

July 2, 1925 – January 17, 1961

- Congolese independence leader and first democratically-elected leader of Congo, as prime minister, at the age of 35.
- Founder and leader of mainstream Mouvement National Congolais.
- Had an integral role in the campaign for independence from Belgium.
- He Co-established the Mouvement National Congolais in 1958, to call for countrywide unity and freedom from colonial atrocities.
- He was assassinated in 1961.
- In 2013, the United States of America admitted President Eisenhower authorized his assassination.
- In 1964, Malcolm X said Lumumba was “...the greatest Black man who ever walked the African continent...”



Percy Julian

April 11, 1899 – April 19, 1975

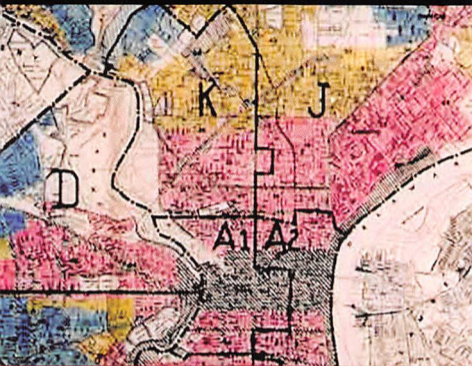
- Research chemist and pioneer in the chemical synthesis of medicinal drugs from plants.
- First to synthesize the natural product physostigmine used to treat glaucoma and a pioneer in the industrial large-scale chemical synthesis of human hormones.
- His work laid the foundation for the steroid drug industry's production of cortisone, other corticosteroids, and birth control pills.
- Started his own company to synthesize steroid intermediates from the wild Mexican yam.
- Received more than 130 chemical patents.
- One of the first African-Americans to receive a doctorate in chemistry; first African-American chemist inducted into the National Academy of Sciences.



Queen of Sheba

Biblical figure

- Biblical figure.
- In Sheba, women played an important role in society and were equal to men in nearly all spheres, with civil, religious, and military rights and duties, much like men.
- Features in Jewish, Muslim, and Christian, particularly Ethiopian Christian, traditions.
- An anachronistic seventh-century set piece meant to legitimize the participation of Judah in the lucrative Arabian trade.
- The oldest and most important of the South Arabian kingdoms.



Redlining



- Practice of marking a red line on a map to delineate an area where banks would not make loans; most frequently discriminated areas were Black inner-city neighborhoods.
- The term “redlining” was coined in the late 1960s by John McKnight, sociologist, and community activist.
- It refers to the denial of services or selectively raised prices to residents of certain areas based on racial or ethnic composition of those areas.
- Banks would often lend to lower-income Whites, but not middle and upper-income Blacks.
- Redlining, today, is illegal and a component of Civil Rights Act of 1968 speaks against racial-geographical discrimination.



Rube Foster

September 17, 1879 – December 9, 1930

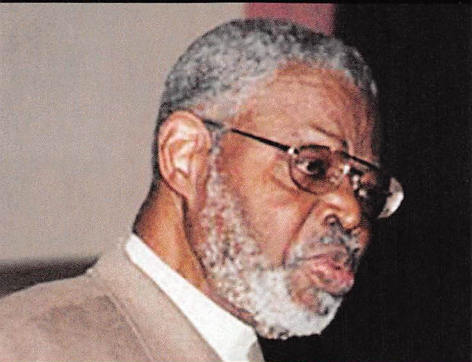
- American baseball player, manager, and pioneer executive in the Negro leagues.
- Elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1981.
- Best African-American pitcher of the first decade of the 1900s.
- Organized the Negro National League (NNL), first long-lasting professional league for African-American ballplayers.
- Founded and managed the Chicago American Giants, one of the most successful Black baseball teams.
- NNL played an exciting brand of baseball that kept the fans entertained. Their talent fueled the resurgence of the White-owned MLB, Major League Baseball.
- However, instead of NNL teams being consolidated into MLB and their owners getting to keep the teams, they were raided and picked apart for the best of their talent, a point illustrated in William C. Rhoden's book "\$40 Million Dollar Slaves".



Shirley Chisholm

November 30, 1924 – January 1, 2005

- Politician, educator, and author.
- First African-American woman elected to the United States Congress.
- The first African-American candidate for a major party's nomination for President of the United States in 1972.
- Inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.
- Was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2015 by President of the United States, Barack Obama.



Dr. Yosef Ben-Jochannan

December 31, 1918 – March 19, 2015

Photo By Novafelder - Dr. Ben Lecturing in Brooklyn
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- African-American writer and historian.
- Considered to be one of the most prominent Afrocentric scholars by some in the Black Nationalist community.
- Authored 49 books, primarily on ancient Nile Valley civilization and its influence on Western cultures.
- In 1945, received doctoral degrees in cultural anthropology and Moorish history from the University of Havana and the University of Barcelona, Spain.
- Appointed chairman of the African Studies Committee of the newly-founded United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1945.

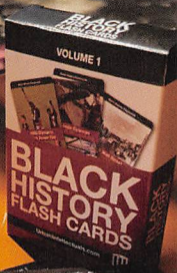
Photo: Pedro Celso Cruz de Souza's Private Collection,
Zumbi dos Palmares portrait under Creative Commons
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Zumbi Dos Palmares

1655 — November 20, 1695

- Principal representative of Black resistance to slavery during the period of Colonial Brazil.
- The leader of Quilombo dos Palmares, a free community of slaves.
- In 1675, helped defend Quilombo against Portuguese soldiers; known as a great warrior.
- Replaced Ganga Zumba in Palmares and commanded the resistance against Portuguese army in 1680.
- In 1695, was betrayed, denounced, and beheaded by former companion at the age of 40.
- Date of death, November 20, is a Brazilian national holiday, known as Black Consciousness Day or Black Awareness Day.

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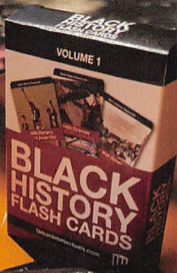
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