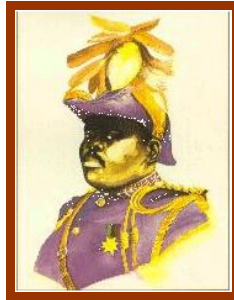


Greeting

As we are still in the spirit of **Emancipation** and **African Remembrance** it is fitting to bring to the forefront of our minds a Great Legend



Marcus Mosiah Garvey
17 August 1887 ~ 10 June 1940

Garvey was a true African who was born in Jamaica. On 20 July 1914 Garvey formed the Universal Negro Improvement and Conservation Association and African Communities Imperial League in Jamaica. It was later called Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). The UNIA entertained and fed the poor and sick especially on Emancipation Day ~ 1 August. The UNIA went on to have 140 branches all over the world.

Marcus Garvey's fore sight helped to inspire and gave hope to a lot of people across the diaspora in his life time and since.

- Without this prominent Ancestor, we could not say that an African owned an international printing press, disseminating information all over the world.
- If there was no Marcus Garvey, we could not say that an African owned a fleet of ships ~ 'The Black Star Line Steamship Corporation'.
- If there was no Marcus Garvey there would not be a black star in the centre of the flag of Ghana.
- If there was no Marcus Garvey, then many of our Heroes & Sheroes of the sixties may not have emerged for many of their parents attended Garvey's meetings and read his works.
- If there was no Marcus Garvey, then many of the countries who sort independence may not have done so at the time they did for those leaders also studied Garvey's works and a lot of countries have used Garvey's combination of colours on their flags.

Marcus Garvey once said '*If black people knew their glorious past then they would be more inclined to respect themselves*'.



There are many, many organisations today that follow the teachings of Marcus Garvey. However, he told us '*A race without authority and power, is a race without respect*'.

I often sit and ponder

'Would Marcus Garvey Be Pleased With Us?'

- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased at our planning and organisational skills?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased at our timekeeping?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that we do not have our own schools to send our children to in 2012?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that our businesses are few and far between and are often struggling in term of finance and attendance?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that we don't have communal buildings to hold our functions in and as we are a people who like to have fun and party ~ where are our dancehalls?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased at our family structures and our community structures?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that our children cannot see positive role models in abundance on the TV, which they love to watch so much?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that we have to wait for certain slots in the week to hear positive, constructive shows on the radio which will keep us inspired to bring our people together?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that we do not have our monetary systems in place?
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased that we do not have a united defence structure to support us and protect us when under attack from bodies such as:
 - Police
 - Courts
 - Child Care Services {Formally Social Service}
 - Education

- Health
 - Media
 - Etc. Etc.
- Would Marcus Garvey be pleased at what we have achieved together?
- Can **you** think of anything which **you are certain** that Marcus Garvey would be pleased with in relation to Our People coming together?

'The only Protection against INJUSTICE in man is POWER - Physical, financial, and scientific' Said Garvey.

Sometimes, just thinking about all these things and more makes me have to lie down. For it is so tiring to know that there is a lot that needs to be done for the betterment and longevity of Our People and so few soldier in the army to do the building.

Following the teachings of Marcus Garvey also embraces the seven principles of Kwanzaa. To me they are both guided by the teachings of our Creator and they enhance our lives as individuals and as a community. So perhaps the question can also be asked

'Would Our Creator Be Pleased With Us?'

In 1964 the Jamaican government considered Marcus Garvey Jamaica's first National Hero. In 1971 Marcus Garvey's face was printed on the Jamaican 10 cents stamp and fifty cent note. There is also a school and a highway named after him. There are many other Marcus Garvey accolades around the world.

It is now 72 Years since Marcus Garvey left this sector of life. What year are we waiting for to see a **significant change** in the development of the African community here in Britain?

Our children and their children need us [Can't wait any longer for us] to do something for them and with all that has and is happening to Our People, I'm sure that NOW is the time for Positive, Constructive, Thought-out, Progressive Action.

'It is advisable for the Negro to get power of every kind. POWER in education, science, industry, politics and higher government. That kind of power that will stand out significantly, so that other races and nations can see and if they will not see, then feel.'

~Marcus Garvey~



Marcus Garvey is not on the history curriculum in Britain but you can teach your children and yourself, about him and his works.

Lady Leo
24 July 2012

Sources

- Marcus Garvey, Hero ~ Tony Martin, 1983
- The Philosophy & Opinions Of Marcus Garvey ~ Amy Jacques Garvey, 1986