Zoom wait music: “I’ve Known Rivers” by Gary Bartz/ NTU Troop

- 1973 Prestige Records *I’ve Known Rivers and Other Bodies [Live]*
- Personnel:
  - Gary Bartz: sax, vocals
  - Hubert Eaves: Piano
  - Stafford James: Bass
  - Howard King: Drums

https://africanastudiesintrocourse.wordpress.com
Week 4 Agenda: Wednesday February 24, 2021

• Introduce agenda
• Course announcements
  • Book update
• Website update: comments reminder
• BRIEF REVIEW: last week’s topics
• DISCUSSION: *Introduction to Black Studies* chapter 3
• BREAK: Listening: “African Cookbook” by Randy Weston
• CONTINUE DISCUSSION: *Introduction to Black Studies* chapter 3
• Intro next week’s topic
• END
• Individual Q&A

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Week 3 Review: some key points

*Black Studies Focus Areas*

- Definition
- Relevance
- Objectives
- Disciplinary scope
- Areas of focus
  - History, religion, social organization, politics, economics, creative production, psychology
- Orientation/Ethos

https://blackhistorycourse.wordpress.com
**Introduction/Why Study history?**

*Sankofa:* Akan word meaning “return and recover it” “This means returning to the rich resource of the African past, or history, and using it as a foundation to enhance the present and improve the future” (65)

"History is not everything, but it is a starting point. History is a clock that people use to tell their political and cultural time of day. It is a compass they use to find themselves on the map of human geography. It tells them where they are, but more importantly, what they must be." - Dr. John Henrik Clarke

Definition: (3.2)

“History is the struggle and record of humans in the process of humanizing the world, i.e. shaping it in their own image and interests. [...] African or Black history then is the struggle and record of Africans in the process of Africanizing the world, i.e. shaping it in their own image and interests.” (66)

https://africanastudiesintrocours.wordpress.com
Why Focus on Kemet (Egypt)? (57)

"[I]t is not a question of one civilization to the exclusion of others."

1 Antiquity
2 Abundance of historical documents
3 Level of achievement
4 Meaning to other African societies
5 Contribution to human knowledge

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Diop’s counter to “falsification of history” (56)

1. Reconcile African civilization with history
2. Enable Africans to build a body of modern sciences
3. Renew African culture

“Far from being a diversion in the past, a look back toward Egypt is the best way to conceive and build our cultural future. Egypt will play in a reconceived and renewed African culture the same role that the Greco-Roman ancient past plays in western culture” - Cheikh Anta Diop, quoted by Karenga

Diop plays a foundational role in Africana Studies in *centering* it in the experience of the African diaspora

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Kemet

Contributions to human knowledge (81-84)

1 Spirituality and ethics
2 Agriculture
3 Crafts and professions
4 Science and math
5 Art and literature
6 Writing and writing systems

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Problems of Study[ing African History] (3.3)

Problems of Study (3.3)

1 Vastness
   Geographical scope, length of time
2 Prevalence of oral history
3 European conquest
4 Attempts to “Europeanize” history

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Timelines

Nubia 3,900 BCE – 1,400 CE
Kemet (Egypt) 5,000 BCE – 332 BCE

Old Kingdom Period (2686-2182 BCE)

Establishes treasury, government bureaucracy, in Memphis
Writing, irrigation developed

Imhotep: philosopher, priest, astronomer, engineer, physician,

Nubia

Nubia 3,900 BCE – 1,400 CE

Main periods:

**Pre-Kerma** 3,900-2,500 BCE

**Kerma** 2,500-1,500 BCE

**Napata** 900-270 BCE

*Capital city of kingdom of Kush. Unite Nubia & extend control north to Kemet: rule as 25th Dynasty for 100 years.*

**Meroe:** 270 BCE-350 CE

Muslim conquest in 1,400 CE

Kemet (Egypt)

Kemet (Egypt) 5,000 BCE – 332 BCE

3100 BCE: unification under King Narmer

Old Kingdom: 2686-2182 BCE

Development of Kemetic culture. Imhotep builds first pyramid at Saqqara under Djoser.

*Imhotep:* architect, philosopher, priest, astronomer, prime minister, engineer, teacher, king’s chief physician

Fourth Dynasty: Great Pyramid of Giza constructed

- *Book of Ptah-hotep:* oldest complete Sebait (Book of wise instruction)

Listening: “African Cookbook” by Randy Weston

From *African Cookbook*, Atlantic Records
1972

**Personnel:** Randy Weston: piano; Booker Ervin: sax; Vishnu Wood: bass; Lenny McBrown: drums; Big Black: congas; Sir Harold Murray: percussion

**Break:**

Approx. 13 minutes

15 minutes

*(Be right back! 7:30 PM)*

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Decline of African Societies

1 Gun and monopoly
2 Economic advantage
3 Holocaust of enslavement
4 Internal and external problems
5 lack of unifying ideology

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