Chapter 4, Part 2
Africans in America:
Civil Rights-Black Power
Spring 2021 Week 6
Zoom wait music: Sarah Webster Fabio “Together: to The Tune of Coltrane’s Equinox”

From *Together to the Tune of Coltrane’s Equinox*, Folkways Records 1977

**Personnel:** Sarah Webster Fabio: poetry; Thomas Fabio: voice; Deinanke, Wayne Wallace: piano, sax, flute, guitar; Ronald Fabio: bass; Lawrence E. Vann: drums; Cyril Leslie Fabio III: congas.

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Week 6 Agenda: Wednesday March 10, 2021

• Introduce agenda
• Course announcements
  • Book reminder
  • Website update (Zoom audio posted) + comments reminder
• BRIEF REVIEW: last week’s topics
• DISCUSSION: *Introduction to Black Studies* second half of chapter 4
• BREAK: Listening: “Let Freedom Ring” by Jackie McLean
• CONTINUE DISCUSSION: *Introduction to Black Studies* chapter 4
• DISCUSSION: Dr. John Henrik Clarke’s “Malcolm X and the Genesis of His African Revolution”
• Intro next week’s topic
• END
• Individual Q&A

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CEMOTAP OHIO AND CEMOTAP NY PRESENT
“Black Women Who Hold Up Half The Sky

Sister La Frances Rogers Rose
Founder and CEO of the International Black Women’s Congress, clinical sociologist, professor, community leader, consultant and author.

Sister Betty J. Dopson
Sis. Betty Dopson, Founder of CEMOTAP, Former Director of Public Relations Harlem Hospital

Sister Gloria Browne-Marshall
Writer, Professor, Playwright, Producer, Radio/Podcast Host and Executive Producer of “Law of the Land” AWARD WINNER London Film Awards

Meeting ID: 817 6391 6941  Passcode: 004997

Saturday March 27, 2021 at 2:00 PM
One tap mobile
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YOU MUST RSVP BY TEXTING 347-907-0629 or By Email at Bashlef@gmail.com
Week 5 Review: some key points

Chapter 4, Black History: Africans in America, Part 1

• Pre-Columbian African-American contacts
• Holocaust of enslavement
• Reconstruction
• Great Migration
• Washington, Du Bois, Garvey, Wells-Barnett

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3 Major Modal Periods of African History (151)

1 Classical period of Nile Valley Civilization
African commitment to knowledge; moral and spiritual grounding and cultural excellence; introduces basic disciplines of human knowledge; definitive contribution to forward flow of human history

2 Holocaust of Enslavement (Maafa)
Tests & tempers African people; demonstrates adaptive vitality & capacity to prevail; reinforces commitment to human freedom & dignity* (Key point! Shapes role in US, Caribbean, Central/South Am)

3 1960s Reaffirmation
Re-affirms Africanness and Black social justice tradition with commitment to struggle at core.

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1960s Key Concepts

Resistance
Integrationism vs Nationalism
Pan Africanism
Self Determination
Debate on self defense

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Civil Rights Movement (153-157)

“The integrationist thrust, in its political sense, was an effort to break down barriers to full participation in US society and remove the penalties and other negative consequences of racial distinctions. Thus a major accomplishment of this period and tendency was not only major civil rights executive orders and legislation to overcome those negatives, but also the building of a mass movement which mobilized and politically educated millions of Black people.” (153)
Major Civil Rights Groups:

SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee: pronounced “snick”)  
(Southern Christian Leadership Conference)  
CORE (Congress of Racial Equality)  
NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)  
National Urban League  
National Council of Negro Women

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Major Civil Rights Movement Events

Emmett Till Lynching (1955)
- Exposes southern system on global scale

Montgomery Bus Boycott (1956)
- Establishes economic boycott as effective political tool

Sit-in Movement (1960)
- Sparks decade-long period of sustained political activism

Freedom Rides (1961)
- Challenge segregation in interstate transportation
- Forces Federal Gov’t to protect constitutionally-guaranteed civil rights

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Resistance Strategies for The Civil Rights Movement

- Legal
  - Court cases to challenge segregation
- Direct Action
  - Protests, sit-ins
- Economic
  - Boycotts to pressure targeted businesses
- Cultural
  - Black pride, artistic responses
- Electoral
  - Voter registration efforts, elections in North
- Armed
  - Deacons for Defense, Robert F. Williams/ Monroe NC NAACP
- Passive Resistance
  - Work slowdowns, etc.

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Brown v Board of Ed: Major Turning Point (153)

-Legally ends 1896 Plessy v Ferguson (”separate but equal”) decision

-Psychological boost

-Legal support to anti-segregation struggle

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Civil Rights Mvt Accomplishments (155-156)

1. Increased liberalization of U.S. system
2. Exposes contradictions of U.S.
3. Mobilized/politically educated masses of people
4. Forms organizational/political base for further struggle

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“The Civil Rights Movement was thus limited in its goals and methods for their achievements. Moreover, its Black leadership was unnecessarily concerned with and deferential to the wishes and support of White allies. Whites, through financial contributions and organizational positions limited the Movement’s possibilities and ultimately had to be confronted and rejected for leadership positions.”

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Listening: “Let Freedom Ring” by Jackie McLean

From *Let Freedom Ring*, Blue Note Records 1963

**Personnel:** Jackie McLean: alto sax; Walter Davis, Jr: piano; Herbie Lewis: bass; Billy Higgins: drums.

**Break:**
Approx. 13 minutes

15 minutes

*(Be right back! 7:50 PM)*

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The Black Power Movement (157-159)

Context: Urban Rebellions and CRM decline

1965-1975 (Watts Revolt-1975)

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Major Black Power era Political Organizations

Black Panther Party (for Self Defense)
Congress of African People (CAP)
Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)
Nation of Islam (NOI)
Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM)
Republic of New Africa (RNA)
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC, pronounced “snick”)
US Organization (US)

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**Major 1960s Urban Rebellions**

1964: Harlem, Bedford Stuyvesant (Brooklyn), Philadelphia  
1965: Watts  
1966: Chicago, Cleveland  
1967: San Francisco, Tampa, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Boston, Milwaukee, Newark, Detroit  
1968: Baltimore, Kansas City, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Washington, DC

Total of **150 cities** in 1967 alone

“**Why did the rebellions happen?**”

- “White Racism is essentially responsible for the explosive mixture which has been accumulating in our cities since the end of World War II”
- “Pervasive discrimination and segregation in employment, education, and housing.”
- “Black in-migration and white exodus [from inner cities]”
- “To some Negroes police have come to symbolize white power, white racism, and white repression. And the fact is that many police do reflect and express these white attitudes”

*Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, 1967 (p. 5)*

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National Black Power Conferences:

1966 Adam Clayton Powell’s call
1967 Newark
1968 Philadelphia

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Tendencies of Black Power (158)

1 Religious Thrust
2 Cultural Thrust
3 Political Thrust
4 Economic Thrust

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Religious Thrust:

Islamic: Nation of Islam
Christian: Liberation Theology
(Traditional African: Yoruba)

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Nation of Islam Contributions (159)

1 Breaks White monopoly on God
2 Breaks Arab/Asian monopoly on Islamic interpretation
3 Establishes socio-historically specific form of Islam for Blacks
4 Challenges Christian redefinition/relevance
5 Cements personal historical significance
(6) Establishes longstanding institution/organization

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US Organization: Posits African Value system

Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles)

Umoja (Unity)
Kujichagulia (Self Determination)
Ujima (Collective work and responsibility)
Ujamaa (Cooperative economics)
Nia (Purpose)
Kuumba (Creativity)
Imani (Faith)

Positive turn to Africa

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Malcolm X (El Hajj Malik El Shabazz)

Black Unity
Pan Africanism/Third World Solidarity
Civil Rights > Human rights
Cultural revolution
Self Defense

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Summary of Nationalist influence: (164-165)

1. Separate economic institutions
2. Alternative educational institutions
3. Black Student Unions/ Black Student Movement
4. Black Studies Programs
5. Global relinking of African people
6. Exploration of armed struggle & self defense
7. Redefinition of world in Black images/interests
8. Foundation of 1970s benefits and beyond

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Wider cultural influence:

Candid Records, 1960

Blue Note Records, 1961

Blue Note Records, 1963