



Afrikan Unity of Harlem, Inc.

"One Afrika"



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REPORT

The Horn of
Africa
In Crises
And Future
Prospects

February 27th, 2010 02 ET

PS. 76 A. Philip Randolph

School Auditorium

220 West 121 St

Registration at Noon

Program 1pm to 5pm Sharp!!!



AFRIKAN UNITY OF HARLEM, INC

THE HORN OF AFRICAN IN CRISES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

Afrikan Unity of Harlem, Inc, in partnership with the
Department of African American Studies York College CUNY, the Institute of
Development and Education for Africa (IDEA), Inc
and Department of International and African Studies Lehman College CUNY
February 27th 2010 / 02 Ethiopic

Report

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The Horn of Africa consists of 8 countries neighboring each other in the Eastern part of Africa. It is called the “Horn” due to the shape in which the countries form. The world has been shocked by the recent currents taking place in the Horn from the callous genocide raids and the raping of women in Darfur, war over territorial lands between Ethiopia and Eritrea, to even the so called pirates in Somalia, who try to preserve their food resources.

Those who live in countries in the Horn of Africa have faced pervasive and perpetual crisis for over thirty years. The purpose of this conference is to illustrate the need for a sincere and critical panel discussion from an intellectual and Pan African perspective. These panel decisions will address the Horn from areas of pre and post colonial times and highlight the areas of ancient kingdoms, cultures and traditions.



"No Matter where we were born... No matter what language we speak... No matter what religion we Practice We are all Afrikan Peoples"

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Objectives:

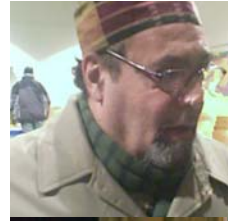
1. To establish forums concerning the Horn of Africa’s past, present and future developments
2. To strengthen the mind set in ethics among East African communities now living in the Diaspora
3. To encourage these communities to work together to set a model for the Horn of Africa
4. To understand the issues of pre/post colonization and the changing of the African civil structure
5. To identify gaps in knowledge and understanding of the Horn and create an ethic in those areas
6. To promote collaboration between East African communities and their Embassies in the Diaspora.

Program

- ◆ Call to order with Opening Ceremony
- ◆ Prayer of Unity By Brother George Brown (Yousf Meier) Israelite Board of Rabbis of Saint Albans, New York
- ◆ The pouring of Libations By Candace Queen Mother Abbess Bishop Shirley Pitts, Queen Mother of Harlem.
- ◆ Singing of AUH National Anthem written by Queen Mother Moor
- ◆ **Opening Welcome By Moderator Juanita Thomas**
- ◆ Opening Remarks by President and Founder of Ato Kassayi Hailu and organizational achievements and development by Executive Secretary of Sister Ivory Ann Black II Woletta Sellassie of Afrikan Unity of Harlem, Inc

Panelist

- ◆ Teaching Fellow Abdi Latif Ega Columbia University topic: Text as Technology: Counter Moves with in the Metro
- ◆ Dr. Mesfin Araya, Professor and Chairman of African American Studies, York College CUNY Topic: The State in the Horn of Africa
- ◆ Dr. Booker T. Coleman (Kaba Hiawatha Kamene) Lecture, Researcher and Historian Topic: The Geography and History of the Ancient Cushite Kingdom
- ◆ **Intermissions Panelist Continued**
- ◆ Dr. Aregawe Berhe Author, Founder and Chairman of the Tigray Alliance for National Democracy (TAND), Topic: Conflicts in the Horn: Socio-Economic and Political Dimensions
- ◆ Dr. Ghelawdewos Araia President, The Institute of Development and Education for Africa (IDEA), Inc, Professor of African American Studies, Lehman College/CUNY Topic: The Horn of Africa: Deconstructing Ideologies and Reconstructing Political Systems
- ◆ **Followed by Q &A**



Registration: Queen Imani Sister Julia Peterson
Food provided by Empress TashI and Ras Sherman

Greetings Your Excellencies, Clergy, Organization and Beloved Afrikan Peoples on this good day,

It is with great pleasure that Afrikan Unity of Harlem, Inc have this privilege to make reports on the “Horn of Africa in Crises and Future Prospects”, conference, which was held with great success. Co partnered with The Department of African American Studies York College CUNY, The Institute of Development and Education for Africa (IDEA), Inc and The Department of International and African Studies Lehman College CUNY. The conference was able to host leading African scholars to present their work for scholarly discourse.

At this moment we like to thank the Horn of Africa Embassies and Missions here in the Diaspora for your support and recognition of the conference. Truly it is a blessing to have guidance from our African Leadership for without a head or vision the people will perish. The gathering was pleased to know that our office received direct calls from the office of the Ambassador to the African Union in New York, congratulating the conference and giving moral support to its success. Also from the Ethiopian Missions office of Political Affairs, who were sending representatives but they where to no avail. Regardless of your present or not, we are confident that our shared responsibly to the African Nation will always be maintained.

The conference was called to order with February 27th 2010 at the P.S. 76 Phillip Randolph School auditorium at approximately 2:15 pm Eastern Standard Time. The conference commenced with a prayer of Unity from a representative from the Israelite Board of Rabbis of Saint Albans, New York Brother George Brown (Yousf Meier), who agreed with the gathering that there is only but one God Almightyly, and all African Black people are to live accordingly to that divine unity. As tradition for Africans born in the West to do, for the remembering and honoring of the spirits of our African ancestors, special pouring of Libation was offered By Candace Queen Mother Abbess Bishop Shirley Pitts, Queen Mother of Harlem.

This conference was the fourth of its kind presented by AUH, Inc’s with scholars coming from Holland, Connecticut, and New York, with audience participation from Washington D.C. and from various NYC boroughs concluding the following objectives:

- To establish forums concerning the Horn of Africa’s past, present and future developments.
- To strengthen the mind set in ethics among East African communities now living in the Diaspora
- To encourage these communities to work together to set a model for the Horn of Africa
- To understand the issues of pre/post colonization and the changing of the African civil structure
- To identify gaps in knowledge and understanding of the Horn and create an ethic in those areas
- To promote collaboration between East African communities and their Embassies in the Diaspora.

The panel of African scholars showed resilience in their various fields of knowledge concerning the ancient, present and past standing of the Horn. It was found by Teaching Fellow Abdi Latif Ega of Columbia University topic: Text as Technology: Counter Moves with in the Metro, that there is a need for the Pan African moment to include Somalia and other Horn of Africa countries less focused on in its dynamics. Historically the movements included areas like Marcus Garveyism and fighting for Africa like that of the invasion of Italy into Ethiopia. It was expressed that the Horn of Africa needs to have the same drive and more representation from its scholars in programs such as this. Human civilization and development in the Horn needs to be reconstructed to achieve a clearer per colonial picture of civilization. It was express by “ Dr. Booker T. Coleman (Kaba Hiawatha Kamene) lecture, researcher and historian Topic: The Geography and History of the Ancient Cushite Kingdom that indeed Egypt (Kemit) had a rich culture and tradition however when you look at the geographic and history of the ancient Cushit Kingdom, you will find that Kemit was a daughter of pervious civilizations spring form the Horn of Africa out. The original peoples of the world, those who spring out of the earth and completely indige-nous are those who are found in Tanzania and Uganda. He also presented a serious of pictures of antiquity to show the African world and how we as a people can learn from our ancestors to build a even better future.

Each scholar presenting their work for discourse also addressed the audience inquires concerning various prospects of the Horn and Africa's people. Professors Aregawe and Ghelawdewos both presented the cultural conflicts between neighboring groups living in the Horn and outside forces over land resources, which proved that a collective system of governance needs to be in place. As of now sub groups have used political systems to organize their separate interest which keeps their shared country divided. But in most cases they share the same language and traditions. These old systems due to ethnic personalities and colonial occupation has caused the people to not move forward as a collective because there is not in place a centralized people interest government. Professor Mesfin on his topic The State in the Horn of Africa, showed how the Horn like other parts of Africa are still utilizing post colonial land boundaries from which its people have been forced to live in made shift territories that are leading at lot of the current conflicts. The need to examine the States in the Horn and to usher in an African way of cohesive governance he expressed, will alleviate tension and unrest in many areas. After a 2 hour discourse it was removed by Dr. Ghelawdewos Araia, President of African Idea and professor at Lehman College and seconded by the gathering, that there should be an **African Unity Coordinating Committee** to implement the following agenda: To organize a mini conference to discuss the format of a Task Force with the following missions and objectives.

Self reliance and sustainable development harmonious with our natural environment.

Banking systems and Taxation, currency, and investments in natural resources (export/imports to and from Africa to the Diaspora).

Developments of Africa centered Education / Spirituality

Claims/ Recording of our History(Our Story)

Condemn Africa Military Command organized by the Western Hemisphere.

This committee was established with the following participants:

Candace Queen Mother Abbess Pitts Founder of the Essie Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee, Queen Imani Johari Julia Peterson, Tyrone Newton community volunteer and activist, Juanita Gore-Thomas Founder of Kathleen's and Catherine's Children, Inc, Mokonnen Mokonnen, Dr. Mesfin Araya, Professor and Chairman of African American Studies, York College CUNY, Dr. Aregawe Berhe Author, Founder and Chairman of the Tigray Alliance for National Democracy (TAND), Ato Kassayi Hailu President and Founder of AUH, Inc and Sister Ivory Ann Black II Woletta Sellassie, Executive Secretary of AUH, Inc. and Dr. Ghelawdewos Araia President of African Idea and professor at Lehman College.

Following the conference a meeting was held March 1st 2010, where it was farther expressed that the African Union has called for the establishment of a United States of Africa and the development of the African Union 6th Region in the Diaspora to be a part of Africa. It was agreed that the only way Afrikan Unity of Harlem, Inc and the Community to properly function, there must be an issuing of a Charter to the organization from the African Union to assist in efforts of uniting African Diaspora peoples with "The Center of African Unity of Harlem", as its base.

The meeting also called for a physical meeting with the Ambassador's office of the AU to discuss these items in the nearing future. It was recognized that in organizing with various organization, AUH, Inc must continue to express that there is no need to stop or halt their current works, but rather organizations must continue to carry out their own missions but no longer in stagnated pockets. Now as a collective we all make up the various departments of the 6th Region. Talks will need to happen to structure how each organization would operate as the governing body for the African Diaspora. It was also expressed that various African scholars must hold a conference solely to put together the collective story of the African experience from past to present, to issue it as the collective history of the African 6th Region Diaspora.

Along with this the development of the Diaspora needs to reflect the highest levels of moral and ethics towards the African peoples in the field of governance which all recognized as a concern concerning the current situation of the African continent. It was discussed that when the scramble for Africa took place after the Berlin conference of 1884-5, foreign systems of governance were institutionalized that were not conducive to the African peoples' culture and traditions. By this unfamiliar systems were established to feed the need of occupation and the exploration of African resources.

As Africa gained its independence, these systems were left in place and have maintained to carry out the previous agenda of occupation which are a part of today's corruption in areas like church and state. It is believed that if we as a people are using these foreign ways of government, then it can only be corrupt because the leadership are not in true mental or physical control of its nation and resources, but are serving in various offices and departments carrying out the works of occupation.

The clear example used was that of South Africa. When the country finally ended apartheid and the release of Mandela after 27 years of imprisonment, the country not knowing how to maintain an order after so many years now of occupation, decided to keep the governing bodies and systems in place to ensure stability. However this showed only to continue the systems of apartheid, as African people who once were fighting oppression, now have to fight the same system in the hands of its own African leadership. This situation is being felt not only in Africa but globally where ever her peoples live. This is why it is imperative for African heads of State alongside with local and national leaders to conduct talks on what does an African governing system look like, while recognizing our cultures and traditions which historical has already laid the foundation of such a governing system.

We must recall the times prior to the scramble for Africa, as a people we live in our respective Kingdoms or Empires who internally spoke various of languages, held many traditions and customs. By which as a people we had to know several languages and ways of life of our surrounding brothers and sister in order to trade, barter and in cases marry. But never acting as a one solid nation with the same collective governance or a recognized collective order of leadership. Now in this 21st century here in the Diaspora we have the first opportunity to make collective governance possible which can serve as a model for the African continent. The uniqueness of the Diaspora with its 567 year history of fighting all areas of colonization is that we are all here regardless of what side of the paradigm we come from. Regardless if we were born on the continent or Diaspora, we all have contributed to the collective freedoms from the first beginnings as a totally free people fighting on the continent as was seen by the Ashanti, Zulus, and the Abyssinians who by the grace and spirit of God, defeated all areas of colonization. The revolts on the ships of captivity leading to the Haitian, Jamaican and other Islands in the West and continent revolutions, to the abandonment of the plantations in the South of the Americas, to the freedom fighters for civil liberties in the North. As a people sharing in this common experience, it is only forth coming that a collective union and governance be upheld.

Most Respect

Sister Ivory Ann Black II Woletta Sellassie
Executive Secretary
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Date 3 / 15 / 10

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Those who made it Happen

In order to effectively and meaningfully investigate the Horn crisis and suggest prescribed solutions, thus, it is imperative that the panel of the conference incorporate 'deconstructing ideologies and reconstructing political systems' into the corpus of their papers. Moreover, in the spirit of scholarly discourse, research papers should avoid seething and/or vitriolic language and focus entirely on objective data, critical appraisal, and paradigms that are essentially didactic and could have a positive impact on Horn of Africa future leaders.



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Dr. Booker T. Coleman (Kaba Hiawatha Kamene) Lecture, Researcher and Historian Topic: The Geography and History of the Ancient Cushite Kingdom

PANELIST

TO READ PAPERS SUBMITTED AND VIEW PRESENTATIONS VISIT
AFRIKANUNITYOFHARLEM@WORDPRESS.COM

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/AFRIKANUNITYOFHARLEM](http://www.youtube.com/user/AfrikanUnityOfHarlem)

Support the Center of Afrikan Unity of Harlem

No matter what language, No matter where we are born,

*No matter what religion we practice, **WE ARE ONE AFRIKANPEOPLE HOME & ABROAD***

Please support this A.U.H ,Inc. initiatives and help rally for the cause!

Contact: Executive Secretary Ivory Ann Black II @ 414-429-2160 or

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Donate \$1.00 a month for The Center of Afrikan Unity in Harlem

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As a people we have strived to bring back that ancient Afrikan Unity which was suppressed, by the ideas and structures of colonization for the exploration of Afrikan resources. In the 1900's the first Pan-Afrikan Congress meeting in London finally set a precedence which created a firm foundation on which we presently, have this opportunity as Afrikans from the Continent and Diaspora, to continue the missions.

By the 1950's Afrikan countries were on the path of creating various political and economical organizations to place back Afrikan coherence. From this the African Union has called for the establishment of the Afrikan Diaspora 6th Region to be apart of Afrika. We recognize it as the 55th country of Afrika. An Afrikan Diasporic based unity center called, "The Center for Afrikan Unity in Harlem" (TCOAUH), will be established in Harlem, a region in New York City. The Center for Afrikan Unity in Harlem will focus on unifying Afrikan Heritage Peoples worldwide who were afflicted by the, "European Slave Trade of Afrikan People," starting around 1441 and the, "Scramble for Afrika", after the Berlin Conference of 1884 was held in Europe.

The community center will focus on Afrikan Heritage Peoples regardless of language, religion or place of birth to serve them on social, educational, and economical levels of interaction, in preparations of the establishment of the 6th region of Afrika. AUH, Inc is also calling Harlem to be the capital city of this newly established region. We can no longer allow our children to go from project to project, or blame others. We must respect each other and take a moral stance for our own and have responsibility to bring back Afrikan people governance.