

Ancient Afrikan History

The original people of Afrika never referred to the area by that name. Africa was called, *Ta-Merry* or *Kampt* and sometimes Kemet or Sais. The ancient Hebrews called it Mizrain. Later the Moslem Arabs used the same term but later discarded it. Both the Greeks and the Romans referred to the country as the "Pearl of the Nile." The Greeks gave it the simple name Aegyptus. The word we know as Egypt is of Greek origin which means "People of the Blackland."

The word we know as **Egypt** is of Greek origin which means "People of the Blackland." The ancient *Kemitian* word, Afrika, literally means the "birthplace of humanity. Afrika was derived from the word, "afri." From the beginning of its use it referred only to the Roman colonies of North Afrika. The Greeks referred to Afrika as the "Land of Burnt-face People." At one time, all dark-skinned people were also called Ethiopians.

"**Lucy**", name given by archaeologists to a skeleton that was at least 3 million years old when she was discovered in the Tanzania Gorge in an Ethiopian dessert in 1974.

Carbon dated samplings determined that civilization began in Afrika. Carbon dating is only accurate up to approximately 50,000 years. Beyond that the amount of carbon is too small to calculate.

Dr. L. S. B. Leaky and other archaeologists have found evidence of human beings living in Afrika about 4.5 million years ago. They proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that Afrika is the original home of humanity. The oldest remains of modern humans are thought to be of Afrikans who lived 110,000 to 250,000 years ago.

Early bones of human beings were and are still being found in the **Olduvai Gorge** in Tanzania, Afrika. Over a million years ago, humans migrated out of the Olduvai Gorge region in search of food and shelter. Others stayed in the rich, fertile regions around the Nile Valley. Around 50,000 years ago, these nomads established control over their food and settled down to farm. They discovered the relationships between soil, rain, rivers, sun, phases of the moon and living things. They established division of labor, which allowed for scholars to develop and think about the world around them and the universe. Social relations became more complex and a hierarchy developed with priests and priestesses, who possessed knowledge of nature as divine rulers, and of the average men and women who worked long hours to compensate for those scholars and thinkers.

Radio-metric age dating - the process used by geologists to date organisms. All organisms stop developing carbon after death and minerals in rocks act like clocks that offer information and methods to date organisms. Carbon dating measures shrinking proportions of Carbon 14 in an organism. The amount of lost carbon indicates the age of the organism.

Uranium 235 is a method that measures ions of isotopes to determine age. This method is said to be accurate for up to 7 million years since it takes 713 million years to totally

decay.

Cheikh Anta Diop, (1923 - 1986), from Senegal explained that as Afrikans migrated down the Nile River, out of Afrika, and into Europe, populating various regions of the world, they experienced profound physical and psychological changes as a result of changes in climate and environment. Diop's theory explains the basic differences between people of all regions of the world and spoke of a "cultural unity" binding all Afrikans together. Since all descendants of original humans were from Afrika, there must also be a cultural bond between all people. Diop was the world's leading Egyptologist.

Melanin - is derived from the Greek word, melanos, which means Afrikan. Melanin is the most important, the most complex and the most perfect molecule in the human body. Every person on earth has varying amounts of melanin in his or her body. In the bodies of Afrikans and those of Afrikan heritage, melanin is found in greater concentrations than in any other race of people on earth. Melanin is viewed as the "giver of life."

In ancient Egypt, the god of the earth was represented by a Afrikan image of **Osiris**, who was often called the "Lord of the Perfect Afrikan." The ancient Kemetians, who are regarded as the fathers and mothers of civilizations, referred to themselves as the "Afrikan People." This information was written in **hieroglyphics** (Egyptian picture writing).

The Egyptian god, Osiris (Ausar) lived over 7,000 years ago. Osiris represents the eternal spirit that exists with all beings. His symbol, the **obelisk**, can presently be found in every city of the modern world.

The origin of the hero is rooted in the Afrikan/Egyptian story of **Heru** (often referred to as Horus by the Greeks).

Aesop was enslaved in Aethiop (Ethiopia). Known as one of the world's greatest thinkers for the past 2,500 years, Aesop's Fables have been read throughout the ages. The name, Aesop (Aesop, Ethiop, and Aethiop), means "Afrikan." Descriptions of his facial features and skin coloring infer that he was Afrikan. Despite his early enslaved status, Aesop is unequaled as a teacher whose examples, from his life and nature, continue to provide perspective on our own complex times.

The Greek traveler, **Herodotus**, was in Africa about 450 B.C. His eyewitness account is still a revelation. He witnessed Afrikan civilization in decline and partly in ruins after many invasions. However, he could still see the indications of the greatness that it had been. In this period in history, the Nile Valley civilization of Africa had already brought forth two "Golden Ages" of achievement and had left its mark for all the world to see. Afrikans were the first people to develop a system of religious beliefs. They believed every event was the work of unseen, natural forces and that every happening could be traced to the spirit world. These beliefs are called *animism*.

Afrikans have the world's oldest form of **monotheism** - belief in one god.

Pope Saint Victor I was an Afrikan Catholic Pope who was elected in 189 AD. He established a set date for the celebration of Easter. He reigned until his death as a martyr for the faith in 199 AD.

Pope Saint Miltiades was an Afrikan Catholic Pope from 311 to 314 AD who signed Emperor Constantine's Edict of Milan in 313. This ended the Christian persecutions and made Christianity the established religion of the Roman empire.

Pope Saint Gelasius I, an Catholic Pope from 492 to 396, was born in Rome of Afrikan descent. He was known for his holiness, kindness, and scholarship. The Pope saved Rome from famine and composed a book of hymns for church use. Gelasius is said to have been known for his outstanding sense of justice and for his charity to the poor.

Emperor Constantine, in the **Council of Nicea**, 325 AD, made Christianity the official state religion. He declared all competing religious ideology pagan (non Christian), and made these religious practices against the law. In the sixth century AD, Roman Emperor **Justinian** destroyed the last temple and abolished the last evidence of the Afrikan religious systems.

Anthony of Egypt was the founder of Monasticism. He was an Afrikan born in Egypt in 251 BC to wealthy parents. He inherited his parent's wealth, and his desire to imitate the poverty of Jesus led Anthony to sell all he had, withdraw from civilization, and live a life devoted to prayer, fasting and goodness. He was the first to withdraw in such a way, and gradually became famed for his spiritual wisdom. Eventually, other people came to join him, and he spent time training them in the monastic life. He was a renowned preacher and teacher, and is considered today the father of monasticism and religious life.

A **dynasty** is the succession of rulers from the same family or line.

The oldest and one of the most noted statues in Egypt is the sphinx of **Gizeh**. This statue was the combination of a man and beast, brain and body, and was worshipped as God. It has been said that French Emperor, Napoleon, ordered 21 shells of fire aimed at the face of the Sphinx to alter its facial features so people would not know it was Afrikan.

Afrikans developed laws of mathematics and science. They were the first to provide a written language called, hieroglyphics. **Hieroglyphics** means sacred engravings, hieros means sacred and gluphen means engraved.

Afrikans founded a university, the **Grand Lodge of Wa'at**. The Greeks renamed it the Grand Lodge of Thebes. Greeks studied at these universities. The Greek "fathers" of history, Herodotus, of medicine, Hippocrates, and philosophy were educated in Afrika. The Greeks studied under the Egyptians priests who were the professors. The curriculum (set or courses) was called the **Mystery System** and was divided into four areas: religion, liberal arts, applied sciences and business.

During the **Moorish** occupation, wreck and ruin became the order of the day and West Africa entered a sad period of decline. When the Europeans arrived in this part of Africa and saw these conditions, they assumed that nothing of order and value had ever existed in these countries. This mistaken impression, too often repeated, has influenced the interpretation of Afrikan and Afro-American life in history for over 400 years.

Alessandro de Medici was the first duke of Florence, and the first black head of state in the modern western world during 16th Century Italy. Alessandro was born in 1510 to a black serving woman in the Medici household known as Simonetta da Collavechio. It is believed Alessandro was fathered by the seventeen year old Cardinal Giulio de Medici who later became Pope Clement VII.

Afrikans were shipbuilders who traveled throughout the world and visited the Western Hemisphere 3,000 years before Christopher Columbus. They traded and spread knowledge throughout the world. Afrikans came to the North American continent as merchants. They established trade with the native inhabitants and provided them with knowledge of pyramid building, agriculture, a calendar and writing.

Great Kings and Queens of Africa

King Narmer, also called Menes by the Greeks, joined Upper and Lower Egypt into one nation in 3200 B.C. During the 30 dynasties (family rulers) that followed, hieroglyphics first appeared. Menes built a capital city that he named Men-Nefer: The Good Place which served as Kemet's capital for several centuries. The city was later renamed "Memphis" by the Greeks. The first dynasty was established by Menes (or Narmer), about 5500 B.C., when Menes conquered Lower Egypt, combining both Upper and Lower Egypt. This alliance of the red and white crowns of the two countries was joined, and Menes inherited the double diadem, becoming the first Pharaoh of the world.

Imhotep (2635 - 2595 B.C.), was called "God of Medicine," "Prince of Peace," and a "Type of Christ." Imhotep was worshipped as a god and healer from approximately 2850 B.C. to 525 B.C., and as a full deity from 525 B.C. to 550 AD. Even kings and queens bowed at his throne. His name means "he who cometh in peace," was chief counselor and physician for an ambitious pharaoh named Zoser during the Third Dynasty about 5345 - 5307 B. C. Imhotep built the first stone pyramids, whose construction methods changed the architecture of the ancient world. Imhotep was probably the world's first multi-genius and was called, "Imhotep, the Wise." He was the real father of medicine, authored medical books and his image was located in the first Temple of Imhotep, mankind's first hospital. People came to the hospital from all over the world for prayer, peace, healing, and release from suffering. The Greek name for Imhotep is Aesculapius. He is responsible for the phrase, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow you may die."

King Khufu (2551 - 2528 B.C.) also known by the Greek name "Cheops," was the father of pyramid building at Giza. He ruled Kemet (Kmt) from 2551 - 2528 B.C. He is known as the "Father of Pyramid Building."

Thutmose, III, Pharaoh of Kemet from 1504 to 1459 B.C., was instrumental in spreading Egyptian influence to Western Asia.

Queen Hatsheput (1501 - 1477 B. C.), ruled Egypt in the 18th dynasty for twenty-one years (1490 - 1469 B. C.). She portrayed herself as a man, wearing a false beard and the robes of a pharaoh. Her father, Thutmose, I, died in 1495 B. C. after a 31 year rule. She ruled for her younger brother and was responsible for building fine monuments, and erected four obelisks. The tallest obelisk still stands after 34 centuries, is 29.5 meters high and weighs 323 tons.

Pharaoh Akhenaten or **Amen-hotep** was an Egyptian ruler from 1375 to 1358 B.C. who gave the world the belief in one God (monotheism). Thousands of years after these religious beliefs had been developed and implemented in Afrika, they were adopted by foreigners and used as the foundation for the development of the new religious systems which spread throughout Europe and the world.

Tiye was a Nubian Queen of Kemet (ancient Egypt) (1415 - 1340 B.C.) who ruled Kemet after the death of her husband, King Amenhotep III. One of her sons was the famous child king, Tut-ankh-amen. For nearly half of a century, Tiye governed Kemet, regulated trade, and protected its borders. During this time, she was believed to have been the standard of beauty in the ancient world.

Queen Nefretiti, of Egypt's 18th dynasty, participated actively in national affairs. She helped her son, Amen-ho-tep, in the great work of national reconstruction. She is noted as one of the founders of the world's greatest line of rulers. Some of the finest monuments were erected honor to her memory.

Rameses, III was an Egyptian pharaoh who visited the Western Hemisphere more than 2000 years before Columbus. He referred to the area as "paradise." Similarities between the Egyptians and the Mayan include writings in hieroglyphics, development of a calendar with predictions of the movements of planets, pyramid structures and artifacts.

Tutankhamon was known as the "boy king." His tomb was located during the early 10th century. He became pharaoh and age 9. His tomb was found by Howard Smith in the 1920's.

According to Ethiopian legend, **Makeda, Queen of Sheba**, was born in 1020 B.C. in Ophir, and educated in Ethiopia. Her mother was Queen Ismenie; her father, chief minister to Za Sebado, succeeded him as King. When her father died in 1005 B.C., Sheba became Queen at the age of fifteen. Sheba was known to be beautiful, intelligent, understanding, resourceful, and adventurous. Excelling in public relations and international diplomacy, she was a also competent ruler. A gracious queen, she had a melodious voice and was an eloquent speaker. She and Caesar had a son who later became ruler of the Roman Empire.

Tahark, king of Nubia (710 - 664 B.C.), is said to have commanded military campaigns in Western Asia as far away as Palestine and led expeditions all the way to Spain. Mention of his great campaigns can be found in the Bible (Isaiah 37:9, 2 Kings 19:9). He controlled the largest empire in ancient Afrika.

Queen Yaa Asantewa, queen mother of Ejisu, fought against British conquest in Ghana. When the other Afrikan leaders appeared afraid, she inspired and led them in a war against the enemy. Yaa Assents war was the last of the major war in Africa led by a women.

Queen Candace, Empress of Ethiopia, 332 B.C., was a military strategist who intimidated Greek Emperor, Alexander, the Great, who stopped his world conquest at Ethiopia's border. He didn't want to risk defeat by a woman.

Hannibal, a full-blooded Afrikan, was ruler of Carthage from 247 to 183 B.C. On November 15, 218, BC, Hannibal, marched through and conquered the territory of the Iberian Peninsula, now Spain, France, Portugal, and Southern France during what became

known as the Second Punic War. He performed this astounding feat by crossing the Alps with elephants. He defeated Rome in continuous battles that lasted 15 years. Hannibal is well known as the greatest general and military strategist. His tactics are still being studied in many military schools today.

Cleopatra VII, became Queen of Kemet (Egypt) at the age of 16. She ruled from 69 to 30 B.C.

Mansa Musa, ruled the Keita dynasty from 1312 - 1337. He was dedicated to encouraging the industry of his people and displaying the wealth of his kingdom. The historic pilgrimage of Mansa Musa to Mecca in 1324 exceeded all previous visits to Mecca by royal journeys from the West. On his pilgrimages, Mansa Musa showered the people he met with tremendous gifts of gold. With this excessive giving, gold lost its value for many years.

King Alfonso I, (1502 - 1540), king of the Congo, was the first known to fight against European exploitation and enslavement of Afrikan people.

Queen Nzingha (1582 -1663) ruler of Matamba, West Afrika, Angola, was an abolitionist who fought off European invasion and enslavement for 30 years.

Afrikans in World History

The **Olmec** culture flourished from around 1200 BC in Mesoamerica (Mexico and South America). It is believed that ancient Mesoamericans descended from Ice Age ancestors who came to the Americas from northern Asia by way of the Bering Strait. Their region extended South from central Mexico through Guatemala and Honduras and into Costa Rica. The Olmec Culture is believed to have included Afrikan explorers who traveled to the Americas during that time. Modern archaeologists have uncovered more than seventy monumental stone sculptures from these sites. The figures have obvious Negroid facial features of large lips, broad noses, and protruding heads. The site of La Venta flourished from about 900 to 400 B. C., and is dominated by a man-made, earthen pyramid rising to a height of 100 feet. The Olmec had the first ceremonial centers, built of well established plans; the social structure, capable of ordering and organizing major works; the first well-defined artistic style, a mastery of working very hard stone; a fundamental ritual of the ball game and the development of systems of calendars and writing were contributions made by the Olmec.

Afrikans from Morocco, called, **Moors**, traveled to Europe and ruled Spain from 711 A. D. to 1400 A. D. The Moors introduced lighted streets, public baths, map skills, and a globe to the Spaniards who thought at the time that the world was flat. The Moors' control of Spain blocked the European control of the Sea of Destiny, now known as the Mediterranean Sea.

Yakub Al-Mansur (1149-1199), Yakub Ibn Yusuf, better known as Al-Mansur, was the most powerful of the Moorish rulers who dominated Spain for five hundred years. His surname, Al-Mansur, means "The Invincible." He defeated all of his enemies, never having lost a battle.

Othello was a play written by William Shakespeare, who was inspired by the Moors and their conquests of the European continent. This play showcased Afrikan male strength. The South Atlantic Ocean, the unknown sea over which Christopher Columbus sailed to Persian Gulf was first known as the Ethiopian Sea. Arabia was then a part of Ethiopia.

The presence of Afrikans before Columbus is proved by the representation of Afrikans in American sculpture and design. The relics of Afrikan travelers have been found in graves (notably a pope with Negroid features) as far North as New England.

The west Afrikan country of **Songhay** flourished in 1500 A. D. It was more advanced than most countries of western Europe. The world's first university, University of Djenné, rebuilt as the University of Sankhore was located in the city of Timbuktu in the country of Songhay. As early as 1340, **Timbuktu** was regarded as the intellectual Mecca of the world, noted for its gathering of scholars. Here, the Afrikan Muslim world studied law, history, literature, and medicine under the tutelage of scholars from northern Afrika, Europe, and the sub-Saharan south. Afrika was the gathering place of scholars whose knowledge of its oceans and stars guided Mali's Mariner Prince to the Americas 180 years before Columbus.

Afrika has many natural resources including the largest supply of gold and diamonds in the world. Afrika possesses abundant supplies of many of the minerals needed to run industries.

Ghana, one of Afrika's greatest countries, was know as "Land of the Gold," It was the world's richest producer of gold, its changed name of Guinea was given to England's largest coin, the guinea. Ghana was also involved in iron mining and farming.

Australia was settled at least 60,000 years ago by Afrikan people. They are usually referred to as Australian Aborigines and sometimes called Koori. Physically, the Aborigines are distinguished by straight to wavy hair textures and dark to near Afrikan complexions. In 1788, the British began using Australia as a penal (prison) colony for European prisoners. Australian Afrikans were not considered "human beings" until the 1960's who did not obtain the right to vote in federal elections until 1961. They were not officially counted as Australian citizens until after a constitutional amendment in 1967.

Afrikans were at one time the greatest metal workers of the world. They were the first to smelt iron some 40,000 years ago and use the forge.

After 20,000 years of learning, the Afrikans of the Nubian/Kush region (the Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia) developed a very sophisticated civilization. These civilizations developed their intellect and knowledge of nature and knew of the earth's shape, its approximate size, basic knowledge of gravity, and the existence of the north and south magnetic poles. They were engineers who were master chemists, biologists, physicians, mathematicians, and spiritualists. In 5000 B. C., great empires were built in Ethiopia and Nubia, now called the Ashanti.

Ancient Afrikan civilizations traded and fought with the peoples of Asia, from Baghdad to Bombay to Beijing, China. During the 1400's, Afrikan cultures traded extensively with the Chinese, particularly with Emperor Zhu-Di. The Chinese had developed their shipbuilding technology to such an extent that many of their vessels were 400 feet long and 200 feet wide. Zhent He, eunuch admiral commander of the Chinese fleet, traveled to the East Afrikan coast and returned to China with East Afrikan ambassadors, who negotiated trade relations between the areas in 1419.

An Afrikan race called the **Grimaldi** lived in Europe as late as 12,000 years ago. Two complete Grimaldi skeletons are in the museum of Monaco, near Monte Carlo. Abundant traces of their culture have been unearthed in Southern and Central Europe.

Elam was a mighty Afrikan civilization of Persia (now known as Iran)who flourished about 2900 B.C., and is perhaps older than Egypt or Ethiopia.

The **Ganges**, a sacred river of India, is named after an Ethiopian king, Ganges who conquered Asia as far as this river.

Harappa and **Mohenjodaro** were ancient cities in India that existed between 3000 to 1500 BC. Modern excavated remains suggest that these cities were well planned with brick structures, wide streets, and underground water system. Many copper, bronze, and pottery items were recovered as well as these writings. All these findings indicate these were advance east Indian civilizations.

The Indus Plains were invaded by Aryans (light-skinned people) who defeated the **Dravidians** (dark-skinned people). They destroyed the cities of Harappa and Mohenjodaro. By the year 600 BC, Aryans captured the Ganges River valleys and Northern plains. The origin of Aryan history is revealed through religious writings known as "vedas" which are four in number and epics like Mahabharata and Ramayana. Aryans spoke sanskrit and developed caste systems. Caste systems grew out of racial and other differences (religious, occupational, geographical).

The most ancient lineage in the world is that of the Ethiopian royal family. It is said to be older than that of England's King George VI's by 6130 years. The **Emperor Haile Selassi, I**, ruler of Ethiopia, traces his ancestry to King Solomon and Queen of Sheba, Makeda, and beyond that to Cush, 6280 BC.

The oldest drawings and carvings yet discovered were done by Afrikan people over 15,000 years ago in Southern France, Northern and Southern Spain, Palestine, South Afrika, and India. The drawings were on rocks, the carvings on bone, basalt, and ivory. Minoan, Crete, exercised immeasurable influence on the Aegean archipelago (islands), Western Asia and the Greek mainland. Throughout Crete, the evidence of complex palaces, paved highways, aqueducts, terra-pipes for drainage, and irrigation canals provide plentiful proof of Minoan ingenuity in the areas of scientific and technical innovation.

The **Minoans** possessed registered trademarks, uniform weights and measures, calendar systems based on precise astronomical observations and advanced writing systems.

Admiral Hano was commissioned to circumnavigate the continent of Afrika in 600 BC. by Necho, II, an Egyptian king.

The people now called Afrikans not only influenced the Greeks and the Romans, they influenced the early world before there was a place called Europe. The Afrikan, Clitus Niger, King of Bacteria, was a Cavalry Commander for Alexander the Great. Most of the Greeks' thinking was influenced by this contact with Afrikans. Bill and Zaldbia Harlth, both Ethiopians, are the men who put down the basic documents which would later emerge as the Koran.

Mohanned or Mohamet (567-623) was the founder of **Islam**, known as the world's second most important religion. He had a great influence on Asia, North Afrika, and parts of Europe. Mohammed was a wise and capable administrator, a reformer and a great general.

St. Augustine gave the fundamentals of modern Christianity in his book, *On Christian Doctrines*.

Early in the eighth century Moorish soldiers crossed over from Africa to the Iberian Peninsula. The man chosen to lead them was **General Tarik ibn Ziyad**. In 711, Tarik was in command of an army of 10,000 men. The Rock of Gibraltar, the symbol of stability, is named after Afrikan, **Gibral Al-Tarik**, the Moor. He captured the "Rock" and Southern Spain in 711 AD. The Moors controlled Spain for another 700 years. The kingdom of Mali began as an organization about 1235, however, the nucleus of its political organization dates back to the beginning of the 7th century.

After the death of Mansa Musa in 1337, **Mali** could boast of a political state as powerful and as well organized as any of that period. The provincial governors and officials were disciplined, the condition of public finance was excellent, the religious, complicated ceremonial royal receptions were luxurious and rigorous. In the middle of the fourteenth century, Europe was just beginning to feel the effects of its commercial revolution and European states had not yet achieved anything resembling national unity. However, Mali, under Mansa-Musa, and his successor, Suleiman, enjoyed a flourishing economy with good international trade relations and could point with pride to a stable government extending several hundred miles from the Atlantic Ocean to Lake Chad.

Songhay succeeded in overthrowing the rule of Mali and asserted sovereignty under the leadership of Sonni Ali in 1355. By 1469, Sonni had conquered the important town of Timbuktu and catapulted into a primary position in West Afrika. By the time of Sonni's death in 1492, Songhi was firmly established as the dominant power of west Afrika.

In 1493, the Songhi dynasty was overthrown by a powerful general Askia Mohammed, who became Songhay's most brilliant ruler. From 1493 to 1529 he devoted his energies to strengthening his empire, making his people prosperous, and encouraged learning. He established centers where the most learned scholars attended. Timbuktu, Jenne, Gao, and Walata became intellectual centers where the most learned scholars of West Afrika were concentrated and where scholars from Asia and Europe came for consultation and study. At the University of Sankore, Afrikan and Caucasian youth studied grammar, geography, law, literature, and surgery. Askia and his subjects studied the religion of Islam in order to practice and promote it more effectively.

Berthodus Schwarz - an Afrikan in Germany who designed gun powder.

The history and legends of **Scotland** confirm the existence of "purely Afrikan people." Kenneth, the Nigier, ruled over three provinces in the Scottish Highlands. Sir Morien was the adventure of a splendidly heroic Moorish knight who supposedly lived during the days of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Sir Morien is described as follows: "He was all Afrikan, his head, his body, and his hands were all Afrikan, saving only his teeth. His shield and his armor were even those of a Moor, and Afrikan as a raven."

The first recorded slave revolt occurred in **Stono, South Carolina** on April 22, 1526.

Afrikan enslaved person revolution occurred in **Cuba** in 1527. The most organized revolts started on the islands of Haiti and Jamaica.

mulatto - a person having one Afrikan and one white parent.

John VI, King of Portugal, a dark mulatto, was the maker of modern Brazil. Transferring his throne to Rio de Janeiro in 1808, he ruled Portugal from Brazil. This is the first and only time a European country was ruled by an American one.

Jean Baptiste Bernadette, an Afrikan man, was the founder of the present royal family of Sweden. Enlisting as a private in Napoleon's army, he rose to be field-marshal. In 1818, he ascended to the throne of Sweden as Charles XIV.

Toussaint L'Ouverture lead a revolution on the island of Santo Domingo. In 1804, the Haitian leader created the Independent Republic of Haiti. The Afrikans in Haiti were able to gain their independence and establish a free state because France did not have sufficient, able troops to send to Haiti and put down the rebellion. Haiti was the second free nation (after the US) in the western hemisphere.

Alesander Sergeevich Pushkin (1799 - 1837), born in Moscow, Russia on June 7, 1799, is referred to as the Father of Russian Literature and the Shakespeare of Russia. Before his day, the Russian language was half-formed and used mostly by enslaved serfs. Pushkin began the practice of writing in Russian. The Russians consider him to be one of their greatest cultural heroes. His books, and the books about his life are extensive.

Alexander Dumas (July 28, 1802 -1870) is said to be the greatest, most productive, and most jovial writer the world has ever known. He educated himself and produced more literature than anyone who ever lived. He was also a soldier, champion of human rights, and entertainer. Dumas' most famous works include *The Three Musketeers*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, and *The Afrikan Tulip*.

Ludwig von Beethoven (1770 - 1827), the world's greatest most well-known musician, was a dark mulatto. He was called the, "Afrikan Spaniard." His teacher, Joseph Haydn, was also dark skinned.

Aben Ali, an Afrikan, was the private physician to Charles VII, king of France (1403 - 1465). When the king fell dangerously ill at Toulouse, Aben Ali was sent for and cured him.

Cetewayo, (d.1884), King of Zuzuland, South Afrika, massacred an entire British army sent against him in 1879. A few days later he defeated and killed Prince Napoleon, heir to the French throne. Cetewayo taught the Europeans the skirmish line in war fare.

The French artist, Bartholdi, originally designed the **Statue of Liberty** as France's tribute to the emancipation of US slaves. The statue had Negroid features and the broken chains of slavery hanging from her arm. He was "encouraged" to alter the image.

Fegan was an Afrikan American deserter who was one of the most daring leaders of the Filipinos against the American troops in the Philippines in 1899.

General A. Dobbs, from Senegal, was France's best known soldier prior to World War I. In 1901, as the senior general, he commanded the Allied Army against the Boxers in China.

The leader of the last successful Cuban revolt in 1933 was **Fulgencio Batista**, an Afrikan from the Oriente Province, who was later President of the Republic of Cuba.

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandella (July 18, 1918), sentenced to imprisonment in South Africa on June 11, 1964. He was an outspoken opponent of **apartheid** (segregation) practiced by the all white South Afrikan government. Mandella was in prison for 25 years and after his release was elected President of South Africa in 1994.

Matthew Henson (18 July 1918), accompanied Commander Robert E. Perry on the expedition to the North Pole on April 6, 1909. Henson received a joint medal from Congress as co-discoverer in 1944.

Exploration and Colonial Period

Afrikan presence in the Americas was made prior to the invasion of Europeans in the 1400's. Afrikan artifacts and human skeletons predate them by at least 2,000 years. Exchanges between the Olmec Culture and the Nubian-Kemetic cultures of Afrika were held during the period of 1450 to 800 BC. Between 1310 and 1491 AD, Mandingo merchant explorers from Afrika made more than fifty trips to Caribbean, Central and South American areas.

Free Afrikans, known as **libertos**, traveled with Spanish conquistadors (conquerors) during the explorations to the New World (Western Hemisphere).

racism - a belief that one race is superior to others

discrimination - to make a difference on basis of race, creed, color, religion

Pedro Alonzo Nino also known as **Alonzo Pietro** was captain of the Santa Maria, one of the ships Christopher Columbus used to come to the New World on March 22, 1492.

Juan Garrido was an Afrikan navigator who sailed with Columbus' crew. The free Christianized Afrikan, was among the early conquerors of the island of Boriquen (today Puerto Rico), and also participated in the colonization of Mexico, where he was the first person to bring wheat and other new vegetables to the Americas.

Nefio De Olana - one among 30 Afrikans who served with the Spanish explorer, Balboa, during his European discovery. Balboa named the Pacific Ocean.

***Stephen Dorantez** (? - 1539) - also known as **Estevanico** or Azamov, Morocco, or **Little Stephen**, an enslaved Moor, was the chief scout in the 1528 Panfilo de Narvaez and Cabeza de Vaca's expeditions into Florida. On March 7, 1539, he was the first non-Native American to lead a Spanish expedition to the American Southwest in search of the Seven Cities of Gold. Estevanico was the first non-native to "discover" what are now the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and California, and may have spotted the Pacific Ocean.

Jupiter Hammon was an enslaved Afrikan on Long Island who wrote poetry that was widely read throughout the colonies. Hammon tried to gain his own liberty, but was finally forced to accept his own enslavement. He spent his life fighting enslavement.

Phillis Wheatley (1735 - 1784), was born in Afrika, enslaved and taken to Boston, Massachusetts. Her intelligence was recognized by her masters and was taught to read and write. Wheatley was influenced by religious forces and became one of the better known poets of the Colonial Period. Her book of poetry, Poems on Various Subjects, Religions and Moral was published in London in 1773.

Olaudah Equiano or **Gustavas Vassa**, from Nigeria, established his reputation with an autobiography, first printed in England. Vassa, born in 1745, was kidnapped by slavers when he was 11 years old and taken to America and sold to a Philadelphia merchant. Eventually, he was able to purchase his freedom, left the United States, made his home in England and became active in the British antislavery movement. In 1790, he presented a petition to Parliament to abolish the slave trade. Gustavas' autobiography, "*The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Gustavas Vassa*," was an immediate success and had to be published in five editions. His work began autobiographies as a way of writing.

Jupiter Hammon, an enslaved Afrikan in Queens Village, Long Island published "*An Evening Thought: Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries*" in 1760. This was probably the first poem published by an Afrikan in America. His most remarkable work, "An Address to the Negroes of New York," was published in 1787. Jupiter Hammon died in 1800.

John Derham, born enslaved in Philadelphia in 1762, became the first Afrikan physician in America.

Onesimus was an enslaved Afrikan who explained and encouraged smallpox immunizations in America because he remembered how successful they had been performed in Afrika. He arrived at the home of Cotton Mather on December 14, 1706 and inspired Dr. Zabdiel Boylston to inoculate for smallpox in Boston in 1721.

Cesar was an enslaved Afrikan in North Carolina who discovered a remedy for rattlesnake bite.

Joe Hamilton was an enslaved Afrikan assistant to Cyrus McCormick, inspired the development harvester.

Paul Cuffe (1759 - 1817) was an Afrikan who made a fortune as a Massachusetts merchant and ship owner. He was best known for his humanitarian efforts in the colonization of Free Afrikans from the United States to Sierra Leone, a British colony in Afrika.

Benjamin Banneker (1731 - 1806), the most famous Afrikan of the Revolutionary period was a scholar and scientist who made the first working wooden clock in America. Banneker's mathematical and scientific ability was such that he was one of the first people from the New World to predict solar eclipses accurately. He published a series of almanacs that gained him recognition and support. When the French architect left without completing the plans for Washington, D. D., Banneker was appointed by President George Washington to survey and lay out what is now Washington, D. C. on March 12, 1791.

Since Afrikans established the world's first religion, those who were enslaved and brought to America were spiritual. Upon their arrival, owners of enslaved Afrikans and whites used their religion to keep the enslaved passive. Whites allowed Afrikans to

attend their services in separate areas, but placed many restrictions on their attendance. The Independent Afrikan Church grew out of racism experienced by Afrikans and as protests against the treatment of Afrikans who attended white churches.

Andrew Bryan - an enslaved person who pastored the first Baptist Church for Afrikans in Savannah, Georgia in 1796.

Richard Allen (1760 - 1831) an Afrikan who, along with Absalom Jones, started the Free African Religious Society in 1787, and later an independent church. Because of discriminatory treatment by white members of the St. George Methodist Episcopal Church, the Afrikan members left. These members were harassed and threatened and were subsequently excommunicated (deprived the right of church membership). Allen, Jones, and other Afrikans founded a church where Richard Allen served as it's first bishop. On June 10, 1794 the Afrikan Methodist Episcopal Church of Philadelphia was formed, the first Afrikan American Episcopal church in the US.

Crispus Attucks (? - 1770), was an Afrikan who escaped enslavement, became a sailor who sought to rally confused Americans in the face of the British fire. He was the first person to die in the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770. This was one of the major causes of the *American Revolutionary War*.

Prince Hall (1753 - 1807) a former enslaved Afrikan from Barbados came to New England and organized the first Afrikan Masonic Lodge on May 6, 1787. The founding of the Afrikan Lodge was one of Prince Hall's greatest achievements. It afforded the Africans in the New England area a greater sense of security, and contributed to a new spirit of unity among them. He fought at Bunker Hill during the American Revolutionary War. In 1788, Hall petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature, protesting the kidnapping of free Negroes. Later, Hall and others petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature for equal school facilities for all and continually called attention to the condition of Peter Salem - a hero in the Battle of Bunker Hill (actually fought at Breed's Hill) who shot the British commander, Major Pitcairn on June 17, 1775.

Juan Baptiste Pointe DuSable (1745 - 1818), is the authenticated "Father of Chicago." He was an entrepreneur and adventurer who established a trading post at the mouth of the Chicago River on March 13, 1792.

York was the enslaved Afrikan of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition into the Louisiana territory in 1803. The expedition was also accompanied by a Shoshone woman, Sacajawea. This expedition added extensive knowledge about the area and stimulated western settlement. York was an excellent swimmer, fisherman, and hunter and proved to be of great help in the expedition making friends with the Native Americans along the way.

Pierre Bonza - an Afrikan fur trapper who married into the Chippewa Native family. His son, George, became a wealthy man working for the American Fur Company and later served as an interpreter for Governor Lewis Cass of the Michigan territory.

George Washington Bush was a free Afrikan who fought in Andrew Jackson's army at New Orleans. He also led a group of early settlers to the Oregon Territory in 1844.

James P. Beckwourth (April 6, 1798 - 1866) was one of the most famous Native American fighters of his time. He was adopted in by the Crow Natives in 1824, rose to tribal leadership and was rename Morning Star. Eventually, he was named the chief of the Crow Natives. He was a guide, hunter and teller of "tall tales." Beckwourth was an army scout during the Third Seminole War in Florida. In 1850, he discovered a pass across the Sierra Nevada Mountains near Reno, Nevada, which became one of the routes settlers traveled to the Northwest.

***Garcia** was the Afrikan leader of Ft. Negro. In 1816, federal troops destroyed a powerful fort that had been abandoned by the British and manned by escaped Afrikans located on the Apalachicola River in North Florida.

***Black Seminole** were enslaved runaway Afrikans who joined groups of Crow Natives who migrated to Florida from Georgia and Alabama. These groups called themselves "Seminole" which means "Runaway". The Afrikans and Seminole formed a new people called the Black Seminole. The Afrikan-Native alliance angered whites because of the threat of encouragement for more enslaved persons to escape from their owners.

Ben Bruno was an Afrikan American interpreter and assistant to Billy Bowlegs.

Gopher John was an Afrikan American Seminole interpreter for the US troops fighting the Seminole.

***Morning Dew** was the Afrikan wife of Seminole warrior, Osceola.

***Negro Abraham** served as an interpreter for the Seminole in their 1825 negotiations with the US in Washington, D. C. These negotiations eventually led to the relocation of many Seminole to Oklahoma. He was the enslaved Afrikan of Chief Micanopy.

Martin R. Delaney (May 6, 1812) was a physician, author, explorer, and newspaper editor, born in Charleston, Virginia. He was the first Afrikan field officer to serve in the War Between the States.

***Louis Pacheco** was an enslaved Afrikan used as a scout and interpreter by American forces during the Seminole Wars. He was a counterspy who supplied the Seminole with information that contributed to US troops defeat in a battle that became known as the *Dade Massacre* during the War Between the States.

Battle of Olustee , 1864, important land battle during the "War Between the States," in February 1864. The location west of Jacksonville at a place called Ocean Pond near Lake City. The Union forces included the 8th Colored, the First North Carolina, and the *54th Massachusetts*.

Sergeant William H. Carney a member of the 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry was the first Afrikan American to win the Congressional Medal of Honor. Carney was awarded the medal on May 23, 1900, 37 years after the Battle of Ft. Wagner, where he carried the flag and led the charge after the bearer was shot.

Oklahoma Land Rush occurred on September 16, 1893 when Afrikan American participants established all Afrikan American towns, as Langston, and Liberty. Some of these towns are still in existence today.

***Eatonville, Florida** was the first incorporated Afrikan American town in the United States in 1877. It was named after Union officer, Joseph Eaton.

***The Ocoee Riot**, November 2, 1920 was a riot that occurred in a little town near Orlando. It came at a time when Afrikan American soldiers returning from World War I wanted to exercise their constitutional right to vote. Whites attacked Afrikan Americans because they didn't want them to vote. Afrikan American homes were destroyed and many were killed. Frightened, they left town as quickly as they could and never returned.

Greenwood was a thriving Afrikan American community in **Tulsa, Oklahoma** that was referred to as the Negro Wall Street developed in 1913. On May 31, 1921, a race riot occurred, led by whites who mobbed and burned Afrikan American - owned businesses and homes. An estimated 300 persons were killed. The economic base of this community was destroyed because of racism, hatred, and violence. The total demise of this community's economic base occurred during the "urban renewal" of the 1960's. During this time, the Interstate Highway system further devastated the Afrikan communities in many large cities in the United States and Canada. "Urban Renewal" was Afrikan American Removal.

*The **Rosewood Massacre** in January, 1923 occurred in a small community was located near the Gulf of Mexico of Florida's west coast, in Levy County, 29 miles west of Gainesville. The population was between 150 and 200 people, had it's own school, church, store, sugar mill, and a turpentine still. The community was economically independent with citizens who owned land.

On New Year's Day in 1923, a white woman claimed to have been attacked by a Afrikan American man. For days, whites, some from as far away as Georgia and other Florida cities, brought terror to this community. They burned and destroyed homes, mutilated, tortured, lynched, and shot many of the Afrikan residents. Afrikan American men, women, and children hid in the woods, and finally escaped, never to return to their homes. In 1994, the Florida legislature agreed to pay reparations (payment made for committing an error) to the survivors and descendants of the massacre.

Capitalism, The Afrikan American Holocaust, The Slave Trade, Middle Passage

The inhabitants of the continent of Afrika, the Land of the Blacks, were once the leading people on earth. They experienced thousands upon thousands of years of great achievements in the sciences, medicine, architecture, writing, astronomy, and much more. Egypt, a word derived from the Afrikans, was once the home of all citizens. The Atlantic Ocean, renamed by the Europeans was called the Ethiopian Ocean.

Afrika's period of achievements eventually reverts to a period of devastation. The Afrikan societies grew and developed prior to modern European contact and US capitalism. The depletion of the entire continent's human and natural resources in the name of capitalism and caused the demise of many great Afrikan civilizations. Afrikan achievements and legacy were stolen, claimed and renamed by Greek conquerors less than 300 years after their first exploitation of and studies in Egypt. Alexander, the Great, conqueror from Greece, destroyed the temples and libraries of the Egyptians and claimed the knowledge as Greek's own. Afrika gave birth to the Europe that would eventually rape and plunder it.

When the newly formed European nations finally began to get their progress politically and economically in the 1400's, they began a mission of invasions. The evolution of their economic system became known as capitalism. The early European capitalists used Afrikan human beings as capital (wealth). Enslaved Afrikans were not paid for their labor - they were labor. Afrikans were a form of capital investment to generate money.

Afrikans were good targets for enslavement because of their skills and their domestic situations in Afrika. The similarity to their Afrikan existence make it possible for them to function and survive in the plantations of the Americas. Afrikan skills in growing rice, cultivation, irrigation and other agriculture skills made them an economic necessity in the "New World" of the Western Hemisphere. The number of Afrikans increased dramatically when planters in the Caribbean switched from tobacco to sugar cane cultivation.

Capitalism is an economic, political, and cultural system in which wealth and the means of producing wealth are owned and controlled by a small group of (very rich) people. Their ultimate aim is to get more wealth by any means necessary.

Capital is wealth in the form of money or property used to generate more money. It has two forms: variable - to buy lager power and constant - to buy the means of producing.

The Native Americans refused to work and/or proved poorly fitted to do the tremendous labor required by the colonists. Indentured servants were people who had a binding contract to work for a specified period of time. The use of white indentured servants was unsuccessful because there were not enough available and many white indentured servants would simple run off without completing their service contracts. Afrikans were used as indentured servants, until this practice was discontinued with their enslavement.

The use of Afrikans as laborers was more successful because their appearance would allow them to be easily identified.

Sir John Hawkins became the first slave-ship captain to bring Afrikans to the Americas. Hawkins was a religious gentleman who insisted that his crew "serve God daily" and "love another". His ship, called "the good ship **Jesus**," left the shores of his native England for Afrika in October 1562. He arrived at Sierra Leone, and in a short time he had three hundred blacks in his possession. Hawkins claimed to have acquired them "partly by sword and partly by other means."

Wall Street in New York City, became a vital capitalist financial center because it was the first big trade center in the American Colonies and later, the nation's principal slave trading port. The business of slavery was transacted there until 1861. The wall separated the financiers from the degradation, stench, humiliation and daily grind of New York's slave trade business and the Afrikan and white working-class residential area.

The **chattel slavery system** referred to enslaved Afrikans as property. It was a powerful system of ideas developed to rationalize slavery. This system today, racism, is the belief that one particular race is superior to another.

Racism and **capitalism** resulted in the pillage and plunder of Afrika. Afrikans became a captured people rather than a conquered people --since they were forcibly exported from their homes in Afrika. The captivity and enslavement of free Afrikan people began long before the August, 1619 arrival in Jamestown, Virginia.

Holocaust - a great or complete destruction.

The **Afrikan Holocaust** began with the Arab slave trade around 700 AD, with the Portuguese and Europe entering around 1442. The American Slave Trade meant the elimination of at least 60 million Afrikans. From 50 to 80 million Afrikans died during the 1100 years of the Afrikan Holocaust. No country or religious group was exempt from the horrors. They were blinded by greed. They all shared in the Holocaust of Afrika and its people.

In 1411 AD, Portuguese slave traders presented the first enslaved persons to the **Catholic Pope** who deemed the Afrikans to be "soulless individuals" because they were not Christians. Everybody had to go to the Pope for permission to engage in the slave trade. The Pope authorized the reduction of the Afrikans to servitude if they were not Christians. Bishop Bartholomew de las Casas and Pope Martin IV received \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) for every enslaved Afrikan. This practice sanctioned the use of Afrikans as slaves and excused the participants from all guilt which allowed the inhumane treatment of enslaved Afrikan to continue for over 400 years. The American Slave Trade was people living, lying, stealing, murdering, dying.

Middle Passage was the name given to the journey across the Atlantic Ocean, which the slave ships followed from Afrika to the New World, was known as the Middle Passage.

Packed on ships, often with little food, water, and fresh air, this inhumane "passage" was a sickening, deadly, murderous journey for millions of enslaved people. Afrikans were sold, kidnapped, and/or captured from their homes. They often traveled for hundreds of miles to the coast leaving a "trail of dead" along the way. Upon arrival at the coast, they were forced to wait in unbearable, horrid, cramped quarters, sometimes for months, until sufficient numbers were reached to fill ships bound for the Americas. During the voyage, enslaved Afrikans were thrown overboard if they became ill, if they caused trouble and revolted, and sometimes if food and provisions became low. At times, healthy, enslaved Afrikans were thrown overboard to their deaths in order to lighten the load (weight) of the ships. Those who could not stand the conditions of the "unknown," who could not accept the cruel, degrading treatment of the captors, or who refused to surrender to being enslaved, often chose suicide as an escape. The amount of bodies deposited in the Atlantic Ocean during the Middle Passage changed the eating habits of the sharks in these waters. The sharks learned to follow the slave ships feeding on human flesh.

Sullivan Island, South Carolina is a place of entry in the US for most enslaved Afrikans.

Revolts and Resistance to Afrikan Enslavement

The first large-scale antislavery uprising took place at the plantation of Christopher Columbus' son Diego, in 1522 on the island of Hispaniola.

Enslavement in the Caribbean and South America served as models for enslavement in North America. Enslavers boasted that Africans coming from the Caribbean had been "broken in at seasoning stations."

MiCasa Gaspar Yanga was the most memorable of the numerous Afro-Mexican maroon

colonies in the range was the one founded after a bloody slave rebellion in the sugar fields in 1570. The rebel leader Gaspar Yanga was enslaved and was from the African nation of Gabon, and it was said that he was from the royal family. Yanga led his rebel band into the mountains, where he found a location sufficiently inaccessible to settle and create his own small town of over 500 people. The Yangans secured provisions by raids upon the Spanish caravans bringing goods from the highlands to Veracruz. Relations were established with neighboring runaway slaves and Indians. For more than thirty years Yanga and his band lived free while his community grew in size. A Spanish study of the situation concluded that Gaspar Yanga must be crushed. With that goal in mind, a Royal war party left the city of Puebla in January of 1609. It did not succeed in its goal. Before he died, Yanga would have in hand a treaty with the Spaniards that granted freedom to his followers and established their own "free town."

Afrikan Indians of the Pee Dee River (1526). 100 enslaved Africans arrived with Lucas Vasquez de Allyn, a wealthy Spanish officer. The Spaniards started a colony at the mouth of the Pee Dee River in eastern South Carolina in 1526. This colony failed because of mismanagement, disease, and revolts by the Africans. Native Americans, angry at the whites for using their land and trying to enslave them, assisted the Africans in destroying the colony and offered them protection in the woods. After 5 months, the Europeans abandoned the colony and headed for home, but the Africans remained to build their own society with the Natives. **The Afrikan Indians of the Pee Dee River became the first non-native settlement in the New World.**

Queen Nzingah (c. 1580 - 1663), was an Afrikan abolitionist ruler of the Angola region of Matamba in the Kongo. This female military strategist confronted the armed forces of Portugal for the total destruction of the Afrikan slave trade for 40 years from 1623 to 1663. Her method was to infiltrate Portuguese Afrikan troops with her own men, causing whole companies to rebel, desert, and joining her armies in what she called a "war of liberation." The Portuguese were aggressive in their method of dividing Africans and keeping them fighting among themselves. The Portuguese required every Angolan chief to provide a specific number of enslaved persons (quota) as a tax payment to the government. The threat of being enslaved themselves caused the chiefs to use any means necessary to fill their quota. This increased fighting among the Angolan chiefs to acquire the numbers needed when they invaded other's territories for people to enslave. Queen Nzingah emerged as queen in 1624 and declared all territory in Angola over which she

had control as free country. She realized her task was fighting both slavery and the Christian church that promoted it.

The first serious slave conspiracy in colonial America was in **Gloucester County, Virginia** on September 13, 1663. White indentured servants and enslaved Afrikans plotted to overthrow their masters and escape. Their plot was exposed by an informant and they were all killed, beaten or branded. After this and other cooperative incidents, masters of the enslaved quickly realized they could not allow White indentured servants and enslaved Afrikans to become allies. So every effort was made to keep the two groups separate and in conflict with each other.

A series of laws were passed, restricting the fights of enslaved and free Afrikans. One law, passed in 1664, forbade interracial marriages between Afrikans and English women. This law stayed in the books of some states until the early 1970's.

Palmares and **Bahia** were remote areas of the Americas, Afrikans strongly defended themselves against recapture by the European armies in the 1700's. For more than 90 years in 17th century, Brazil, the Republic of Palmares, Afrikans and Native Americans known as maroons united to seek and maintain freedom. The Afrikans in Bahia soon surrendered under military pressure from the Portuguese, however, the Afrikan Republic of Palmares existed for nearly 110 years until 1695. The Palmares leaders fought off Dutch and Portuguese troops until their deaths. They are said to have jumped off a cliff rather than be captured by the Portuguese.

Marie-Joseph Angelique was an enslaved Afrikan who was owned by a wealthy Montreal merchant, de Francheville. She carried out one of the most dramatic acts of resistance on April 17, 1734. After learning she was going to be sold, Marie-Joseph set fire to her owner's house in order to cover her escape. The fire destroyed 46 buildings in Quebec, Canada. In June of 1734 she was captured, tortured, paraded through the streets, hanged and her body burned.

Little George was a ship overtaken by enslaved Afrikans in 1730. The Afrikans took control of the ship away from the crew and found its way back to Afrika where they escaped.

The **Cato Revolt**, September 9, 1739, led by enslaved Afrikan, called Cato.

François-Dominique Toussaint L'Ouverture (May 20, 1743 - 1803), born enslaved in Haiti, led a revolution on the island of Santo Domingo. In 1804, the Haitian leader created the Independent Republic of Haiti. The Afrikans in Haiti were able to gain their independence and establish a free state because France did not have sufficient military power to stop the revolt. **Haiti became the second nation to gain independence from a European nation in the western hemisphere.**

***Fort Mose**, 1738 - was located just north of St. Augustine, Florida, was the first free Afrikan community in North America. It was a place where Afrikan Americans escaping enslavement from Georgia and South Carolina found safety. Beginning in 1687, these enslaved Afrikans began arriving in North Florida escaping the British who controlled Georgia. The Spanish controlled Florida and allowed Afrikans who escaped enslavement to settle at the fort if they became Catholics.

***Fort Negro** was located at Prospect Bluff on the Apalachicola River, Florida around 1816. Led by **Garçon**, 300 runaway Afrikans and Native Americans lived in and near the fort in relative freedom. White farmers and planters complained that the Fort might control travel on the river. General Andrew Jackson, in his quest to wipe out Native American resistance in Florida, attacked the fort with cannons. One of the cannon balls landed in the ammunition room killing over 200 men, women and children. The surviving 100 were badly wounded. Garçon was captured by federal troops and shot.

Denmark Vesey (1767 - 1822), organized 9,000 Afrikan Americans and planned an unsuccessful revolt of enslaved persons in South Carolina. He won a lottery and purchased his freedom in 1800. He worked as a carpenter in Charleston, South Carolina. He hated enslavement and slave holders, and risked everything he owned, traveled widely, preaching that slavery was evil and that man was not meant to slave for man. He told them even death would be an improvement. Vesey's plan to revolt was exposed on May 20, 1822.

Elizabeth "Mum Bett" Freeman (1742 - December 28, 1829), born to enslaved African parents in Claverack, New York, was an enslaved Afrikan who ran away and petitioned for her freedom because of cruel mistreatment by her owner's wife. "Mum Bett" justified her petition by using her knowledge of the Bill of Rights and the new constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She had listened to the men she served, and argued that if all men were created equal, this must also apply to her. The case, *Brom & Bett v. Ashley*, was argued before a county court. The jury ruled in favor of Bett and Brom, making them the first enslaved African Americans to be freed under the Massachusetts Constitution of 1780. "Mum Bett's" victory abolished enslavement in Massachusetts. Freeman was the great-grandmother of W.E.B. Dubois.

Nat Turner (October 2, 1800 - 1831), lead a rebellion of enslaved Afrikans on August 21 - 22, 1831 in Southampton County, Virginia. Turner's rebellion put an end to the myth that Blacks were either happy being enslaved, that they were too loyal and had no desire to revolt.

American Antislavery Society founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by James Barbardos, Robert Purvis, James McCrummell, James Forten, Sr., John B. Vashon, and others on December 4, 1833.

1834 - Enslavement officially abolished in the British Empire.

Joseph Cinque (Sengbe Pieh) (1811 – 1879), led a revolt on the ship, **Amistad** in July, 1839. The ship was captured off the coast of Connecticut. Cinque and other Afrikans were defended by John Adams, set free by the United States Supreme Court on March 9, 1841, and were allowed to return to Afrika.

Harriet Tubman (1820 - 1913) escaped enslavement in July of 1849. Tubman led hundreds of Afrikans out of enslavement to "freedom" in the North using a system known as the **Underground Railroad**. This "railroad" was a system of hiding places used to assist the runaways in their travels. She also worked as a spy for the Union Army during the War Between the States.

Fort Pillow Massacre was erected originally by the Confederates in 1861, at the First Chickasaw Bluff of the Mississippi River, forty miles north of Memphis, Tennessee. In 1864, Confederate troops commanded by Major General N. Bedford Forrest were accused of perpetrating a massacre of 200 Afrikan troops at the fort. Forrest is said to have been the first leader of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK).

Military

October 23, 1775, the Continental Congress prohibits enlistment of Afrikans in the American army.

Oliver Cromwell served in the Revolutionary War and received an honorable discharge on June 5, 1783, signed by George Washington. Cromwell claims to have been with Washington when he "crossed" the Delaware and in battles of Yorktown, Princeton, and Mammoth.

October 23, 1783, the state of Virginia emancipates (frees) enslaved Afrikans who fought during the Revolutionary War.

Buffalo Soldiers - After the War Between the States, Afrikan American soldiers who wanted to continue in military service were able to join one of four units, the 9th and 10th Cavalries and the 24th and 25th Infantries. These units were generally employed as peace keepers in the western territories. They protected settlers, safeguarded stagecoach and freight transportation, hunted down outlaws, and participated in campaigns against Native Americans.

During the Spanish American War they served both in Cuba and the Philippines. Isaiah Dorman, an Afrikan American scout, was an intermediary between Sioux nations and the US government. He is said to have warned General Armstrong Custer about hostile Native Americans before the Battle of Little Bighorn uprising Afrikan soldiers faced additional problems stemming from racial prejudice. Racial discrimination was evident in the North, and discriminatory practices permeated the US military. Segregated units were formed with black enlisted men and typically commanded by white officers and black noncommissioned officers.

The **Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Colored Infantry** was an Afrikan regiment formed early in 1863. It served as the prototype (example) for Afrikan regiments in the Union army. The division was commanded by Robert Shaw, a white officer. The first major battle in the War Between the States was the infantry's voluntary attack on Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. 281 of its 600 men lost their lives in its heroic attempt to take Fort Wagner. The 54th continued service fighting in Georgia and Florida, most notably in the **Battle of Olustee** near Lake City Florida.

The Afrikan troops, faced greater danger than white troops when captured by the Confederate Army. In 1863 the Confederate Congress threatened to severely punish officers of Afrikan troops and to enslave Afrikan soldiers. As a result, President Lincoln issued General Order 233, threatening retribution on Confederate prisoners of war (POWs) for any mistreatment of Afrikan troops. Afrikan soldiers were initially paid \$10 per month from which \$3 was automatically deducted for clothing, resulting in a net pay of \$7. In contrast, white soldiers received \$13 per month from which no clothing allowance was drawn. In June 1864 Congress granted to the US Colored Troops and made the action retroactive. Afrikan soldiers received the same rations and supplies. In addition, they received comparable medical care.

Henry Ossian Flipper (1856 - 1940) was the first Afrikan American graduate of the West Point Academy. He was admitted on July 1, 1873 and graduated on June 15, 1877.

Sergeant William Harvey Carney was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery on July 18, 1863. He received the nation's highest military award while fighting for the Union cause as a member of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Colored Infantry. Carney was discharged with disability on June 30, 1864. The medal was awarded 36 years later in 1900.

No. 2 Construction Battalion, July 5, 1916, was the first and only Afrikan Unit formed by the Canadian Armed Forces to serve during World War I. The Segregation that existed at this time did not allow Blacks to fight along side white soldiers. It was said that Blacks lacked the necessary skills to make good soldiers.

Sgt. Henry Johnson became the first American to win the French War Cross, the Croix de Guerre during World War I. He was a member of the 369th Infantry Regiment also known as the **Harlem Hellfighters**.

Samuel L. Gravely (June 4, 1922 - October 22, 2004), born in Richmond, Virginia, the first Afrikan American to command a US warship, the USS Falgout, the first Afrikan American to achieve the rank of Vice Admiral, the first Afrikan American to command a U.S. Navy Fleet.

Port Chicago. In 1942, the U. S. Navy built a naval ammunitions base northeast of San Francisco. The base was used for loading and shipping of ammunition to US troops fighting the Japanese during World War II. All of the sailors performing the dangerous job of loading the munitions were Afrikan Americans commanded by white officers. The navy had no guideline for this type of work and provided no training given to the Afrikans workers or their commanding officers.

On July 17, 1944, at 10:15 PM, explosions destroyed ships being loaded. Everyone working on the pier and aboard the ships were killed instantly. 202 of the 320 men killed were Afrikan Americans. This was the biggest home disaster during World War II. A navy investigation cleared all white officers of responsibility in the disaster, but placed blame on the Afrikan loaders saying, "rough handling (of munitions) by individual or individuals" may have caused the explosion. Afterwards, the frightened Afrikans refused to return to the work because of the danger. The Navy imprisoned the men for three days. All but 50 Afrikan American soldiers returned to loading the ships. The 50 who refused to return were court-martialed, convicted of mutiny and imprisoned until the end of the war. After the war, with the help of the NAACP and Thurgood Marshall, the sentences of the sailors was reduced, but have never been overturned.

During World War II, Afrikan Americans stationed on the USS Mason were chosen to escort a naval convoy station in Normandy. Working during what is called, "the storm of the century," the Afrikan sailors repaired and under appalling conditions the men heroically rescued the entire convoy. This action heroic action changed the Navy's racist

color barriers and policies and opened the doors for a new generation of African Americans.

Afrikan American soldiers built part of the **Alaskan Highway**. President Franklin D. Roosevelt order the building of this the road as a means to get supplies to Alaska during World War II. The Afrikan American regiments in Alaska were forced to endure the frequent bigotry and prejudice that was so much a part of those times and their living conditions while building the Alaskan highway were especially harsh. Since they were not permitted to visit the nearby settlements or towns, most of the men were forced to live in tents which gave little or no protection from the freezing Alaskan weather.

Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. (1856 - 1940), the first Afrikan American brigadier general in the regular army appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on October 16, 1940. He was named commander of Godman Field, Kentucky and became the first Afrikan to head an Army Air Force base in the US in 1945.

***Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr.** (1920 - 1978), born and raised in Pensacola, Florida, became the first Afrikan American four star general. He was promoted to that rank and named commander-in-chief of the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) on September 1, 1975.

66th Air Force Flying School was the first US Army flying school for Afrikan cadets was dedicated at Tuskegee, Alabama on July 1, 1941. On May 31, 1943, this first squadron, the 99th, arrived in North Africa. The squadron won their first victory against enemy aircraft in Sicily, then went on to more strikes against the German forces throughout Italy during World War II. Operation Strangle, the last assignment of the team, marked the end of the squadron unit on July 4, 1944 when the 99th was joined into three other Squadrons: the 100th, 301st and the 302 to form the 332nd Fighter Group.

Dorie Miller (1919 - 1943) was the first American hero of World War II. From Waco, Texas, stationed on the USS Arizona, received the Navy Cross for extraordinary courage during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941. Miller, a mess man on the ship, the Arizona, seized an anti-aircraft gun from a dying sailor and shot down four Japanese planes. At this time, Blacks were not allowed to fire weapons. He was awarded the Navy Cross on May 27, 1942 and was killed during the war.

Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. (1912 - 2002) achieved the highest military rank in the Air Force of Lieutenant General on October 27, 1954. He was the first Afrikan American to graduate from West Point Academy for nearly 50 years since Reconstruction. Ensign Jesse L. Brown (1926 - 1950) the first Afrikan American to become a naval aviator and the first Afrikan to be killed in action during the Korean Conflict.

Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Carl M. Brashear, USN (Jan. 19, 1931 - July 26, 2006) was the Navy's first Afrikan/American Deep Sea Diver. He was born in Kentucky, one of nine children of parents who were sharecroppers. Brashear lost part of his left

leg as a result of an accident on March 25, 1966. He was involved in an effort to retrieve a hydrogen bomb that had fallen in the Mediterranean Sea. Brashear earned the elite Navy title of master diver in 1970.

General Colin L. Powell (April 5, 1937) was the first African American to serve as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States Military on August 10, 1989. He was elected to serve as Secretary of State in the cabinet of President George W. Bush in 2001.

Afrikan Americans in World Conflicts

During the American Revolutionary War, Afrikan men and women served in a variety of capacities for the Continental and British armies. Proportionally, more Africans supported

the British because they promised freedom to those who fled rebel slave holders. In 1775, Lord Dunmore issued a proclamation in Virginia with such a promise and formed an Afrikan regiment of British soldiers. For these soldiers, the Revolutionary War was as much a war for liberation as it was for the American colonists rebelling against England.

During the Revolutionary War, the British more than often used Afrikans as workers to perform menial labor such as building roads and serving officers. In places like New York, Afrikan men and women were used as spies for the British and to sabotage rebellious cities. The British created networks to help enslaved men and women to escape to New York City which was occupied by the British. Many of these former enslaved Afrikans, known as the **Black Loyalists** migrated to Nova Scotia and the Caribbean and become prominent leaders in the emerging freed Afrikan communities.

The **Rhode Island Line** was one of the few predominantly Afrikan regiments that fought during the American Revolution was from Rhode Island.

Afrikans played significant roles in the defense of the United States against the British in the War of 1812. Afrikans formed their own battalions and fortified Philadelphia against a threatened British attack. Afrikans participated in naval battles on the Great Lakes and fought in the Battle of New Orleans, where they won high praise from General Andrew Jackson. Many enslaved Afrikans joined the war hoping to be freed at the conclusion of the war, however, few were given freedom.

War Between the States also known as the Civil War began on April 12, 1861 when Confederate troops attack Ft. Sumter, South Carolina. The major cause of the war was the South seceding from the Union, novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe, Uncle Tom's Cabin, and the issue of enslavement.

United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) served with the Union forces during the War Between the States. More than 180,000 Afrikan Americans served in U.S.C.T.

First Kansas (Colored) Volunteer Infantry Regiment. During the War Between the States, Kansas was the first state to officially recruit and train military units comprised of Afrikan soldiers. Between July 1862 and October 1863, the 1st and 2nd Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry Regiments were recruited in eastern Kansas and mustered into the Union Army at Fort Scott. They earned a distinguished record in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian Territory.

Spanish American War. (April 25, 1898 - December 10, 1898). The Spanish presence in the Caribbean, especially on the nearby islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico, had been disturbing Americans for many years. American interest in Cuba goes back to 1848 when

the United States first tried to purchase it. Due to the amount of money invested in Cuba, powerful Americans became more attentive to the events in Cuba. It was predictable, then, that an insurrection by the native Cubans would find support in the United States and present an opportunity for an imperialistic adventure. The sinking of the U.S. Maine, in Havana Harbor, on February 15, 1898, and the resulting loss of 268 American lives on board, gave all the cause needed to begin the war.

At that time, the very small US Army totaled little more than 26,000 men and 2,000 officers. Under the circumstances, the first units ordered to Cuba were four Afrikan American regiments, the "Buffalo soldiers". The War Department viewed the Afrikan soldiers as having an extra advantage in fighting the war in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. The army also judged Afrikan Americans to be immune to the diseases of the tropics, and were capable of more activity in high, humid temperatures. This thinking resulted in a concerted effort to recruit blacks for the formation of more "immune regiments." Afrikan American soldiers welcomed the opportunity to demonstrate their "soldierly qualities" and win respect for their race. Also, many Afrikan Americans were sympathetic with the plight of Cuba and especially with Afrikan Cubans.

*"**Buffalo Soldier**" regiments were first ordered to report to Chickamauga Park, Georgia, and Key West, Florida, in March and April of 1898. The units were then moved to an area near Tampa, Florida. For more than a month that black troops remained in the area. Their blue uniforms provided little protection from the anti-black prejudice of white soldiers and civilians alike that existed in America at this time.

The Afrikan American soldiers of the Tenth Cavalry Regiment, assembled at Fort Assinniboine in Montana waited in Lakeland, Florida prior to their departure for Cuba. These Northern troopers did not adjust to the extreme segregation of the south, experienced difficulties with discrimination from the citizens and the American military. However, they contributed to American success on the battlefield and broke the ground for increased opportunities in the military and raised the level of self confidence that would help them to greater success in civilian life.

Buffalo Soldiers had distinguished themselves in the charge of San Juan, Hill in Cuba. The 25th Negro Infantry took part in the Battle of El Caney, capturing a Spanish fort. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898. As a result Spain lost its control over the remains of its overseas empire -- Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippine islands, Guam, and other islands.

Over 400,000 Afrikan Americans served when the United States entered World War I in 1917. The majority were used to services in supply and laborers.

The 369th Infantry Regiment, a National Guard outfit, also known as the **Harlem Hellfighters** were the first Americans to reach the combat zone in France during World War I. The regiment was in continuous battle for 191 days, longer than any other American unit.

Sgt. Henry Johnson became the first Afrikan American to win the French War Cross, the Croix de Guerre in the World War I incident also known as "The Battle of Henry Johnson" on May 15, 1918. As a member of the *Harlem Hellfighters*, Johnson freed sentry, Needham Roberts, and forced the retreat of German troops. Both men receive the Croix de Guerre, France's highest military award.

World War I inspired the black community in their effort to make America truly democratic by ensuring full citizenship and civil rights for all its people. Afrikan American soldiers, who continued to serve in segregated units, were involved in protests against racial injustices in conflicts both in the US, and throughout the world.

93rd Infantry, May 15, 1942, activated at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. It is the first Afrikan American division formed during World War II. The unit was assigned combat duty in the South Pacific.

Afrikans in Nazi Germany - Sterilization programs for Afrikans had been started by Germany's Nazi geneticist, Doctor Eugene Fischer, who developed racial theories in German Southwest Africa (now Namibia) long before World War I. Fischer concluded that genetic dangers were arising from race-mixing between German colonists and Afrikan women. In 1914, the Herero tribe of German Southwest Afrika revolted against their colonial masters in a quest to keep their land; the rebellion lasted four years, leading to the death of 60,000 Herero tribes people (80% of their population). The survivors were imprisoned in concentration camps or used as human guinea pigs for medical experiments.

Nazi obsession with racial purity and genetics was provoked and intensified in 1918, following Germany's defeat in the World War I. Under the terms of the peace treaty signed at Versailles, Germany was stripped of its Afrikan colonies and forced to submit to the occupation of the Rhineland. Afrikan troops were sent to police the territory. Germans complained bitterly about Afrikan policing and this perhaps contributed to the election of the Nazi party in Germany. Hitler reoccupied the Rhineland in 1936, and retaliated against the Afrikan soldiers' occupation by targeting all Afrikan people living in the Rhineland first. At least 400 mixed-race children were forcibly sterilized in the Rhineland area by the end of 1937, while 400 others disappeared into Hitler's concentration camps.

Hitler had announced plans for more complete eradication of unwanted populations. In a speech in 1932, he had ordered all Africans, Jews, and other non-Aryans to leave Germany or go into concentration camps. The majority of Afrikans in Germany could not leave as they were German citizens with German passports and had no where else to go.

Lari Gilges was a German Afrikan activist who resisted Nazi Germany. He founded the Northwest Rann, a resistance group, and was murdered by the German Secret Service in 1933.

71st Tank Battalion was an Afrikan American unit assigned to the 26th Infantry Division of the XII Corps, in General Patton's 3rd Army. The 71st was in combat for 183 days of continuous combat against the Germans during World War II. These Afrikans defeated the Germans, liberated Jews from concentration camps, burst through enemy lines, and captured more than thirty towns. The Afrikan men received eleven Silver Stars, sixty-nine Bronze Stars, three certificates of merit, and 296 purple hearts. Afrikan Prisoners Of War (POW), during World War II, the Nazis segregated Afrikan prisoners from the rest of the camp population. In violation of the Geneva Convention, Afrikan POWs were denied food and assigned highly dangerous jobs.

***Asa Phillip Randolph** (1889 - 1979), born in Crescent Way, Florida, was a labor leader who threatened to lead 100,000 Afrikan Americans in a march on Washington in 1941 during World War II if President Franklin D. Roosevelt did not change the policy of not hiring Afrikan Americans for the new jobs that were created for defense. In June, 1941, President Roosevelt ordered the defense industry to give fair treatment in hiring Afrikan Americans.

Discrimination is defined as distinction made differently on the basis of prejudice.

Executive Order 8802 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on May 25, 1941. The order forbade racial and religious discrimination in war industries, government training programs, and government industries.

The **Korean Conflict** was a police action during the 1950's. During this time, the United States was immersed in segregation. Despite the unequal and inhumane treatment by the government, Afrikan American men were sent to fight America's wars to protect the Constitution, which did not protect them. As well as being the first armed conflict of the Cold War, and the first limited war for America, the Korean Conflict was the first war to have integrated units. Segregation in the army ended in 1951. Treatment of Afrikan Americans in Korea was far superior to that which they received in the United States.

Gen. Roscoe Robinson Jr. was the first Afrikan American in the Army to obtain a four star rank. His 34 year military career began in 1951 by attending the U.S. Military Academy, graduation and service with the 7th Infantry Division during the Korean War and the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. Robinson earned two Silver Stars, three Legions of Merit medals. He served as U.S. Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for the three years until his retirement in 1985. The general died July 22, 1993.

The **Vietnam Conflict** (1965 -1972) was the most divisive American conflict since the end of the War Between the States a century earlier. On the racial front, it was also America's first fully integrated war. Afrikan Americans and whites, Native Americans, Hispanics and Asian Americans fought side by side. The conflict in Vietnam came as the US Southern civil rights struggle was reaching a climax, and the two conflicts defined a turning point in race relations in the United States. Afrikan-Americans were heavily

involved in Vietnam combat operations, generally in the lower ranks. As the war became longer and appeared less likely to produce a victorious outcome, racial and other tensions in American society, and in the Navy, reached an unprecedented level. During the early 1970's, this situation led to major changes in the Navy's approach to its Afrikan-American personnel.

Milton Olive, Jr. was the first Afrikan American to win the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery during the Vietnam Conflict. He was honored for saving the lives of soldiers in his group by falling on a live grenade while on a mission near Phu Cong.

The **Persian Gulf War**, also known as **Desert Storm** (1991), began on August 2, 1990, when the country of Iraq invaded its oil rich neighbor, the country of Kuwait. Iraq leader, Saddam Hussain, took power in Iraq and is said to have wanted to get their old land from Kuwait. It is also said that Saddam was blaming Kuwait for falling oil prices in Iraq and Saddam wanted the oil. The president of the United States at this time was George W. Bush.

America's **War on Terrorism began** after the September 11, 2001 attack of the World Trade Centers in New York. During this attack, two civilian airplanes, at 20 minute intervals, crashed into the twin towers which were completely demolished. Soon after, the Pentagon, the highest US military installation was attacked. Another plane crashed in Pennsylvania. President George H.W. Bush blamed Ossama Ben Laden for the attacks. Bush immediately order retaliation on the country of Afghanistan and the taliban to try to capture Ben Laden.

U.S. and coalition forces launched missiles and bombs at targets in Baghdad, Iraq. The bombs were aimed at Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other top members of the country's leadership. The official starting date for US bombing of Iraq was March 19, 2003.

Afrikans in the Caribbean

The island of Hispaniola, today the Dominican Republic and Haiti, was the location of the first Spanish settlement in the Americas. Europeans, led by Columbus, wanted to look for wealth, preferably gold, disguised as Christian conversion to as many native people as they could. Conflict arose when Europeans tried to make Christians of the natives and make them work in the gold mines. Forced conversion to Christianity by the Spanish conquistadors, served as justification for the enslavement of the Native people and Afrikans in the Caribbean.

It has been estimated that the Caribbean received about half of the 12 million enslaved United States after 1776) received about 6% or 720,000. The wealth the Europeans received was at the expense of nearly 45 to 55 million reported Afrikans from the continent. More than a third of Afrikans died on the trip to the New World, called the **Middle Passage**.

Puerto Rico was originally called Boriken, which means "land of the brave people." The original inhabitants, the Taino-Arawak, were an agricultural people whose ancestors go back to 4,000 BC. In 1492, during his second voyage, Columbus claimed the island for Spain. The name was later changed to Puerto Rico, which means "rich port."

The use of the natives for work in the gold mines proved unsuccessful because the indigenous people were not suited for labor, escaped in their native lands, and died from cruel treatment and diseases contracted from the Europeans. The Spanish began importing Afrikans to be enslaved for work. Revolts began early in 1514, when remaining native Tainos and Afrikans joined forces against enslavement. By 1848, more than twenty revolts had occurred. **Cimarrones** were Afrikan fugitives from enslavement who planned individual and collective escapes and revolts.

The Puerto Rican people reflect a varied mix of physical and cultural heritage of the different groups that mixed together to create its population: the original inhabitants, Europeans (mostly from Spain) and Afrikans. Throughout 365 years of enslavement in Puerto Rico, there was also a large free population of Puerto Ricans of Afrikan descent.

Francisco Gallego was the first Spanish entrepreneur of Afrikan origin in Puerto Rico.

By the time of the Spanish American War in 1898, Puerto Rico natives, European and Afrikan roots had blended together into the islands political, social, religious, and cultural life.

By the early 17th century, Spain did not have as much control on the Americas. Other European countries, the English, the Dutch, and the French took control of the smaller islands of Jamaica, and Haiti.

Afrikans who worked on American plantations (large farms worked by slave labor) became the backbone of the economic system. Everyone did their jobs that included field preparation, cultivation, and harvesting of crops to be eaten on plantations and traded,

and work in the factories that produced sugar and its byproducts of molasses and rum. The trade of molasses, rum, and the enslaved Africans was called the **triangular trade system**. Enslaved Africans worked in the Caribbean and on the plantations. The Africans in the North helped produce food that was eaten on the plantations. The economic exploits involved in the fishing industry provided cod fish found in New England. The fish became a staple in the West Indian diet.

The **Haitian Revolution** of the late 18th and 19th Centuries resulted in the independence of Haiti and the creation of the Independent Republic of Haiti. The Africans in Haiti were able to gain their independence and establish a free state because France did not have sufficient, able troops to send to Haiti and put down a revolt. Haiti was the second free nation (after the United States) to gain independence from a European nation in the western hemisphere. The Haitians were the first people in modern times to defeat a slave-owning class, and declare independence as a free people.

The end of enslavement in the Caribbean saw the migration of these people to South American islands such as Trinidad and Guiana. Many left because of low wages that created lifestyles only slightly better than enslavement. At the beginning of the 20th century, Africans migrated to Panama to work on the canal under French, then US rule.

Brazil received more enslaved Africans than any other part of the Americas - ten times as many as North America, and more than all of the Caribbean and North America combined. A great majority of these enslaved Africans came from Angola and other parts of west central Africa. Another large segment of the deported African population came from the Bight of Benin (the "Slave Coast"), and included, especially Gbe and Yoruba speakers, and also a sizable Muslim population.

For a long time outsiders viewed Africa with curiosity, astonishment, and greed. Foreign invasions had been prevented for a long time due to Africa's geography, but because of its size, surface features, climate, resources, and strategic importance, it became a prime candidate for conquest by ambitious European empires. Although Africa is physically remote from the power centers of Europe, North America, and Asia, it is surrounded by water and can therefore be reached easily from the other continents. Africa's natural resources were a cause for European colonization. And Europeans needed to establish rules for dealing with one another if they were to avoid constant bloodshed and competition for African resources.

On November 15, 1884 at the request of Portugal, German chancellor Otto von Bismarck called together the major western powers of the world to negotiate questions and end confusion over the control of Africa. Bismarck appreciated the opportunity to expand Germany's power, influence, and control over Africa and wanted to force its rivals to struggle with one another for territory. The meeting became known as the **Berlin Conference** and was Africa's undoing in more ways than one. The colonial powers superimposed their domains on the African continent. The fourteen countries represented at the time included Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden-Norway (unified from

1814-1905), Turkey, and the United States of America. Of these fourteen nations, France, Germany, Great Britain, and Portugal were the major players in the conference, controlling most of colonial Africa at the time. The European countries divided the continent of Afrika among themselves. By the time independence returned to Africa in 1950, the territory had acquired a legacy of political fragmentation that could neither be eliminated nor made to operate satisfactorily.

Afrikan-Canadians in the Americas

The early French Colonists asked for and were given permission to use Afrikans as a source of labor in Canada. In 1688, the French governor of Quebec signed petitions for enslaved Afrikans, stating that the enslaved would benefit from their labor and this would provide an opportunity to Christianize the Afrikans.

Matthew Da Costa (? -1607), born enslaved in Portugal, was the first Afrikan recorded in Nova Scotia as early as 1606. Da Costa was an interpreter, explorer and pioneer who traveled with Samuel Champlain, the "Father of Canada." De Costa spoke and understood languages used by the Natives in the Canadian Maritimes.

Olivier Le Jeune was first Afrikan person known to have lived in Canada. He was brought to Canada enslaved, and received his education from a Jesuit priest. He is the first recorded enslaved Afrikan purchased in New France.

The Afrikans who traveled to Nova Scotia had many difficulties. Many of them could not survive the harsh climate and the cruel treatment by the whites. The Afrikan-Canadians used the church as the center of their lives to provide spiritual, intellectual and moral support.

Enslavement was practiced in the Maritimes of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, Canada before 1760. The first Afrikans to the Maritimes occurred as a result of the Afrikan Loyalists. Afrikan Loyalists were escaped Afrikans who joined the British armies during the American Revolutionary War of 1775 - 1783, fighting against the American Colonies. Afrikan Loyalists and white loyalists along with their enslaved Afrikans, known as "servants for life" traveled to Nova Scotia, Canada between 1782 and 1785. It is estimated that the number of people arriving was approximately 3,440 which included enslaved Afrikans numbering about 1,232, and free Afrikan Loyalists nearly 2,318. Some Afrikan Loyalist were given grants of land in the Township of Preston, Nova Scotia, Canada, but most never received the promised land. Many of the Afrikan Loyalists emigrated to Sierra Leona, Afrika in 1792.

James Singletory was an Afrikan-Canadian who sued his master, Samuel Anderson, for freedom on August 25, 1785. This practice of the enslaved Afrikans suing for freedom was on the grounds that they were illegally held. Samuel Anderson stated that Singletory, his wife and child were recognized as enslaved persons in Florida. The Canadian court ordered Anderson to prove ownership by producing a bill of sale within 12 months or else pay him wages. Anderson was unable to produce this document (perhaps because of having to flee the United States and not thinking about it or not having enough time to get it), and Singletory became a free man.

Nova Scotia is home to Canada's oldest Afrikan population. The society is a combination of people of Afrikan descent from the Afrikan motherland, the United States, and the Caribbean Islands. The first Afrikan group came as a result of the

American Revolution when the British offered freedom to any escaped Afrikan in the Colonies. The British strategy was to destroy the morale and any economic advantage the American Colonies had with enslaved Afrikans. On November 7, 1775, British Governor of Virginia, John Murray, declared that any colonist who did not come to the aid of the crown was declared a traitor. He stated, "I declare all indented servants, Negroes, and others, free that are able and willing to bear arms ...joining the His Majesty's Troops." The enslaved Afrikans fled their masters and went to the British ships anchored near sea islands and inlets of Georgia and South Carolina.

Birchtown, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia, Canada, was the location of Canada's first known race riot in 1784. Approximately 1500 Blacks settled there as part of the Afrikan Loyalist migration. When the promise of free land did not occur, most Afrikans chose to stay in Canada instead of returning to racist conditions in the United States. Upset that Afrikans would work for less wages, white Canadians destroyed buildings and homes of this city. As a result, many Afrikans, led by Thomas Peters, left the area and established the settlement of Freetown, Sierra Leone, Afrika.

Thomas Peters, from South Carolina, escaped enslavement in 1776 and became a sergeant with the Afrikan Pioneers who came to Nova Scotia in 1784. He immediately tried to obtain land in the Digby, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick areas. When his requests for land and provisions were unanswered, he went to London, England to express the disappointments, dissatisfactions and lack of recognition and equality shown to his people by the colonial administration in Canada. The governors of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were ordered to investigate the conditions and also to see what Afrikans would agree to resettle in Freetown, Sierra Leone, Afrika. In January, 1792, 1196 members of the Afrikan population left Nova Scotia for Afrika. This exodus removed almost half the Afrikan population of the Maritimes.

Jamaican Maroons of Trelawn Town were descendants of enslaved Afrikans brought to Jamaica by the Spanish colonists. The name Maroon means a "fugitive enslaved person who takes himself to the woods." They were military people who resisted enslavement and the British government for 140 years by hiding out in the mountains of Jamaica. The Maroons had been recently defeated and expelled from Jamaica by the British government and settled on land that had been vacated by the Afrikan Loyalists in 1796. On June 6, 1896, 550 Jamaican Maroons were deported to Nova Scotia, Canada. These people were put to work building the fortification at the Citadel (now known to some as Maroon Hill), the highest location, over Halifax Harbor. They were closely guarded to ensure that they would not disturb the peace. The cold climate, the isolation from their homeland, and the disruption of their lifestyles caused problems with these settlements. Most of the Maroons left Nova Scotia in August, 1800 and traveled to Sierra Leone, Afrika.

George Wentworth Colley (1803 - 1893), was the son of Sarah Colley, a Maroon mistress, and Governor Sir John Wentworth. Colley, inherited his father's summer house and lands located on what is now called Colley's farm in East Preston, Nova Scotia. Descendants of this union presently own the land and continue the legacy of the Maroon

existence in Nova Scotia.

James Delancey vs. William Wooden, 1801. A case involving an Afrikan-Canadian, "Jack" an escaped Afrikan. Jack escaped enslavement from William Delancey and arrived in Halifax, where he was employed by William Wooden. Delancey demanded to be paid "Jack's" wages because of his enslavement. The Nova Scotia Court declared that "Jack" and all others held as enslaved persons were free in Nova Scotia. In 1803, the case was dismissed and "Jack" retained his freedom.

War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Great Britain over land and sea areas and the British pressing American soldiers into service.

Chesapeake Blacks were accepted as "free" if they reached British Admiral Warren on board his ship and asked for assistance during the War of 1812. They would be sent to any of several of "His Majesty's" (the King's) colonies by the proclamation on April 2, 1814. Upon hearing of this news, hundreds of Afrikans from the Chesapeake Bay States of as well as other areas, seized the opportunity and made their way to British ships and the promise of freedom. The British, knowing that the removal of enslaved persons would reduce the effected area's contribution to the war, emancipated nearly 2000 people. Approximately 3000 Afrikan Refugees came to Nova Scotia as a result of the War of 1812. Others went to Trinidad and, elsewhere. The British government agreed to make a payment to the United States of \$1,204,960 for the emancipated Afrikans. During the booming war economy, the Refugees were able to make a living, however, when the war ended, poor economic conditions caused many problems for the Afrikans who later came to Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia Afrikan Refugees. Over a three year period from 1813 to 1816, 2000 Afrikans escaped persecution in the United States and fled to the Maritimes. Because of the poor economic conditions, lack of food and shelter, the second set of Afrikan Refugees were immediately quarantined on Melville Island in what was formally the British prison used for French prisoners of war in the 1700's. This temporary shelter became known as the "Poor House."

Chesapeake Afrikans arrived in Nova Scotia in 1815 at the end of the War of 1812. When the *Treaty of Ghent* ended the war, 800 additional refugees arrived and lived in tents and unsanitary, rat infested conditions. Sickness and death reduced the numbers and Melville Island, where they were housed, was closed in 1816.

Refugees to Trinidad. Plans for building housing for the refugees was completed before the bad winter came during 1816, but the houses were substandard and didn't keep them warm. Many of the refugees suffered from colds, influenza, and pneumonia, diseases which they did not have in their former warm climates. Combined with poor economic conditions and poor farming areas, many citizens left Nova Scotia for other parts of Canada. These Afrikans, however, did not return to the United States because of the enslaved conditions that still remained there. By 1820, some Blacks were given the opportunity to leave and go to Trinidad. Families from Beechville, Preston, and

Hammonds Plains, and Nova Scotia expressed interest in leaving. On January 6, 1821, eighty-one men and women, and 14 children left for a "new beginning" in Trinidad.

British General Abolition Act, 1833 freed 300,000 enslaved in Great Britain and gave 20 million pounds as compensation to the former owners.

Fugitive Slave Law, 1850, passed by the United States on September 18, increased Afrikan migration to Canada to escape the law. This was a part of the Compromise of 1850 that offered federal officers a fee for captured enslaved Afrikans. This bill stated that owners could enlist police assistance for the return of escaped enslaved Afrikans no matter where they were in the United States. Before this law, if Afrikans escaped to the North, they could remain free.

Richard Preston was a religious leader who formed the Afrikan Baptist Associates of Nova Scotia. He arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1814 in search of his mother. After finding his mother, who recognized him by a facial scar, he joined the church and went to London to prepare to be a minister. Upon his return to Nova Scotia, he started churches throughout the area and finally gathered 12 Afrikan Baptist Churches together to form the Association.

Preston was a former enslaved Afrikan-Canadian who lectured about the cruelties of slavery that he had endured. He was President of the Abolitionists of Nova Scotia and communicated with abolitionists in Boston and other cities.

Dr. Anderson Ruffin Abbott, born and raised in Toronto, was the first Afrikan-Canadian to become a doctor when he graduated from the Toronto School of Medicine in 1857. Dr. Abbott was appointed as a surgeon in the US Army in 1863, served the Union as one of eight Afrikan surgeons, and attained the position of chief medical officer for Camp Baker and Freedman's Hospitals near Washington, D. C.

Education in Nova Scotia before the 1860's was extremely difficult, especially for Afrikan-Canadians. The condition of the educational facility depended on the attitude of the community and the importance placed on the need for education. The Education Acts of 1864 and 1865 by which education was supported by taxation and schools were given grants. Separate Afrikan schools were supported by the government grants until the 1900's. Even though there was great debate on schools separated by sex and race, the Education Act of 1918 continued to allow segregation on schools until 1954 when all references of "race" were removed.

Gold in Canada. The discovery of gold on the Klondike brought prosperity to the Canadian West, however, the same did not occur in the Maritimes. Hundreds became jobless and widespread hardship occurred. Nova Scotians left for other parts of Upper Canada and Boston looking for employment. Many Afrikan populations in Montreal and other cities can trace their ancestry to Nova Scotia.

Dr. William Henry Goler (1846 - 1939), was the first and only Afrikan-Canadian president of a college, Livingston College, Salisbury, North Carolina. He was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia and worked as a brick layer and plasterer, and was valedictorian of the graduating class of 1888 from Lincoln College in Pennsylvania. He earned a degree in theology and pastored the St. Matthews Methodist Episcopal Church in Greensboro, South Carolina.

William Edward Hall, VC (1826 - 1904) was the son of an escaped enslaved Afrikan who came to Nova Scotia during the War of 1812. He joined the Royal Navy in 1862 as a seaman on the HMS Rodney and served in the Crimean War. For courage and devotion to duty, Hall was awarded Canada's most highly prized medal, the Victoria Cross, the first Canadian to be honored with this medal. A branch of the Royal Canadian Legion in Halifax is named in his honor.

Sir James Douglass (August 15, 1803 - August 2, 1877) is considered by many as the founder of Victoria and the "Father of British Columbia." He started in the northern fur trade with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821, and was assigned to build up Fort Victoria when it became clear the lower Columbia River area would be ceded to the United States.

Abolition, War Between the States, Reconstruction

Abolition is defined doing away with (enslavement)

Uncle Tom's Cabin was a book published on March 30, 1852 by Northern abolitionist, Harriet Beecher Stowe. This was a story about the cruelties of enslavement and is said to be a major contributor to the *War Between the States*.

War Between the States (1860-1865) also known as the **Civil War**, was fought between the North and the South. Other names for the North include Yankee, and Union. Other names for the South include Rebel and Confederates. A major cause for the start of war was the firing on Ft. Sumter, South Carolina after the Southern states seceded (left) from the Union. The Southern states renamed itself the **Confederate States of America** and had elected *Jefferson Davis* as its president.

Abraham Lincoln was president of the remaining United States during this war. He issued the **Emancipation Proclamation** to try and force the "rebellious" states rejoin the Union. By the end of the War Between the States, approximately 179,000 Afrikan men served as soldiers in the US Army (10% of the Union Army), and 19,000 served in the Navy. Nearly 30,000 of the 40,000 Afrikan soldiers who died during the war died of infection or disease. Black carpenters, chaplains, cooks, guards, laborers, nurses, scouts, spies, steamboat pilots, surgeons, and teamsters also contributed to the war cause. There were nearly 80 Afrikan commissioned officers. Afrikan women, who could not formally join the Army, but served as nurses, spies, and scouts, as *Harriet Tubman*.

The War Between the States ended when Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia on April 18, 1865.

Washington, D. C. abolished slavery on April 16, 1862. \$993,407 was paid to slave owners for compensation of "lost" property. On July 17, 1862, Congress passed the Second Confiscation and Militia Act, freeing enslaved Afrikans who had masters in the Confederate Army. Two days later, slavery was abolished in the territories of the United States. Volunteers from South Carolina, Tennessee, and Massachusetts filled the first authorized black regiments. Recruitment was slow until Afrikan leaders such as *Frederick Douglass* encouraged Afrikan men to become soldiers with the hope of the fulfillment of eventual full citizenship. Volunteers began to respond, and in May 1863 the Government established the Bureau of Colored Troops to manage the burgeoning numbers of black soldiers.

The **Emancipation Proclamation** was issued by President Abraham Lincoln to take affect January 1, 1863. The proclamation was to free all enslaved persons in states that had seceded (left) from the Union. The rebelling states did not return to the Union and the proclamation took affect. Abraham Lincoln had no power in the Southern states at this time, so no Afrikans were freed. The Border states of Maryland, Kentucky, Delaware, Missouri, and West Virginia had enslaved Afrikans, but did not leave the Union. The enslaved Afrikans in these states were not included in the Proclamation for freedom.

James Forten, Sr. (1766 - 1842), spent over \$300,000 of his personal fortune to finance different crusades for abolitionist activities. Forten invented and perfected a sail designed to make the gliding of ships easier.

Isabella Baumfree, also known as **Sojourner Truth** (1797 - 1883), was enslaved as the property of a Dutch owner in New York and was sold many times. In 1842, Isabella left her job as a domestic and began to preach about the evils of slavery. She staged the first "sit-in" in the office of President Abraham Lincoln to suggest ways of handling freed and unemployed formally enslaved persons.

Dred Scott (1800 - 1858), on April 6, 1846, he and his wife, Harriet, filed suit against their owner that challenged the institution of slavery in court. The US Supreme Court decision on March 6, 1857, declared that Afrikan in America were not citizens and "a Negro has no rights a white man was bound to respect." This decision was given by Supreme Court Justice Roger B. Taney. Former enslaved Afrikan Americans realized that they were not safe in any part of the United States and fled to Canada, Mexico and Haiti.

The **Underground Railroad** was a secret passage for enslaved persons trying to reach freedom in the North.

Harriet Tubman (1826 - 1913) known as *Moses* to her people, was an escaped enslaved person who returned to the South many times and led over 300 persons to freedom in the North. Harriet Tubman was known as a major conductor of the *Underground Railroad*. During the War Between the States, she was honored for her accomplishments in providing help to the Union Army.

Frederick Douglass (1817 - 1895) escaped enslavement in 1818 and became the greatest of all Afrikan abolitionists in America. A self-educated man of exceptional abilities, he was an outstanding speaker, newspaper editor and author. Douglass told of his personal experiences in the cruelties of enslavement. His ideas of peaceful revolution was adopted by Gandhi for the removal of British governing in India. Douglass was the leader of the journalist group. He established the newspaper *North Star* and, later, the magazine *Douglass Monthly*.

The best known slave narrative came from the Frederick Douglass, the foremost Negro in the antislavery movement. His first book was "The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845). " Ten years later, an improved enlarged edition, *My Bondage and My Freedom*, was published. His third autobiography, "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass," was published in 1881 and enlarged in 1892. Douglass fought for civil rights and against lynching and the Ku Klux Klan. No abuse of justice escaped his attention and his wrath.

Trail of Tears - During the 1830's more than 60,000 Native Americans were removed from their homes during the 1830s by U.S. Federal troops. They had lived in the southeastern states of the United State, but were forced Westward to Oklahoma, Kansas,

and Nebraska. This forced movement became known as the "Trail of Tears" because of the deaths of so many of them during this move. Many of these Native American groups had previously embraced and either helped or kept numerous enslaved Afrikans. Afrikans and Native Americans created a mixed cultural blend depending upon the specific tribal group.

Black Oklahoma - Many Native Americans welcomed Afrikans into their villages. The enslaved Afrikan became part of a family group, and many intermarried with Native Americans in Oklahoma where some later became classified as **Black Indians**. Black Oklahoma evolved in many areas as biracial communities within Indian nations.

Robert Morris was an Afrikan American lawyer who became involved in a case in which he tried to end segregation in Boston Public Schools in 1849. Several years later, Boston, Massachusetts desegregated its schools.

Anthony Burns became a free man when citizens of Boston guarded him and refused to let authorities return him to enslavement. They later purchased his freedom.

Edmonia Lewis (1845 - 1890, Albany, New York) was an Afrikan American sculptor who created busts of famous people and fought to end slavery. Ms. Lewis was also a fighter for freedom and was involved in the Underground Railroad. She helped organize the first Afrikan American regiments to fight in the *War Between the States*. She was one of the first Afrikan Americans to be recognized as a great artist.

Mary Ellen Plant was an escaped enslaved person who ran a restaurant and rooming house in San Francisco, California. She became wealthy during the California Gold Rush and used money to help free others who were enslaved. Ms. Plant fought to change a law that denied Afrikan American the right to testify in court and led the fight that won Afrikan American the right to ride on the San Francisco street cars.

Biddy Mason (1818 - 1891) challenged a California court and won freedom for herself and her family in 1856. Born in Georgia, her owner, Robert Smith, took her to San Bernadino, California. Fearing he might lose his "property," Smith then decided to go the slave state of Texas. A local sheriff issued a "writ" to prevent them from leaving a free state and Judge Benjamin Hayer declared Biddy Mason and her three daughters free.

Mary Ann Shadd, (October 9, 1882), born in Wilmington Delaware, was recognized as the first Afrikan American woman newspaper editor in North America. Her paper, *The Provincial Freeman*, published in Ontario Canada, dedicated itself to the abolition of enslavement and other indignities against Afrikan-Canadians. Shadd was also a recruiter for the Union Army during the American War Between the States.

The continuous attacks by Afrikan abolitionists on the eve of the War Between the States focused on enslavement and the conditions of slavery, and they created a great deal of antislavery sentiments.

Susie King Taylor was the first Afrikan Army nurse who served Afrikan troops during the War Between the States, wrote the story of her life, "My Life in Camp," which was the only such account of the war by an Afrikan woman in America. Taylor was born in 1848, enslaved in Georgia until she escaped with her uncle's family to Catherine Island, occupied by Union troops.

Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers fighters were composed of free Blacks of the north who made a famous charge of Ft. Wagner in Charleston, South Carolina Harbor during the War Between the States.

James Trotter was a member of the *54th Massachusetts Regiment* who fought against the government's policy of paying white soldiers more than Afrikan American soldiers. Trotter led his men in a revolt and refused to take the pay. Congress finally gave in and paid all soldiers equal wages on May 15, 1864.

Reconstruction (1865 - 1877) were the years following the end of the *War Between the States* which was to be the rebuilding of the country. During this time amendments to the US Constitution abolished slavery, made newly freed Afrikans citizens, and guaranteed voting rights for Afrikan American men. Afrikan Americans and their rights were protected by Federal troops. This period ended after the *Compromise of 1877* which ended a presidential dispute between Democrat Samuel J. Tilden and Republican Rutherford B. Hayes. To secure the presidency for Rutherford B. Hayes, the following terms were made: (1) federal soldiers would leave their positions in the South; (2) federal laws would bring business back into the South; (3) Democrats would be given political positions in the South; (4) a Democrat was to be appointed to the president's cabinet. The last troops were removed from New Orleans on April 14, 1877 bringing an end to this Reconstruction period.

To the four million former enslaved Afrikans in the South, the Compromise of 1877 was the "Great Betrayal." Republican efforts to assure civil rights for the Afrikan Americans were totally abandoned. The white population of the country was anxious to get on with making money. No serious move to restore the rights of black citizens would surface again until the 1950s.

The **Freedman's Bureau** was set up by the Congress of the United States during *Reconstruction*. The agency's full name was the **Bureau of Refugees, Freeman and Abandoned Lands**. It was a temporary agency, which was to help and assist the four million newly freed Afrikans. The Bureau was supposed to provide protection for former enslaved Afrikans and to help them establish a life with work and a place to live until they could adjust to this new found freedom. Educating the former enslaved Afrikans and poor whites proved to be the most successful part of the Bureau's program. This was the beginning of the public education system in the United States. The failure of the Freedman's Bureau was that it did not consider the economic needs of the newly freed Afrikans.

***Robert Meacham** (1835 - 1902) was a leader in Florida during *Reconstruction*. He helped establish the Afrikan Methodist Episcopal Church in Florida. While in the Florida Legislature he helped establish the state's public education system. In 1868, he was part of the group who wrote the Constitution for Florida. He was superintendent of schools and postmaster in Monticello, postmaster in Punta Gorda, and later moved to Tampa where he ran a shoe shop. He did much to encourage everyone to attend school and get the best education possible.

***Josiah Wells** (1842 - 1905) was born in Virginia and served in the Union Army. He was promoted to sergeant and sent to Jacksonville as an artillery instructor. He settled near Alachua and soon became a school teacher in Archer. In 1867, he was sent to Tallahassee as a delegate to the State Republican Convention. He was elected to the State House of Representative, and was a United States Congressman from 1869 - 1872. In 1873, he became the first Afrikan American to own a newspaper called, the New Era, and also served as mayor of Gainesville.

***Jonathan C. Gibbs** (1827 - 1874) was the son of a Methodist minister from Philadelphia. He was appointed Secretary of State to Governor Harrison Reed from 1869 -1872. He later was appointed state superintendent of Public Education in charge of Florida's schools. Gibbs worked hard to help Afrikan Americans receive education in Florida, and is honored by having **Gibbs High School** in St. Petersburg named after him.

Fisk Jubilee Singers were students from Fisk University who traveled throughout the United States and Europe to raise money to help the university. They began their tours on October 6, 1871.

***Edward Waters College, 1872** - located in Jacksonville, is the oldest independent institution of higher education in Florida and the first established for the education of Afrikan Americans.

***T. Thomas Fortune** (1856 - 1928) was a former enslaved person who became a famous newspaper writer. He was born in Marianna, Florida of Afrikan, Seminole, and Irish heritage. He fought against the ideas of "separate but equal" school systems and encouraged Afrikan Americans to do well in class.

Hiram Rhodes Revels (1822 - 1901) was the first Afrikan American United States Senator. He was an Afrikan Methodist Episcopal (AME) minister from Mississippi and was elected Senator during *Reconstruction*.

Pinckney Benton Stewart (P. B. S.) Pinchback (1831 - 1921) was the first Afrikan American governor in the United States of Louisiana. He was appointed on December 9, 1872 after the impeachment of H. C. Warmoth.

Joseph Rainey (1832 - 1887) was the first Afrikan American to serve in the US House of Representatives who was sworn in on December 12, 1870.

Blanche K. Bruce (1841 - 1898) was the only Afrikan American to serve a full term as US senator during Reconstruction. From Mississippi, he later became registrar of the US Treasury with his signature appearing on all paper money.

When **Reconstruction** officially ended in 1877, many African Americans were forced to return to their previous life on the plantation. They were no longer enslaved, but they were badly treated and received poor wages. Approximately 3/4 of Afrikan Americans living in the South after the Reconstruction were farmers and farm laborers. Many dealt with cash crops; some were owners of farms; and others were tenant farmers. Strict payments for credit due on a harvested crop and share cropping under rules of Southern Laws made it difficult for these African American farm people to survive.

These oppressing conditions enticed many Afrikan Americans to migrate westward, hoping for a better life where social justice and independence could be experienced. Thousand upon thousand African Americans laborers and middle class people sought out greater opportunities in the West.

The U. S. Homestead Act of 1862 made the Westward move more attractive. The Act opened grants of 160 acres of public land on the great plains to those who would farm the land for five years. Large numbers of Afrikan Homesteaders left the states of Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Georgia seeking a new life in the West. Being able to own land was good, but escaping the violence that was so prevalent in the South was supreme happiness for most Afrikan Americans moving westward.

Nicodemus Town Company was an Afrikan American community established on April 18, 1877 in Kansas.

Puerto Rico abolished slavery on March 23, 1873.

Disenfranchisement and the Civil Rights Movement

Civil Rights are the rights belonging to an individual by virtue of citizenship, especially the fundamental freedoms and privileges

Disenfranchisement is to deprive a citizen of his rights of citizenship, especially the right to vote.

Roberts v. Boston - In 1848, five-year-old Sarah Roberts was barred from the local primary school in Massachusetts because she was an African in America. Her father sued the city, and that lawsuit became part of an organized effort by the African-American community to end racially segregated schools. A city ordinance passed in 1845 said any child "unlawfully excluded from the public schools" could recover damages or sue the city. Sarah had been forced to walk past five other schools to reach the "colored" school in Smith Court. The goal of this case was to have the separate schools for "colored" children declared unconstitutional. The case was heard by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court on December 4, 1849. In April of 1850, the Supreme Judicial Court issued

its ruling in *Roberts v. Boston*. Chief Justice Shaw could find no constitutional reason for abolishing black schools. Boston's schools remained segregated. However, after years of protest a law abolishing school segregation was passed by the Massachusetts legislature on April 28, 1855.

The first legislative attempts to assure African Americans an equal political and legal status in the United States were the Civil Rights Acts of 1866, 1870, 1871, and 1875.

The **Civil Rights Act (1866)** was passed by Congress on April 9, 1866 over the veto of President Andrew Johnson. The act declared that all persons born in the United States were now citizens, without regard to race, color, or previous condition. As citizens they could make and enforce contracts, sue and be sued, give evidence in court, and inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real and personal property. Persons who denied these rights to former slaves were guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction faced a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both. The activities of organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan undermined the workings of this act and it failed to guarantee the civil rights of African Americans.

13th Amendment (December 18, 1865) abolished enslavement forever in the United States.

14th Amendment (July 23, 1868) granted citizenship and equal protection under the law to newly freed African men.

15th Amendment (March 30, 1870) ensured voting rights for every American citizen (male).

Compromise of 1877 called for the removal of federal troops from the South after the disputed Presidential election of Rutherford B. Hayes. This gave the South a free hand at handling race relations. De facto (understood) and de jure (laws passed by the legislature) laws were immediately passed to make Afrikan Americans second class citizens.

Plessy vs. Ferguson - The U. S. Supreme Court ruled that the Louisiana laws requiring "separate but equal" were legal and constitutional on May 8, 1896.

Black Codes - laws passed that set up a system of segregation when Afrikan Americans lost the gains made during *Reconstruction*. The races were separated in all facets of life known as "Jim Crow" system.

Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915) was a well known and influential spokesman. He founded Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. On June 24, 1896, Washington becomes the first Afrikan American to receive an honorary master of arts degree from Harvard University. The school emphasized industrial and agricultural education for Afrikan Americans during his time and also became a training center for ministers, teachers, and home makers trying to inspire self improvement. Washington believed economic independence to be the basis for Afrikan survival in the US. He stated his beliefs in a speech that became known as the Atlanta Compromise on September 18, 1895. Because of his implied beliefs that Afrikan Americans should remain separated from whites, he was an opponent of W. E. B. Dubois.

W. E. B. Dubois (1868 - 1965) believed Afrikan Americans should be integrated into American society immediately. He said that the major problem in the U.S. at the beginning of the 20th century was racism. Dubois won a scholarship to and became the first Afrikan American to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He was also one of the founders of the *National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)*.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, also known as **NAACP**, was founded on February 12, 1909 by a group of Afrikan Americans and white. This organization grew out of the *Niagara Movement*.

Nova Scotia Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, also known as **NSAACP**, was formed for Canadians to deal with the racial struggles of Blacks in Nova Scotia. The organization was formed in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1945.

Viola Desmond, an Afrikan-Canadian hairdresser. On November, 1946, Ms. Desmond sat in the white only section at the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow, Canada. She was arrested when she refused to give up her seat. Desmond was found guilty by a lower Canadian court. The case was eventually taken to the Supreme Court of Canada, led by the NSAACP and the guilty verdict was overturned.

lynching - executing without due process of law usually with hanging by a mob.

Ida B. Wells Barnett (July 6, 1862 - 1931), born in Holly Springs, Massachusetts, was a co-founder of the NAACP. She wrote about the many injustices she saw against the Afrikan people. She dedicated her life to crusade against lynching. In her book, *A Red Record*, Ms. Barnett told how widespread lynching had become. An estimated 2000 Afrikan Americans were lynched during the 1890's.

Mary Church Terrell (September 12, 1863 - 1954) was an educator, civil and woman's rights advocate in Washington, D. C. She devoted her life to fighting injustice. Born in 1863, she grew up with many advantages. Her father was the South's first Afrikan American millionaire. Ms. Terrell helped set up the National Association of Colored Women in 1896, and was one of the first members of the NAACP. She also joined in fight to get women the right to vote.

Charles Houston (September 3, 1895 - 1950) was the first Afrikan American elected to the editorial board of the *Harvard Law Review*. He received his law degree and earned his doctoral degree at Harvard. Because Afrikan Americans were not admitted to the all white American Bar Association, Houston helped establish the Washington Bar Association for Afrikan Americans in Washington. He was instrumental in establishing a fully accredited law program at Howard University. Houston preceded Thurgood Marshall as a special counsel to NAACP and gathered important information in the dispute of the "separate but equal" case argued in the US Supreme Court.

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (1908 - 1972) was a leading Afrikan American U. S. Congressman during the 1950's from Harlem, New York. He served as chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, where he produced a number of progressive bills.

Thurgood Marshall (July 2, 1908 - 1993), first Afrikan American appointed to the Supreme Court of the US. He graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and argued many cases before the Supreme Court. Marshall's most famous law victory came in 1954 with the *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* case. The historic decision overturned the "separate but equal" doctrine that had justified segregation since the *Plessy v Ferguson* Supreme Court decision. Marshall was the first Afrikan American appointed to the US Supreme Court by President Lyndon Johnson in 1967, and served for 27 years.

The confederate battle flag was adopted in 1948 as the symbol of Southern Democrats, the so-called "Dixiecrats." It reappeared after the 1955 *Brown v. Board of Topeka* decision that stated "separate, but equal" was unconstitutional. Many consider it to represent a symbol of hatred, racism, and bigotry.

***Harry T. Moore** (1905 - 1951) , a civil rights activist during the 1930's and 1940's, was born in Houston, a small community outside Live Oak in Suwannee County, Florida. He earned a college degree from Bethune Cookman College and taught in several Florida cities, including Titusville, Cocoa, and Mims. Moore, a quiet man, disliked injustice of any kind, and was concerned that white teachers made more money than Afrikan

teachers, that Afrikan American were denied the right to vote (disenfranchised) and that they were often beaten and killed (lynched) by whites and the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1934, Moore organized a branch of the NAACP in Brevard County to help right some of the wrongs committed against Afrikan Americans, and served as president of the state conference and executive secretary. On Christmas night, 1951, Henry T. Moore and his wife, Harriet, were killed when three pounds of dynamite exploded under their bedroom. Although it was never proven, many believed that the KKK were responsible for planting the dynamite.

Civil Rights Congress, also known as CRC, was an activist organization formed in 1946. It supported Afrikan American demands for social justice with boycotts, pickets, and demonstrations to mobilize public opinion. Along with the International Labor Defense, the National Negro Congress, the Civil Rights Congress organizations are historically significant because all three were intensely involved with key issues relating to civil rights and racial equality and at the same time were strongly influenced by the Communist Party.

Trenton Six Case - On August 6, 1948, after a 55-day trial in Mercer County Court in Trenton, New Jersey, six Afrikan American men were found guilty by an all-white jury and sentenced to death for the murder of William Horner, an elderly shopkeeper. Trenton's Afrikan American community was alarmed because none of the men arrested, a young Navy veteran, Collis English, his brother-in-law McKinley Forest, and four others-Ralph Cooper, Horace Wilson, John McKenzie, and James Thorpe, Jr., resembled the witnesses' descriptions and all had alibis. The trial was riddled with errors, large and small, and as it turned out the trial judge had exceeded his authority in imposing the death sentence. In 1948 there was no civil rights movement to speak of and anyone who criticized discrimination was automatically labeled "subversive," "disloyal," or worse. In 1949, after protests from the victims' families, the Civil Rights Congress, the Progressive Party initiating a petition for state investigation, and world-wide attention, the United States Supreme Court reversed the conviction and ordered a new trial.

boycott - to abstain from buying or dealing with as a protest

Mrs. Rosa Parks (1913 - Dec, 2005), born in Tuskegee, Alabama, was the Afrikan American seamstress and activist whose refusal to give up her seat on a white man sparked the *Montgomery, Alabama Bus Boycott*. Mrs. Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955. The boycott lasted until the US Supreme Court outlawed bus segregation on December 13, 1956.

Montgomery, Alabama Bus Boycott, began on December 5, 1955, when Afrikan American citizens refused to ride on the city busses in Montgomery because of discrimination, mistreatment, and "Jim Crow" segregation. After lasting for 13 months, the United States Supreme Court upheld a lower courts ruling that segregation was a violation of the *15th Amendment* of the United States Constitution.

*The **Tallahassee Bus Boycott, 1956** - two FAMU (Florida A & M University) students refused to go to the "colored" section of a city bus and were arrested. This occurred in the capital city of Tallahassee, Florida. The students, Carrie Patterson and Wilhemina Jakes, and other FAMU students protested the "Jim Crow" practice of segregation of the busses. The students were soon joined by Afrikan American ministers and community leaders who wanted to bring an end to segregated seating on the busses in Tallahassee. This boycott was so successful that the bus company lost money and was forced to close for a month. Legal segregation was outlawed on Tallahassee, Florida busses on December 27, 1956. By May, 1958, 2 years after the start of the boycott, the policy for seating on the busses was changed to a first come, first served basis. Civil Rights Act, 1957 was aimed to ensure that all African Americans could exercise their right to vote. It wanted a new division within the federal Justice Department to monitor civil rights abuses and to increase the number of registered black voters. However, any person found guilty of obstructing someone's right to register barely faced the prospect of punishment as a trial by jury in the South meant the accused had to face an all-white jury as only whites could be jury members. It provided for the establishment of the Civil Rights Section of the Justice Department.

Ruby Bridges (Hall) - On November 14, 1960, after federal court ordered the New Orleans school system to desegregate, six-year-old Ruby Nell Bridges attended William Frantz Elementary School. She was the first African-American to attend the elementary school. Bridges was escorted by four federal marshals and entered an empty classroom because angry parents kept their children home and all but one teacher refused to teach a black child.

Civil Rights Act, 1960, re-affirmed and enforced voting rights for all Americans

Civil Rights Act, 1964 - made racial discrimination in public places, such as theaters, restaurants and hotels, illegal. It also required employers to provide equal employment opportunities. Projects involving federal funds could now be cut off if there was evidence of discriminated based on color, race or national origin.

Voting Rights Act also known as the Civil Rights Act, 1964 was another strong act covered voting, employment, public accommodations, and education added gender as category.

24th Amendment (January 23, 1964), eliminated poll tax requirements in federal elections.

Malcolm X Shabazz (El-Jajj Malik El-Shabazz), (1925 - 1965), Civil rights leader was born on May 19, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska. After living as a drug addict, pusher, and criminal on the streets of Harlem, Malcolm X became a convert to the Nation of Islam. He served as the Nation's chief spokesman and recruiter. His method for civil rights was the declaration of the need for America to recognize the "human" rights of the Afrikan Americans. He was assassinated in New York City on February 21, 1965.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929 - 1968), a peaceful warrior of the Civil Rights Movement, was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His social action was based upon the philosophy of Christianity and nonviolence. He used the example of Gandhi for his nonviolent methods. Gandhi used the example of Frederick Douglass' nonviolent methods. An acclaimed speaker at the Poor People's march on Washington, D.C., Dr. King helped form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and served as its first president. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on October 14, 1964. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968. The official day of the Martin Luther King National Holiday was January 16, 1986.

Coretta Scott King (April 27, 1927 - January 30, 2006) was the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. After his death in 1968, she built the King Center Library and Archives in Atlanta, Georgia which houses the largest collection of documents from the Civil Rights era. Mrs. King continued to serve the cause of justice and human rights, and in her later years, devoted much of her energy to AIDS education and curbing gun violence.

Civil Rights Act, 1968, also known as the **Fair Housing Act**, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing.

Ralph David Abernathy (1926 - 1990) was the closest assistant and friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was cofounder of the **Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** and served as its president. In 1968, Abernathy led the Poor People's March on Washington to protest poverty and racial discrimination that exists in the United States.

Fannie Lou Hamer (October 6, 1917 - 1977), born near Ruleville, Mississippi, was a civil rights activist during the 1960's. Hamer helped form the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in 1964, Afrikans formed because there were no Afrikan Americans allowed to vote and be a part of the political process. This Mississippi Freedom Democratic was denied seats at the National Democratic Convention.

Stephen Gill Spottswood was born on July 18, 1897. He was an American religious leader, civil and human rights activist who led the fight for the desegregation of public accommodations in Washington, D. C. He participated in sit-ins, boycotts, and picketing across the US for many years. *Linda Brown* made history when her parents tried to enroll her in an all white elementary school in Topeka, Kansas. This case, the *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, reached the US Supreme Court. On May 17, 1954, the Court unanimously struck down the "separate but equal" rule and ordered immediate desegregation of all public schools "with all deliberate speed." This ruling overturned the *Plessy vs. Ferguson* ruling of 1896.

*St. Augustine, Florida, June 24, 1964, a group of 800 whites attack several hundred Afrikan Americans participating in an integration parade.

Black Panther Party was a group that was a major force in the struggle for the liberation of the Afrikan Americans. The Afrikan Panthers became the most influential revolutionary nationalist organization in the US starting in 1966. The Party was founded

by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale and had chapters in all of the major cities in the U. S.; New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, D. C., New Orleans, Detroit, and Philadelphia. The Party's 10 Point Program and Platform among other things, demanded freedom, justice, and full employment for Blacks, their exemption from military service, a quality education, and descent housing. Declared a threat to the nation's security by FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, a continuous effort to destroy the Afrikan Panther Party was started in the late 1960's. The group leaders were finally killed and/or left the country after a raid by the Police.

*October 29, 1969 - the US Supreme Court orders that districts end segregation in public schools at once. Many counties, including Pinellas County were sued and place under court ordered busing to achieve racial balance in the schools.

Equal Employment Opportunity Act, 1972 - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex/gender, or national origin

Jesse Louis Jackson (October 8, 1941), born in Greenville, South Carolina is a Baptist clergyman and civil rights activist. He was the first Afrikan American to run successfully in the presidential primaries in 1980. Jackson was instrumental in the creation of the Rainbow Coalition and served as president of Operation PUSH.

On September 15, 1963 a bombing occurred at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham Alabama. Four girls, Addie Collins, Denise McNair, Carol Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley were killed in this violent act perpetrated by "whites" in Alabama to protest Afrikan American's quest for civil rights.

Voting Rights Act, 1975 - outlawed the discriminatory voting practices adopted in many southern states after the Civil War, including literacy tests as a prerequisite to voting.

***August, 2000** - The Pinellas County School district was lifted from court ordered busing to achieve racial balance in the county's public schools.

Educators and Scholars

Dr. Carter Godwin. Woodson (December 19, 1875 - 1950), born in New Canton, Virginia, was an editor, educator, author, and the "Father of Negro Life and History." He was an American historian who first opened the long neglected field of Afrikan studies to scholars and also popularized the field in the schools and colleges. In February, 1926, he initiated Negro History Week, to focus attention on Afrikan contributions to civilization. This commemoration later evolved into Black History month in 1976. The month is now known as **Afrikan History Month**.

Arthur Alfonso Schomburg (1874 - 1938), a self described "Afroborinqueño" (Black Puerto Rican) was born in Puerto Rico. His mother was an Afrikan midwife from St. Croix, and his father, a mestizo merchant of German heritage. It is said that his teacher glibly asserted that people of color had no history, no heroes, and no notable accomplishments. Young Schomburg then began a lifelong quest to scientifically disprove the mythology of racism in the Americas, and wrote, "I depart now on a mission of love to recapture my lost heritage." Schomburg fully shared his knowledge of the history of peoples of Afrikan descent with the young scholars and writers of the New Negro movement. One of his primary motivations was to combat racial prejudice by providing proof of the extraordinary contributions of peoples of Afrikan descent to world history. In New York, Schomburg began to collect literary works and visual art by and about people of Afrikan descent. His collection was the beginning of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. It is the largest, most important collection of Afrikan and Afrikan American cultural materials in the world.

Joel Augustus "J.A." Rogers (September 6, 1880 - 1966) was a Pullman porter born in Negril, Jamaica, who did independent study and published numerous books on Afrikan American history. Known as the father of anthro-photojournalism, Rogers wrote books as a foundation for research into the history of blacks around the world with his classic works, "*World's Great Men of Color, Sex and Race*," "*Africa's Gift to America*," "*Nature Knows No Color Line*," and "*One Hundred Amazing Facts About the Negro, with Complete Proof*." When publishing houses refused to publish his works, undeterred, Rogers published them himself.

Dr. James W. C. Pennington (1809 - 1879), authored the first Afrikan American history textbook in America, and was the first man of Afrikan descent to receive a Doctor of Divinity Degree.

Howard University was established in 1867 by members of Congress to educate Blacks who were excluded from other universities because of their race.

Hampton Institute was founded on April 1, 1868 in Hampton, Virginia by General Samuel Chapman Armstrong.

William Alexander Leidesdorff (1819 - 1848) opened California's first public school. He introduced the first steamboat, the first official horse race to California and was the

first Afrikan American millionaire.

Fanny M. Coppin (1836 - 1913) was the first Afrikan American woman in the US to receive a college degree. She was born enslaved whose freedom was purchased by an aunt for \$125, then sent her to school in Rhode Island.

Alaine Locke (September 13, 1886 - 1954) was an Afrikan American educator, writer, historian, and critic. In 1907, he became the first Afrikan American selected as a Rhode Scholar. (The Rhodes Scholar is awarded to only a few academically outstanding students each year.) Locke was one of the leaders of the Harlem Renaissance. He taught at Howard University in Washington, D. C. for 36 years. His birthplace was Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

George Washington Carver (1864 - 1943), the agricultural chemist, was born of enslaved parents on a farm near Diamond Grove, Missouri. He made over 100 products from the sweet potato, almost 100 from the pecan and developed over 300 uses for the peanut. He was the first to use soybeans in paint making. Carver's work was the greatest single benefit to Southern agriculture after the War Between the States. He was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame on April 8, 1990.

Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915) was a tireless worker for Afrikan pride and economic independence, founded Tuskegee Institute in Alabama on July 4, 1881.

***Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU)** was established in 1887 for the purpose of training teachers for schools throughout Florida. FAMU has become one of the most successful universities in the nation in attracting National Achievement Scholars. It is located in Tallahassee, Florida.

***Mary McCleod Bethune** (July 10, 1875 - 1955), born in Mayesville, South Carolina, dedicated her life to helping Afrikan Americans to achieve an education. She began her teaching career in Palatka, while doing missionary work among the poor and those in jail and sold insurance policies on a part-time basis. She had a dream about opening her own school, and in 1904 moved to Daytona Beach. With less than \$2.00, she rented a cottage and opened a school for Negro girls, the Daytona Normal and Industrial School. In 1923, Ms. Bethune joined her school with Cookman Institute for Boys. The combined school became known as a Bethune-Cookman Institute. Ms. Bethune was appointed to important positions by Presidents Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Her relationship with Eleanor Roosevelt, and her membership in the Afrikan Cabinet, placed her in a position to inform the president and others about the conditions of Afrikan Americans, and the racism they had to deal with on a daily basis in the United States. Ms. Bethune established the National Council of Negro Women on December 5, 1935.

***Blanche Armwood** (1890 - 1939) was born in Tampa on January 23, 1890. Her father was Tampa's first Afrikan American police officer. Ms. Armwood taught in local schools, but set up schools of household arts for Afrikan American girls and women

whom she taught to work with their hands and to be thrifty and self sufficient. In 1922, she was appointed Supervisor of Negro Schools for Tampa and Hillsborough County. Under the leadership, Booker T. Washington, Tampa's first accredited high school in Hillsborough County was established. In 1934, Ms. Armwood enrolled in Howard Law School and when she graduated in 1938, became the first Afrikan American woman to graduate from an accredited law school. The Blanche Armwood Comprehensive High School in Tampa is named in her honor.

John Henrik Clarke (January 1, 1915 - 1998) was born in Union Springs, Alabama. He was a Nationalist, and a Pan-Africanist, first and a self-taught historian. Clarke's life's mission has been to deliver a message of renewal, redemption and rededication for young people all over the world. He donated the majority of his personal library to Black institutions in an effort to demonstrate my unlimited trust and respect to the black communities to the Atlanta University Center and to the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City.

Mary Francis Berry (1938) was the first woman to serve as chancellor of a major research university at the University of Colorado.

United Negro College Fund (UNCF) April 24, 1944 was established by Dr. Frederick Douglass Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute. Twenty seven charter colleges and universities joined. The first nationally broadcast telethon raises \$14 million on December 31, 1984.

Physicians, Scientists, Inventors

Medico-Chirurgical Society of Washington, D. C. was the first Afrikan American medical society founded on April 24, 1884.

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams (January 18, 1858 - 1931), performed the first successful heart operation on July 10, 1893. The operation, at Provident Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, was performed on James Cornish a man who had been stabbed in the heart. Williams saw the value of antiseptic surgery and used it when most doctors refused to believe in the new idea. At this time, Afrikan Americans only had segregated wards and hospitals that were neglected and sometimes used in experiments. He organized the first training center for Afrikan American nurses, Provident School of Nursing and started hospitals in many cities for Afrikan Americans throughout America.

Dr. Justina Ford (January 22, 1871) was the first Afrikan American physician in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Ford practiced medicine from 1902 until 1952, specializing in gynecology, obstetrics, and pediatrics. Her former home now houses the Black American West Museum in Denver. She died on October 15, 1952.

***Clara Frye** (1872 - 1937) was an Afrikan American nurse. Originally from New York, her family moved to Montgomery, Alabama when she was 10 years old. When she finished nursing school in Chicago, she moved to Tampa and soon became known as the best "fever" nurse. Upset because there were no hospitals for doctors to treat Afrikan Americans, she rented a building on Lamar Avenue and opened a hospital. In 1930 - 31, the city of Tampa took over Ms. Frye's hospital and changed the name to Municipal Hospital for Negroes. She made very little money from her hospital, but never turned anyone away, even though she was often unable to pay her own bills. Ms. Frye died in poverty in 1937.

William A. Hinton (1883-1959) was a specialist in the study and development of medicines to fight diseases. He is best known for the Hinton-Davies test used to detect the venereal disease, syphilis. In 1936, he wrote a text book on his studies, and became recognized as one of the world's foremost authorities on the diagnosis and treatment of syphilis.

Louis T. Wright (1891-1952), a physician and surgeon who originated a method of operating on fractures about the knee joint, a brace for fractures of the spine, and a vaccination against smallpox, and supervised the first test of a miracle drug (aureomycin) on humans. He also advanced a new theory on the treatment of skull fractures and engaged in early cancer research. In 1919, Wright became the first Afrikan American to be appointed to a New York City Municipal Hospital (Harlem Hospital) where he helped lower the death rate and increase the professional standards.

Percy L. Julian (1899 - 1975) was the first scientist to synthesize phystigmine, a drug used in the treatment of glaucoma in 1935. His invention of aero-foam helped save thousands of lives of servicemen during World War II. Aero-foam, derived from

soybeans, was used to distinguish fires. Julian also developed a way of producing cortisone synthetically in large quantities and at a reasonable cost. Cortisone is used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. He was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame on April 8, 1990.

***Eartha Mary Magdalene White** (1876 - 1974), was called the "angel of mercy" because of her unselfish efforts to improve life for Afrikan Americans in Jacksonville. During the Spanish American War (1898), she helped nurse sick soldiers. White worked as an educator and part-time for the Afro-American Life Insurance Company.

Ernest Everett Just (August 14, 1883 - 1941) was a distinguished biological scientist who formulated new concepts of cell life and metabolism and initiated pioneer investigation of egg fertilization. He received the Spingarn Medal, an award presented to outstanding Afrikan Americans by the NAACP in 1915.

Theodore K. Lawless (1892-1971) was a skin specialist (dermatologist) who became a millionaire from his studies, practice and development of medicines. He also contributed to the better understanding of syphilis, a venereal disease; and leprosy, a disease which wastes away the muscles of the body. Setting up his offices in the heart of Chicago's Black community, he established one of the largest and best known skin clinics in the city.

Dr. Charles R. Drew (June 3, 1904 - 1950) an Afrikan American surgeon who developed a process of changing blood into plasma in 1942. He helped save thousands of lives during World War II. Dr. Drew set up and ran the pioneer blood plasma bank in Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. He researched the nature of human blood and created what has become known as "blood banks," places where blood is kept in a special form (plasma) until needed by injured patients. In 1940, during World War II, the British asked Dr. Drew to establish a blood bank program for their country. After the war, he was appointed the first director of the American Red Cross Blood Bank, supplying plasma to the United States armed forces. He also became recognized as an outstanding surgeon, teacher and public servant, and in 1944 was awarded the Spingarn Medal.

Earl D. Shaw, Ph.D. (1937), born in Mississippi, the first Afrikan American to be hired as a researcher by Bell Laboratories. He is co-inventor of a special laser device used to study how the body functions and chemical reactions in 1978.

Dr. Benjamin S. Carson Sr. was a pioneer in brain surgical techniques, was the first neurosurgeon to successfully separate pair of conjoined (Siamese) twins who were born joined at the head on September 7, 1987. He was appointed director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore in 1984.

Walter Massey (1939 -) was the first Afrikan American to be president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world's largest science organization.

Dr. Jocelyn Elders (August 13, 1933), born in Schall, Arkansas, was the first Afrikan American Surgeon General of Public Health Service of the United States, appointed in

1993 by President Bill Clinton.

George E. Carruthers, Ph.D. (1939) Astrophysicist was the principal scientist responsible for the development of a special camera that made the trip to the moon aboard the Apollo 16 in 1972. Called the "far ultraviolet camera/spectrograph," the 50 pound, gold-plated unit was designed to study the earth's upper atmosphere and other interplanetary conditions. More than 200 frames of pictures were made of eleven selected targets. In 1973, another model of the camera was made for the Skylab 4 to take pictures of a comet speeding toward the sun. Carruthers was interested in science as a child and built his own telescope at the age of ten. From the age of 25, he made significant contributions to the field of electronic imaging and space astronomy.

Patricia Bass was from the Washington, DC area who invented an apparatus to remove cataracts from the eyes of people who were considered hopelessly blind.

Vance H. Marchbanks, Jr. (1905-1973), a Colonel and surgeon in the Air Force who designed a gas mask testing device, and discovered a method of measuring fatigue in pilots who had been involved in aircraft accidents. He also did important research in the control of noise in curious types of airplanes. Before the first US space shot (Project Mercury) he was appointed project head physician, and was responsible for determining the effects of space flight on man, and for collecting medical information on the astronauts before, during and after their flight. In the 1960's as chief of environmental health services with United Aircraft Corporation, he assisted in the designing of space suits and monitoring systems for the Apollo moon shot.

Charles W. Buggs (1906-1991) was a scientist and educator who conducted bacteria research on why some germs do not react to certain medicines. In several articles, he presented his ideas on penicillin and skin grafting, and the value of chemicals in treating bone fractures. In 1944, he contributed some of the results of his research to the world through 12 studies he helped to write. Three years later he wrote an important article on how to use germ killing chemicals (antibiotics) to prevent and cure certain diseases. he also taught college biology, and made studies and suggestions on premedical education for African Americans. Dr. Buggs' research and teaching contributed to a better understanding of health and of the human body.

Michael Croslin, Ph.D. (1933), born in Fredericksted, St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands, invented a computerized blood pressure device in 1960. Other patents include a 5 second body thermometer, a refractometer, which measures sugar levels and the amount of protein in the urine, and an intravenous pump used to measure and dispense dosages of prescription drugs.

Charles H. Turner (1867-1923), was noted for his knowledge of animal behavior of ants and bees. He originated a way of watching and recording the habits of insects and small animals, the way they act toward one another, and the way they reacted to things that happened to them. A type of behavior in insects is now called "Turner's circling" after his detailed description. Through forty-seven research papers which he published between

1892 and 1923, he showed how humans were a lot like animals and insects, and helped the world better understand why man acts the way he does.

Thomas Jennings was the earliest recorded Afrikan American patent holder. He invented a dry-cleaning process in 1821.

Henry Blair, of Maryland, was an Afrikan American who received a patent for a corn harvester on October, 14, 1834.

William A. Leidesdorff launched the first steamboat in San Francisco Bay, 1847.

Robert Rillieux (1806 - 1894), invented machines that improved the method of evaporation and speeded up the evaporation so that sugar could be extracted at a lower cost. Patent dated August 26, 1843. Rillieux developed a way to help New Orleans treat its yellow fever epidemic by draining swamps and destroy the breeding grounds of the disease carrying mosquito. However, the New Orleans Sanitation Department refused to accept the advice of an Afrikan. Disgusted with the discrimination experienced, he returned to Paris in 1854. Years later, the city did use Rillieux's treatment.

Lewis Temple (1800 - 1854), a blacksmith who invented a whaling harpoon known as "Temple's Toggle" and "Temple's Iron" which revolutionized and became the standard harpoon of the whaling industry in the mid -19th century.

Elijah McCoy (May 2, 1844 - 1929) born in Colchester, Ontario, Canada of parents who had escaped enslavement in Kentucky and settled in Canada through the Underground Railroad. He was educated in Edinburgh, Scotland, McCoy is noted for his inventions of lubricators for different kinds of equipment. The railroad industries hired more Afrikans than any other industry and expected them to lay tracks and work in train yards. McCoy landed a job that included oiling the engines of locomotives. Children, some of whom were orphans, were hired to apply the oil by hand for a few pennies a day. This was dangerous work and some were injured and killed. McCoy recognized the need for a safer, more efficient method to lubricate and on July 2, 1872 patented a key device for perfecting the overall lubricating units that could be done while the machine was operating. The term, "the Real McCoy" referred to his lubricating machine. At first, engineers were reluctant to use a method because it was developed by an Afrikan, however, realizing its effectiveness, McCoy's invention was soon used throughout numerous foreign countries including Russia, France, Germany, Austria, and Great Britain. By 1940, he had over 50 patents on lubricating devices and other inventions.

W. A. Lavalette made overall improvements in the printing press, made construction faster, easier to use, and the actual print easier to read. Patented in Washington, D. C. , Sept., 1878.

Lewis Latimer (September 4, 1848 - 1928), an early inventor, helped pioneer the development of electricity by solving the problem of converting electric current into light. In 1881, Latimer created the incandescent electric light bulb with a carbon

filament. And, as an associate of inventor, Thomas Alva Edison, he supervised the installation of electric lights of New York, Philadelphia, Montreal, and London.

Joseph V. Nichols, along with *Lewis Latimer*, simplified the construction of the electric lamp which made it more durable, effective, and less expensive. Patented in New York, Sept., 1881.

Jan F. Matzeliger (1852 - 1859) completely changed the art of making shoes when he invented the first shoe making machine patented on March 20, 1883. Because of this machine, the price of a pair of shoes was reduced by 50%, causing wages to be doubled and working conditions to be improved. Matzeliger was born in Paramaribo, Surinam, a country on the northern coast of South America.

Sarah Goode received a patent for the folding cabinet bed in 1885. Her invention provided the original concept for the hideaway bed.

Lee S. Burridge and **Newman R. Marshman** received a patent for a typewriting machine on April 7, 1885 in New York.

George Crum was the head chef at the Cary Moon's Lake House in Lake Saratoga, New York when he set out to prepare the evening dinner for the guests. He intended to make French fries but sliced the potatoes too thinly. After deep frying them he found them very thin and very crisp. The hungry guest did not seem to mind and George began preparing the potatoes this way and they would soon become known as potato chips.

William B. Purvis invented the fountain pen, patented in Philadelphia, PA, in 1890 and the hand stamp.

T. Elkins - On November 4, 1879, Elkins patented a refrigerated apparatus that utilized metal cooling coils which became very cold and would cool down items which they surrounded. The coils were enclosed within a container and perishable items were placed inside. The coils cooled the container to temperature significantly lower than that inside of a room thereby keeping the perishable items cool and fresh for longer periods of time. Elkins also patented a chamber commode in 1872 and a dining, ironing table and quilting frame combined in 1870.

Philip B. Downing designed the mailbox to help protect the mail and to make it easily accessible to the mailman. Patented October, 1891, in Boston, MA.

Sarah Boone - received a patent for the ironing board in 1892.

H. Faulkner patented the ventilated shoe on April 29, 1890 and thereby helped to provide comfort and healthy feet to the world.

Andrew Jackson Beard (1849 - 1941), invented the automatic railroad car coupler, commonly referred to as the "Jenny" coupler in 1897. Railroad cars coupling is an

automatic process for hooking railroad cars together. J. H. Smith - invented the lawn sprinkler to provide a means of conveniently watering lawns and gardens. Patented May, 1897.

Edward R. Lewis invented the automatic spring gun, patented May, 1897, Springfield, MA.

George F. Grant patented a golf tee on December 12, 1899. This wooden tee raised the golf ball slightly off of the ground, enabling the player greater control with his wooden club and therefore of the direction and speed of the drive.

D. McCree patented the portable fire escape on November 11, 1890.

J. L. Love patented the pencil sharpener which called for a user to turn a crank and rotor off thin slices of wood from the pencil until a point was formed on November 23, 1897.

Granville T. Woods (April 23, 1856 - 1910), born in Columbus, Ohio, called the "Greatest Electrician in the World," he made contributions in the field of electricity and telegraph. Woods is best known for his invention of an automatic air brake in 1902. Woods also invented a telephone transmitter, an electric cutoff switch, a relay instrument, a telephone system, an electro mechanical. brake, a galvanic battery, an electric railway system, a roller coaster, and an automatic air brake. Woods sold inventions to Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Alva Edison, and George Westinghouse and held over 50 patents.

Joseph H. Dickinson invented the player piano, patented June 12, 1912, Crawford, NJ.

Garrett Morgan developed the "breathing device," or gas mask and received a patent in 1914. This device saved countless lives during World War I. In November, 1923, he patented the automatic traffic signal.

R. B. Spikes invented the automatic gear shift for the automobile, patented, Dec. 6, 1932.

Frederick M. Jones (1892 - 1961) developed a self starting gasoline motor and the device that releases change and tickets as those used in movie theaters. Jones also invented the first wall air-conditioning unit and the first refrigerator truck that was patented in Minneapolis, MN, July, 1949. Jones also invented a two cycle gas engine, the internal combustion engine, a starter generator, refrigerator controls and a portable X-ray machine.

Lloyd Augustus Hall (1894 - 1971) was an industrial food chemist who received over 80 patents. He revolutionized the meat-packing industry with his development of curing salts for the process of preserving meats.

Bessie Coleman (1893 - 1926), born in Atlanta, Texas, was the first female Afrikan American aviator. On June 15, 1921, 28 year old Coleman received a pilot's certificate from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale in France. She was the first Afrikan worldwide to become a licensed pilot.

Otis Boykin (1920 - 1982), An electronic scientist and inventor who devised the control unit in artificial heart stimulators, invented a variable resistor device used in many guided missiles, small components such as thick film resistors used in IBM computers, and many other devices including a burglarproof cash register and a chemical air filter. Boykin was soon developing a type of resistor now used in many computers, radios, television sets and other electronically controlled devices. Many products made from his discoveries are manufactured in Paris and throughout Western Europe. One of his products was approved for use in military hardware for the Common Market.

Rufus Stokes (1922 - 1986) was granted a patent on an air purification device which reduced the gases and ashes in smoke to a non dangerous and invisible level. This not only helps people, but also improves the health of plants and animals as well as improving durability of buildings, cars and other things exposed to the air.

Willa Brown (1906 - 1992), was the first Afrikan American to hold a commercial pilot's license. She was a pioneer in creating interests in aviation among Blacks and established the first flight training school for Blacks.

J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr. (1923-) was a mathematician, physicist and engineer who contributed his skills mainly to the study and development of atomic power. At 23, he was supplying the mathematical formulas for the production of special space probing telescopes. By the time Wilkins was 27 he was part-owner of a firm which designed and developed nuclear reactors for creating atomic power.

John B. Christian (1927-) was a materials research engineer for the Air Force who developed and patented a variety of revolutionary lubricants that saved pilots' lives in combat and contributed to the success of the astronaut's mission on the moon. The lubricants, resembling cake frosting more than oil, could withstand temperatures ranging from minus 50 to 600 degrees. In Vietnam, when the helicopters' oil lines were punctured by ground fire, the "soap" lubricants enabled them to return to their base. They were also used in the astronaut's backpack life support systems, without which there could have been

no moon landing, and were used in the four wheel drive of the "moon buggy" making it possible to extend their moon exploration by 36 hours.

Dr. Andrew J. Foster (1925-1987), born in Birmingham, AL, a pioneer in education for deaf individuals, was instrumental in finding twenty-two schools and an equal number of religious programs for deaf children in more than twenty African countries. Foster lost his hearing at age eleven after suffering from spinal meningitis. He attended the Alabama School for the Negro Deaf in Talladega, Alabama, and, in 1954, became the first African American to graduate from Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C. and

obtained a Master's Degree.

Meredith Bourdine (1929-), an engineering scientist, found a way to make high voltage electricity from gas. He and the other engineers in his company believe there are many uses for this discovery in our everyday life. Some of them are: refrigeration for preserving foods, supplying cheap power for heat and light in homes, burning coal more efficiently, making sea water drinkable by taking the salt out of it, making painting and coating processes easier, and reducing the amount of pollutants in smoke. His company has already made an exhaust purifying device for automobiles, devices for measuring air pollution, and generators for power stations.

Emanuel L. Logan, Jr., of Columbia, Maryland was the inventor of numerous everyday items. In 1976, enraged over numerous bank robberies in his neighborhood, Logan designed bullet-resistant Plexiglas and convinced area bankers of its effectiveness. A decade later, after a friend's father vanished from his hospital sick bed, Logan invented "door guard," a time delay control door latch that now serves in schools, theaters, airports, and government buildings, including the Capital.

Benjamin Thornton in 1935, created a device that could be attached to a telephone and could be set to record a voice message from a caller. By utilizing a clock attachment, the machine could also forward the messages as well as keep track of the time they were made. This device was the predecessor of today's answering machine.

Major Robert Lawrence, Jr. was the first Afrikan American to be accepted into the astronaut training program.

Walter S. McAfee was an Afrikan American mathematician and physicist who first calculated the speed of the moon.

Guion S. Bluford, Jr. was a physicist and astronaut who was the first Afrikan American in space on August, 1983. .

Colonel Frederick D. Gregory was the first Afrikan American commander of a space shuttle mission. The Shuttle, Discovery, landed after completing a secret mission on November 28, 1989.

Dr. Mae Jamison (October 17, 1956), born in Decatur, Illinois is a physician and chemical engineer who became the first Afrikan American woman in space, 1992.

Other Inventors and Inventions

Alexander Mills - elevator

W. A. Marvin - lock

G. T. Sampson - cellular phone

Hugh MacDonald - rocket catapult

Augustus Jackson - invented ice cream
J. F. Pickering - invented the blimp
Alice H. Parker - heating furnace
O. Dorsey - door stop, door knob.
J. F. Pickering - air ship (blimp)
Jerry Johnson - sani-phone
Purdy/Sadgwar - folding chair
John A. Johnson - wrench
L. P. Ray - dust pan
Lonnie Johnson - Super Soaker
P. Johnson - eye protector
W. H. Richardson - baby buggy
W. Johnson - egg beater
Walter Sammons -hair pressing comb
Jones & Long - bottle caps
Harry Sampson - clothes dryer
John H. Johnson - clothes dresser
Dewey Sanderson - urinalysis machine
Lester Lee - laser fuels
S. R. Scottron - curtain rod
Maurice W. Lee - pressure cooker
Adolph Shamms - multi-stage rocket
F. W. Leslie - envelope seal
J. Standard - refrigerator
A. L. Lewis - window cleaner
T. W. Stewart - mop
Tom J. Marshall - fire extinguisher
Paul E. Williams - helicopter
J. B. Winters - fire escape ladder
Morris B. Williams - water reduction
Charles Brooks - street sweeper
O. E. Brown - horseshoe
T. A. Carrington - stove
W. D. Davis - riding saddle
Osborn Dorsey, door knob
Robert Fleming, guitar
J. H. Hunter - portable scale
Benjamin Jackson - gas burner
I. R. Johnson - Bicycle frame
Willis Johnson - egg beater
Lyda Newman - hair brush
A. C. Richardson - insect destroyer gun

Economics

The *U. S. Homestead Act of 1862* made Westward movement attractive to newly freed Afrikan by the end of the War Between the States. During this movement, Afrikan men worked as cattle drivers, cooks, miners, railroad workers, and fur traders. Others became farmers. Some went west as Buffalo Soldiers and to the Great Plains as gold prospectors. Afrikan men worked as cattle drivers, cooks, miners, railroad workers, and fur traders. When work was scarce, Afrikan men worked as unskilled laborers, and service workers. Others became western deputy marshals/law men and cowboys.

Afrikan women were also an important part of this Westward movement. They worked all sorts of jobs and were employed as domestics, farm workers, seamstresses, innkeepers, cooks, laundresses, school teachers, general store operators, church and Sunday school teachers, and nurses. Some Afrikan women went Westward also as "mail order brides" and started families as homemakers to men who had previously moved Westward across the Great Plains.

A brief period of economic progress known as Afrikan Reconstruction also occurred after the war. This ten year period began on May 1, 1867, with the registration of Blacks and whites to vote in the South. Afrikans became a major force in politics, dominated two southern state legislatures, and build schools and churches.

The *Compromise of 1877* was developed to settle the election dispute between presidential candidates, Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel Tilden that called for the removal of federal troops from the South. The period of progress was cut short by angry whites who feared Afrikan Americans were about to "take over." Terror, initially chiefly by the Ku Klux Klan in 1867 spread throughout the South driving Afrikan Americans away from voting, away from their homes, and destroying the new gained economic base. This marked the beginning of the period known as *Reconstruction*.

Oklahoma became a premier haven for Afrikan Americans moving Westward from 1865-1920. By 1890, Oklahoma could claim over 137,000 African American residents living in all Afrikan American towns across Oklahoma. By 1920, over fifty towns had been settled by Afrikan Americans seeking to escape the hardships and racial injustice so prevalent while living in the South. These early settlers discovered they could open businesses, govern their own communities, vote, and own homes while living in peace and harmony.

Edwin P. McCabe was an Afrikan American who decided to seize land when President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation "stating that the public lands in the Oklahoma District were opened to settlers at noon on April 22,1889." McCabe purchased 320 acres of land and established the town of Langston, Oklahoma in 1890. The town was named after John Mercer Langston (1829-1897), the first Afrikan Congressman elected from Virginia in 1888.

The first Afrikan bank was the **Afrikan Savings Bank of Washington, D. C.**, which opened on December 17, 1888.

Azor was a ship carrying Afrikan Americans to Liberia on April 21, 1878.

Booker T. Washington believed that Afrikan American success lay in establishing a strong economic base. He explained this in his infamous speech referred to as the **Atlanta Compromise**, delivered in 1895. Washington advocated separatism to accomplish economic independence.

William E. B. Dubois was a strong opponent of Washington who believed that the Afrikan American would achieve success in America by being fully integrated and accepted as equals. He wanted this acceptance immediately.

The **Great Migration**. In 1915, approximately 2 million Afrikan Americans left the economically depressed South and moved to the Northern industrial centers, where they were met by the influx of European immigrants and race riots. In the competition for jobs, racism was used as an advantage to favor whites over Afrikan Americans.

Marcus Garvey (August 17, 1887 - 1940), from Jamaica was an economic revolutionary with his **Afrikan Nationalist Movement**. During the early 1920's, Garvey achieved a tremendous following to establish a foothold in Intercontinental Maritime Commerce. He led the most successful economic movement of Afrikans in American history.

Maggie L. Walker was a progressive and talented Afrikan American woman. Despite many adversities, she achieved success in the world of business and finance as the first woman in the United States to found and serve as president of a bank. Ms. Walker lived and worked in Jackson Ward Community in Richmond, Virginia in the 1930's.

Hair Care Professionals. The most successful and exclusive business owned and operated by Afrikan Americans was that of hair care professionals.

Sarah Breedlove (December 23, 1867 - 1919), born in Delta, Louisiana, also known as **Madame C. J. Walker**, was the first Afrikan American millionaire. She made her fortune by developing a hair care product for Afrikan Americans. Starting as a washer woman in St. Louis, Missouri, Madame Walker used business skills and hard work to train thousands of agents to distribute her hair care and beauty products nationwide. In the early 1900's, she lived regally in New York and contributed to many Afrikan American institutions.

Tulsa, Oklahoma. A thriving Afrikan community called, **Greenwood**, also referred to as the **Negro Wall Street** in 1913. On May 31, 1921, a race riot occurred, led by whites who mobbed and burned Afrikan American - owned businesses and homes. An estimated 300 persons were killed.

The economic base of the Greenwood community was destroyed because of discrimination, racism, hatred, and violence. The final economic demise of the

community came when "urban renewal" brought an Interstate highway system down the heart of the Afrikan American business district in the 1960's.

***Rosewood, Florida** was an economically independent community near Cedar Key. In 1923, an entire town was mobbed and burned by angry whites. Many residents were killed and the rest were run out of town never to return. This was another example of the effects of economic racism, hatred and violence. The Florida legislature provided economic compensation for the Rosewood survivors and their descendants in 1994.

James Augustine Healy was the first Afrikan American Roman Catholic bishop in the United States in 1865.

Nation of Islam is an organization that advocated Afrikan Nationalism during the time of *Malcolm X*, in which Afrikan Americans would become economically independent.

Elijah Poole Mohammed (October 7, 1897 - 1975), born in Sandersville, South Carolina, was founder and leader of the Nation of Islam. In July, 1960, he called for a creation of an Afrikan state in America. He taught Afrikan Americans to feel good about their race and to build their own economic base by becoming financially and socially independent.

Minister Louis Farrakhan (1933) was the controversial leader of the *Nation of Islam*, who developed a plan in which the Afrikan American could achieve economic power by manufacturing and distributing personal items used by Afrikan Americans.

John H. Johnson (June 19, 1918 - 2005), born in Arkansas City, Arkansas, started **Ebony**, a magazine aimed at middle class Afrikan Americans. The publication became the most successful Afrikan American magazine in US history.

Barry Gordy, Jr. (November 28, 1929), born in Detroit, Michigan, started the most successful Afrikan American business and in 1965, Motown Industries, a record company. In 1959, Gordy used a \$700 loan to start the record company.

***Abraham Lincoln Lewis** (), was an Afrikan American entrepreneur who established the *Afro-American Life Insurance Company*, a life insurance company for Afrikan Americans. He was Florida's first Afrikan American millionaire.

***American Beach, Florida**, located on Amelia Island, is an Afrikan American community the founder of the Afro-American Life Insurance Company. Because Afrikan Americans could not go to "white" beaches, this area was a resort on the Atlantic Ocean for Afrikan Americans who traveled from Jacksonville, and other cities. American Beach is the only beach of its type in Florida.

***Mavynee Betsch**, also known as "**The Beach Lady**," (1935- 2005) was the great grand daughter of insurance entrepreneur, A. L. Lewis, was known as the "civic spirit of American Beach." She was dedicated to the preservation of American Beach as an

Afrikan American owned community. Ms. Betsch graduated from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and had a career in Europe.

Bruce J. Lewellyn and **Julius Erving**, former basketball player, become owners of Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling on December 15, 1985, the fourth largest Afrikan American business in the United States.

Politicians

Between 1868 and 1901, known as the *Reconstruction Era*, 22 Afrikan Americans were elected to both houses of Congress. After this time the disenfranchisement (to deprive the privilege to vote) of Afrikan Americans halted and reversed the political process than had begun after the end of the *War Between the States*.

John Willis Menard (1838 - 1893), the first elected to the US Congress from Louisiana, November 3, 1868, denied his seat by the members of congress.

Robert Smalls (April 4, 1839), born enslaved in Beaufort, South Carolina, became a hero in the *War Between the States* when he sailed an armed Confederate ship out of Charleston Harbor and presenting it to the Union Navy. Smalls served three terms as a state congressman.

***Josiah T. Walls** (December 30, 1842 -?), born in Winchester, Virginia, was Florida's first Afrikan American Congressman in 1871.

***Jonathan Gibbs** was a minister and educator, appointed Secretary of State by the Florida governor on November 6, 1868.

Hiram R. Revels was elected the US Senate by the Mississippi legislature. He was elected to fill the unexpired term of Jefferson Davis. The term ended March 3, 1871.

P.B.S. Pinchback was elected president pro-tem of the Louisiana Senate and acting lieutenant governor on December 6, 1871. After the impeachment of J. C. Warmoth, Pinchback was sworn in as governor of Louisiana in 1872. He was also elected to the US Senate.

Dr. Ralph Bunche (August 7, 1904 - 1971) received the Nobel Peace Prize on September 22, 1950 for his work as the mediator in the settlement of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. He was the impressive head of the Afrikan Section of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) at the beginning of World War II. In 1944, Dr. Bunche became the first Afrikan American desk officer at the State Department. He was a scholar, government official and a member of the United Nations Staff. President John F. Kennedy presented Dr. Bunche with the nation's highest civilian award, the Medal of Freedom.

William H. Hastie was the first Afrikan American confirmed as a federal judge of the District Court in the Virgin Islands, 1937.

***Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry** (1923 - 1979), from Miami, was elected to the Florida State Legislature. She taught science in Miami, worked in civil rights, taught law at FAMU Law School, and was a practicing attorney before deciding to run for the state legislature.

Harriet Elizabeth Byrd (April 20, 1926), born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, was a teacher and the first Afrikan American state legislator in Wyoming.

Barbara Jordan (1936 - 1996), born in Houston, Texas, earned a law degree from Boston University and returned home to set up a law practice. Ms. Jordan was the first Afrikan American to serve in the Texas State Senate and was the first from the South to be elected to the US Congress since *Reconstruction*.

Carl Stokes was the first Afrikan American mayor of a largely populated city in the US, Cleveland, Ohio in 1967.

Edward W. Brooke (October 26, 1919), born in Washington, D. C., was the first Afrikan American elected to the US Senate since Reconstruction; elected in 1966 and served for 12 years.

Robert C. Weaver (1907 -) was the first Afrikan American to be appointed to a US Cabinet position under President Lyndon Johnson in 1966. Weaver headed the newly created Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Shirley Chisholm (1924 – January 1, 2005), from New York State, was the first Afrikan American woman elected to the US Congress and the first Afrikan American to officially run for President of the United States.

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (November 28, 1908 - 1972), born in New Haven, Connecticut, was the first Afrikan American minister to be elected to the US Congress in 1944 from New York (Harlem).

***Carrie Pittman Meek** (1926 -) won the right to represent Florida in the US Congress, the first since Josiah T. Walls (during Reconstruction). She was born in Tallahassee and attended FAMU. She decided to run for state congress when the previous congresswoman, Gwendolyn Cherry was killed in 1979. During her term as a state legislature, she introduced bills to aid women and minority business owners, to provide affordable housing, and to improve education. In 1992, Mrs. Meek was elected to the US Congress with 83% of the vote.

***Leander Shaw** (1930) became the First Afrikan American to serve as Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

L. Douglas Wilder was the first Afrikan American elected governor from the State of Virginia in 1989. He was the first Afrikan American governor since Reconstruction.

***Harry Kthaw Singletary, Jr.** (1946) grew up in Tarpon Springs, He was named Secretary for the Florida Department of Corrections in 1991, the first Afrikan American to head this department. As Secretary, Mr. Singletary was in charge of more than 20,000 staff members, 49,000 inmates and 100,000 men, women, and children on probation. He was also in charge of a billion dollar budget.

***Doug Jamerson** (? -2001)- appointed to serve a Florida State Education Commissioner in 1993 when the office was vacated by Betty Castor.

Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice (November 14, 1954 -) Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Dr. Rice became the United States Secretary of State on January 26, 2005. Prior to this, she was the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, commonly referred to as the National Security Advisor, since January, 2001.

U. S. Senator Barack Obama (August 4, 1961 -) was sworn into office as a United States Senator for the state of Illinois on January 4, 2005. He was born in Hawaii to Barack Obama, Sr. and Ann Dunham. Obama graduated from Columbia University in 1983, and moved to Chicago in 1985 to work for a church-based group seeking to improve living conditions in poor neighborhoods plagued with crime and high unemployment. In 1991, Obama graduated from Harvard Law School where he was the first Afrikan American editor of the Harvard Law Review.

Artists and Entertainers

Ira Aldridge (July 24, 1807), born in New York City, is one of America's earliest Afrikan American Shakespearean actors. He achieved fame only after leaving the United States with its racist attitude, and performing arts in Europe. Aldridge's most famous role was that of Shakespeare's Othello.

Charles W. Chesnutt was a writer who emerged fully as a master of the short story as a literary form in 1877. Chesnutt, born in Ohio, became a teacher in North Carolina while still in his middle teens. He studied the traditions and superstitions of the people that he taught and later made this material into one of his best short stories. In August 1887, his short story, "The Goophered Grapevine," appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*. This was the beginning of a series of stories which were later brought together in his first book, *The Conjure Woman* (1899). In 1928, Chesnutt was awarded the Spingarn Medal for his "pioneer work as a literary artist depicting the life and struggle of Americans of Negro descent."

Harlem Renaissance was a period starting in the 1920's when artistic talent flourished especially in Harlem, New York. Many artists, poets, musicians came to the area to produce their products. The stock market collapse of 1929 marked the beginning of the depression and the end of the period known as this renaissance.

***James Weldon Johnson** (June 17, 1871 - 1938), an author, composer, diplomat and civil rights leader. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, he was a school administrator and was admitted to the Florida Bar. In 1900, he and his brother, Rosamond, wrote a song in honor of President Abraham Lincoln's birthday, called, "**Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing.**" This became known as the **Negro National Anthem**. He authored *Autobiography of an Ex-colored Man*. In 1906, he was named US consul to Venezuela and Nicaragua by President Theodore Roosevelt. Johnson also served as executive secretary of the NAACP. He spent his life fighting racism and discrimination

***Lincoln Theodore Monroe Andrew Perry** also known as "**Stepin' Fetchit**" was an actor born in Key West in 1902.

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872 - 1906) was the first Afrikan poet who became well known throughout the US. Born in Dayton, Ohio, Dunbar started writing poems at age 6. Dunbar's folk tales of tradition bound plantation black folk were more acceptable to a large white reading audience with preconceived ideas of "Negro characteristics" than other Afrikan writers during this time. However, in such stories as "The Tragedy at Three Forks," "The Lynching of Jube Benson," and "The Ordeal of Mt. Hope," he showed a deep concern and understanding of the more serious and troublesome aspects of Afrikan American life. His life was tragically short and he died of tuberculosis at age 33.

***Zora Neale Hurston** (1891 - 1960) was born in the Afrikan American community of Eatonville just north of Orlando, Florida. She had a vivid imagination, and as a young girl heard many stories from her friends and relatives that had been passed from

generation to generation. These stories had a great influence on her writings. Ms. Hurston graduated with a degree in anthropology and spent most of her adult life in New York City during a time referred to as the Harlem Renaissance. In her book *Mules and Men* (1935), Zora Neale Hurston presented a collection of folk tales and sketches that showed the close relationship between humor and tragedy in Afrikan American life. She wrote plays, books, and novels, but received very little money from her works. She taught school in St. Augustine, Florida and also worked as a maid, a reporter, and a librarian just to earn a living. Her works have been recently rediscovered and her books are now being widely read. A government building is now dedicated to her in the city of Orlando, Florida.

Langston Hughes (1902 - 1965) a poet, play write, lyricist, and author. He was one of the most famous writers of the Harlem Renaissance. His birthplace was Joplin, Missouri.

Gwendolyn Brooks (June 7, 1917 - 2000) Poet, born in Kansas, wrote poetry about the civil conditions Afrikan Americans. Ms. Brooks was the first Afrikan American to win the Pulitzer Prize for her book of poetry, *Annie Allen* on May 1t, 1950.

Hazel Scott (June 11, 1920 - 1981), originally from Trinidad and Tobago, was a classical and jazz musician who became one of America's premier pianists of her time. This child prodigy first started tickling the ivories at age 3 under the guidance of her mother. She moved with her family to the U.S. in 1924 where she started performing in New York City and receiving scholarships to study classical music at the Juilliard School of Music - all of this by age 8. Topping her talents off with a warm singing voice to complement her glamorous presence, she was a club and radio star by the late 30s and performed with such notables as Count Basie. She gained some attention for her swinging versions of classical themes. Hazel married the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., noted Congressman, preacher and editor in 1945. She became the first black woman to host her own television show in 1950. She refused to perform in segregated theaters and became a vocal critic of both McCarthyism and racial injustice.

Alex Haley (August 11, 1921 - February 10, 1992) wrote the novel, *Roots*, which was about his quest to discover his Afrikan heritage. *Roots*, which was originally broadcast on national television in January, 1977, was watched by over 130 million viewers.

Lorraine Hansberry (May 19, 1930 - 1965) born in Chicago, her play, "A Raisin' in the Sun," was the first play by an Afrikan American to be produced on Broadway in New York City. At 29, she was the youngest woman to be awarded the New York Drama Critic's Circle Award in 1959. Ms. Hansberry died from cancer in 1965.

Toni Morrison (1931) was born in Lorain, Ohio and attended Howard University in Washington, D. C. She received the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1987 for her novel, *Beloved*, a story which centers on a mother trying to save her children from enslavement. This novel was made into a movie that starred Oprah Winfrey.

Nina Simone (1933 - 2003) was born in Tyrone, North Carolina. She sang in nightclubs and recorded blues, jazz and soul compositions on the Phillips and RCA labels. Simone is best known for her songs about racial justice recorded during the height of the civil rights movement, Simone's "To Be Young, Gifted and Black."

Nikki Giovanni (June 7, 1943) earned a BA degree in history and studied at Columbia School of Fine Arts. She made her name as a poet in the late 1960's and 1970's during the Black Power Movement. Her poetry expressed the feelings of Afrikan people in America.

Alice Walker (1944), born in Eatonton, Georgia, attended Spelman College in Atlanta. She wrote essays and books and taught Afrikan Studies at Yale University and the University of California at Berkeley. Walker was always politically active and was involved in the Civil Rights Movement as a student. Her most famous novel, *The Color Purple*, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1983. This novel was later made into a film by Stephen Speilberg and starred Whoopie Goldberg, Danny Glover, and Oprah Winfrey.

Terry McMillan (1951) was born In Port Huron, Michigan. She teaches creative writing at the University of Arizona and is the noted author of fiction writings that include *Waiting to Exhale* and **How Stella Got Her Grove Back**.

Serpio Moorhead was the first known enslaved Afrikan to receive formal training as an artist.

Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859 - 1937) was a master painter of European Renaissance religious pictures. He graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1880 and won distinguished art prizes in America and Europe.

Selma Burke (1900 - 1995), was commissioned to sculpt a profile of President Franklin D. Roosevelt that was used as the model of the portrait for the Roosevelt dime.

***Augusta Savage** (1900 - 1962), an outstanding sculptor, born in Green Dove Springs, Florida on February 29. She won competitions and scholarships throughout the US, Rome, and Paris. She received praise for many of her sculptures that included the head of Dr. W.E.B. Dubois and Gamin. Ms. Savage later opened an art school, helped organize the Harlem Artist Guild, and directed the Harlem Community Art Center.

Scott Joplin (1868 - 1917) one of the most important Ragtime musicians. Ragtime is a type of music that combines Afrikan rhythms with marching band music. It also drew from dances and other popular songs. In 1974, the song, "The Entertainer" became popular as the featured tune in the movie, "The Sting." The song was written by Joplin in 1902 and had taken 71 years to become widely known. In about 1894, Joplin realized that the syncopated notes of "ragtime" music could be written down and used for a "basis of serious musical development. Mr. Joplin 's tremendous success of the 1899 publication of "Maple Leaf Rag" gave him security and earned him the title of "King of the Ragtime Composers."

Bill "Bojangles" Robinson (May 25, 1878 - November 25, 1949), born in Richmond, Virginia, was a legendary tap dancer.

Sissieretta Jones (1869 - 1933), born Portsmouth, Virginia as Matilda Joyner (Jones), was called the most popular Prima Donna of the world in 1893, was also called "the first Negro prima donna." She toured with the Tennessee Jubilee Singer, performed at Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden and at the White House in 1892. Jones was the first Negro classical singer.

Bessie Smith (1884 - 1937) was a popular blues singer. She was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee and got her start as a singer while touring with Ma Rainey, another Afrikan American singer. Some critics regard Bessie Smith as the greatest blues singer of all times. She was killed in an automobile accident in 1937.

Henrietta Vinton Davis was a performer of Shakespeare at Ford's Opera House in Washington, D. C. in 1864. Her career lasted 44 years.

Paul Leroy Bustill Robeson (April 9, 1898 - 1976), born in Princeton, New Jersey, Robeson was a singer, actor, scholar, author, law school graduate, civil rights advocate, humanitarian, and athlete. He graduated from Rutgers University with honors. Robeson learned to speak more than 20 languages and was known around the world as a great singer and actor. In 1943, Robeson starred in *Othello*, a play written by William Shakespeare that showcased Afrikan male strength. This play ran for 296 performances on Broadway. He stated that an artist must use his or her art to change society.

Marion Anderson (1902 - 1993) is regarded as the world's greatest contralto. She was the first Afrikan American to sing in the Metropolitan Opera Company. In 1939, Ms. Anderson was denied the use of Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C. by white owners, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, arranged for her to sing on the steps of the Lincoln Monument on a cold Easter morning in the audience of 75,000 people. This was another example of the discrimination practiced in the United States.

Leontyne Price (1927) was one of the world's leading lyric sopranos. She performed with numerous opera companies and is best known for her role in *Aida*, in which she plays an Ethiopian princess. Ms. Price has won a Grammy and three Emmy Awards..

Blues is music created by Afrikan Americans to express sadness, heartache, and hard times.

W. C. Handy (1873 - 1958) was known as the "Father of the Blues." His first published blues composition, *Memphis Blues*, went on sale on September 27, 1912.

Jazz is music created by Afrikan Americans that originated from songs and spirituals of enslaved Afrikan Americans in the South.

Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong (1900 - 1971) was a famous jazz trumpet player. In 1925, he recorded the first of Hot Five and Hot Seven recordings that influenced the direction of jazz.

Hattie McDaniel (June 10, 1895 - 1952), born in Wichita, Kansas, began her career in minstrel shows, was a blues singer and radio performer. She was the first Afrikan American to receive an Oscar for her performance in the movie, "*Gone With the Wind*."

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (April 29, 1899 - 1974), born in Washington, D. C., was a great conductor and composer. His special style of music made him famous around the world. Mr. Ellington debuted at Harlem's Cotton Club in 1927, received many awards, wrote over 1,000 songs and composed music for Broadway shows.

William "Count" Basie (August 21, 1904 - April 26, 1984), born in Redbank, New Jersey, an influential jazz musician. His band played a command performance for the Queen of England in 1957. The Count earned three Grammy awards and Kennedy Center Honors in 1981.

Cabell "Cab" Calloway III (December 25, 1907 - November 18, 1994), born in Rochester, New York, was a jazz bandleader and singer who popularized scat singing with the song "Minnie the Moocher." This song became the first million selling jazz record.

Ethel Waters (October 31, 1900 - 1977), born in Chester, Pennsylvania, is remembered as one of America's warmest dramatic actresses. During the Depression Era, she started performing in honky-tonk (bars) as "Sweet Mama Stringbean." Ms. Waters became the first woman to record W. C. Handy's St. Louis Blues and gained acclaim from her rendition of "Stormy Weather." From the late 1920's through the 1930's, she performed in numerous Broadway productions and went on to appear in several movies that included "Cabin in the Sky," "Pinky," and "Member of the Wedding." The Ethel Waters Show, a variety show, appeared on NBC on June 14, 1939 and was the first appearance of an Afrikan American on television.

Mary Lou Williams (1910 - 1981), known as the "first lady of jazz keyboard."

Eleanora Fagan also known as **Billie Holiday** (April 7, 1915 - July 17, 1959) was one of the most popular singers of her day. She had an individual singing style that combined blues and jazz to produce an unforgettable sound. Ms. Holiday was born Eleanor Fagan in Baltimore, Maryland. In the 1930's she was hired by famous bandleaders, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, and Lesser Young. She was called "Lady Day" because of her dignified manner. Her performance of the song, "Strange Fruit," brought attention to the brutality of lynching that occurred in the United States.

Katherine Dunham (June 22, 1909 -), born in Joliet, Illinois the first dancer to bring the world of Afrikan American dance to the American public. She traveled and studied

dances from all parts of the Afrikan world. Ms. Dunham absorbed the styles of Afrika and the Caribbean, and the US and wove a new kind of dance. She also created the first professional Afrikan American dance company.

Arthur Miller was one of the most popular dancers of the New York Ballet. Mr. Miller studied at the School of American Ballet and was the first Afrikan American to join the New York City Ballet.

Josephine Baker (June 6, 1906 - 1975) was an Afrikan American entertainer who gained international fame while performing in Europe. She was a member of the French Resistance and was honored for her work during World War II by the French government. Born in East St. Louis, Missouri, Ms. Baker denounced her US citizenship because of its continued prejudice and inhumane treatment of Afrikan people in the United States.

***Julian Edwin "Cannonball" Adderley** (September 15, 1928 - 1975), born in Tampa, Florida, was a jazz saxophonist who led his own band with his brother.

WGPR-TV was the first television station owned by Afrikan Americans. The station was granted a permit to operate on June 1, 1973.

Gordon Parks (November 39, 1912 - 2005) was a multi talented author, photographer, and filmmaker. He has written over a dozen books and produced and directed the movies, *The Learning Tree*, and *Shaft*, and was a photographer for *Life Magazine*.

Lena Horne (June 30, 1917) is an actress, singer, and dancer. She made her debut at the age of 16 dancing in New York City's Cotton Club. She gained fame and notoriety as a singer throughout Europe and the US. She appeared in movies, *"Cabin in the Sky"*, and *"Stormy Weather."* Horne was a strong civil rights advocate and refused to perform in clubs where Afrikan Americans were not permitted.

Carmen McRae (April 8, 1922 - November 10, 1994) was a professional, renowned jazz vocalist for more than 40 years. She was born in New York City.

Sammy Davis, Jr. (December 8, 1925 - May 16, 1990) was born in New York City and performed vaudeville from the age of three. He debuted on Broadway, had success in film and theater. Davis made over 40 albums and received numerous gold records.

"Little Richard" Penniman (December 25, 1932), born in Macon, Georgia, is the flamboyant singer who was a great influence of Rhythm and Blues. Because Little Richard was the first to introduce rock and roll, he refers to himself as the "King of Rock and Roll."

Tina Turner (November 25, 1941), born Annie Mae Bullock in Nutbush, Tennessee achieved fame as a singer and winner of five Grammy Awards.

Sidney Poitier (February 20, 1927) was the first Afrikan American actor to receive an Academy Award for his performance in the movie, "Lilies of the Field" in 1964. Mr. Poitier was born in the United States of Jamaican parents and was raised in Jamaica.

Nathaniel Adams Coles also known as **Nat "King" Cole** (March 17, 1919 - 1965) was the first Afrikan American with his own network television show, the "Nat King Cole Show" which ran for 64 weeks in the 1956-7 on NBC television network.

Thomas A. Dorsey (July 1, 1899 - January 3, 1993), born in Villa Rica, Georgia, is referred to as the "*father of gospel music.*"

James Cleveland (December 5, 1931 - February 9, 1991), born in Chicago, Illinois, was a gospel music singer who was directed by Thomas Dorsey. He sang with Mahalia Jackson, the Caravans, and other groups before forming his own group, the Gospel Chimes, in 1959. His recording of "Peace Be Still" is one of his best known pieces.

B. B. King (September 16, 1925) is a blues artist born in Indianola, Mississippi. King played his guitar nicknamed, Lucile, and has had over 50 hit blues albums and won a 1970 Grammy award for his song, *The Thrill is Gone*.

James Brown (June 17, 1928 - December 25, 2006), born in Macon, Georgia, is an influential Rhythm and Blues singer and performer. His hits include "I Got You," "Cold Sweat," and "It's a Man's World."

***Ray Charles Robinson** (September 23, 1930 - June 10, 2004) was one of Florida's most successful and well known entertainers. He grew up in Greenville, Florida in a very poor family. He lost his sight at an early age.

Miriam Zensi Makeba (March 4, 1932), born in Prospect Township, South Afrika, was a singer and critic of the apartheid system that existed in South Afrika.

Billie Dee Williams (April 6, 1937), born in Harlem, New York, is a dramatic leading Afrikan American man of film and television.

Bill Cosby (July 12, 1938) was the producer and starred in the most popular dramatic series in television history, the "Bill Cosby Show," which debuted on September 20, 1984. He was the first Afrikan American to star in a dramatic television series, "I Spy," in 1967. Cosby and his wife, Camile, donated \$20 million to Spelman College in 1998. He has always been a powerful advocate of higher education for Afrikan Americans.

Aretha Franklin (1947), is an Afrikan American singer and winner of numerous musical awards also known as the "Queen of Soul."

Bryant Gumbel (September 29, 1948), born in New Orleans, Louisiana was the first Afrikan American co-anchor of a national network morning/news show, NBC's Today Show.

Stevland Judkins Morris "Stevie Wonder" (May 13, 1950) the blind musician, born in Saginaw, Michigan is one of the most popular performers who began his career with Motown at the age of 12.

James Marshall "Jimi" Hendrix (November 27, 1942 - September 18, 1970), born Johnny Allen Hendrix in Seattle, Washington, was a blues and rock guitarist and songwriter during the "psychedelic" era of the 60's music movement.

Luther Vandross (April 20, 1951- July 1, 2005) was a three time Grammy award winner who was born in New York City. He became Afrikan American solo artist in 1981 and is talented in both rhythm and blues.

Michael Jackson (August 29, 1958), born in Gary, Indiana is known over the world for his musical tours and rock videos. His songs made the album, "Thriller the best selling album in 1983. Mr. Jackson was one of the first performers to popularize musical videos.

Peter Tosh (October 19, 1936 - September 11, 1987), born in Westmoreland, Jamaica is the father of *reggae* music.

Bob Marley (1945 - 1981) was a Jamaican guitarist, singer and songwriter who introduced reggae music to the world. Reggae is a combination traditional Afrikan rhythm and blues and indigenous Jamaican folk music.

Danny Glover (July 22, 1947) born in San Francisco, California, is an actor. He became interested at the age of 28 and began taking classes with the Black Actors Workshop. He had a recurring role in the television series "Hill Street Blues," Glover became a star in movies such as "Gone Fishin'," "The Rainmaker," and "The Prince of Egypt." He is probably best known as the veteran cop, and devoted family man in the four "Lethal Weapon" movies in the 1980's and 1990's.

Eddie Murphy (April 3, 1961 -), a popular movie star, producer, and director. His role in the movie "Beverly Hills Cop," and his appearances on Saturday Night Live made him famous. Among other movies he has also appeared in "Shrek," "The Nutty Professor," and "Dr. Doolittle." Most recently, Murphy has been nominated for an Academy Award (Oscar) for his performance as James "Thunder" Early in the 2006 movie *Dreamgirls*.

Whitney Houston (August 9, 1963) A successful singer and actress. She won a Grammy in 1985 and starred with Kevin Costner in the movie, "The Bodyguard."

Denzel Washington (December 28, 1954), born in Mount Vernon, New York, is a dramatic actor who won the Berlin International Award for his portrayal of Malcolm X Shabazz. Washington played a doctor on television's St. Elsewhere for six seasons, starred in the movie, "A Soldier's Story," and won an Oscar for his performance in "Glory."

In 2002, Washington became the second actor of color (after Sidney Poitier) to win an Academy Award (Oscar) for Best Actor for his role a corrupt, but charismatic LAPD police officer in the movie, "Training Day." Washington is known as being one of the world's intense actors, playing roles in movies that always leave an impression on the audience. Denzel also has a wide appeal from both women, who admire his looks and charm, and by men, for his cool personality, and intensity.

Halle Maria Berry (August 16, 1966) was born in Cleveland, Ohio (in the same hospital as Afrikan American actress Dorothy Dandridge). Halle has also become one of Hollywood's most popular actresses, playing in movies such as "Jungle Fever," "The Flintstones," "Losing Isaiah," "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge," and the "X-Men" movies. But it was her role as a distraught mother who loses both her husband and child in the movie, *Monsters Ball* that resulted in Berry become the second Afrikan American woman (after Hattie McDaniel) to win an Oscar, and the first to win it in the category of Best Actress in 2002.

Oprah Winfrey (1954) hosts one of the most popular and successful television talk shows. Since 1984, Ms. Winfrey has been the star of her own daytime talk show, which continues to be one of the most watched shows in the US. In 1987, she won an Emmy Award for Best Talk Show Host.

Arsenio Hall (1958), was the first Afrikan American man to host a television network talk show in 1989.

Shelton Jackson "Spike" Lee (1957), is an Afrikan American movie producer, director and actor. His production of the epic, "Malcolm X," is the story of the autobiography of slain Muslim, Malcolm X Shabazz. Cuba Gooding, Jr. was born on January 2, 1968 in the Bronx but grew up in Los Angeles, California. He starred in films such as "Boyz N the Hood," "A Few Good Men," "Gladiator," "Judgment Night," "Outbreak," "As Good As It Gets," "What Dreams May Come," "Chill Factor," and "Men of Honor." In 1997, Gooding won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his role in "Jerry Maguire."

Sports

Baseball

Andrew "Fobe" Foster, born in Texas in 1879, was the "father of Black Baseball."

Moses Fleetwood Walker (1857 - 1924), was the first Afrikan college varsity baseball player and a member of the first Oberlin College varsity baseball team known professional player. He was a barehanded catcher on the Toledo team when the team entered the American Baseball Association in 1884.

1885 was the year that the first all-black professional team, the Cuban Giants, was founded in Babylon, New York.

(Leroy Robert) "Satchel" Page (1900 - 1982), was the first Afrikan American pitcher in the American League and the first Afrikan to pitch in a World Series Game. He was the first Afrikan to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame from the Afrikan Baseball League in 1971.

(Jack Roosevelt) Jackie Robinson (January 31, 1919 - October 24, 1972) was the first Afrikan American to play in a major league baseball team during the 20th century. He joined the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 10, 1947, and was one of the first Blacks to play in a world series. Robinson was the first Afrikan to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame July 3, 1962.

Henry (Louis) "Hank" Aaron (1934), broke Babe Ruth's major league record by hitting his 715th home run in a game at Atlanta Stadium on April 8, 1974 . In his 23 year career, he had a total of 755 home runs.

Willie Mays (1931), was a baseball player who had 600 home runs. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1979.

Ferguson "Fergie" Jenkins (December 13, 1943) was the first Afrikan Canadian elected the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991. He was the first pitcher to record 3000 strikeouts with less than 1000 walks. He was born in Chatham, Ontario.

Boxing

Tom Molineaux (March 23, 1784) was the first successful Afrikan boxer. Born enslaved in Georgetown, Washington, D. C., he went to England after winning money to purchase his freedom.

John Arthur Johnson or Jack Johnson (March 31, 1871 - June 10, 1946), born in Galveston, Texas, was the first Afrikan American Heavyweight Champion Boxer. He won the title on December 26, 1908, defeating Tommy Burns in the 14th round in Sydney, Australia.

George (Little Chocolate) Dixon (1870 - 1909) was born in Africville (Halifax), Nova Scotia, Canada on July 29, 1870. He was a talented boxer whose career began at age 16. On June 27, 1890, Dixon defeated Englishman Nunc Wallace to capture the World Bantamweight title and became the world's first Afrikan World Boxing Champion. He participated on more than 800 fights and one fought in a fight that lasted for 80 rounds.

Joe Louis Joseph Louis Barrow (May 12, 1914 - April 12, 1981), born in Lexington, Kentucky, was known as the "Brown Bomber" was regarded as the greatest heavyweight champion boxer of all time. He won the title June 22, 1938 when he defeated Max Baer and held it until his retirement in 1949, the longest of any other champion. He became the first Afrikan American inducted into the Boxing's Hall of Fame in 1954.

Muhammad Ali (formally known as Cassius Clay - January 17, 1942), is called "The Greatest" and won the heavyweight championship four separate times. In 1967, Ali refused to be inducted into the US Army and was stripped of his boxing title by the World Boxing Association and the New York Athletic Association.

Football

Charles W. Follis (April 5, 1910), born in Cloverdale, Virginia, was the first Afrikan American to play professional football.

William Henry Lewis (1868 - 1949) was the first recorded Afrikan American football player on a white team.

Fritz Pollard (January 27, 1894) was the first black All-American in collegiate football history and the first black coach in the NFL. He was the first Afrikan-American to play in the Rose bowl, and the second to be named an All-American in college football. Pollard lead Akron to a championship in 1920, was named head coach in 1921 and continued to play for the Pros as well. The APFA was renamed the NFL in 1922, making Pollard the first Afrikan-American coach in NFL history.

***Alonzo Smith. "Jake" Gaither** (1903) was the famed Afrikan football coach of the Florida A & M University (FAMU). His team won the National Collegiate Football Championships from 1950 to 1961. Gaither was the first coach to win more than 200 games and entered the Football Hall of Fame in 1975.

Jim Brown was born Feb. 17, 1936 on St. Simons Island off the southern coast of Georgia. He played nine seasons for the Cleveland Browns -- and led the NFL in rushing eight times. He averaged 104 yards a game, a record 5.2 yards a pop. He ran for at least 100 yards in 58 of his 118 regular-season games (he never missed a game). He was a Football Hall of Fame Honoree.

O. J. Simpson (July 9, 1947) was named Heisman Trophy Winner for 1968. He was a running back for the University of Southern California with a total of 3,187 yard in 18 games, and scored 33 touchdowns in two seasons. Simpson played professional football for the Buffalo Bills and the San Francisco 49ers, and rushed for a total of 11, 236 yards.

Doug Williams (1955) was the first African American quarterback to start a Super Bowl Game. He was the starting quarterback for the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl XXII. He was also the Most Valuable Player (MVP) for completing 18 of 29 passes for 340 yards and four touchdowns against the Denver Broncos. The five touchdowns and 35 points scored during the second quarter are still NFL post season records for points in a quarter. He was the starting quarterback for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers prior to going to the Super Bowl.

Walter Payton (July 25, 1954 - November 1, 1999) was the first African player to gain more than 20,000 yards while playing football with the Chicago Bears. Payton rushed for 16,726 yards (the all-time record until 2002), had 21,803 all-purpose yards, scored 125 touchdowns (110 rushing and 15 receiving), and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1993.

Tony Dorsett (April 7, 1954) received the Heisman Trophy on December 9, 1976, was a running back for the University of Pittsburgh with a total of 6,082 yards. Dorsett played professional football for the Dallas Cowboys, where he went to the Super Bowl, ending his career with the Denver Broncos.

Bo Jackson (November 30, 1962), born in Bessemer, Alabama, was the winner of the 1985 Heisman Trophy. He excelled and was a professional athlete in two sports, football and baseball.

Art Shell (1946) was selected as the first African American head coach of a National Football League team the Los Angeles Raiders, on October 3, 1989.

***Emmitt Smith** was born on May 15, 1969 in Pensacola, Fla. Smith gained a school record 3,928 rushing yards at the University of Florida. Deemed by many critics as too small or too slow to be an effective pro running back, Emmitt was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in 1990. Smith became the NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year in 1990. Smith helped the Cowboys to win three straight Super Bowls, and was the MVP of Super Bowl XXVIII. On October 27, 2002, Smith broke Walter Payton's all-time rushing record of 16,726 yards. Dallas released Smith in 2003. Smith is currently a member of the Arizona Cardinals.

***Tony (Anthony Kevin) Dungy** (October 6, 1955) was the first and only African American former head football coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He is presently the head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. Since become a head coach in 1996, Dungy has had one of the best winning percentages of any active coach, and is known for his calm and steady demeanor.

Golf

Lee Elder (July 14, 1943) won the Monsanto Open in Pensacola and was the first African American golfer to qualify for the Masters tournament in 1975. Elder also played

in the 1977 Masters; member of the 1979 U.S. Ryder Cup team, and in South Africa's first integrated tournament in 1972.

Eldrick "Tiger" Woods (December 30, 1975) is already considered one of the greatest golfers of all time. Since becoming a professional golfer in 1996, Woods has won over 50 PGA Tour events, including 12 "major" PGA Tour championships. He is one of only five players in the history of golf to win all four professional major championships in a career. With his victory in The Masters in 2001, he became the only man to have held all four professional majors at once, although this did not occur in a calendar year, and is therefore not recognized by some as a true "Grand Slam". Before joining the PGA Tour, Woods won three consecutive United States Junior Amateur titles, followed by three consecutive United States Amateur titles. With his first US Amateur win in 1994, he became the youngest man ever to win that event. He also won one NCAA individual championship while studying at Stanford University. Woods' major tournament victories are as follows: The Masters, US Open (golf), British Open (golf), and PGA Championship.

Jockeys

In the first Kentucky Derby in 1875, 13 of the 15 jockeys in the race were Afrikan American. Black jockeys dominated the Run for the Roses throughout the 18th and 19th centuries; fifteen of the first 28 Kentucky Derby winners were Black riders.

"**Monkey**" **Simon** (1806) was the first known Afrikan jockey. He was an enslaved Afrikan who commanded more than one hundred per ride for himself and his owner.

Oliver Lewis was the first Afrikan American jockey to win the Kentucky Derby on May 17, 1875. Thirteen of the 14 jockeys in the first derby were Afrikan.

Isaac Murphy (Isaac Burns) (1861? - 1896) was the first Afrikan jockey to win the Kentucky Derby three times was), who was victorious in 1884, 1890, and 1891. The deletion of Afrikan Americans from being jockeys began when segregation and the Jim Crow Laws were exercised throughout the US.

Jimmy Winkfield, on May 3, 1902, won the race aboard Alan-a-Dale and entered the winner's circle at Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY. Winkfield claimed his first Derby victory in 1901 riding *His Eminence* and still remains one of only four jockeys to win the Kentucky Derby in back-to-back. This marked the end of a legacy for successful Black jockeys in America.

In the 2000 Kentucky Derby, **Marlon St. Julien** was the first Afrikan American jockey since 1921 to ride in the world's most famous horse race.

Tennis

Althea Gibson (August 24, 1927 - September 28, 2003) was an Afrikan American tennis player who won the championship at Wimbledon, England on July 6, 1957, and the US Open in Forest Hills, New York. She was ranked #1 in the world among female tennis

players in 1957 and 1958.

Arthur Ashe (1943 - 1993), the first Afrikan American man to win the US Open Tennis Championship on September 9, 1968. He won the men's singles at Wimbledon in 1975 defeating Jimmy Connors.

Venus Ebony Starr Williams (June 17, 1980) is an Afrikan American tennis sensation. Venus has won many tournaments, including the US Open Singles Championship in 2000 and 2001, and the Wimbledon Singles Championship in 2000 and 2001. By capturing her first Grand Slam singles title at Wimbledon in 2000, she became the second Afrikan American women in history (after *Althea Gibson*) to win Wimbledon. Also in 2000, she joined six other champions as the only players to win both Wimbledon and the US Open in the same year. During the week of February 25, 2002, Venus became the first Afrikan American woman to reach the #1 ranking on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) tour. Venus also has an Olympic gold medal in singles and doubles play, and has won doubles championships in the 1999 US and French Open, the 2001 Australian Open with her sister, Serena Williams.

Serena Williams (September 26, 1981), is an Afrikan American tennis sensation. Serena also has won many tournaments, including the 1999 US Open singles and doubles tournament, the 2002 French Open singles title, the 2002 Wimbledon singles and doubles title, the 2002 US Open singles championship, and the 2003 Australian Open singles and doubles championship. By winning the US Open in 1999, Serena became the second Afrikan American woman to ever win a Grand Slam singles title (again, after Althea Gibson.) Serena became the #1 ranked player in the world on July 8, 2002 the first time sisters have both achieved the #1 ranking. By winning the 2003 Australian Open singles, she achieved an historic Serena Slam, winning all four Grand Slam tournaments (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open) in row (though not all in the same year, for a true Grand Slam.) While the two sisters have won many doubles titles together, they often have competed head to head against each other, with (as of 2003) Serena holding a 6-5 edge over Venus.

Track & Field

George Poage was an outstanding track athlete at the University of Wisconsin. He competed in the 1904 Olympics in St. Louis and won a Bronze Medal for 400-meter hurdles. Poage was the first Afrikan American to win a medal in that Olympic.

James Cleveland "Jesse" Owens (September 12, 1913 - March 31, 1980) won three gold medals in track at the 1936 Olympics held in Nazi Germany, August 9. He set Olympic and world records in the long jump that remained unbroken for 24 years. He ran 200 meters in 20.7 seconds, then the fastest on record.

Alice Coachman (Davis) (1923) was the first Afrikan woman to win a gold medal and the only American woman to receive a gold medal in the 1948 Olympics in London for the high jump.

Wilma Glodean Rudolph (June 23, 1940 - November 12, 1994) was the first woman to win three track gold medals in the 1960 Rome Olympics. She was born with the disease, polio, which left her paralyzed in the left leg and unable to walk until she was 10 years old.

***Robert Lee (Bob) Hayes** (December 20, 1942 - September 18, 2002) earned the reputation of being the "world's fastest human," won a gold medal in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, Japan for running the 100 meter dash in 10 seconds. In 1963 at the National AAU Championship Meet, he established a world record in the 100 yard dash, that of 9.1 seconds. He was born in Jacksonville, Florida in and won a scholarship to attend Florida A & M University.

(Frederick Carlton) Carl Lewis (1961) was first athlete to win four gold medals in a single Olympics since Jesse Owens.

Delorez Florence Griffith Joyner or "**FloJo**" (December 21, 1958 - September 21, 1998) was born in Los Angeles, California. As Florence Griffith Joyner, she brought style and glamour to women's track and field. She won three gold medals in the 100 meter, the 200 meter, and 400-meter races at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, Korea and a silver medal in the 1600 meter relay.

Jackie Joyner Kersey (1962), set world records in the track and field in the 1984 and 1988 Olympics.

Other

Wendell Oliver Scott (1921? - 1990) was the first and only Afrikan driver to win a NASCAR Winston Cup race in 1963. The film, "Greased Lightning" was based on his life.

Debbie Thomas (1967), first Afrikan American skater to be a member of a World Team for ice skating and won a silver medal at the Winter Olympics in 1988.