

\*\*\*"AN AFRICAN AMERICAN"\*\*\*  
\*\*\*REMEMBERANCE OF THE PAST,\*\*\*  
\*\*\*TO HELP LEAD THE LEADERS OF THE\*\*\*  
\*\*\*PRESENT.\*\*\*

This Black History Month for the year 2012, I would like to share with all of you whom take the time to read my blog some of my personal thoughts about three historical figures that not only helped shape and define to me what true Courage is, but also these three historical figures exemplified to me (and to the World), what fierce determination and fearless Leadership "was" and "is".

Martin Luther King Jr., Harriet Tubman, and Malcolm X are three fellow African Americans whose acts and deeds will never cease to amaze me when I consider all they've done (and continue to still do because their legacies endure).

Tell me, how committed would you be to your principles or beliefs in the face of monstrous adversity wherein such adversity was so, you would face and brave the Sharp fangs of K-9's and blunt solidity of billy clubs as both find their conscious way savagely into your bones and flesh as the force of water from fire hoses threaten to erase the skin from your body? Would you be able to keep putting one foot right on in front of the other with conviction as you only crouch?

Tell me, how devoted would you truly be to not only your people, but to humanity itself, if you faced a heinous and cruel death by either being flayed alive, maimed, burned at the stake, and lynched (which all would commence after being raped), for the act of defying the system and doing what clandestine things are necessary to free other human beings from the madness and horror of slavery? Could you do it, would you risk your life?

Tell me further, how determined would you be in terms of elevating yourself from a treacherous and lowly state of being, to a culturally and politically aware state of heightened consciousness, so that you could not only better your self, and your life, but better the lives of those around you whom lack and sorely need guidance,

(a guidance in which you could provide if your determination was unyielding towards self elevation and transformation), Could you gauge the imperative amount of inner-strength necessary to effectuate such a change?

I cannot help myself from being in awe every-time I comprehend how courageous Martin, Harriet, and Malcolm was. All they had, they willingly gave, (including their lives), and obstacles that always were placed in their paths to impede their progress, they always had the presence of mind (even under the most horrendous conditions) to exercise their intellects and employ their intelligence to circumvent or defeat whatever obstruction barring the way.

Their perseverance, their reservoir of patience, and their loyal hearts to others and their goals and objectives, vividly illustrate to me (and anyone with an honest eye looking) the kind of traits of character that any person aspiring to be a better being would want to incorporate in their own lives.

But most of all, (and perhaps the most appealing aspect of commonality that is shared by all three of these historical African American figures), is their Nobility of Spirit and the Commanding Fearlessness that they exhibited as leaders, (and herein lies the crux of the point in which I wish to convey).

See, it's this type of fearlessness that is missing in our present times as far as leaders and leadership goes, (and I'm not just talking about leaders and leadership for African Americans and the African American Community), but I'm talking about the WORLD IN LARGE !!! How many leaders are willing to make the kind of sacrifice and stand that Martin, Harriet, and Malcolm made? How committed, devoted, and determined are the so-called leaders of today? No great leader (man or woman) goes it alone, or can do it alone, (just as President Obama suggested), so who will stand?

Sure, there's the Occupy Movement going on right now, and yes, I think it could have a lot of potential as a building block and catalyst towards reminding all of us of our "SHARED HUMANITY" and the things that should matter in all of our lives the most, (such as family, friends, Love, Peace, Happiness, and Equality), but somebody please tell me, where is all this energy and occupying efforts leading to without "VISIBLE LEADERS"?

It takes a whole heck of a lot of conviction to stand-in-the-paint now-a-days as others in the past have done, and without question, an example, (a living example), of fearlessness in leadership is what we ALL need (Black, Brown, Red, Yellow, and White).

The time has come for those whom would dare to lead, to don all of their courage and conviction, along with their dedication, commitment, devotion, and determination and step up to lead and step into the fray. But as they do, in the spirit of this Black History Month, I ask them (just as I've asked myself), to contemplate, consider, and to draw upon the historical examples of leadership that these African American leaders gave us, and entrusted us with, in their ever-enduring legacies and mighty spirits.

In Struggle,

Love, Truly

De'anna Tha Doll

\* "Any comments or questions \*  
are invited and encouraged so  
please feel free to share your  
thoughts."