

Revolutionary Visions Wide Opened

By Khalfani Malik Khaldun

The struggles here in Amerika of the 1960s and 1970s sparked the rise of courageous freedom fighters, who had a unique view of self-determination which compelled these bold leaders to sacrifice their money, time, and ultimately their lives to aid the cause. That cause was energized by a revolutionary vision of change for all oppressed poor people in this country. These men and women were militant to the corer, yet lovingly warm-hearted to their families and children.

We must never forget the efforts made to highlight and expose institutional racism, poverty, and violence carried out by the police on the Black communities. They did a lot to educate the masses on capitalism, imperialism, and they fought against all systems that promote inequalities.

Comrades like Sundiata Acoli, Mutulu Shakur, Eddie Conway, Mumia Abu-Jamal, Jalil Muntaquin, and so many others are currently prisoners of war as a direct result of their participation in the cause for the liberation of Black people in Amerika. They are among so many others who had the courage to go up against this vicious system. J. Edgar Hoover, then head of the FBI, with the power of the office he led, launched his very silent-secret war against the Civil Rights Movement and Black Liberation Movement. His agents infiltrated the organizations they felt posed Amerika, and its political machine, its greatest threat. COINTELPRO, the counter-intelligence program, was created to target, identify, and kill or imprison revolutionary leaders. Now many of our comrades who they didn't outright murder have spent decades in prison. These men and women, now in their late 50s to middle 60s, are model prisoners educating prisoners and advocating on behalf of those voiceless souls who don't know how to speak for themselves. Their friends and supporters and families on the outside continue to campaign and petition the courts for their release. The Prison Parole Boards simply function as an extension of the courts that play its role in influencing the denial of parole releases. There are no Americans who don't know the horrors of what has happened to their people from the Turks in the Ottoman Empire. There are no people who have suffered indignity that are not aware of the road that they have had to travel to get to where they are. Black and Hispanic communities know this reality all too well.

We acknowledge Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP for the historic landmark decision of Brown vs. Board of Education in 1954, which struck down "separate but equal" and said that Blacks were entitled to equal education, but not a segregated one. Fifty years later, there is not such a thing as integrated education anymore. Political injustice brings its natural response no matter how long it takes. Injustice has to be answered by justice and justice demands that what a man sows, he must eventually reap.

There is one case that involves a Black revolutionary named Herman Hooks Wallace, who is a member of the Angola 3, now 71 years old; he now has advanced lived cancer. Amnesty International called for his release, just as it has been campaigning on behalf of human rights violations inherent in the extended solitary confinement of the Angola 3 comrades, Herman Wallace, Abbot Woodfox, and Robert King. King was released out of the bowls of Angola State Prison almost 13 years ago, on Feb. 8, 2001.

We have multiple victims of this system's all-out attack on revolutionaries inside and outside these prison plantations. The revolutionaries on the inside are living in forced solitary confinement for refusing to be broken or used as agents of the state. You have been my inspiration, in the spirit of our comrade George L. Jackson,. I salute those of you who have continued to feed the panther and the dragon. Power to the People! Salutations to Abdul O. Shakur, Kevin "Rashid" Johnson, Sitawa Nantambu Jamzz, Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald, Kenny "Zulu" Witmore, Ed Poindexter, Mondo We Langa, and all the 30,000 comrades who engaged in the collective hunger strikes in control units in California and elsewhere. We cannot relent in the struggle for total liberation. As a revolutionary orientated New Afrikan support of the legacy of Comrades Ajamu Nasser, Comrade Ziyon, and George L. Jackson, I continue to clench my raised fist in true solidarity with their revolutionary vision. My eyes are wide open. My consciousness is wide open. A luta continua! Dare to struggle, dare to win!

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