



“Nation Formation: Part III”

The answer to the Black American problem is not indoctrination or education; it is not stimulation of the Black vote; it is not integration or miscegenation; it is not multiplication of the population; nor is it industrialization of the Black community or wealth generation. We have done all of these things and we still have problems in America. What we need, and the answer to the Black American problem, is nation formation.

What will be the benefits of nation formation? We highlight a few important benefits, and invite you to share the benefits that you envision.

- We have traveled to many poor countries, such as Burma, Cote D'Ivoire, Uruguay, and the Philippines. Although most of the people in these countries are very, very poor, there is a common realization among them: They belong to the original culture and people of their country. They have ownership of, and love for, their nation. How many Black Americans can say the same? We do not feel welcome in America. After nation formation, for the first time in over 400 years, we will be able to claim ownership of, and love for, our nation.
- Because nation formation requires nation building, there will be plenty of work to do. If there is a defining characteristic of a Black man it is, “give him a job to do and let him take ownership of that job, and he will work himself to death producing a successful outcome.” In the U.S., Black labor has been pushed aside; the unemployment rate for 16-to-19 year-old Black males is at least 38.0% and it is 17.1% for Black males over 20 years of age. These men need and want work. Nation formation will permit Black men to construct even better infrastructure, housing, schools, etc., than currently exists in the U.S. Don't say that we can't do it; look around and see our handiwork.
- Inherently, we are an entrepreneurial people. In 1969, 28% of Black-owned businesses were large enough to be employers; by 2002, that number had dropped to less than 9%. That is what integration accomplished. In our new nation and with a banking and financial system that is not biased against us, we will have capital to produce thriving businesses in all required industries—not just in the services, retail, and consulting sectors.
- We have longed to rule ourselves. Today in the U.S., there are around 9,000 Black elected officials, including the holder of the office of president. Clearly we have the ability to rule effectively. It is one thing to be a caretaker in someone else's house; it is a totally different matter—and we believe a wonderful feeling—to hold office in a land that is your own.
- Often we say that historians write us out of history; that the media tells biased stories about us; and, even in athletics, that referees steal big games away from

us. In the new nation, we will be the historians creating the record; we will control the media that documents what transpires; and, because both teams will be Black, there will be no incentive for officials to swing the game due to race.

- In certain African cultures before the coming of the European, the word for “jail” did not exist. Today, it is on everyone’s lips because everyone knows a prisoner. We believe that we can reproduce a culture that eliminates the need for jails in our new nation.

These benefits are the tip of the iceberg. But let us not delude ourselves. Nation building is not easy. However, young Black boys and girls like nothing better than a stiff challenge. They definitely know how to arise and prepare for the big game against key rivals. We must now teach them to arise to build a nation. Their new rival is themselves.

In the Christian tradition, heaven is where there’ll be no crying, no pain, and no sorrow. Malcolm X said, “Look for heaven right down here on this earth.” If we form it properly, the new nation can be heavenly. We can fix it so that we will not have to cry about an unfair judicial system that locks our loved ones away in jail. Our children will not know the pain of disappointment when their efforts are rejected in favor of other’s less meritorious efforts. We will not experience the pain of rejection for a job application because of our Blackness. Finally, we can fix it to eliminate the sorrow of working our entire lives and having nothing to leave our children—except to leave them as strangers in a strange land.

If we seek heaven, then let’s take up nation formation and build heaven on earth.

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