

The New Afrikan Perspective

Response To: "Is Mississippi Configured for Black Self-Determination?"

by Asinia Lukata Chikuyu

On October 28, 2022, **BlackEconomics.org** wrote:

This is very much a selected and partial analysis of conditions in Mississippi that might facilitate Black self-determination. While there is no doubt that the high proportion of Black Americans in Mississippi's population creates possibilities for self-determination, there are many other important factors that do not signal an easy road to success for Black American self-determination efforts in the state. Yet all of these observations can inform a strategy to achieve self-determination in Mississippi—should a decision be made to continue pursuit of such an effort. But before making that decision, we must not forget that the untold blood of Black Americans (the most notable being Emmett Till, Medgar Evers, and James Chaney) has paid the price for Mississippi land. Also, we should ask: "Will it be favorable for us to build our future on land that is filled with this blood?"

My retort:

Sadly, We continue to allow his-story to overly influence the way We tell Our-story. When We tell Our-story, the most notable Black Bloodshed in mississippi includes Fannie Lou Hamer, the Reverend George Lee, Wharlest Jackson, Vernon Damher, Emmett Till, Medgar Evers, James Chaney, and the nine bodies found while searching for James Chaney. By including these names, and others, We cause america to show due respect for Black Lives that Matter. (Please see <https://www.crmvet.org/mem/msmartyr.htm>.)

Many important factors beyond statistics that do not signal an easy road to success for New Afrikan (Black american) self-determination in mississippi exist all over america. The first obstacle We must collectively climb over, in my opinion, is the lack of an Afrikan mindset in a vast majority of the New Afrikan population in mississippi and in america. The lack of an Afrikan mindset allows for the old control factor, **fear**, to retard the progress of mississippi's New Afrikan population from moving toward Black Self-Determination. We need to flood the New Afrikan Community with educational materials that promote learning, loving, and living a New Afrikan Lifestyle; i.e., an Afrikan Self-Determination Mindset.

Of course, We need impeccable and scrupulous Afrikan-centered Leadership, strong Afrikan-centered institutions, principled Afrikan-centered teachers and family leaders, and a national Afrikan-centered curriculum that can supplant the indoctrinating current "standard educational system" in america. All of these things need to progress simultaneously under a national social

justice banner that promotes an absolute end to **fear** of racial injustice by any means necessary culminating in New Afrikan Self-Determination.

We are planning the next major march for Black Progress, which will be **“The March Against Fear 2.0.”** To be free means to not **fear** "our government." Sadly, for Black folks, especially in mississippi, that is not the case. We continue fearing retaliation for every effort We make to end racism. Through state governance, mississippi is able to keep, and is very intentional about keeping, Black folks afraid of demanding Human Rights and Dignity for Afrikan People. Very soon, however, Black folks will be marching for dignity and respect for our right to be Afrikan and respected. Black folks need Leadership that will take us to Black Power—intellectually, politically, economically, and spiritually. Be on the lookout for more details concerning **“The March Against Fear 2.0.”**

While there is no doubt that the high proportion of New Afrikan Blacks in mississippi’s population creates appealing possibilities for creating a self-determination mindset, We must never look for an easy path forward for New Afrikans in america. That path never existed and is not present in a society where even Derrick Johnson, President of the NAACP, says: **“White Supremacy Cannot Coexist with Democracy.”**¹

¹ See Ali Velshi, (2022), “NAACP Pres. Derrick Johnson: “White Supremacy Cannot Coexist with Democracy,” MSNBC; <https://www.msnbc.com/ali-velshi/watch/naACP-pres-derrick-johnson-white-supremacy-cannot-coexist-with-democracy-140046405881> (Ret. 111122).