

PREFACE



African Proverbs for Unity

“If you want to go quickly go alone, if you want to go far go together.”

“If you think you are too small to make a difference, you have not spent a night with a mosquito.”

“When brothers fight to the death, a stranger inherits their fathers estate.”

“When there is no enemy within, the enemies outside cannot hurt you.”

“When spiders unite, they can tie down a lion.” **Ethiopian Proverb**

” The African race is a rubber ball. The harder you dash it to the ground, the higher it will rise.”

Christian Bible verses for Unity

“Bear yea one another’s burden and so fulfill the law of Christ.” **Galations 6:2**

“Finally be ye all likeminded, compassionate, tenderhearted forgiving one another even as Christ forgave you.” **1 Peter 3:8**

“Where no counsel is, the people fall but in the multitude of counselors, there is safety.” **Proverbs 11:14**

“Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.”
Proverb 15:22

1. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!
2. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;
3. As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. **Psalms 133**

Quran Hadith on Unity

“And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude God’s favor on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth God make his signs clear to you: That ye may be guided.” **Quran 3:103**

AS STATED IN THE PREAMBLE TO THE MILLION MAN MARCH MANIFESTO, OCTOBER 16, 1995.

We Again Declare The Following Commitment:

“An Affirmation of Self-determination and Unified Commitment to Self-sufficiency through Economic and Human Development; Political Empowerment; and International Policy Development by African-Americans in the interest of people of African descent throughout the African World Community (Africans on the continent, Africans throughout the Diaspora; and African-Americans in North America), our youth and future generations.”

We cannot assume responsibility for the raising, socialization, education and economic development of our community without engaging in continuous acts of collaboration. This obviously involves working with those within and outside our group to achieve our goals; however the primary impetus must be to first pool our resources towards the creation of community re-investment funding and development. Our greatest challenge is learning to work together; using our own “cultural” context, to coalesce around our collective interest.

We stand on the presumptions embedded in *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UNESCO World Education 2000 Report* issued in Dakar, Senegal which affirm, “Education is a fundamental human right” and “an indispensable means for effective participation in the societies and economies of the twenty-first century.” Also, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 30, states: “In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities or persons of indigenous origin exist, a child belonging to such a minority or who is indigenous shall not be denied the right, in community with other members of his or her group, to enjoy his or her own culture, to profess and practice his or her own religion, or to use his or her own language,” and choose his or her own identity in the process of self-determination.

We stand in solidarity with the conveners of the National Black sovereignty and Economic Development Agenda who have declared that our charge, therefore, is: To advance a national movement that advocates education, economic development, political empowerment, social/environmental justice and health and wellness etc., as part of our collective human right on behalf of African American/Black families; to hold ourselves, these United States of America and all other countries that are signatories to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights accountable for guaranteeing that all Black people, wherever they are, have access to quality schools, sustainable economic development, social and environmental justice, health and wellness infrastructure and resources with-out discrimination, so that our children and families can be equipped for collective survival and group self-determination, as well as individual advance-ment, through personal responsibility, academic excellence and collective self-sufficiency.