

Universal Negro Improvement Association & African Community League

OFFICE of the COUNSEL GENERAL

Legal Defense Committee

Welcome to the first publication of the official newsletter of the Legal Defense Committee (LDC), the staff of the Office of the Counsel General. I am **I Nia Rogers**, Counsel General of the *Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL)*, appointed by the 9th successor to the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey, the Honorable Senghor Baye. I bring you greetings from my Office and my staff.

Completely aside from what it means to me personally to have the support of a “legal army” in the Office of the Counsel General, the LDC offers the UNIA-ACL the opportunity to develop a legal program that will completely allow Black people to come out of legal slavery. Though this task began in 1920 by Mr. Garvey with the establishment of a Global Interim Government that operated more than 80 years ago, it was not completed. To bring this to completion is a gigantic task.

In 1920, Mr. Garvey achieved what no other Black man had ever achieved at that time. Without Facebook, Twitter or even the Internet, armed only with a message, Mr. Garvey was able to pull together the largest gathering of Black people ever in history at that time: 25,000 people of our race from all over the world, at Madison Square Garden, spilling out into the streets of New York, gathered

together with the purpose of declaring a worldwide feeling of dismay at the loss of the independence that affected the black man and to defy colonialism and oppression. Thus, Mr. Garvey created the “New Negro” spirit of that age.

Within a year, there were more than 850 branches (divisions) of this Great Government. Mr. Garvey succeeded like no one else at the time had done. In 1926 after Mr. Garvey’s arrest, a group of more than 150,000 supporters gathered to protest. Today, our numbers – for both members and divisions – pale by comparison. But, it is the sincere belief of the LDC that if this task were accomplished before, it can be accomplished again! Mr. Garvey instructed us on how to create a new race, a nation, an empire; he told us of the sovereign power of our people that will allow us to resurrect “. . . from our own determinism to rise, irrespective of what the world thinks . . .” [From “*Philosophy and Opinions*”]

The Honorable Faruq Muhammad, past Counsel General, who transitioned in December 2010 was instrumental in creating the LDC. Brother Faruq believed that law and cooperative economics must be emphasized if we are to realize the better world envisioned by Mr. Garvey.

Brother Faruq acknowledged that many of us and others, through a myriad of organizations, societies and groups, had worked on and created Nationalist and Pan Africanist programs and plans. However, he believed and espoused that the establishment of **LAW** along with **COOPERATIVE**

ECONOMICS would restore what Mr. Garvey gave and created for us; it was Brother Faruq’s vision that these programs would also afford us opportunities for a contemporary application of Mr. Garvey’s works, words and deeds. As he said many times, Brother Faruq predicted that when this is accomplished, we will have “an invincible armor for Self-Determination”; we would have “New Law,

Black law”, “International Black Law”.

These programs include:

- The International Expatriate Movement (the IEM) whose purpose is to provide assistance in the healing process among those of African descent throughout the world who seek to reclaim their citizenship heritage from the African continent.
- The establishment of the African Ancestral Redemption Collaborative (AARC) to provide the spiritual component for the IEM. By invoking our African Ancestors throughout the



“I invite at least one member per division to join the LDC”

(The lock or seal of law)

MMRA KRADO



Adinkra are visual symbols, originally created by the Akan of Ghana and the Gyaman of Cote d'Ivoire in West Africa, that represent concepts. *Mmra Krado* is the Adinkra symbol chosen by the LDC. It stands for "Authority", "Legality", "Legitimacy" and "Power of the Court".



MA'AT is the ancient one who represents the symbol of TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND WORLD ORDER, and THE FEMALE DEITY of the weighing of the Ab "HEART". MA'AT always wears the OSTRICH FEATHER A SYMBOL OF LAW, TRUTH, RIGHT AND JUSTICE. The word MA'AT means, "THAT WHICH IS STRAIGHT, RIGHT, TRUE, SINCERE AND HONEST. SHE IS THE WOMAN OF THE JUDGMENT HALL.

Diaspora, and by incorporating a Spirit-based initiative concept which stems from diverse traditional & cultural African spirituality, we expect to illuminate the existence of a 21st Century Ancestral- and Deity-based Spiritual springboard.

- The establishment of alliances with other Nationalist and Pan Africanist groups in order to achieve the universal confraternity among the race that Mr. Garvey set out as an aim and objective of the UNIA-ACL.

Mr. Garvey wrote in "Message to the People" that "(t)here should be a ceaseless effort among Negroes everywhere to improve their condition in every department of life . . . No stone should be left unturned to advance from one stage of development and progress to another . . ." The LDC is dedicated to that development in its department of life – i.e., the law. We vow to work within the tenets of the UNIA-ACL to bring about that development. We strive consistently to safeguard the Parent Body, the President General and the general body of the UNIA-ACL -- all as dictated by the Constitution and Bylaws of the UNIA-ACL. It is our vision that by such development, we will directly assist "our people" to walk in the sun and take their place amongst the most brilliant people of Earth.

MARCUS GARVEY INTERNATIONAL ESSAY COMPETITION
'2012'
 Sponsored By UNIA-ACL Department Of Education
STARTING JANUARY 1ST
 CONTEST OPEN TO "ALL" AFRICAN STUDENTS
 AGES 9 TO 17 (4TH TO 12TH GRADE)
 For essay competition rules, procedures & entry information
 Contact: UNIA-ACL Department Of Education
 c/o Marcus Garvey Essay Committee
 5301 W. Girard Ave.
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 267-531-8789
 PanAfrika4edu@yahoo.com

TOPICS IN UPCOMING ISSUES

- *Articles on the LDC, JEM, & LDF*
- *The Purpose of Dual Citizenship*
- *Our definition of a Government / Plebiscite / Sovereignty*
- *African Ancestral Redemption Collaborative*
- *Women in the UNIA-ACL*
- *Youth Column*

LDC MISSION STATEMENT

The Legal Defense Committee (LDC) as the staff of the Office of the Counsel General of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) has a mission of assisting to restore and re-establish the Global Government created and formed by the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey by structuring the legal basis and foundation of the Government within the principles of Universal African Nationalism so that it may fully operate and function within a 21st century framework.



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