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Barack Obama - Destroying the Legacy of Black America's Struggle Keeping it Real By Larry Pinkney BC Editorial Board

"Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research."

- Malcolm X [el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz]

"History is important. If you don't know history it's as if you were born yesterday, and anybody up there in a position of power can tell you anything and you have no way of checking up on it."

- Howard Zinn

Pertaining most especially to the mentality of the corporate/military power elite that runs and controls the United States, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. noted that, "Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men."

Barack Obama, who is the current predator drone missile president of this nation, and also the first nominally black U.S. Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the military forces of the United States has given a renewed horrible significance to Dr. King's above quoted words.

In addition to Barack Obama's unceasing and bloody (overt and covert) military attacks on the sovereign nations and peoples of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia (East Africa), and Libya (North Africa), etc., in egregious violation of international law; the articulate

corporate owned Obama has, in real terms, shredded the U.S. Constitution - particularly as it pertains to the civil liberties of the everyday Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow of the United States. Notwithstanding his subterfuge, obfuscation, and **double-speak** rhetoric, Obama's **actions** in these regards, have sent and are sending, all young people of this nation (and most especially black youth) the message that hypocrisy, greed, and/or military might are what they should be pursuing if they want to 'succeed' in their lives. It is a message that is absolutely and unequivocally false and dangerous! Moreover, Obama's de facto message of hypocrisy, greed, and military war mongering negates, distorts, and destroys in the historical vision of our youth, the principles and supreme sacrifices made by persons of all colors in this nation, including Black American freedom fighters such as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. Du Bois, Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King, Fred Hampton, and so very many others. Barack Obama is, in essence destroying the legacy of struggle on the part of all freedom and justice loving people, and in particular of Black America. This cannot be over-emphasized and it must be reversed.

Barack Obama is the cynical beneficiary of the sacrifices and legacy of this struggle, but he is utterly devoid of the principles, which were and remain an integral part of this ongoing everyday people's struggle in this nation and throughout Mother Earth. For example, in the year 1968, when Obama was seven years old, not only was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (and others) brutally murdered by this corporate government - but there were also intense rebellions on college/university campuses and communities throughout this nation - calling for an end to the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam and simultaneously struggling for ethnic studies, etc. Yet, Barack Obama - though a shameless beneficiary of and from these historical struggles and sacrifices made by many persons, has learned nothing from these struggles other than how to cynically and rhetorically rhetorically pimps said struggles - even as he today makes war (using his "guided [drone] missiles" and other assorted weapons of mass destruction) upon the peoples of Africa, Asia, and the 'Middle East' today.

Utilizing his infamous bait-and switch tactics, and working covertly with his corporate owners, Barack Obama is also waging a less obvious but extremely devastating war upon the ordinary everyday Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow people of this nation. His obfuscating, hypocritical, and double-speak rhetoric is belied by his cynical, well-honed, bait-and-switch tactics and actions which he adroitly uses against the ordinary people of this land.

We must not allow Barack Obama and other systemic misleaders to subvert, distort, and/or otherwise destroy our precious and important history - for in the words of Malcolm X, "Of all our studies, **history** is best qualified to reward our research." And as Howard Zinn put it, "If you don't know history, it's as if you were born yesterday, and **anybody up there in a position of power** can tell you anything and you have no way of checking upon on it." Contrary to an assertion made earlier this year by a heretofore iconic member of the black intelligentsia; Barack Obama does not "identify" with the "black radical tradition" of struggle in this nation. He is, in fact, the antithesis of it.

This is urgent. Black America must **reclaim** its history and legacy of struggle in this nation and in so doing rejoin the collective struggle **along-side our sisters and brothers of all colors in this nation and throughout Mother Earth.**

Remember: Each one, reach one. Each one, teach one. Onward, then, my sisters and brothers. Onward!

BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board member and Columnist, Larry Pinkney, is a veteran of the Black Panther Party, the former Minister of Interior of the Republic of New Africa, a former political prisoner and the only American to have successfully self-authored his civil / political rights case to the United Nations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In connection with his political organizing activities in opposition to voter suppression, etc., Pinkney was interviewed in 1988 on the nationally televised PBS News Hour, formerly known as The MacNeil / Lehrer News Hour. For more about Larry Pinkney see the book, [Saying No to Power: Autobiography of a 20th Century Activist and Thinker](#), by William Mandel [Introduction by Howard Zinn]. (Click [here](#) to read excerpts from the book.) Click [here](#) to view Larry's interview of October 26, 2012. Click [here](#) to contact Mr. Pinkney.



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