

Afrocentric Imperatives for the Pan-African Personality: The Challenge and Promise of African Agency

October 15-16, 2010

Holiday Inn, Historic District
Philadelphia, PA

Sponsored by the Diopian Institute for Scholarly Advancement
DiopianInstitute.org

This year's conference amends Kwame Nkrumah's and Cheikh Anta Diop's challenge to the African Personality—to move beyond mere festivals and cultural celebrations of African identity—to introduce a cohesive *Pan-African* Personality configured to reflect the distinct cultural character of African aspirations at home and abroad. The Pan-African personality embodies the historical memory, common sense, collective consciousness, artifacts, social institutions, innovations and creative visions of the composite African People. As such, the Pan-African Personality reflects the contemporary conditions of African people globally. Africans are involved in a wide range of activities to improve our conditions and life chances. The efficacies of our institutions, programs and activities require reflective evaluations that use Afrocentric criteria.

The Diopian Institute of Scholarly Advancement (DISA) is committed to utilizing scholarship in order to qualify and advance African agency at all levels. Each year, the Conference theme facilitates panels and papers on various aspects of African and African Diaspora cultures, histories, thoughts and practices from within the Afrocentric intellectual framework. Outstanding books, articles, and other Afrocentric research initiatives are recognized each year at the Awards Luncheon.

In line with the theme of this year's conference we are inviting papers and presentations that address the following topics:

- 1) Citizenship, Alliances and Strategies to Advance the Pan-African Nation
- 2) African Communities and Inter-generational Cultural Transmissions
- 3) The Principles of Maat and Building Human Institutions
- 4) Pan-African Psychology, Spirituality, and Philosophy of Nation-Building
- 5) Economic Strategies for Pan-African Nation-Building
- 6) Clarifying the Relationship between Afrocentricity and Pan-Africanism
- 7) Haiti's Historical Narrative as an Example of African Agency
- 8) The Obama Administration and Africa

Requirements for Abstracts: 100 words limit; name, affiliation, academic title, email address; paper title, thesis and methodology. Please send via email as a Microsoft Word attachment; and please indicate if you need an LCD projector. **Abstracts are due August 14, 2010:**

Diopian Institute for Scholarly Advancement

P.O. Box 1156

El Cajon, CA 92022 or

Abstracts@DiopianInstitute.org

Notification of paper acceptance will be sent August 30, 2010

Citizenship, Alliances and Strategies to Advance the Pan-African Nation

Assessing the establishment of the United States of Africa from idea to implementation; An examination of African social and political organizations in an age of globalism and

migration; Surmounting the barriers of geography and modes of communicating solidarity; Advancing an Afrocentric formula in U.S., European, and Canadian migration dreams.

African Communities and Inter-generational Cultural Transmissions

Conceptual ruminations on African and Pan-African traditions; Explorations of the aesthetic medium, symbolism, and creativity in transmitting culture; Intellectual processes and products that illuminate the reality and imagination of the Pan-African personality.

The Principles of Maat and Building Human Institutions

The explication of the principles of Maat and their synergistic impact on society and the individual; The role of Maat in establishing social order in classical African societies; The role of Maat in generating social revolutions in Africa; The role of Maat in establishing a United States of Africa.

Pan-African Psychology, Spirituality, and/or Philosophy of Nation Building

An Afrocentric exposé of “communal Africa” as the social referent of the Pan-African Personality; Afrocentric evaluations of ideologies advocating Pan-African strategies; Assertions of Afrocentric paradigms seeking “culturally appropriate” norms for Pan-African psychology; Exposés of unifying themes in African spiritual institutions, speculations and practices; Afrocentric exigencies in edifying the Pan-African nation.

Economic Strategies for Pan-African Nation Building

The Afrocentric Idea and political-economic class struggle; Elucidations of the erosion of communal economics in Africa; Afrocentric evaluations of various economic systems and their impact on Pan-African nationalism.

Clarifying the Relationship between Afrocentricity and Pan-Africanism

The explication of Kawaida as a model; The Encyclopedia Africana Project as a model; Mass organizations of the 19th and 20th centuries; The Pan-African Liberated states of the 20th Century (Ghana, Guinea-Conakry, Tanzania, Egypt, Libya).

Haiti's Historical Narrative as an Example of African Agency

A critical review of the complex and dynamic history of Haiti as an offspring and generator of Pan-African agency. We will also look at tragic loss of African agency and its causes.

The Obama Administration and Africa

A critical Afrocentric review of AFRICOM; Exposés on American interests in Africa's Oil Gulf; Examinations of USA's imperial paternalism during the current administration; the employment of location theory in evaluating media reports portraying piracy in Somalia.

For more information send email to Info@DiopianInstitute.org or call 619-384-9868.