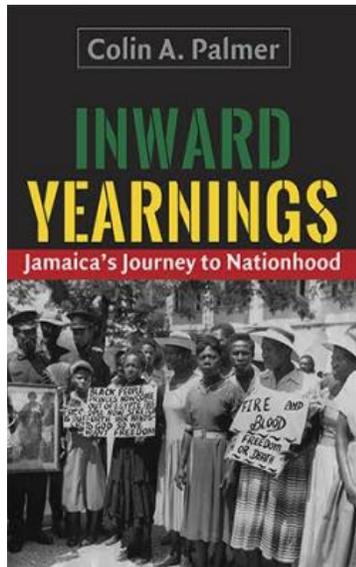


Relevant Books



Palmer, Colin A. *Inward Yearnings: Jamaica's Journey to Nationhood*. Mona, Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2016, pp. 260, ISBN: 9789766405915.

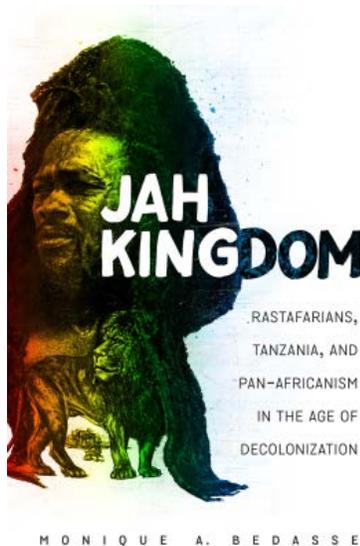
The contribution is a case study of an Anglo-Caribbean island's search for a racial selfhood, its nervous embrace of its African heritage and ultimately a nationalism that reflected those inner longings. These complex and interrelated processes manifested themselves with the founding of the Universal Negro Improvement Association by Marcus Garvey in 1914, the emergence of Rastafarianism and the Back to Africa Movement in the 1930s, the People's National Party's adoption of self-government as its goal in 1940, and the appearance of numerous black consciousness groups in the 1950s. The first half of the book excavates the roots of these inner struggles, and their expressions and roles in Jamaica's society and culture. The second half examines Jamaica's entry into the West Indies Federation in 1958 and its secession by means of a referendum in 1961. The Colonial Office had convinced the ten federating units that they were all too small to make their individual independence a viable option, thus, Jamaicans attempted to subsume their nationalism in formation into a larger West Indian nationalism but the process failed, and a federal union had been constructed upon a watery foundation. Hence, the book examines the history of the federation's failure and of Jamaica's decision to affirm its own political identity and selfhood, and is largely based on manuscript sources located in the British National Archives at Kew Gardens, the Jamaica Archives in Spanish Town and the National Archives of the United States located in College Park, with the Jamaican newspaper the *Daily Gleaner* providing an invaluable source.

WE WANTED
A REVOLUTION
**BLACK
RADICAL
WOMEN**
1965-85
A SOURCEBOOK

Morris, Catherine and Rujeko Hockley, eds. *We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women, 1965-85: A Sourcebook*. New York: Brooklyn Museum, 2017, pp. 320, 40 illustrations, ISBN: 978-0-87273-183-7.

This book is based on an exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum (April 21- September 17, 2017) that examines the political, social, cultural, and aesthetic priorities of women during the emergence of second-wave feminism. It showcases the work of Black women artists such as Emma Amos, Maren Hassinger, Senga Nengudi, Lorraine O'Grady, Howardena Pindell, Faith Ringgold, and Betye Saar. Hence, it republishes an array of rare and little-known documents from the period by artists, writers, cultural critics, and art historians

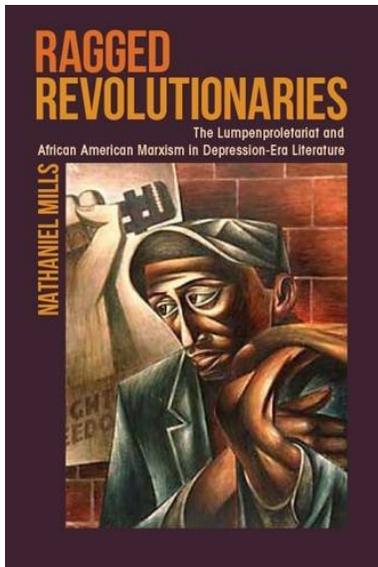
such as Gloria Anzaldúa, James Baldwin, bell hooks, Lucy R. Lippard, Audre Lorde, Toni Morrison, Lowery Stokes Sims, Alice Walker, and Michelle Wallace which include articles, manifestos, and letters from significant publications as well as interviews, some of which are reproduced in facsimile form, archival materials, rare ephemera, and an art-historical overview essay.



Bedasse, Monique A. *Jah Kingdom: Rastafarians, Tanzania, and Pan-Africanism in the Age of Decolonization*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2017, pp.272, ISBN: 9781469633596.

This work argues that repatriation to Africa represents the most important vehicle of Rastafari's international growth. Shifting the scholarship on repatriation from Ethiopia to Tanzania, the author foregrounds Rastafari's enduring connection to Black radical politics and establishes Tanzania as a critical site to explore gender, religion, race, citizenship, socialism, and nation. Beyond and engagement with how the Rastafarian idea of Africa translated into a lived reality, the author demonstrates how Tanzanian state and nonstate actors not only validated the Rastafarian idea of diaspora but were also crucial to defining the parameters of Pan-Africanism. Based on previously

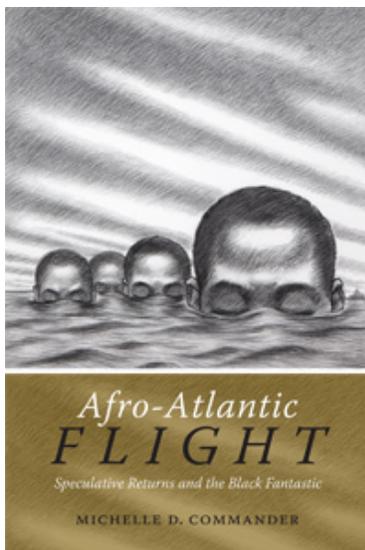
undiscovered oral and written sources from Tanzania, Jamaica, England, the United States, and Trinidad, the writer uncovers a vast and varied transnational network--including Julius Nyerere, Michael Manley, and C. L. R James--revealing Rastafari's entrenchment in the making of Pan-Africanism in the post-independence period.



Mills, Nathaniel. *Ragged Revolutionaries: The Lumpenproletariat and African American Marxism in Depression-Era Literature*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 2017, pp.216, ISBN: 1625342799.

This book argues that the lumpenproletariat was central to an overlooked yet vibrant mode of African American Marxism formulated during the Great Depression by Black writers on the Communist left. By analyzing multiple published and unpublished works from the period, the author shows how Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and Margaret Walker used the lumpenproletariat to imagine new forms of revolutionary knowledge and agency. In their writings, hobos riding the rails, criminals hustling to make ends meet, heroic black folk-outlaws, and individuals who fall out of the proletariat into the social margins all furnish material for thinking through resistance to the

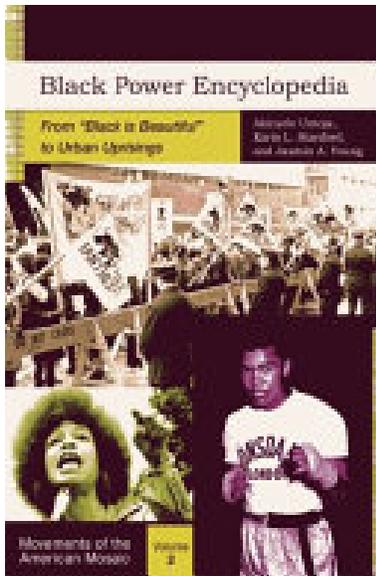
exploitations of capitalism, patriarchy, and Jim Crow.



Commander, Michelle D. *Afro-Atlantic Flight: Speculative Returns and the Black Fantastic*. Duke University Press, 2017, pp.296, 26 illustrations, ISBN: 978-0-8223-6323-1.

This work traces how post-civil rights African American artists, intellectuals, and travelers envision literal and figurative flight back to Africa as a means by which to heal the dispossession caused by enslavement. Through ethnographic, historical, literary, and filmic analyses, the author shows the ways that cultural producers such as Octavia Butler, Thomas Allen Harris, and Saidiya Hartman engage with speculative thought about slavery, the spiritual realm, and Africa, thereby structuring the imaginary that propels future return flights. The book also examines African Americans' cultural heritage tourism in and migration to Ghana; Bahia, Brazil; and various sites of slavery in the

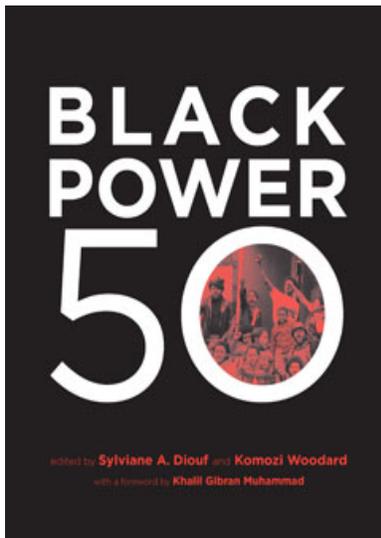
U.S. South to interrogate the ways that a cadre of actors produces "Africa" and contests master narratives. Compellingly, these material flights do not always satisfy individualistic desires for homecoming and liberation, leading the author to focus on the revolutionary possibilities inherent in *psychic* speculative returns to argue for the development of a Pan-Africanist stance that works to more effectively addresses the contemporary resonances of enslavement that exist across the Atlantic.



Umoja, Akinyele, Karin L. Stanford, and Jasmin A. Young, eds. *Black Power Encyclopedia: From “Black is Beautiful” to Urban Uprisings*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2017, pp. 865, ISBN: 978-1-4408-4006-7.

This two-volume set provides readers with an understanding of the Black Power movement, hence the promotion of Black self-determination, Black consciousness, independent Black politics, and the practice of armed self-defense. The entries examine the key players, organizations and institutions, trends, and events of the period, enabling readers to better understand the ways in which African Americans broke through racial barriers, developed a positive identity, and began to feel united through racial pride and the formation of important social change organizations. The encyclopedia also covers the important impact of the more militant segments of the movement, such as

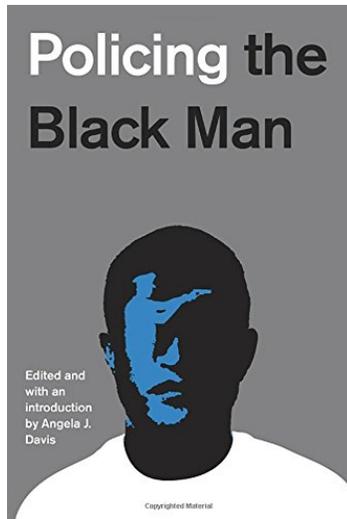
Malcolm X and the Nation of Islam and the Black Panther Partys, and it provides topical and biographical entries, a timeline of events, and a bibliography of key print and nonprint sources of additional information.



Diouf, Sylviane A. and Komozi Woodard, eds. [foreword by Khalil Gibran Muhammad]. New York, NY: The New Press, 2016, pp.160, ISBN: 9781620971482.

This book was published in conjunction with a major 2016 exhibit at New York’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and thus, it includes original interviews with key figures from the movement, essays from today’s leading Black Power scholars, and more than one hundred images from the Schomburg’s archives, offering a compelling introduction to the history and meaning of this pivotal movement. Historically, Black Power burst onto the world scene in 1966 with ideas, politics, and fashion that opened the eyes of millions of people across the globe. In the United States, the movement spread like wildfire: high school and college youth organized Black Student Unions; educators created Black Studies programs; Black Power

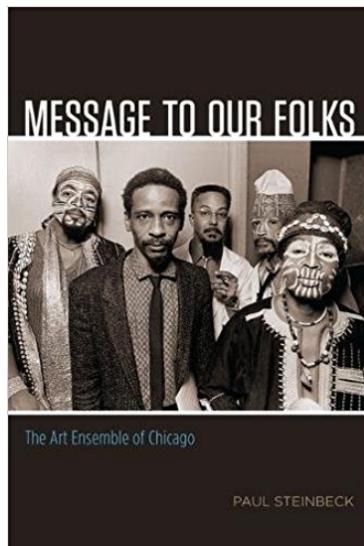
conventions gathered thousands of people from all walks of life; and books, journals, bookstores, and publishing companies spread Black Power messages and imagery throughout the country and abroad. Black Power aesthetics of natural hair and African-inspired fashion, ornaments, and home décor—and the concept that Black was beautiful—resonated throughout the country. The Black Arts Movement inspired the creation of some eight hundred Black theaters and cultural centers, where a generation of writers and artists forged a new and enduring cultural vision.



Davis, Angela J., ed. *Policing the Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution, and Imprisonment*. New York, NY: Pantheon Books, 2017, pp.352, ISBN: 110187127X.

This work explores and critiques how the criminal justice system impacts the lives of African American boys and men at every stage of the criminal process, from arrest through sentencing. Essays range from an explication of the historical roots of racism in the criminal justice system to an examination of modern-day police killings of unarmed Black men. The contributors discuss and explain racial profiling, the power and discretion of police and prosecutors, the role of implicit bias, the racial impact of police and prosecutorial decisions, the disproportionate imprisonment of Black men, the collateral consequences of mass incarceration, and the Supreme Court's failure to provide meaningful remedies for the

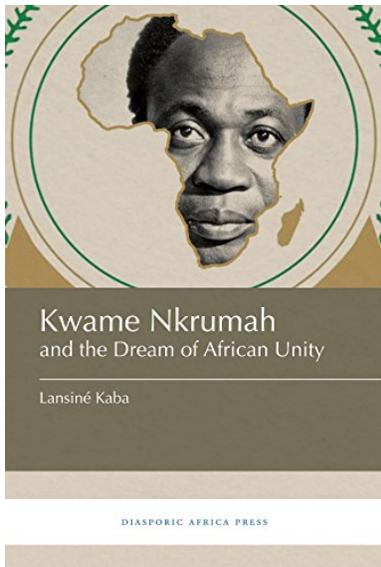
injustices in the criminal justice system.



Steinbeck, Paul. *Message to Our Folks: The Art Ensemble of Chicago*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2017, pp.336, ISBN: 022637596X

This book combines musical analysis and historical inquiry to give a study of the Art Ensemble, the flagship band of the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians formed in 1966 and flourishing until 2010, that distinguished itself by its performance practices wherein members played hundreds of instruments on stage, recited poetry, performed theatrical sketches, and wore face paint, masks, lab coats, and traditional African and Asian dress. Hence, the book, proposes a new theory of group improvisation that explains how the band members were able to improvise together in so many different styles while also drawing on an extensive repertoire of notated compositions, and

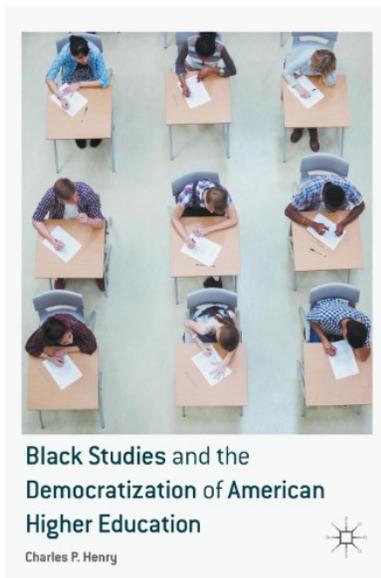
examines the multimedia dimensions of the Art Ensemble's performances and the ways in which their distinctive model of social relations kept the group performing together for four decades.



Kaba, Lansiné. *Kwame Nkrumah and the Dream of African Unity*. New York, NY: Diasporic Africa Press, 2017, pp.192, ISBN: 1937306585.

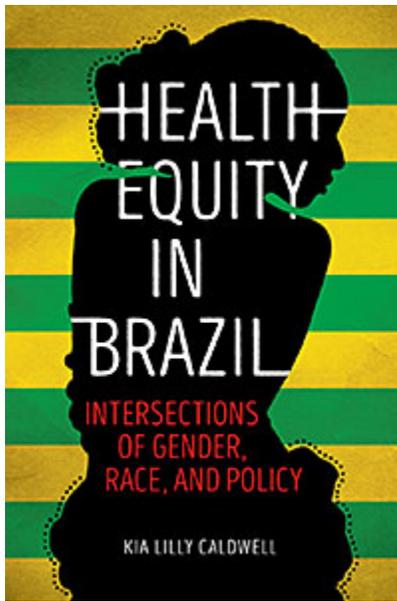
This work describes some of the epic phases of Kwame Nkrumah's struggle for the independence of Ghana, and the unity of Africa to argue that the tasks were gigantic, complex, and even frightening, and that each separately was promethean in scope, perhaps beyond the capacity of a single leader, however able and determined; yet, Nkrumah dared to accomplish them and thus deserves a place among the great figures of his world. Thus, the book follows the adventures of his dream of African unity, from the years studying across the Atlantic to the Accra Summit in 1965 and the coup d'état in 1966 with an analysis that tries to understand the genesis of the dream and the effort required for its realization, hence, the difficulties of

implementing a policy of regrouping independent states into a continental body.



Henry, Charles P. *Black Studies and the Democratization of American Higher Education*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017, pp.272, ISBN: 9783319350882.

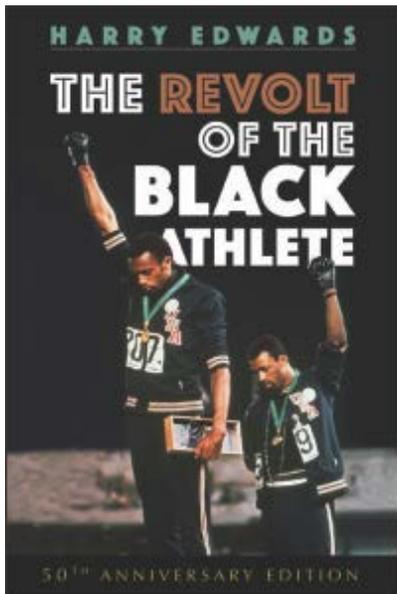
This book aims to expand on what scholars know about Black Studies, and thus, it argues that Black Studies aids in the democratization of American higher education and the deconstruction of traditional disciplines of high education to facilitate a sense of social justice by challenging traditional disciplines, and thus, reveal not only the political role of American universities but also the political aspects of the disciplines that constitute their core. The author also argues for the inclusion of Black Studies beyond the curriculum of colleges and universities.



Caldwell, Kia Lilly. *Health Equity in Brazil: Intersections of Gender, Race, and Policy*. Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2017, pp.242, ISBN: 978-0-252-08247-4.

This work draws on twenty years of engagement with activists, issues, and policy initiatives to document how the Brazil's feminist health movement and Black women's movement have fought for much-needed changes in women's health. Merging ethnography with a historical analysis of policies and programs, the author offers a close examination of institutional and structural factors that have impacted the quest for gender and racial health equity in Brazil. Hence, the author also show how activists have played an essential role in policy development in areas ranging from maternal mortality to female sterilization. The premise of the book is that Brazil faces serious health challenges and inequities, and as the home to the world's second largest African-descendant population, Brazil has failed

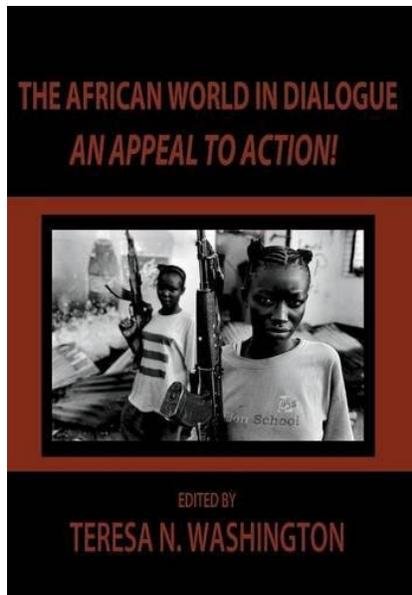
to address many of its public health issues that disproportionately impact Afro-Brazilian women and men. The author is an associate professor of African, African American, and Diaspora studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.



Edwards, Harry. *The Revolt of the Black Athlete*. Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2017, pp.232, ISBN: 978-0-252-04107-5.

This Fiftieth Anniversary edition of Harry Edwards's classic of activist scholarship offers a new introduction and afterword that revisits the revolts by athletes like Muhammad Ali, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Tommie Smith, and John Carlos. At the same time, he engages with the struggles of a present still rife with racism, double standards, and economic injustice. Again relating the rebellion of Black athletes to a larger spirit of revolt among Black citizens, the author moves his story forward to our era of protests, boycotts, and the dramatic politicization of athletes by Black Lives Matter. The author is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley and a leading authority on issues of race and sports in America.

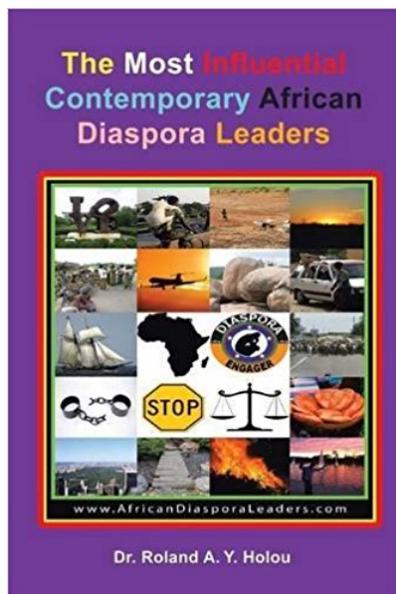
He was the architect of the 1968 Olympic Project for Human Rights and his scholar-activist career since has focused on the role and potential of sports in fostering social change. He is a consultant with a number of NFL and NBA franchises and with several NCAA Division I conferences and basketball and football teams.



Washington, Teresa N., ed. *The African World in Dialogue: An Appeal to Action!* Oya's Tornado [http://www.oyastornado.com], 2016, pp.434, ISBN: 099107307X.

This volume is a probing and politically focused collection of essays, interviews, speeches, poetry, short stories, and proposals that illuminate the struggles, dreams, triumphs, impediments, and diversity of the contemporary African world. The book contains five sections that brims with provocative and compelling insights from elder-warriors, wordsmiths, journalists, and academics, many of whom are also activists. With selections designed to critique and in many cases upend conventional political thought, educational norms, fantasies of social progress, and gender myths, the book also challenges its audience, hence, rather than offering eloquent elaborations of African world woes, the book offers detailed

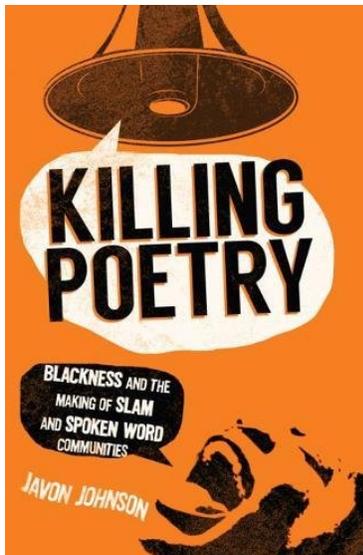
plans and paths for emancipation and elevation that readers are urged to implement.



Holou, Roland A. *The Most Influential Contemporary African Diaspora Leaders*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse, 2016, pp.336, ISBN: 152460559X.

This book highlights the lives, visions, achievements, policies, and strategies of exceptional contemporary African Diaspora leaders across the globe; hence, a collection of biographies motivates, challenges, and encourages current and future generations of people of African descent to take initiative and offers guidance to those interested in Africa's development. It provides readers with stories that showcase the diversity, complexity, and richness of the ongoing global African Diaspora engagement efforts; and presents accounts of experiences, growth, struggle, failure, and success that will provoke interest in the field of Diaspora engagement and inspire readers to stand up and face life's many challenges. The featured leaders are known for their long-lasting achievements.

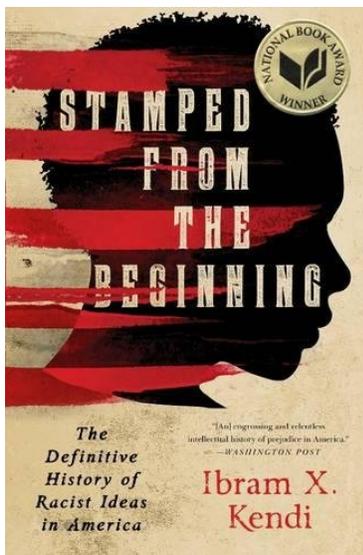
Their impressive actions both contributed to important historical movements that significantly shaped and transformed the lives and history of people of African descent and removed major roadblocks preventing the prosperity of Africa and its Diaspora. They have brought about enormous and rare progress that would have been impossible without their leadership; their contributions have greatly improved the freedom and economic and political development of Africa and its Diaspora.



Johnson, Javon. *Killing Poetry: Blackness and the Making of Slam and Spoken Word Communities*. Rutgers University Press, 2017, pp.170, ISBN: 0813580013.

This volume unpacks some of the complicated issues that comprise performance poetry spaces to argue that the truly radical potential in slam and spoken word communities lies not just in proving literary worth, speaking back to power, or even in altering power structures, but instead in imagining and working towards altogether different social relationships; and provide an ethnography a critical history of the slam, contextualizes contemporary Black poets in larger Black literary traditions to kill the notion that poetry slams are inherently radically democratic and utopic. Furthermore, the book (at times autobiographical, poetic, and journalistic) analyzes the masculine posturing in the Southern California community in particular, the sexual assault in

the national community, and how related social media inadvertently replicate many of the same white supremacist, patriarchal, and mainstream logics so many spoken word poets seem to be working against. Throughout, the author examines the promises and problems within slam and spoken word, while illustrating how community is made and remade in hopes of eventually creating the radical spaces so many of these poets strive to achieve.



Kendi, Ibram X. *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*. New York, NY: Nation Books, 2016, pp.592, ISBN: 1568584636.

This book chronicles the story of anti-Black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history, using the life stories of five major American intellectuals to offer a window into the contentious debates between assimilationists and segregationists and between racists and antiracists. From Puritan minister Cotton Mather to Thomas Jefferson, from fiery abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison to W.E.B. Du Bois to legendary anti-prison activist Angela Davis, the author shows how and why some of the leading proslavery and pro-civil rights thinkers have challenged or helped cement racist ideas in America.