

# The Dunham Technique

*Our program is socialization through the arts. I see it as taking the rough edges...and trying to challenge them into ways of thinking and behaving....*

--- Katherine Dunham

Lanker, Brian [edited by Barbara Summers, forward by Maya Angelou]. *I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Wmen Who Changed America*. New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1989, p.28.

Welcome to issue four of volume one of *The Journal of Pan African Studies*. Since our last issue we have received praise from all corners of the globe, *JPAS* is listed in the Africa South of the Sahara: Selected Internet Resources of the Stanford University on-line catalog (<http://gill.stanford.edu/africa/journ2.html>), editorial board member Roland Barksdale-Hall (managing editor, *BCALA Newsletter*) has been appointed *JPAS* book review editor, and Volume 1, No. 2 of *JPAS* has been added to the archive (via special page retrieval by Esmeralda Kale, the Bibliographer of Africana at the Northwestern University Library, thank you Esmeralda Kale).

In this issue, I humbly dedicate the content to the life and times of the late queen mother, Katherine Dunham (1909-2006). As we continue to probe critical issues in the African paradigm, the Dunham Technique introduced by Katherine Dunham is an appropriate way to describe our context. Like the technique, our journal works via the rhythms of various cultures, to explore the basic foundation, form and foundation of movement to engage the body, mind, and spirit juxtaposing elements and concepts from African, Brazilian, Cuban, Haitian (Caribbean), jazz, and modern dance [*JPAS* is considering a special Katherine Dunham edition, contact me at [imzsr@yahoo.com](mailto:imzsr@yahoo.com) for details].

Hence, this issue specifically examines four new topics involving the virtues and failures of traditional African educational systems in the context of continental Pan-Africanism, a report on a continuing African world history project in Saint Lucia, the cultural world-view of Ubuntu, the question of globalization and the Nigerian economy with a focus on debt cancellation, a critique of a new book on African-American Studies theory and practice, and three important announcements.

Sincerely,

Itibari M. Zulu  
Editor

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