

Africa and the Arts: Advancing Intertextuality

Welcome to another fine edition of *The Journal of Pan African Studies*. In this issue we acknowledge our one hundredth subscriber, and organize around the themes of African redemption and the arts. In discourse on Africa, we explore: capitalism and development initiatives, how historically Black colleges and universities institutions in the U.S. can help Africa's development, how Pan-Africanism and Negritude theory can assist artist, the psychological theory of collective unconsciousness to understand the 10,000 year old African quest for independent education, the participatory democracy aspects of traditional Yoruba society, and the complex question of migration and terminal brain drain in Kenya. And secondly, in the arts, we engage discussion on: fact as fiction in a Nigerian centered novel, how another novel represents an effort to free Africa from the claws and shackles of imperialism, and in conclusion we provide a film review focused on four friends who initiated the Greensboro, NC sit-in movement, a paper on the human origins of rhetoric as an ethical prerogative in ancient Egypt, a conference call announcement, and a first for us, an electronic book on ancient Egyptian literature detailing basic social truths and ethics key to human development.

This construction interestingly corresponds the work of researchers in Timbuktu working to preserve tens of thousands of ancient texts (150,000 have been collected already) that date from the 13th century, used to teach some 25,000 scholars during the 16th century [see *Libraries in the Sand Reveal Africa's Academic Past* by Nick Tattersall via a November 11, 2006 *Reuters* report for details], and the First Pan African Cultural Congress organized by the African Union (www.africa-union.org) at its headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia held November 13-15, 2006 around the theme of culture, integration and African Renaissance designed to review and assess the cultural sector in Africa, and consider challenges and opportunities in order to develop appropriate strategies and programs with an expected outcome [one of four] of making a contribution to the renewal of African thought, identity and philosophy. Thus, these recent events require our continued support as the First Pan African Cultural Congress issues its final reports and consensus statement, and the *République du Mali* and the world community assist in the preservation of the world renowned Timbuktu papers.

And in short, as we end 2006, *JPAS* extend best wishes to everyone, and look forward to an exciting time in 2007 via our guest editor initiatives and special issues that will humbly echo the scholarly tradition set many years ago by our predecessors in ancient Egypt, and Timbuktu.

In continuing peace and unity,

Itibari M. Zulu
Editor