

A Black History Month Special: Revolutionary Struggle, Malcolm X, MLK, Mumia, MOVE

Global Research News Hour Episode 171

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Abayomi Azikiwe](#)

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Region: [sub-Saharan Africa](#), [USA](#)

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[Police State & Civil Rights](#)

"I believe that there will ultimately be a clash between the oppressed and those that do the oppressing. I believe that there will be a clash between those who want freedom, justice, and equality for everyone and those who want to continue the systems of exploitation... It is incorrect to classify the revolt of the Negro as simply a racial conflict of black against white, or as a purely American problem. Rather, we are today seeing a global rebellion of the oppressed against the oppressor, the exploited against the exploiter."

– Malcolm X (January 1965) [1]

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The modern history of the world is saturated with convenient narratives typically serving the interests of the victors of war and conquest.

Mainstream media discourse around Black History month is apt to ignore inconvenient truths about the indelible links between a specific set of economic relationships today, and abundant psychological pathologies diminishing others based on ethnicity and race.

The legendary Malcolm X entertained no illusions about the realities of race in America. He pulled no punches articulating the ugly realities of racism and connecting the black liberation struggle in the U.S. with liberation struggles against imperialism abroad.

The week of February 21st marks the 52 year anniversary of his assassination. To commemorate that occasion, and Black History month generally, the Global Research News Hour probes how the Black Radical tradition in the United States can inform and inspire some of the contemporary battles taking place under U.S. President Trump.

In the show's first half hour we hear from Abayomi Azikiwe, editor of [Pan African News Wire](#)

and frequent contributor to Global Research. Azikiwe provides background on Malcolm X, the revolutionary spirit that both Malcolm and Dr. Martin Luther King in his later years brought to the freedom movement, and on the need for a successful battle against racism in America that must also encompass a challenge to capitalist and militarist systems.

Profiled on this program [a year ago](#), MOVE is the revolutionary predominantly African-American organization which claims to embrace a philosophy of protecting life. It has not been shy of criticizing the violence of Philadelphia authorities in its dealings with the black, poor and Latino populations of the city.

Nine members of the group were sentenced to 30 to 100 years in prison on the charge of shooting a police officer to death. The charge is contested, and the ongoing incarceration of these individuals, and the bombing of the group's home in 1985 is seen as part of an undeclared war on MOVE rather than a responsibility to serve and protect the general public. [3]

Ramona Africa is the Minister of Communications for MOVE and the sole adult survivor of the 1985 bombing attack. In this week's exclusive interview, recorded in July of 2016, Ramona explains how she came to be involved with MOVE, the depth of the system's indoctrination and the unlikelihood of politicians within that system to bring about meaningful change.

The program ends with an update on Mumia Abu Jamal. A journalist, former Black Panther and supporter of MOVE, Jamal was arrested and sentenced initially to death for the murder of police officer Daniel Faulkner. There are numerous indications however, that Jamal was denied a fair trial.[4]

While spared the Death Penalty as of December 2011, Jamal is serving a life sentence. He has however been ailing from a Hepatitis-C infection. The prison facility in which he is housed refuses to provide available treatments that could save his life.[5]

Suzanne Ross, a representative of International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu Jamal returns to the Global Research News Hour to provide listeners with a vital update.

For more on MOVE and their upcoming conference:

onamove.com

For more on Mumia Abu Jamal and the March 1 "Water is Life" National Day of Action:

www.freemumia.com

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It is also available on 93.9 FM cable in the communities of SFU, Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Surrey and Delta, in British Columbia, Canada. – Tune in at its new time – Wednesdays at 4pm PT.

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Caper Radio CJBW 107.3FM in Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia airs the Global Research News Hour starting Wednesday Morning from 8:00 to 9:00am. Find more details at [www.caperradio.ca](#)

Notes:

1) <http://socialistreview.org.uk/399/malcolm-x-road-revolution>

2) Alan Yuhas (May 13, 2015), The Guardian, "Philadelphia's Osage Avenue police bombing, 30 years on: 'This story is a parable'"; <http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/may/13/osage-avenue-bombing-philadelphia-30-years>

3) <http://onamove.com>

4) <http://www.freemumia.com/who-is-mumia-abu-jamal/>

5) ibid

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Articles by: [Michael Welch](#)
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