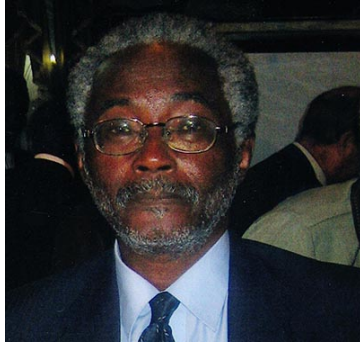


Afrocentricity International Salutes the Life of Bankie F. Bankie



Great men and women do not have to make much noise; they accomplish what they will by steadily moving forward. Bankie F. Bankie, an African giant whose work was celebrated throughout the world, is gone. Afrocentricity International, a worldwide organization of Afrocentric Pan Africanists, will redouble its effort to bring into existence a universal resurrection of ancestral respect and a will to create the United States of Africa.

Bankie F. Bankie has joined the ancestral realm and given us one more weaponized ancestor to fight our battle for the liberation of the minds and bodies of African people. Hail Bankie by remembering him not merely with word but with our actions and deeds. He was a Ghanaian. He was a Namibian. He was a South Sudanese. He was an African Diasporan. He was an African. Bankie's book, *Pan Africanism/African Nationalism: Strengthening the Unity of Africa and its Diaspora*, edited with Kingo Mchombu, attests to his position in the mainstream of Pan Africanism. We count him as a part of the long struggle for Afrocentricity although we recognize certain nuances that existed between us based on the understanding of history. While Afrocentricity International honors all African traditions we see a fundamental flaw in the acceptance of any foreign ideology, especially in terms of religion. Bankie was a Pan African nationalist who served our cause with distinction.

Who was this mighty elephant of Africa? He was truly a Pan African whose embrace of the Afrocentric vision stood in his heart as the post of his understanding of Pan Africanism. He was never formally inducted into Afrocentricity International although we held several discussions. He was committed to the principles to which Afrocentrists adhere. For example, he did not see Africa in terms of regions; he defied them and claimed his Africanity from a historical sense. This was his reality. He was neither a tribalist nor ethnocentrist, but clearly an Afrocentrist with a powerful appreciation of the way that Africans everywhere had to accept our universal mission. This is why a man from Ghana embraced Namibians, Sudanese, South Africans, Senegalese, African Americans, and Angolans, and all other Africans. We honor the man who taught young people the history of Africa at the National Youth Council and the Community Youth Centre in Katatura, Namibia. We ask all Shenutis to honor the name of Bankie F. Bankie in the panoply of great defenders of Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.

'Unity is our Aim, Victory is our Destiny!'
Peraat Ama Mazama, Afrocentricity International
Molefi Kete Asante, International Organizer, AI
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