

No Stone Unturned: From Aimé Césaire to Zimbabwe

Thank you for reading this publication, we are again pleased to offer some of the most engaging insights on the African experience in scholarly publishing. In this edition we provide: a tribute to the life and work of Aimé Césaire (1913-2008) via an interview wherein he talks about the philosophy of Négritude and his faith in the power of words; an interview with Senegalese novelist Marouba Fall wherein he discusses his latest work, *Betty Allen*; a special section on Zimbabwe (the name Zimbabwe derives from “Dzimba dzamadwe” meaning “great stone house” in the Shona language) from members of the intellectual community in the Republic of Zimbabwe, focused on language preferences, how children games and play songs represent an indigenous way of knowing, and how issues of women identity need to be reconstructed to confront the pandemic of HIV and AIDS.

Conversely, this issue also explores insights on: political intolerance and ideological rivalry in South Africa in relationship to the memory and commemoration of the June 16, 1976 Soweto student uprising; the Barack Obama phenomenon; how African American Studies scholars can offer an alternative perspective to urban poverty research, how to close the academic achievement gap, how the Black Seminoles negotiate their marginal status within the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the ongoing commoditization of Blackness via hip-hop, Pan Africanism, a book review, scholarship focused on Margaret Walker’s book *Jubilee*, and an article which suggest that Africa must initiate an industrial and economic development plans that extends beyond begging, borrowing or blaming; and finally an examination of the communicative effectiveness of language use in HIV/AIDS public awareness/sensitization campaigns in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The depth and scope of this edition thus reflects the diversity of issues and concerns that continuously make Pan African Studies (African Studies, Africana Studies, etc.) an interesting arena of research and study. And to this end, we can expect that no stone will be unturned in our exploration of this essential educational enterprise.

Forward together,

Itibari M. Zulu
Editor