



Akwaaba!

Drum Call is a new publication from Nubian Link; Nubian Link I hear you ask?

Who or what is Nubian Link?

Established in 1995 CE, Nubian Link is an unincorporated voluntary organisation that strives to support the educational, cultural and economic development of the Afrikan* community from an Afrikan-centred perspective

**The term Afrikan is inclusive of all people of Afrikan origin and descent and therefore includes people who are described or self-describe as Afrikan-Caribbean, Afrikan-British, Black-British, Dual/Mixed-Race/Parentage, Afrikan-American etc.*

Nubian Link Objectives

- To provide support for the Afrikan community via the development of programmes and initiatives
- To highlight issues relevant to the Afrikan community through the gathering and sharing of information
- To forge links and work co-operatively with other like-minded groups
- To be autonomous and economically independent

How does Nubian Link work?

Nubian Link is managed by a **Steering Group**, supported and guided by a **Council of Elders**.

This management team (the Steering Group) is responsible for the current programmes and initiatives of Nubian Link.

Current programmes are developed via consultation with the Council of Elders and

community where possible, and then delivered in accordance with the mission statement and Nubian Link objectives.

The final decision to implement programmes/initiatives rests with the Steering Group and Council of Elders given there is adequate human and financial resource to deliver the activities

Current position of Nubian Link

Despite a good start and several achievements e.g. consistent Kwanzaa celebration since 1997 in Nottingham, catalyst for the Afrikan Business Development Fund, "Kulture College" programme since 1997, it is fair to say that Nubian Link is looking to 'refresh' itself since being fairly dormant over the last two years.

Why is the case? Consider the following reasons:

1. Current Steering Group is actively involved in other important community activities e.g. Brother II Brother, ABDF, Afrikan-Caribbean Young Achievers Network
2. Family commitments have increased for all four Steering Group members; three of who are married with children
3. Current Steering are senior adults (over 37 years old) and do not have any junior adult involvement
4. Current Steering Group and Council of Elders is all male; for an Afrikan-centred organisation this is not good for balance and harmony – Afrikan culture is driven by the female and male principle working together
5. From an original Council of Elder membership of three, there is now only one male Elder

If you accept the first two points can't be helped, hopefully you will accept that the last three points can be addressed.

Therefore, if you are under 37 and female (preferably) we would like you to consider joining the Steering Group or any of the Nubian Link activities; please visit www.nubianlink.org.uk for more information.



If you are aged over 51 and again preferably female you should consider joining the Council of Elders.

Contact [Nubian Link](http://Nubian_Link) now to for more information or to discuss joining the Steering Group or Council of Elders.

OK, with the plug for new 'blood' for Nubian Link over; please check out the features of this inaugural edition of the Drum Call.

Why Drum Call?

The Editor of Drum Call did for several years publish an e-magazine called 'Alkebu-Lan Express'. Whilst this enjoyed moderate levels of success and exposure it did suffer 'one man band syndrome' and needed fresh impetus.

Therefore, as the Editor and a Steering Group member of Nubian Link it made sense to align the e-zine to the group, which in its formative years published a print version of Drum Call.

With due respect to the fantastic and unrelenting work of The Alkebu-Lan Revivalist Movement (ARM), some people wrongly made a connection between the e-zine Alkebu-Lan Express and ARM and I did not want to appear to be associating the e-zine with ARM who publish the brilliant newspaper, The Whirlwind.

The drum call is synonymous in Afrikan culture with communication, culture, education, spirituality and music; and these are the areas where Nubian Link wants to focus the content of the magazine. Moreover, or perhaps I should say unfortunately, many (Afrikan people) find the name "Drum Call" more engaging than "Alkebu-Lan Express"; and as painful as this truth may be, it does indicate the work required to re-instate a higher level of Afrikanity amongst the many and not the few.

So there you have it; a brief overview of why you are reading Drum Call.

Whether you like it or not, we would like to hear from you; and if you fall in the don't like camp, PLEASE offer some constructive feedback. Obviously, if you like what you read get on the case and holla back.

I hope you enjoy this inaugural edition of Drum Call. If you would to contribute to a future edition or please email:

– Kwabena, Editor (previously editor and publisher of "Alkebu-Lan Express"

COMING SOON!

**DRUM CALL
PODCASTS**

WWW.NUBIANLINK.ORG.UK

WATCH THIS SPACE!

The DRUM CALL interview

An Elder's view of Zimbabwe: Drum Call (DC) interview with Mwalimu George Ben Anthony (MGBA).

DC: Is it important for the (economic) future of Zimbabwe for Mugabe/Zanu-PF not to retain power?

MGBA: No!! On the contrary. It is imperative that they retain Authority ("power") given the History of the region in particular and Our Holy Motherland in general.

DC: Why is Mugabe so vilified by the British media; is any of it justified?

MGBA: Because he is not one of the buffoons and sycophants in Our Holy Motherland who have consistently and continuously betrayed the welfare and security of our People in order to please "masa" and so receive the crumbs from



his table or, 'a piece of chicken and some biscuits'.

None of the vilification is justified! This is one of the methods colonialists and imperialists have employed when they encounter True/Real Patriots (i.e. People/Leaders who care deeply and sincerely about the Welfare and Security of their People and Land) who do not /will not succumb to bribery, intimidation, or, being cajoled to betray their People and their Heritage in order to satisfy their enemy(ies).

Also, it is my view that the marvellous speech which he delivered at the 'World Summit' in Azania ("South Africa") where every country was represented – not just Heads of State and Ministers of Foreign Affairs - and later, at the United Nations, told Truths about what was happening in Zimbabwe.

Truths which they never print or tell in their news; be it print or broadcast media. For example: The debilitating effects of the "Lancaster House Constitution" (with that silly "Willing-Buyer - Willing-Seller clause) on him and his Government's plans rapidly to empower their People through the Land Reform Programme. Britain's imposition of sanctions (direct and indirect) on Zimbabwe.

The resources which the British and the U.S.A had pledged to make available were not adequate.

DC: What lessons can be learned by

Afrikan in the UK from the Zimbabwe situation about our situation in the UK?

MGBA: I will simply quote one of Our foremost Scholar-Warriors (now a Great and Revered Ancestor); His Majesty MARCUS MOZIAH GARVEY the Great, who, in a speech, many decades ago, to an audience of his People (Afrikan) said: - "Any Leadership that teaches you to depend upon another Race, is a Leadership that will enslave you!!

DC: Zimbabwe was once the 'bread basket' for Afrika; why is this now not the case?

MGBA: Because it was never the case! This is merely humbug by the enemies' media! How could Zimbabwe have been "the bread basket of Africa" as is so often spouted?

Yes! Zimbabwe Farmers (ALL Afrikan!!) produced huge food surpluses over many centuries-long, long, long before the "Whiteman" arrived (un-invited) in that Beautiful (People and Land) Country!!

They were successful not only in providing adequate food for their Country, but also for many other Countries in the region.

No, the intent of the authors of this crass declaration is to "big-up"/elevate the "Whiteman" and present him, once again, as the saviour of Afrika and Afrikan by suggesting that now that (as they put it) the "White" farmers have been "thrown off the Land" in Zimbabwe (which is not true!!) Afrika has no one to grow food for Her People. It is HUMBUG! It is BALDERDASH!! This is one of numerous attempts to present Afrikan, especially at Home, as feckless.

DC: Finally, what does the widespread support for Mugabe other Afrikan leaders and nations really tell us about Mugabe?

MGBA: That he is determined, quite rightly, to defend and maintain the ideals of and Reasons for the "CHIMURENGAS" (Wars against the enemy(ies)) for the Liberation of their People and their Land which his/Our Great and Revered Ancestors initiated many decades ago and which his Generation SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED!



Jumping the broom

Summer used to be season where you would look forward to several weddings. Unfortunately, marriage is on the decline amongst Afrikans abroad in the UK. However, for those engaging or contemplating this important Afrikan Rites of Passage, Drum Call would like you to consider including the jumping of the broom as part of your wedding.

Jumping the broom is increasingly becoming a “tradition” at wedding celebrations and is a fun and loving way to celebrate, reclaim and continue our Afrikan heritage and culture.

As a result of religious and legal barriers to marriages between enslaved Afrikans; jumping the broom was one element of how weddings were ritualised in their Afrikan homeland.

It is a ceremony in which the bride and groom, either at the ceremony or reception, signify their entrance into a new life and creation of a new family by symbolically “sweeping away” their former



single lives, former problems and concerns.

The broom is then retained to take pride-of-place in the home. The straws of the broom represent the families coming together to support a new family, that is the newly married couple. The broom is held together and given strength by the handle that represents THE CREATOR (Mwari, God, Jahweh, Nyame etc...)

Your Afrikan Name

Female: AYANNA (Ah-yaa-nah) - Beautiful flower

Male: ADISA (A-dee-sah) – one who makes his meaning clear