

Hashim Jabar OdoKhan-El

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House Resolution 40 Testimony

I am Hashim Jabar, born in Maryland raised in the Washington, D.C. area. I am a Moorish-American descendant of Morocco born in America. I am a great grandson of Bishop John Jamison Moore, who was consecrated Bishop of the AME Zion Church 1868. It is well documented that he was the child of a free woman, named Fannie Riedoubt, who was kidnapped in Maryland and enslaved in Berkley County West Virginia. In history he is referred to as a slave or born a slave, when in reality he was a prisoner of war held hostage against his will. Thankfully, his mother was courageous enough to fight for her freedom by escaping her captors. Bishop Moore is published in the Library of Congress.

What has been unknown about Bishop Moore and his mother is that they were and are from a Hebrew lineage, often called Sephardic Jews, but properly termed “Bet-Isra-El”. Due to the oppression of the Spanish Inquisition, the Catholics and Jesuits, our family kept their Judaic practices secret, which is why people refer to them as “crypto Jews” or secret Jews. More of my grandparents were purchased and enslaved in South Carolina. They were called Allif and Sterling Foster, they were and are Moors.

In short our family culture, history, heritage was stolen from us. The knowledge of our God was stolen from us and replaced with a European image as God, causing psychological damage. The knowledge of self was stolen from us, our right to an inheritance was stolen from us. We were disallowed to speak our native tongue, unable to pass on our family trades and traditions to our children. Our birthright of land ownership was stolen from us. We were disallowed to read by law. We were banned from trade and put in “generational economic” slavery. Our land, capital, ships, and assets were stolen in war! All of the above are reasons as to why I support reparations.

In addition, reparations are owed due to the vicious toll taken on the Black community by crack cocaine. It is clear and known that the President of the United States in coordination with the military brought illegal and deadly drugs into the Black community. Later, the same drugs that the President brought into the country criminally, were the same drugs that Blacks were arrested for and over penalized. Reparations are owed for the effects of the crack cocaine epidemic-perpetrated by the President of the United States and the United States military.

Also, H.R.1242 of the 115th Congress (2017-2018), the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act sheds light on the need for reparations. This bill establishes the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to develop and carry out activities throughout the United States to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619.

Lastly, as part of my testimony, I have submitted a speech I made at the 30th annual convention on reparations, called Education in the Context of reparations, along with excerpts from other speakers at the convention.

Sincerely,

Hashim Ali Jabar OdoKhan-EL