

WHY STUDY AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY?

AS A QUESTION

Why is it Important to Holistically Infuse African and African-American History and Culture into the School's Daily Curriculum?

AS A STATEMENT

It is Important to Holistically Infuse African and African-American History and Culture into the School's Daily Curriculum.

COGNITIVE DISSONANCE

Is the mental stress or discomfort experienced by an individual who holds two or more contradictory beliefs, ideas, or values at the same time, or is confronted by new information that conflicts with beliefs, ideas, or values.

An individual who experiences inconsistency (dissonance) tends to become psychologically uncomfortable, and is motivated to try to reduce this dissonance—as well as actively avoid situations and information likely to increase it.

The missing pages of World History is African History. The missing pages of American History is African-American History. Teaching the social sciences answer the basic questions. **History** tells us **When**, **Geography** shows us **Where**, **Politics** demonstrates **How**, **Economics** describes **What** and **Social** identifies **Who**. However, it is the other subject areas such as Science, Technology, Engineering, Math; along with the Arts, Performing, Creative and Language that holistically demonstrate the contributions of a people individually or as a group.

World renowned Senegalese scholar, Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop defines the Social Sciences as, "The accumulation of information from the moment that the people become conscious of the importance of people, places and events to the point where they invent techniques, oral or written for its memorization, accumulation and improvement. The social sciences are the cultural cement that unify the disparate elements of a people to make them into a whole society."¹

It is important to know the difference between episodic and corrective history. Episodic history investigates an event or group of events occurring as part of a larger sequence with the purpose of examining and analyzing the people, places in the event in isolation. Corrective (Holistic) history is characterized by the comprehension of the episodes of someone, something or some event as intimately connected and explicable (explainable) only by reference to the whole, with the purpose of analyzing the people, places or events comprehensively in order to determine what can be done for the events to be corrected or improved. Studying the history and culture of African-American beginning with their enslavement is episodic history. Who were African-Americans before they were enslaved? Where did they come from before they were enslaved? How did they govern themselves? What did Africans value that they used for their economic system? What is the history of Africans in America before they were enslaved? By answering these questions, we are engaging in Corrective history from a holistic perspective.

This comprehensive curriculum, The Historic Journey, approaches the teaching of the history and culture of African-Americans utilizing the methodology of Corrective history. The Historic Journey DVD, that accompanies the curriculum, begins with footsteps. These footsteps are known as the Laetoli footsteps. These footsteps were found in Tanganyika, Africa and date back as far as 3.7 million years ago. The importance of these footsteps demonstrates the direction humanity must follow going into the future. While the Historic Journey celebrates the Candidacy, Inauguration and

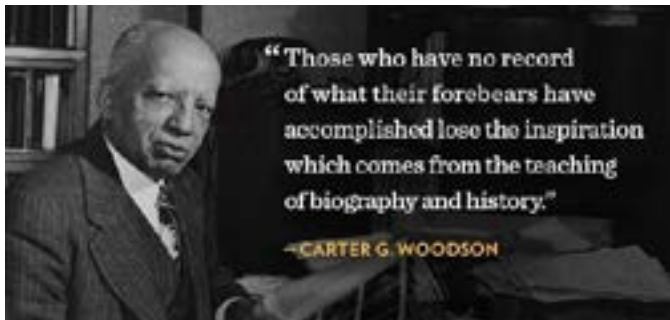
Presidency of Barack Obama, its main focus examines all of the people, places and events that made his success possible, by creating a multi-subject, inter-disciplinary curriculum guide. The Historic Journey begins in Africa during the origin of the human family in the Great Lakes Region and follows humanity through its cultural and technological ages. The learner travels with Africans to America during the Twenty-Fifth Dynasty of Egypt when Africans brought their technological advantages to Early America and Africans in America during times of enslavement and bondage. This journey continues by studying the revolts, rebellions and great achievements during the Civil Rights Movement of the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies. During the next two decades, advances are made in America that would lead to the election of the first African-American president, Barack Obama. In the Historic Journey, President Barack Obama,

represents another footstep that was started in Laetoli, Tanzania, 3.7 million years ago. The students of this great curriculum will fill in the missing pages of World and American Histories through the study of Math, Science, Language Arts, the Social Sciences and other classroom subjects following the Core Standards of the Education Departments of the United States.

Taking this Historic Journey is important for students of all cultures. More now than ever, American students must be exposed to the complete history of the World, in general, and America specifically, in order for them to fill in the missing pages of History.

1)Diop, Cheikh Anta. *Civilization or Barbarism: An Authentic Anthropology* Translated from the French by Yaa-Lengi Meema Ngemi. Edited by Harold J. Salemson and Marjolijn de Jager. New York: Lawrence Hill, 1991, p 214.

Our Academic Heroes



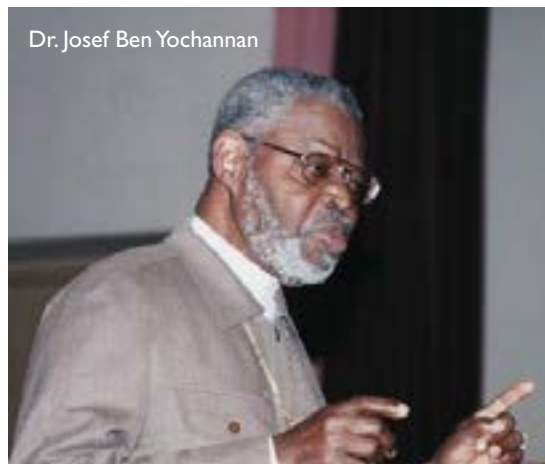
Cheikh Anta Diop



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Chancellor Williams



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