Theme: Winter Holiday

Kwanzaa

You may know that Kwanzaa was created by educator and activist Maulana Karenga, who formed US Organization in 1965. Each Kwanzaa candle represents a principle of *Nguzo Saba*. In 1971, US Organization published a book of "beginning concepts in the Black Nationalist ideology of change, *Kawaida*," which defined *Nguzo Saba* as follows:

The Seven Principles Nguzo Saba

Umoja - Unity

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.

Kujichagulia - Self-determination

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves, and speak for ourselves.

Ujima - Collective Work and Responsibility

To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers and sisters problems our problems and to solve them together.

Ujamaa - Cooperative Economics

To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Nia - Purpose

To make as our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Kuumba - Creativity

To do always as much as we can in the way we can in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we we inherited it.

Imani - Faith

To believe with all our heart in our parents, our teachers, our leader, our people, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

Furthermore, our nationalism being based on the Seven Principles, causes us to live by an African Value system. More

(14) Maulana Ron Karenga established the Seven Principles as the basic values of US Organization. Based on Maulana's research, he felt that the Nguzo Saba could be identified in all African traditional life as well as being relevant as a basis for revolutionary action for Blacks in America. Of all of the innumerable concepts which Maulana Karenga has initiated, the Nguzo Saba is the most widespread. Almost every Black Nationalist and every Black educational institution has realized the worth of the Seven Principles.

Maulana Karenga has concluded for US the Seven Principles are absolute. By absolute we mean nothing can be taken away from them, although there is always room for beneficial additions that do not duplicate the Seven Principles as they are already defined.

defined.

They are Pan-African in that they are values that can be found in all traditional African life. This is why the Nationalism taught by Maulana Karenga is Pan-African in scope and content. We do not make a dysfunctional division between Pan-Africanism and Nationalism for the identification of the Afroamerican must be a Pan-Africanism identification. He must draw his identity from Africa and must see America only as a sad but real political circumstance, Our nationalism has an inevitable Pan-African component because we do not identify with the nation state in which we live but look to Africa as a spiritual concept.

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Read more from *kitabu*: *beginning concepts in KAWAIDA* in *Archives Unbound*: https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5105831319/GDSC?u=cmu_main&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=6fefa4ea&pg=2

Theme: Winter Holiday

Chinese New Year

In 1894, Philadelphia's *North American* newspaper published an article documenting how Chinese New Year was celebrated. J. M. Scanland describes social visiting customs, spiritual forgiveness, debt payments, and—see screenshot—fireworks. How does this account compare to current celebrations?

Firecrackers are imported in "strings about 10 feet in length, the "strings" containing from 5,000 to 10,000 each and costing from \$5 to \$10 or \$15, according to their explosive qualities. Year's evening more especially the restaurants and josshouses are brilliantly illuminated with Chinese lanterns of every color and design from that of a dragon with 10 heads to a fairy, all wings. A string of these firecrackers is suspended from a pole and lighted. As soon as they have all exploded another and another is fired, and the din is terrific, also the expense. In addition bombs of the greatest explosive powers are being fired, and rockets of varicolored hues are being sent up, literally illuminating the entire Chinese quarter. Those who have been successful in playing tan, their favorite game of chance, are espeilly demonstrative on this occasion.

Read the full article in the library's *Nineteenth Century US Newspapers* archive: https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/GT3011175420/NCNP?u=cmu_main&sid=bookmark-NCNP&xid=7e4de6da