

TEN THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE BCI

March 2016 MARCHING FORWARD

Just like the Faith, the Drum works for us if you pass it on.

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TO SUPPORT THIS WORK PRAY AND GO TO https://www.givecentral.org/location/144/event/10917

1. LET US PRAY

Please pray for members of our church who died a sudden death.

As we detest the violence that kills the young, gifted and Black, Let us remember the history of the Catholics, young, gifted and Black who lived their lives inside the church. People like Vince Clark of St. Sabina's, all those women, men and children who can only be properly buried from the church because they kept so busy praising, serving and loving my Jesus Ain't Got Time to Die!

May the angels lead them all together into paradise.

Prepare the ROLL CALL of the GREAT CHICAGO CATHOLICS UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS WE STAND.

In preparation for BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH (NOV) Send names of the great parishioners who have gone before us.

So we can cry out together LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER! and sing out together THANKS BE TO GOD!

Please submit all prayer request to <u>BCI@archchicago.org</u>.

2. BLACK HISTORY REPORT

WE HONORED DR. KING AND PRAYED FOR CIVIL RIGHTS BLACK LIVES MATTER RIGHT?

HTTP://WWW.CATHOLICNEWWORLD.COM/CNWO NLINE/2016/0124/4.ASPX

HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=I40HAV VY1JQ

WE HONORED THE FIRST ONE OF US TO TEACH IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN CHICAGO BLACK TEACHERS MATTER RIGHT?



MRS. BOBBIE HICKS OF ST. MARTIN DE PORRES PARISH OUR FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN TEACHER IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

WE GAVE EVERY CHILD IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL A LESSON ON JEAN BAPTISTE PONT DUSABLE. BLACK FOUNDERS MATTER RIGHT? Lesson plan created as a guide by Sr. Joanne Delahanty, OP The primary objective is to identify du Sable as a black Roman Catholic who was part of the beginnings of the city of Chicago.

More broadly and open-endedly, an objective is to become aware of black Roman Catholics in the history of Chicago.

This is entirely teacher-driven. Primary grades could merely use the sketch of du Sable for identification, while junior high grades can extrapolate the material to explore other related things (e.g., the development of the Church in segregated Chicago and the challenges which that fact presents to us as Church now).

If the timelines are unhelpful, then the information could be given (or researched by the students):

What was going on in the Catholic Church at this time (i.e., du Sable's time)? Who was Pope? Where was the nearest Catholic diocese? What was going on in Illinois (or US) history at this time? What was going on in Black history at this time?

What do you know about the beginnings of Chicago? Can you name any people from that era? What do you know about the Catholic beginnings of Chicago? Can you name any people from that era?

FOUR CONCURRENT TIMELINES: (mid 1700s - ?) Black History Chicago History American History Catholic History

It is important to know broadly of people, places, and events in relation to each other, so that knowledge is fuller, more complete, and therefore, more true. To learn of things in isolation runs the double risk of falsely believing you have the whole picture, and not recognizing the need of always pushing farther and deeper into knowledge. This Black History month offers an opportunity to expand the edges of what we know, and accept the challenge to pursue further knowledge with new perspective.

Expand the first four questions. An important point is that Catholics and Black Catholics left an impact on this city. Our LIVED faith shapes life choices, relationships, how we live. That is legacy, part of what brought us to where we are now. We are connected, therefore, to these people, and need to honor them first by knowing about them, and then by continuing their impact.

CATHOLIC BACKGROUND

Page 8, prologue, <u>The Archdiocese of Chicago: A Journey of Faith</u> Page 83, <u>The History of Black Catholics in the United States</u>, Cyprian Davis

BACKGROUND 1 (memorials)

By the 1850s, historians of Chicago recognized Point du Sable as the city's earliest non-native permanent settler. For a long time, however, the city did not honor him in the same manner as other pioneers.[[] A plaque was erected by the city in 1913 at the corner of Kinzie and Pine Streets to commemorate his homestead. In the planning stages of the 1933–1934 <u>Century of Progress</u> <u>International Exposition</u> a number of African-American groups campaigned for Point du Sable to be honored at the fair. At this time, few Chicagoans had even heard of Point du Sable and the fair's organizers presented the 1803 construction of <u>Fort Dearborn</u> as the city's historical beginning. The campaign was successful however, and a replica of Point du Sable's cabin was presented as part of the "background of the history of Chicago."

In 1965 a plaza called <u>Pioneer Court</u> was built on the site of Point du Sable's homestead as part of the construction of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of America building. The <u>Jean Baptiste Point Du Sable Homesite</u> was designated as a <u>National Historic Landmark</u> on May 11, 1976, as a site deemed to have "exceptional value to the nation." Pioneer Court is located at what is now 401 N. <u>Michigan Avenue</u> in the <u>Near North Side</u> of Chicago. In 2009, the City of Chicago and a private donor erected there a large bronze bust of Point du Sable by Chicago-born sculptor Erik Blome. In October 2010, the <u>Michigan Avenue Bridge</u> was renamed *DuSable Bridge* in honor of Point du Sable. Previously a small street named *De Saible Street* had been named after him.



The DuSable Museum of African American History in <u>Washington Park</u> A number of Chicago institutions have been named in honor of Point du Sable. <u>DuSable High School</u> opened in <u>Bronzeville</u> in 1934. Today it is a building for three schools: Daniel Hale Williams Prep School of Medicine, the Bronzeville Scholastic Institute, and the DuSable Leadership Academy. Dr. <u>Margaret Taylor-</u> <u>Burroughs</u>, a prominent African-American artist and writer taught at the school for twenty-three years. She and her husband co-founded the <u>DuSable Museum</u> of African American History, located on <u>Chicago's South Side</u>, which was renamed in honor of Point du Sable in 1968. DuSable Harbor is located in the heart of downtown Chicago at the foot of <u>Randolph Street</u>, and <u>DuSable Park</u> is an urban park (3.24 acres (13,100 m²)) in Chicago currently awaiting redevelopment. It was originally announced in 1987 by then Mayor <u>Harold</u> <u>Washington</u>. The <u>US Postal Service</u> has also honored Point du Sable with the issue of a Black Heritage Series, 22-cent postage stamp on February 20, 1987.

BACKGROUND 2

People & Events: Jean Baptiste Point du Sable (1745?-1818)

Jean Baptiste Point du Sable was the first settler of Chicago. He was also the city's first black resident. As a free black man, Point du Sable is believed to have been born most likely in Haiti sometime before 1750. His biography is sketchy, pieced together from the rare instances when he had to deal with the British or American governments.

From 1768 or so, Point du Sable operated as an *engagé*, a fur trader with an official license from the British government. In the early years of the United States, Point du Sable was managing a trading post in Indiana. The

area was officially Indian-owned (he was a tenant) and Point du Sable was harassed by both British and American troops who passed through the Midwest.

By 1788 he had established a farm in Chicago and lived there with his wife, Catherine, a son and a daughter. In the years that the family lived there, they provided some stability to an area that was primarily frequented by peripatetic traders. With the end of the Revolutionary War, Point du Sable's farm prospered. People as far away as the East coast knew Point du Sable as the only source of farmed produce in the area.

Suzanne Point du Sable, Jean Baptiste and Catherine's daughter, was married in 1790 and bore a daughter, Eulalie, in 1796. Her brother, Jean Baptiste Jr., worked as a trader on the Missouri River. He died in 1814.

Point du Sable left Chicago in 1800, selling his property to a neighbor. His wife did not sign the bill of sale, and may have been deceased at the time. Point moved to St. Charles in Spanish Louisiana. His business deals did not go well, and was declared insolvent in the territory in 1813. At the end of his life, Point du Sable was destitute and depended on the goodwill of a neighbor, possibly a lover, for his housekeeping.

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



HICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Jean Baptiste Point du Sable died on August 28, 1818.

BACKGROUND 3

1745?-1818 Jean Baptiste Pointe Du Sable was an intrepid pioneer and settler in the areas now known as Peoria and Chicago, Illinois. His foresight in perceiving the importance of the site of Chicago, now one of the largest cities in the United States, was matched by his uncommon affinity with the local Native American tribes. Together, these factors led this visionary entrepreneur to establish the most important center of commerce, trade, and industry in the central United States.

From Europe to America

Du Sable was born in approximately 1745 in the village of St. Marc on the island of Saint Dominique, in the region now known as the country of Haiti. His mother was African and a former slave. His father was a French mariner of some success, who took Du Sable to France for his education. There, the boy acquired a taste for fine art and culture, as well as languages. In addition to his native French, he learned English and Spanish, and assembled an impressive collection of valuable works of art.

Subsequently, Du Sable began sailing on his father's ships as a seaman. On one such voyage, from Saint Dominique to the then-French colony of New Orleans, his ship was damaged. The boat sank, and Du Sable was injured. He managed to make his way to the mainland, but had lost his identity papers. Complicating the situation, he found that the Spaniards had taken control of the city, and he faced arrest and even enslavement. Fortunately, a contingent of French Jesuits protected him while he recovered from his injuries. At that time, sensing opportunity, he felt compelled to explore the interior of the American wilderness. Du Sable ventured up the Mississippi River to the area now known as the state of Illinois. In the early 1770s, he settled in what is now Peoria. There, he gradually acquired more than 800 acres of land. Having learned several Indian languages, and evidently having mastered the necessary diplomatic skills, Du Sable formed a close relationship with the indigenous Pottawatomie tribe. By some accounts, Du Sable actually joined the tribe; according to others, the tribe "gave" him the woman who became his common-law wife. Her native name was Kihihawa, and Du Sable called her Catherine. It is likely that they had an Indian marriage ceremony. Catherine and Du Sable would eventually have two children: a daughter, Susanne, and a son named Jean.

Onward to Eschikagou

At some point in the mid to late 1770s, Du Sable decided to journey north. He made his way as far as the Great Lakes area, and the north bank of the mouth of the present-day Chicago River. This damp, barren, marshy area had earned the Indian name of Eschikagou, which has been variously translated as "Land of the Wild Onions" and "Place of Bad Smells" for its swampy odors. Its fierce local

native population had served as an additional deterrent to European settlement. Du Sable, however, perceived the value of the location, and again was able to befriend the tribes who counted him as a brother. On the site of the current Tribune Tower in downtown Chicago, he established the first permanent home in the region.

The original house was a substantial structure, with five rooms and all the amenities of the era. Du Sable went on to create a complex of commercial buildings and a thriving business, taking advantage of the strategic location that would continue to support the city's evolution to the present day. He added a trading post, a bake house, a smokehouse, a dairy, a mill, a horse stable, and a barn, in addition to miscellaneous out-buildings. This complex became the main trade and supply depot for trappers, woodsmen, pioneers, traders, and Native Americans. Du Sable offered good prices for trapped animals and raw agricultural materials. From these, he made marketable products such as flour, meat, and furs, and traded them to locations as far away as Detroit and Canada. He sold the trappers tools and supplies. Eschikagou grew into a key depot and a main trading route for the area.

As a result, the trading post was enormously successful, and Du Sable's reputation extended widely throughout the region. He became wealthy, and added his own herds of livestock, poultry, and hogs. There is evidence that he also contracted for field work and construction assignments, probably hiring local labor and supplying them with tools. Du Sable and his family were detained by the British for five years, during the Revolutionary War, due to his American and French sympathies. But in 1784, he brought Catherine, Susanne, and Jean to join him at his reclaimed property. Du Sable, a devout Catholic, then had a priest marry him and Catherine. Their granddaughter, who arrived in 1796, had the distinction of being the first child born in what was destined to become the great city of Chicago.

For somewhat mysterious reasons, Du Sable left his prosperous settlement on May 7, 1800, having sold his entire estate for only \$1,200. He spent the following 13 years back in Peoria. In 1813, he joined his granddaughter in St. Charles, Missouri, where he died almost penniless and was buried in 1818. Ironically, in that same year, Illinois became a state.

Du Sable's legacy is manifest in today's vibrant Chicago, and its economic significance to the development of the modern U.S. economy. From a small trading post to the largest commercial center in the heartland, his vision was the foundation on which a major metropolis was built. On October 25, 1968, Du Sable was officially recognized as the founder of Chicago by the city and the state of Illinois.

Roman Jatholic History	BLACK HISTORY	1750	HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY
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1789 John Carroll becomes Ist bishop in US At At		1780	1785 Treaty o Paris e US boui to inclu 12 terr 12 terr 13 terr 14 terr
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Slave Law	1793 cotton gin fincreases demand for slave labor	1800	
	1808 Congress bans bans importation of slaves Arom Africa	0181	born
1829 Oblate Srs. of Providence founded in Baltimore by 4 Women of African descent to educate airls of color	1810 Missouri Compromise	0181	1818 IL Statehood
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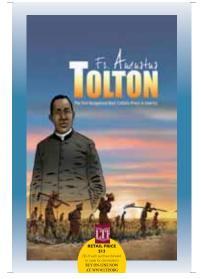
WE WENT TO THE CATHERAL AND THANKED GOD LITURGY MATTERS RIGHT?



THE STUDENTS CALLED US TO WORSHOP, LED THE PRAYER, PREACHED THE WORD AND SAAAAANNNG THE SONGS!!!

WE GAVE EVERY "PRAY-ER" A COPY OF A BOOK ON CATHOLIC HISTORY AND A BRACELT THAT READS BLESSED + EDUCATED IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

BLACK HISTORY MATTERS RIGHT?



WE ARE SEEKING WAYS TO BUILD THE KINGDOM TOGETHER THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY MATTERS AND DEPENDS ON "US" FOLLOWING JESUS AND PASSING ON THE FAITH.

Only a HANDFULL of Black Catholics, church employees and priests made this powerful moment happen this year in our church. Thanks be to God who serves the multitudes, But works with the faithful!

The history of Black Catholics in Chicago is a great story of what a few people have done well.

SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE CHILDREN SAVE THE CHURCH FEBRUARY 2017

BLACK AND CATHOLIC

It's BIGGER than you think It's BETTER than we know GET IT RIGHT and be in awe of WHAT GOD HAS DONE

3. THE CHARITY

The students studying Black history at the Cathedral gave \$1000.00 for Catholic Charity, Catholic Education, Catholic Social Justice and Catholic Health Care.

Please consider making history with a donation to the BCI. <u>https://www.givecentral.org/location/144/event/10917</u> **There are lots of bills to pay from teaching and celebrating African American history! Please and Thanks.**

4. THE CONTEST

All students matriculating in a Catholic school are invited to explore the life of Fr. Augustus Tolton for evidence of sainthood.

Bishop Perry and the Holy Father are doing the same homework.

Encourage a young mind to imagine this vocation.

The Student Committee of the Office of Catholic Schools chose the prizes.

GOOD LUCK and GOD BLESS!

The 1st place winning essay will be published in the Catholic New World

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2016





Why I think or believe Fr. Augustus Tolton was a saint. CONTEST RULES

A faculty or staff member of a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Chicago must submit your essay. Parental permission is required for participation. Submit essays to BCI@archchicago.org

Essay must be written by a student enrolled in a Catholic school. Essays must be original. Essays must be no more than 1500 words. Essays must be received by Palm Sunday. Students may enter multiple essays.





5. HONOR, HONOR UNTO THE DYING LAMB

Congratulations to Fr. Elric Sampson, OFM, Recipient of the Archbishop James P. Lyke African American Male Image Award. Presented by St. Felicitas-St. Ailbe Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #181.



Congratulations to the Court for 22 years of

Honoring hundreds of Black men and raising thousands of dollars for educational excellence.

Congratulations to Dr. C. Vanessa White the new Director of the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies Degree Program at Catholic Theological Union

Dr. Sr. Jamie Phelps, OP, soon to receive an honorary doctorate from Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis.

Recipient of the How Beautiful are Their Feet Award from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference for social justice.

Have some news to share? Someone to lift up? Give God the Praise <u>BCI@archchicago.org</u>

6. ON THE AIR

RADIOBCITuesdays 9-9:30 a.m.

Relevant Radio 950-AM

Deacon John Cook hosts this weekly half-hour program that



explores a wide range of topics relevant to Chicago's Black and Catholic communities. Deacon Cook serves at St. Felicitas Parish in Chatham and is very involved in organizing and overseeing youth programs in the Bronzeville neighborhood.

Tune in and Call in 312.255.8408

Let's talk about:

March 8 th	The Community Renewal Society with Deacon Shumpert
March 15 th	Fr. Augustus Tolton with Christine Riley
March 22 nd	Domestic Violence, Immigration with Fr. Larry Dowling

RADIO BCI is in search of persons YOUNG, GIFTED, BLACK and CATHOLIC to serve as co-hosts. Send resume to <u>BCI@archchicago.org</u>



7. BCI BOOK LIST *The Sankofa Brown Booklist*

Now that we have "come out the wilderness" of Black History Month; let's get serious, just like Jesus! The BCI will ask one, two or more of our prolific scholars to provide an annual list to Black Catholics of MUST READ books. The goal is to end the celebrations of February with a MARCH FORWARD that focuses, reviews, learns from and is aware of BLACK HISTORY as we build the future.

Here is the INAUGURAL LIST composed by Fr. Joseph Brown, SJ.

Black Priest/ White Church: Catholics and Racism. Rev. Lawrence E. Lucas. Random House. 1970 (First Africa World Press edition, 1980; 3rd printing, 1992)

Soulfull Worship. Clarence Jos. Rivers. Stimuli, Inc. 1974 (2nd printing, 1979)

This Far By Faith: American Black Worship and Its African Roots. Clarence R. Rivers, et. al. National Office of Black Catholics and The Liturgical Conference. 1977.

Theology: A Portrait in Black: Proceedings of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium. Thaddeus J. Posey, OFM Cap., Editor. National Black Clergy Caucus. 1980.

"What We Have Seen and Heard': A Pastoral Letter on Evangelization from the Black Bishops of the United States." St. Anthony Messenger Press. 1984. Families: Black and Catholic • Catholic and Black: Readings, Resources and Family Activities. Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA, Ph. D., Editor. United States Catholic Conference. 1985.

The History of Black Catholics in the United States. Cyprian Davis, OSB. Crossroad Press, New York. 1990.

Sister Thea Bowman, Shooting Star: Selected Writings and Speeches. Celestine Cepress, FSPA, Editor. St. Mary's Press, Winona. 1993.

And Still We Rise: An Introduction to Black Liberation Theology. Diana L. Hayes. Paulist Press. 1996.

Black and Catholic: The Challenge and Gift of Black Folk. Jamie T. Phelps, OP., Editor. Marquette University Press. 1997.

To Stand on the Rock: Meditations on Black Catholic Identity. Joseph A. Brown, SJ; Ph. D. Orbis Books. 1998.

Taking Down Our Harps: Black Catholics in the United States. Diana L. Hayes and Cyprian Davis, OSB, Editors. Orbis Books.1998.

No Cross, No Crown: Black Nuns in Nineteenth-Century New Orleans. Sister Mary Bernard Deggs, SSF. Edited by Virginia Meacham Gould and Charles E. Nolan. Indiana University Press. 2001. *"Stamped with the Image of God": African Americans as God's Image in Black.* Cyprian Davis, OSB, and Jamie T. Phelps, OP, Editors. Orbis Books. 2003.

Racial Justice and the Catholic Church. Bryan N. Massingale. Orbis Books. 2010.

Standing in the Shoes My Mother Made: A Womanist Theology. Diana L. Hayes. Fortress Press. 2011.

8. JUBILEE of MERCY

MERCY MONDAYS MERCY CHALLENGE DAYS OF MERCY AND FORGIVENESS PILGRIMMAGE SITES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Holy Name Cathedral State and Superior Streets www.holynamecathedral.org

St. Anselm Parish 6045 South Michigan Avenue st anselm1.tripod.com

St. Anthony Parish 11533 South Prairie Avenue

St. Columbanus Parish 331 East 71st Street www.stcolumbanuschicago.org

Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica 3121 West Jackson Boulevard www.ols-chicago.org

St. Peter's in the Loop 110 West Madison Street www.stpetersloop.org

St. Joseph 17951 Dixie Highway www.posjhomewood.org

http://jubileemercy.org

9. JUNETEENTH RETREAT

A Catholic retreat with the African American community. June 17th – 19th

\$200 PER PERSON INCLUDES ALL ACCESS TO ALL RETREAT SESSIONS ALL LITURGIES ALL RETREAT MATERIALS ALL MEALS AND THE SOCIAL OVERNIGHT SINGLE ACCOMMODATION

RETREAT MASTER SISTER CORA MARIE BILLINGS, RSM CHILD OF GOD SISTER OF MERCY

The great-granddaughter of a man enslaved by Jesuit Priests The first and only African American student in her West Philadelphia Grade School The first African American to join The Sisters of Mercy The first African American nun to teach who Christ is in Philadelphia Catholic schools The first African American woman religious member of The Canon Law Society The first African American woman to be the lead a Parish in the United States The only African American nun to be an answer to a question on Jeopardy

10 A. PARISH LIFE AND FORMATION EVENTS

The BCI received the following announcements from parishes, schools and organizations for the purpose of sharing information and invitation.

Please seek permission to publish items in this newsletter from the pastor or person responsible for the sponsoring agent. Please take care not to violate copyrights.

THE ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL HAD A GREAT ENTRANCE TO THE ARCHDIOCESE TODAY!!!

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN OAK PARK & ENGLEWOOD HOSTED SCREENINGS OF FILMS THAT CALL OUR ATTENTION

CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

FROM ST. AMBROSE

THE PARISH OF ST. AMBROSE HELPS FLINT



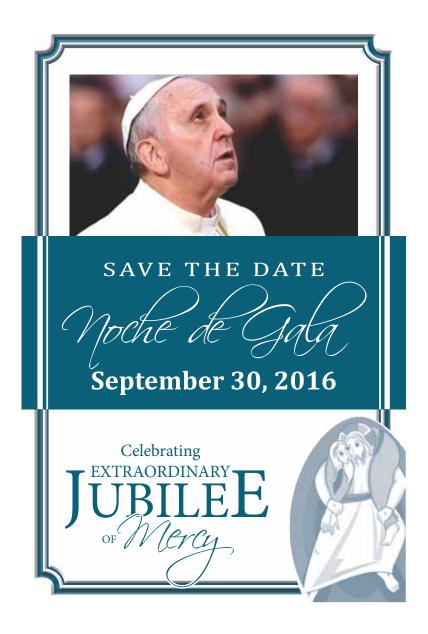
In this *Extraordinary Jubilee Year* of Mercy, the Parish of St. Ambrose is helping the Parish of Christ the King in Flint, MI.

One of our beloved parishioners has donated \$1,000 toward the purchase of water, and we want to match that donation.

Monetary donations for purchasing water will be accepted at our annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 5th and at all Saturday & Sunday masses now until March 20th.

For more information, contact the Rectory, 773.624.3695.

"Be merciful as your Father is merciful." -Lk. 6:36



Nigeria has the largest Black population Brazil has the second largest Black population The majority of enslaved PEOPLE slaves from Africa where stolen to Brazil

Lord, Have Mercy

10 B. THE BCI AND YOU

All are welcome to bring ideas and gifts to this collective work of baptizing matrimony and anointing, this effort of kujichagulia, umoja and imani. This is a meeting of the seven sacraments of the church and the seven principles of Kwanzaa. This is a meeting of the church. That is what makes it and us truly catholic. Stay tuned, stay close, get involved, walk together and don't you get weary! There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Believe that you are in the camp.

Thanks be to GOD

Someone asked the question... RED is for the blood of the people BLACK is for the community of the people GREEN is for the growth of the people