

Torchlight Academy, Inc. & Kwanzaa Cultural Center, Inc. Present

# The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual JUNETEENTH FREEDOM FESTIVAL in Macon, GA



*We are Soldiers for Truth, Justice,  
Redemption, Divine Peace*

**Rising Up to Freedom From the Land of Bondage**

**June 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> GEORGIA JUNETEENTH WEEK**

# POEMS BY KRISTINA KAY, 1996

## Keep In Your Heart The Blood

*Remember always the glory days,  
the dances, the songs, the chants, the rituals, the  
customs,  
the people.*

*Remember times in beautiful Africa, your people.  
From green forests, golden deserts, to the deepest,  
darkest regions  
of Congo and Virunga.*

*Hear, here in this land.*

*Hear always in your heart the beating of drums,  
the ancient customs of the Kagani.*

*Remember always the kings and queens,  
Tutankhamen, Cleopatra.*

*But do not sit and not remember the dark days.  
Keep In Your Heart The Blood.*

*Blood spilled by those who fought for freedom.  
The blood of the slave as the whip touches the flesh.*

*Do not be enslaved, be now empowered.  
Feel it, taste it, drink it.*

*Gather it in buckets, bathe in it.  
Bathe your children in it*

*Keep In Your Heart The Blood*

# **We Rose**

by Kristina Kay

*From Africa's heart, we rose  
Already a people, our faces ebon, our bodies lean,*

*We rose*

*Skills of art, life, beauty and family  
Crushed by forces we knew nothing of, we rose*

*Survive we must, we did,  
We rose*

*We rose to be you, we rose to be me,  
Above everything expected, we rose*

*To become the knowledge we never knew,  
We rose*

*Dream, we did  
Act we must*



***Private Cathay Williams, born 1844 in Independence, Missouri, was the only woman to serve in the US Army as a Buffalo Soldier. She fought and also suffered greatly, but having been subject to slavery, it may have been the only way even in 1866 she may have thought she could live as a free person.***



***Ellen and William Craft, pictured above were wife and husband who escaped from being illiterate slaves in Macon, Georgia in 1848. She disguised herself as a white man, passing as his slave master. They fled to Savannah, Charleston, Philadelphia, then Canada, eventually living in England, starting a family, learning to read, and even visited Africa. When they returned to America and the south they started their own school in Bryan County, Georgia***

# THE NILE VALLEY CIVILIZATION



**What is the duty of a civilized person?**

**ANS.** To Teach the uncivilized people, who are savage – civilization (righteousness, the knowledge of himself, the science of everything in life – love, peace and happiness).

**What is the meaning of civilization?**

**ANS.** One having knowledge, wisdom, understanding, culture, refinement and is not savage. Pursuit of happiness.

**From Lessons by Master Fard Muhammad  
to his Servant The Honorable Elijah Muhammad**

## THE NILE VALLEY CIVILIZATION



suggests, along the banks of the river Nile in Egypt. Its long, narrow flood plain was a magnet for life, attracting people, animals and plants to its banks, and providing ideal conditions for the development of stable communities. Seen as a gift from the gods, the annual flooding of the river deposited nutrient rich silt over the land, creating ideal conditions for growing wheat, flax and other crops.

Evidence suggests that the region was inhabited as far back as 700,000 years ago by Neolithic and Paleolithic Man. To date, the oldest tools found in the lower Nile Valley have been found in and near the cliffs of Abu Simbel, just across the river from where, millennia later, the descendants of these people would build the temple of Rameses II.

Geological evidence

indicates they are around 700,000 years old, giving a fairly good estimate as to when a Stone Age people was living in the area. It is believed that nomadic hunters settled in the valley and over the course of time, began to grow crops to supplement their food supply. Evidence suggests that beginning in 5500BC, hunting ceased to be a major support for existence and the Egyptian diet was made up of domesticated cattle, sheep, pigs and goats, as well as cereal grains such as wheat and barley. Artifacts of stone were supplemented by those of metal, and the crafts of basketry, pottery, weaving, and the tanning of animal hides became part of the daily life. The transition from primitive nomadic tribes to traditional civilization was nearly complete. The first communal project of this fledgling society was the building of irrigation canals for agricultural purposes. By predynastic Amratian times, about 3600 BC, agriculture appears to have begun in the valley alluviums of the Nile. By late predynastic times, about 3100 BC, there is evidence of a considerable growth in wealth consequent upon the earlier agricultural development and accompanied by a more integrated social system and the rise of the pharaoh dynasties.





With their eyes and minds on eternity, the Egyptians built a society that remained constant for nearly 3000 years. Many of their monuments still attest to that permanence. Ancient eyes of monumental sculptures and the Sphinx still stare at us through the centuries. The tombs in the Valley of Kings and at Beni Hasan and the ruins of massive pylon temples at Luxor and Karnak reminded us of the importance of religious belief in Egyptian society. The only remaining Wonder of the Ancient World still stands proudly at the pyramid complex at Giza. Their engineering and surveying skills were developed to solve the everyday problems they faced. Egyptian medical practices included brain and spinal surgery and setting of bones. Their form of decorative and colorful writing remained a mystery until the Nineteenth Century discovery and translation of the Rosetta Stone. Drama may have begun on the banks of the Nile with the Abydos Passion Play. By the record left in the tomb paintings, it is evident

that music and dance were an important part of Egyptian life.

### **Egyptian Astronomy**

The Egyptians began to study the stars very early on their history. They were among the first astronomers, and the temple of the sun god at Heliopolis was an important center for the study of astronomy. Unfortunately, very little original manuscripts have survived to the present. The burning of the Great Library in Alexandria during the time of Cleopatra and Julius Caesar, followed by subsequent burnings in AD 390 and AD 640 resulted in the the destruction of estimated 400,000 books on Egyptian secular literature, mathematics, medicine, and astronomy. The burnings were classified as one of the greatest intellectual catastrophies in human history. One can only guess what Egyptian knowledge of astronomy was lost.

