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The Burial of the Negro and the 21st Century Negrodian Keeping it Real By Larry Pinkney BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board

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"No sell outs"

-Malcolm X

Like a recurring nightmare, replete with psychotic, blood sucking sci-fi *political* vampire, some *biologically* black people in this nation-have moved briskly *backwards* from merely being negroes inside the U.S. Empire to full blown 21st century negrodians, shamelessly perpetuating it; and in so doing have given new and even more horrific meaning to the term "sell out."

In November of 1968, members of the Black Students Union (BSU) at City College of San Francisco (CCSF) spearheaded a rally, march, and a concomitant symbolic "burial of the negro" ceremony which placed a special emphasis upon a *conscious*, collective decision by Black college students to "no longer be[ing] Negroes" coupled with an active "revolutionary black philosophy" that called for liberating our minds from racism and rejecting U.S. imperialism. Black, Chicano/a, Asian, Indigenous, and White students from both CCSF and San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State *University*) worked together to raise political consciousness and oppose U.S. Empire at home and abroad (Reference *The Guardsman* newspaper of City College of San Francisco, November 27, 1968, article titled, '*Tom Negro' Buried During Black Students Rally Held In Stadium Last Thursday*, and *The San Francisco Chronicle* December 20, 1968, article titled, '*Seizure of Power Goal,' Poly Blacks Told*.)

"You're not supposed to be so blind with patriotism that you can't face reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who says it."

-Malcolm X

Sadly and dangerously, in the year 2009, some if not many Black Americans have apparently (at least for the moment) thrown in their lot with that of the U.S. Empire and its corporate parasites:

- Even as this empire, under the leadership of Barack Obama, criminally bails out the avaricious corporate Wall Street barons and banksters with trillions of dollars of the people's money;
- Even as this empire continues and in fact *expands* upon its military wars and incursions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan;
- Even as the horrible and illegal so-called U.S. "rendition" [i.e. international kidnapping] programs are continued and *intensified*;
- Even as the incarceration rate of people of color and *all* economically poor people sky rockets in this nation;
- Even as the Obama regime places the desires of pro-apartheid Israeli Zionists *above* the de facto needs of the "American" people and the attainment of *international peace with justice*;
- Even as the Economic and human rights of workers at home and abroad are massively eroded by this regime and its corporate partners; even as privatization [i.e. *corporate theft*] of the U.S. *public* school systems nationwide continues;

and last but certainly not least,

• Even as universal single-payer health care has been virtually *buried* by Barack Obama in favor of the greedy, profit-based corporate insurance industry,

some Black Americans and their White "liberal" foxes and so-called "progressive" counterparts succumb and pay political homage to the slippery / forked tongue rhetoric of Barack Obama as he administers and seeks to perpetuate the U.S. Empire.

The objective of the capitalist, corporate *mis*news media is to keep Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow peoples of this nation *and* world in a perpetual state of controlled confusion and manipulation. Thus, what the corporate media often refers to as a supposed *phenomenon* is nothing more than corporately *manipulated opinion*. This, in addition to what your writer describes as *color blindness in reverse*, partially explains the woeful lack of political consciousness on the part of many in this country, which in turn induces a mesmerized mental state and the 21st century backwards slide towards negrodianism and denial.

Barack Obama was no genuine phenomena. His ascendancy to being the head of the Empire, as U.S. President, is a product of the most *intense corporate branding and manipulation* yet engaged in by the U.S. corporate media. Indeed, the U.S. corporate media and its insidious allies have resurrected the "negro" mentality en masse into today's complicitous servants of U.S. Empire. However, Black people are *by no means*

the only targets of this corporate media manipulation and backwards slide into political unconsciousness and denial. Make no mistake about it people of all colors are the targets.

Therefore, politically conscious people do not and should not expect Barack Obama or his administration to honestly and forthrightly address the legitimate issues and concerns pertaining to:

1) there being numerous political prisoners right *here* in the U.S.

2) the COINTELPRO government activities [i.e. the infamous, illegal and no doubt ongoing Counter Intelligence Program of discreditation, wrongful imprisonment, and death directed against U.S. citizens inside the United States]

3) a host of other urgent and legitimate matters ranging from racism to reparations, and the corporate economic disenfranchisement of people of *all* colors in the United States

Our task is *expose* the lies and rhetoric while collectively and uncompromisingly organizing for real *systemic* change as part of a society and world where human needs outweigh inhuman greed.

No more Wall Street barons, banksters, or other assorted opportunistic and cynical economic parasites!

"We have two evils to fight, capitalism and racism"

-Huey P. Newton

By perpetuating capitalism and its attendant injustices the Barack Obama regime is not only seeking to perpetuate the economic disenfranchisement of people of *all* colors, it is *maintaining* racism *and* U.S. Empire. Malcolm X correctly and succinctly stated: "You show me a capitalist, and I'll show you a bloodsucker." No matter what *form or color* capitalism takes on, it is nonetheless a system *fundamentally* maintained for and by economic "bloodsucker[s]," intent upon bloodsucking the majority of people, and no amount of *slick rhetoric* changes this fact.

In the year 1968, some bold Black college students symbolically buried "the Negro." It is now the year 2009, and time to politically bury this loathsome creature yet *again*, and this time to drive a proverbial stake through its cold, unfeeling, complicitous heart.

The struggle calls and we must go. Onward my sisters and brothers. Onward!!!

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BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board Member, Larry Pinkney, is a veteran of the Black Panther Party, the former Minister of Interior of the Republic of New Africa, a former political prisoner and the only American to have successfully self-authored his civil/political rights case to the United Nations under the International Covenant on Civil

and Political Rights. In connection with his political organizing activities in opposition to voter suppression, etc., Pinkney was interviewed in 1988 on the nationally televised PBS NewsHour, formerly known as The *MacNeil*/Lehrer NewsHour. For more about Larry Pinkney see the book, <u>Saying No to Power: Autobiography of a 20th Century Activist and Thinker</u>, by William Mandel [Introduction by Howard Zinn]. (Click <u>here</u> to read excerpts from the book). Click <u>here</u> to contact Mr. Pinkney.

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