



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Compliments of



Booker T. Washington, founder of the National Business League in 1900.

The NBL is the oldest black organization concerning economic development.

B U C F A

The cherished tradition of culture and talent, heritage and promise which the Black Community Celebrates as its won unique heritage during Black History Week, began primarily in one institution. The historic Black Church has been the progenitor, keeper, mediator, and agent of Black culture in America. It is the only institution in the USA which Black people own, lock, stock and barrel; it is the only matrix in which Black people have always found dignity, identity and integrity. Out of it have come our artists and writers, our educators and schools, our musicians and scientists, our athletes and leaders of every aspect of life that affects the welfare of the Black Family across America. The Black Church has been in the vanguard and leadership of the struggle, generation after generation, for liberation -- from the dangerous work of Denmark Vesey and Nat Turner to the sacrificial work of Martin Luther King, Jr. The place of the Black Church in the struggle for human freedom is chronicled in Lerone Bennett's *BEFORE THE MAYFLOWER*. Dr. Bennie May's *BORN TO*

The Perspective of Black History

REBEL is a record of the Church's influence in our battle for first class citizenship in our native America. The predominantly Black colleges of this nation. Our people have been nurtured and buttressed in times of distress by the Black Church--- the National Baptist Conventions, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Pentacostal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the Church of God in Christ--all have been bulwarks of tradition and support for our people in America. And no one can fully appreciate our Black Heritage without crediting the Church to her rightful place in the legacy of Black culture.

The Black United Clergy for Action would commend to the Black Community, the reading of Black journals--Ebony, Sepia, Black Stars, Black World, etc.-- to keep abreast of what the Black Church at large is doing on the case of liberation: the National Conference of Black Churchmen is moving to help Black prisoners and Black Veterans; PUSH under the direction of Rev. Jesse Jackson is moving on the broad economic front to

broaden employment and economic participation; SCLC under the Rev. Dr. Ralph Abernathy is keeping the pressure on the drive for civil rights and justice. All over the land, Black politicians and journalists are working with the Black Church to help and protect our people. For ours is the story of Mordecai Johnson and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., great preachers; ours is the story of Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin, and Leontyne Price--talented, churchwomen; ours is the story of Martin King, Malcolm X, James Varick, Richard Allen and other eloquent churchmen who were community leaders. For ours is the prophetic and joyous story of two churchmen, James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson, being inspired through the Black Church to write that grand anthem of Peoplehood: Lift Every Voice And Sing!!! Out of an understanding of this background of what the Black Church HAS been to our people, it does not yet appear what she shall be in bringing all of us to full stature, as first class citizens who are "true to our God, and true to our native land". (Black United Clergy for Action, Rev. Leon Jones, Convener.)



Tacoma Urban League, Inc.
Seattle Urban League

"WHICH WAY AMERICA?"

IN MEMORY OF: WHITNEY M. YOUNG, JR., (1921 - 1971)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, INC.