

The Emancipation of the United States of America

Historic Moment

The historic election of U.S. Senator Barack Obama, as the 44th President of the United States of America, will be recorded as one of the most significant milestones in modern history.

Not only is Mr. Obama the first African American to be elected to this position of high esteem – he is equally touted as the first Global President of the U.S.A.

Because of his ethnic make up, and the extreme impossibilities of his journey towards achieving the highest office in land and on the planet – the election of Senator Barack Obama will be regarded as – *the Emancipation of America*.

The First Emancipation

The first emancipation took place in 1863, a product of the war between the northern and southern states of the United States of America – known as the Civil War. The battle between the northern industrialized states versus the agricultural (cotton based) southern states, pitted brothers against brothers, in ruthless battles that led to the death of more than 600 thousand citizens of our great nation.

The ultimate victor in this tragic affair was the freedom of the slaves –historically known as the Emancipation Proclamation, authored by President Abraham Lincoln. Whether President Lincoln's purpose was morally driven or designed solely to save the union – really matters not – for the end result led to the abolition of slavery and freedom for the enslaved Negro race in America.

But strikingly, that freedom was met and has been tainted by mixed reception and acceptance for more than 150 years.

Firstly, the acceptance of freedom by the Negro slaves at that time was received with mixed emotions and skepticism. Some wanted to stay with their masters, out of duty and familiarity – some feared that it was a trick and feared for their lives (believing they would be perceived and treated as runaways). While others felt summoned by a greater calling to execute and harness their freedom – seeking a better way of life through their migration to the north.

Whether accepted aggressively or passively or simply ignored out of some false sense of fear and ignorance, the quasi freedom afforded the slaves through the “First Emancipation” would fester within the American culture for more than two centuries of trials and tribulations.

Price of Freedom

Far too long, the Negro in America has been treated as a “Second Class Citizen” – short changed of his or her natural inheritance by the devious and selfish actions and motives of men and women – hell bent on suppression.

Through organizations and attitudes that perpetuated negative myths about the character and spiritual nature of the Negro – “Blacks” in America have had to defend and suffer the hideous consequences of *Racism, Jim Crow, Discrimination, Segregation and Voting Rights* fraud, - which hindered, victimized and self incriminated their value within American society.

Although “Blacks” have heroically dedicated themselves to our nations military causes – born the sacrifice of death through battles and wars – although they have proven “*our blood runs red too*” – the Negro has never been truly emancipated and accepted as an equal partner, - worthy of reaching and achieving the American Dream.

When you consider the various areas and disciplines in which the Negro in America has achieved success, as *Educators, Ministers, Authors, Inventors, Doctors, Attorneys, Entertainers, Athletes, Astronauts, Entrepreneurs, Executives and Loyal Citizens* – how is it that - *true emancipation* has taken so long to be realized.

The Dream

Some 100 years after the first emancipation of the slaves in America – ushered onto the scene, was a man of conviction and vision named Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

More than just another southern preacher – Dr. King captured, encouraged and engaged the spirit of the Negro people and Whites alike – to seek through a non-violence approach, the Negroes rightful place in American society.

Deeply routed in spiritual fervor, his “I Have a Dream” speech - proclaimed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. on August 28 1963, beckoned the call for America to live out the true meaning of its creed – and to accept the Negro as an equal citizen and partner within the American family.

Though quieted by an assassins bullet in Memphis TN, coupled with the assassination of presidential candidate Robert Kennedy later that year in 1968 – it appeared that a great void and silence was placed over the cause for human justice and rights in America.

It appeared – “*The dream would be denied*”

The Dream Realized

Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness – are viable qualities that I truly believe, would be desirable aspirations for all peoples, regardless of color or ethnicity.

Our fore-fathers saw fit to ensure that these qualities were a central part of our constitution – and regarded them as essential elements for the maintenance and support of a more civil union.

Simply, the greater the number of our citizens adopting and seeking the fruits of these qualities – the stronger our nation would be – presenting to the rest of the world, an ideal that is both desirable and achievable. America would be and could be that beacon on the hill.

And I submit to you – the majority of Americans believe this and desire this for all of their citizens, irrespective of race or ethnicity.

The only problem is – the majority fails to speak up and be heard – allowing the minority in numbers (*the minor majority*) to appear to be the most persuasive.

The *minor majority* which is really the minority in numbers, who have promoted their negative and stereotypical attitudes down through the years – as an indictment on the character and nature of all African American citizens of the United States – have done a better job of promoting their negative agenda versus the true populous (the numerically greater numbered) majority of Americans.

Through education, associations, inter-racial marriage, and real dialogue between the races – the majority in numbers has acquired the necessary knowledge to make a more informed decision about the character of their “Black” counterparts. This engagement has allowed citizens on both sides of the equation to better understand each other, in a more informed light. And although there is still *work to be done, barriers to climb and fences to mend* – those who are honest in their quest to resolve this issue will lead and drive a campaign over time, to truly emancipate all of America.

A fitting example of this – saw fulfillment on November 4, 2008, with the election of Senator Barack Obama as the 44th President of the United States of America. The election of Mr. Obama an African American, represents a true victory for all Americans – a victory that will summon the **Emancipation of the U.S.A. for all our citizens, whether, “Black”, “White”, “Asian”, “His-Spanic”, “Latino” or “Brown”.**

For no nation can be free – No nation can be emancipated - Unless all are free