**By Command of His Royal Majesty Oba Adejuyigbe Adefunmi II**

**The Inaugural Pan-African Grassroots Assembly**

Will convene at Oyotunji African Village

June 29 through July 1, 2012

Your willing intent to facilitate an Assembly Workshop is deeply appreciated. Please complete the following charts to supply necessary information about the session so that participants are well-informed of the goals, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the session. Keeping in mind that His Majesty plans to publish the collected results of the Assembly as an implementation guide for those who want to design and develop innovative, culturally-based processes serving African American persons and communities, respond to the various questions with practical (i.e., realistic, manageable, comprehensible to the Grassroots, etc.) concepts that can help prospective participants select the sessions most directly related to their individual and organizational aims.

Also, since the Assembly theme is “**Institution Building & Spirituality as Healing Agents Addressing the Social & Political Wounds of Our Beloved Community**,” your session is an opportunity to contribute specific and practical (i.e., “how to…”) suggestions that might be considered “offensive and defensive strategies and tactics” in what Carruthers and others have dubbed the **Culture Wars** confronting African people living in Western cultural hegemony situations. For the first time in African American history there are a few thousand experienced African Cultural priests and priestesses spread across the USA who are capable of addressing our community’s strengths and pathologies from an informed and experiential Traditional African perspective. Facilitators should think of this Assembly as an opportunity to express social innovations based on “applied Africentricity.”

## Chart 1: Topic Selection

The following topics[[1]](#footnote-1) have been selected as categories of interest to Assembly participants. Please check the box or boxes preceding the topic(s) you consider relevant to your session’s intentions.

Orisa Worship Midwifery Women in Ifa Reclaiming Yoruba Spirituality

Ancestor Veneration Ifa Naming Ceremony[[2]](#footnote-2) Educational Options: Homeschooling & Independent/Charter Schools Ifa and Kabbalah Male-Female Relationships, including Polygamy and Polyandry Male and Female African Rites of Passage Post Traumatic Slavery Disorder Urban and small-scale Rural Agriculture/Agronomy Homosexuality/Lesbianism[[3]](#footnote-3)

Repatriation: Working with Africa from the inside & outside Solutions for Economic Development in Black Communities Code of Conduct for Pan-Africanists

## Chart 2: Session Title

Please supply a title for your session. The title should provide a capsule indication of the topic as it relates to the Assembly theme. While being a brief as possible, the session title should be an “attraction statement” or even a question that entices participants to attend with the promise of a new perspective on personal and/or community concerns. Be advised that the Program Directors may want to consult with you to refine the title so it fits in with the tone of both the Assembly theme and the other session offerings.

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## Chart 3: Session Description

Describe your session and the concepts behind your approach in up to 250 words. This synopsis may be used to provide information to participants; it will be included in the Assembly Program Booklet.

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Because the Assembly aims to provide innovative and practical strategies and tactics to re-frame current community realities from an African-centered perspective, it is important to give participants information, skills, and methods that can be used to structure interventions in their home communities. Objectives should clearly indicate what the participant will be able to “do” after attending and participating in session activities. Up to three (3) objectives can be suggested.

### Objective 1:

After participating in this session, completing all activities, and joining the group discussion of the session topic, attendees should be able to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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After participating in this session, completing all activities, and joining the group discussion of the session topic, attendees should be able to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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## Chart 5: Session Format

Each session offered in the Assembly should be designed to engage participants in active discussion of the topic through guided participation and sharing of experiences, concerns, and interests for future development. You will serve as facilitator rather than lecturer. Describe the sequence of events in the session as you conceive them, including (where possible) an estimate of the time you will need to accomplish the objective associated with the various phases of your plan for the session. (i.e., Introduction, Topic Background (how the topic relates to life in the African American community), Your suggested strategies/tactics, Discussion, Brainstorm of suggested next steps, etc.).

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Event 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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## Chart 6: Supports

Please respond to the following questions that will tell the Program Directors how we can best prepare to meet your expectations.

1. Do you need any special equipment? The following checklist may include the kinds of supports you need. If something you need is not listed here, please write those needs in the space below the checklist.

[] VCR & Monitor [] DVD player & Monitor [] Audio player & Speakers

[] Chalkboard or Whiteboard (with chalk or erasable markers) [] Slide projector and Screen

[] Laptop and LCD projector [] ???

[] Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Do you plan to distribute Handouts to participants? [] Yes [] No

Will you bring copies of the handouts (plan on 20 copies) [] Yes [] No

Please be prepared to leave a copy of all handouts for the Program Directors’ files.

If you will use handouts but cannot provide the copies, be prepared to provide the handout master for copying by Assembly staff no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date, probably June 27th).

## Chart 7: Facilitator Bio

Please provide a brief description of your experience and qualifications related to the session you will present. This information will be included in the Assembly Program Booklet; as such, it is likely to be referenced by people who may want additional information or, perhaps, want to contact you for consultation.

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Thank you for completing this information for the Assembly. The Program Directors will make final decisions about the selection of sessions and their scheduling. We will contact you by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date).

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1. Some of these topics might call for re-titling because they don’t necessarily reflect how the Spiritual approach addresses on-the-ground realities expressed in the community. Also note that I’ve done some re-titling to help refinement of the topic in line with the Assembly theme. Because these topics appear on the website list, I’ve assumed they are more in line with what will happen than those topics listed on the 3-13-12 Conference Agenda. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Is this an information workshop or is it the divination and ritual? Or is it both? How does this relate to the conference theme? Can we say that this ceremony “enables” one to…do what (specific) that helps “community?“ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. What does this say will happen in terms of “healing” the person or community? Also, terms may need adjustment because “homosexuality” is an overarching category of sexual behavior/preference/orientation whereas “Gay” is usually referring to males and “Lesbian” usually refers to females who engage in homosexual preference/behavior. Terminology clarification needed. And then I’m wondering if this needs to be a topic within itself because it may be considered as specifications within the topic of Male/Female Relationships (within which we may want to put information about the HIV/AIDS hoax and its effect on the lives of people and perceptions of our relationships). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)