

UFAHAMU

AFRICAN ACTIVIST ASSOCIATION
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UFAHAMU will accept contributions from anyone interested in Africa and related subject areas. Contributions may range from scholarly articles and book reviews to freelance writing and poetry.

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U F A H A M U

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Like elsewhere, in Africa it is also *the* time of consolidation of victories gained by progressive forces and the formation of broad *patriotic fronts* against imperialism. The period has also contributed towards the *unveiling* of reactionaries who continue to use *racism and force* to dominate the majority of the people. Ufahamu is proud to dedicate this issue to *activism*; and specifically to our revolutionary heroes who struggle against those evils and in turn have been murdered, imprisoned, exiled, etc., by that notorious enemy of humanity: *apartheid*. Stephen Bantu Biko symbolised the unity and also the revolutionary practice of the struggles of the late 1970's. Biko, a *revolutionary democrat*, contributed towards uniting all progressive forces opposed to *racism and imperialism*. During that period, Biko struggled with the broad masses of the people in *evicting* the bourgeoisie from the popular alliance.

At the same time the continuing armed struggle in South Africa has been stepped up by the peoples' militia such as *Umkhonto we Sizwe*. Consequently we wish to emphasize the plight of political prisoners from Nelson Mandela to Solomon Mahlangu in the light of Steve Biko's and hundreds' others death behind bars of the South African prisons. In contributing towards the 1978/79 *Year of Solidarity Against Apartheid*, as earlier declared by the General Assembly of the United Nations, we wish to join the call of many to demand that South Africa stop the execution of patriots fighting apartheid. Mahlangu, and other political *prisoners of war* must be treated under the *relevant Geneva Conventions*. We give recognition to progressive forces in the world, who have stood by the South African people; similarly, on the other hand we continue to participate in the exposure of reactionaries who continue to strengthen apartheid, imperialism, and oppressive groups in Africa. It is hoped these would become evident from our journal.

The development of proletarian consciousness and the demise of populism in South Africa, and Africa in general has signalled the eclipse of imperialism on the continent. Populists as varied as Siad Barre, Mobuto and Idi Amin who all at one time or another held the African record for *sloganeering* have in the service of imperialism, consciously or otherwise attacked friendly and progressive regimes in Africa. Populism has been dangerous also in the sense that in Africa its foundation has been concretely based on a *sectional/ethnic* cultural nationalism. On the other hand, *proletarian consciousness and praxis* ensures that cooperative, socialist and communalistic means of transformation form the *core* of the peoples' economic, state, and ideological structure.

At this stage we would like to extend deep appreciation to Thamsanqa Ngubeni, the Chairperson of *African Activists Association* for comradely support and help in putting together this special *activist* issue on the state of liberation in South Africa. While we are on the subject, we all at *Ufahamu* and African Activists Association wish to bid farewell to Professor Boniface Obichere and welcome Professor Michael Lofchie to head the African Studies Center at UCLA. We hope that we all continue to work cooperatively for the benefit of African studies and the liberation of African peoples .

* * * * *

The forthcoming *Ufahamu* volumes will continue to be organised around certain political and ideological themes. Volume IX Number 1 will be inter-disciplinary but focus on theory: dependency and underdevelopment, class analysis and Africa, theory and praxis, ideology and so on. Contributions are still being accepted. Volume IX Number 2 is being entirely devoted to an analysis of the political economy of Kenya. We have already titled it *Kenya Tumaenda Wapi?*

Finally, some not so good news. Everybody knows these are hard times. The area studies centers and universities themselves are facing tightening budgets (*inflation and proposition 13*). We have thus decided to minimally increase subscription rates. Surprisingly as it might sound, our total earnings barely cover our mailing expenses alone. So starting from Volume IX Number 1, our new rates will be:

Individuals in U.S and Canada	-	\$ 8.00
For the same, single issue	-	\$ 3.00
Individuals in Overseas	-	\$10.00
Single issue for Overseas	-	\$ 4.00
All Institutions (U.S & Overseas)		\$12.00

For *Air Mail* postage overseas, add \$7.50 to the yearly rate or \$2.50 to the single issue rate.

PLUS: *Ufahamu* is now accepting advertisements from institutions, publishers, and book-sellers connected with African studies. We have in mind such announcements as job listings, conferences, new publications, and other relevant subject matter. The rates are:

Per Issue: Full Page-	\$60.00...	Half Page-	\$35.00
		Quarter Page-	\$20.00
Per Volume: Full Page-	\$165.00...	Half Page-	\$96.00
		Quarter Page-	\$48.00. (3 issues)

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