



NAASD

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICAN SLAVERY DESCENDANTS

April 5, 2024

Dear Secretariat,

The National Assembly of American Slavery Descendants (NAASD) is a Non-Profit 501(c)3 organization. Our mission is to advance the national movement for Reparations for American Freedmen, the descendants of persons emancipated by the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. By providing education and leadership training focusing on civic engagement and self-advocacy, we help build economic and political power within this historically marginalized and underserved community.

We propose the following concepts for consideration by the United Nations during the 3rd Session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent:

Alfajiri – this is a Swahili word that means “dawn.” Khansa Jones-Muhammad, President of NAASD coined the term to describe the dawn of the wars and ethnic conflicts that contributed to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. Universal law has balance and this term is intended to bring balance to the term Maafa – the Swahili word for “great disaster” or “great tragedy” developed in 1988 to describe the history of atrocities inflicted on African people by white Europeans, North Americans and others. It is important for the Descendants of Persons Enslaved in the “Americas,” to know and learn African history from Asiento de Negros and Signares of Senegal, to the fall of the Songhai Empire and the expansion of the Benin Empire all contributing factors to the concept of Alfajiri.

Cultural Genocide – We ask that the UN Consider exploring Raphael Lemkin's definition and examples of cultural genocide to expand the international model negotiated as a compromise of United Nations Member States while drafting during the 1948 Convention.

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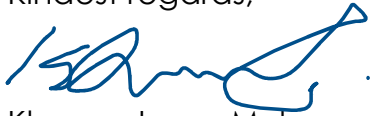


United Nations
Permanent Forum on
People of African Descent

In the United States of America, American Freedmen ie person having origins in the United States with ancestors historically classified as African, Negro, Black or Colored who were either born free or enslaved in the United States and emancipated nationally by the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and their descendants, have burial sites that have simply been paved over with municipal roads. Burial sites at US Forts have not been preserved by the Defense Department or the National Parks Service in a manor reflecting National or cultural relevance. American Freeways have decimated historically American Freedmen communities and business districts stifling cultural safeguards. Today many slave bills of sale records are held in libraries but the documents have not been preserved in a manor equivalent to land and tax deeds or birth and death records, ensuring physical protection and cultural preservation.

We humbly hope that these recommendations be considered for further exploration.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Khansa Jones-Muhammad', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Khansa Jones-Muhammad,
President NAASD