During his 27 years in the New York State Correctional System, Brother Bashir continued in his fearless determination to ‘save the world.’ He remained a warrior in his struggle for justice and freedom, and a leader in his Muslim community. His spirit was never jailed.

Bashir leaves to mourn his loving mother Rosetta Baker York of Medford, NJ; his wife and friend of 33 years, Florence Walker Hameed, Abilene, TX; his stepson Samuel Allen Walker; his son Solomon E. York and daughter-in-law Kimberly, grandson Sean and granddaughter Taylor of Murphy, TX; brothers, Roger Baker (Loretta) of Greenwood, FL; William York, Southampton, NJ; Clarence York, Irvington, NJ; sisters, Marlene (Brown) York, Ft. Mills, SC; and Paula York Jones (Ron) Medford, NJ. Bashir is predeceased by his brother, Donald Smith. Bashir leaves fond memories to aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and a huge following of political supporters from New York and across the country.

The Jericho Amnesty Movement has the defined goal of gaining recognition of the fact that political prisoners and prisoners of war exist inside of the United States despite the United States government’s continued denial . . . and winning amnesty and freedom for these political prisoners. Building a bond across organizational lines is what Jericho is about . . . that’s where our strength lies.

To find out more about The Jericho Movement: www.thejerichomovement.com

Community Celebration of Bashir Hameed’s Life

Tall Bashir stands tall still:
A tower of principle
A torch for the youth.
—David Gilbert, 10/20/08

House of the Lord Church
415 Atlantic Ave., Bklyn., NY
Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008
Bashir Hameed, formerly known as James Dixon York, was born on December 1, 1940, in Elizabeth, NJ, to Rosetta Baker York and the late W. Wilson York.

Bashir grew up and attended Roselle public schools, where he excelled in academics and sports. He was a star athlete in football, baseball and track and field. He is a graduate of Abraham Clark High School and attended Delaware State College and Seton Hall University.


In 1968, while living in Oakland, CA, Bashir joined the Black Panther Party. He returned to New Jersey in 1969 to reorganize the Jersey City Branch of the BPP as Deputy Chairman. FBI documents obtained in the 1970’s revealed that during this time Bashir became a COINTELPRO target (Counter Intelligence Program, which was a series of covert and often illegal projects conducted by the United States FBI aimed at investigating and disrupting non-conformist political organizations within the United States).

In April, 1981 Bashir and another member of the BPP became suspects after two New York police officers were shot, with one dead and the other wounded. This conviction came as a direct result of his political activities. Bashir and his co-defendant were tried three times. The first trial ended in a hung jury, divided along racial lines. The second trial was declared a mistrial by the judge, immediately after the jury rendered a decision that ‘acquitted’ Bashir on the murder charge. Both Bashir and his co-defendant were convicted of murder and sentenced to 33 years to life as a result of the third trial.

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