

Strength

Strength Is In The Oak Tree,
Strength Too Is In The Bamboo

The Oak Bends Not With The Wind
The Bamboo Sways / Not Breaks
But Bends...

To Know The People
Be Like The Bamboo
Bend With The Winds of Change

-Ericka Huggins
1972

In Memory of Wallace Hotada Francis

May 27, 1946  June 19, 2009



Sunday June 28, 2009 . 1:00 pm
Memorial Service
ALASE Center For Enrichment
2515 Hwy. 55 Durham, NC

ORDER OF SERVICE



Drum Procession	Teli Shabu
Libation	Philip Penn
Quote/Huey P. Newton	Lawrence Kamau Frye
10 Point Platform	Lee Kwaku Holmes
Quote/George Jackson	Lawrence Kamau Frye
Brief Remarks	Community
Tribute To A Panther	Cimarron Reed-Bandele
Drum Recessional	Teli Shabu

Wallace Hotada Francis began his activism as a fourteen year old by participating in the Georgia Voter Registration Drives of SCLC and CORE. During the tumultuous days of the early 1960's, he eventually joined voter registration efforts throughout the Southeast's rigidly segregated and racist territory. Using the universal appeal of voter registration and the principle of "one man one vote" as a foundational belief, Brother Wallace Hotada Francis engaged in the broader effort to bring unity to Africans throughout the Diaspora to liberate themselves from oppression and racism and gain self-determination.

While organizing voter registration in the South, Bro. Hotada was able to interact with members of several student organizations on college campuses such as SNCC (in which he became a member), anti-war groups and other anti-colonial/anti-imperialist movements. In 1967, Brother Hotada continued his involvement in the movement in California where he was actively engaged with student organizations and supporting, organizing and participating in protests against the war, poverty, racism, segregation, police brutality, as well as the plight of the black athlete due to the protest of the Vietnam War of some participants in the 1968 Olympics.

While he lived in California, Brother Hotada merged himself with several organizations such as the Chicano National Moratorium, he also worked with key members of SWAPO, obtained an observatory status in the United Nations, and worked with the Japanese-American Reparations Movement and the Jericho Political Prisoner Movement. One particular organization he joined that would change him forever and which he would remain committed to until his final day was the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense. During his active duty with the BPP, he served in the capacity of the Buddha Samurai where he honed his skills as a statesman and soldier.

In his later years, Brother Hotada moved to North Carolina (Durham) where he continued his work. He has been involved with speaking engagements at venues such as Duke and Wake Forest University. He has also traveled to Louisiana, Texas and back to Southern California where he spoke on subjects such as "Malcolm X and the BPP" and "Reclaiming Commitment: African Students Historical Mission on Campuses". Brother Hotada's legacy will live on through the lives of his family, students and everyone he touched with his courage, brilliance and unshakable commitment to the self-determination of African peoples and people of color worldwide.