



*The Rockville
Declaration*

THE ROCKVILLE DECLARATION

The third world ought not to be content to define itself in the terms of values which have preceded it. On the contrary, the under-developed countries ought to do their utmost to find their own particular values and methods and a style which should be peculiar to them.

– Frantz Fanon (The Wretched of the Earth)

This document is presented with the Conviction

THAT the hour of subordinating ourselves to a foreign culture, a foreign system, and a foreign power is long past.

THAT we ourselves must make and build our own society with our own values.

THAT it is our duty to make ourselves new men, free men, and to build a new society with meaningful participation by all our people.

**AND THAT HISTORY HAS DECREED:
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE.**

PRE AMBLE

This day October 12, 1969, we, the officers of the Peoples Action Committee (PAC) and the United Black Association for Development (UBAD) come together to formulate a single historical document of our beliefs, objectives and programs which will give birth to one national movement for liberation.

CHANGE

Generally speaking, there are two ways in which people seek to change systems which oppress, dehumanize and enslave them. One is by electoral evolution – those movements which use these means are sometimes described as “parliamentary”. Some movements, because of environmental imperatives use violence and the gun to defend themselves against tyranny and aggression – these movements are sometimes termed revolutionary. Our movement reserves the right to use any of these two means – indeed any means necessary – to gain its rightful and legitimate ends of freedom, justice and equality for all our people.

VIOLENCE

We recognize that our society was built on violence by our colonial masters, and that our present system is maintained by and in violence, with the active connivance of the local stooges of the colonialist powers. We see the great incidence of poverty, ignorance and disease in our society as **VIOLENCE** perpetrated on the people.

It is our duty, therefore, to answer this violence by defending ourselves against it – against violence to the people, violence by the people against the oppressor; against reactionary violence, revolution any violence.

OUR OWN SYSTEM

We espouse neither doctrinaire capitalism nor communism as a system of government and economic practice for our society. The black brown red and yellow people of our society **MUST** be creative and hold enough to give birth to our own concepts of the ideal society, , the new system in which all men can participate effectively in a free society to promote understanding, tolerance and

among all nations and all racial, ethnic, and religious ground. Peace and Love. Togetharism.

We believe that the oppressed and under-privileged people of our nation and of the world are non-white people, the black people who are in four parts ... the black, the brown, the yellow and the red. These are the so-called Creole, the so-called Spanish, the Maya, the Indian Arab, Chinese, etc. we refer to all these brothers and sisters as non-white, non-Caucasian, and therefore black.

This document, detailing some of our ideas on the creation of a system of freedom, justice and equality for all submitted for judgement by the black brown red and yellow people of our society, not by our white imperialist and neo-colonialist masters or their lackeys and stooges.

AND THAT HISTORY HAS DECREED: ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

AMANDALA

1. DEFENCE

Realizing that our nation is faced with the threat of extinction by external aggression from Yankee imperialists acting through their puppets in Guatemala's military dictatorship, and in order to safeguard the territorial integrity and independence of our nation, we demand:

OUR PEOPLE MUST BE ARMED.

We cannot expect anyone to help us unless we are prepared to help ourselves.

2. EDUCATION

Our educational system must be run and controlled by nationals of this country along non-denominational lines.

Education must be free and available to all nationals at all levels.

Education shall dedicate itself towards an understanding of our culture, our history, and our problems, and shall seek to understand and spread knowledge of our resources and our entire situation. Our education shall inculcate in all the people an understanding and appreciation of freedom, justice and equality and shall endeavor to contribute to our political and economic independence and the progressive enrichment of our culture.

3. LABOUR

- a. Every individual has an equal right to work and receive just wages for his labour.
- b. There should not be two classes of people –a lower class consisting of people who work for a living and an upper class consisting of people who live off other people’s labour. The prejudice against manual labour which exists in our country is a result of the brainwashing we have received from our colonial masters and their lackeys. The present disparity between the “white-collar” jobs and manual labour is immoral and must be ended, neither should there be that great difference in wages between one type of work and another. Work is work. Period.
- c. The right to work includes adequate provisions for social security to protect the workers and their families against disability, old age, redundancy and other contingencies of labour.
- d. The present trade union movements in our country have proven themselves tools and lackeys of the existing oppressive power structure which include the managerial class as well as the party political bosses. Our working brothers and sisters have been sold out and it is our historical duty to take care of business and do for self and kind.

4. NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. The economic development of our country must be based on the policy of **SELF-RELIANCE** and can only be achieved through a rational utilization of our natural resources for the benefit of all our people.

- b. The development of a country is brought about by **PEOPLE**, not by money. Money and the wealth it represents is the result and not the basis of development. Historically no under-developed country has achieved developed status by relying primarily on the injection of foreign capital into the economy.
- c. We believe that all lands owned by foreigners shall be reclaimed, that is, the property of the land and water within the limits of national territory should belong to the people as organised in the nation.
- d. Our other main natural resources including minerals, animals, fish, relics, etc. should be owned and controlled by nationals.
- e. We believe that the salvation of our country lies in a diversified agricultural economy, designed first to **FEED OURSELVES**, and secondly to cater the needs of the international market.

A government of the people must open roads to every inhabited area and encourage development by handling land clearing on an a nationwide scale. A market for the produce of the farmers must be guaranteed. Assistance should be available to all farmers in modern farming techniques and animal husbandry. Machinery should be easily attainable on a leasing basis. National experimental stations designed to promote increased productivity shall be established in all agricultural areas of the country where suitable.

5. HEALTH

Everyone should have the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

The nation has a duty to provide a free and efficient health service in all areas of the country. People who live in villages should be provided with health clinics regularly attended by medical officers and permanently staffed by locally-trained first aid assistants and midwives.

6. SANITATION

Disease and ill-health in our society is rampant, and is caused essentially by the general unsanitary conditions such as lack of toilet facilities, potable water, drainage, and pest control. A government of the people must regard this dangerous situation as an urgent call for immediate radical action.

7. LAW AND CONSTITUTION

The present laws imposed on us by our colonial masters and imitated by their lackeys have done nothing to produce freedom, justice and equality for our people but have rather degraded, humiliated, exploited and enslaved us. We the people must forge our own laws on the anvil of true national consciousness.

We refuse to recognize any bastard constitution resulting from the un-natural union of our colonial masters “negotiating” with their own lackeys, mimics and stooges. The only Constitution acceptable to the people is one which ensures the full participation by them in the governing of their lives.

8. FOREIGN POLICY

Our foreign policy must be free and independent. We must be free to deal with, recognize, have diplomatic and trade relations with any other country and no country shall be allowed to influence us into a state of hostility or non-communication with any other country.

9. FREEDOM AND UNITY

Every citizen has the right to freedom of expression, movement, religious belief and association.

The unification of the nation- the proper balance between town and country, the unity of our various ethnic groups, and the creation of national consciousness – is the only guarantee for the sure triumph of our cause.

**PEACE AND LOVE
LAND AND FREEDOM
POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

AMANDALA

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven;

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and time to refrain from embracing.

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to new; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

--Knock yu ting, so-called Creole, Caribs, Spanish, Indians, Arabs, Chinese, and all black, brown, red and yellow brothers and sisters.

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