

# THE PAPER

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Thursday, November 8, 1979

So we stand here  
on the edge of hell  
in Harlem  
and look out  
on the world  
and wonder  
what we're gonna do  
in the face of  
what we remember.

—Langston Hughes

## Global Acclaim For Black Human Rights

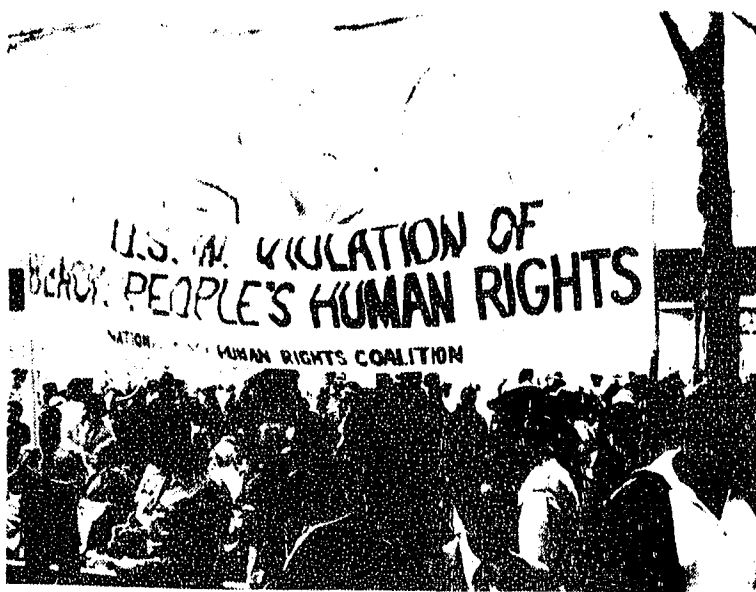
by Ian Carter

The gathering was large and the delegates were international. The day was Black Solidarity Day, Nov. 5th, and representatives came from as far as the Mother Land, as far as Palestine, as far as Tupelo, Mississippi. These and many others came to join the National Black Human Rights Coalition, NBHRC, in bringing the gross violations of Black peoples' human rights before the world court, the U.N.

U.N. Ambassador Kenneth Raddix from the revolutionary government of Grenada portrayed the international context of our struggle. He stated that, "We are with you because you are under attack, and we have been under attack ever since our revolution on March 13th." Raddix also claimed that everyone is squawking about the six million Jews lost in the holocaust, but the holocaust of Black people has consumed over two hundred million. Like many others Raddix assured the black masses that we must fight on.

Also from the international arena was a deputy representative from the PLO. His words were few but he emphasized his point. "We fight against racism and for national liberation and self determination. Our enemies are the same and our destinies are the same." The NBHRC chairman Muntu Matsimela then assured us that the Black Liberation Movement has been supporting the PLO for many years. The gathering then began a zealous chant, "Long live the PLO."

Then brother Muntu outlined the form that the coalition has



The crowd assembles to show strength of demand for human rights.

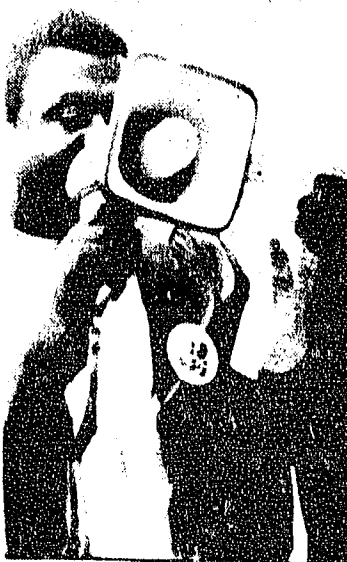
been taking for the last year and a half of organizing. He claimed that the Black Liberation Movement is re-emerging and fighting against oppressive conditions that have been the basis for our existence. The needs were there because the gains that blacks wrestled from the U.S. in the sixties are being taken back. He later emphasized that because of these repressions many mass movements have reemerged around the country; The United League of Tupelo, Mississippi, and the Black United Front of Philadelphia are two of the movements in the forefront.

To place the struggle in a proper historical perspective Muntu also stated that: "We see our program as an extension of the doctrine of our shining Black Prince, Brother Malcolm X, and this is to build international support for the Black Liberation Movement."

A general overview was presented to show how blacks through slavery have been made the basis for the economic growth of this country; how the white man ripped-off and practiced genocide on the Native American Indian while stealing their land; and the white man also ripped-off the Chicano peoples of the Southwest for their land. He dated historical roles of the U.S. in the oppression of colored and progressive peoples of the world.

However the triumph came when brother Muntu announced that he, Chokwe Lumumba and Queen Mother Moore were going to meet with the President of the General Assembly, Salim Sailem, to present a documentation of the historical oppression of Black people by the U.S. government. This document engulfs a period from 1829 when David Walker

wrote his appeal to the colored citizens of the world, to Fredrick Douglass and his international



NBHRC Chairman Muntu Matsimela reads statement from recently freed Assata Shakur (Joanne Chesimard).

travels, to Marcus Garvey bringing 54 points of Human Rights to the League of Nations, to Paul Robeson and William Patterson 1951—"We charge genocide," to Queen Mother Moore and the Ethiopian Women 1959 going to the U.N., plus countless others who documented human rights violations within the U.S.

Coming from other platforms on the national scene was Brother Chokwe Lumumba of the N.C.B.L., and previously an attorney for the recently liberated Assata Shakur, had these points to make in reference to Assata's escape: "I think that it is a tremendous tribute to the resilience of Black people and the resilience of our struggles. I think that our people have really felt

miserable for many years, and for ten years have seen people thrown in jail. People become discouraged and the struggle has been still." Lumumba also explained that we are not going to be stopped, don't care how hard they try. In reference to Assata he claimed that she is one of the 'souls' of the Black Liberation Movement, and deserves to be let out of jail just like how Jimmy Carter let the white girl Patty Hearst out of jail, because she wasn't freed he was glad that she got out herself.

Other national leaders demonstrated some very important points. Rev. Charles Koen, Black United Front, Cairo, Illinois, reminded us that, "We are no longer in the integration movement, but we are in the movement for power. We are at the threshold of freedom." State Rep. Dave Richardson, Black United Front Philadelphia, reminded us that, "We have to fight for what we want; don't beg, take it." Skip Robinson of the United League of Tupelo, Mississippi demonstrated some real life stories which basically stated that we must reclaim the land and for we need strong men. His two highlights emerged when he stated, in reference to the KKK (those in sheets and those without), that, "I will pray and ask my Lord to help me shoot straight. I am from a family of 23 and I have 7 kids with some grands. I tell my girls too, 'Go ye and multiply because I need some young warriors.'"

Dr. Betty Shabazz, wife of the late slain Black Prince Malcolm X, also added these words of support. "We have the benediction of the world. Now we must seek their active support to make this process a workable reality, and if they don't, to Hell with them, and right on we will forge."

Reverend Herbert Daughtry of the Black United Front, New York City, gave a presentation detailing the triumph of over forty African nations gaining independence within a decade, and paralleled this to the coming triumph of the Black masses in the U.S. However, his key point came when he stated that, "We must not play the numbers game. They fool us with that all the time claiming that our rallies are not well attended. I tell you today it is quality that counts, not quantity."

The list of speakers seemed infinite; some of them included a representative from the Pan African Congress of Azania, Barry Parker of the Residents



Skip Robinson of the United League.

Coalition of Philadelphia, Judge Bruce Wright, Dara Abubakari, President of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Africa, and many others.

The day was filled with enthusiasm, and the international support cheered it on. It would seem that the NBHRC has made a step towards bringing the U.S. before 'THE WORLD COURT' on the charge of gross violations of the human rights of black people. In concluding, Brother Muntu stated that, "I think that Brother Salim clearly shows that he is objectively in line with all oppressed peoples of the world. I think that the march was a success and that it shows black people the strategy that we must develop internationally and domestically."



Dr. Betty Shabazz.



U.N. Ambassador Ken Raddix

# THE PAPER

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Serving the student population and local community.

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## Editorial

### Meeting The Challenge As One

Monday, November 5th, marked another progressive step towards our liberation. The day, Black Solidarity Day, is now a decade old. This means ten more years added to our education of struggle. As Black people every day in our lives is marked by overcoming an obstacle of struggle. As we assemble en masse to protest the gross violations of our human rights by the American government we should remember that we are to endeavor daily to raise our level of consciousness, and take the struggle for total liberation one step further.

However, we must not be fooled or have our struggle co-opted by the powers that be. We must recognize reforms for just what they are—reforms. The journey seems infinite but we must not be pacified by temporary alleviations. It's worth our while to fight for the positive reforms that make our miserable existence a little more acceptable and vehemently oppose those that seek to nullify our struggle.

We, the so-called privileged at these institutions of higher learning, are "advancing" yet we make grave mistakes. We are currently being mis-educated in relation to our future as a people. Many of our acquired skills place us in the consumer market. Our lives are being defined to fit the existing job markets. This is a crucial error because the markets are controlled by our historic oppressors. Our ultimate

goal should be to become our own producers. However, this is a long range goal on our list of objectives to be reached.

Because of our current plight, which is the struggle that must occur before we become our own producers, survival programs must be developed. These can be made possible through the creation of temporary life-giving and life-saving institutions. These are basically institutions of learning, and production of some of the basic necessities of life. Our presence in the institutions of higher learning should be used to acquire the knowledge necessary for the production, and not that which is necessary for individual accommodation.

Our Diaspora started more than four centuries ago; and our oppression just as long. To think that our liberation lies within four to six years of academic discipline is to pursue a dangerous sophistry. These disciplines are some of our many tools to engineer solutions to the many problems and obstacles ahead.

Our greatest obstacle is to realize that our struggle will not be easy. Let us cast down the yoke of individualism. Although this is a means of survival, it is also a stagnation process.

The future lies within us, and our ability to face the confrontation. Black Solidarity Day means just that; facing the confrontation as one people, despite the odds.

### Move To Better Schools

The parents of Harlem's school district 5, and Rev. Calvin Butts, assistant pastor at the Abyssinian Baptist Church on West 138th Street in Harlem, are taking steps to do something about the public schools in Harlem. They are planning to visit all of the fifteen to sixteen Elementary and Junior High Schools in district five to assess the quality of education being rendered.

The first school to be visited was JHS 43 located at 129th Street and Amsterdam Ave. This visit, like many others to come, was impromptu, in order to get a true picture of what is happening in the schools. Because there are no black history courses in JHS 43, Rev. Butts stipulated in a phone conversation with The Paper, that one would tend to agree

that the education is Eurocentric in the all Black and Puerto Rican school. He stated that, "The district is not providing the funding that is necessary to create the programs that our kids need."

At the end of each visit the group will report to the community during mass meetings. At the end of the program the group hopes to assemble a study detailing the problems and offering some solutions. Their goal is to improve the quality of education in the schools.

To aid in the study, professors Barbara Wheeler, Margie Henderson and Geanie Baine of CCNY's Black Studies Department are serving as an advisory council. One of their major functions will be to show how the curriculum can be restructured, and how to create an atmosphere conducive to the education of our Black children.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Black Man Elected Birmingham Mayor

An impressive turnout of Birmingham Blacks voting solidly for City Councilman Richard Arrington, enabled slight support by white moderates to tip the scales in Dr. Arrington's favor. Dr. Arrington is the third Black mayor in a major southern city.

### Small Pox Exterminated

The Center For Disease Control, in Atlanta, Georgia has announced the end of Small Pox throughout the world. The Center began its massive program to wipe out Small Pox, in 1966. The last person on record that is documented as having Small Pox lived in Somalia and contracted the disease in 1977.

### Carter Support

New York State Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, Sen. Chairman, Senator Vander L. Beatty has endorsed President Carter for re-election. Beatty joins Mayor Koch and Lt. Governor Mario Cuomo in supporting Carter for President in 1980.

### Correction

In our last issue, The Paper stated that CCNY Alumnus Herbert Finn was killed in New Jersey. Herbert Finn was murdered in The Bronx.

### EDA Grant To Help Complete King Center

Approval of an additional \$1,500,000 grant by the Economic Development Administration to help construct an archives building at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Social Change and to stimulate tourism in an inner-city area of Atlanta, Georgia, was announced by Vice President Walter F. Mondale at a ceremony in Atlanta.

The entire complex is estimated to cost approximately \$8,000,000. The Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Social Change will augment the combined \$3,500,000 in EDA grants with \$4,668,650 from pledges already committed and made by private individuals, foundations, industry and labor organizations.

### Youth Grants

The National Endowment for the Humanities through its newly-expanded Youth Grants program will offer more than 100 awards throughout the nation this fall to students and other young people in their teens and early twenties to pursue independent project in the humanities.

The deadline for submission of completed application has been extended to December 1, the only deadline during this academic year. Application forms should be on file in college offices which deal with federal grants.

C.C.N.Y.

-VS-

Morgan State

Black Alumni

'Homecoming Basketball Game'

Friday Nov. 30th

Nat Holtzman Gym

Junior Varsity - 6 p.m.

Varsity - 8 o'clock

# Assata Shakur Takes Freedom

On Friday, November 2nd, Assata Shakur a.k.a. Joanne Chesimard was freed from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women. Since then an extensive search by the F.B.I. and New Jersey State Police has been launched. Assata was an integral member of the Black Liberation Army. Many persons involved in the Black liberation struggle have voiced fears that she might be set up for extermination.

Chokwe Lumumba, one of Assata's lawyers said that her escape was proof of the ongoing struggle. He also stated that, "Her escape shows the tremendous resiliency of Black people. Thousands of Black political prisoners are in jail and if Patty Hearst can be let out by Jimmy Carter, then Assata Shakur is all the more deserving to be free." This echoed the feeling of many of the marchers on the U.N. There was no doubt in their minds that Assata Shakur is a political prisoner of the United States government.

On May 2, 1973, two New Jersey State troopers, attacked Assata Shakur (Joanne Chesimard), Sundiata Acoli (Clark Squire) and Zayd Shakur on the New Jersey Turnpike. As a result of this attack, Zayd was killed, Assata was shot twice in the back and she and Sundiata were arrested and charged with the death of one of the troopers.

Immediately following Assata's capture, charges and indictments were piled on her, so that it seemed she was responsible for any act that could be connected with the Black Liberation Army. Instead what followed was a series of acquittals, dismissals and dropped charges:

*December 1973, bank robbery, Southern District, mistrial*

*December 1973, bank robbery retrial, acquittal*

*August 1974, attempted murder, Manhattan Supreme, dismissal*

*December 1975, armed robbery, kidnap, Brooklyn Supreme, dropped*

*January 1976, bank robbery, Eastern District, acquittal*

*January 1978, kidnap, assault, Brooklyn Supreme, dropped*

*March 1978, attempted robbery, Manhattan Supreme, dropped.*

The only conviction they managed to get was for murder in the New Jersey Turnpike case, where an all-white jury completely disregarded expert medical testimony that showed that she was shot in the back with her arms in the air, and also the surviving state trooper's admission that he had lied in his reports immediately after the incident. For this Assata, like Sundiata, was sentenced to life plus thirty years.

Since her arrest, Assata, has been subjected to inhuman and

degrading treatment. In the first two years she was held in New Jersey, she was kept in solitary confinement in all-men's prisons and basement dungeons. Since then her treatment in prison has led her counsel, Evelyn Williams, to say that Assata, "felt there have been various attempts by state prison officials to incapacitate her." On top of all this she has been denied her constitutional rights to appeal by the State of New Jersey! However Assata has remained the 'soul' of the Black liberation movement.

At the U.N. on Black Solidarity Day, Muntu Matsimela, the chairman of the National Black Human Rights Coalition, read a statement from Assata. Here are the highlights.

**To Black People:**

Since we were kidnapped we were brought to this country as prisoners. Prisoners of America, prisoners of an economic system, prisoners of a political system, prisoners of a country where three hundred thousand to four hundred thousand black people are in concentration camps, where the Ku Klux Klan are out to annihilate us. We have to protect our human rights. Every American who has fought for freedom has been jailed or murdered.

There is no justice in America; so we have to make our own.

There is no freedom in America; so we have to free our own.

## Money is Problem at Budget Hearings

by Avery Moon

From Wednesday, Oct. 24, until Tuesday Oct. 30, the annual Student Senate budget hearings took place. Some 100 plus clubs and organizations represented here on campus were to report to F331 on the assigned day; according to the letter which the name of their organization began with.

Many of the organizations and clubs were angry and upset because they didn't receive the desired request. While speaking to *The Paper*, Day Student Senate Treasurer, Vassan Ramacha said, "We just don't have the money to give. Last year there were approximately 82 clubs and organizations on campus with a budget of \$24,000 giving each club approximately \$200 plus. This year the budget which is \$16,368 has to be divided among more than 100 clubs and organizations here on campus."

Each club is expected to receive \$163. However, the split doesn't stop there. "From this amount about 15% or 20% is taken and held over." The reason for this Mr. Ramacha states is, "This money is then added to certain clubs he and three senators feel are doing the most by reaching out and not just serving their own interests; clubs that involve other groups and possibly reach out to the community.

"This money is also set aside for special occasions or

emergencies." Mr. Ramacha stated, "in which the club would be in dire need of funds without which it would cease to exist." In order for a club to receive this money, they must present concrete proof of necessity for the occasion and prove that it will be something beneficial to students.

Mr. Ramacha also stated that, "Last year the student government left debts amounting to approximately \$10,000 and we still have more coming in. This is where a great part of the budget is also going. Next semester clubs

can look forward to a substantial increase."

In addition to these problems many clubs didn't arrive as scheduled. This resulted in confusion for those who did show up. Commenting about the missing clubs, Mr. Ramacha stated, "Many of them missed appointments. This brought about having to decide whether or not to drop them." Organizations still have a chance to have their hearing if they have not done so as of yet. Mr. Ramacha urges you to call immediately!

## New Courses in Black Studies

by Avery Moon

The City College campus is an ever expanding institution of knowledge. Its various programs and courses are said to be structured to generate interest among the student body.

The Black Studies department, recently announced that it is expanding its studies. *The Paper* spoke to the director of the department, Dr. L. Jeffries. Jeffries stated, "There have been a number of courses added in this department in the past two years." Among them is a course in "Roots." This course uses Alex Haley's book as a text and a film course which uses materials provided by Gil Nobel, who is the host of the popular *Like-It-Is* television program.

Both students and members of the faculty have expressed their desire for more diverse courses in the Black Studies department. Jeffries also said, "The students enjoy the courses, but we lack some of the audio-visual equipment needed for many of them. Next year we are planning some joint courses with the Puerto Rican Studies department and the Asian Studies department. We would also like to develop a course: Blacks, Arabs and Jews."

November 28 through December 1, the Black Studies department is sponsoring a special Black presentation. The program will focus on the works of Alex Haley, Dick Gregory and Gil Nobel.

## The Leonard Davis Center for the Performing Arts

Proudly Presents

### The House of Bernarda Alba

by

Federico Garcia Lorca

Directed By

Rhea Gaisner

Lighting Design

by

Dale F. Jordan

Scenery and Costumes

Designed by

T. Winberry

featuring

(in alphabetical order)

Wanda DeJesus Michelle Drellich

Ada Rodriques,

Jane Scott Deborah Swanson

Charisse Williams

Patricia Wright Kim Yancey

at

Aaron Davis Hall  
Theatre B

134 Street &  
Convent Avenue

November 16, 17, 19, 20

7:30 pm

November 18 3:00 pm.

All Seats \$2.00

690-4100

# Student Voices

by David Knights

**Statement:** There was a march to the U.N. on Monday Nov. 5 to protest the state of "Human Rights" in the United States.

**Question:** What do you think of the state of human rights in the black community?

Jessy Filsaime Nursing student, senior



Blacks have accomplished a lot through the years, but we have not reached our fullest potential. I agree with the march to the U.N. and hope that it will accomplish more for us. We need to improve schooling, health services and other major needs that are down on the Black and Hispanic communities. We need to get our

strengths together and try to create a better world for the youths now and the ones that are to come. And, brothers, when you get that degree, don't forget about where you came from or who you are.

Collins Yearwood Mechanical Engineering, sophomore



The state of human rights may be different in terms of the overt signs of racism, e.g. riding in the back of the bus. However we are in the same economic state as we were 30 years ago, in fact crimes against Blacks are much less likely to be investigated than those of whites. One decade of effort cannot wipe away 4 centuries of oppression. The efforts put forth by Blacks in the present must be relentless and must extend for generations to come for any changes to be permanent.

Duane Oliver Taylor Communications, sophomore



I feel Blacks don't have any human rights in their own communities. In places like Chicago, Harlem and Florida Blacks do not receive any respect. I won't point a finger at any one group of people and say it's their fault. Blacks have to receive more respect from each other; that's what makes up a community. If we don't

show respect for ourselves who will? The white man thinks we don't have any respect for ourselves because the Blackman has not really voiced their opinions about human rights in their communities. I feel the march on the U.N. is a step in the right direction.

Michael D. Sherrell Sociology, senior



I think the state of human rights in the Black community in terms of getting our rights is taking many forms, not only in housing discrimination but in other areas as well. I think Black people are fighting to have human dignity. I think the march to the U.N. is just one of the ways of expressing our desire for Human Rights,

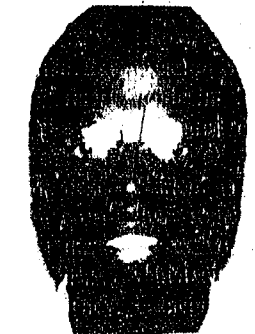
and a positive one.

Jeffrey Joseph Psychology, sophomore



The state of human rights in the Black Community in my opinion remained unchanged. If any changes have occurred, they have been for the worse; every time a cop guns down a black youth or brutalizes one, that is hard evidence that there exists no real state of human rights in our Black communities today.

Herbert Bennett Elementary Education, sophomore



Human Rights in the Black community today has become international. Instead of concentrating on local problems, some Black leaders are going worldwide for publicity reasons. Jordan's statement was strong, "The fight is at home".

## YOU CAN TACKLE THIS ONE

by Ruth Manuel

Boy, are all you sealovers in for a halibut surprise, because this is not a fish story!

Comedy, music and professional basketball are combined in "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh." "Fish" . . . is the tale of a basketball player Moses Guthrie (Julius Erving) whose hapless team is on a losing streak until lady luck smiles upon him through astrology and the aid of precocious 12-year-old water boy Tyrone Millman (James Bond III).

Guthrie eventually joins a team of Piscean misfits called The Pythons, but later they changed their name to the

Philadelphia Piscees. Tyrone (the boy wonder) seeks the aid of an astrologer Mona Mondieu (Stockard Channing) to assist the team "horoscopically" to a series of successive victories.

Star of "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh" is Julius Erving, known as Dr. J. to his millions of fans. If he were to attempt to undertake another acting role it could prove to be fatal; a loss of millions of fans! Watching him trying to act was painful; honestly doctor only you have the cure, get out of acting now before you destroy your image, wise up and stick to your slamming and your dunking. James Bond III gave a

superlative performance. He generated such a genuine sincerity and warmth that these attributes will be his vehicle to much success in the film industry. There are also a number of veteran actors such as Flip Wilson and Jonathan Winters highlighting the film. Also used to add authenticity to the film were many professional basketball players including members of the Los Angeles Lakers, Boston Celtics, Detroit Pistons and the N.Y. Nets.

The musical score for the "Fish" . . . accentuates both the comical and competitive scenes in the film. Thom Bell's musical wizardry is superbly

performed by such recording artists as Grover Washington, The O'Jays, The Four Tops, The Spinners, Loretta Lynn, Phyllis Hyman, Teddy Pendergrass, The Sylvers, Eubie Blake, Doc Severinson, William Hart, and Frank Butler. This is Bell's first film work, but it sure won't be his last.

Director Gilbert Moses was acclaimed for both his theatrical and television direction before making his film debut with "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh." The winner of two Obie awards, a Tony nomination for "Ain't Supposed to Die A Natural Death," and an Emmy nomination for his direction in "Roots."

"The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh" is entertaining and will probably be a box office whopper. It should really "reel em' in" . . .

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## Jessie Jackson Comes to Harlem

by George Betton

The Rev. Jesse Jackson received a warm welcome from the congregation of the Canaan Baptist Church (132 West 116th Street) on Sunday, November 4. The congregation included some Arab visitors as well as some of Rev. Jackson's old friends from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (S.C.L.C.), including Dr. Lowry, and Dr. Walker. Also on hand was the South African Revolutionary John Masidini.

After being introduced as the

"prophet," by Dr. Walker, Rev. Jackson sermonized and rebuffed what he termed "media lies." He elaborated on his views, which he claimed were distorted by the media. His first target was the Black middle class, whom he chastised for not taking a positive stand toward Black liberation. He stressed the dependency syndrome of the people, accusing them of taking a passive role as opposed to an active one. He made comparisons between the Palestinians and Blacks and opened that Harlem and Bed-Stuy

were as occupied as the West Bank.

When *The Paper* asked Rev. Jackson what advice he had to offer Black Students, he replied, "Education is a tool of liberation. The struggle for freedom is a long one and students must not drop out of school. Palestinians, without their land or their own government, have become an indispensable people. If Black Americans could combine moral strength, political numbers and economic leverage with an obsession with education, we could become an even greater people."