

be a powerful mass movement, and would represent the highest mass expression of the aspirations of our people for freedom, peace, dignity, and advancement in the material condition of our lives.

I realize that this presentation may prove unsatisfactory to those who anticipated a discussion providing for a blueprint we might use to determine the political aspects of building a mass movement. However, I have attempted here to present a general political foundation for all our work within which I truly believe lies the condition for determining the political aspects of building a mass movement which must necessarily be circumscribed by concrete time, place, and the political aspirations of the political formations responsible for building the mass movement.

While I did not attempt to provide any blueprint determining the political aspect for building a mass movement, I did attempt to use some examples of mass movements which might provide insight into political aspects of mass movement building under certain specific conditions and within a particular context. On the other hand, by initiating the discussion of tactical and strategical objectives for liberation, I attempted to address myself to the most important mass movement we may see within our lifetime, and that is the mass movement for black independence through self-liberation.

I thank you for your patience and I invite you to strike a thousand blows for liberation as we struggle for Independence in Our Lifetime!



Chairman Omali Yeshitela

Biographical Notes

Omali Yeshitela (Joseph Waller) is the Chairman and co-founder of the African People's Socialist Party as well as the founder of the Party's main political organ, *The Burning Spear* newspaper. Chairman Yeshitela, 40, has dedicated the past 20 years of his life to the struggle of his people for independence, liberation and socialism against the U.S. imperialist system. Long based in the South, his strong and uncompromising leadership has taken the form of consistent and militant activism and agitation over the years on all of the many pressing issues facing black people in the U.S. today.

Chairman Yeshitela has contributed profoundly to the theoretical development of the Black Liberation Movement in this country and around the world. He has developed the understanding that racism is the ideological expression of colonialism which is the major contradiction facing U.S. African people, and he has shed significant light on the role that capitalist primitive accumulation, slavery and colonialism play in the present condition and tasks before African people everywhere and particularly in the U.S. Yeshitela has brought clarity to the relationship of black people to the North American working class, and to the Native, Puerto Rican and other colonized populations inside this country. Most of his speeches and papers have been featured in *The Burning Spear* newspaper over the past thirteen years.

A tireless internationalist, the Chairman has done much to bring about the revolutionary unity of African people around the world and has forged the bonds of international solidarity of African people to all of the world's oppressed, colonized, struggling peoples and underdeveloped and socialist nations.