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America's Greatness Through President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama's
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By

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I have found myself in a very unique position at a very historic moment in the world. Long before Kenyan American, President Barack Obama was a household name, I did my Ph.D. dissertation (2000 to May 2002) on the development of private universities in Kenya. My first dissertation choice was to examine the influence of Western (U.S., Europe or Canada) education on the leadership styles of African presidents with western college education. However, my primary dissertation mentor suggested that I consider the one on Kenya. Also, during work on the chapters of my dissertation, another committee member suggested that I consult the writings on African higher education by Professor Ali A. Mazrui, a Kenyan who is the Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities for the state of New York based at Binghamton University, State University of New York, and also the Andrew D. White Professor-at-Large Emeritus and Senior Scholar in Africana Studies at Cornell University, both since the 1980s. I then worked with Dr. Mazrui as a post-doctoral fellow for three years (2002-2005).

This brings me to this current topic. I have published some articles on Kenya-U.S. relations in scholarly journals. One such article is titled “Kenya-U.S. Relations: The Urgent Need to Manage Kenya’s Migrant and HIV-AIDS Brain Drain.”ⁱ A second article published in June 2008 on then U.S. Senator Barack Obama is titled: “Barack Obama’s Dual Triple Heritage.”ⁱⁱ

Then in April 2011 an article of mine titled “Michelle Obama and the Black Female Diaspora: The Most Influential Black Woman in History?”ⁱⁱⁱ was published. According to the abstract of this article on First Lady Michelle Obama:

“This paper claims that just as President Barack Obama is the most known male member of the Black World in the 21st century, so also his wife First Lady Michelle Obama is the most known female member of this racial group. Also, just as President Obama is the most powerful Black leader in history, so also First Lady Obama is the most influential Black female in history. The paper argues that Both President Obama and First Lady Obama are keeping their 2008 campaign promises to the youth who gave them a very high share of their votes both in the 2008 Presidential Primaries and Caucuses and the Presidential Election, including 17-year-olds leading the way in the 2008 Iowa Caucuses, where they earned their first big win. The paper argues that the Obamas have formed a positive bond with their young supporters and that the current domestic and foreign policies of the U.S. are directly benefiting these young Americans. Finally, the paper claims that through the current domestic and foreign policies of the U.S., both President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama are contributing in uniting the people of the U.S. and also contributing in uniting the people of the U.S. and the people of the world”

On page 53 of this same article I pointed out that:

“Within a community, one sure way of being loved or liked is by warmly opening your home to the children and grandchildren of residents of that community. In the international community, it appears as if that is what the United States has done by allowing a disproportionate number of young Kenyans to travel and study in its colleges and universities.”

I am therefore not surprised at all that these young people have been emancipated. In June 2012, President Barack Obama ordered that U.S. immigration start the process of legalizing the immigration status of young people in the United States whose parents brought them to the country without proper documentation. I anticipated all along that if the deep party division in the U.S. Congress on a comprehensive immigration law was not accomplished, then President Obama will continue to keep his promise to the youth of the country by emancipating their compatriots. Young Americans of this generation must take credit for their prudence for voting for President Obama. These young Americans have made history by connecting their president to another great U.S. president from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, who too emancipated young people in this country.

The individuals who put together the U.S. constitution knew the importance of having a branch of the government with a single leader who can represent all Americans in making very important decisions for the well-being of the country.

The United States is different from any other country in the world because it is still the one geographic entity that has significant to substantial numbers or proportions of people and animals from almost any society or nation in the entire world—Noah’s Ark! When people all over the world see Americans on television, the internet or magazines, they see a reflection of themselves or people who share their blood! Interestingly also, geographically, the U.S. is also the world because it has every type of climate that one can find anywhere in the world.

In addition to the many examples presented (in the Michelle Obama article cited above) on how the Obamas are keeping their promises to the youths of the country, these youths have also benefited greatly in observing how they both show calm temperament and discipline when individuals and groups say very hurtful things about them or disrespect them in the most uncivilized manner. So many youths have gone off the right path because someone or some people did something wrong to them and that caused them to do something that leads them to get in trouble and lose the chance to realize their dreams as scientists, engineers, doctors, etc. and in some instances sent to prison.

So even in this time of economic uncertainties, the greatness of the United States continues to spring out from under the soil like a flower during a beautiful spring day next to the massive clean fresh water lakes of upstate New York!

Endnotes

ⁱ.Kaba, Amadu Jacky. 2006. "Kenya-U.S. Relations: The Urgent Need to Manage Kenya's Migrant and HIV-AIDS Brain Drain," 2006. *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 1, (6): 79-86. http://works.bepress.com/amadu_kaba/22/.

ⁱⁱ.Kaba, Amadu Jacky. 2008."Barack Obama's Dual Triple Heritage," *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 2, (4): 12-21. http://www.jpanafrican.com/docs/vol2no4/2.4_Barack_Obama.pdf.

ⁱⁱⁱ. Kaba, Amadu Jacky. 2010 (Published April 2011). "Michelle Obama and the Black Female Diaspora: The Most Influential Black Woman in History?" *African Renaissance*, 7, (3-4): 41-59. http://works.bepress.com/amadu_kaba/3/.