

# STATE OF READINESS OF BLACK AMERICA

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volunteers, and AOIP corporate supporters (primarily via selective—and/ or priority—purchasing).

These will greatly help AOIP in its four-fold task to survey, enhance, coordinate and report toward achievement of its Year 2000 Goals.

This resolution was signed by Dr. Joyce Peoples and Dr. Moses Norman, national AOIP co-chairpersons.

## The Year 2000 Goals

**I**N mid-January 1986, a group of AOIP's national leaders met in closed session for three full days. With the exceptional leadership of Dr. Moses

Norman, then Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and the late Dr. Mildred Bradham—an original incorporator of AOIP—our collective Year 2000 Goals were developed. Dr. Ada J. Jackson, immediate past president of the Pan-Hellenic Council (and now AOIP trustee) also played a vital role in this process.

In our upcoming issues on "The New State of Readiness of Black America," we will focus more on the easy "how-to's" for vital AOIP Division formation, exciting economic empowerment ef-

forts, and more. Additionally, we will provide more information on Dr. Leon Sullivan's crucial African self-help effort (IFESH).

Please remember that being active and financial with one or more of our AOIP organizations, especially the Masons, Elks and the NAACP, is something everyone can do—for the betterment of all.

The following stages were suggested as goals for our next periods of assessment.

## Year 2000 Goals

(To be adjusted regularly)

Year 2000 Goals	1st Stage	2nd Stage	Year 2000 Goals	1st Stage	2nd Stage
1. Completely eradicate all "functional illiteracy" within Black America.	Get AOIP activities organized in 100% of all areas where Blacks reside.	Strengthen these activities.	AOIP by providing guaranteed regular publicity at the national or local level at all times, as well as carry all of AOIP's "affective-oriented" learning materials.	Should be largely accomplished.	
2. Have 80% of our Black community population give priority support (including tithing) to Black-run religious institutions and have 100% accountability from these institutions.	Get at least 30% of our families and individuals regularly attending and fully supporting (and challenging) our community-run churches.	Get at least 60% doing the same.	8. Have all corporations and other entities directly benefit from the Black community to deal equitably with the Black community as set forth in our Credo For Justice and Equity.		
3. Have at least 80% of our college-bound Black students attend a historically Black college an/or, only secondarily as a choice, a college wherein Blacks have a high measure of control and is focused on the equitable building of our communities. (The other 20% may choose, for various reasons, to integrate other colleges.)	Have 60% fully involved and in high gear.	Have 100% doing the same.	9. Have our people in proportionate bargaining positions in all major political parties so as to assure an equitable number of Blacks working for us are elected and we can obtain an equitable share of all benefits from the political system.	Get 70% involved.	Get 100% involved.
4. Have at least 80% of our Black community businesses owned by Black or other persons who live in or immediately adjacent to—and identify completely with the needs of—our people and doing the same for Black professionals. (The other 20% can be seen as an equitable exchange for a reasonable percentage of Black ownership of businesses outside of our communities.	Reach 100% of our people with this knowledge (same for Black professionals).		10. Have Black Americans assuming full fiscal obligations for the basic needs of our interorganizational, independency-producing efforts like AOIP in a manner such that necessities will never have to be begged for when "others" feel threatened by Blacks becoming independent...and our "retiring" national officers never have to be dropped completely from leadership roles with dignity even after they leave office within their organizations.	80% compliance.	100% compliance.
5. Eliminate the need for unemployment entirely from within Black America by having skill training and equitable opportunities for all.	Keep at it.	Keep at it.	11. Have at least 80% of our Black families investing in ownership/savings plans that build their fiscal independence, and the same percentages strengthening their family ties both spiritually and economically.	25% compliance.	Increase to 60%.
6a. Eliminate the high incidence of teen and adult pregnancies among persons not able to properly rear and support children .	Reduce such pregnancy by 30%.	Reduce such pregnancy by 80%.			
6b. Eliminate substance abuse, child abuse and crime completely from our neighborhoods and create safe aesthetically valuable communities.	Reduce such abuse by 30%.	Reduce such pregnancy by 80%.			
7. Own and support fully in a primary way all of the means of communications which are working totally on our community-building behalf such as those cooperating fully with	Have 100% accomplished.				

Our overall objective is to begin immediately to transform our own discrete communities through pride-instilling "togetherness" into such Shining Oases of Hope that all therein not only will be motivated to want to learn and become productive parts of our own then-wonderful communities, but also there will be a greatly lessened desire, or need, to integrate the pride-filled communities of others. And, for those who assist us toward this end in priority ways, we must demonstrate our appreciation in priority and mutually-pleasing ways.