

THE SPIRIT OF RESISTANCE

Prison is more than a cage designed to break the bodies of political prisoners. Many are confined to maximum-security cells, forced into solitary confinement, denied parole, harassed, beaten, sexually abused, tortured, and deliberately neglected—all in an effort to exterminate the soul.

These tactics serve a colonial agenda: to remold consciousness, disfigure the spirit of political prisoners, and crush revolutionary thought and practice. Our enemies seek to force prisoners into submission, turning them into participants in their own oppression. This is part of a broader strategy to shape the consciousness of the masses, to smother resistance before it can ignite, and to suppress revolution in our hearts and minds. Even those outside the brutal conditions of imprisonment struggle to sustain the spirit of resistance in the face of mass repression, economic subjugation, and media designed to sow defeat and despair.

Whether inside or beyond prison walls, we must look to those who have resisted this spiritual disfigurement—those who have endured the torment of incarceration and emerged with renewed purpose. We must learn from political prisoners who, despite the attempts to extinguish their humanity, became jailhouse lawyers, artists, healers, and even parents—who resisted not just by surviving but by expanding, creating life in the face of death.

The spirit of resistance within political prisoners reminds us of the discipline and strength required when all odds are against us. They show us that prison does not stop revolutionary thought, commitment, or sacrifice. Instead, it can create new possibilities, new realities.

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VERONZA BOWERS JR.

Veronza Bowers was a member and captain of the Black Panther Party who was targeted by COINTELPRO and wrongfully convicted in 1973 for the murder of a National Park Ranger. After being indicted based solely on the testimony of two witnesses, Veronza spent 51 years imprisoned, half of that time in a maximum security penitentiary. During his time in maximum, Veronza discovered the Shakuchaki - a Japanese end-blown flute made of bamboo, and through writing letters became friends with a Shakuchaki maker who sent him his own flute. He began to practice healing through meditation using sounds and colors, as well as a variety of physical therapies including Shiatsu, acupressure, tsubo and massage therapy.

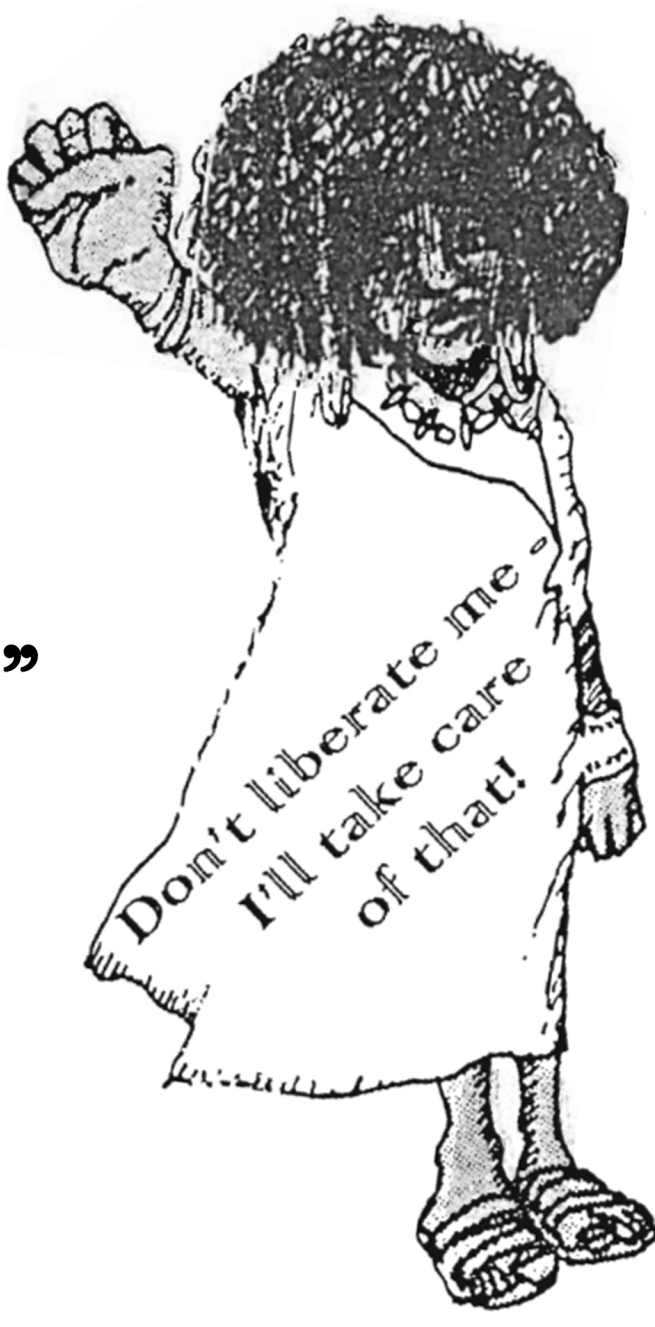
Veronza organized meditation sessions with members of the Rastafarian Community and helped heal inmates of their pain and suffering. Music and meditation created new opportunities for Veronza to maintain his dignity and extend his care for other people.



"THE SPIRIT" Bilal Sunni-Ali

"Look for Me in the Whirlwind"

War is never easy
its bound to bring
to bring on hardship
its bound to make you weary
reach out for me
and war will have us parting
our paths are getting distant
we might not ever see each other again
until we win
until we win
so until then
until we win
look for me in the whirlwind
try try to see my face in the whirlwind
try try to grab my hand in the whirlwind
do all you can to help your brotherman
through the whirlwind
reach out for me
reach out for me
reach out for me for victory.



Bilal Sunni-Ali was a revolutionary and dedicated citizen of the Republic of New Afrika (RNA). That dedication took various forms, from clandestine organizing to contributions to revolutionary culture via jazz, blues, and spoken word performances to challenge the status quo and build up a revolutionary nationalist consciousness among the people.

BIRTH OF A GENERATION

GLORY TO
WALID DAQQA!



Walid Daqqa and Sana'a Salameh first met in an Asqalan prison visitation room. What began as a meeting between a leading militant intellectual of the prisoners' movement and a Palestinian journalist blossomed into a love and political partnership that transcended captivity. Theirs is one of many Palestinian families who have navigated the physical and psychological barriers imposed by the Zionist occupation.

Walid described love as his "humble and only victory over his jailor." The Zionist regime refused to let the two of them have a child. Undeterred, Daqqa entered into another lineage of the prisoners' struggle; his sperm was smuggled out of prison and on February 3, 2020, his daughter Milad was born.

Milad—meaning "birth" in Arabic—was a victory over the jailers. Walid and Sana'a created life from a life sentence. While the public viewed this feat as miraculous, in reality, all Sana'a did was have a child with her husband—made extraordinary only under the conditions imposed by a fascist Zionist regime. Milad is one of more than 100 Palestinian children who have been born through the feat of sperm smuggling, carried out through collective defiance and strategic organization.

On April 7, 2024, Walid was martyred in prison as a result of medical torture and neglect. His body remains in captivity to this day, denying the Daqqa family their long awaited reunion. Still Sana'a and Milad carry the flame for their beloved father and husband, who wrote to his daughter years before her birth:

"I write to a child who has not yet been born... You are my message to the future."



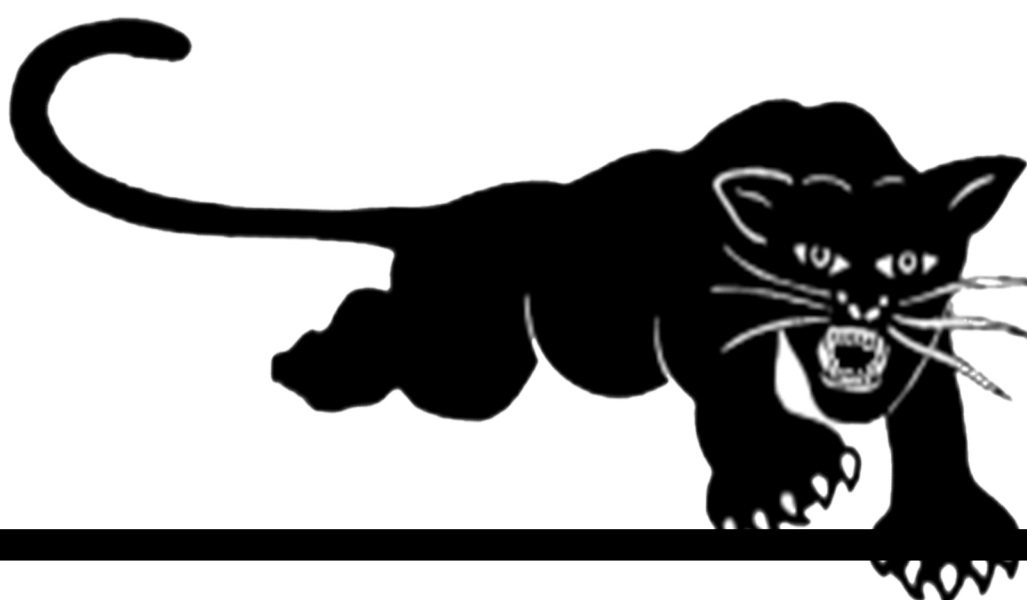
مریم الشخشير

انتم مرض في جسم وطني، و سأناضل
حتى الموت هذا المرض هكذا واجهت
جلاديه
بعد اعلان الحكم عليها بالسجن - ٢
مؤبدات

Mariam
al-Shakhshir.

"You are a disease in my country's body, I will keep on struggling until I cure my homeland from your microbes." This is how she faced her three life-sentences in Zionist court.

"When a cause comes along and you know in your bones that it is just, yet refuse to defend it—at that moment you begin to die. And I have never seen so many corpses walking around talking about justice." - Mumia Abu-Jamal



we say FUCK THAT!



Kwame "Beans" Shakur

Kwame Shakur is a New Afrikan revolutionary nationalist and political prisoner currently being held captive in the Indiana Dept. of Correction, falsely accused and targeted for his family's political background. In prison, Shakur was politicized through the New Afrikan Liberation Movement and is now a leader in the Prison Lives Matter movement. He cites Jalil Muntaqim's *We Are Our Own Liberators* as a life-changing text, now dedicating his life to the Front for the Liberation of the New Afrikan Nation. He writes about his struggles and captivity in his music, where he uplifts his fellow imprisoned comrades through song and interviews. The spirit of resistance lives in Shakur's music and words.

← artwork by XINACHTLI

Xinachtli (pronounced she-nawsht-lee) is a Chicano political prisoner, organizer, jailhouse lawyer, and artist. Raised in a segregated town near the U.S.-Mexico border, he witnessed a white sheriff's deputy kill his friend Ervay Ramos and was later wrongfully convicted at 23. In prison, he endured extreme repression but reignited his dedication to fighting colonialism by studying law, prisoners' rights, and revolutionary movements, drawing inspiration from figures like George Jackson and Ricardo Flores Magón. His name, meaning "**germinating seed**" in Nahuatl, reflects his lifelong commitment to resistance and liberation.

Now 71, Xinachtli has spent over two decades of his 50-year sentence in solitary confinement at McConnell Unit Prison in **Texas**. Despite these conditions, he continues to provide legal aid, create art, and advocate for prisoners' rights. Denied parole in 2024, with his next review in 2027, he remains unwavering in his fight against colonial oppression, planting seeds of resistance across Turtle Island and beyond.



FREEDOM
FOR
ALL
POLITICAL
PRISONERS

