

# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Beyond a month

PROGRAMME 2016



# Welcome

from Professor Anne-Marie Kilday

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Staff Experience),  
Chair of Brookes Race Equality Action Group  
and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and  
Social Sciences

I am delighted that Oxford Brookes is taking an active part in marking Black History Month this year, and invite all members of Oxford Brookes and the wider local community to join us. We aim to raise awareness across the university and beyond of the past, present and future contribution of Black communities to our social, economic, political, cultural and intellectual life in the UK.

Brookes' first programme for Black History Month goes "Beyond a Month...." to link with our wider race equality agenda, connect with the development of our Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Staff Network, and give increased positive profile and visibility to the experience of our BME staff and students.

Black History Month especially promotes knowledge and awareness across all communities of the experience and contribution of Black people of African and African Caribbean heritage to British and global society. Join us as we look back at the history as well as looking forward to the future in creating a society that works for all.

This guide lists events which will be happening here at Oxford Brookes University and across the city, and includes a range of information, profiles and links to other resources. We hope you find this useful and welcome future contributions and ideas for developing our work for Black History Month: Beyond a Month....

**BLACK HISTORY**  
**MONTH**2016  
[blackhistorymonth.org.uk](http://blackhistorymonth.org.uk)

**#BlackHistoryMonth**

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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## When was Black History Month set up in the UK, and by whom?

Akyaaaba Addai Sebo is widely regarded as the instigator of Black History Month in the UK. Addai worked with Ken Livingstone at the Greater London Council (GLC) as coordinator of Special Projects. The first event was held on 1st October 1987, when the GLC hosted Dr Maulana Karenga from the US to mark the contributions of Black people throughout history. Addai began thinking about celebrations of Black history, and drew up a plan to recognise the contributions of African, Asian, Caribbean and Arab people to the economic, cultural and political life in London and the UK. Since 1987 was also part of African Jubilee Year, other boroughs began to formally institute a Black History Month in the UK.

[www.ucu.org.uk/article/8334/Black-History-Month](http://www.ucu.org.uk/article/8334/Black-History-Month)

[www.thebritishblacklist.com/shakara-speaks-akyaaba-addai-sebo-and-the-origins-black-history-month-uk](http://www.thebritishblacklist.com/shakara-speaks-akyaaba-addai-sebo-and-the-origins-black-history-month-uk)

## What form do events take and where are they held?

Initiatives take place across the UK with voluntary groups, schools, local authorities, primary care trusts, museums and libraries often taking a lead in planning events. All projects use the skills and experiences of the local workforce and community in the planning and delivery. Smaller groups do equally good work on limited budgets, e.g. running supplementary schools, which incorporate history, or incorporating the Black History Month theme into existing events. There is always a rich programme of events: storytelling, historical walks, theatrical

productions, comedy and panel debates are a few examples, but all have history as an integral part of their purpose. Some employers, especially local authorities, can earmark specific budgets, which groups can apply for at the beginning of each financial year. Other councils and organisations pick up and absorb publicity or venue hire costs to support activity.

## What are the dates for Black History Month and why October?

Black History Month runs throughout the month of October. There has long been concern about the experience of Black children in the UK, and this was a key factor in setting October as the Black History Month. It is at the beginning of a new academic year and can instil pride and identity into young Black learners. The month is also significant within the African cultural calendar because the autumn equinox in Africa coincides with the harvest period, and is a time of plenty. October is also a period of tolerance and reconciliation in African culture. Black history is therefore a reconnection with the African source, hence the Black History Month symbol of Sankofa – learning from the past – with the benefit of hindsight.

## The symbol for Black History Month

**Sankofa** is an Adinkra symbol used by the Akan people of Ghana, the symbol illustrates a mythical bird, which holds an egg representing the future in its beak. The bird moves forwards while looking backwards to the past.



# EVENTS AT OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY, OCTOBER 2016



## Coffee mornings

The BME Staff Network have organised a series of coffee mornings throughout the month of October, encouraging Brookes staff and students to meet informally, chat about Black History Month (BHM) and to also promote the events happening throughout the month.

The coffee mornings will be held from 10:30am - 11:30am in the following locations:

- 4 October** Chaplaincy, Buckley Building, Headington Campus
- 11 October** Wheatley Refectory, Wheatley Campus
- 18 October** Westminster Square, Harcourt Hill Campus
- 25 October** Marston Road Refectory, Marston Road
- 25 October** G.05 Joel Joffe Building, Swindon Campus

**WHO:** Brookes staff and students  
**WHEN:** Every Tuesday through October, 10:30am - 11:30am  
**WHERE:** All Brookes campuses

**FREE**

## Diverse menus

In collaboration with Brookes BME Staff Network, Harcourt Catering will be offering diverse menus from Africa, the Caribbean and South East Asia.

**WHO:** Brookes staff and students  
**WHEN:** Throughout October  
**WHERE:** Harcourt Hill Campus

## OXFORD BROOKES BLACK HISTORY MONTH LECTURE



### Self-Fulfilling Prophecy: Perspective

**SPEAKER:** Simon Woolley

#### What do 2016's political events, including the EU referendum, mean for minority communities across the UK?

Simon will take a temperature check on the importance of this year and what the future holds for black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. He will also highlight the challenges with engagement and participation of young people in politics and wider society.

If you are concerned or unsure about where politics in Britain is heading, this is a must-hear lecture.

The evening will be hosted by Professor Anne-Marie Kilday, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Staff Experience).

#### About the Speaker

Simon Woolley is one of the founders and Director of **Operation Black Vote (OBV)**. OBV seeks to inspire BME communities to engage with public institutions to address persistent racial inequalities. Many government departments such as the Home Office, the Electoral Commission, Cabinet Office and the Ministry of Justice call on Simon Woolley to advise on areas of race and politics.

Simon has written for the National news publications such as the Guardian, The Independent, and The Express and writes a column for BlackBritain.co.uk and Northernstar.com in the US. He is also a regular contributor to African, Caribbean and Asian press here in the UK. Simon appears regularly on national TV and radio programmes, discussion issues of the Black community. He also speaks fluent Spanish and has an understanding of Italian.

Refreshments will be provided.

#### Booking is essential: [Book here](#)

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 12 October 2016, 6.00pm - 7:00pm

**WHERE:** Chakrabarti Room (JHBB 208), Headington Campus



## Hip-hop and Shakespeare – Decolonising our curriculums

**SPEAKER:** Akala

Following his 10 Years of Akala Tour, award-winning Hip-hop artist, writer, poet, historian and Artistic Director of The Hip-hop Shakespeare Company (THSC), 'Akala' will join us for an interactive talk focusing on the topic of 21st century education, the Eurocentric nature of curriculums and demystifying Shakespeare.

“Smart, addictive and right on the mark” – The Independent

**Organised by:** Oxford Brookes University and Brookes Union

**To register please email** [kseyay@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:kseyay@brookes.ac.uk)

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 9 November 2016, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

**WHERE:** Union Hall, John Henry Brookes Building, Headington Campus

## Lunchtime session: lessons from Harlem

Lessons from Harlem: “How a Year in New York in 1930-31 impacted on the German theologian **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**”.

**Organiser:** Rev Dr Robert G. Bates

[rgbates@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:rgbates@brookes.ac.uk)

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 24 October 2016, 12:30pm - 1:15pm

**WHERE:** Westminster Chapel, Harcourt Hill Campus



**PROJECT  
COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH  
RESEARCH**

## Lunchtime showcase

**FEATURING:** Dr Sola Adesola, Dr Henry Abanda, Neil Carrant, Lindsay Williams, Kate Harford, Sobia Afridi, Farhana Ghaffar, Dr Yue Ang & Mariama Sherif

Come along and learn about the various projects, research and community outreach work that is being undertaken by Brookes' Staff, including work on enabling student success.

Refreshments will be provided.

**Organiser: BME Staff Network**

**To register please email [kseyay@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:kseyay@brookes.ac.uk)**

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 26 October 2016, 12:00pm - 1:00pm with lunch to follow

**WHERE:** Room TBC, Headington Campus



## Workshop: Pioneer and the Pen

Natty Mark, from the African School presents an interactive workshop celebrating early Black Journalism: Africa, America, the Caribbean and Britain.

**Organiser: Natty Mark in collaboration with the BME Staff Network**

**Contact: [bantudub06@gmail.com](mailto:bantudub06@gmail.com) [africanschool-africa.blogspot.co.uk](http://africanschool-africa.blogspot.co.uk)**

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 18 October 2016, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

**WHERE:** Green Room (G13) Headington Hill Hall, Headington Campus

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## African dance: workshop, market stall and performance

The BME Staff Network with African Dance Oxford (UK) presents an afternoon of African dance performance, African market stall and African Dance Workshop. Come and join us and experience a fun, high energy rhythmic workout for your mind, body and soul!

[africandanceoxford.webs.com/about](http://africandanceoxford.webs.com/about)

Sign up for a free African Dance Workshop session from 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**WHO:** Open to all  
**WHEN:** 28 October 2016, 12:00pm - 3:00pm  
**WHERE:** Union Hall, Headington Campus

**FREE**



## The Ideas Café: race, religion and belonging

The Brookes Chaplaincy presents an evening of Cake & debate; life, death, and everything in between. The Ideas Café is open to all ideas and viewpoints. Come to the Café in the Multifaith Chaplaincy.

**Organiser:** Rev Kate Harford

[kate.harford@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:kate.harford@brookes.ac.uk)

[www.brookes.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/chaplaincy](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/chaplaincy)

**WHO:** All students  
**WHEN:** 11 October 2016, 5:00pm - 6:30pm  
**WHERE:** Multifaith Chaplaincy, Buckley Building G.20

**FREE**



## Uncomfortable Pedagogy: Decolonising and Diversifying Sociology, Politics and International Relations

This event is dedicated to emerging discussions in academia about decolonising and diversifying our curricula in the disciplines of Sociology, Politics and International Relations.

There are increasing efforts from academics to teach students more gender-balanced and non-Eurocentric history and theory – making sure we don't just read and make our students read about the exploits of dead white European men or use articles written by white Western men. Doing so reveals uncomfortable truths about ourselves and the world, and can or should make us uncomfortable in the classroom. Moreover, there are also dangers and challenges in the criteria we use to diversify and decolonise.

**Organiser:** Dr Maia Pal, Lecturer in International Relations [mpal@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:mpal@brookes.ac.uk)

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 13 October 2016, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

**WHERE:** JHB303, John Henry Brookes Building, Headington Campus

## Exhibition: Check your privilege

Come along and take part in our “Check your privilege” exercise.



This event seeks to raise awareness around social inequalities and privilege. The aim is for individuals to recognise and understand privilege and to use that knowledge through engagement in social justice activities.

We hope that this exercise would encourage individuals to use their privilege to advocate for others.

*“Becoming aware of privilege should not be viewed as a burden or source of guilt, but rather, an opportunity to learn and be responsible so that we may work toward a more just and inclusive world.”*

myUSF

**Organisers: Brookes Union & Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Adviser (Students)**

**su.president@brookes.ac.uk, ksesay@brookes.ac.uk**

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 27 October 2016, 11:00am - 4:00pm

**WHERE:** Union Square, John Henry Brookes Building, Headington Campus

## DARK GIRLS



### Oxford Brookes University Documentary Club: Dark Girls

As part of our Black History Month: Beyond a Month Programme, the Black and Minority Ethnic Staff Network, with the Oxford Brookes University Documentary Club presents a film screening of Dark Girls. This is a fascinating and controversial documentary film that goes underneath the surface to explore the prejudice that dark-skinned women face throughout the world.

A panel discussion (featuring NUS Black Students Campaign, Tribe and Black Women’s Forum UK) will follow after the film with speakers sharing their work and taking questions from the audience.

Refreshments will be provided.

**WHO:** Open to all

**FREE**

**WHEN:** 23 February 2017 from 7:00pm

**WHERE:** John Henry Brookes Lecture Theatre, Headington Campus

# UPCOMING BROOKES EVENTS



## The Great Debate Tour: Oxford Brookes African Caribbean Society

The Great Debate Tour is the first national debate forum targeting cultural communities on University campuses across the UK.

The tour, now in its 7th year, is a celebration of diversity and heritage as well as a forum for powerful, thought provoking discussion. With the help of a panel of experts, university students are encouraged to explore issues that our research indicates is most relevant to the audience. Each debate takes place as a question time style event.

**For more info contact: [oxfordbrookes.acs@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordbrookes.acs@gmail.com)**

**WHO:** Students and Staff  
**WHEN:** 8 November, 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
**WHERE:** TBC

**FREE**

## Oxford Brookes University Islamic Society



**Oxford Brookes University Islamic Society** is run by the elected Muslim students of the University. Aiming to provide both students and the community with a variety of activities, events, talks and fundraisers open to both the students and the public, we hope to bring Muslims from all backgrounds together, and provide support and friendship to all our members.

### Events

- Social Event (October)
- Movie Night (October)
- Foods from Africa (October)
- Spoken Word workshop (November)

**For more info contact: [brookesisoc@gmail.com](mailto:brookesisoc@gmail.com)**

## Brookes Africa Forum

The Brookes Africa Forum (BAF) was founded in October 2008 to create a platform for addressing academic, business and educational support links on Africa across Oxford Brookes University. BAF is faculty driven and membership is open to all.

This Forum is a confluence of academics, students, business leaders, and policymakers to discuss and debate pertinent issues relating to business in and for Africa.

### Forthcoming Events

Understanding the university system and processes – Semester 1 Date TBC

Lift Every Voice in Thanksgiving for Black History Month – 16 November

**Would you like to join the choir? Sign up here**

**For more info email Dr Sola Adesola: [sadesola@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:sadesola@brookes.ac.uk)**

## BME STAFF NETWORK



At Oxford Brookes University, we are committed to ensuring the very best staff experience where all our community can flourish in a culture of respect and support, where we celebrate difference and thrive on each other's success.

As part of our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion we have set up a BME Staff Network.

The next meeting will be held on:

**12 October 2016, 11:00am - 12:00pm**

Chaplaincy, Buckley Building, Headington Campus

For further information email: [kseyay@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:kseyay@brookes.ac.uk)

## OTHER EVENTS ACROSS OXFORD

### University of Oxford Black History Month Lecture 2016

The University of Oxford Black and Minority Ethnic Staff Network and the Equality and Diversity Unit present:

The Black History Month annual lecture with Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon OBE. Refreshments will be served prior to the talk at 5:00pm.

Accessibility: The Pichette Auditorium is fully accessible by wheelchair. For more information on access please see the **access guide to Pembroke**.

**This is a free event and all are welcome, but booking is essential:**

**[Oxbhm16.eventbrite.co.uk](http://Oxbhm16.eventbrite.co.uk)**

**WHEN:** 20 October 2016, 5:30 - 7:00pm

**WHERE:** The Pichette Auditorium, Pembroke College

### University of Oxford Women in Achievement Lecture Series 2016-2017

This **series** aims to raise the profile of women of high achievement and increase the range of role models accessible to women at Oxford, and challenge and inspire the entire Oxford community.

#### **Values based leadership in a changing world**

21st century leaders lead complex, diverse and culturally complex organisations: Do women lead these organisations differently?

**Speaker: Baroness Valerie Amos CH**

**Book here**

**WHEN:** 24 October 2016, refreshments 5:00pm, lecture 5:30 - 7:00pm

**WHERE:** The Pichette Auditorium, Pembroke College

## University of Oxford Race in the Curriculum lecture series

The **Race and the Curriculum Lecture Series** aims to highlight a current project within the University to diversify the curriculum across the humanities, sciences and social sciences. Our speakers bring expertise of alternative perspectives of curriculum, and of leading cultural change within global higher education institutions.

### Redefining America: Confronting the Legacy of Slavery and Injustice

**Speaker: Professor Ruth J. Simmons, President emerita, Brown University**

**Book here**

**WHEN:** 2 November 2016, doors open 5:00pm, lecture, followed by Q&A 5:30  
**WHERE:** Mathematical Institute - Andrew Wiles Building

## UNISON Black History Month Event

On 15 October 2016 UNISON South East Regional Black Members will be celebrating Black History Month with this event with a variety of activities to showcase our diverse membership including guest speakers, quiz with prizes, publishers, stalls with books, art and other items. Food and beverages will be provided.

Further details:

**[www.unionsoutheast.org.uk/black\\_history\\_month\\_event](http://www.unionsoutheast.org.uk/black_history_month_event)**

**WHEN:** 15 October 2016  
**WHERE:** UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road, London NW1 2AY

# OXFORD BROOKES PROFILES



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## Dr Sola Adesola, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business

Sola is a Senior Lecturer and teaches at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels. She leads modules in International Business, Operations management, Business Strategy, Regional Studies: Asia, Africa or Europe, and Corporate & Business Law. Sola is the Chair of the OBU Africa Forum, a think tank for intellectual dialogue and a voice on African research and academic matters. Prior to joining Oxford Brookes University, Sola was a Research Fellow at Cranfield University where she taught Strategic Decisions at MSc level and completed two EPSRC/IMRC funded research projects on supply chain positioning and human performance modelling research network.



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## Dr Henry Abanda, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment

Dr. Henry Abanda has a BSc (Hons) and Dipl.-Ing. in Mathematics/Physics and Civil Engineering respectively. After obtaining his degree in Civil Engineering in 2003, Henry worked as a Project Engineer on projects funded by the governments of Cameroon and Japan. Henry obtained his PhD from the Faculty of Technology, Design & Environment at Oxford Brookes University in the UK in 2011. His research supervisors were

Prof Joseph Handibry Mbatu Tah, Prof David Duce and Dr Esra Kurul. His PhD investigated the extent to which Semantic Web technologies can be used in managing sustainable building technology knowledge for use in different building projects. As a main contribution, the study culminated in the development of a photovoltaic decision support system called PhotoVoltaic Technology Ontology System (PV-TONS). The system provides a means of designing and selecting photovoltaic systems and components for use in building projects. Henry is currently extending his PhD study to include other sustainable building technologies such as wind turbines, geothermal and combined heat and power systems.



## **Prof Pritam Singh, Professor of Economics, Faculty of Business**

Pritam has a doctorate in economics from the University of Oxford (Oriental College) where he was awarded the Edward Boyle/Charles Wallace Scholarship. He took his BA Hons School in Economics and MA Hons School in Economics degrees from Panjab University, Chandigarh (India). He was awarded the Junior Research Fellowship by the University Grants Commission in India to study at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi from where he passed his Mphil with distinction. Before coming to Oxford, he has taught at University of Delhi as a Lecturer in Economics and at Panjab University, Chandigarh as a Reader in Economics. In 2007, he was elected as a Research Associate at the Department

of International Development, Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford, and in 2009, he was a Visiting Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and in 2013 at Moscow State University, Moscow. He leads the research cluster on Environmental and Development Economics in the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics in the Faculty of Business.



## **Dr Yue Ang, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Yue S. Ang is a Senior Lecturer in Law. She joined Oxford Brookes University School of Law in September 2012 as a Lecturer in Law. She was previously a visiting lecturer at Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham during the 2011/2012 academic year.

She was awarded a four-year scholarship by Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham to read law at doctoral level and teach law at LL.B Level as a postgraduate teaching assistant. She received her PhD in 2013.

In 2007, she earned a master's degree in law (LL.M) with Merit from University College London, University of London (UCL) and in 2006 she earned a bachelor's degree in law (LL.B) with First Class Honours from University of Westminster.

# LEADING BLACK ACTIVISTS



## Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon OBE, anti-racism campaigner and Labour peer

Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon OBE is the mother of Stephen Lawrence, a British teenager who was murdered in a racist attack in South East London in 1993. She and Stephen's father Neville Lawrence founded the **Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust** in 1998 to promote a positive community legacy in their son's name. In 1999, after years of campaigning by the Lawrence family, a wide-ranging judicial inquiry was established to investigate the circumstances of Stephen's death.

It concluded that the Metropolitan Police was institutionally racist, one of the primary causes of their failure to solve the Stephen Lawrence case. In the aftermath of the inquiry, Doreen Lawrence continued to campaign for justice for her son as well as for other victims of racist crime.

In 2003 she was awarded the OBE for services to community relations, and was made a life peer in 2013. She has been selected to sit on panels within the Home Office and the Police Service and is a member of both the board and the council of the organisation Liberty and patron of hate crime charity, Stop Hate UK.

Baroness Lawrence is an Honorary Graduate of Oxford Brookes. She will deliver the **University of Oxford Black History Month Lecture 2016** on 20 October.



## Benjamin Zephaniah

**Dr Benjamin Obadiah Iqbal Zephaniah** was born and raised in Birmingham, England. He cannot remember a time when he was not creating poetry but this had nothing to do with school where poetry meant very little to him, in fact he had finished full time education at the age of 13. His poetry is strongly influenced

by the music and poetry of Jamaica and what he calls 'street politics'. His first real public performance was in church when he was 10 years old, by the time he was 15 he had developed a strong following in his home town of Handsworth where he had gained a reputation as a young poet who was capable of speaking on local and international issues.

Benjamin Zephaniah has an honorary doctorate from Oxford Brookes.



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## Lord Victor Adebowale CBE

Victor Olufemi Adebowale, Baron Adebowale, CBE is the Chief Executive of the social care enterprise Turning Point and was one of the first to become a People's Peer. He was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2000 New Year Honours for services to the New Deal, the

unemployed, and homeless young people.[3] In 2001 he became one of the first group of people to be appointed as people's peers and was created a life peer on 30 June 2001 taking the title Baron Adebowale, of Thornes in the County of West Yorkshire, sitting as a crossbencher.[4][5] In 2009 he was listed as one of the 25 most influential people in housing policy over the past 25 years by the housing professionals magazine Inside Housing. He was reckoned by the Health Service Journal to be the 97th most influential person in the English NHS in 2015. Victor is on the board of NHS England and the Co-op. He regularly appears in the national media commenting on various issues relating to health and social care and public policy.

Lord Adebowale is an honorary graduate of Oxford Brookes.



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## Yasmin Alibhai-Brown

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown came to this country in 1972 from Uganda. She completed her M.Phil. in literature at Oxford in 1975. She is a journalist who has written for The Guardian, Observer, The New York Times, Time Magazine, Newsweek, The Evening Standard, The Mail and other newspapers and was a regular columnist on The Independent for eighteen years. She now writes a weekly column for the International Business Times and continues to write for the I newspaper, the Mail and other newspapers.

She is also a radio and television broadcaster and author of several books. Her book, No Place Like Home, well received by critics, was an autobiographical account of a twice removed immigrant. From 1996 to 2001 she was a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research which published True Colours on the role of government on racial attitudes.

In 1999 she was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Open University for her services to social justice. In 2001 she was appointed an MBE for services to journalism in the new year's honours list. In July 2003 Liverpool John Moore's University made her an Honorary Fellow. In 2003 she returned her MBE as a protest against the new empire in Iraq and a growing republicanism. In September 2004, she was awarded an honorary degree by Oxford Brookes University.



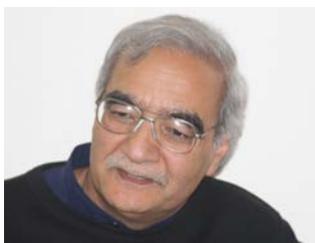
## Zainab Bangura

Zainab Hawa Bangura of Sierra Leone assumed her position as Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in September 2012. In this capacity, she serves as Chair of the interagency network, UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action).

Ms. Bangura has over 20 years of policy, diplomatic and practical experience in the field of governance, conflict resolution and reconciliation in Africa. She served most recently as Minister of Health and Sanitation for the Government of Sierra Leone, and was previously Minister of Foreign Affairs

and International Cooperation, the second woman in Sierra Leone to occupy this position. She was also Chief Adviser and Spokesperson of the President on bilateral and international issues. Ms. Bangura has been instrumental in developing national programmes on affordable health, advocating for the elimination of genital mutilation, managing the country's Peace Building Commission and contributing to the multilateral and bilateral relations with the international community. She has deep experience engaging with State and non-State actors on issues relevant to sexual violence, including engaging with rebel groups.

She has received numerous national and international awards, and is a former fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute of London, with Diplomas in Insurance Management from the City University Business School of London and Nottingham University. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. Zainab Bangura is an honorary graduate of Oxford Brookes.



## Inderjit Bhogal OBE

Inderjit Singh Bhogal is a leading Theologian and Methodist Minister. He is currently working as an Officer in the **Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network** (Bristol and West Midlands Region). He is founder and President of **City of Sanctuary**, a former President of the Methodist Conference and former Leader/CEO of the **Corrymeela Community**.

Between 2005-2011 Inderjit was CEO of the Yorkshire and Humber Faiths Forum. He is a former President of the Methodist Conference. Inderjit is also President of the **Methodist Peace Fellowship** and an Honorary Graduate of Oxford Brookes.

On 23rd November Reverend Doctor Inderjit Singh Bhogal gives the Oxford Brookes Interfaith Week Lecture - Hospitality and Sanctuary: A faith based response to refugees.



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## Gary Younge

Gary Younge is an author, broadcaster and editor-at-large for The Guardian, based in London. He also writes a monthly column, Beneath the Radar, for the Nation magazine and is the Alfred Knobler Fellow for The Nation Institute. He has written four books, The Speech, The Story Behind Martin Luther King's Dream, Who Are We?, And Should it Matter in the 21st century, Stranger in a Strange Land, Travels in the Disunited States and No Place Like Home, A Black Briton's Journey Through the Deep South. Gary has made several radio and television documentaries on subjects ranging from the tea party to hip hop culture.



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## Phyll Opoku-Gyimah

Phyll Opoku-Gyimah is the co-founder and Executive Director of UK Black Pride, the award-winning celebration for Black LGBT communities to take pride in their ethnicity and sexuality.

With her background in the UK civil service, central government she has worked for Department of Works & Pensions and Fraud Investigation Service, Phyll then joined the Public and Commercial Services (PCS) the largest civil service trade union as the only Black female Negotiator in the area of Law and Justice bargaining before being appointed PCS' Head of Equality, Health and Safety. Phyll's commitment to workplace equality and social justice led to her election onto the TUC LGBT Committee.

Phyll prides herself as an activist who is passionate about what she believes in and works diligently to make people aware of the cause, she has worked tirelessly to build UK Black Pride by bringing together LGBT activists, artists, volunteers and supporters from across the LGBT community. Her efforts were recognised with a nomination as 'Woman of the Year' at the Black LGBT Community Awards 2007, as a top-50 entrant in the Independent's Pink List 2012, a top-100 entrant in the World Pride Power List 2012, a Prime Minister's Big Society Award nomination in 2012, and invitation to judge the Stonewall Awards 2012.

We are delighted that Phyll will be involved in Brookes programme for LGBT History Month in February 2017.

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## Useful Links

100 Great Black Britons – List created 2014 [www.100greatblackbritons.com/list.html](http://www.100greatblackbritons.com/list.html)

**BLACK HISTORY**  
**MONTH**2016  
[blackhistorymonth.org.uk](http://blackhistorymonth.org.uk)

The Official Black History Month website with resources,  
information and details of events across the UK

[www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk) #BlackHistoryMonth