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Announcement of The Walter Rodney Press

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The Groundings with My Brothers

Republished

The Groundings with My Brothers is a collection of the main speeches made by Walter Rodney while he was in Jamaica for nine months in 1968, and at the Black Writer’s Conference in Montreal in October 1968. Two of the chapters: “Statement of the Jamaican Situation,” and “African History in the Service of Black Revolution,” are regarded as ‘the straws that broke the camel’s back.’ The Jamaican government, who had already placed Rodney under surveillance for his engagement with Rastafarians and other disenfranchised communities, declared Rodney persona non-grata and a threat to national security, and banned him from reentry into Jamaica. After a student protest, led by now Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Honorable Ralph Gonsalves, the “Rodney Riots” spread off campus to the capital Kingston and became what many historians consider the most significant uprising in Jamaica since 1938.

The Groundings with My Brothers is considered one of the best pieces of protest literature to come out of the Caribbean during that period. Originally published in 1969, this groundbreaking work by Dr. Walter Rodney remains germane today, 45 years after its original publication. It offers compelling insights into many issues which continue to plague the Caribbean and the African Diaspora. It is telling that some of the conditions that existed then continue to be pervasive today.

The significant new Introduction is by Dr. Patricia Rodney, and the new Afterword by Dr. Verene A. Shepherd. Both previous introductions by Richard Small and Omowale are included in this version. The cover design is by E. Bruce Phillips, Jr. This 2014 republication of The Groundings with my Brothers is the first publication by the Walter Rodney Press.

Dr. Walter Rodney is the author of How Europe Underdeveloped Africa and is recognized as one of the Caribbean’s most brilliant minds.
WALTER RODNEY PRESS

The Walter Rodney Press, LLC was established in February 2014 to ensure the legacy of Walter Rodney and to share his life and works with future generations of students, scholars, researchers, activists and communities globally.

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