

CULTURAL EVENING IN SOLIDARITY WITH ASSATA SHAKUR AND WOMEN IN PRISON



friday, oct. 14 7:30pm
nyu catholic ctr.
58 wash. sq. so.

DONATION: \$2.50 - FOOD SERVED 6:30 to 7:30 (small extra donation).

Women and men invited.

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

Sponsors: New York-PFOC Assata Committee, PO Box 613, Brooklyn 11215
Solidarity With Sisters Inside Committee, Box 291, 161 East
Houston Street, New York 10002
NYU Women's Prison Committee

COME TO COURT: Oct. 13-9³⁰ am, Brooklyn Supreme Court,
9th floor, all trains to Jay St. / Boro Hall.

Assata Shakur (slave name: Joanne Chesimard) is a Black revolutionary woman, a leader in her people's struggle for liberation. She represents, both to oppressed peoples and to the imperialist state, a fierce fighter against oppression.

Assata has spent the past four years in jail, and has been acquitted in four trials before she was convicted in a frame-up charge in New Brunswick, N.J., and sentenced to life-plus-35 years in jail. The charges arose out of a 1973 shoot-out with N.J. State Police, in which a comrade, Zayd MalikkShakur was murdered and a state trooper was killed. Another comrade, Sundiata Acoli, was also convicted of murder and is serving life-plus-35 as well. Assata, Sundiata and Zayd were fighting in self-defense, from the troopers' attack and from COINTELPRO, the continuing government campaign of murder, disruption and surveillance aimed at the Black, Puerto Rican, Native American and Chicano/Mexicano national liberation struggles, and at their supporters.

During her imprisonment, Assata Shakur has been subjected to continual isolation and brutality because she represents a deadly threat to US imperialism. This system is based on the continued piracy of Third World nations' labor and resources. The courts, cops and prisons are mainly designed to smash the resistance of oppressed peoples--but repression breeds more resistance. Assata, Sundiata and many, many other Third World political prisoners lead and symbolize an uncompromising war for freedom.



The oppression of women is key to the ability of US imperialism to continue its robbery of Third World nations. The oppression of Third World women exists in this framework: forced sterilization; systematic rape and sexual exploitation by white men; and racist stereotypes of Third World women as "immoral", "domineering" etc. are examples of the intertwining of white supremacy and male supremacy. 70% of women in prisons are Black, Latin, Native American, inside for struggling to survive genocide and oppression.

White women face both oppression as women and privilege as white people, all of which comes together within the white family. They do hours of unwaged labor (housework and raising children) for the system, and imperialism couldn't survive without it. At the same time, the white family is the basic unit of white society where the values and benefits of white supremacy are passed on to new generations. A white man's home is his castle, and his wife is both his queen and his slave.

The women's movement has touched the lives of millions of people, and women are organizing to fight our oppression: for the right to control our own bodies; for an end to the terror of rape and all forms of violence against women; for an end to the degradation and oppression of lesbians. But too often white women have fought to separate their struggle from the struggles of Third World peoples. White women haven't recognized that this country was built on the land, labor, resources and blood of Third World nations; and when they fight to get it back the whole empire shakes. Solidarity with Assata Shakur and other Third World prisoners-of-war means solidarity with their nations' struggle for liberation, for the right to determine their own destinies; and that means solidarity with the leading forces in the fight for all our liberation from the system which oppresses us.