

W A S I

IMAMU  
BARAKA  
SPIRITUAL  
LEADER  
COMMITTEE  
FOR UNIFIED  
NEWARK

CFUN



WHO WAS MARCUS GARVEY

Marcus Garvey was born on August 17, 1887, in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, West Indies. His parents, Marcus, Sr. and Sarah Garvey were African descendents from the Maroons.

The Maroons' historic deeds speak for themselves; their heroic exploits in defense of their freedom form an important part of Jamaican history and folklore.

As a young man, Marcus Garvey experienced the typical difficulties Black men were forced to endure for survival. His involvement in strikes against the racist printing firms led the white printers to bar Garvey from employment in the printing business. His travel to England introduced him to many Africans whereby he learned of the problems and oppressions of colonialism.

In 1914, Marcus Garvey returned to Jamaica and organized the Universal Negro Improvement Association, with the objective of taking Africa from the imperialists, and making Africa the defender of Africans wherever Africans settled in the world.

Through his devotion and conscientious concern for his people, Marcus Garvey awakened the Black masses to nationalism. During his time, more than any other single leader, Garvey was able to give Black people a "reborn feeling of collective pride and a new awareness of self". Black people, the world over, were taught about their traditional greatness and to be proud of their past.



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