Guide to the Papers of

Marcus Mosiah Garvey

Prepared by Jala Robertson, 2023



**Tuskegee University Archives and Museums**

# Tuskegee, AL 36088

Tuskegee Archives and Museums

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**Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Marcus Mosiah Garvey, (1887-1940)

**Title:** Papers of Marcus Mosiah Garvey

**Dates:** 1920-1940

**Quantity:**

**Identification:**

**Abstract:** Marcus Mosiah Garvey (1887-1940) was a Black nationalist and founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association. Garvey aspired to manage Black trade through his shipping line, the Black Star Line, and would encourage the Back to Africa Movement.

**Contact Information:** Tuskegee University Archives and Museums

Tuskegee University

Tuskegee, AL 36088 USA

Phone: (334) 725-2383

Fax: (334)

Email**:** [**archives@tuskegee.edu**](mailto:archives@tuskegee.edu)

URL: [www.tuskegee.edu](http://www.tuskegee.edu)

### Administrative Information

#### Preferred Citation

Papers of Marcus Mosiah Garvey

**Acquisition Information**

**Processing Information**

The papers were received. There is no evidence that the original order had been preserved. During processing metal fasteners were removed and the documents were placed in acid-free folders. Copies were made of newspaper clippings and poor-quality paper documents onto acid free paper. When possible and if applicable, the file title was taken from the original file folder. Since no original order was apparent, an order was imposed and was created according to the subject matter of the records. Original file names were preserved as they were found on the folders. Blank folders were assigned titles according to the contents of the original folder.

**Index Terms**

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the Tuskegee University Libraries online catalog. Researchers seeking materials about related subjects, persons, organizations or places should search the catalog using these headings.

**Subjects:**

African American political activists—History

Tuskegee (Ala.)

Community development

U.N.I.A.

Black Star Line

Black Nationalism

Back to Africa Movement

Garveyism

**Persons:**

Marcus Mosiah Garvey (1887-1940)

Amy Jacques Garvey

**Biography**

Marcus Mosiah Garvey was born August 17th, 1887, in Saint Ann’s Bay, Jamaica. He would study and work in South America and London. A year after Booker. T. Washington’s death, and by invitation, Garvey would come to America–to Tuskegee Institute–in 1916. Inspired by Tuskegee Institute’s industrial training, Garvey wished to create a shipping line for Black trade and movement across the Caribbean Islands and African coasts.

In 1914, Garvey founded and elected himself president of the U.N.I.A. –the Universal Negro Improvement Association–which serves as an organization that leads through ideology of Black Nationalism, the Back to Africa Movement, and Garveyism–a 20th century racial and political doctrine advocating black separation and the formation of self-governing black nations in Africa. Garvey would claim that the exploitation of Black people is a direct cause of European colonization, and that his efforts worked as a global effort. Due to the radical nature of Garvey, he would be remembered as a controversial figure. He would challenge prominent figures in the Black community such as W.E.B. Du Bois.

In 1919, Garvey began the recruitment and building of his shipping line, The Black Star Line. He would gain support from Garveyites. However, Garvey would be charged with accounts of mail fraud by the U.S. government. He would be imprisoned, deported to Jamaica in 1927, and exiled from the United States. The Black Star line would cease in 1922.

Garvey would marry his second wife, Amy Jacques Garvey, who would continue his work on Black Nationalism after his death. She would publish two books; *Garvey and Garveyim* and *Black Power in America and the Impact of Garvey in Africa and Jamaica*.

Marcus Garvey died June 10th, 1940, in London, United Kingdom.

### Scope and Contents

The collection consists of documents generated by or written about Marcus Mosiah Garvey. The bulk of the records date between 1920 and 1940. They include correspondence, newspaper clippings, articles, flyers and other miscellaneous artifacts.

**Arrangement**

The documents are arranged into folders.

**Restrictions**

#### Restrictions on Access

There are no restrictions on these papers.

**Restrictions on Use**

Researchers are responsible for addressing copyright issues on materials not in the public domain.

### Inventory

#### Box Folder

1 1 Newspapers (1920-1922); meetings, black star line, fraud, KKK

1 2 Newspapers (1923-1925); National Organization, Du Bois, fraud

1 3 Back to Africa Movement 1924

1 4 Newspapers (1926-1927); prison & deportation

1 5 Newspaper (1928-1929); Canada, Jamaica, London, S.S. B.T.W.

1 6 Newspaper (1930-1934); U.S. re-entry, Lionel Francis

1 7 Newspaper (1935-1941); U.S. exile, U.N.I.A. Canada meeting

1 8 Correspondence Letters

2 1 Correspondence letters; 30 Charles St. Kingston Jamaica & Tuskegee

2 2 Bongo Man

2 3 The Blackman; multiple copies

2 4 Garveyism: An ideology and a movement

2 5 The Perilous Road of Marcus M. Garvey: a bibliography

2 6 Magazines

3 1 Correspondence Letters

3 2 Misc. Articles

3 3 Newspapers

3 4 Article Scans

3 5 Articles by Amy Jacques Garvey & Newspapers

3 6 Newspaper (1940s)

3 7 Grand Concert Flyer, Rose Day Flyer, Benefit Concert Flyer

3 8 Marcus Garvey biographies & memorabilia

4 1 Scanned Photos of Garvey

4 2 Scanned Photographs & Newspapers

4 3 Preserved Flyer & Ticket