



ARCHIVE PHOTOS

**Ture, Kwame**

Jun. 29, 1941-Nov. 15, 1998

American civil rights leader

Cross Reference  
Names: Carmichael, Stokely; Toure, Kwame

**Ture, Kwame**

Obituary from *Current Biography*  
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**CARMICHAEL, STOKELY** June 29, 1941-Nov. 15, 1998  
Trinidad-born black radical; in 1964 became field organizer with the Southern Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which was then sending hundreds of middle-class northerners on literacy, voter-registration, and health-clinic missions in black communities in the "Jim Crow" South; led a SNCC task force into Lowndes County, Mississippi; raised the number of black registered voters there from 70 to 2,600; bypassing the Democratic and Republican parties, organized the black Lowndes County Freedom Organization; as chairman of SNCC (1966-67), made "black power" an effective black liberation slogan; from 1967 to 1969 was prime minister of the Black Panthers, the urban-oriented, ultra-militant black self-defense organization founded in Oakland, California by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale; in 1969 emigrated to Guinea as a guest of Sekou Toure, then the Marxist president of that West African country; in Guinea, became a follower and close associate of Kwame Nkrumah, the Pan-African nationalist and anticolonialist who had been living in exile in Guinea since his deposition as president of Ghana in 1966; changed his name to Kwame Ture; traveled internationally, speaking in behalf of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party; believed that "black power can only be realized when there exists a unified socialist Africa"; was dedicated to "building a movement that will smash everything that Western civilization has created"; published the books *Black Power* (1967), written with Charles Hamilton, and *Stokely Speaks* (1971), a collection of speeches and essays; was married to and divorced from the South African singer Miriam Makeba and then a Guinean physician, Marlyatou Barry; died in Conakry, Guinea. See *Current Biography* (April) 1970.

Obituary New York Times B p10 Nov. 16, 1998