

Read sticky-note with updated contact information. 



CONTACT:  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Africana Homestead Legacy Publishers  
Phone: (856) 382-0629  
Fax: (856) 382-0630  
public-relations@ahlpub.com  
<http://www.ahlpub.com>

30 September 2008

## **REEVES AND DAVIS BOOK RETELLS GREBO FOUNDER'S TALE AND GIVES ORAL HISTORY OF GEDEBO, LIBERIA**

(CHERRY HILL, NJ) (31 October 2008 )—In *Founder Yawah Toe and Paramount Chief Wrea Musu, Heroes of Gedebo or Kleo, A Subsection of Grebo Land in Liberia*, William Kpaye Kamma Reeves and Alphonsus Gbenon Nyenati Davis retell the wonderful founder's tale of Yawah Toe dating to the 16th century and other folklore about members of the Grebo ethnic group who live in Gedebo, Maryland County, Liberia. Their oral history of Paramount Chief Wrea "Coffee" Musu, who ruled Gedebo from 1928 to 1965, gives important insight into local politics and government and the changes from traditional rule to Western-style governance in African communities. The authors also discuss Musu's successor, Paramount Chief William Duyou Poka, Gedebo's amalgamation into the Karluway Chiefdom in the mid-1970's, and the chiefdom's dissolution after creation of the Karluway Statutory District in 1996.

William Kpaye Kamma Reeves was born in Kablake, Gedebo, Liberia. In 1955 he graduated from Our Lady of Fatima High School in Harper City, and the next year started teaching in its elementary division. While teaching, Reeves entered the Maryland College of Our Lady of Fatima and earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1959. Also working as an administrator, he became acting principal of the Tubman-Wilson Institute (TWI) in Zwedru in 1965, vice-principal of TWI in 1969, principal of TWI in 1973, and principal of Bishop Juwle High School in Zwedru from 1978 to 1990. Fleeing Liberia's civil war in 1990, William Reeves now lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is also the author of *The Native Boy: An Autobiography of a Man From Nyakke*.

Alphonsus Gbenon Nyenati Davis was born in Heweken, Gedebo, Liberia. He graduated from Our Lady of Fatima High School in Harper City in 1955. To pursue nursing, Davis studied at the Tubman National Institute for Medical Arts (TNIMA) School of Nursing in Monrovia, earning an RN (registered nurse) diploma in 1958. Studying in Paris from 1961 to 1964, he earned a French language certificate and a diploma in anesthesia at the Institute of Anesthesiology. In 1965 at the J. J. Dossen Memorial Hospital in Liberia, he became a nurse-anaesthetist and taught French. Alphonsus Davis also earned a B.Sc. degree in education from the College of Our Lady of Fatima, Harper City in 1969. Serving his people until 2000, he now resides in the U.S., in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Published by Africana Homestead Legacy Publishers (AHLP), *African American Freedom Journey in New York and Related Sites, 1823-1870: Freedom Knows No Color* is available in two editions: ISBN 978-0-9818939-0-7, hardcover, US \$25; ISBN 978-0-9799537-7-4, softcover, US \$18. Readers and organizations may buy copies online or from retailers and wholesalers. For more information contact AHLP at 856-382-0629 or on the Web at <http://www.ahlpub.com>.

#####