



Malcolm X on the March on Washington



Malcolm X (1925–1965) was a leader of the Black-separatist group Nation of Islam and a proponent of the Black Power movement. In his autobiography, he was critical of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

"...Yes, I was there. I observed that circus. Who ever heard of angry revolutionists all harmonizing 'We Shall Overcome...Suum Day...' while tripping and swaying along arm-in-arm with the very people they were supposed to be angrily revolting against? Who ever heard of angry revolutionists swinging their bare feet together with their oppressor in lily-pad park pools, with gospels and guitars and 'I Have A Dream' speeches?

And the black masses in America were—and still are—having a nightmare..."

QUOTE SOURCE: Malcolm X and Haley, Alex. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1965.

PHOTO SOURCE: Hiller, Herman, photographer. *Malcolm X at Queens Court / World Telegram & Sun photo by Herman Hiller*. 1964. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/97519439>.