

Sunday Sun

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Huge concert remembers Marley today at Nine Miles

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BY BASIL WALTERS

TODAY is the 37th anniversary of the birth of the honourable Bob Marley, Jamaica's reggae super star who suffered a fatal attack from cancer nearly two years ago.

From 5 p.m. Nine Miles at Rhoden Hall in St. Ann is expected to hum with excitement when a gigantic free concert to mark the occasion blasts off at the birthplace and shrine of the musical genius.

Highlight of the celebration will be the announcement of a site where Bob Marley's Home For The Aged will be erected. His widow, Rita, will make the announcement during the concert which will feature some of the finest entertainers around — the I-Threes, the Melody Makers, Nadine Sutherland, Ethiopian band Dallol, Dread Lion Band, Tubby's Hi-Fi and Rita Marley herself.

This elaborate birthday party is indeed a fitting tribute to the reggae King who used

his art to uphold the dignity and integrity of the black race from which he sprang.

The artiste who often testified that he was called by Jah Rastafari, used his music to instill pride and hope in all blacks.

"In my music I and I want people to see themselves, our home is Timbukto, Ethiopia, Africa where we enjoyed a rich civilization long before the coming of the European", he once said.

Bob Marley would not have gone to South Africa, not for money, and if he would, he would go jamming arm in arm with his lethal weapon of word-bullets. He sang: "No bullets can stop us now, neither can we be bought nor sold, cause we jamming in the name of the Lord".

He had plans to chase those crazy baldheads out of town as he prophesied "Here comes the Con-man, coming with his Con-plan, we don't need no bribe, we want to stay alive".

Bob knew only too well that everyman has a right to determine his own destiny (whether to be a traitor or a freedom fighter), therefore his consciousness showed him that it would not be long before we know who are the true revolutionaries, and he did not want his people to be tricked by mercenaries.

Bob Marley lives in the heart of Africa, in the hearts of all the oppressed peoples in the world. The 1978 recipient of United Nations Peace Medal (in tribute to his influence as a revolutionary artiste) lives in the hearts of all those who struggle against racism as well as those to whom he had been a source of inspiration.

As we remember Bob today, let us not forget his warning "We been trodding on the winepress for much too long rebel, we been taken for granted much too long rebel"



Bob Marley