Denouncing Xue Yongkang's Second Racist Article in World Journal against Reparation for African-American Descendants of Slaves

By Edward Locke, LA Collegian

Recently, after publishing Chinese-American racist Chen Guoming's opinion article against California's plan for reparations for the American-American descendants' of slaves (page A8, Sunday, May 21, titled "*California's Reparation to the Descendants of Black Slaves is Absurd and Unfeasible*"), The World Journal, a conservative Chinese-American mass media, published another equally racist one by Xue Yongkang on the same subject (page B6 Reader's Forum/Good Health section, Saturday, May 27, 2023, and online at

<u>https://www.worldjournal.com/wj/story/121206/7190322</u>). This is the second anti-Reparation article The World Journal published in May 2023 that we are aware of; and this is also the second anti-Reparation article Xue the propagandist produced in recent years. His first racist article appeared on The World Journal on April 9, 2022, titled "*California's Reparation to Descendants of Black Slaves is Not Feasible*"

(https://www.worldjournal.com/wj/story/121206/6221688). Both of Xue's racist articles share similar position but contain slightly different contents. This author strongly denounces Xue and The World Journal for their opposition to the progress of social justice in the United States.

This is NOT the first time the World Journal publishes racist articles against disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups in the United States. Descent Americans with human conscience should pay attention to what the author is saying.

Xue first affirms that the reparation paid to Japanese-Americans for incarceration during World War Two "is reasonable;" then he males up all sorts of excuses to deny African-Americans similar rights. This is a typical example of racism based on double-standards. Japanese-Americans suffered around four years of indiscriminate incarceration in well maintained camps under generally-speaking human treatment, and there was no forced labor, or torture or lynching; in addition, after World War Two, the United States re-built Japan and Japanese-Americans are generally speaking favorably treated by American society at large. African-Americans, on the other hand, suffer from around 244 years of institutionalized slavery and inhuman treatment (1619-1863) and 109 years of institutionalized discrimination after Emancipation (1864-1968, through "Jim Crow" and segregation laws), plus 54 years of illegal but still widespread discrimination at grass-root level after the Civil Rights Movement (1969-2023), as witnessed by George Flyod's murder case. All together African-Americans suffered a total of 407 years of mistreatment during colonial time and after the United States was founded; this mistreatment is much more severe than those suffered by any other currently disadvantaged ethnic groups in the U.S. Compared with Japanese-Americans, the duration of African-American enslavement is 81 times the duration of Japanese incarceration during World War Two. How can Xue argue that reparation for Japanese-Americans is "reasonable" but the reparations for African-Americans is not? In fact, if for four years of incarceration (February 19, 1942 to March 20, 1946) under human treatment (based on international conventions), each Japanese-American deserves a restitution payment of \$20,000, or \$5,000 per year of incarceration, then, each African-American should be entitled to $5,000/year \times 244 \text{ year} = 1,220,000$ for slavery and inhuman treatment of their ancestors alone, plus maybe \$2,000/year x 109 years = \$218,000 for the institutionalized discrimination from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement, plus maybe \$1,000/year x 54 years = \$54,000 for the de facto discrimination they suffer since the Civil Rights Movement at the hands of racists of all ethnic groups including Xue, and the editors at The World Journal who support the publication of his and other conservative Chinese-Americans' racist opinions articles! Therefore, Based on simple arithmetic, each African-American descendant of Black slaves should receive, to be righteous before God the Creator of the Universe, to be faithful to the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, and to be loyal to the Constitution of the United States of America and all of its Amendment, a total amount of reparation of \$1,220,000 + \$218,000 + \$54,000 = \$1,492,000! This is based on the standard of being "reasonable" as used by Xue when he describes reparation for Japanese-Americans. Xue has failed to recognize the fact that African-Americans are equal to members of all other racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. including the politically conservative or even reactionary elements of his so-called "Model Minority," a fake image that he apparently tries to attach on Chinese-American community, in order to instigate bad feelings about African-Americans. Xue really needs to study arithmetic and basic logics, when he is trying to compare the circumstances of African-Americans, Chinese-Americans and Japanese-Americans, before he ever tries to talk about what is "reasonable" and what is not about reparation.

Xue asks these inflammatory questions: "Isn't the 'Affirmative Rights Act' that the United States has implemented for many years mostly set up for the descendants of black slaves, giving various preferential treatments and other social benefits in terms of schooling and employment? Isn't this compensation a reparation? Let me ask: is California still obliged to obediently satisfy what they demand wishfully?" Let us straighten out the facts. First of all, the so-called "preferential treatments and other social benefits in terms of schooling and employment" have enjoyed by disadvantaged members of all ethnic groups including Chinese-Americans. Secondly, the "social benefits" Xue is talking about are actually enjoyed since the New Deal up to the present time by low-income members of all racial groups, the majority of them being white working-poor, although, for African-Americans constitute a small minority in American population, thus, the absolute number of them receiving "social benefits" are by far lower than the White people. Thus, Xue's argument here is absurd.

Xue then cites examples of "Chinese Exclusion Act," Native-Americans driven from the fertile land on the east coast westward, and wealthy Jews denied membership in high-ranking white clubs in Miami in the early 1980s, to ask that "If the descendants of the above-mentioned other ethnic groups did not receive reparations for the discrimination, the descendants of black slaves should be no exception." Here, Xue demonstrates his lack of understanding of the basics of logical reasoning. The suffering of the above groups simply cannot compare with the suffering of African-Americans, in terms of scope, duration and severity.

Xue's racist opinion is based on his tendency of indiscriminate generalization and blatant exaggeration. In his first racist article, he writes that "the government has already provided food and housing for these idle African-Americans, so it is unreasonable to pay them indiscriminately on the grounds of reparation, which can be used for enjoying food and drink without production. [...] we are not obliged to pay for the lazy ethnic group who 'get something for nothing." Here, he uses the terms "the lazy ethnic group." The truth is that there are lazy people among all ethnic

and racial groups in America, Chinese-Americans and Caucasian- or white-Americans are no exception. However, there is no such thing as a "lazy ethnic group; in fact, the overwhelming majority of people in all ethnic groups, including African-Americans, are hard-working. Around 80% of African-Americans live above government-defined "poverty line," only about 20% are working-poor or unemployed, although this percentage is about twice as high as for Chinese- and white-Americans, due to widespread illegal but de facto manifestation of racism, notably from conservatives and reactionaries, including Xue himself, as well as editors of The World Journal who set up the stage for his racist acrobatics. African-American achievements cover not only sports and entertainment, but also science and technology, business, politics and military. Thus, Xue's mentality is blatantly prejudiced and reflective of his ignorance of today's reality in America.

In his recent racist article, Xue claims that "at present, besides African-Americans, other ethnic groups are increasingly opposed to the reparation;" here, as a typical example of grand-standing, he tries to portrait himself as a representative of "other ethnic groups." In fact, among all racial and ethnic groups in the U.S., liberals and conservatives are usually balanced in term of number or percentage in the group; and among ethnic minorities, liberals supporting reparation are the majority. Thus, Xue simply cannot say that "other ethnic groups are increasingly opposed to the reparation." His propagandistic argument is simply not persuasive to educated readers.

He declares that he "firmly opposes reparation to the descendants of black slaves," and lectures on African-Americans not to "live in the past." Xue, instead of repeating his condescending racist garbage, should rather "forget the past" of pre-Civil Rights discriminatory mentality, and learn how to respect people of other racial or ethnic groups.

Since The World Journal has for several times in the recent years published fake information on African-American issues to brainwash readers, making them believe that there is a so-called "Model Minority" (meaning a tiny minority of ultra-conservative and blatantly reactionary elements among Chinese-Americans) fighting against so-called "lazy ethnic groups" (African-Americans and Latino-Americans notably), all patriotic American readers who care about decency, fairness, national unity and social justice, should send an email to The World Journal at <u>forum-la@worldjournal.com</u>, to wage a protest against its repeated offences to American values of social justice and social progress.

Attachment:

<u>Webpage</u>: World Journal online racist article by Xue Yongkang <u>https://www.worldjournal.com/wj/story/121206/7190322</u>

<u>Newspaper</u>: World Journal racist article by Xue Yongkang Page B6 Reader's Forum/Good Health (/讀者論壇/养生), section, Saturday, May 27, 2023

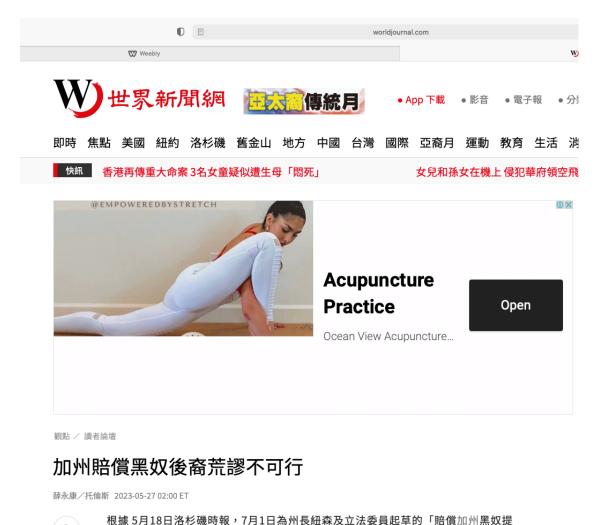
Original text in Chinese:

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English translation:

California's Reparation to the Descendants of Black Slaves is Absurd and Unfeasible Xue Yongkang, Torrance 2023-05-27 02:00 ET

According to the Los Angeles Times, May 18, July 1 is the deadline for the "California Black Slave Reparation Proposition" drafted by Governor Newsom and legislators to submit an advisory report.

Reparations are defined as compensation to the victim's descendants for harm suffered by their ancestors in the past. For example, Japanese-American residents in California were framed as "collaborators" during World War II, and all men, women, and children were sent to concentration camps and imprisoned until the end of the war. The victims lost their personal dignity, real estate, shops and other property, plus delayed schooling and other injuries, and their

descendants finally received personal compensation of 20,000 U.S. dollars that had depreciated after decades. Regardless of whether the amount is reasonable, this author believes that it is reasonable to compensate Japanese descendants for the duration from "everything they had" before being imprisoned in the concentration camp to "everything they lost" after entering the camp.

Reparation to descendants of black slaves is proposed because their ancestors were harmed 150 years ago. Afterwards, the slaves were emancipated after the Civil War. "Emancipation" refers to the black slaves changing from "losing freedom" to "gaining freedom" afterwards. Furthermore, isn't the "Affirmative Rights Act" that the United States has implemented for many years mostly set up for the descendants of black slaves, giving various preferential treatments and other social benefits in terms of schooling and employment? Isn't this compensation a reparation? Let me ask: is California still obliged to obediently satisfy what they demand wishfully?

In the past, Japanese and African Americans were not the only ones who suffered in the United States: In the early 19th century, Chinese laborers suffered from bullying and the "Chinese Exclusion Act." The Native-Americans who lived and worked in peace and contentment were driven by white people from the fertile land on the east coast to the west coast, and countless deaths occurred during the journey. In Miami, where this author lived in the early 1980s, wealthy Jews were denied membership in high-ranking white clubs. Have these ethnic groups received any reparation for "racial discrimination?" Another reason for African-Americans to seek reparation is that they have suffered from racial discrimination in the recent years. If the descendants of the above-mentioned other ethnic groups did not receive reparations for the discrimination, the descendants of black slaves should be no exception.

These are just my views on "fairness." It is inappropriate for Los Angeles Times to only talk about reparation for the descendants of black slaves, without mentioning any reasonable discussion on the issue. Instead, it believed that if the bill is passed, a qualified African-American could get 150,000 to 1 million US dollars. Therefore, it questioned that the deficit in California's budget will reach more than 30 billion before reparation; where will the reparation money come from? If you have to pay for the reparation, why not reach a compromise in terms of education and housing subsidies instead of writing checks randomly.

This author agrees that the source of the money is indeed a big problem. If the money is paid, it is imperative to increase the state tax. At present, the number of residents moving out of California is increasing day by day, and the tax revenue is bound to decrease. This is a vicious circle, and the consequences of barely paying the amount of reparation will be unimaginable.

At present, besides African-Americans, other ethnic groups are increasingly opposed to the reparation; but this does not mean that this proposal will be stillborn; this author firmly opposes reparation to the descendants of black slaves, and this precedent cannot be set. It is believed that African-Americans have no reason or excuse to "live in the past," nor can they always rely on government assistance to "get something for nothing." We should follow the practices of descendants of other ethnic groups who have been injured: forget the past that cannot be changed, grasp the present, strive for strength, and support ourselves.