



**BLACK  
POWER**

**BLACK  
LAWYER**



*My  
Audacious  
Quest For  
Justice*

**Memoir of  
Nkechi Taifa**

**“An engaging memoir of not just a fascinating woman  
but a history of a movement.” — KIRKUS REVIEWS**

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/nkechi-taifa/black-power-black-lawyer-my-audacious-quest-for-justice/>



“Nkechi Taifa’s *Black Power, Black Lawyer* offers us a breathtaking narrative of a life devoted to Black liberation. From the principled defense of political prisoners to demands for reparations, we witness the critical and often exciting trajectory of a lawyer whose work clearly moves us toward radical futures.”

~ **Angela Y. Davis**

“Nkechi Taifa is a brilliant lawyer and an extraordinary champion for justice, reparations and human rights. Her memoir *Black Power, Black Lawyer* is a superb stimulus for a new generation of activists and movement lawyers.”

~ **Danny Glover**

Actor, film director, political activist

“Nkechi Taifa is a bold, uncompromising advocate for people of color and poor people everywhere. She resisted mass incarceration and the drug war long before it was fashionable. Her gripping life story, as told on these pages, is sure to inspire a new generation of freedom fighters.”

~ **James Forman, Jr.**

Pulitzer-prize winning author of

*Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America*

“The power of a black hole in space is as strong as a dream of justice on earth. Neither will ever be seen but we continue to spin closer and closer to the sun that lights the skies and the stars that sing a sweet song. We look, in other words, for books to give us hope. That’s why we not only read but write. Nkechi Taifa is sitting on a cloud and we take this wonderful ride with her.”

~ **Nikki Giovanni**

Award Winning Author and Poet

“Nkechi Taifa has been on a Quest for Justice for African people all of her life. We have worked intimately together in the legal work around our request to the Obama Administration for a posthumous pardon for my father, Marcus Garvey. The highest accolade I can give to Nkechi, is that she is a true Garveyite. I unreservedly recommend, “*Black Power, Black Lawyer*.”  
Toujours l’audace,

~ **Julius W. Garvey, M.D.**

“As we witness the dawning of a new day, we stand on the shoulders of the struggles of yesterday. Nkechi Taifa’s memoir arrives at a perfect time — passionate, powerful and personal — connecting oft-missing dots. A critical book to all who believe Black Lives Matter. Free the Land!”

~ **Rukia Lumumba**

Founder, People’s Advocacy Institute &

Co-Lead, Electoral Justice Project of Movement for Black Lives

*Black Power, Black Lawyer* traces the rebellious journey of a young woman coming of age during the Black Power era and the social justice lawyer she becomes.





## Noted Civil and Human Rights Attorney and Black Power Scholar **NKECHI TAIFA RELEASES DEBUT BOOK**

WASHINGTON – Human rights advocate Nkechi Taifa today announced the publication of her debut book, **“Black Power, Black Lawyer: My Audacious Quest for Justice.”** The work is a nod to the Black Power movement she grew up in, and chronicles how the leaders of that era influenced her thinking, advocacy and life’s work. The tome teaches, preaches, rhapsodizes and tantalizes. In documenting her story, Taifa pauses to highlight the figures that inspired her and that laid the groundwork for today’s Black Lives Matter movement.



“The period that influenced me most was the Black Power era,” **said Nkechi Taifa, a human rights advocate, convener of the Justice Roundtable and reparations expert.** “But this period of our history has been swept under the rug, and in most cases, outright erased. You do not hear about Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael), Chokwe Lumumba and others. You don’t hear about the Black Liberation Movement of yesterday or the COINTELPRO that led to a number of political prisoners, some of them are still incarcerated today. But the groundwork these freedom-seekers laid impacts us today. The progress we witness today had its roots in the Black Power movement. We would not be where we are today were it not for those early freedom fighters.”

*Black Power, Black Lawyer* threads critical periods, connecting the dots of the continuum for justice from yesteryear’s freedom fighters to today’s liberationists. The book is a watershed intellectual autobiography and should be required reading for students of history, African American history, law and feminism.

Of “Black Power, Black Lawyer,” **noted historian Greg Carr, Phd,** said: “One of the many gifts of Black Power/Black Lawyer is that Nkechi sets a roadmap for searching out the lives and memories of the ancestors who trained her. Queen Mother Audley Moore transitioned before she could leave a memoir. She is in these pages, as are Baba Imari Abubakari Obadele, Baba Chokwe Lumumba and Mama Frances Cress Welsing, among so many others. In gifting us with this text, Nkechi brings them and many others along with her, and sparks our memories of each person, demanding that we join her in an exercise of requiem, remembrance and recommitment to principled struggle.”

Taifa’s powerful, passionate and personal memoir adds to the repertoire of civil rights books, but focuses extensively on Black liberation, a critical theme for today’s challenging times. Kirkus Reviews had this to say about the book, “... this is ... a powerful, important book. An engaging memoir of not just a fascinating woman, but a history of a movement.”

*“Nkechi Taifa’s riveting memoir is both easy-going and explosive, written with sass and candor. A captivating book remarkably noteworthy for today’s times.”*

— SONIA SANCHEZ, award-winning poet and author

Taifa’s story is both solemn and salacious. It is part memoir, part textbook, part study guide, part exposé. *Black Power; Black Lawyer* teaches, preaches, rhapsodizes and tantalizes. It stitches suspense, calamity, humor and wit into a tapestry of history, politics, law, culture and romance. Whether serious or scandalous, her audacious quest for justice is a gripping commentary on life, the perennial nature of human resistance against oppression, and her earnest embrace of what is fair and correct. Although sometimes raw, sometimes abrasive, sometimes passionate, Taifa offers her truth, unapologetically and unfiltered, with honesty and authenticity.

Nkechi Taifa came of age during the tumult of the Black Power movement of the late 60s and 70s. Seeking justice throughout life, she bears witness to ancestors, people and episodes that swayed the shaping of her identity and consciousness. Her story offers rare glimpses from an insider’s perspective into little known or understood parts of this country’s history – from juicy stories of the more controversial and militant aspects of movements for change, to the craziness of congressional “sausage-making.”

Her experiences over the decades have allowed her to pursue justice from different vantage points – as community activist, lawyer, lobbyist, scholar, policy analyst, consultant and grant-maker. As a social justice attorney, she helped transform criminal justice reform into a movement against mass incarceration, and helped steer the issue of reparations from the fringes into the mainstream. Nkechi is indomitable and inspiring. And, in spite of her tenacity and steadfastness, she has also experienced the challenges, personal struggles and battle scars that mark what it is to be human – from unhealthy relationships and failed marriages, to workplace devastations and setbacks. But throughout it all, she has remained resilient, staying the course and remaining true to her principles.

In the words of People’s Advocacy Institute founder Rukia Lumumba, whose father greatly influenced Taifa, “As we witness the dawning of a new day, we stand on the shoulders of the struggles of yesterday. Nkechi Taifa’s memoir arrives at a perfect time – passionate, powerful and personal -- connecting oft-missing dots. A critical book to all who believe Black Lives Matter.”

**[www.BlackPowerBlackLawyer.com](http://www.BlackPowerBlackLawyer.com)**

Twitter: @Nkechi Taifa

@BPBLmemoir

To inquire about booking Nkechi Taifa for a speaking engagement, leave a message at: 888-245-4789