Mots de l’Editeur et du Technicien du site AMHE :
Jacques Arpin et Maxime Coles MD


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An overview of the history of Lynching in the United States of America

by Maxime Coles MD

The United States has failed to tell the truth about its painful History, on how Slavery has hurt generations of blacks or how Lynching was used as a vicious tool to re-establish control of white supremacy in imposing fear among blacks and minorities. So much has been written about the Great Migration but the truth, about Lynching in a country build on hatred and discrimination, is now more appreciated. We will try to cover more than a century of passionate crimes directed mainly toward Blacks, Mexicans, Native Indians, Whites and minorities like Chinese and East Indians.

For those 4,400 lynching victims, it means a little Justice to the one who lost their lives in the South and the Midwest at the news of a new Monument dedicated to their memories.

Indeed, a monument to the Lynching victims will open to the public on April 26, 2018, in Montgomery, Alabama. The National Memorial for Peace and Justice will become the nation’s first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved black people, people terrorized by lynching, African Americans humiliated by racial segregation.

The memorial sits fiercely on a grassy hilltop in the city like an invitation to enter each of the 805 rectangular steel slabs (markers), a symbol of each county where a Lynching has occurred. Other slabs are erected outside and around the monument to invite people to claim another site of the killing.

A Smithsonian American Ingenuity Awarded, Stevenson wishes for this Memorial to be a "correction" to begin a conversation rooted on Truth before we can frame a response that heals and repairs the damage of Racial Injustice”.

The Committee on Civil Rights of President Harry S Truman becomes later the Commission on Civil Rights has also failed to resolve mass lynching as well as many isolated cases around the country. Many of the victims will etch to History even if they remained unknown.

It is my privilege to explore this world of lynching in the United States of America.

The Great Migration was spurred by the “Jim Crow Law”, the poverty in the post-civil war and by the Lynchings in the South. Lynching is the practice of murder by extrajudicial action. In the United States, Lynching rose in number after the civil war in late 1800 following the emancipation of the Slaves. Between 1914 and 1918 more than 500000 African Americans left the farms in the South for a better condition of life in the Northern cities.

This movement was part of the Great Migration from 1890 to the 1960 and eventually allowed more than 6 million of blacks to migrate. The flow declined after 1930 but was still recorded after the 1960’s. Northern jobs opened up by thousands. By moving, North did not mean that African American left Racism behind. Many whites resented their presence in the neighborhood so much that in 1915 a movie” the birth of a Nation” portrayed blacks as deranged and dangerous. The racial unrest led to riots.
Lynching has most frequently targeted African American in the Northern states during this Great Migration of blacks with the political goal of promoting White Supremacy and black powerlessness. Pictures of Lynching and photographs were published as postcards and sold in the USA or in a country like Germany to the adepts of the Nazism. People being lynched were occasionally burned alive with body parts amputated kept as souvenirs. Lynchings were frequent from 1890 to 1930 with a peak in 1892. In the 20th century, they were secretly conducted by small groups of people. In the old west, Native Americans, Latinos and Asian Americans were the primary targets.

Lynchings were also associated with inflation and economic distress, like with low cotton prices. Many white southerners resisted the granting of the US Constitutional rights to freedmen after the American civil war until 1877 when the federal troops were removed. Violence continued around elections until blacks were disfranchised by the states across the south from 1890 to 1908.

White Democrats enacted the segregation and brought the Jim Crow Laws to enforce the "second-class status" of the blacks during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and encouraging more Lynchings in the South especially in the state of Florida and Georgia. 302 Lynchings were recorded by the Tuskegee Institute.

The exact number of recorded Lynching can’t be known but the Tuskegee Institute has recorded 3446 blacks and 1297 whites lynched between 1882 and 1968 with an annual pick in 1890. A study published in 2015 by the Equal Justice Initiative found nearly 3959 black men, women, and children lynched in the 12 southern states during 1877-1950. The state of Georgia led with 586.

African Americans Intellectuals and Journalists started protesting and lobbying against Lynching and government complicity. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) produced anti-lynching plays and literary works, publicizing injustices, investigating incidents. They wanted to pass federal legislation. From 1882 to 1968 nearly 200 anti-lynching bills were Introduced in Congress but only 3 passed the House. 7 presidents petitioned congress between 1890 and 1952 to pass a federal law but none succeeded.

Charles Lynch, a Virginia Justice of the peace came with this punishment of loyalist and termed it the “Lynch Law”. They applied this law to members of the abolitionist movement and other people opposing slavery.

During the second war, southern home guard unit will lynch white southerner suspected to be a Unionist. A major motive was to maintain an effort to have white supremacy. The more black Population the higher the number of Lynching. The economic competition was also another factor, predominance of Democrats, competition among church groups, Low cotton price. White will lynch black for financial gain or to establish political or economic dominance.

An African American journalist, Ida B. Wells discovered in her investigations in 1890, that one-third of blacks who die by Lynching was accused of Rape or Attempted Rape, another third was accused with Murder or attempted Murder and the last third was accused of verbal or physical aggression, business competition, Independent mind. She was an early leader Of the civil rights movement.

About the Midwest, it is sometimes difficult to differentiate historical facts from the Mythology of the Old West because the law enforcement was provided mainly by the US Marshals.

The Treaty of 1848, after the Mexican-American war, has announced the California Gold Rush, and around 25000 Mexicans were residents of California. The US territory expanded one third its size annexing Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. In 1850, California became the 31st state. The Mexicans were experienced miners and became successful in the search for gold, creating animosity among the white prospectors who used intimidation or committed violence. It is believed that between 1848 and 1860, white Americans were responsible for at least 163 Lynchings of Mexicans in California alone.

Committees of Vigilance were created in San Francisco and Los Angeles but were portrayed as a positive response to the government corruption in crimes committed against Mexican American or Chinese American. The Johnson County War in 1890 is well known as a dispute over land in Wyoming in which ranchers hire mercenaries to lynch smaller ranchers.

Many cartoons from 1865-1877, were published in
journals talking about the lynching performed by the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama and Mississippi.

The first KKK group was founded in Tennessee in 1866 by Confederate veterans performing Lynchings against freedmen. White Democrats attacked black and white republicans with insurgents, murdering about 1300 voters across various southern states. Occasionally whites will whip their victims to remind them of their former Status as Slaves or will raid their home to confiscate their arms or prevent them from voting. This consisted in the "Black Code", invalidated by the 14th and 15th amendments in 1868 and 1870.

President Ulysses Grant and Congress passed the Enforcement Acts of 1870 and the Civil Rights Act of 1871 as known as the KKK Act, intended to suppress the vigilante violence and authorize the government to prosecute crimes committed by this group as well as to allow the federal troops to intervene and control violence. The administration began holding grand Juries to prosecute Klan members. They voted the "Martial Law".

In the Mid 1870, Paramilitary groups worked to suppress black voting in uniting with the Democrats in Louisiana, the Carolinas, and Florida. They terrorized and assassinated blacks, creating groups like the knights of "White Camelia", "White League" and "Red Shirts".

In conclusion, numerous studies since the mid-20th century have found the following variables affecting the rate of Lynchings in the South: "Lynchings were more numerous where the African American population was relatively large, the agricultural economy was based predominantly on cotton, the white population was economically stressed, the Democratic Party was stronger, and multiple religious organizations competed for congregants."

We can’t pretend that Lynching did not happen because each marker suspended on this Memorial certainly evoke the “Horror” of being strung up or hanged on a tree. The United States of America should not be proud of this page of History.

Maxime J-M Coles MD

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Dans le précédent article, nous avons retracé le péripole Andin depuis Lima, capitale du Pérou, jusqu’à Puno, ville d’embarcation sur le lac Titikaka, en passant par Cusco et Machu Picchu. On s’était promis alors de revenir sur certains traits de la culture Péruvienne, notamment de la civilisation des Incas qui a précédé l’arrivée des Espagnols dans le pays. Les Incas auraient immigré de la Bolivie, pays plus au Nord, vers les années 1200 de l’Ere Chrétienne, et se seraient établis sur une vaste bande de terre montagneuse qu’ils occupèrent jusqu’en 1528 date du début de la Colonisation Espagnole. Entre sept et Neuf rois Incas auraient occupé le trône pendant ce laps de temps de près de trois siècles et demi. Cette chaîne de sites historiques et archéologiques devenus depuis quelque temps le moteur du tourisme Péruvien, est à environ 4 mille mètres d’altitude ; ce qui rend la respiration très ardue et requiert une certaine acclimatation du milieu. En effet, plus on monte dans l’espace, plus l’air se raréfie, plus l’oxygène fait défaut dans le tissu corporel. Cela s’explique physiologiquement par la réduction de l’affinité de l’hémoglobine pour l’oxygène, due à la production en altitude d’un phosphore inorganique qui est le 2,3 DPG, et qui porte la courbe de dissociation de l’oxygène avec l’hémoglobine à dévier vers la droite. L’oxygène de l’air se combine moins avec l’hémoglobine du sang en même temps que l’affinité de l’hème pour le tissus pulmonaire devient beaucoup plus grande donc moins dissociable. Ce même phénomène se rencontre dans les cas d’hypoxémie, d’insuffisance cardiaque et de maladies pulmonaires chroniques. Par contre l’hypophosphatémie et le choc septique feront dévier la courbe vers la gauche, donc moins d’affinité du tissu pour l’hémoglobine et plus d’affinité de l’hème pour l’oxygène de l’air.

Pendant le séjour en altitude, on a souvent du mal à dormir les soirs, l’œdème pulmonaire est toujours possible, et l’on est en état de vertige quasi constant. C’est pourquoi l’usage du diamox et la montée progressive en milieu élevé sont fortement recommandés. Se rappeler aussi de porter des vêtements chauds avec soi pour combattre le froid. Les structures laissées en legs par la civilisation des Incas témoignent d’un haut niveau de maîtrise de la nature et de l’environnement. Les silos avaient des fenêtres trapézoïdales dont la base était tournée vers le haut, permettant à l’air frais de rentrer facilement dans les soutes et d’en sortir moins aisément. Tout au tour des montagnes, des milliers de kilomètres de pierres taillées, formant des bordures hautes de près de deux mètres, et élevées les unes au dessus des autres, telles des franges d’escaliers a distance, assurent encore aujourd’hui la conservation du sol arable et empêchent l’érosion des terres fertiles vers la mer.

VOYAGE AU CŒUR DE LA CIVILISATION DES INCAS DU PEROU

TOME II

Nous avons d’abord visité des églises dans la ville de Cusco. Les touristes y viennent de par le monde. Nous avons rencontré des Sud-Américains, des Mexicains, des Européens, des Israéliens et nous en passions. Un guide m’apprenait que le nombre de touristes visitant le Pérou est passe de 62.000 en 1982, au plus fort de la lutte avec les terroristes du groupe « Sentier lumineux », à 2.000.000 annuellement ces temps-ci. Les guides qui nous
accompagnaient étaient disciplinés et vendaient la culture péruvienne avec fierté et hardiesse. Ils avaient foi dans la qualité du produit qu’ils nous présentaient. Je me suis alors dit que c’est un bel exemple de courage, de détermination et de réussite pour un peuple qui sait ce qu’il veut et où il veut aller. Depuis le parvis jusqu’au lieu très saint, les églises étaient parées d’or et d’argent, symboles respectifs du dieu soleil et de la déesse lune qui constituent des dieux puissants dans la panoplie des divinités indiennes en général et des Incas en particulier. Mais alors que les indiens prièrent, les statues se dépecèrent progressivement pour prendre en toute impunité la route de l’océan. A la valeur ornementale de ces métaux se substituèrent l’appât du gain et le désir d’enrichissement outrancier des colones Espagnols. L’extermination des indigènes fut fait en grand nombre, comme dans les autres îles de l’Amérique et de la Caraïbe. J’ai cru même entendre des noms familiers quand on mentionna les « aawacs » et les tainos comme peuples ayant vécu dans cette partie de l’Amérique avant l’arrivée des colons Blancs.

A l’intérieur d’une de ces églises, dans une peinture murale, ou se trouve représenté le dernier souper, il y avait un lapin dans le plat. L’Artiste d’alors qui n’avait jamais vu d’agneau avait du mal a se représenter l’animal dont on lui parlait. Et comme le lapin restait un plat très prisé dans la culture des Incas, Les Espagnols l’ont finalement accepté en lieu et place de l’agneau sacrificiel. J’ai aussi vu des signes d’une glaive et d’un compas dans la voute qui surplombe une ancienne église de l’époque coloniale. Ceci rappelle la colonisation de l’Espagne par les Mores et représente le vestige fort de l’islam dont la religion chrétienne fut imprégnée à une époque de son histoire.

A cote des églises, se trouvaient érigés des temples ou des enfants étaient offerts en sacrifice pour apaiser le courroux des dieux. Cette pratique avait souvent eu lieu au solstice d’hiver lorsque les journées devenaient de plus en plus courtes et que les indiens, apeurés par une possible infraction envers le dieu soleil, et pensant qu’il se détournait d’eux, ils lui offrirent des enfants, et parmi les plus beaux, en sacrifice. Cela me rappela étrangement que dans la religion judéo-chrétienne, cette pratique a existe pour au moins une fois lorsque Abraham allait offrir son fils Isaac en sacrifice.

Mais pour bien établir un certain distingue entre la pratique Indienne et la pratique Judéo-chrétienne, on préfère plutôt parler d’offrande et de grande foi en Dieu d’un cote, de sacrifices humains et de barbarie de l’autre... Somme toute, dans les deux cas, la pratique était la même. Dans la culture et la civilisation des Incas, la divinité était représentée à plusieurs échelons de la société et dans de nombreuses sphères d’activité. A l’exemple, c’étaient les « dieux Soleil et Lune » dans la sphère céleste ; puis au niveau de la terre, c’était le condor oiseau puissant et très vénéré a cause de sa fidélité et de son endurance. Enfin le niveau sous-terrain était représenté par le dieu serpent. Cet animal semble jouer un rôle prépondérant dans plus d’une religions.

Dans les sectes judéo-chrétiennes, s’il est indiqué comme ayant pousse Eve, la compagne d’Adam vers la séduction, il est aussi le symbole vers lequel se tournent les yeux des israélites pour se guérir de leurs maux chaque fois qu’ils étaient piqués par un serpent dans le désert. Dans Le Voodoo, il est aussi connu comme étant le dieu Damballa wedo, « très puissant dans le ciel, et pourvoyeur de riches ». Il n y a donc pas de frontière verticale entre les religions. Elles sont de simples véhicules de spiritualité, et sont toutes entachées de codes moraux et de normes sociales enrobés dans des croyances surnaturelles qui offrent a l’humain de temps a autre, la chance de se redéfinir. Elles se compénètrent toutes, et semblent se compléter bien plutôt qu’elles ne se contredisent.

Somme toute, le voyage en terre Péruvienne m’aura dessillé les yeux sur bien des choses que j’ignorais encore et que je croyais pourtant savoir. J’ai pensé a mon pays ou les potentialités touristiques sont énormes mais gaspillées parce que mal gérées, j’ai pensé a nos couches de terres arables qui disparaissent a chaque pluie et laissent nos champs infertiles. J’ai pensé a tant de bonnes choses que de là-bas je voudrais voir se transplanter dans mon pays que je suis pris de jalousie presque a mourir. J’ai réfléchi combien il serait bien si jamais un jour nous finissions par savoir ce que nous voulons et ou nous allons. Sans chercher a dédouaner les incompétents, j’ai éduqué sur l’histoire de notre Pays, comme je le fais en de si nombreuses occasions. Je n’ai pas eu honte de dire que je suis et d’où je viens : Un Negre d’Haïti qui aime charnellement son pays.

Rony jeanmary, M.D.
CORAL SPRINGS, FL.
15 AVRIL 2018
Scary moment.

July 1972. An unforgettable episode that could have changed my life for the worst in one fell swoop. I was eighteen, cocky behind the wheel and driving west on a local street in Brooklyn in a bug this warm summer day with all windows down. Ventilation was just fresh air as there was no air conditioner. Ahead of me and coming soon was a fire hydrant on the passenger’s side that was turned on with water spewing out of it. A veritable spigot, it was leaking its content with forcefulness and it was overflowing the street, carving a large expanse on a busy thoroughfare, spanning six lanes. The fire hydrant was like a little tree stump on the bank of a river. Kids surrounded the hydrant, frolicking in the water, bathing and having fun. An occasional adult would join them to participate while fully clothed and all wet. The humidity that day was high. Intermittently one of the kids would take an open can and direct the water at oncoming traffic and they were giggling the whole time, having summer fun. A lot of them were milling on the front stoop of the house closest to the hydrant. Other pedestrians were crossing the street to avoid getting their clothes or their hair caught in this whirlwind of aquatic jet flow.

Fearing the obvious danger looming, I put my foot on the clutch and the brake and tried to slow down the VW Beetle by switching gear from fourth to third to second in quick successions. The whirring sound of the engine increased during this action of decompression, no different than an airplane engine making the loud wail when it suddenly lands and brakes are applied causing the forward motion to be abruptly curtailed. This reflexive reaction on my part occurred as fast as a lightning bolt. Unfortunately the momentum of the vehicle was such that the deceleration didn’t occur fast enough and with enough efficiency to reduce the speed of the encounter with the riverbed. As I crossed the water level, brook-size and behaving like a rapids with fast flowing current bordering on fast flooding, hydroplaning started. The swoosh of the moving vehicle as its tires made contact with the liquid underneath, reducing the friction and therefore the traction, in a split second, was monumental.

This interference in stability translated into a scenery of potential mayhem. The car slid and spun out of control, making a wide circle, while I, behind the steering wheel, was trying to steer the car clear of oncoming traffic, trailing vehicles, avoiding pedestrians jaywalking, and at the same time facing the glare of a piercing sun, in the middle of a cacophony of sounds from honking horns, portable radios from passers-by blaring the latest sounds of disco music synchronized to the tune playing in the car radio, the deafening screams of onlookers expecting a serious accident. This happened in a blur. The vehicle came to screeching halt, somehow my feet remaining on the brake and the clutch, allowing the engine to still be running, the inside of the car all wet from the target practice by playing youngsters, my hands shaking uncontrollably, perspiration dripping down my forehead, my nose flaring, my respiration fast. Strange as it might seem, no oncoming car was hit, no rear ending occurred and I remained in the vehicle unscathed. I slowly regained my composure and drove forward, slowly. When I looked at the clock, barely 60 seconds had elapsed from the time of contact with the water till the miraculous and safe full stop. Just thinking about that incident gives me goose bumps.
NELSON R. MANDELA, MADIBA

The Traveller
“I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am willing to die.” Nelson Mandela, Rivonia trial, 1963.

In the Hollywood production, Invictus, the personage of President Nelson Mandela (played by Morgan Freeman) was asked why he was not taking revenge and retaliation against the white minority that had kept him in prison for 27 years and killed so many of his friends and relatives. Mandela replied, “I wish I had the time”. Later he would add: “If I cannot change when circumstances demand it, how can I expect others to change?”

If Mandela was born 3,000 years ago, he would have been called a messiah and been the founder of a new religion. Though his stances and friendships were mostly socialist and communist, his words and actions spurn very narrowly those of Jesus Christ. He professed a supreme disdain for materialism.

Barring a brief period in his life (1960-1962) when he advocated violence through armed struggle, he has always been an adept of non-violence, as he learned from Mahatma Gandhi. He never relished his mantra of solidarity, help to the needy, social equity, and forgiveness.

A teacher who could not pronounce his first name, Rolihlahla, called him Nelson. He kept the name. However, he is affectionately called Madiba by his admirers. Madiba is the name of his clan of the Xhosa-speaking tribe, Tembu, from which he was born in 1918.

Nelson grew up to become an attorney. In 1952, at the age of 34, he opened a civil rights law practice with Oliver Tambo, the founder of the African National Congress (ANC). In 1955, he helped draft the Freedom Chapter that will become the basis of the constitution for the new multiracial South Africa, of 1996.

In 1963, he was arrested for sabotage and sent to prison for life, along with many other activists. He spent 18 years of forced labor on Robben Island. He was transferred to Pollsmor’s maximum security prison in 1981 for seven years, then later to Vester.

He was a cause celebre for the anti-apartheid movement and a thorn in the side of the Afrikaner government. Several times, the government proposed to release him. But Mandela refused to be a free man, unless all his co-prisoners from the ANC were freed.

Released on February 11, 1990, he became, four years later, the first non-white president of South Africa. He saved the country by avoiding a civil war and enacting a power-sharing agreement with the white minority. He retired in 1999. He died in 2013, at the age of 94.

He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, jointly with F Willem de Klerk.

He was the father of six. He married three times. Winnie Mandela, his second wife carried the flame of freedom and the Mandela name while he was in jail. Late in life, he married Graça Machel, the widow of Samora Machel, president of Mozambique.

Along with Toussaint Louverture and Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela pertains to the pantheon of black leadership. His face is chiseled on the Mount Rushmore of African Leaders. One can assuredly bestow on him the word of Lamartine about Louverture “This man was a nation,” (Cet homme fut une nation).

“I was not a messiah, but an ordinary man who had become a leader because of extraordinary circumstances.” Nelson Mandela.

After Nelson Mandela, larger than life, the world will no longer be the same…

(The Traveller, Monday, October 10, 2017).
AYITI, Le Pays que j’ai connu

Dr Jean Serge Dorismond
16 Avril 2018
Newton MA

J’ai vécu le fameux temps des joies pures et saines,
Où la morale et les convenances mondiales
Etaient raisonnables et la société sereine,
Où l’on ne redoutait ni l’effort ni la peine
Où la vie communautaire était une chaine,
Où partout l’entraide était : garantie certaine
Et la solidarité : vertu souveraine.
Le Partage allait de la montagne à la plaine.
On affrontait dignement les menaces vaines
Des cyclones venus de distances lointaines,
Sans l’aide d’étrangers à la grosse Bedaine.
On luttait contre le malheur qui se déchaîne,
Sans jamais mendier des pays aux poches pleines.
Les rues, bien propres, étaient, sous rigueur d’hygiène,
Bordées d’arbres en réservoir d’ombre et d’oxygène.
Les Pêcheurs labouraient l’eau d’un bleu homogène ;
Un soleil de feu brillait sur leur peau d’ébène,
Leur repas venant de la mer, l’immense scène
Où ils voyaient danser ERZULIE la Sirène.
Dans les temps de fêtes, on profitait de l’aubaine
D’aliments cuits parfumés à la marjolaine
De la soupe au Giromon, en prime de veine,
Quand il n’en restait plus que quelques gouttes à peine.
On buvait sans retenue et à perdre haleine,
L’eau sucrée de coco comme l’eau de fontaine.
La Médecine des plantes traitait migraine
ET choc émotionnel au chaud thé de Verveine,
Fièvre, infections, anticipait toute gangrène.
Grâce au savoir éprouvé des sciences égyptiennes,
En s’accompagnant de rituels et de neuvaines.
L’éducation chassait toute pensée obscène
À coups de chants et de prières quotidiennes.
Rien ne freinait l’Esprit, ni montagnes ni plaines ;
Les lettres, la musique coulaient dans les veines
Du grand Théâtre : miroir des valeurs humaines ;
Et les jeunes dont le rêve rompt toute gaine,
Transcendant et la peur de la mort et la haine,
Faisaient le Serment Solennel, à gorge pleine :
‘’ Que AYITI reste, de son destin, la Reine,
Et que les générations présentes et prochaines,
À l’image de la fière armée indigène,
Assurent une Indépendance toujours pérenne.
Published on the AMHE Facebook page last week

Articles parus sur la page Facebook de l'AMHE durant la dernière semaine

Notre ministre de la Sante et de la Population: Docteur Marie Greta Roy Clement. Que Dieu la guide dans ses decisions.

Dr and Mrs Mario Nelson at the festivities commemorating the 50th birth-date anniversary of Chou. The AMHE tells you: Ad multos anos" and be Happy.

Santé : Haïti sur la sellette !

Could women with PCOS be at increased risk for mental health problems?

A problem that affected all colonies during the time of the esclavages.

- Happy birthday and best wishes to you, Louis J Auguste MD. May And more…

Photos AMHE at Justinien Hospital

Album 1
Album 2
Album 3

A Nurse. A volunteer

Will you volunteer with us in our next medical mission? Nurses who volunteer have a tremendous impact in the world’s healthcare and more specifically in developing countries. These trips promote basic and preventive medical care. Many communities in impoverished regions do not have a medical clinic, and villagers must walk for miles just to see a doctor.

Recently, we volunteered at Justinien Hospital in Cap-Haitien, Haiti. Every area of the hospital needed help. Our services, as Nurses and Nurse-Practitioners, were valuable in the gynecological clinic. Thankfully, our team came in with a pathologist armed with her microscope and supplies to complete pap smears.

For five days, we assisted in the collection of cervical tissues to produce samples for cytological examination. We helped with the labeling, the data collection and especially in the proper handling of the specimen. The first day consisted in the usual clinical evaluation of the patients with gynecological complaints, routine or complicated follow-up on surgical patients. By the second day, our workload doubled; words had already gone around that we were doing pap smears at no charge. The room quickly filled with patients between 20 to 78 years old. Only few of them had ever benefited from a Pap-smear study.

We have heard from those who previously volunteered their time, energy and expertise with the AMHE; they experience a tremendous sense of accomplishment. Most of these volunteers provide healthcare services in places where the underprivileged population benefit the most. Such mission will not only help develop your career, but will increase your sense of compassion, confidence and skills. It is rewarding for nurses who volunteer to feel the impact of their actions in areas with such desperate needs.

Elizabeth Leconte Hricko RN

“Inauguration de l’Ecole d’Optométrie d’Haïti: 12 avril 2018”
Upcoming Events

PIGRA(N’2018
23 – 28 avril 2018

Cité du savoir
Génipailler, Milot, Haïti

Thème : Innover et entreprendre pour développer

Programme préliminaire général: http://amhe.org/newsletter/event/PIGrAN-Programme.pdf
Dear AMHE members, family, and friends:

There is still time to register for the 2018 AMHE Convention in Baru, Colombia. Please pay your 2018 membership dues and receive 10% discount when you book your hotel rooms NOW! Members who have not yet registered can get an additional 10% off by having a friend or family register to attend the convention.

The Convention information is located at http://www.amhe.org/convention_2018.html
Ask us about Special Airfare rate
Register for the Scientific Sessions (CME)
Hotel Rates
Book Hotel Online
Downloadable Hotel Form
FAQs

For information about hotel accommodations and roommate, please call our Administrative Assistant, Ms. Myriame Delva at (718) 245-1015. For best prices, book your hotel room and register early.

For additional information, contact: AMHE –
Attention: Myriame Delva
1166 Eastern Parkway
2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11213
Phone: 718-245-1015; FAX: 888-685-2415

Sincerely,

Karl Latortue
Karl Latortue, MD
Vice-President, AMHE
Chair Convention Committee