

Columbia University/Community Bd. 9 Meeting
15 August 2007

I am James David Manning, pastor for twenty-five years of the ATLAH World Missionary Church located at 123rd Street and Lenox Avenue. I am here to express my great love for the people and land mass known as Harlem, though God has called this community ATLAH.

My love has strengthened me to raise my voice against the planned genocidal and surgical invasion by Columbia University and all her investors into Harlem.

However, I am here against my best judgment, because I am convinced that Columbia University will spare "No Money or Mercy" in its efforts to steal the land and the heritage of this people.

It is their money that prohibits them for acting merciful or neighborly. Politically they have co-opted the morals and exploited the fears of many leaders and voices that should be here today defending the inherent rights of the dark-skinned people of this community.

The act of land grabbing throughout history is preceded only in age and decadence by the act of prostitution. It is accurately and historically reported that Columbia's forefathers first grabbed this land by offering some beads and mirrors to the unsuspecting indigenous and inherent land owners many years ago. Not much has changed: Like father, like son on both sides of the negotiations.

Finally, I wish to announce that this invasion of Columbia along with the others - Banks, Big Business, and Entrepreneurs of the last ten years will be met with the most vigorous economic, political, and spiritual defense since the Arab Intifata of Israel into or as compared to the invasion of America into Iraq. We will defend our land and the inheritance of our children with our blood and our ancestral spirit of warfare.

We will no longer rollover and give this land to the rich and privileged under the guise of "progress" while denying our children and progeny the right to happiness. We have had enough; we have had more than enough. God almighty has called for a three-year economic drought called, "No Dew, Nor Rain," *I Kings 17:1*. A similar drought was called during a similar economic and political corruption in Israel under the leadership of King Ahaz and Queen Jezebel 3000 years ago,

There is to be no shopping, soliciting, purchasing, or bartering within the borders of 110th Street to 155th Street, river to river. This land grabbing, this so called Renaissance, this brutal invasion of our community has awakened the people, and has angered them to their souls.

Since the powers that be are determined to push us out, displace and gentrify, we will not go. We, who now have nothing, have nothing to lose, and everything to gain, will stand and fight to the death or victory...

The economic boycott, “No Dew, Nor Rain,” is poised to shut this community down... lock, stock, and barrel. This land is our land, and I will defend it to the death, so help me God.

The Honorable James David Manning, PhD

ATLAH World Missionary Church

Website: www.atlah.org