GLOBALIZATION, REPARATORY JUSTICE AND THE END OF HAITI?
The Imperative of Decolonial Futures.

The time is palpably out of joint. Globalization is suffused in unnatural death and violence. The racial ground of the Plantation Americas has been folded into even greater disorder with the tragic situations erupting in Haiti during the year 2021. 2021 echoes 2010 with a pandemic twist, but it also echoes the world’s continued refusal of 1804, some 200 years after Haiti’s revolutionary breach of the modern/colonial matrix of power. It was a crossroads then, it is an ultimatum now. The dead, the dying, the seemingly ‘born fi dead,’ are being multiplied in spectacular excess, as Haiti groans in the disavowal of its freedom while the earth gives way, again, to consume the living. Epic history is being sucked into the abyss of “un/natural” disaster. This vexed temporality is no longer content to wait on futures promised. In the midst of the COVID-19 global pandemic, a need urgently repeats itself. This need is for an engagement on Caribbean soil with the challenge to decolonize racialized histories, stop State making centered on the necropolitical reproduction of “abject Blackness” and break the stranglehold of geopolitical regimes of ‘fatal assistance’ and gross negligence. In this time, if life is taken seriously, we must address Haiti’s haunted and violent present and commit to affirming its rightful future through reparatory justice.

The Global Partnership Network, a collective of academic and civil society institutions, stands in solidarity with the Haitian People in these turbulent social, political, economic and un-naturally tragic times. We are committed in our work to advancing decolonial and just futures; futures that would empower Haiti, a Caribbean leader in the global reimagining of racial states and wellbeing freedoms.

“Born fi dead” is island creole for “born but to die” in Jamaica.

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