

Nathaniel Abraham Sr.

Nathaniel Abraham, Sr. has devoted his life to making a positive impact on the Black community. His message has been clean and consistent: "The minority community needs a voice - A strong and resonant voice that's not afraid to right that which is wrong, fight injustices and champion the causes of the underprivileged. Remember, if we are afraid to tell the truth, we don't even deserve freedom." He has used the voice of the print media to promote the Black community politically, educationally and economically.

The fifth of eleven children born in Holly Hill to Edward and Mary Abraham, he moved to Orangeburg as a young child. He graduated from Wilkinson High School in 1952, and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Abraham served in the Korean War as a paratrooper. He received an honorable discharge in 1959, and enrolled in South Carolina State College to pursue a degree in Business and Accounting. He transferred to Benedict College in 1964 to continue his education and work with the Palmetto Times.

The 1960's were a time of great social unrest. Working with Modjeska Simpkins and the Richland County Citizens Committee, Abraham used the power of the press to publicize issues affecting the Black community. In 1968, Abraham was sent to Orangeburg by Ms. Simpkins to serve as a liaison between civil rights leaders and the students fighting for social change. History would later recall this event as the "Orangeburg Massacre".

During the 1970s, Abraham worked as the Director of Development at Voorhees College in Denmark to ease campus unrest and increase Voorhees' public and private revenues. He also served as an unofficial advisor to many political leaders, including U.S. senators, representatives, governors, mayors, etc.

In the 1980s, Abraham went back into the newspaper business and founded a newspaper called the Palmetto Post, now known as the Carolina Panorama. Over the years, he has founded many other publications, including the Progressive South Magazine, the Palmetto Times in Greenville, Tri-Country Sentinel in Myrtle Beach, Southern Views Magazine and the Progressive American Magazine. Affectionately called the "Dean of Black Publishers in South Carolina," he has also worked with and trained the majority of the state's Black newspaper publishers.

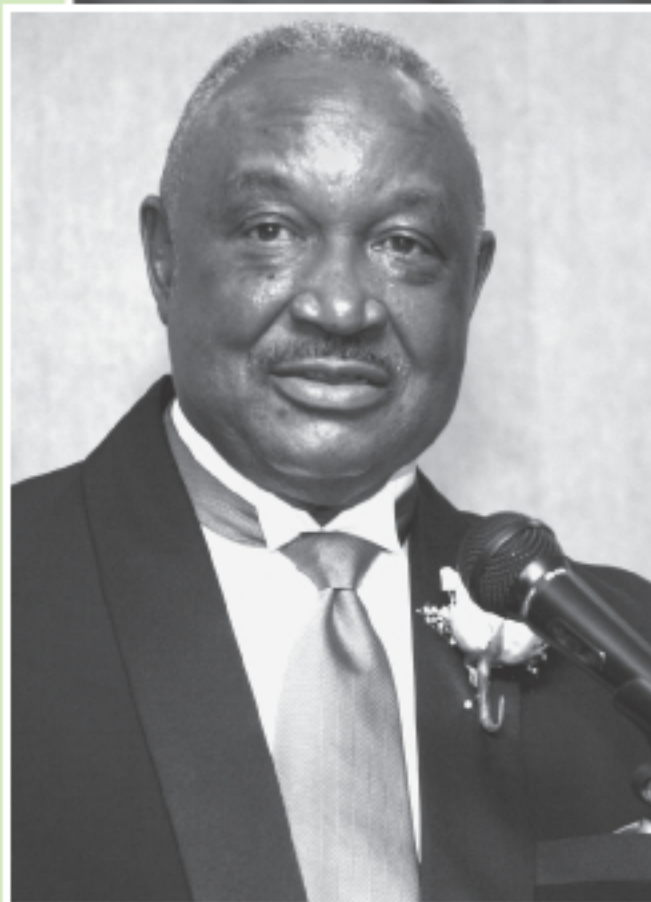
Abraham has won many awards during his career, including The Columbia Urban League's Whitney Young Award, the Key to the City of Columbia and the Regional and National Minority Media Cornerstone Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Abraham was married to the late Jean Abraham for 44 years. He has three children, Natalie, Nathaniel Jr. and Tenita.

South Carolina

African
American

History Calendar 2008



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January



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Years Day Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863.	2 William Lloyd Garrison began publishing The Liberator, an abolitionist newspaper, in 1831.	3 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was elected chairperson of the House Committee on Education and Labor in 1961.	4 Grace Bumbry, opera singer, was born in 1937.	5 George Washington Carver died in 1943.
6 The World Anti-Slavery Convention opened in London, 1841. John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie, famed musician, died in 1993.	7 Marian Anderson made her debut in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955.	8 Fannie M. Jackson, educator and first African American woman college graduate in the US, was born in 1836. Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911.	9 Fisk University established in 1866.	10 Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957.	11 Charles W. Anderson becomes first African American member of the Kentucky Legislature in 1936.	12 The Congressional Black Caucus organized in 1971.
13 Don Barksdale became first African-American person to play in an NBA All-Star Game in 1953.	14 John Oliver Killens, novelist, was born in 1916.	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in 1929.	16 Jefferson Franklin Long took oath of office as first African American Congressman from Georgia, 1871.	17 Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) born in 1942.	18 Robert C. Weaver became first African American presidential cabinet member, 1966.	19 Freed Blacks organized Savannah, GA's first Baptist church in 1788.
20 Barbara Jordan, congresswoman, was born in 1936.	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day William Brown-Chappell, pioneer aviator, was born in 1906.	22 Nat Turner, leader of the Virginia slave revolt, was born in 1800.	23 Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer in surgery, founded Provident Hospital in Chicago, IL, in 1889.	24 Coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines won record 800th college basketball game in 1990.	25 Sojourner Truth addressed the first Black Women's Rights Convention, 1851.	26 Bessie Coleman, first African American woman aviator, born in 1893. Angela Davis, activist, born in 1944.
27 Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House, 1961.	28 Astronaut Ronald McNair died in Challenger explosion in 1986.	29 Oprah Winfrey born in 1954.	30 William Wells Brown, novelist and dramatist, published first Black drama, Leap to Freedom, 1858.	31 Jackie Robinson, first African American baseball player in the major leagues, was born in 1919.		