

Milton Kimpson Sr.

From the cotton fields of Calhoun County to the cabinet of the Governor of the State of South Carolina, Milton Kimpson has traveled a path of great achievement and service to his state, family, community and fellow man. One of four children growing up as sharecroppers in Calhoun County, Kimpson's parents struggled to send all of their children to college. After graduating from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina with a B.S. degree in Mathematics and a stint in the United States Army during the Korean War, Kimpson began his teaching career at Booker T. Washington High School in Columbia as a mathematics teacher. Kimpson later distinguished himself as a principal at two of the city's elementary schools before being selected as a State Supervisor of Elementary Education at the South Carolina State Department of Education. He later was appointed the first Executive Director of the Community Relations Council of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce.

In 1979, Kimpson was appointed as the Executive Director of Health, Education and Human Services by the Honorable Richard W. Riley, Governor of the State of South Carolina, where he was responsible for the supervision and administration of the state government's efforts in education, health, community services, employment and training. It was during his tenure in this position that Kimpson provided leadership and assistance to the Governor in the passage of the landmark Education Improvement Act of 1984. Governor Riley thereafter appointed Kimpson to the South Carolina Worker's Compensation Commission, where he later was appointed Chairman. After serving as an Associate Commissioner to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, Kimpson retired from state government in 1994 as the Deputy Commissioner for Program Services at the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

In addition to his undergraduate degree, Kimpson earned a Masters degree from the University of Wisconsin and has furthered his education at the University of Georgia, Syracuse University and the University of Miami. Kimpson has also received Honorary Doctorate degrees from Benedict College and Wofford College.

Among his many honors and awards, Kimpson has received the Order of the Palmetto from the Governor of South Carolina; Colonel of the Staff award from the Governor of Mississippi; Arkansas Traveler award from the Governor of Arkansas; Man of the Year award, NAACP; Manning Branch, Distinguished Service Award, South Carolina State College; Public Servant of the Year award, South Carolina Association of Minorities for Public Administration; and the Friend of Education Award, South Carolina Education Association.

Kimpson is married to Wilhelmina Page Kimpson and they have three sons. Kimpson and his family are members of St. John Baptist Church in Columbia, where he is the Chairman Emeritus of the Deacon Board, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Preschool Education Board and sings in the Senior Musical Choir.

South Carolina

African
American

History Calendar 2008



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September



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. named Commander-in-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975.	2 Ramadan Frank Robinson, professional baseball player, named MVP of the American League, 1966.	3 Charles Houston, NAACP leader, was born in 1895.	4 Louis Latimer, inventor and engineer, was born in 1848.	5 George Washington Murray was elected to Congress from South Carolina in 1895.	6 The National Black Convention met in Cleveland in 1848.
7 Integration in public schools began in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore in 1954.	8 Althea Gibson became the first African American athlete to win a U.S. national tennis championship in 1957.	9 Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915.	10 Moncal Johnson, first Black president of Howard University, died in 1976.	11 "Duke" Ellington won Spingarn Medal for his musical achievements in 1959.	12 Jackie Robinson, first Black baseball player in the major leagues, was named National League Rookie of the Year in 1947.	13 Alain L. Locke, philosopher and first Black Rhodes Scholar, was born in 1896.
14 U.S. Cabinet member Constance Baker Motley was born in 1921.	15 Dr. Mae Jemison became first African American female astronaut in space in 1992.	16 Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, was born in 1889.	17 United States Constitution signed in 1787.	18 Booker T. Washington delivered "Atlanta Compromise" address in 1895.	19 Atlanta University was founded in 1865.	20 First episode of 'The Cosby Show' aired in 1984.
21 F.W. Leslie, inventor, patented the envelope seal in 1891.	22 First Day of Autumn Ralph Bunch awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.	23 John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, was born in 1926.	24 Nine African American students integrated Little Rock High School in 1957.	25 Barbara W. Hancock became the first African American woman named a White House fellow, 1974.	26 Bessie Smith, blues singer, died in 1937.	27 'Memphis Blues' published in 1912.
28 'Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World' published in 1829.	29 Hugh Mulzac, first African American captain of a U.S. merchant ship, launched with the 'Booker T. Washington' in 1942.	30 Rosh Hashanan begins at sunset Johnny Mathis, singer, was born in 1935.				