



## *New Book Examines Student Resistance to Apartheid*

By Dr. Rico D. Chapman  
AAAM Board Member

“Freedom Now, A Degree Tomorrow,” (Hardback: \$80.00; eBook: \$79.99) explores forms of popular student resistance to apartheid education in South Africa, particularly at the University of Fort Hare (UFH), by tracing student activism at UFH from 1970 to 2000.

The book, written by Dr. Rico Devara Chapman, assistant professor of history at Jackson State University, highlights the factors influencing the development of a culture of student resistance and Fort Hare, and investigates precisely what made Fort Hare exceptional in its stand against apartheid. It also chronicles the educational and social implications resulting from students’ unparalleled and fearless actions against Apartheid.

Student resistance at Fort Hare can be traced as far back as the 1940s; however, this book focuses on the critical 1970–2000 period, which was marked by increased South African student activism. The 1980s and 1990s were peak years for student activism in the country.

There is little doubt that student struggles helped dismantle Apartheid, and usher in a new South African government.

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*Student protests have been a common feature of South African university life from the Second World War to the present. Focusing on Fort Hare University in the Eastern Cape, Rico Chapman provides an insightful analysis not only of student protests during the 1970s and 1980s against the apartheid system and Bantu Education but also against university policies in post-apartheid South Africa. For anyone interested in understanding the historical backdrop of recent protests at South African universities such as Rhodes Must Fall and Fees Must Fall, this volume is a must read.*

*— Robert Edgar, Howard University*