

## **“African-Centered Tools of Analysis”**

1. **Nation-Class Perspective:** We must analyze everything from the interests of the African Nation (i.e., our land Africa and our people, Africans) and also in the interest of the oppressed, exploited African masses. We must always try to analyze the nation/class interests involved in everything---historical, present day and future. Thus it is clear anywhere you find racism (national oppression) and class exploitation, they must be fought against.
2. **There is positive and negative in everything:** We must always try to identify opposing forces in everything. We must look for positive forces and the negative forces in all social processes; at all levels and in all aspects. When we say positive, we mean those forces which are in line with our goal (Pan-Africanism –one united socialist Africa.) and our ideology (Nkrumahism-Tureism). When we say negative, we mean anything that opposed to our goal and ideology.
3. **Change is constant: Everything Changes:** It is the struggle between the positive and negative forces in everything that produces change. We must look for the movement and direction of movement in all things, all things are in motion, although at different rates, or speed. Change that occurs slow and gradual without a violent or sudden jump is called **evolutionary**, while change that occurs rapidly, violently, or with a sudden leap is called **revolutionary** change (if the change is total and some new quality or state of being occurs). From this we can see that revolution is a way for man/woman to consciously speed up their positive development. Conflict that causes change is either **antagonistic** (violent, principled intense and hostile) or **non-antagonistic** (non-violent, tactical, less intense, and less hostile)
4. **Always look for the new in the old.**
5. **Always look for the old in the new.**
6. Always remember that **the masses are the makers of history**. This will help us to properly understand the role of heroes and individuals as only catalysts in the historical development of humankind. We know that history is only changed and moved forward through the collective activity of the working, struggling masses of the people.
7. **Matter is primary:** We know that matter and mind (spirit) exist, but that matter is primary, and all that is “spiritual” (i.e., not matter) arises from matter. Ideas, attitudes, etc., always arises from specific concrete conditions which must be look at and understood to properly understand the impact of the ideas, attitudes, ideologies, etc. on the concrete material world.
8. Remember that **history is a process, not a series of unconnected events**. Look for the interconnection between all social/historical forces. History is also subjective. In other words, while we understand that what has happened, and what is happening are objective (factual, independent of man"/woman's will), the interpretation or emphasis given to history always reflects the outlook or interests of a particular nation and a particular class, at a particular time in history.
9. The basis or cause for change is internal---i.e., the internal qualities of things determine the kind change it can or does go through.
10. The conditions for change are external---i.e, the change that a thing goes through are greatly affected by the environment or conditions around or outside of it.