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Malcolm X

1,141 Words

In society, many people were prevented from their freedom, liberty and equality but choose to admit their faiths without fighting for their own rights believed that it is easier to remain the old familiar thing rather than being a leader who carry a big responsibility and trying to change the things that they never know is it possible to succeed? While, some people aware that a big successful has to be exchanged with the big cost, but still fight for it. Malcolm X was one of them. He devoted his life raising the awareness of struggle for human rights of the African Americans and Muslims.

Malcolm Little or Malcolm X was born on May 19, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska. He was not the normal African-American people because on his mother side, her grandfather was white but her grandmother was black. He became more black people inside rather than white people. From his biography, he was one of the most famous activists who fight for black American's respect from white American. In his young day, he tried to become the opposite of white people by committing crimes like stealing, using drug (Cocaine), raiding white people, and etc.¹ With this mindset, he thought that his race would win over white American, but it was wrong because he was busted by whites. This behavior is commonly followed and showed even in present world because some people believe that violence can win over anything and violence is the key that can give people who using it solution.

¹ Wikipedia contributors. "Malcolm X." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 10 Sep. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_X>

Violence with temper and enraged always leads to destruction. More than that, he met a certain person's idea from Elijah Muhammad, the leader of Nation of Islam, in the prison.² His belief became more and more violence as this religion's discipline said that all whites are devil. Because of this discipline and belief, he was persuaded by the idea and became Muslim in this Islam's branch. Currently, there are many religious groups that are moved by the violence such as Al-Qaeda.³ They have fought for their belief, land, freedom, respect, wealth, and etc from Americans. Although it is true that it is their land, their property, and their right for their country that they born, grow, and die, but it is wrong to use force or violence over the superior power. Non violence should be the right way for them to show to the eyes of the world and prove that American is the one that are wrong .

Not only his belief, but also his characteristic, that were outstanding among people in the past and in the present. Other people in prison may tired and despair, but not Malcolm. He was indefatigable and readied to fight against the obstacle instead of surrender to it. In prison, he changed into a scholar, spent time reading books and with the influence of his siblings, became member of, Nation of Islam, a new religious movement teaching black self-reliance and unification of African migrants, free from white domination.⁴ This idea and characteristic are similar to Nelson Mandela's idea, the president of South Africa country who had the idea of unite white and black in the Africa continent peacefully.⁵ Even though their behaviors are different, the idea is for equality of the black people comparing to white.

² Andrea Enisuh. "The Life and Legacy of Malcolm X." *Socialist Alternative*. 10 Sep. 2012. <<http://www.socialistalternative.org/literature/malcolmx/>>

³ James Patrick Holding. "Faith Behind the Fence: Religious Trends in US Prisons" *Christian Research Institute*. 13 Sep. 2012. <<http://www.equip.org/articles/faith-behind-the-fence-religious-trends-in-us-prisons/>>

⁴ Spartacus Educational contributors. "Malcolm X" *Spartacus Educational*. 13 Sep. 2012. <<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAmalcolmX.htm> Spartacus Educational>

⁵ Wikipedia contributors. "Black Consciousness Movement." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 13 Sep. 2012. < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Consciousness_Movement>

After his parole in 1952, Malcolm visited Elijah Muhammad, Nation of Islam's absolute authority in Chicago. He had impressive physical presence and skill as a speaker that always can persuade people by his speeches. He soon became the second most influential Nation of Islam's leader. Most blacks were affected by his speeches as they are tired of being told to wait for freedom, justice, equality and respect. Good speakers are always the factor that will spread ideas and beliefs that persuade people to follow that discipline. His ideas and speeches had tremendous impact on Muslims worldwide. In spite of having passed away for so long, his words were broadcast around the world and his biography became book and movie.⁶

In late 1963, he left the Nation of Islam due to the different ideology. After he took a pilgrimage at Mecca, he had more optimistic view, advocating brotherhood between blacks and whites, and rejected his former racial separatist beliefs. His doing shows that he is brave to admit his wrongs and ready to correct them. Later, he established new organization, the Muslim Mosque Inc. and Afro-American Unity.⁷ His bravely and respect to people help contribute the society peacefully. Even though now there are still problems that related to religion, violence, racism, and conflict in ideology, accepting self as wrongdoer is extremely hard for people in his position. This is the action that is needed to the whole world and good example that people should follow.

Lastly, the idea that contributes equality for Negro/African-American people to white American is the most outstanding action. After accepting his wrong action, he tried to persuade and show the brotherhood in black and white that both races can

⁶ James M. Cone. "The Impact of a Cultural Revolutionary." *Religion-Online*. 13 Sep. 2012. <<http://www.religion-online.org/showarticle.asp?title=167>>

⁷ Malcolm X contributors. "Biography" *Malcolm X Official Website*. 10 Sep. 2012. <<http://www.malcolmx.com/about/bio.html>>

form unity. To create the equality for black, his argument was so powerful that make black people realize the reasonable truth which is the right solution that is presently showing it's true from his speech that The American black man should be focusing his every effort toward building his own businesses, and decent home for himself. That's the only way the American black man is ever going to get respect. One thing the white man never can give the black man is self-respect! The black man never can be become independent and recognized as a human being who is truly equal with other human beings until he has what they have. By eliminating the image of drunkenness, drug addiction, and prostitution are required to make equality even for today's world. Even his action was small, but it contained the bravery, trusted, and progress to the future that still remained and seen in today.

Every revolution has both supporters and opponents, whether what the outcome is, it will bring the powerful changes to the society. Even though, Malcolm X is no longer exists in this world but his speeches and his aspect for self respect still be influence and inspire many groups of people to fight for the justice of their rights. For example, Peace movement, the labor movement, the gay right's movement, and etc.

In conclusion, Malcolm X, who devoted his life raising the awareness of struggle for human rights of the African Americans and Muslims since he is in prison, after released, until the last day of his life. According to the following reasons, he is vigorous and readied to fight against the obstacle instead of surrender to it, moreover, he had impressive physical presence and skill as a speaker that always can persuade people by his speeches, and finally, he is brave to admit his wrongs and ready to correct them.