

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Prince Asiel Ben Israel

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Ben Israel, Asiel, 1941-2022
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel,
Dates:	October 8, 2021
Bulk Dates:	2021
Physical Description:	4 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:00:52).
Abstract:	Prince Asiel Ben Israel (1941 - 2022) was the international ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary for the African Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem. Ben Israel was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 8, 2021, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2021_007
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Prince Asiel Ben Israel was born on April 30, 1941, in Chicago, Illinois, as Warren Brown. He graduated from Dunbar Vocational High School (now Dunbar Vocational Career Academy) in Chicago in 1959. He then attended DePaul University, studied international studies at the University of Ghana, in Accra, Ghana, and at Makerere University, in Kampala, Uganda, and received his doctorate from the School of Interactive Theology at the School of the Prophets Institute, in Dimona, Israel.

In 1971, Brown moved to Dimona, Israel, to join Ben Ammi Ben-Israel's African Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem, soon taking on the name Prince Asiel Ben Israel and serving as the community's international ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. In 1981, Ben Israel and his wife, Yohanna Brown, opened Original Soul Vegetarian, a vegan restaurant on the South Side of Chicago.

Ben Israel served as president and CEO of Bold Spiritual Initiative, president of Africa Israel Asia, international spokesperson for Straight Talk Economic Roundtable, chairman of First Africa Corporation, a sponsor of the annual Holy Jerusalem Summit Conferences, and a convener of the National Leadership Council of African Americans.

Ben Israel also served with Support-a-Child International, Inc., as a board member of the International United Black Fund, coordinator of the African Development Program's private volunteer organization project and director of its international fundraising projects, as a special economic advisor to the World Conference of Mayors, as an advisor to the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus, and as a member of the African American Clergy Network of Chicago.

Ben Israel and his wife, Yohanna Brown, lived in Chicago, Illinois, with their children Prince Asiel Ben Israel, Jr., Lori Seay, and Arel Brown.

Prince Asiel Ben Israel was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on October 8, 2021.

Ben Israel passed away on August 21, 2022 at the age of 81.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel was conducted by Larry Crowe on October 8, 2021, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 4 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Prince Asiel Ben Israel (1941 - 2022) was the international ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary for the African Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Ben Israel, Asiel, 1941-2022

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Ben Israel, Asiel, 1941-2022--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

African Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem

Occupations:

Religious Leader

HistoryMakers® Category:

ReligionMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel, October 8, 2021. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel, Section A2021_007_001_001, TRT: 1:29:28 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel, Section A2021_007_001_002, TRT:
2:30:43 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel, Section A2021_007_001_003, TRT:
3:29:01 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Prince Asiel Ben Israel, Section A2021_007_001_004, TRT:
4:31:40 ?