

Barack Obama was named honorary Rastafari during his presidential visit to Jamaica.

- . The Rastafari follow strict dietary rules:
  - 1) Meatless diet. Killing an animal removes from it Jah's "life-force."
  - 2) A seed or a flower continues to bloom even after they have been severed from a plant and will germinate if sown onto the ground.
  - 3) A contradiction exists in their dietary rules. Rastafari do consume fish.
- . Ganja or marijuana was adopted in the 1950s. Ganja (brought to Jamaica by the British from India during the colonial period) is a sacramental weed used for religious purposes. Rastafari consider its secular use an abomination.
- . They use the terms of endearment like "Brother, Sister, Rastaman, Peace and Love" as customary greetings.
- . Another mode of address is "I and I" when referring to themselves and to others. It is a symbolic recognition of Jah's divine living spirit (and by extension that of the emperor) resides in themselves and in their neighbors.
- . Created unique artistic venues that have been embraced by the culture that they have rejected.
- . Emphasize the repatriation of blacks and demand monetary reparation for slavery.

## Rastafari Sects

## The Nyabinghi Order or Theocratic Priesthood and Levity of the Order of Nyabinghi.

- . The oldest sect.
- . Named after the Ugandan queen who is said to have resisted British colonialism in the  $19^{\text{th}}\,\text{century}.$
- . Focuses on the divinity of Haile Selassie and the eventual repatriation of blacks to Ethiopia.

Bobo Shanti or Bobo Dreads.