

Virtual Cape Verde: the Quest for Independence



In honor of Cabo Verde's 40th year of Independence, our guest speakers will present first hand reflections of the Independence struggle in Cabo Verde.

VIRTUAL
CAPE VERDE 2015
THE QUEST FOR INDEPENDENCE

Commemorating Cabo Verde's 40th year of Independence:
First hand reflections of the independence struggle
in Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau

Rochambeau Community Library
708 Hope St, Providence, RI 02906
(401) 272-3780
<http://www.provcomlib.org/locations/rochambeau>

Saturday, June 20, 2015 - 12:30pm to 3:30pm

12:45PM
Welcome and Introduction, Lucy Rose, Virtual Cape Verde Creator & Director

1:00PM-1:45PM
Dr. Richard Lobban, "The war years and the role of Amilcar Cabral"

2PM -2:45PM
Pedro Dos Reis Martins, "The Testimony of a Freedom fighter"

2:45-3PM
Film "Cape Verde Independence, July 5 and 6, 1975"
A short documentary from archival footage shot in Cape Verde on the first two days of independence in Cape Verde after 500 years of colonial rule.

3-3:30PM Q&A and refreshments

The series was produced by Virtual Cape Verde Creator and Director Lucy Rose, Claire Andrade-Watkins, PhD, Program & Media Consultant, with exhibits of historical artifacts from the Cape Verdean Museum, East Providence, R. I. This was made possible through generous support from the Providence Community Library, Friends of Rochambeau, and pro bono, in-kind support from the Program Director, Consultants, guest speakers, artists and collaborating community institutions

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* * Dr. Richard Lobban * *

"The War Years and the Role of Amilcar Cabral"

Professor Emeritus of Anthropology Rhode Island College; Adjunct Professor of African Studies, Naval War College. Author of many books on Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau as well as historical books on Sudan and the Middle East. Most recent books on South Sudan and Libya. Currently doing archaeological excavations in Sudan.

* * Pedro Dos Reis Martins * *

"The Testimony of a Freedom Fighter"

From Santiago, Cape Verde, he was a student at Praia High School when at sixteen, he joined the ranks of clandestine PAIGC. He was arrested by the PIDE when he was 19 year old. Pedro Martins was imprisoned in the Civil Jail of Praia and then in the concentration camp of Tarrafal, where he was held for four years without trial. He was released after Portugal's 25th of April (1974) Revolution.

Pedro served as Political Commissioner of the Municipality of Santa Caterina after his release. Martins was one of the seven members of the directorate of the Broad Liberation Front created immediately after the 25th of April in order to unite the people around the ideals of National Independence, and he formed the first political delegation which officially visited Guinea-Bissau in September of 1974. Martins was elected Member of the People's National Assembly during the first Legislature and was appointed National Director of Youth by the Minister of Education and youth in 1976.

In 1982 Pedro Martins graduated with a degree in Architecture from the University of Arizona and in 1992, earned an MBA from Columbia University in New York. He is also an artist who has had several international exhibitions of his paintings.

Martins was a founding member of the Cape Verde's Association of the Freedom Fighters. He is President of the Associations of Former Capeverdean Political Prisoners and a member of the Cape Verde Association of Architects as well as of The American Institute of Architects.

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