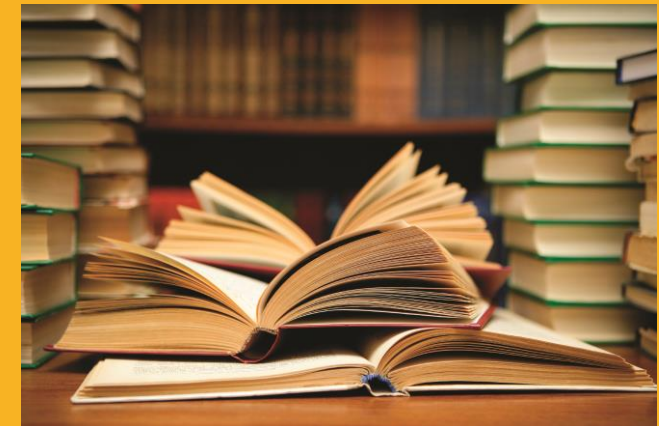




MARGARET BUSBY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



WHO WAS SHE?



Margaret Yvonne Busby born 1944, also titled Nana Akua Ackon is a **Ghanaian-born publisher, editor, writer and broadcaster**, resident in the UK. She was Britain's youngest and first black female book publisher when in the 1960s she co-founded with Clive Allison (1944–2011) the London-based publishing house.

Quote:

“Write because you really enjoy it and learn to be a good reader because the best writers read voraciously. Get to know the best books out there and please don’t give up the day job.”

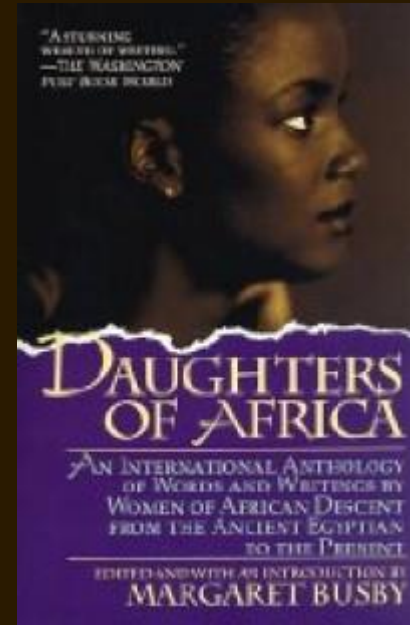
ABOUT HER CHILDHOOD

Margaret Busby was born in a poor place. She never complained about anything to her parents or anyone around her.

“We started off with virtually no money and thought we would go making volumes of poetry accessible and affordable to young people like ourselves. So we printed 15,000 paperback poetry books priced at 5 shilling (0.036 pounds). Our idea of distribution was stopping people on the street and asking them to buy our books”.



**MARGARET BUSBY WROTE
LOTS OF BOOKS INCLUDING
DAUGHTERS OF AFRICA AND
COLOURS OF A NEW DAY.** →



"I feel that I have become a better writer so far this year...but, I feel that I need to improve a lot of things before I reach my writing potential."





PRIZES:

She won an award for writing her novel *Daughters of Africa* it was very famous.



She has worked continuously for diversity within the publishing industry and in the 1980s was a founding member of the organization Greater Access to Publishing (GAP), which engaged in campaigns for increased Black representation in British publishing.

Busby is frequently cited as a pioneer in the history of Black publishers in the UK, and is acknowledged as a "pathfinder" by those who followed in her footsteps working towards making the books industry and its output more diverse, among them Bibi Bakare-Yusuf (who when speaking of founding Cassava Republic Press said: "Inspirational figures in publishing such as Margaret Busby, co-founder of Allison & Busby, were our guide"),



**HER BIRTHDAY IS ON
THE 11TH OCTOBER**