

Statement by
Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham
on the
Death of Rex Nettleford, OM
3 February 2010

On behalf of the Government and people of The Bahamas I offer condolences to the family of Ralston Milton “Rex” Nettleford, OM, who passed away yesterday. I also wish to express sympathy to the Jamaican people on the passing of their native son who was the proverbial Renaissance man.

Rex Nettleford made extraordinary contributions to Jamaica, the wider Caribbean, and the Caribbean Diaspora as an educator, sociologist, writer, social critic, dancer, choreographer and trade unionist. He was a committed regionalist who was also internationally recognized for his intellectual and creative pursuits.

He was a profoundly Caribbean man, who celebrated the unique history of the region through his writings and artistic expression. He was deeply committed to education as a major vehicle for regional development.

Professor Nettleford visited The Bahamas on numerous occasions and knew many Bahamians through his visits and his work at UWI. Both Jamaica and the wider Caribbean have lost a native son whose extraordinary talents will be missed. The Bahamas joins Caribbean people throughout the world in mourning the death of this revered cultural icon.
