

# Powerful Book "Fiery Conscience" About Consequential Journalist Bankole Thompson Now Available

*The book published this week captures the more than two decades impact of Bankole Thompson's journalistic leadership as one of the most courageous voices*

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, UNITED STATES, August 16, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- After years of bold

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In the midst of these turbulent times in our nation, we need Fiery Conscience more than ever. We are all called to speak out. Bankole Thompson does just that and his witness can nourish our spirits.”

*Sister Simone Campbell, 2022  
Presidential Medal of  
Freedom Recipient*

and courageous journalism anchored on challenging the political and economic forces of the time to meet the needs of disenfranchised and dispossessed communities, Bankole Thompson, the nationally acclaimed Black journalist, author and racial justice champion, has released his definitive book that captures his more than two decades of speaking truth to power.

Titled "Fiery Conscience: A Treatise on Two Decades of the Impactful Journalism of Bankole Thompson", the book released this week marks a significant feat in the storied career of the renowned Detroit journalist, whose work is known for probing uncomfortable issues of race, freedom and justice.

The book, which can be purchased on The PuLSE Institute website at (<https://thepulseinstitute.org/2023/08/14/get-your-copy-now-of-fiery-conscience-the-powerful-and-illuminating-book-about-bankole-thompson/>), is a compendium of analytical essays about the multidimensional impact of Thompson's journalism across the political and cultural spectrum, is a vivid and penetrating account from the lens of individuals who have observed his work as well as those who have been impacted by his knack for holding power accountable.

Thompson is the executive dean and editor-in-chief of The PuLSE Institute, a national anti-poverty think tank, which was founded based on his work on race, democracy and poverty. He is a twice-a-week opinion columnist at The Detroit News, where his column on presidential politics, leadership, culture and socioeconomic issues. His column appears on Mondays and Thursdays.

A standard-bearer for racial and economic justice issues, Bankole Thompson, was recently elected to the National Board of Directors of the historic Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the signature civil rights organization founded by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who served as its first president and which led the Civil Rights Movement. He was nominated to the SCLC National Board by civil rights leader and King lieutenant Rev. Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr., who chairs SCLC National Board, and has long admired Thompson's work.

Writing in the book about Thompson, the historian, author and journalist Herb Boyd noted for his works on Malcolm X and James Baldwin, and who recently wrote "Black Detroit: A People's History of Self-Determination," called Bankole Thompson a writer "Imbued with a sense of uncommon integrity and the courage, as we used to say, 'to tell like it is!'"

Boyd who referred to Thompson in the book as his editor says, "Since the very beginning of our stands on the rampart, and it's good to know that this particular enterprise comes at a most conspicuous time in our nation's history, that in President Biden's estimation is at an 'inflection point,' and that's nothing new for a frontline journalist like Bankole."

Janis F. Kearney, former journalist and newspaper publisher in Arkansas, who served as the first presidential diarist in the history of the White House under President Bill Clinton, wrote the book's epilogue. In powerful prose, Kearney, a former fellow at Harvard University's W.E.B. DuBois Institute, tells readers that Thompson's didactic work is needed today, and that it is reminiscent of the journalistic crusades that were led by towering Black journalists in Arkansas and other places in the American South during the Civil Rights Movement.

"It is gratifying for a native of the Arkansas Delta region and child of cotton sharecroppers to know that we still have a social commentator and leader who remains an unapologetic advocate for the poor and downtrodden. While American politics is oftentimes a murky, messy undertaking; the practical, realistic, yet hopeful Bankole Thompson knows that good politics can mean social and economic change for the masses. And, that good politics can result in policies, laws and civil actions that make life better for the least of us and addresses the dignity of all—including America's poorest," Kearney wrote. "But, good politics doesn't just happen. It needs advocacy and fiery voices like Bankole Thompson's. Voices that worry the lawmakers at night, that remain, like 'earworms' in their subconscious as they make and act on decisions that are crucial and life-changing for everyday Americans."



Fiery Conscience is the new book about the powerful and illuminating work of journalist Bankole Thompson

Reverend Leonard L. Hamlin Sr., the Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion at the Washington National Cathedral is among those praising the book.

“The problems of our past are not resolved by turning a blind-eye, or by commitment to silence. Bankole Thompson’s needed witness displayed a courage and faith that inspires us to move beyond complacency and into prophetic action. His ‘Impactful Journalism’ has raised the uncomfortable questions and exposed circumstances that were in need of transformation,” Hamlin said. “It is a must read for those who have a concern for where we have been but more importantly for where we are headed as a community.”

Sister Simone Campbell, leader of the historic “Nuns on the Bus” campaign, and one of the leading anti-poverty champions in the modern American Catholic Church, and a social justice advocate has followed Thompson’s work over the years. She offered a commendation.

“In the midst of these turbulent times in our nation, we need Fiery Conscience more than ever. We are all called to speak out for the sake of truth and struggle together across divides to realize a justice that includes all. Bankole Thompson does just that and his witness can nourish our spirits,” said Campbell, recipient of the 2022 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Leading and diverse voices across the spectrum of human rights and the academy are also offering advance praise for the book.

Dr. Ashraf Esmail, endowed professor of criminal justice and the executive director of the Center for Racial Justice at Dillard University in New Orleans wrote, “Through journalism, Bankole has challenged us to create a more equal and just society for everyone. Fiery Conscience is a must read for those interested in understanding the importance of journalism as an avenue in changing society.”

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