

AMERICA



CARTER GODWIN WOODSON (December 19, 1875 – April 3, 1950)

Carter Godwin Woodson was an African-American historian, author, journalist and the founder of the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History](#). Woodson was one of the first scholars to study [African-American History](#). A founder of *Journal of Negro History*, Woodson has been cited as the [Father of Black History](#).

Carter G. Woodson was the son of former enslaved Africans, James and Eliza Riddle Woodson. His father helped Union soldiers during the Civil War, and he moved his family to West Virginia when he heard that Huntington was building a high school for blacks.

FATHER OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

After leaving Howard University because of differences with its president, Woodson devoted the rest of his life to historical research. He worked to preserve the history of African Americans and accumulated a collection of thousands of artifacts and publications. He noted that African-American contributions **"were overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them." Race prejudice, he concluded, **"is merely the logical result of tradition, the inevitable outcome of thorough instruction to the effect that the Negro has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind."****

