

Principles of Kwanzaa

Umoja (or Unity)

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.

Kujichagulia (or Self-determination)

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create ourselves, and speak for ourselves instead of being defined, created for, and spoken for by others.

Ujima (or Collective Work and Responsibility)

To build and maintain our community together, and to make our sisters' and our brothers' problems our problems, and to solve them together.

Ujamaa (or Cooperative Economics)

To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Nia (or Purpose)

To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Kuumba (or Creativity)

To do always as much as we can, in whatever way we can, in order to leave our community more beneficial than we inherited it.

Imani (or Faith)

To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and in the righteousness and victory of our struggle.