

## **Tougaloo College--an oasis in Mississippi**

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**TOUGALOO COLLEGE - an OASIS in MISSISSIPPI**

A.D. Barth

In 1869 the American Missionary Association ( Congregational ) of New York purchased a plantation of five hundred acres near Jackson, Mississippi, and on it established a school, Tougaloo College, for the training of young people which, according to the charter granted in 1871, was "to be accessible to all, irrespective of their religious tenets, and conducted on the most liberal principles for the benefit of our citizens in general." Southern Christian Institute was founded by the Home Missionary Society of the Disciples of Christ in 1875, with a campus at Edwards, Mississippi, and in 1954 was merged with Tougaloo College.

The basic aim of Tougaloo College is to provide a four-year liberal arts education open to qualified men and women regardless of race, color, or religion. The college aims to prepare young men and women for responsible Christian leadership in the modern world, and to this end constantly seeks to improve the quality of its students and its faculty. Tougaloo College is a member of and fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Although teaching and practicing human rights regardless of race or color for ninety-five years, Tougaloo College has no official or semi-official connection with the contemporary Civil Rights Movement. Some of the students and faculty members have been involved in the Movement as individuals, not as official representatives of the college. A faculty member is not penalized

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**Title**

Tougaloo College--an oasis in Mississippi

**Description**

From the Tougaloo College George A. Owens Papers.

This document summarizes the history of Tougaloo College, emphasizing its role as an education and cultural center for African Americans, a focus of the civil rights movement, and the only integrated institution of higher education in Mississippi.

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