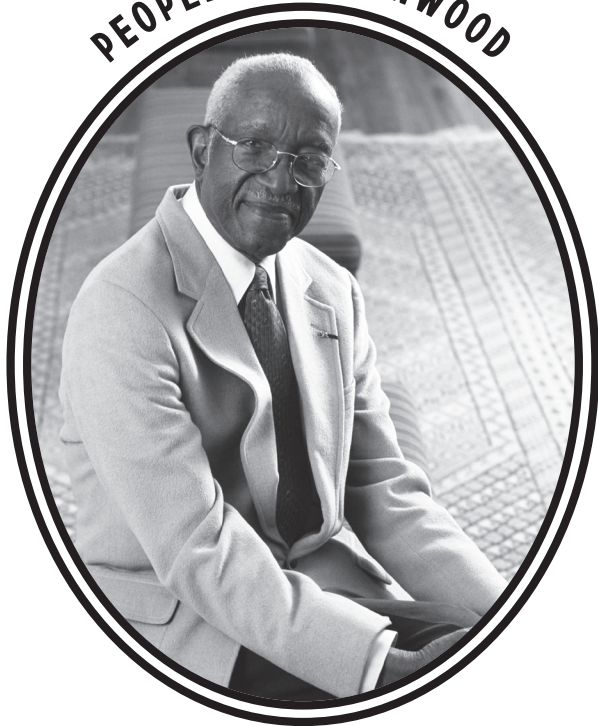


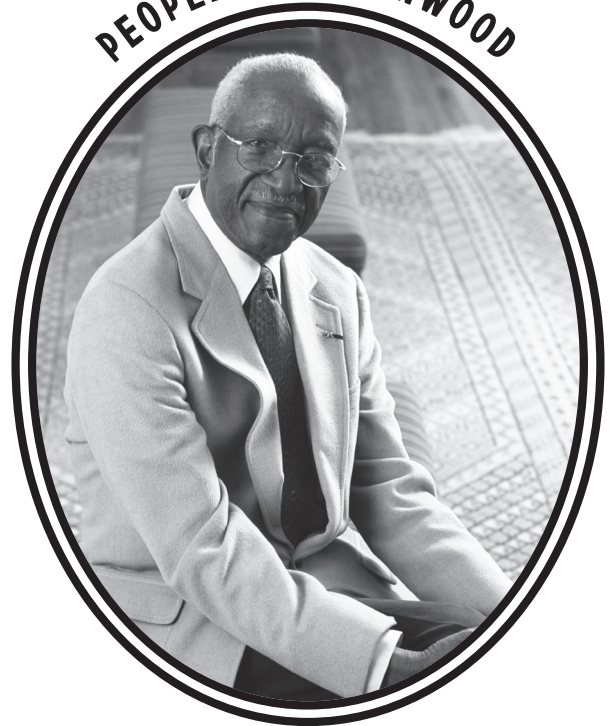
PEOPLE OF GREENWOOD



**JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN**

*Journalist, Historian, Civil Rights Activist*  
(1915 - 2009)

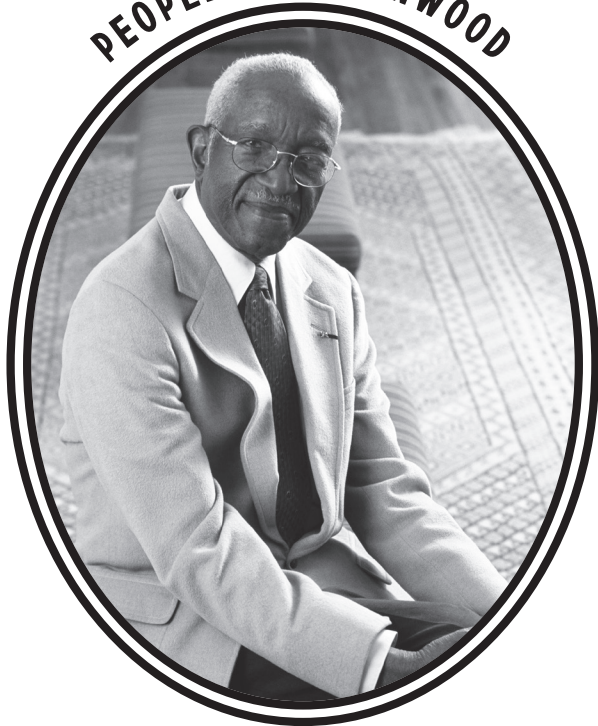
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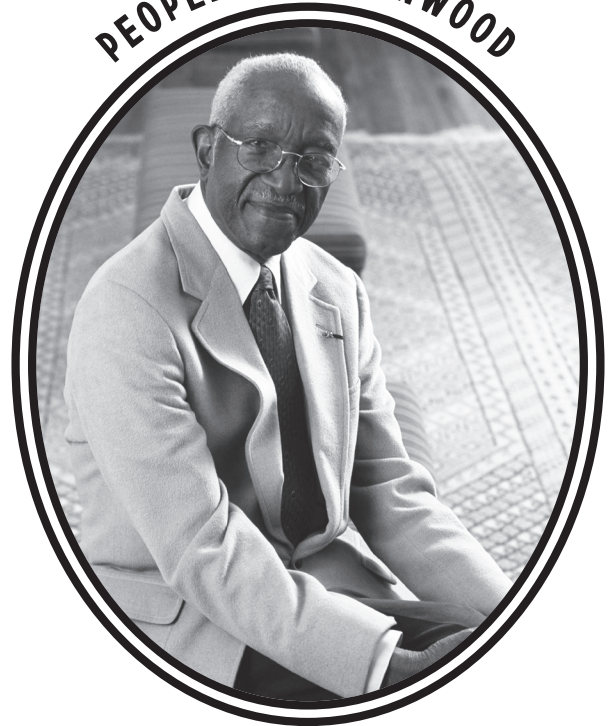
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John Hope Franklin was a noted historian and writer who is known for his scholarship and contributions to US History. His work elevated black history from being a separate subject to become one that was considered part of the full, integrated narrative of American history that considers a balanced presentation of the people of color in the overall record of the history of the USA.

Born January 2, 1915, in Rentiesville, Oklahoma, Franklin earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University and became one of the most preeminent historians of our time. He also released his groundbreaking *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans* in 1947, with many other titles to follow, including his autobiography *Mirror to America* in 2005, a chronicling of his life during America's period of racial transformation. He was also an academic leader and civil rights activist.

He participated in the famous *Brown vs. Board of Education* case and the 1965 Voting Rights March that started in Selma, Alabama. He also served in a 1997 appointment by President Clinton to head the President's national Initiative on Race. Franklin ultimately earned the Presidential Medal of Freedom due to his lifelong contributions as a scholar, educator, and reconciliation facilitator.



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