Abundant Activism Chant Sheet

Chants have been an avenue for communication and to get our voices heard during organized actions. The following chants have been used by generations of freedom fighters and are not the original creations of Abundant Beginnings. We thank all of the activists, poets, and freedom fighters who have created these chants that amplify our people power.

This chant sheet is organized into three different sections, each for a specific type of chant. Echo chants are like a “Copy What I Say” Game, in which a person says a phrase and everyone immediately repeats it. Call and Response chants are organized into calls by a leader and corresponding responses by everyone else, often like a “Finish My Sentence” Game. United Chants are said together by everyone and repeated many times; sometimes they are songs. Some chants may be said in different ways, but we have organized them by how we often utilize them at Abundant Activism.

Please Note: Chants marked with three asterisks (*** are black power chants, which should be utilized by black folks only.

ECHO CHANTS

WHEREEVER WE GO
Everywhere we go,
People wanna know,
Who we are,
So we tell them,
We are the children!
The mighty, mighty children!
Here to tell you,
Black lives matter!

[Alternate Ending of Last Stanza]
Fighting for justice,
and our future!

MARCHING
We Marchin’,
To Justice,
For Our Sisters,
And Our Brothers.

I LOVE BEING BLACK***
*Created by: BYP 100*

I love being black,
I said I love being black!
I love the color of my skin,
it’s the skin that I’m in!
I said I love being black,
I love the texture of my hair,
And i rock it everywhere!
I said I love being black,
I love being black!

POWER
Power,
Power,
Power to the people!
Power,
Power,
Power to the children!

CALL AND RESPONSE CHANTS

BLACK LIVES MATTER
I say “Black Lives,” You say “Matter”!
CALL: Black Lives
RESPONSE: MATTER!
[Repeat]

TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT
CALL: Tell me what you want, what you really want!
RESPONSE: Justice!
[Repeat]

CALL: How we gonna get it?
RESPONSE: People/Children Power!
[Repeat]

SAY HER NAME
CALL: Sandra Bland
RESPONSE: Say her name!
[Repeat Total of 2 Times]

CALL: Sandra Bland
RESPONSE: Say her name! Say her name! Say her name!
[Repeat with the names of various women who we honor and fight for]

WHO’S STREETS
CALL: Whose Streets?
    RESPONSE: OUR STREETS!

SHOW ME
CALL: Show me what democracy looks like!
    RESPONSE: This is what democracy looks like!

CALL: Show me what America looks like!
    RESPONSE: This is what America looks like!

CALL: Show me what solidarity looks like!
    RESPONSE: This is what solidarity looks like!

SHUT IT DOWN
CALL: If we don’t get it...
    RESPONSE: Shut it down!

BLACK AND PROUD***
CALL: Say it loud!
    RESPONSE: I’m black and I’m proud!

WE ARE THE CHILDREN
CALL: One!
    RESPONSE: We are the children!
CALL: Two!
    RESPONSE: A little bit louder!
CALL: Three!
    RESPONSE: We want justice for Black People!

MONEY FOR WHAT?
CALL: Money for schools
    RESPONSE: Not police!
CALL: Money for housing
    RESPONSE: Not police!

WHEN BLACK LIVES ARE UNDER ATTACK
CALL: When black lives are under attack, what do we do?
    RESPONSE: Stand up, fight back!
CALL: When black youth are under attack, what do we do?
    RESPONSE: Stand up, fight back!

UNITED CHANTS

THE PEOPLE
The people united, will never be defeated!
El pueblo unido, jamás será vencido!

WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON
Which side are you on friends, Which side are you on?
Which side are you on friends, Which side are you on?
Justice for Black children is justice for us all,
And we will fight for justice until freedom is won!

TURN UP
Turn up, don’t turn down,
We do this for Mike Brown!
[Repeat with the names of various people who we honor and fight for]

FREEDOM FIGHTER
Harriet Tubman was a Freedom Fighter and she taught us how to fight,
We’re gonna fight all day and night until we get it right!
Which side are you on my people, which side are you on?
We on the freedom side!
Which side are you on my people, which side are you on?
[Repeat with the names of various Freedom Fighters]

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine [Repeat Total of 3 Times]
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine [Repeat Total of 3 Times]
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

GOT TO GO
Hey Hey! Ho Ho!
These racist cops have got to go!

BACK UP
Back up! Back up! We want our freedom, freedom!
All these racist cops, we don’t need ‘em, need ‘em!
Back up! Back up! We want our freedom, freedom!
All these bodies on the ground, we don’t need ‘em, need ‘em!

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE
No Justice, No Peace!
No Justice, No Peace!
No racist police!

RAISED AND READY***
We raised our kids, we worked all night!
Side my side, we ready to fight!

**AIN’T NO POWER**
Ain’t no power like the power of the people, ‘cuz the power of the people won’t stop!
Say what!
Ain’t no power like the power of the people, ‘cuz the power of the people won’t stop!

**NO COP**
No cop zone, no cop zone!
They *know* better, they *know* better!

**HEAR MY BROTHER***
I still hear my brother crying “I can’t breathe,”
Now I’m in the struggle saying “I can’t leave.”
We are calling out the violence of these racist police,
We ain’t gonna stop until our people are free.

**BABYLON***
*Created by: BYP 100*
Chant down Babylon, Black people are the bomb!
We ready... we comin’!
We ready... we comin’!

**2-4-6-8**
2-4-6-8 Stop the violence, stop the hate!
2-4-6-8 Smash the police state!