

Bio for David Abdulah

An economist by academic training, involved in the search for and development of a popular and relevant pedagogy; a Labour and Political activist committed to Social Transformation and Justice.

David Abdulah spent 39 years at the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union during which he held a number of positions including the Chief Education & Research Officer from November, 1978 – August 2008 and General Secretary from Sept. 2008 to the end of March, 2016.

David was also the President, Federation of Independent Trade Unions and NGO's (FITUN) from 2004-2012; and served as the Industrial Relations Adviser to the West Indies Players' Association for a number of years.

David Abdulah has been always involved in progressive political movements, is a founding member of the Movement for Social Justice (MSJ) and has been its Political Leader from 2012 to present

David was a Senator, representing the MSJ in the People's Partnership Government from June, 2010 – June 2012

David Abdulah has done extensive public service and is currently a Member of the Economic Development Advisory Board. He was:

- **The Chairman** of the Board of Governors, Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies from 2002-March, 2009;
- **A member** of the Board of Directors of the Environmental Management Authority from July 2002 –October, 2008.
- **A member** of the Board of Directors of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards from October 1996 to June 2003
- **A member** of the Cabinet Appointed Multi-sectoral Core Group Vision 2020 and Chair of the Labour and Social Security Sub-Committee of Vision 2020
- **A member of the Advisory Committee to the Rules Committee appointed by the Chief Justice to review and make recommendations to the Civil Proceedings Rules, as one of the "three members of the public".**
- **A member** of the Advisory Committee on Trade to the Minister of Trade
- **A member** of a Cabinet appointed Committee to Review Four State Enterprises (1998/99)

He is a member of a Cabinet appointed Committee to review the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago (March 2017- present)

David Abdulah has participated in and/or led many other ad hoc civil society processes around issues of social justice and good governance; two of which are: being a founding Member of the Constitution Reform Forum, Trinidad and Tobago; and a Member, Regional Executive Committee, Assembly of Caribbean People

David has contributed to public information and education through his role as a media commentator and:

- Wrote a Newspaper Column: ***David Vs. Goliath*** in the Sunday Newsday from 1998 to 2010 and previously also wrote a weekly column in the Trinidad Express.
- Has extensive experience as a Radio and television Talk Show Host

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- Has participated in, addressed and presented papers at many Local, Regional and International Seminars and Conferences, organized and/or hosted by: Trade Unions, political movements, NGO's and Faith Based Organisations, social movements, Universities, Government and Quasi Government bodies, International Agencies.
- Has written, lectured and spoken on a wide range of development issues here in Trinidad and Tobago, throughout the Caribbean and further afield.