**Course Assignment: Collaborative Guides to Historical and Cultural References in *The Swinging Bridge* or *Tree of Life***

**Note:** Assignment developed with Literature Course: “Panama Silver, Asian Gold: Migration, Money, and the Making of the Modern Caribbean;” full syllabus for fall 2013 class (does not include this assignment): <http://dloc.com/AA00013935/00001/pdf>

**Assignment #5: Collaborative Guides to Historical and Cultural References in *The Swinging Bridge* or *Tree of Life***

**Objective:** Students will work in groups to contribute to making a guide to the historical and cultural references in these novels.

Each group will be responsible for a chapter or series of chapters in one of the novels.  Each group will chose 3-5 historical or literary references in *The Swinging Bridge* or *Tree of Life*.  Students will find secondary sources on that event and/or text.  Identify a primary document relevant to that reference (such as Eric Williams’s speech, *Massa Day Done*, and write an explication (250-500 words) that describes the event, circumstance, or document, and explains its significance in the text. There will be a signup sheet with a list of suggested references but students can also add an item not on the list.  Contributions will be posted on the wiki and then converted to a PDF file and added to the dLOC ([www.dloc.com](http://www.dloc.com)) pedagogy resources.