

## ABSTRACT

### Robert Love and Jamaican Politics

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This dissertation examines the roles of black Jamaicans in Jamaican politics in the period between 1884 and 1914, with particular reference to the career of Dr J Robert Love. In order to give background to this study, black politics before 1884 is surveyed, and the career of Love before his arrival in Jamaica in 1890 is considered in detail. The period 1894-1901 has been chosen for most detailed consideration since it appears to be the period of greatest political activity and of greatest significance for Jamaica's political development between 1884 and 1914. Love's involvement in electoral politics, and political and quasi-political organisations during this period has been described in detail. The intention is to indicate the support for and opposition to black political involvement: the impact of this involvement on political development. The conclusions of the study are that, contrary to previous perceptions, there was an active tradition of black politics in Jamaica, which pre-dated 1865 and revived after 1884, and that Robert Love was a key personality in the development of black politics between 1890 and 1914, whose earlier career fundamentally influenced his activities in Jamaica.