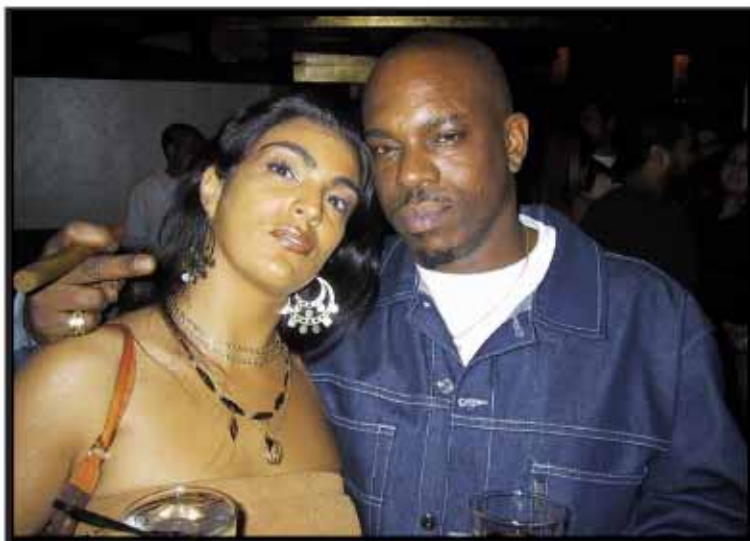


2PAC'S BROTHER

MOPREME SHAKUR



Who is Mopreme? If you are a true fan of Tupac then you already know. First and foremost he is Pac's brother. Secondly he is one of the members in the legendary group "Thuglife." There was only one Thuglife album that came out with 2Pac, and it had the classic cuts "How Long Will They Mourn Me," & "Pour Out A Little Liquor." Also, Mopreme was Pac's right hand man. Where ever you saw 2pac, you saw his brother. Mopreme hasn't gone anywhere since his brother's death, but the media and the industry has turned their backs on him. They also have turn their backs on "Outlaws," and the other members of "Thuglife." Outlaws, and Thuglife have formed a super group called "ThugLaw." They just released their second album, but without any media coverage. How can this happen? If Tupac was still alive, the game would be different. Outlaws and Thuglife would be right there by his side. How could the industry sleep on the very people that Pac worked with the most in the rap game? Pac recorded more songs with these people than he did with anyone else. These people were Pac's crew, his closest homies, his blood. Well, Mopreme won't be silenced anymore. It was an honor to even talk to this man, but it was horrible to find out the injustices that the industry

has brought upon him. I as a journalist won't stand by and let that happen. Here it is "In his own Words," just like his legendary brother.

You were on the classic album *Thuglife Vol.1*, was Pac ever talking about doing a vol.2?

For sho'. Becuase of certain things that went down in the click, Pac got disenchanted in it. But after her got out of jail he wanted to bring it back. The first step was creating the Outlaw Immortals, & then he was gonna put out the other Thuglife shit, because that's what started it all. To have a project to keep building on.

How did Thuglife form, & who were all the members?

Thuglife was more than just a rap group. We were the main rappers (Pac, myself, Big Syke, Rated R, & Macadocious.) We started working in 1993, by 1994 the album was out.

What was it like back then?

We had been thru so much. You have to remember, Pac was in the news everyday for something. Going to jail or something. Also considering our family back ground. Plus Pac lost Big Kato. It was all thug shit basically. The

common thread was the thugism nationwide. It was economics, black, Latino & all kinds of poor people. A lot of people were involved in the same hustles.

After the success of Thuglife, did that make you guys wanna take over the game?

We actually did take over the game. The influence is still there, but we didn't get credit for it. Mutha fuckaz be forgetting that one of the main lessons Pac taught was being soldiers. We soldiers on the street, we soldiers in the game. We ain't getting the love we should get. We ain't getting the money we should get, but we still riding. Still riding 'til the wheels fall off. They didn't fall off yet.

What about all the shit that's going on in the game right now, like the stuff that's going in a totally different direction from what Pac was doing, like all the bling, bling?

The whole climate of the game changed when we had two major figures in the game get murdered. It was an overload of thugism and street shit, so everybody wanted to party after that. Fuck that shit, I'm stressed out. That's were the game led to, but it's always gonna lead right back to the street. To the thugism. What's old becomes new again. It's always gonna be there. The influence is still there.

How do you feel about people trying to compare 50 Cent to Tupac?

It makes feel good that he's on top of the game right now. I respect him because compared to other cats out there who admire Pac and got love for Pac so they say, they trying to bite him word for word. They trying to bite his style, his voice, his rhymes. Niggaz is trying to bite everything. 50 Cent is trying to do his own thing. He ain't trying to clone my nigga.

Would you name some of the cats, that you feel are trying to bite him?

I don't even gotta name no names. If you ask somebody that question they will start naming names for you. I ain't even got to say. But to Speak on 50, you me and 50 are from the same town. I'm originally from Queens. I'm from Jamaica Queens.

Were did Pac grow up?

In the Bronx. As kids we lived together in Harlem, but we got different mothers so we ended up living in different spots in New York.