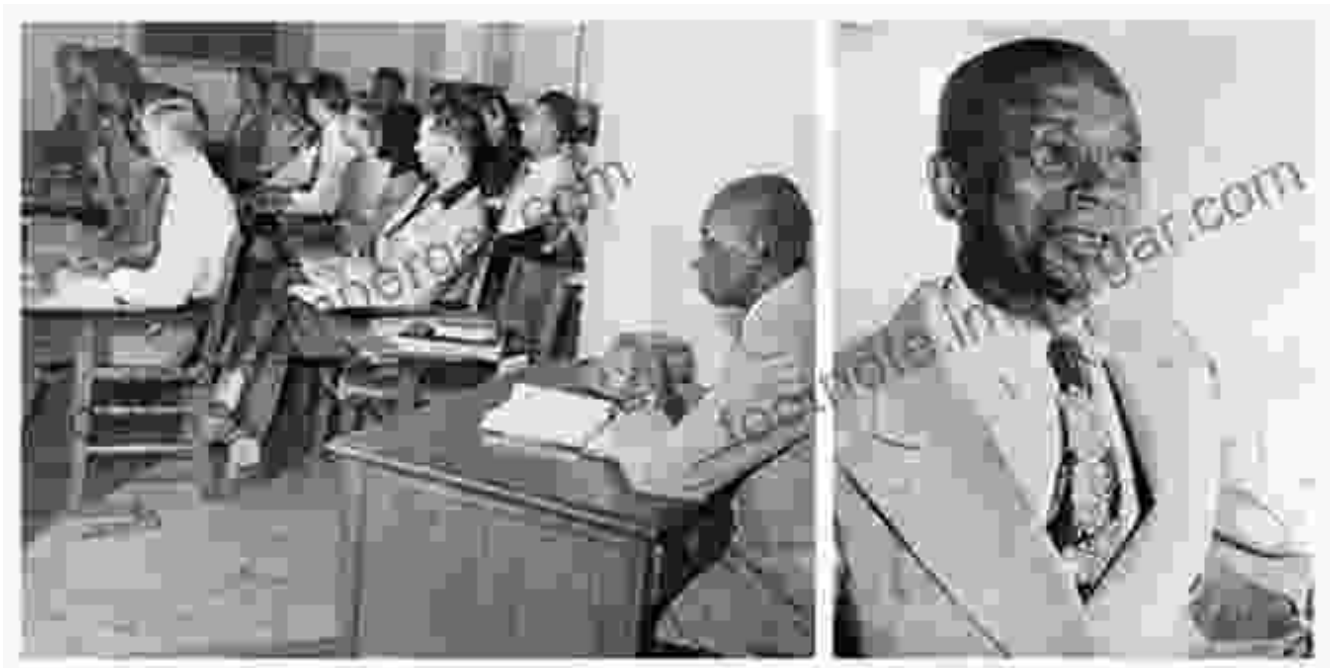


# George McLaurin and the Struggle to End Segregated Education: A Testament to Courage and Resilience

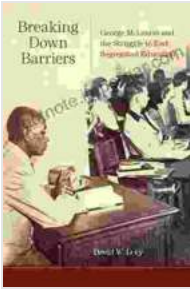
George McLaurin's name is forever etched in the annals of history as a pioneer who challenged the unjust system of segregated education in the United States. His unwavering determination and resilience in the face of adversity serve as a testament to the indomitable spirit of those who fought for civil rights and equality. This article delves into McLaurin's life and legacy, highlighting his pivotal role in the landmark Supreme Court case that outlawed segregation in education.

## Early Life and Education



**Breaking Down Barriers: George McLaurin and the Struggle to End Segregated Education** by David W. Levy

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5



Language	: English
File size	: 8775 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 260 pages



George Washington McLaurin was born on January 8, 1882, in Clarendon County, South Carolina. Despite the racial barriers he encountered, McLaurin pursued his education with unwavering determination. He graduated from Mather Academy in 1921 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from South Carolina State College in 1936 and a master's degree from Fisk University in 1941.

## **The Fight for Equal Education**

McLaurin's pursuit of higher education brought him face to face with the injustices of segregation. In 1948, he applied to the University of Oklahoma, one of the nation's top schools. Despite his stellar academic record, McLaurin was denied admission solely because of his race. Determined to fight for his rights, McLaurin, with the support of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), filed a lawsuit against the university.

## **McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents**

McLaurin's lawsuit, known as *McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents*, gained national attention. The case made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where it was argued alongside four other cases challenging segregation in

education. In 1950, the Court issued its landmark ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which declared that "separate-but-equal" education was inherently unequal and violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

## **McLaurin's Legacy**

McLaurin's victory in *Brown v. Board of Education* was a major turning point in the civil rights movement. It paved the way for the desegregation of schools across the nation and helped to lay the foundation for future advances in civil rights. McLaurin's courage and perseverance inspired countless others to fight for their rights and to challenge the systemic racism that plagued American society.

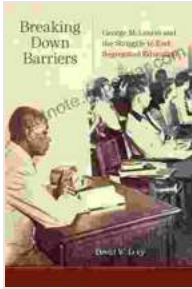
McLaurin continued to work for educational equality throughout his life. He served as a professor at Langston University in Oklahoma and played a key role in the establishment of the George McLaurin Educational Foundation. McLaurin's legacy lives on through the George McLaurin Honors College at the University of Oklahoma, which is dedicated to promoting diversity and academic excellence.

George McLaurin's unwavering determination to end segregated education left an indelible mark on American history. His courageous fight against injustice helped to dismantle a system that denied countless individuals their fundamental rights. McLaurin's legacy serves as a reminder of the power of courage, resilience, and the unwavering pursuit of equality.

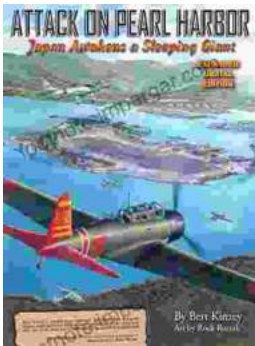
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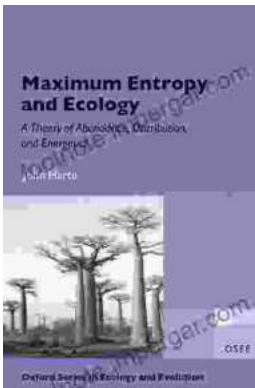


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