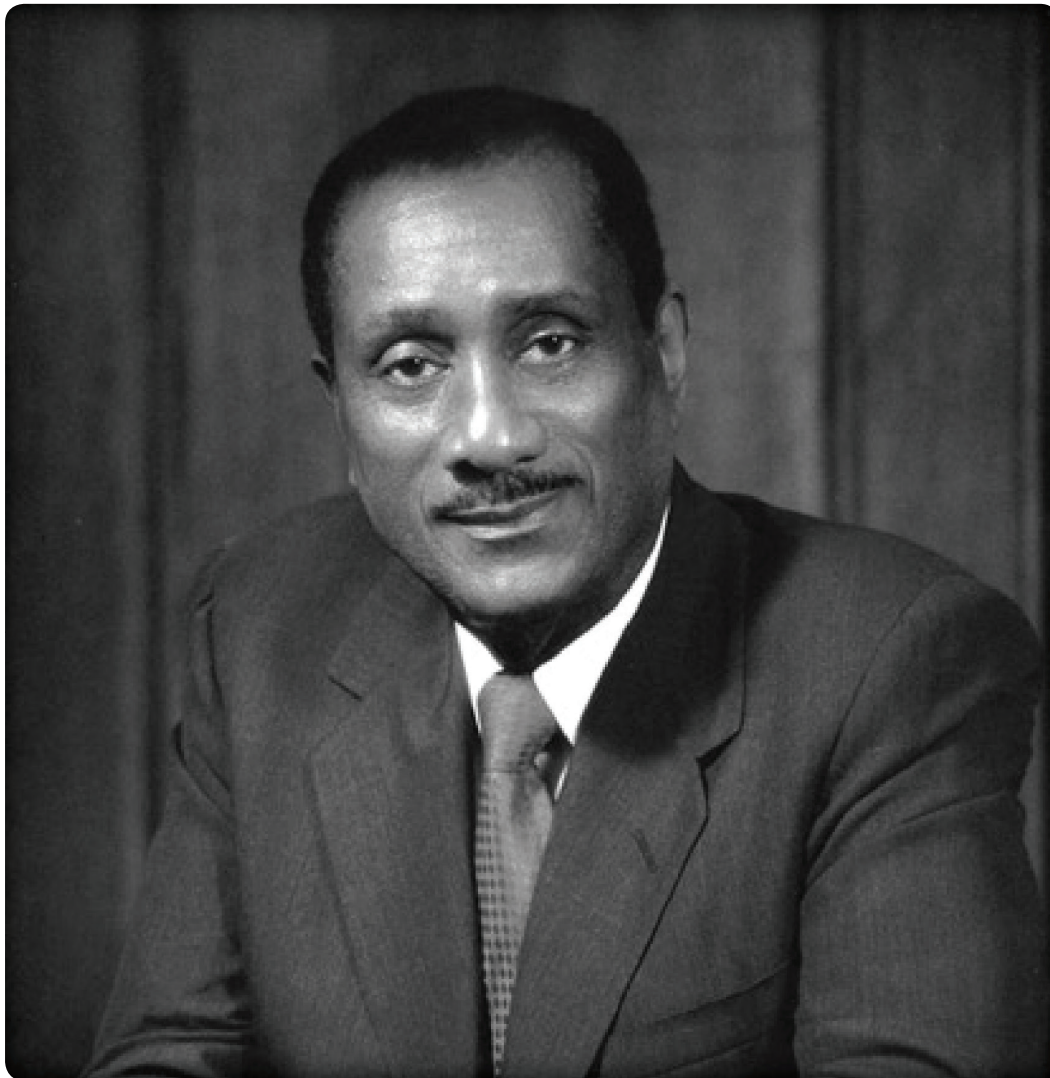


ARKANSAS BLACK HISTORY



Courtesy of Johnson Publishing Company

John H. Johnson (1918-2005) was a businessman and publisher born in Arkansas City. While serving as editor for an insurance company newsletter in Chicago, Johnson saw the need for a magazine targeting a black audience. Consequently, he published *Negro Digest*, which was a success. He was the founder of Johnson Publishing Company, one of the most influential African American businesses of the 20th century, which published *Ebony* and *Jet*. In 1982, Johnson became the first African American listed in the *Forbes* 400. *Ebony* reached a publication of over 2.5 million. The magazine became popular because of its portrayal of African American life. To find out more about John H. Johnson or to find more examples of black excellence, visit the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center.



ARKANSAS
HERITAGE