

# Nia

written by Ras Okera, copyright 1994

pronunciation: **Nia** (Nee'-yah), **Nguzo Saba** (En-goo'-zoe Sah'-ba)  
**Swahili** (Swah-hee'-lee)

## Verse

It's the **N** to the **I** to the **A**  
We need **Nia** in our lives each and everyday  
**Nia** is a word that means purpose  
So, big up yourself because you're not worthless

## Chorus

**Nia**  
That's a part of Kwanzaa  
**Nia**  
Fifth principle of the Nguzo Saba  
**Nia**  
In Swahili it means purpose  
**Nia**  
There's a reason we're here on this earth

## Verse

The things that we do, they won't hurt us  
If we do it for a purpose  
The things that we work for won't be worthless  
If we're working for a purpose  
It's the job of everybody  
To help build and develop the community  
If we work hard, soon we will be  
In the light and in the glory  
  
We're a strong, strong people  
and we're coming from a strong, strong past

(Uh-huh)

We're moving up to the front

"Cause for too long we've been last

(Uh-huh)

We're a strong, strong people  
and we're coming from a strong, strong past

(Uh-huh)

We're moving up to the front

"Cause for too long we've been last

It's the **N** to the **I** to the **A**

We need **Nia** in our lives each and everyday

**Nia** is a word that means purpose

So, big up yourself because you're not worthless

### Chorus

**Nia**

That's a part of Kwanzaa

**Nia**

Fifth principle of the Nguzo Saba

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### Verse

The things that we do, they won't hurt us

If we do it for a purpose

The things that we work for won't be worthless

If we're working for a purpose

It's the job of everybody

To help build and develop the community

If we work hard, soon we will be

In the light and in the glory

Whatever you do, have a good reason  
"Cause everything has it's own time and season  
Whatever you do, have a good reason  
"Cause everything has it's own time and season

**Nia**

That's a part of Kwanzaa

**Nia**

Fifth principle of the Nguzo Saba

**Nia**

In Swahili it means purpose

**Nia**

There's a reason you're here on this earth

**Nia**

**Nia**, purpose

**Nia**

**Nia**, purpose

**Nia**

**Nia**, purpose

**Nia**

**Nia**, purpose

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The lyrics from this song are from the Kwanzaa Kwest Video  
for info visit [www.kwanzaamedia.com](http://www.kwanzaamedia.com)  
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