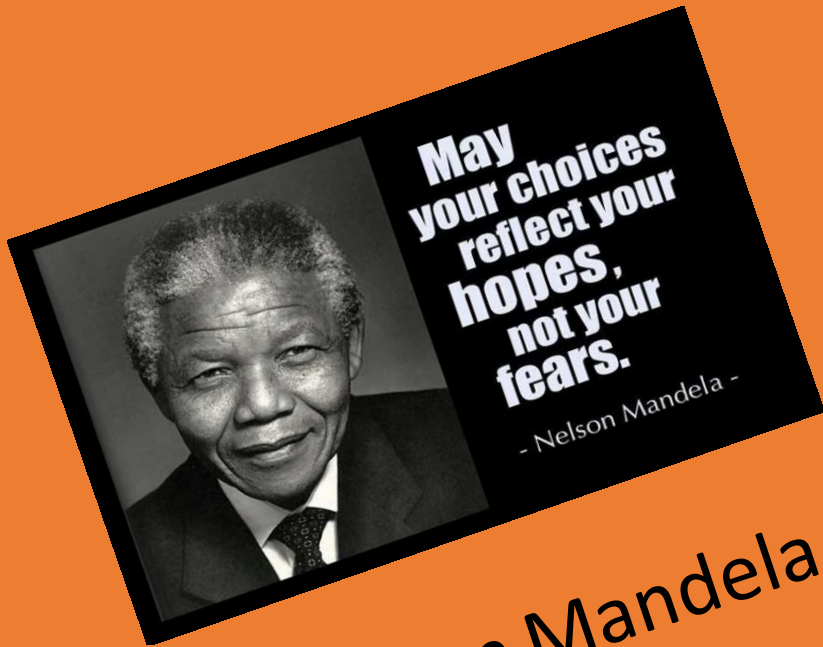


GREAT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS



May
your choices
reflect your
hopes,
not your
fears.

- Nelson Mandela -

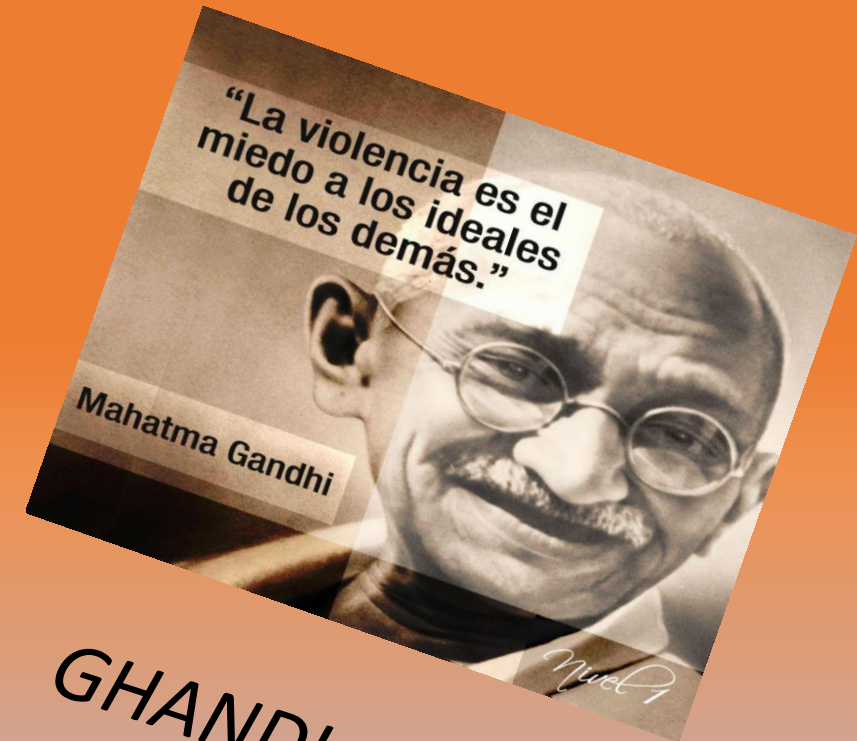
Nelson Mandela



"Non ho paura della cattiveria
dei malvagi ma del silenzio
degli onesti"

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

MARTIN LUTHER KING



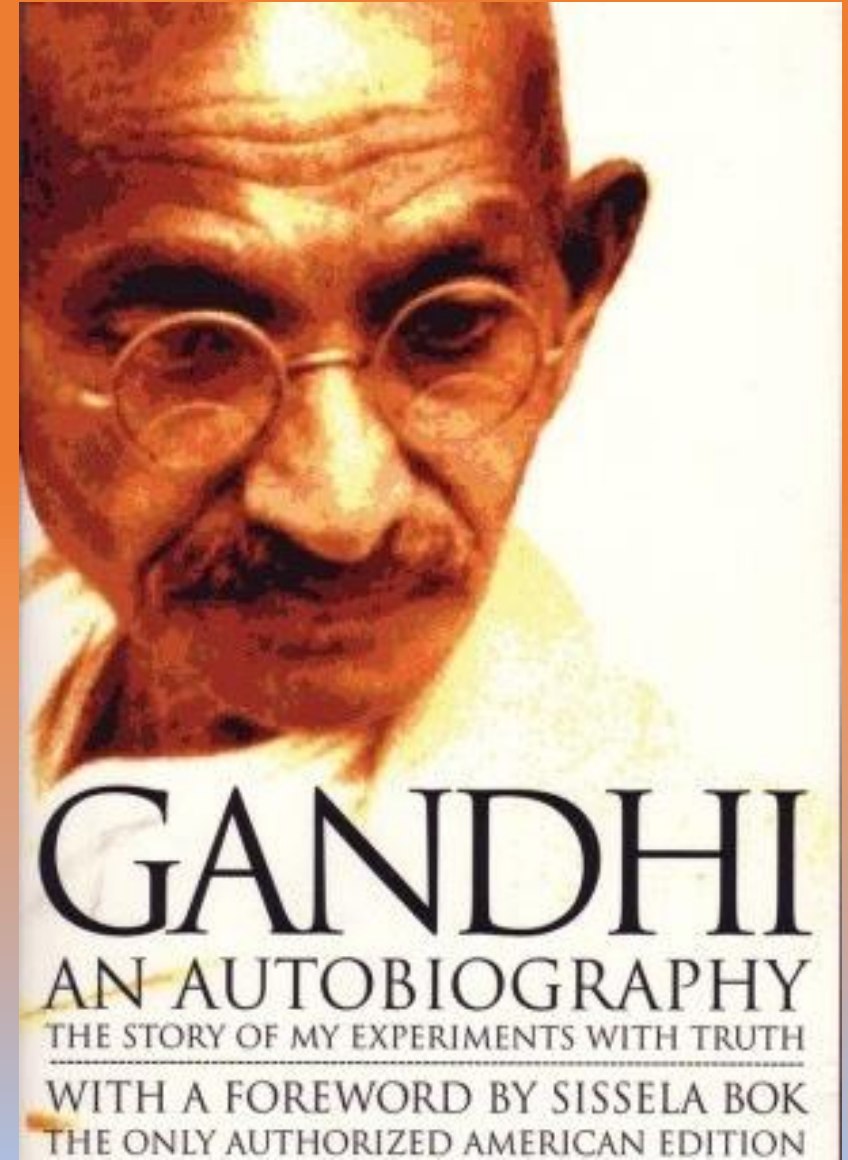
"La violencia es el
miedo a los ideales
de los demás."

Mahatma Gandhi

GHANDI

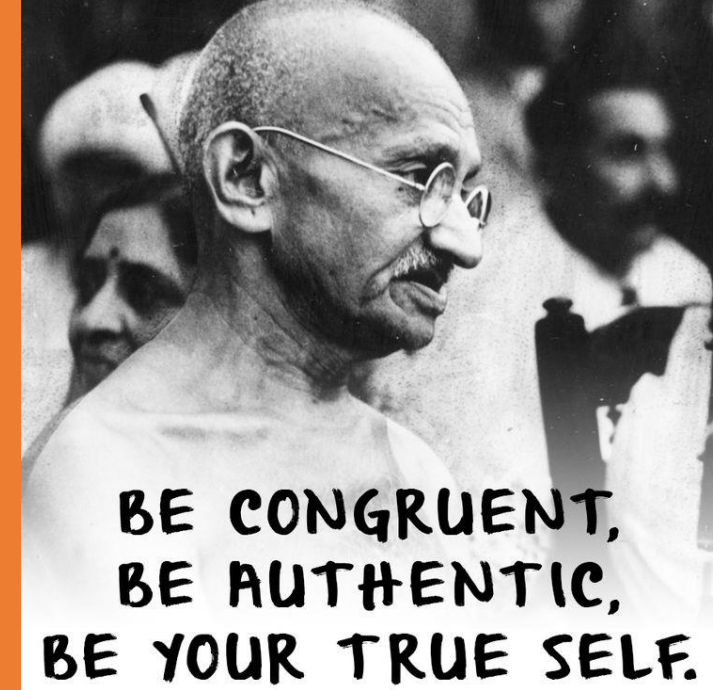
Gandhi

- Politician, philosopher and lawyer
- He led India to independence and inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world
- Leader of the Indian independence movement against the British rule
- He was one of the pioneers and theorist of SATYAGRAHA



BIOGRAPHY

- Born on **2nd October 1869** in **Porbandar**
- When he was 18 years old, after the father's death, he started studying at the **University College of London** to become a **lawyer**.
- On **12th June 1891**, after getting his degree, he came **back to India** and started working as a lawyer, thanks to his brother's help.
- **Struggle for Indian independence (1915-1947)**
 - In 1915 Gandhi travels to learn about the conditions of Indian villages and creates an organisation of volunteers and with their help begins a campaign to clear villages, build schools and hospitals
 - In 1920 he entered the **Indian National Congress** and started his campaign of peaceful non-co-operation
 - **Salt March** (March-April 1930)
 - In 1947 the British government, under the pressure of the anti colonial movement, decided to claim the **independence of India**
- On **30th January 1948**, at Birla House in Nuova Delhi, while going to the garden for a prayer, he was shot by Nathuram Godse, a right-wing Hindu nationalist.



THE PHILOSOPHICAL PRINCIPLES OF GANDHI

AHISMA

The concept of non-violence (ahisma) has a long history in Indian religion. He claimed that total non-violence would free a person from anger.

SATYAGRAHA

The term Satyagraha is formed by the two words Satya (truth) and Agraha (firmness).

The central element in Gandhi's point of view is the Satya whose meaning is "that which is indeed."

Gandhi said: <<The truth is far more powerful than any weapon of mass destruction.>>

He summarized his beliefs by saying "Truth is God", in fact Satya in Gandhian philosophy is God.

NELSON MANDELA

WHO WAS HE?



He was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader, and philanthropist, who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was the country's first black head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic election.



His government focused on dismantling the legacy of apartheid by tackling institutionalised racism and fostering racial reconciliation. Ideologically an African nationalist and socialist, he served as President of the African National Congress (ANC) party from 1991 to 1997.

BIOGRAPHY

Mandela was born on 18th July 1918 in Mvezo, South Africa and he died on 5th December 2013

Mandela began studying law at the University of Fort Hare and at the University of the Witwatersrand, where he was the only black African student and faced racism.

Mandela was married three times, had six children, and seventeen grandchildren and at least seventeen great-grandchildren.

Mandela died on 5th December 2013 at his home in Johannesburg from complications of a respiratory infection, aged 95, surrounded by his family.



Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years (1964-1990) by the South African apartheid government for standing up against a government that was committing evident human rights abuses against

black South Africans. Mandela was transferred from Pretoria to the prison on Robben island, remaining there for the next 18 years. He was permitted only one visit and one letter every six months. While he was in prison his mother and his eldest son died. He was not allowed to attend their funerals. In 1990 Mandela was released by President [F. W. de Klerk](#).

POLITICAL LIFE

PHASES

The **African National Congress (ANC)** is the Republic of South Africa's governing political party. It has been the ruling party of post-apartheid South Africa on the national level, beginning with the election of Nelson Mandela in the 1994 election

- **1944** - Mandela joined the African National Congress when he helped to form the ANC Youth League (ANCYL).
- **1948** - Election victory of the Afrikaner-dominated National Party, which introduced a formal system of racial classification and segregation, the **apartheid**, that restricted nonwhites' basic rights and barred them from government while maintaining white minority rule.
- **1952** - He began a lawyer and opened an own legal studio that furnished free assistance or low-cost to black people
- **1962-1990** - Prison's period
- **1980** - ANC started a world country against Apartheid, helping Mandela to be released
- **1994:**

27 April Votes for the first time in his life

9 May Elected by Parliament as first president of a democratic South Africa

10 May Inaugurated as President of the Republic of South Africa, by democratically elected. He served a term in office and stood down even though he would have gone on to win a second term. That was in keeping to his word that he would only serve as a one term president.

14 December Launches his autobiography *Long Walk to Freedom*

- **1999** - End of his mandate

POLITICAL IDEAS

Mandela is all about democracy, equality, and tolerance. He was the first black president of South Africa and the president elected in that country's first free election.



Mandela took political ideas from other thinkers—among them Indian independence leaders like Gandhi and Nehru, African-American civil rights activists, and African nationalists like Nkrumah—and applied them to the South African situation. At the same time he rejected other aspects of their thought, such as the anti-white sentiment of many African nationalists.



His political development was strongly influenced by his legal training and practice, in particular his hope to achieve change not through violence but through "legal revolution". Over the course of his life, he began by advocating a path of non-violence, but accepted it if a government tyrannizes a nation. He then adopted a non-violent approach to negotiation and reconciliation. This willingness to use violence distinguishes Mandela from Gandhi.

Democracy:

Mandela was a devout believer in democracy and abided by majority decisions even when deeply disagreeing with them. He had exhibited a commitment to the values of democracy and human rights since at least the 1960s. He held a conviction that "inclusivity, accountability and freedom of speech" were the fundamentals of democracy.

Socialism and Marxism:

Mandela was influenced by Marxism, and during the revolution he advocated scientific socialism. He denied being a communist at the Treason Trial, and maintained this stance both when later talking to journalists, and in his autobiography.

Leadership:

• Nelson Mandela demonstrated remarkable leadership qualities:

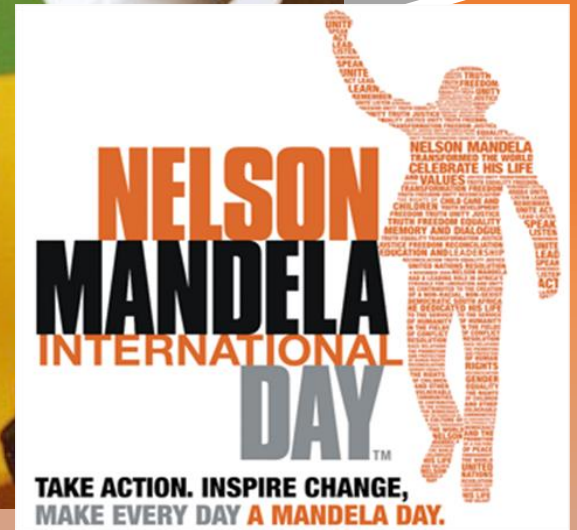
- He was a man of peace.
- He had a powerful presence and disarmed enemies with his smile.
- He showed the world what forgiveness looks like.
- He was positive, thinking about what could be.
- He was a visionary and could see the big picture.
- He was focused on goals and a mission beyond himself.
- He had remarkable endurance.
- He showed grit and determination.
- He was humble and patient
- He was full of hope, not hate.
- He was the first black president of South Africa

What he *didn't* do

- He held no bitterness.
- He did not seek revenge.
- He did not seek self-glory.
- He didn't hide his faults or failings.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Mandela is perhaps the politician who has received the most awards in the world. He has received more than 260 awards in his lifetime including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 together with South Africa's last apartheid president, FW de Klerk "for their work for the peaceful termination of the apartheid regime, and for laying the foundations for a new democratic South Africa". Nelson Mandela International Day is an annual international day in his honour, celebrated each year on 18 July, Mandela's birthday.



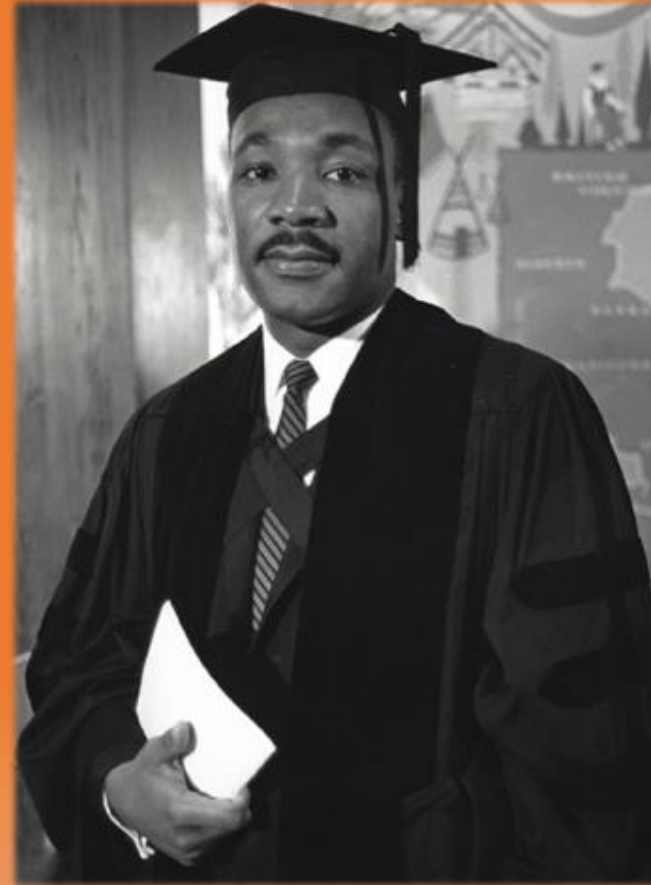
The importance of this period in South Africa's history was portrayed in the 2009 film, *Invictus*, which starred Morgan Freeman as Mandela and Matt Damon as Pienaar, the captain of the rugby team.

BIOGRAPHY

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born January 15, 1929 and died April 4, 1968 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Martin Luther attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of fifteen.

He got a degree at Boston University in 1955. In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.



Martin Luther King parents couldn't shield him completely from racism. His father fought against racial prejudice, not just because his race suffered, but because he considered racism and segregation to be an affront to God's will. He strongly discouraged any sense of class superiority in his children. During his last year in seminary, Martin Luther King came under the guidance of Benjamin Mays who influenced King's development and encouraged King to view Christianity as a potential force for social change.



In 1955 two episodes took place in which two black women were arrested for not giving up their seat in the bus to some white people. On the night that the second woman was detained, Martin Luther King met other local civil rights leaders to plan a citywide bus boycott. King was elected to lead the boycott because he was young, well-trained with solid family connections and had professional standing. But he was also new to the community and had few enemies.

Martin Luther King skillful rhetoric put a new energy into the civil rights struggle in Alabama. King's home was attacked. The African-American community took legal action against the city ordinance about segregation on public transports arguing that it was unconstitutional based on the Supreme Court's "separate is never equal" decision.



The Southern Christian Leadership Conference



Flush with victory, African-American civil rights leaders recognized the need for a national organization to help coordinate their efforts. In January 1957, Martin Luther King and 60 ministers and civil rights activists founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to harness the moral authority and organizing power of black churches. They would help conduct non-violent protests to promote civil rights reform.



In 1960, a group of African-American students began the "sit-in" movement in North Carolina. The students would sit at racially segregated lunch counters in the city's stores. When asked to leave or sit in the colored section, they just remained seated, subjecting themselves to verbal and sometimes physical abuse. The movement quickly gained traction in several other cities. Martin Luther King encouraged students to continue to use nonviolent methods during their protests. By August of 1960, the sit-ins had been successful in southern cities.

By 1960, Martin Luther King was gaining national notoriety. Soon after, King was imprisoned for violating his probation on a traffic conviction. The news of his imprisonment entered the 1960 presidential campaign, when candidate [John F. Kennedy](#) expressed his concern for King's harsh treatment. King was soon released.



In 1963, Martin Luther King organized a demonstration in Alabama and he was jailed along with large numbers of his supporters, which caused him to get widely criticized.

By the end of the campaign, Martin Luther King and his supporters were making plans for a massive demonstration on the nation's capital composed of multiple organizations, all asking for peaceful change.

On August 28, 1963, the historic March on Washington drew more than 200,000 people. It was here that King made his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, emphasizing his belief that someday all men could be brothers.



In 1965, a civil rights march was planned, it turned violent with the police. King was not in the march, however the attack was televised showing horrifying images of bloodied and severely injured marchers. A second march was then cancelled due to a restraining order. A third march was planned and this time King made sure he was part of it. Instead of forcing a confrontation, King led his followers to kneel in prayer.

In the second half of the sixties, Martin Luther King expanded his civil rights efforts into other cities, including Chicago and Los Angeles. But he met with increasing criticism from young black power leaders. King's patient, non-violent approach to white middle-class citizens made turn away many black people who considered his methods too weak, too late and ineffective.

Assassination and Legacy

To address this criticism, King began making a link between discrimination and poverty, and he began to speak out against the Vietnam War. He felt that America's involvement in Vietnam was politically untenable and the government's conduct in the war discriminatory to the poor.



By 1968 Martin Luther King had grown tired of marches, going to jail, and living under the constant threat of death.

He was becoming discouraged at the slow progress of civil rights in America.

Another march on Washington took place in 1968. The next day, while standing on a balcony outside his room at the Motel, Martin Luther King Jr. was struck by a sniper's bullet. The shooter, a malcontent drifter and former convict was arrested after two months.