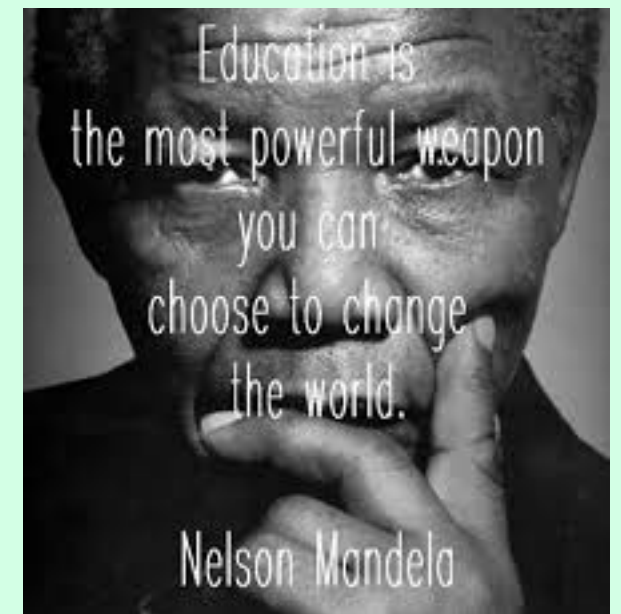


# Nelson Mandella





Rolihlahla Mandela was born on 18 July 1918. He was later given the name Nelson by a teacher at school.

# The young Mandela

Nelson went to a *mission school*, and then to college. He was good at school work. He also enjoyed boxing and running.



Mandela's family had chosen a wife for him. But he did not want an *arranged marriage*. So he left for the city of Johannesburg. He went on with his studies, and became a lawyer in 1942.

# Why Is Nelson Mandela Famous?

## **A leader of his people**

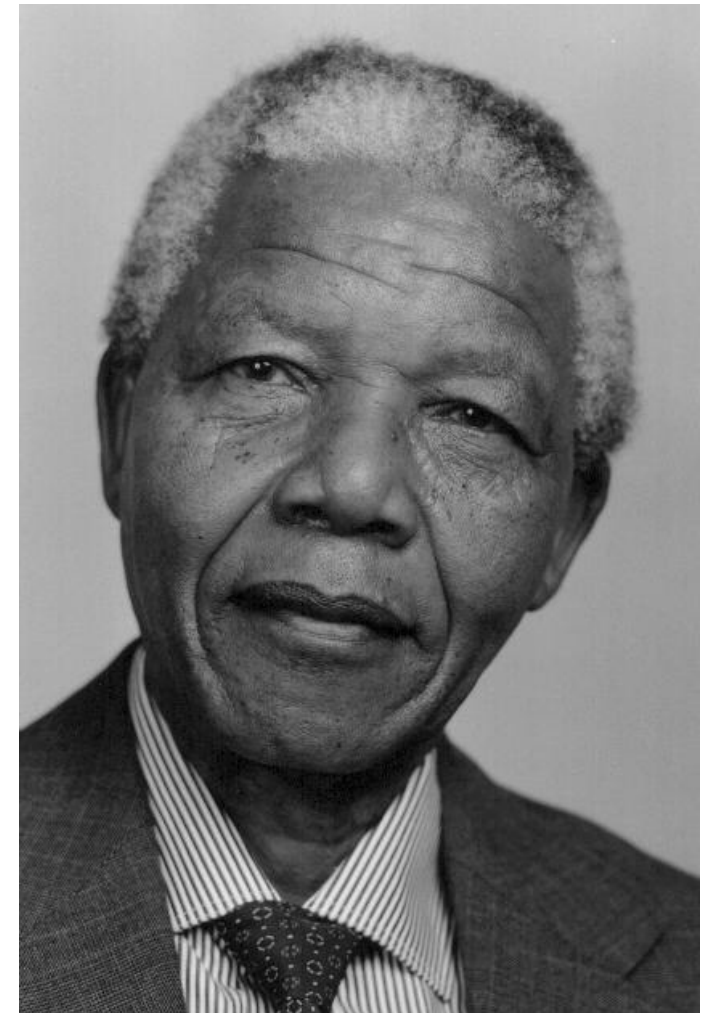
Nelson Mandela was the first black President of South Africa. He spent 27 years in prison for trying to overthrow the pro-apartheid government. After he left prison, he worked to achieve *human rights* and a better future for everyone in South Africa.

## **When did he live?**

Nelson Mandela was born in 1918. He was in prison from 1962 to 1990. He became President of South Africa in 1994, and retired in 1999. Nelson Mandela died on 5 December 2013 following a lung illness.

## **Why is he famous?**

Nelson Mandela became famous for his long fight against bad government and *racial prejudice*. He became a *hero* to people all over the world. As South Africa's President, he was respected for his courage and wisdom in bringing people together to live in peace.



# President Mandela



In 1991, Mandela became leader of the ANC. In the 1994 elections, all black people in South Africa were able to vote for the first time. The ANC won the election. A new government took over. In May 1994, Nelson Mandela became South Africa's first black president.



# World Statesman

Mandela married three times. His first marriage ended in 1957. He and his second wife, Winnie, divorced in 1996. At the age of 81, he married Grace Machel. Also

Nelson Mandela retired as President in 1999. From 2004, he gave up politics, to enjoy a quiet life with his family.



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# Problems in South Africa

## History of South Africa:

Most South Africans are black. There are also people of European and Asian backgrounds, and people of mixed race. Dutch people set up the first white colony in South Africa in 1652. Later British settlers came. They spoke a language called Afrikaans. Most other white settlers spoke English. Britain took over the Dutch colony in 1815. South Africa became a part of the British Empire.

## How South Africa was ruled:

When Mandela was growing up, black people had little say in how Africa was run. The government was whites-only. Most black people were poor. They worked as servants.



# Struggle For Freedom

## **What was apartheid?**

Apartheid (say A-PART-HITE) forced white and non-white people to live in separate areas. Non-white people meant black people, people from Asia and people of mixed race.

A white person and a black person could not marry. Black people and white people could not share a table in a restaurant, or sit together on a bus. Black children and white children went to different schools. Sports teams were all-white or all-black, never mixed.

## **Mandela makes a stand**

Mandela and Oliver Tambo set up South Africa's first black law firm. Poor people came to them for help.

Mandela led young people in the ANC. Many white people, as well as black people, spoke out against apartheid. Mandela admired Gandhi, who had used peaceful protest in India. Perhaps peaceful protest could get rid of apartheid, without fighting?

