



1918

Born in the Eastern Cape of South Africa

1943

Joins African National

1956

Charged with high treason, but charges dropped after a

1962

Jailed for five years for incitement and leaving

1964

Charged with sabotage,

1990

Freed from prison

1993

Wins Nobel Peace Prize

1994-99

Serves as president

2004

Retires from public life

2010

Last major public appearance at football

2012

Admitted to hospital for abdominal complaint

2013

Spends 95th birthday in hospital; dies on Dec 5

MANDELA'S CALL

After the Soweto uprising of 1976

**RACISTS RULE BY THE GUN!**  
The gun has played an important part in our history. The resistance of the black man to white colonial intrusion was crushed by the gun. Our struggle to liberate ourselves from white domination is held in check by force of arms. From con-quest to the present the story is the same. Successive white regimes have repeatedly massacred unarmed defenceless blacks. And wherever and whenever they have pulled out their guns the ferocity of their fire has been trained on the African people.

Apartheid is the embodiment of the racialism, repression and inhumanity of all previous white supremacist regimes. To see the real face of apartheid we must look beneath the veil of constitutional formulas, deceptive phrases and playing with words.

The rattle of gunfire and the rumbling of Hippo armoured vehicles since June 1976 have once again torn aside that veil. Spread across the face of our country, in black townships, the racist army and police have been pouring a hail of bullets killing and maiming hundreds of black men, women and children. The toll of the dead and injured already surpasses that of all past massacres carried out

by this regime.

Apartheid is the rule of the gun and the hangman. The Hippo, the FN rifle and the gallows are its true symbols. These remain the easiest resort, the ever ready solution of the race-mad rulers of South Africa.

VAGUE PROMISES, GREATER REPRESSION . . .

In the midst of the present crisis, while our people count the dead and nurse the injured, they ask themselves: what lies ahead?

From our rulers we can expect nothing. They are the ones who give orders to the soldier crouching over his rifle: theirs is the spirit that moves the finger that caresses the trigger.

Vague promises, tinkering with the machinery of apartheid, constitution juggling, massive arrests and detentions side by side with renewed overtures aimed at weakening and forestalling the unity of us blacks and dividing the forces of change - these are the fixed paths along which they will move. For they are neither capable nor willing to heed the verdict of the masses of our people.

THE VERDICT OF JUNE 16!

That verdict is loud and clear: apartheid has failed. Our people remain unequivocal in its rejection. The young and the old, parent and child,

all reject it. At the forefront of this 1976/77 wave of unrest were our students and youth. They come from the universities, high schools and even primary schools. They are a generation whose whole education has been under the diabolical design of the racists to poison the minds and

our youth.

UNITE !

We face an enemy that is deep rooted, an enemy entrenched and determined not to yield. Our march to freedom is long and difficult. But both within and beyond our borders the prospects of victory grow bright.



On June 16, 1976, students protested a government mandate requiring the Afrikaans language to be taught alongside English in schools. The uprising spread from Soweto to other towns.

PHOTO: HUFFINGTONPOST

brainwash our children into docile subjects of apartheid rule. But after more than twenty years of Bantu Education the circle is closed and nothing demonstrates the utter bankruptcy of apartheid as the revolt of

The first condition for victory is black unity. Every effort to divide the blacks, to woo and pit one black group against another, must be vigorously repulsed. Our people - African, Coloured, Indian and democratic

whites - must be united into a single massive and solid wall of resistance, of united mass action.

Our struggle is growing sharper. This is not the time for the luxury of division and disunity. At all levels and in every walk of life we must close ranks. Within the ranks of the people differences must be submerg- ed to the achievement of a single goal - the complete overthrow of apartheid and racist domination.

VICTORY IS CERTAIN !

The revulsion of the world against apartheid is growing and the frontiers of white supremacy are shrinking. Mozambique and Angola are free and the war of liberation gathers force in Namibia and Zimbabwe. The soil of our country is destined to be the scene of the fiercest fight and the sharpest battles to rid our continent of the last vestiges of white minority rule.

The world is on our side. The OAU, the UN and the anti-apartheid movement continue to put pressure on the racist rulers of our country. Every effort to isolate South Africa adds strength to our struggle.

At all levels of our struggle, within and outside the country, much has been achieved and much remains to be done. But victory is certain!

**WE SALUTE ALL OF YOU!**

We who are confined within the grey walls of the Pretoria regime's prisons reach out to our people. With you we count those who have perished by means of the gun and the hangman's rope. We salute all of you - the living, the injured and the dead. For you have dared to rise up against the tyrant's might.

Even as we bow at their graves we remember this: the dead live on as martyrs in our hearts and minds, a reproach to our disunity and the host of shortcomings that accompany divisions among the oppressed, a spur to our efforts to close ranks, and a reminder that the freedom of our people is yet to be won. We face the future with confidence. For the guns that serve apartheid cannot render it unconquerable. Those who live by the gun shall perish by the gun.

UNITE! MOBILISE! FIGHT ON!

Between the anvil of united mass action and the hammer of the armed struggle we shall crush apartheid and white minority racist rule.

**AMANDLA NGAWETHU!**  
(Power to the people)

**MATLA KE A RONA!**  
(Victory is certain)

Abridged



MOURN

quotes

Barack Obama

We've lost one of the most influential, courageous and profoundly good human beings that any of us will share time with on this earth.

Vladimir Putin

Mandela, having gone through the most difficult ordeals, was committed to the end of his days to the ideals of humanism and justice.

Xi Jinping

The Chinese people would always remember Mandela's outstanding contributions to the China-South Africa relationship and the course of progress of mankind.

Francois Hollande

Mandela's message would continue to inspire fighters for freedom.

Angela Merkel

Mandela's political legacy of non-violence and the condemnation of all forms of racism would continue to inspire.

David Cameron

A great light has gone out in the world.

Manmohan Singh

He was a true Gandhian.

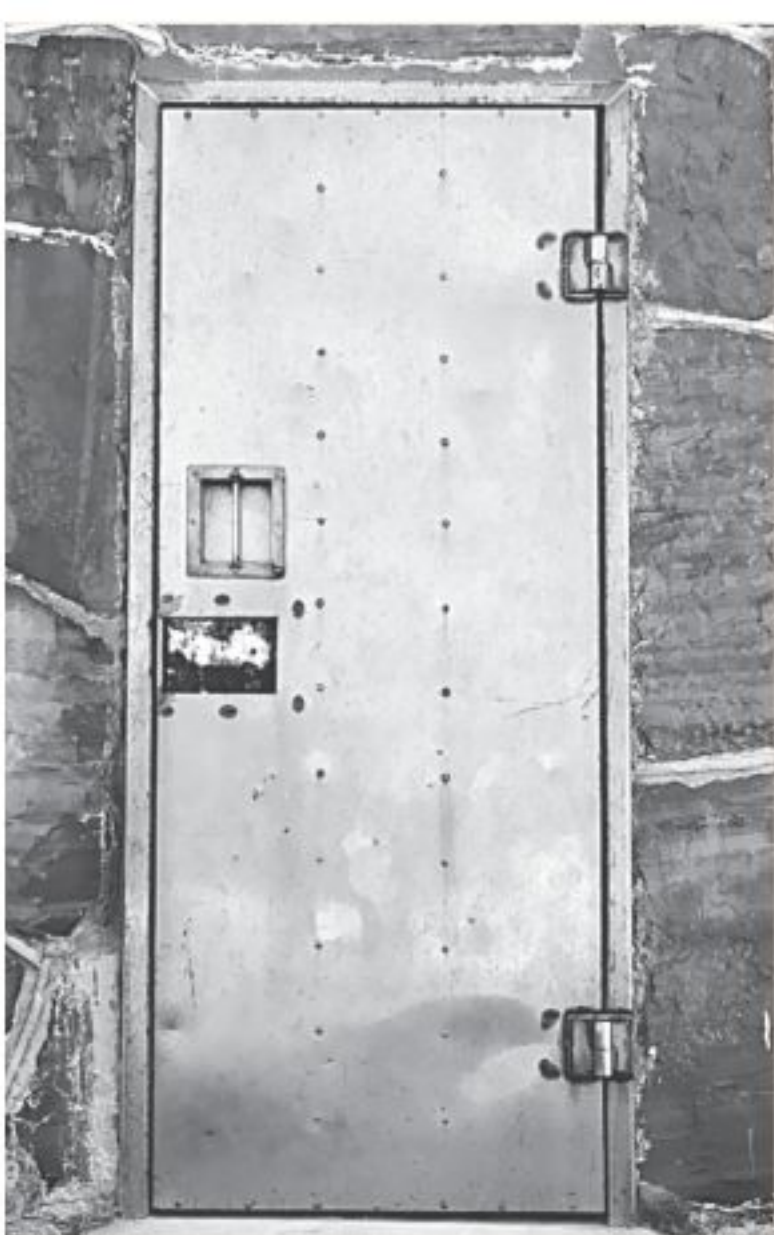
Ban Ki-moon

Mandela was a giant for justice and a down-to-earth human inspiration.

Desmond Tutu

He taught us extraordinarily practical lessons about forgiveness, compassion and reconciliation.

SOURCE: BBC



A cell at the Robben Island prison that once held him.

PHOTO: TIME



South Africa, 1983: Exhausted workers cram onto a "blacks only" bus traveling from a segregated homeland into Pretoria at two o'clock in the morning.

PHOTO: CNN



Nelson Mandela, second from right, walks with other militants charged with treason to their trial in 1956.

PHOTO: SLATE



KEEPING HOPE ALIVE: Winnie Mandela stands by a portrait of her then husband in their Soweto home in 1985.

PHOTO: TIME

## Surprising facts on Mandela 7.2m tweets in 5 hrs

**WOODPECKER**  
From Cape Town to California, streets named after Mandela abound. But he's also been the subject of some rather unusual tributes. Last year, scientists named a prehistoric woodpecker after him: *Australopicus nelsonmandelai*. In 1973, the physics institute at Leeds University named a nuclear particle the 'Mandela particle.'

**BOXING**  
Mandela's other passion was boxing. "I did not like the violence of boxing. I was more interested in the science of it - how you move your body to protect yourself, how you use a plan to attack and retreat, and how you pace yourself through a fight," he says in his biography.

**TERRORIST?**  
Mandela wasn't removed from the US terror watch list until 2008 -- at age 89. He and other members of the African National Congress were placed on it because of their militant fight against apartheid.

**INVICTUS**  
While locked up at Robben Island for decades, Mandela would read William Ernest Henley's "Invictus" to fellow prisoners. The poem, about never giving up, resonated with Mandela for its lines "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul." You may know it from the movie, *Invictus*, starring Morgan Freeman as Mandela.

SOURCE: BBC

Hundreds of thousands of people from across the globe took to Twitter to express their sadness at the news that the former South African president had died at the age of 95 last night.

Up to 95,000 tweets a minute were being sent at the peak of social media activity, many with the hashtags #RipNelsonMandela and #Madiba.

They included tweets from politicians, celebrities, sports stars, and ordinary people as they all tried to explain what this extraordinary man meant to them.

Mandela died at his home in Johannesburg last night following a long battle with a recurring lung infection. A coffin carrying his body has been driven away from his house, and he is expected to lie in state for three days before being buried in his home village of Qunu.

He will be given a state funeral, which is expected to be the biggest since Winston Churchill's in 1965.

SOURCE: MIRROR

## HIS LIFE in his words

**On life**  
What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.

**On determination**  
Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do.

**On the liberation movement**  
Many people in this country have paid the price before me and many will pay the price after me.

**On prison life**  
In prison, you come face to face with time. There is nothing more terrifying.

**On friendship**  
I like friends who have independent minds because they tend to make you see problems from all angles.

**On equality**  
I have never regarded any man as my superior, either in my life outside or inside prison.

**On ideology**  
I had no specific belief except that our cause was just, was very strong.

**On leadership**  
Real leaders must be ready to sacrifice all for the freedom of their people.

**On death**  
Death is something inevitable. When a man has done what he considers to be his duty to his people and his country, he can rest in peace. I believe I have made that effort and that is, therefore, why I will sleep for the eternity.



Mandela sews prison clothes in the infamous jail at Robben Island.

PHOTO: TIME