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10 Important Facts You Need to Know on this Nelson Mandela International Day!.

To honor Nelson Mandela, Nelson Mandela International Day is celebrated on 18th July every year. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela was a nonviolent anti-apartheid activist, politician and philanthropist. He was Elected as the President of South Africa (1994-1999). Nelson Mandela has accomplished many great things in life including dismantling the legacy of apartheid by tackling Racism and fostering racial reconciliation. Read this article to know more about Nelson Mandela.

Points you need to know on this Mandela Day

Nelson Mandela was born on 18th July 1918 to the Thembu royal family in Mvezo, British South Africa. 18th July 2018 marks 100 years since the birth of this aspiring leader. Here are 10 important points you do not want to miss about Nelson Mandela on the Mandela Day.

1. He was the First Black President of South Africa

Nelson Mandela was elected as the President of South Africa in 1994 and he was First elected in the fully representative Democratic election. He served as the President of South Africa till 1999.

2. He was a Chieftain

Nelson Mandela was the son of Chief Henry Mandela of the Madiba clan of the Xhosa-speaking Tembu people. After his father's death, young Nelson was raised by Jongintaba, the regent of the Tembu.



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3. He was a Lawyer

Nelson renounced his claim to the chieftainship to become a lawyer. He attended South African Native College (later the University of Fort Hare) and studied law at the University of the Witwatersrand; he later passed the qualification exam to become a lawyer.

4. Starting Political Career

In 1944 he joined the African National Congress (ANC), a black-liberation group, and became a leader of its Youth League. Mandela subsequently held other ANC leadership positions, through which he helped revitalize the organization and oppose the apartheid policies of the ruling National Party.

5. He got Married 3 times

- Mandela first married Evelyn Ntoko Mase from his homeland.
- Mandela married Winnie Madikizela in 1958. She was Johannesburg's first black social worker, their marriage lasted until 1996.
- Mandela married his third wife Graça Machel in 1998 on his 80th birthday. She was the widow of Samora Machel, the former Mozambican president.

6. Negotiation with President F.W. de Klerk

His negotiations in the early 1990s with South African Pres. F.W. de Klerk helped end the country's apartheid system of racial segregation and ushered in a peaceful transition to majority rule. Mandela and de Klerk were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1993 for their efforts.



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7. He spent over 27 Years in Jail

Mandela served 27 years in prison, split between Robben Island, Pollsmoor Prison, and Victor Verster Prison. Amid growing domestic and international pressure, and with fears of a racial civil war, President F. W. de Klerk released him in 1990.

8. He is Considered as the Father of Democratic South Africa

Mandela was elected the first leader of a democratic South Africa. He is considered the father of a democratic South Africa and widely admired for his ability to bring together a nation, previously divided by apartheid. Nelson Mandela is one of the most admired political leaders of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Century.

9. He received many honours

Nelson Mandela gained international acclaim for his activism. Widely regarded as an icon of democracy and social justice, he received more than 250 honours including the Nobel Peace Prize.

10. He died in 2013

On December 5, 2013, at the age of 95, Nelson Mandela died at his home in Johannesburg, South Africa.

These were few facts about the man who changed the History of South Africa and made the World better place to Live.



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