

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Martin Luther King Jr.



Martin Luther King Jr. was born to Reverend Martin Luther King Sr. and Alberta Williams King on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. King was both a Baptist minister and a prominent leader in the African American Civil Rights Movement. He rose to national prominence during the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955 and later helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957.

King dedicated his life to achieving racial equality and justice through nonviolent activism. He inspired millions across the United States with his speeches, leadership, and peaceful protests. His work played a crucial role in ending legal segregation and expanding civil rights for African Americans and other marginalized groups.

Known for his powerful oratory, King delivered many influential speeches, the most famous being his "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered during the historic March on Washington in 1963. His efforts greatly contributed to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In 1964, Martin Luther King Jr. became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize at the time, recognized for his leadership in the nonviolent civil rights movement. Tragically, his life was cut short when he was assassinated on April 4, 1968, at the age of 39 by James Earl Ray. Despite his early death, King remains one of the most influential American leaders in history.