Martin Luther King Jr. Biography for Kids Just the Facts

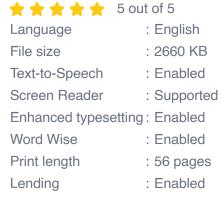
Who was Martin Luther King Jr.?

Martin Luther King Jr. was a civil rights leader who fought for equality for all Americans. He is best known for his leadership of the Montgomery bus boycott and his "I Have a Dream" speech.



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Early Life

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. His father was a Baptist minister and his mother was a teacher. King attended segregated schools in Atlanta and graduated from Morehouse College in 1948. He then went on to attend Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, where he earned a doctorate in theology in 1955.

Civil Rights Activism

King began his civil rights activism in 1955, when he led the Montgomery bus boycott. The boycott was sparked by the arrest of Rosa Parks, a black woman who refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. The boycott lasted for over a year and resulted in the desegregation of the Montgomery bus system.

In 1957, King became the president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). The SCLC was a coalition of black churches and civil rights organizations that worked to end segregation and discrimination. King led the SCLC in a number of nonviolent protests, including the Birmingham campaign in 1963 and the Selma to Montgomery march in 1965.

The March on Washington

In August 1963, King led a march on Washington, D.C., to demand equal rights for all Americans. The march was attended by over 200,000 people and helped to raise awareness of the civil rights movement.

The Nobel Peace Prize

In 1964, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in the civil rights movement. He was the youngest person ever to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

Assassination

Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. He was shot by a white man named James Earl Ray. King's assassination shocked the nation and led to widespread riots and protests.

Legacy

Martin Luther King Jr. is considered one of the most important figures in the civil rights movement. He fought for equality for all Americans and his work has helped to make the United States a more just and equitable society.

Just the Facts

- * Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia.
- * He was a civil rights leader who fought for equality for all Americans. * He is best known for his leadership of the Montgomery bus boycott and his "I Have a Dream" speech. * He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.
- * He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.



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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

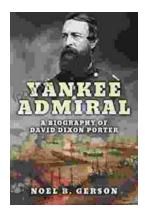
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