



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Martin Luther King was a prominent figure in the American civil rights movement in the 1950's and 60's. He was a Christian minister and preacher and advocated for non-violent resistance and civil disobedience in the face of racial injustice. He was assassinated in 1968.



Selected Quotations

- "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."
- "We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor, it must be demanded by the oppressed."
- "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."
- "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."
- "I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant."
- "Science investigates; religion interprets. Science gives man knowledge, which is power; religion gives man wisdom, which is control. Science deals mainly with facts; religion deals mainly with values. The two are not rivals."
- "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."



Online Materials:

- [Famous 'I have a dream speech' at the historic March on Washington in 1963](#)
- [An excerpt from the 'I've been to the mountaintop' speech, made the night before Dr King was assassinated in 1968](#)
- ['What is your life's blueprint' speech for Junior High school students in 1967](#)

Further reading

- Why We Can't Wait (1964) on the Civil Rights movement.