

A LEGACY TO CELEBRATE

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



Notable moments in the career of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Each January, Americans honor the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, on Jan. 15, 1929, King would grow up to become one of the most influential people of the 21st century.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday in January each year. Taking time to learn about some of the many notable moments in King's career is a great way to honor his legacy.

Morehouse College

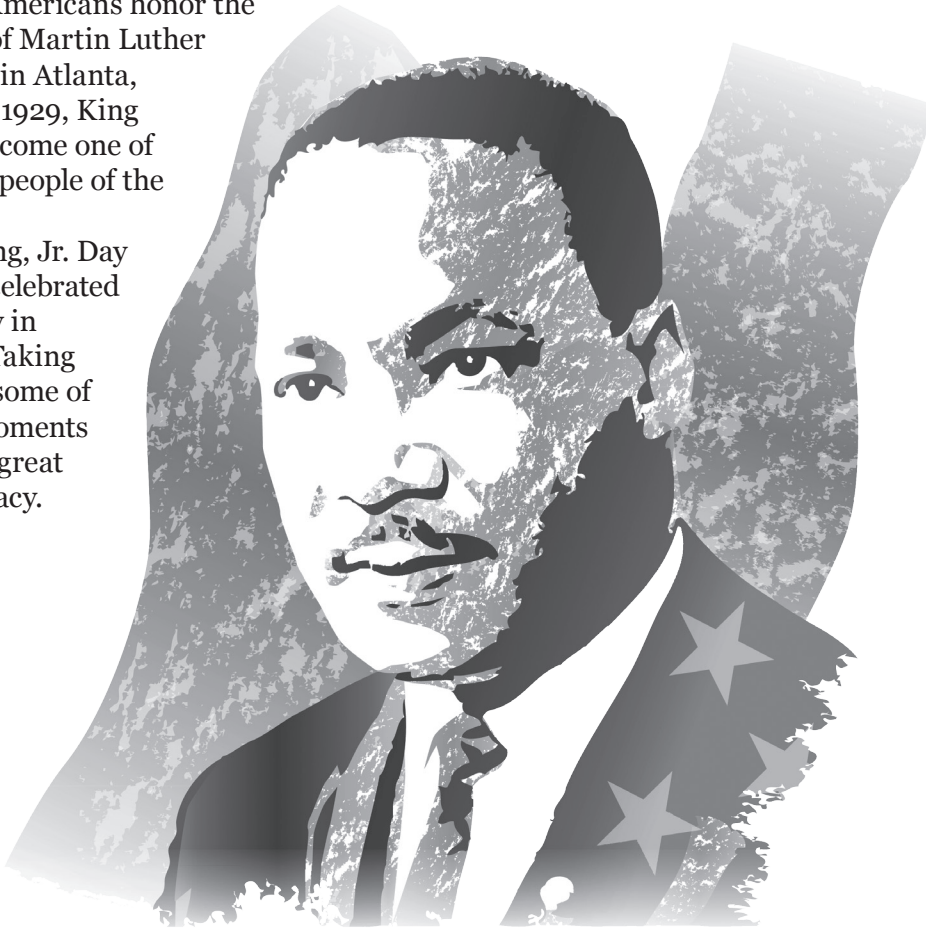
After attending segregated public schools as a child, King was accepted into Morehouse College at the age of 15. Morehouse College was the alma mater of both King's father, a pastor, and his maternal grandfather. While King studied medicine and law at Morehouse, perhaps the first major moment of his career in the ministry occurred while he was a college student. It was at Morehouse where King was mentored by the highly regarded theologian and racial equality advocate Dr. Benjamin Mays. Before his final year at Morehouse, King, now 18, chose to enter the ministry.

Montgomery Bus Boycott

Montgomery, Alabama, was a highly segregated city when King and his family relocated to Alabama in the 1950s. Shortly after the King family moved to Alabama, an incident involving a 15-year-old black schoolgirl in Montgomery who refused to give up her bus seat to a white man highlighted racial tensions in the city. Those tensions escalated further nine months later, when 42-year-old Rosa Parks rejected a bus driver's plea that she give up her bus seat to a white passenger in a section designated for black people. As a result of these incidents, King organized the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which lasted for more than a year but ultimately led to the end of racial segregation on all Montgomery public buses.

Southern Christian Leadership Conference

The Montgomery Bus Boycott made King



a national figure, and he capitalized on that recognition to help establish the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The SCLC was a group of civil rights activists devoted to nonviolent protest. As SCLC president, a role he held until his death, King traveled the globe promoting nonviolent protest and civil rights.

March on Washington

King played an integral role in the organization and execution of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in August 1963. Estimates suggest as many as 300,000 people attended the march, which is considered a watershed moment for the civil rights movement that shone a light on the injustices faced by African Americans across the country. The march culminated with King delivering his most famous address, which is often referred to as his "I Have a Dream" speech. King delivered the speech while standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and shared his view of a future for the United States in which all people would have equal rights and opportunities.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was a remarkable human being. Celebrations of his life can involve revisiting some of his more notable moments.

— Metro Creat

I Have a Dream ...

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, which was delivered to a crowd of 250,000 in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 28, 1963, is one of the most memorable moments of Dr. King's life.

In the 17-minute monologue, King called for an end to racism.

Interestingly, the "dream" component of the speech was not in the original draft. Gospel singer Mahalia Jackson reportedly coached King to tell the listeners "about the dream."

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"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"
 Martin Luther King

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."
 — Martin Luther King, Jr. I HAVE A DREAM

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MAN must evolve for all human conflict a **METHOD** which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is **LOVE.**
 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."
 Martin Luther King Jr. was jailed a few times for leading nonviolent protests and boycotts, and his home was bombed multiple times, but he kept moving forward. He wasn't sure if he would see the end of segregation in his lifetime, but he still shared his hopes with the world. He was 35 years old when the U.S. passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, outlawing segregation.

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LOVING YOUR ENEMIES ...
 Far from being the pious injunction of a utopian dreamer, this demand is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. Yes it is love that will save our world and civilization; love even for our enemies."
 ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021 IS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY