**Nelson Mandela International Day**

**18th July**

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela ·was born on 18th July 1918 · [Mvezo](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=da023af6517dbc21329cdac7b9c335d3f5b2312c8b11d3ca1f468a1a65f3dd24JmltdHM9MTY1NzkwNTQ3MyZpZ3VpZD0xOWFjNWVjNC05NjAzLTRiZjgtODZiOS04ZWVlYWZhNzI5Y2UmaW5zaWQ9Njc5OQ&ptn=3&fclid=0f6795e6-0462-11ed-865a-0adc3ad84c26&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9GT1JNPVNOQVBTVCZxPU12ZXpvJmZpbHRlcnM9c2lkOiIxNzdjMzA3Yy1jZGMxLTQ5NGYtNGRkMi0wZTI3MjczYjZjYTAi&ntb=1), [South Africa](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=3e53d5a6c1110d0ba55cefcdaa0851263602b759be7a1a923177d1c5e0c26febJmltdHM9MTY1NzkwNTQ3MyZpZ3VpZD0xOWFjNWVjNC05NjAzLTRiZjgtODZiOS04ZWVlYWZhNzI5Y2UmaW5zaWQ9NjgwMA&ptn=3&fclid=0f6797b9-0462-11ed-8c47-f09ea9aa9d0f&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9GT1JNPVNOQVBTVCZxPVNvdXRoIEFmcmljYSZmaWx0ZXJzPXNpZDoiOTIyZmVkMWMtZWNiMy1jNGQ4LTg0MTAtY2E1ZjA2YzMxYWZkIg&ntb=1) .

He died 5th December 2013 in [Johannesburg](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=ba4c376f9c52be0762c3b434b5e101ccf9749ae954eba65f4496b8a2a3ad97b4JmltdHM9MTY1NzkwNTQ3MyZpZ3VpZD0xOWFjNWVjNC05NjAzLTRiZjgtODZiOS04ZWVlYWZhNzI5Y2UmaW5zaWQ9NjgwMg&ptn=3&fclid=0f679c98-0462-11ed-a387-f01ec4c36cc4&u=a1L3NlYXJjaD9GT1JNPVNOQVBTVCZxPUpvaGFubmVzYnVyZyZmaWx0ZXJzPXNpZDoiZmRmMDFmMTUtY2IwNC04YjZjLTQzZTYtYThiMjEzOGMwMzEyIg&ntb=1), South Africa, aged 95.

Nelson Mandela was a South African revolutionary, an activist against apartheid. In South Africa, White people had more rights than Black people. Black and White people had to lead separate lives. Nelson Mandela fought for change.

He was arrested in 1962 and was condemned to life in prison, after being found guilty of sabotage and conspiracy to violently overthrow the government; 18 of those years were spent on Robben Island, before being transferred to Pollsmoor Prison-Cape Town and then Victor Verster Prison where he completed his Law degree.

In 1982, some 20 years after his imprisonment, the “Free Mandela” slogan was developed by a journalist sparking the international campaign calling for his release. This was denied.

Nelson Mandela was unconditionally released from prison on 11th February 1990 after serving 27 years in prison, at which point he just wanted peace for everyone.

In 1993, he was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

**Mandela, a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary and political leader, served as the first president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999 and the first Black Head of State elected in a fully democratic election.**

**Nelson Mandela published** [*Long Walk to Freedom*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Long_Walk_to_Freedom)in December 1994 which is his autobiography and manuscripts of his time in prison.

In November 2009, The United Nations General Assembly, made the decision to recognise Nelson Mandela with an International Day. Nelson Mandela Day is about encouraging people to take action to make the world a better place for everyone, like Nelson Mandela did.

*“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.*

*If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart”.*

[**Nelson Mandela**](https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/nelson-mandela-quotes)

You can find further information about Nelson Mandela Day here: [Nelson Mandela International Day, 18 July, For Freedom, Justice and Democracy](https://www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay/)