

nelson mandela biography

nelson mandela biography is a journey through the life of one of the most influential and revered leaders in modern history. This comprehensive article traces Nelson Mandela's early years, his activism against apartheid, long imprisonment, and eventual presidency of South Africa. Readers will discover key moments in his life, his dedication to social justice and equality, and the legacy he left behind. Exploring Mandela's upbringing, education, political struggles, and humanitarian efforts, this biography offers a detailed, SEO-optimized account of his remarkable story. Whether you are researching for academic purposes or seeking inspiration from Mandela's resilience and leadership, this article covers all major aspects of his life. Continue reading to learn about Nelson Mandela's origins, his unwavering fight for freedom, and the principles that shaped his global impact.

- Early Life and Background
- Education and Influences
- Political Awakening and Activism
- Imprisonment and International Campaigns
- Release and Path to Presidency
- Presidency and Reconciliation Efforts
- Legacy and Global Impact
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Early Life and Background

Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, in Mvezo, a small village in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. His birth name, Rolihlahla, means "pulling the branch of a tree" or "troublemaker" in Xhosa. Mandela belonged to the Thembu royal family, which played a prominent role in local governance. After his father's death when Mandela was just nine years old, he moved to the larger village of Qunu under the guardianship of Chief Jongintaba Dalindyebo. The values of communal living and leadership Mandela observed in his early years would later influence his commitment to justice and equality.

Growing up in rural South Africa during the early 20th century exposed Mandela to the traditions of his people, as well as the harsh realities of racial segregation under colonial rule. He learned about the importance of education, leadership, and service from his elders, setting the foundation for his future activism. The oppressive system of apartheid that dominated South Africa would become the main adversary Mandela dedicated his life to

dismantling.

Education and Influences

Schooling and Higher Education

Mandela's formal education began at a local missionary school, where he was given the English name "Nelson" by his teacher. He continued his studies at Clarkebury Boarding Institute and Healdtown, institutions known for educating black South Africans. In 1939, Mandela enrolled at the University of Fort Hare, the only university for black students in South Africa at the time. His time at Fort Hare exposed him to new ideas and political discussions, but he left before completing his degree due to student protests.

Legal Training and Political Awakening

After leaving Fort Hare, Mandela moved to Johannesburg, where he completed his Bachelor of Arts degree through the University of South Africa. He then pursued law at the University of Witwatersrand. This period marked Mandela's deeper immersion into politics, as he witnessed the daily injustices faced by black South Africans. His involvement with the African National Congress (ANC) began in the early 1940s, shaping his vision for a democratic and non-racial society.

Political Awakening and Activism

Joining the African National Congress (ANC)

Mandela officially joined the ANC in 1944, becoming a founding member of its Youth League. This organization sought to revitalize the ANC with militant strategies and direct action against apartheid policies. Mandela's leadership qualities soon became apparent, and he played a key role in organizing protests, boycotts, and campaigns to challenge racial discrimination.

Defiance Campaign and Treason Trial

In the 1950s, Mandela led major initiatives such as the Defiance Campaign against unjust laws and the drafting of the Freedom Charter, which called for equal rights. His activism brought him under constant scrutiny from the authorities, leading to multiple arrests. In 1956, Mandela was among 156 activists charged with treason, although the trial ended in acquittal after four years.

Formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe

With peaceful efforts failing to end apartheid, Mandela co-founded Umkhonto we Sizwe (“Spear of the Nation”) in 1961, the ANC’s armed wing. He advocated for sabotage against government installations, aiming to minimize harm to civilians while pressuring the regime to negotiate.

- Organizing protests and boycotts
- Drafting the Freedom Charter
- Leading the Defiance Campaign
- Founding Umkhonto we Sizwe
- Facing repeated arrests

Imprisonment and International Campaigns

Arrest and Rivonia Trial

Mandela was arrested in 1962 and sentenced to five years in prison for incitement and leaving the country illegally. While serving his sentence, authorities discovered evidence tying him to sabotage activities, leading to the infamous Rivonia Trial. In 1964, Mandela and several co-defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment for their roles in anti-government operations.

Life on Robben Island

Mandela spent 18 of his 27 years in prison on Robben Island, enduring harsh conditions, forced labor, and limited contact with the outside world. Despite these hardships, he became a symbol of resistance and hope for millions. International campaigns demanding his release gained momentum, turning Mandela into a global figure.

Global Pressure and Solidarity Movements

Mandela’s imprisonment galvanized activists worldwide, with governments, organizations, and celebrities calling for his release. The “Free Nelson Mandela” campaign and growing sanctions against South Africa increased international pressure on the apartheid regime.

Release and Path to Presidency

Negotiations and Political Transition

After decades of mounting resistance and global condemnation, President F.W. de Klerk announced Mandela's release on February 11, 1990. Mandela immediately resumed his leadership role in the ANC, engaging in negotiations to dismantle apartheid and establish a multiracial democracy.

First Democratic Elections

Mandela's vision for reconciliation and unity guided South Africa through a period of historic change. In 1994, the country held its first democratic elections, and Nelson Mandela was elected as South Africa's first black president. His presidency marked the end of institutionalized racial segregation and the beginning of a new era.

Presidency and Reconciliation Efforts

Promoting National Unity

Mandela prioritized healing the divisions of apartheid by fostering national unity and reconciliation. He established the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which aimed to address human rights abuses, promote forgiveness, and create a foundation for lasting peace.

Social and Economic Initiatives

During his presidency, Mandela focused on improving education, healthcare, and housing for disadvantaged communities. He advocated for social justice, poverty alleviation, and economic growth, laying the groundwork for South Africa's future development.

International Relations

Mandela's leadership extended beyond South Africa as he championed peace, democracy, and human rights worldwide. He became a respected statesman, mediating conflicts and promoting the values of freedom and equality.

Legacy and Global Impact

Symbol of Freedom and Justice

Nelson Mandela's biography is synonymous with the struggle for freedom, resilience, and forgiveness. He inspired movements for racial equality, human rights, and social justice across continents. His personal sacrifices and unwavering commitment to his principles made him a beacon of hope for oppressed people everywhere.

Continued Inspiration

Mandela's legacy endures through foundations, educational programs, and annual celebrations such as Nelson Mandela International Day. Leaders, activists, and ordinary citizens continue to draw inspiration from his life and values, working to create a more just and inclusive world.

Honors and Achievements

Major Awards and Recognitions

Mandela received hundreds of accolades for his contributions to peace and humanity. Among the most notable are the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, the United Nations Human Rights Prize, and the Bharat Ratna from India. Streets, schools, and public institutions around the world bear his name in tribute.

Lasting Influence

His writings, speeches, and example continue to shape political discourse and inspire future generations. Mandela's autobiography, "Long Walk to Freedom," remains a seminal work chronicling his journey and vision.

1. Nobel Peace Prize (1993)
2. Presidential Medal of Freedom (USA)
3. Bharat Ratna (India)
4. Order of St. John (UK)
5. Order of Merit (UK)
6. UN Human Rights Prize

Trending Questions and Answers about Nelson Mandela Biography

Q: When and where was Nelson Mandela born?

A: Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, in Mvezo, a small village in South Africa's Eastern Cape province.

Q: What was Nelson Mandela's birth name?

A: His birth name was Rolihlahla Mandela, which means "pulling the branch of a tree" in Xhosa.

Q: How many years did Nelson Mandela spend in prison?

A: Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison, with 18 of those years on Robben Island.

Q: What role did Nelson Mandela play in ending apartheid?

A: Mandela led the African National Congress, negotiated the end of apartheid, and promoted reconciliation as South Africa's first black president.

Q: Which major awards did Nelson Mandela receive?

A: Mandela received the Nobel Peace Prize (1993), the UN Human Rights Prize, Bharat Ratna, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, among many others.

Q: What was the Truth and Reconciliation Commission?

A: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established by Mandela's government to address human rights abuses during apartheid and promote forgiveness.

Q: What is Nelson Mandela International Day?

A: Nelson Mandela International Day is celebrated annually on July 18 to honor Mandela's legacy and encourage acts of service worldwide.

Q: What is the significance of “Long Walk to Freedom”?

A: “Long Walk to Freedom” is Mandela’s autobiography, detailing his life, political struggles, and vision for South Africa.

Q: How did Nelson Mandela inspire global movements?

A: Mandela’s fight against racial oppression and advocacy for equality inspired civil rights and justice movements around the world.

Q: When was Nelson Mandela elected as president of South Africa?

A: Nelson Mandela was elected president in 1994, becoming the country’s first black president after its first democratic elections.

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Nelson Mandela Biography: A Life of Struggle, Leadership, and Forgiveness

Nelson Mandela. The name conjures images of unwavering resilience, inspiring leadership, and a powerful fight against injustice. This Nelson Mandela biography delves deep into the life of this iconic figure, exploring his journey from a young lawyer to an international symbol of hope and reconciliation. We'll examine his key roles in the anti-apartheid movement, his long imprisonment, and his extraordinary legacy that continues to shape the world today. This comprehensive overview will provide you with a thorough understanding of the man, the myth, and the enduring impact of Nelson Mandela.

Early Life and Education: The Seeds of Resistance

Born Rolihlahla Mandela in 1918 in the Eastern Cape of South Africa, his early life was shaped by

the stark realities of racial segregation under apartheid. His education, initially at a local mission school, instilled in him a strong sense of justice and a deep understanding of the inequalities prevalent in his society. He later attended Fort Hare University, where he became involved in student politics, further fueling his burgeoning activism against the discriminatory policies of the apartheid regime. This period laid the groundwork for his future commitment to fighting for equality and freedom.

The Rise of a Revolutionary

Mandela's involvement in the African National Congress (ANC) in 1944 marked a turning point. He joined the ANC Youth League, a more radical faction within the organization, actively pushing for more assertive action against apartheid. His involvement escalated, leading to his participation in acts of civil disobedience and ultimately, more militant strategies aimed at dismantling the apartheid system.

The Struggle Against Apartheid: Years of Activism and Imprisonment

The 1960s saw a significant escalation of the struggle against apartheid. Mandela, along with other ANC leaders, adopted a policy of armed resistance, recognizing the limitations of peaceful protests in the face of brutal state repression. This led to his arrest in 1964 and subsequent sentencing to life imprisonment on charges of sabotage and other offenses.

Robben Island: A Symbol of Resistance

Mandela's imprisonment on Robben Island became a powerful symbol of the struggle against apartheid. While incarcerated, he became an international icon, his name synonymous with the fight for freedom and equality. Despite the harsh conditions, Mandela remained a figure of unwavering hope and resilience, inspiring millions across the globe. His steadfast commitment to non-violent resistance during his time in prison, despite the violence he experienced and witnessed, became a critical part of his legacy.

The Release and the Road to Reconciliation

After 27 years of imprisonment, Nelson Mandela was released in 1990, marking a pivotal moment in

South African history. The world watched with bated breath as this powerful symbol of resistance emerged from prison, ready to lead his people towards a new era of freedom and reconciliation.

Leading South Africa to Democracy

Mandela's leadership during the transition to a democratic South Africa was characterized by remarkable statesmanship. He skillfully navigated the complexities of race relations, fostering dialogue and understanding between the formerly warring factions. His commitment to forgiveness and reconciliation played a crucial role in preventing a descent into widespread violence and chaos.

The Legacy of Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela's legacy extends far beyond the borders of South Africa. He serves as a beacon of hope for oppressed people worldwide, inspiring movements for social justice and equality. His commitment to peace, reconciliation, and human rights continues to resonate globally. His life serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative power of perseverance, forgiveness, and unwavering belief in a just future. The Nelson Mandela Foundation continues his work, advocating for social justice and equality around the globe.

Conclusion

The life of Nelson Mandela is a testament to the power of human resilience, the importance of fighting for justice, and the transformative potential of forgiveness and reconciliation. His story is one that continues to inspire and challenge us to strive for a more just and equitable world. His enduring legacy remains a powerful reminder that even in the face of seemingly insurmountable adversity, hope, and the pursuit of freedom can prevail.

FAQs

1. What were Nelson Mandela's most significant achievements? Mandela's most significant achievements include leading the anti-apartheid movement, negotiating a peaceful transition to democracy in South Africa, and becoming a global symbol of hope and reconciliation.

2. How did Mandela's time in prison shape his leadership? His imprisonment solidified his commitment to non-violent resistance and fostered his ability to unite diverse groups in a common cause. It also elevated his status as an international symbol of resistance.
3. What is the Nelson Mandela Foundation? The Nelson Mandela Foundation is a non-profit organization established to continue his legacy of promoting social justice, equality, and reconciliation.
4. What are some key criticisms of Mandela's leadership? Some critics argue that Mandela was too conciliatory towards the apartheid regime and that he didn't adequately address the economic inequalities that persisted after the end of apartheid.
5. How is Nelson Mandela's legacy celebrated globally? Mandela Day, observed annually on July 18th, encourages people worldwide to dedicate 67 minutes (representing the 67 years he dedicated to public service) to community service. Numerous memorials, statues, and educational initiatives also honor his legacy.

nelson mandela biography: *Long Walk to Freedom* Nelson Mandela, 2008-03-11 Essential reading for anyone who wants to understand history - and then go out and change it. -President Barack Obama Nelson Mandela was one of the great moral and political leaders of his time: an international hero whose lifelong dedication to the fight against racial oppression in South Africa won him the Nobel Peace Prize and the presidency of his country. After his triumphant release in 1990 from more than a quarter-century of imprisonment, Mandela was at the center of the most compelling and inspiring political drama in the world. As president of the African National Congress and head of South Africa's antiapartheid movement, he was instrumental in moving the nation toward multiracial government and majority rule. He is still revered everywhere as a vital force in the fight for human rights and racial equality. *Long Walk to Freedom* is his moving and exhilarating autobiography, destined to take its place among the finest memoirs of history's greatest figures. Here for the first time, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela told the extraordinary story of his life -- an epic of struggle, setback, renewed hope, and ultimate triumph. The book that inspired the major motion picture *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*.

nelson mandela biography: Mandela Anthony Sampson, 2012-01-11 Nelson Mandela, who emerged from twenty-six years of political imprisonment to lead South Africa out of apartheid and into democracy, is perhaps the world's most admired leader, a man whose life has been led with exemplary courage and inspired conviction. Now Anthony Sampson, who has known Mandela since 1951 and has been a close observer of South Africa's political life for the last fifty years, has produced the first authorized biography, the most informed and comprehensive portrait to date of a man whose dazzling image has been difficult to penetrate. With unprecedented access to Mandela's private papers (including his prison memoir, long thought to have been lost), meticulous research, and hundreds of interviews--from Mandela himself to prison warders on Robben Island, from Walter Sisulu and Oliver Tambo to Winnie Mandela and F. W. de Klerk, and many others intimately connected to Mandela's story--Sampson has composed an enlightening and necessary story of the man behind the myth.

nelson mandela biography: Mandela Nelson Mandela, 1996-11-01 Nelson Mandela is one of the great moral and political leaders of our time: an international hero whose lifelong dedication to the fight against racial oppression in South Africa won him the Nobel Peace Prize and the presidency of his country. Since his triumphant release in 1990 from more than a quarter century of imprisonment, Mandela has been at the center of the most inspiring political drama in the world. *Mandela: An Illustrated Autobiography* tells the extraordinary story of Nelson Mandela's life, an epic of struggle, setback, renewed hope, and ultimate triumph. With nearly 200 stunning photographs -

many of them published here for the first time - and with text adapted from his remarkable memoir *Long Walk to Freedom*, this moving book captures the indomitable spirit of a moral giant and dramatically portrays his struggle toward freedom. Mandela's journey is vividly and eloquently recounted: the development of his political consciousness, his pivotal role in the formation of the African National Congress Youth League, his years underground - which led to a sentence of life imprisonment in 1964 - and his twenty-seven years behind bars. He also movingly recounts the momentous events leading up to his victory in South Africa's first-ever multiracial elections in 1994.

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nelson mandela biography: Biography of Nelson Mandela Susheel Kapoor, 2021-01-01 Nelson Mandela remains an iconic politician who led the struggle to replace an apartheid regime in South Africa with a multi-racial democracy. He is remembered not so much for being the country's first black President; but for being the first to have galvanized an entire country against colonial oppression. Mandela's life is a lesson to those who fear hardship. He showed nothing worthwhile can be achieved without facing and indeed; surmounting hardships in life. He himself took all the hardship in his stride and saw the struggle through until the oppressive forces were forced to bend. His charisma; self-deprecating sense of humour and above all; lack of bitterness over the harsh treatment are testimony to his towering global appeal. He never tried to take revenge; not even against those who tortured him. This book is a humble effort to trace Nelson Mandela's life; from his childhood and years in jail to his rise as President. It will inspire readers to follow the ideals and values of life cherished by this icon.

nelson mandela biography: The Story of Nelson Mandela Floyd Stokes, 2021-05-04 Discover the life of Nelson Mandela—a story about uniting a country for kids ages 6 to 9 Nelson Mandela was the first Black president of South Africa, and he dedicated his life to fighting for equal rights for all South Africans. Before he became a symbol of peace and justice around the world, Nelson was a thoughtful kid who loved to play outside and learn new things. Throughout his life, he used his voice

to fight against apartheid and didn't back down even after spending 27 years in prison. Explore how Nelson went from being a young boy to a civil rights hero. Independent reading—This Nelson Mandela biography is broken down into short chapters and simple language so kids 6 to 9 can read and learn on their own. Critical thinking—Kids will learn the Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How of Nelson's life, find definitions of new words, discussion questions, and more. A lasting legacy—Watch Nelson progress from kid to president of South Africa with a visual timeline marking the major milestones of his life. How will Nelson's strength inspire you? Discover activists, artists, and athletes, and more from all across history with the rest of The Story Of series, including famous figures like: Sojourner Truth, Martin Luther King Jr., John Lewis, Ruby Bridges, and Barack Obama.

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nelson mandela biography: Nelson Mandela Mamta Sharma Ghuge, 2012-08-01 Nelson Mandela was the mastermind behind the armed struggle of the African National Congress (ANC) to overthrow the apartheid regime in South Africa. Today, he is not just an African legend but an international icon symbolising one of the greatest struggles against atrocities committed by the human species against its own kind. Nelson Mandela is a trustworthy politician and an international statesman with an incomparable moral influence. He had grown up in a country where people could be jailed for drinking from a wrong water fountain, get less pay for the same job because of their skin colour, where they were repeatedly told by the government that they were savages...on 10 May, 1994, Nelson Mandela took over the first democratically elected President of South Africa and continued until June 1999. This marked the transition from the white minority rule... if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite -- Nelson Mandela.

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nelson mandela biography: Mandela Martin Meredith, 2010-04-01 Nelson Mandela stands out as one of the most admired political figures of the twentieth century. It was his leadership and moral courage above all that helped to deliver a peaceful end to apartheid in South Africa after years of racial division and violence and to establish a fledgling democracy there. Martin Meredith's vivid portrayal of this towering leader was originally acclaimed by the Sunday Times as 'a fitting epitaph to an extraordinary career' and by the Daily Telegraph as 'a compelling account of the whole of Mandela's life'. Meredith's acclaimed biography incorporates a decade of additional perspective and hindsight on the man and his legacy and examines how far his hopes for the new South Africa were realised. Mandelais the most thorough and up-to-date account available of the life of its most revered hero.

nelson mandela biography: DK Life Stories: Nelson Mandela Stephen Krensky, 2019-07-02 In this kids biography, discover the inspiring story of Nelson Mandela, who became the first black president of South Africa after spending 27 years in prison. In 1964, Nelson Mandela was sentenced to a lifetime in jail. His crime? Attempting to overthrow a government that openly discriminated against its black citizens. After spending 27 years behind bars, Mandela was released, allowing him to continue his struggle for equality in South Africa--and to become the country's first black president. In this biography book for kids ages 8-11, learn all about Mandela's incredible life, his fight against apartheid, and how he helped bring peace to his nation. This new biography series from DK goes beyond the basic facts to tell the true life stories of history's most interesting people. Full-color photographs and hand-drawn illustrations complement thoughtfully written, age-appropriate text to create an engaging book children will enjoy reading. Definition boxes, information sidebars, maps, inspiring quotes, and other nonfiction text features add depth, and a handy reference section at the back makes this the one biography series every teacher and librarian will want to collect. Each book also includes an author's introduction letter, a glossary, and an index.

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nelson mandela biography: Nelson Mandela Judith Pinkerton Josephson, 2014-01-01 True or False? Nelson Mandela spent almost three decades in jail before becoming president of South Africa. True! From the 1940s to the 1990s, Nelson Mandela led a movement to gain rights for black South Africans. The white South African government tried to stop him by putting him in jail. After twenty-seven years, he was freed, and black South Africans won the right to vote in their own country. They elected Mandela to be the first black president of South Africa. His parents named him Rolihlahla, but his English teacher called him Nelson when he started school. Before he went to jail, he worked as a lawyer representing black South Africans. He helped write the Freedom Charter, which became the blueprint for South Africa's fight for equality.

nelson mandela biography: Playing the Enemy John Carlin, 2008-08-14 Read the book that inspired the Academy Award and Golden Globe winning 2009 film INVICTUS featuring Morgan Freeman and Matt Daymon, directed by Clint Eastwood. Beginning in a jail cell and ending in a rugby tournament- the true story of how the most inspiring charm offensive in history brought South Africa together. After being released from prison and winning South Africa's first free election,

Nelson Mandela presided over a country still deeply divided by fifty years of apartheid. His plan was ambitious if not far-fetched: use the national rugby team, the Springboks-long an embodiment of white-supremacist rule-to embody and engage a new South Africa as they prepared to host the 1995 World Cup. The string of wins that followed not only defied the odds, but capped Mandela's miraculous effort to bring South Africans together again in a hard-won, enduring bond.

nelson mandela biography: Nelson Mandela: No Easy Walk to Freedom Barry Denenberg, 2014-03-06 No Easy Walk to Freedom introduces young readers to one of the most famous freedom fighters in history. His story is a symbol of hope across the world and though Nelson Mandela hardly needs an introduction, this powerful biography provides readers with an in-depth look at the man who grew up in rural South Africa under apartheid rule.

nelson mandela biography: Long Walk to Freedom Volume One Nelson Mandela, 2004-01 In 'Long Walk To Freedom', Nelson Mandela at last shares the story of his life. It is an epic saga of struggle, setback and ultimate triumph.

nelson mandela biography: Nelson Mandela: From Prisoner to President, Biography of Nelson Mandela Tim D. Washington, 2019-03-19 Biography of Nelson Mandela - From Prisoner to President When Nelson Mandela was released from prison after 27 years on 11 February 1990, the eyes of the world were on South Africa. He was the most iconic figure in the fight against apartheid, the political regime established in 1948 which institutionalized racial segregation in all aspects of life in South Africa. Images of his release were broadcast across the world and inspired hope of a better future for the country. When he left prison, his fist raised in a victory salute and welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd. His last speech before he was sentenced was at the forefront of everyone's minds. The extraordinary story of Nelson Mandela - who also went by the name Madiba, in homage to his ancestors' clan - was far from over. After his release, he played an important role in the negotiations between his party, the ANC, and the South African regime, which resulted in the dismantling of apartheid and the organization of the country's first democratic elections. When he was elected president of the new Rainbow Nation in 1994, he faced the difficult task of leading South Africa down the long and bumpy road to reconciliation, assuaging the fears of the country's white citizens and fulfilling the hopes of its black citizens. The book contains the following chapters: Chapter 1 - Early Life and Education Chapter 2 - Johannesburg Runaway Chapter 3 - Rainbow Nation Chapter 4 - Robben Island Chapter 5 - The Treason Trial Chapter 6 - The Sharpeville Massacre Chapter 7 - Death of Apartheid, Presidency, and Legacy Chapter 8 - Rules for Success Chapter 9 - A Chequered Political Record Chapter 10 - Death

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nelson mandela biography: Mandela Martin Meredith, 2011-03-29 It provides new perspective and insights into the man and his times. . . . [Meredith] is particularly good in recounting the parallel rise and inevitable clash of white Afrikaner and black African nationalism in this century . . . --The Washington Post Meredith paints an insider's canvas of recent South African history as well as an epic tale of a freedom fighter. --San Francisco Chronicle [R]evealing insights, particularly into the contrast between the disciplined Mandela who emerged from prison and the impetuous figure of the late 1940's and early 1950's. --The New York Times Book Review Meredith carefully avoids adulation while tracing the course of Mandela's remarkable career. . . . [He] skillfully depicts Mandela's complex relationships with the close circle of white Communists who supported the African National Congress [and] writes vividly but unsentimentally about the tribulations and betrayals that racked Mandela's family.--The Los Angeles Times

nelson mandela biography: Dare Not Linger Nelson Mandela, Mandla Langa, 2017-10-24 The long-awaited second volume of Nelson Mandela's memoirs, left unfinished at his death and never before available, are here completed and expanded with notes and speeches written by Mandela during his historic presidency, making for a moving sequel to his worldwide bestseller Long

Walk to Freedom. "I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can rest only for a moment, for with freedom comes responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended." In 1994, Nelson Mandela became the first president of a democratic South Africa. From the outset, he was committed to serving only a single five-year term. During his presidency, he and his government ensured that all of South Africa's citizens became equal before the law, and he laid the foundation for turning a country riven by centuries of colonialism and apartheid into a fully functioning democracy. *Dare Not Linger* is the story of Mandela's presidential years, drawing heavily on the memoir he began to write as he prepared to leave office, but was unable to finish. Now the acclaimed South African writer Mandla Langa has completed the task, using Mandela's unfinished draft, detailed notes that Mandela made as events were unfolding, and a wealth of unseen archival material. With a prologue by Mandela's widow, Graça Machel, the result is a vivid and often inspirational account of Mandela's presidency and the creation of a new democracy. It tells the story of a country in transition and the challenges Mandela faced as he strove to make his vision for a liberated South Africa a reality.

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nelson mandela biography: Celebrity Biographies - The Amazing Life Of Nelson Mandela - Biography Series Matt Green, Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918 in a small South African village. His father, a tribal chief, gave his son the name Rolihlahla. At the age of 7, he began his British education, and his teacher gave him the name Nelson. When his father died, Nelson was sent to live with the leader of the Thembu people. For more interesting facts you must read his biography. Grab your biography book now!

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nelson mandela biography: *Conversations with Myself* Nelson Mandela, 2011-09-27 [These] archives contain traces of my life and those who have lived it with me. Anyone who has explored the world of archives will know that it is a treasure house, one that is full of surprises, crossing paths, dead ends, painful reminders and unanswered questions. —Nelson R. Mandela Nelson Mandela has written almost every day of his long life (he's now 91 years old): notebooks, jottings, drafts of letters to heads of state; and perhaps most movingly of all, letters from his long imprisonment on Robben Island, most of which, tragically, were never passed on to their recipients. *Conversations with Myself* is a very personal book - a book of private thoughts and lessons learned; but, as we have come to expect from the great man, the sense of hope and gentle wisdom that shines from these letters and diaries make this a book for everyone - a chance to share Mandela's recollections of a long life, fully lived.

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