



Nelson Mandela was a great leader who spent his life working for equality and justice in South Africa. He inspired the people of the world to work peacefully for a better life.

Mandela was born on January 18, 1918, in South Africa. He was named Rolihlela, which means "troublemaker" in the Xhosa language. His grandfather was the ruler of the Thembu people and his father was a local chief.

Mandela was the first person in his family to attend school (his parents were both illiterate). He later went to both college and law school.

He became involved in the African National Congress (ANC), a revolutionary group that fought against the laws and policies that separated and oppressed in South Africa. He organized boycotts and strikes to fight for voting rights and equality for all South Africans.

In 1964, Mandela was sentenced to life in prison for fighting apartheid. After spending 27 years in prison, Mandela was released in 1990, the year apartheid was repealed. Mandela won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.

In 1994, South Africa held its first truly democratic, non-racial election and elected Nelson Mandela as its president. Mandela championed reconciliation, the peaceful resolution of grievances after decades of repressive racial laws. Without Mandela's guidance, South Africa might have lapsed into a bloody civil war.

Nelson Mandela died on December 5, 2013, of the age of 95. He will be remembered as one of the greatest peace-makers and statesmen of all time.

Questions

1. What was Mandela born? _____

2. In what country was Mandela born? _____

3. Mandela's father was a _____.

4. Mandela was in jail for _____ years.

5. Mandela was elected _____ of South Africa.