

Name _____

Date _____



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. He had a brother, Alfred, and a sister, Christine. His father and grandfather were both pastors. When Martin was growing up in the South, segregation was the law. As a student in school, young Martin could not attend the same school as white children.

After graduating from high school, Martin went to college. Eventually, he became a pastor just like his father. While in college, Martin Luther King Jr. studied the works of Mohandas Gandhi, who sought to bring about change through non-violent means.

Dr. King became the pastor of a church in Montgomery, Alabama. He was also on the leadership of the NAACP. Later, he was elected president of the Southern Leadership Conference. In these positions, Dr. King spoke out against racism, wrote against racism and peacefully protested against racial inequality, all across the nation. His most famous speech "I have a Dream" was delivered to over 200,000 people in Washington, D.C. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Martin Luther King, Jr. was chosen as Time Magazine's "Man of the Year".

Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee. His birthday, January 15, is now celebrated as a national holiday.

1. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in _____.
(Washington D.C., Atlanta, Montgomery)
2. Dr. Martin Luther King was a _____.
(pastor, medical doctor, general)
3. Dr. King spoke out and wrote against _____.
(Gandhi, peaceful protests, racism)
4. Dr. King won _____ in 1964 for his work protesting inequality.
(an Olympic Gold Medal, the Nobel Peace Prize, a senate seat)
5. January 15 is now _____ in remembrance of Dr. King.
(a national holiday, the start of winter, worldwide holiday)