

Martin Luther King Jr. – Facts



Martin Luther King Jr.

Born: 15 January 1929, Atlanta, GA, USA

Died: 4 April 1968, Memphis, TN, USA

Residence at the time of the award: USA

Role: Leader of "Southern Christian Leadership Conference"

Field: human rights

Prize share: 1/1

For Civil Rights and Social Justice

Martin Luther King dreamt that all **inhabitants** of the United States would be **judged** by their personal qualities and not by the color of their skin. In April 1968 he was murdered by a white racist. Four years earlier, he had received the Peace Prize for his nonviolent campaign against racism.

King **adhered** to Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence. In 1955 he began his struggle to **persuade** the US Government to **declare** the policy of racial discrimination in the southern states **unlawful**. The racists responded with violence to the black people's nonviolent

initiatives.

In 1963, 250,000 demonstrators marched to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, where King gave his famous "I have a dream" **speech**. The following year, President Johnson got a law passed **prohibiting** all racial discrimination.

But King had powerful **opponents**. The head of the **FBI**, John Edgar Hoover, had him placed under **surveillance** as a communist, and when King **opposed** the administration's **policy** in Vietnam, he fell into **disfavour** with the President. It has still not been **ascertained** whether King's murderer acted on his own or was part of a **conspiracy**.

Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott

The Montgomery Bus Boycott, in which African Americans **refused** to ride city buses in Montgomery, Alabama, to protest **segregated** seating, took place from December 5, 1955, to December 20, 1956, and is regarded as the first large-scale demonstration against segregation in the U.S. On December 1, 1955, four days before the boycott began, Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, **refused** to **yield** her seat to a white man on a Montgomery bus. She was arrested and **finned**. The boycott of public buses by blacks in Montgomery began on the day of Parks' court hearing and lasted 381 days. The U.S. Supreme Court **ultimately** ordered Montgomery to **integrate** its bus system, and one of the leaders of the boycott, a young pastor named Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-68), **emerged** as a **prominent** national leader of the American **civil rights movement** in the wake of the action.

Sources: <http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/montgomery-bus-boycott>

Questions to discuss “The bus boycott” (Orally/written document in your “Svenska mapp”)

- What was brave about Rosa Park's action? **E -level**
- What risks did she take? **E –C level**
- Do you think her risk taking was worthwhile considering the consequences? Why/Why not? **C-A level**
- What is bravery to you? **E-C-A level**
- Can you think of any situation where you felt you were brave? Explain what happened? If not, can you think of any situation in which you would like to be brave? **E-C-A**

Words

Inhabitants= invånare

Judge= döma

Adhere= hålla sig till /hålla fast vid

Persuade= övertyga

Declare= förklara

Unlawful= olaglig

Initiative= initiativ

Speech = tal

Prohibiting= Förbjuda

Opponents= motståndare

Surveillance=övervakning

Oppose= motarbeta

Policy=politik, handlingssätt

Disfavour=nackdel

Ascertained= konstatera

Conspiracy= konspiration , sammansvärjning

refused= vägrade

segregated= åtskild

yield= ge upp

fined= bötfälld

integrate= blanda

emerge= dyka upp

prominent= framstående

civil rights movement=

medborgarrättsrörelse



Dian Fossey was a leading authority on the study of endangered mountain gorillas in the forests of Rwanda.

Fossey was [born in San Francisco](#), California, on January 16, 1932. She graduated from San Jose State College in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in **occupational therapy**. Nearly ten years later, in 1963, she decided to take out a bank loan and **withdraw** her life savings to [embark on a journey](#) to Africa.

After arriving in Tanzania, she met [Louis Leakey](#), archeologist and National Geographic grantee. Leakey told Fossey about [Jane Goodall](#) and her **research** living with chimps, which had begun three years earlier. In 1966, [Fossey was selected](#) by Leakey to study the social **interaction** of gorilla groups; Fossey continued this research for 18 years.

Much like her fellow researcher and friend Jane Goodall, [Fossey is remembered](#) for her study of the social interactions of **primates** and for **conservation efforts**. Her research greatly **enlarged** our understanding of gorillas' communication methods, **habits**, and **social structures**.

Fossey was a strong [advocate for the conservation](#) of **endangered** gorilla populations. She published a book about her work and **struggle** for conservation in 1983 called *Gorillas in the Mist*, which was later [adapted into a movie](#) starring Sigourney Weaver.

On several **occasions**, Fossey was invited to write for *National Geographic* magazine. In her article published in January 1980—called "[Making Friends With Mountain Gorillas](#)"—Fossey explained how she was able to **achieve** her success with gorillas:

The textbook instructions for such studies are merely to sit and observe. I wasn't satisfied with this **approach**; I felt that the gorillas would be doubly **suspicious** of any alien object that only sat and stared. Instead, I tried to **elicit** their **confidence** and curiosity by acting like a gorilla. I imitated their **feeding** and **grooming**, and later, when I was surer what they meant, I copied their **vocalizations**, including some **startling** deep **belching** noises.

Tragically, Fossey was [murdered](#) at her research camp on Mount Visoke on December 26, 1985. There is speculation that her murder was [related to her efforts to conserve](#) the **dwindling** gorilla **populations** in Rwanda. The search for her killers is ongoing, and her research with gorillas continues today through the [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International](#).

Much of Fossey's research was supported by the [Leakey Foundation](#) and the [National Geographic Society](#).

Sources: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/01/140116-dian-fossey-google-doodle-national-geographic-gorillas-birthday/>

Students' questions on Dian Fossey

1. How did Dian spend her money? **E-level**
2. What were the consequences of her book releasing? **C-level**
3. What did she learn about the gorillas? **C-level**
4. Why do you think she wanted to study gorillas? **A- level**
5. Find out about an animal that is endangered today and discuss the reasons to its extinction. Also give your own opinions about it. **A - level**

Words

Embark- gå ombord

Adapted- anpassat

Vocalizations- läten

Efforts to conserve- ansträngingar för att bevara

Degree- examen

Endangered- hotad

Belching- rapningar

Elicit- framkalla

Merely- endast