Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929 to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a vital figure of the modern era and a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights Movement. His lectures and dialogues stirred the concern and sparked the conscience of a generation. His charismatic leadership inspired men and women, young and old, in the United States of America and around the world.

Martin Luther King Day

In 1994, Congress designated the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday as a national day of service and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with leading this effort. Taking place each year on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service – a "day on, not a day off." The MLK Day of Service is a part of United We Serve, the President's national call to service initiative. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems. The MLK Day of Service empowers individuals, strengthens communities, bridges barriers, creates solutions to social problems, and moves us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a "Beloved Community."

Freedom’s Ring – King’s “I Have a Dream” Speech

Freedom's Ring is Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, annotated. Here you can compare the written and spoken speech, explore multimedia images, listen to movement activists and uncover historical context.

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant."

Related Resources

“I have a Dream” (Transcript of the Speech)

The King Center

Established in 1968 by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change has been a global destination, resource center and community institution for over a quarter century. Nearly a million people each year make pilgrimage to the National Historic Site to learn, be inspired and pay their respects to Dr. King’s legacy.
“I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.”

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Abundant Hope

Reverend Martin Luther King

The great soul
Flew from the Creator
Bearing manna of hope
For his country
Starving severely from an absence of compassion.

Martin Luther King

The Great Spirit,
Came from the Creator
Proffering a sparkling fountain of fair play.
To his country
Parched and deformed by hate.

The whole man came forth
With a brain of gentle wisdom
To persuade quiet
Upon the loud misery of the mob.

A whole man stood out
With a mellifluous voice
To bind the joints of cruelty.

A whole man came
In the midst of a murderous nightmare
Surrounded by demons of war
He dared to dream peace and serenity
With a heart of faith
Hoped
To resurrect his nation.

...more

— Maya Angelou
**RESOURCES FROM eLIBRARYUSA**

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**eBooks**

**EBRARY**

ebrary provides access to a number of interesting e-books. The following are some of the eBooks available in ebrary:

- **Ring Out Freedom! : The Voice of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Making of the Civil Rights Movement**
- **Children of the Movement : The Sons and Daughters of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Elijah Muhammad, George Wallace, Andrew Young, Julian Bond, Stokely Carmichael, Bob Moses, James Chaney, Elaine Brown, and Others**
- **Agitations : Ideologies and Strategies in African American Politics**
- **Civil Rights and the Idea of Freedom**
- **Civil Rights Movement for Kids : A History with 21 Activities**
- **Kid's Guide to African American History : More than 70 Activities**
- **April 4, 1968 : Martin Luther King Jr.'s Death and the Transformation of America**
- **African-American Orators : A Bio-Critical Sourcebook**

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**Database**

**Black Studies in Video**

Black Studies in Video is a collection of award-winning documentaries, newsreels, interviews and archival footage surveying the evolution of black culture in the United States.

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**Documentaries**

**Filmakers Library Online**

- **All Power to The People!** 58:01 mins
- **Freedom's Call** 47:03 mins
- **Promised Land** 49:38 mins
- **Marching to the Mountaintop : How Poverty, Labor Fights, and Civil Rights Set the Stage for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Final Hours**
- **Remember Little Rock: The Time, the People, the Stories**
- **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

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"If humanity is to progress, Gandhi is inescapable. He lived, thought, and acted, inspired by the vision of humanity evolving toward a world of peace and harmony. We may ignore him at our own risk."

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RELATED WEBLINKS

MLK Memorial

Martin Luther King Biography

Martin Luther King Facts

Martin Luther King Jr. Center : For Nonviolent Social Change

Martin Luther King Jr. - A True Historical Examination

Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Center

Martin Luther King Jr. News - The New York Times

Martin Luther King – Time

The Gandhi-King Community: For Global Peace with Social Justice in a Sustainable Environment

Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Service

Disclaimer:

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