



1929

Jan. 15

Martin Luther King Jr., is born to Rev. and Mrs. Martin Luther King Sr. (the former Alberta Christine Williams), in Atlanta, Ga.

1935-1944

King attends David T. Howard Elementary School, Atlanta University Laboratory School, and Booker T. Washington High School. He passes the entrance examination to Morehouse College (Atlanta) without graduating from high school.

1947

King is licensed to preach and become assistant to his father, who is pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta.

1948

King is ordained to the Baptist ministry. He graduates from Morehouse College with a B.A. degree in sociology.

King enters Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pennsylvania. After hearing Dr. A.J. Muste and Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson preach on the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, he begins to study Gandhi seriously.

1951

King graduates from Crozer with a B.D. degree.

1953

King marries Coretta Scott in Marion, Ala.

1954

The Supreme Court of the United States rules unanimously in Brown vs. Board of Education that racial

segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

King is installed by Rev. Martin Luther King Sr., as the 20th pastor of the Dexter Avenue Church, Montgomery.

1955

King receives a Ph.D. degree in Systematic Theology from Boston University.

The Kings' first child, Yolanda Denise, is born in Montgomery.

Mrs. Rosa Parks, a 42-two-year-old Montgomery seamstress, refuses to relinquish her bus seat to white man and is arrested.

The first day of the bus boycott. The trial for Mrs. Prks. A meeting of movement leaders is held. Dr. King is unanimously elected president of an organization named the Montgomery Improvement Association, a name proposed by Reverend Ralph



King waits for an ambulance moments after a deranged woman stabbed him with a letter opener at a New York store in Sept. 1958. He later referred to this incident in his speeches whenever he was preoccupied with death.



King and his wife, Coretta, meet with reporters on the steps of the Montgomery County Courthouse before his trial in March 1956 for violating a state law forbidding boycotts.

Abernathy.

The Montgomery Bus Co. suspends service in black neighborhoods.

1956

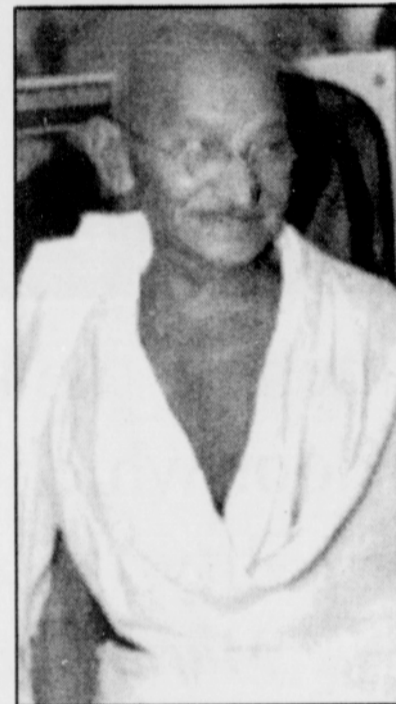
Dr. King is arrested on a charge of traveling 30 miles per hour in a 25 mile-per-hour zone in Montgomery. He is released on his own recognizance.

A bomb is thrown onto the porch of Dr. King's Montgomery home. Mrs. King and Mrs. Roscoe Williams, wife of a church member, are in the house with baby Yolanda Denise; no one is injured.

A suit is filed in federal district court asking that Montgomery's travel segregation laws be declared unconstitutional.

Dr. King is indicted with other figures in the Montgomery bus boycott on the charge of being party to a conspiracy to hinder and prevent the operation of business without "just or legal cause."

A U. S. district court rules that



Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent resistance ultimately served as the model for King's pacifist approach to social change.

racial segregation on city bus lines is unconstitutional.

Dr. King is a speaker before the platform committee of the Democratic Party in Chicago.

Mayor Gayle of Montgomery instructs the city's legal department "to file such proceedings as it may deem proper to stop the operation of car pools and transportation systems growing out of the boycott.

The United States Supreme Court affirms the decision of the three-judge district court in declaring unconstitutional Alabama's state and local laws requiring segregation on buses.

Federal injunctions prohibiting segregation on buses are served on city and bus company officials in Montgomery. Injunctions are also served on ste officials.

Montgomery buses are integrated.

1957

An unexploded bomb is discovered on the front porch of the Kings' house.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is founded. Dr. King is elected its president.

Time magazine puts Dr. King on its cover.

Dr. King delivers a speech for the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom celebrating the third anniversary of the Supreme Court's desegregation decision. The speech, entitled "Give Us the Ballot," is given at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Dr. King has a conference with the vice-president of the United States, Richard M. Nixon.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower federalizes the Arkansas National Guard to escort nine Negro Students to an all-white high school in Little Rock, Ark.


The first civil rights act since Reconstruction is passed by Congress, creating the Civil Rights Commission and the civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

A second child, Martin Luther III, is born to Dr. and Mrs. King.

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