

Facts about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



1. Martin Luther King Jr. wasn't born with this famous name. He was named Michael King until his father changed his name in 1935. You may often see him referred to by his initials, MLK.

2. One of King's first jobs at 13 was delivering papers. He became the youngest assistant manager for the Atlanta Journal delivery station.

3. Dr. King skipped his last year of high school and started college at just 15 years old.

4. Throughout his life, Martin Luther King Jr. was honored with at least 20 honorary degrees from institutions such as Bard College, Yale and Howard University.

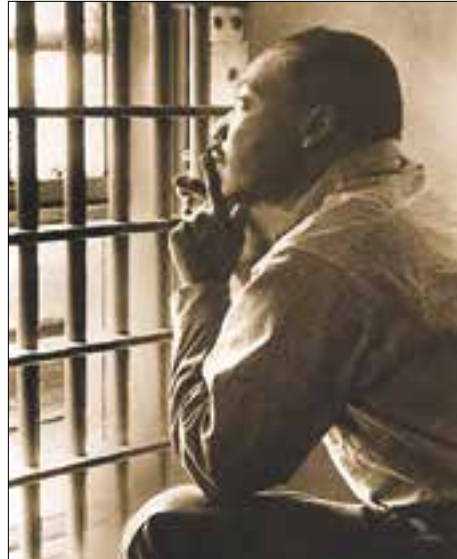
5. MLK became a pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in 1954. You may have heard him referred to by the title Reverend Martin Luther King.

6. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King had four children who are mentioned in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. In the speech, Dr. King says of his kids, "I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."



7. MLK was a Star Trek fan! It was the only show he allowed his children to stay up late to watch.

8. MLK was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, an Indian activist, for his peaceful protesting methods. Following Gandhi's example, King used civil disobedience to protest injustice and fight for civil rights.



9. During his life, Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested 29 times and spent time in jail for his boycotts, peaceful protests, sit-ins and marches for civil rights.

10. MLK delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the 'March on Washington' in front of more than 250,000 people.

11. When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize at age 35 in 1964, he was the youngest person to have ever received that honor.

12. Fun fact: MLK loved playing pool!

13. There are more than 730 streets in the USA named after Martin Luther King Jr.

14. A decade before his death in 1958, MLK was stabbed in the chest by a woman with a letter opener. He underwent hours of emergency surgery and survived, yet stated he felt no ill will toward the attacker.

15. MLK was assassinated in Tennessee on April 4, 1968 by James Earl Ray. Assassination is the murder of an important or famous person.



THERE'S POWER IN *diversity*



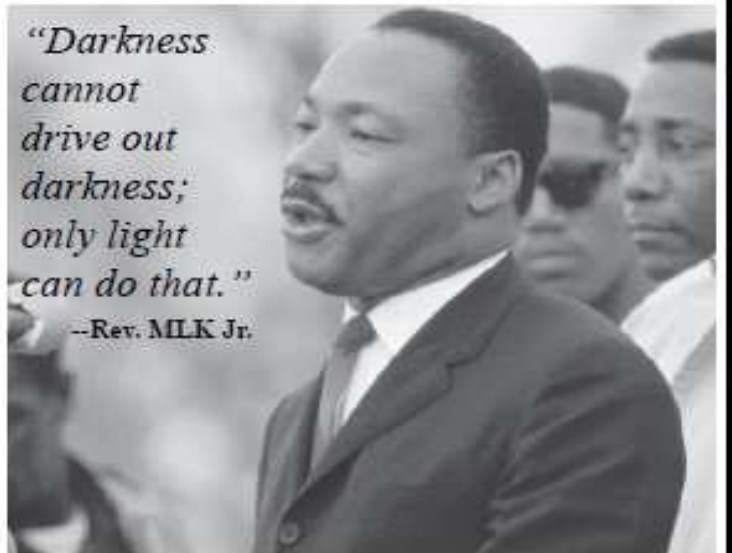
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CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that."
--Rev. MLK Jr.



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