

GREAT LEADERS

Martin Luther King Jr & Nelson Mandela

What problems did Nelson face?

Black people and White people living in South Africa had been arguing about land for years. In 1948, there were new laws to separate Black people and White people. They were not allowed to marry each other, eat in a restaurant together or go to school together. This was called **apartheid**.

Nelson was voted in and became the first Black president of South Africa.



Nelson Mandela

What did Nelson believe in?

Nelson believed that everyone was equal. He wanted life to be fair for Black people and White people. He joined a group called the African National Congress, which **campaign**ed to end apartheid. He made speeches and gathered people together for **protests** to show the government that they wanted the laws to change. When this didn't work, they sometimes destroyed buildings. Nelson was arrested and sent to prison. He was in prison for 27 years. In prison, he didn't give up but kept working towards his dream of a fair world.



Vocabulary	Definition
apartheid	Laws which separated Black and White people.
campaign	Worked hard to change something.
protests	Organised public events to show disagreement with something.
activist	A person who works to make a big change.

boycott	The practice of not using a service or purchasing goods from a company in the hope that the company will change a policy or practice.
MIA	Montgomery Improvement Association
non-violence	The belief that violence should not be used in protests or demonstrations.
CORE	Congress of Racial Equality, a civil rights group headed by James Farmer.
SNCC	Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a group of students campaigning for civil rights.
sit-in	A protest where people sit down and refuse to leave a place.
SCLC	Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the civil rights group led by King.



Martin Luther King Jr

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.

The March on Washington

In 1963, King led a march of 20,000 Black people and 50,000 White people to the centre of American government, Washington D.C. The march was entirely peaceful and culminated with King’s famous ‘I Have a Dream’ speech:

‘I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.’

This speech led the way for the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

