

Martin Luther King Day



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Why is MLK Day not celebrated on his birthday?

January 15th is MLK Jr's birthday; He would have been 93 years old.

Legislation was created in 1968, four days after Dr. King's assassination, to create a federal holiday to commemorate Dr. King's life. It became a federal holiday in 1983 when Ronald Regan signed the bill in to a law.

The celebration aims to honor Dr. King's birthday and also all of the civil rights advances he made while alive.

MLK Day is observed on the third Monday in January; this year on January 17th.

1

DID YOU KNOW?

MLK started college at 15 years old. He was a gifted student who skipped grades 9-12 to attend Morehouse College.

2

1964

He became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his non-violent work in the civil rights movement.

3

2020

Some states resisted observing MLK Day. 2020 is the first year that all 50 states officially observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



<https://leadasap.ysa.org/mlkday/>

MLK DAY OF SERVICE

In 1994, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was designated as a national day of service.

It is the only national day of service and participation has grown steadily.

Dr King believed the "Beloved Community" was possible - A society based on justice, equal opportunity and a love of one's fellow human beings.

Finding a way to volunteer or serve your community is a great way to honor the legacy of Dr.

Powerful Words

Dr Martin Luther Kings words continue to resonate with people today. Here are a few inspirational quotes spoken by Dr. King

- "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."
- "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."
- "Forgiveness is not an occasional act. It is a permanent attitude."
- "I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."
- "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."
- "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"
- "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."
- "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
- "The time is always right to do what is right."



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- "We are not makers of history. We are made by history."
- Even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream."
- "A right delayed is a right denied."

Integrity

Dr. King believed in nonviolent protests and made sure others followed him in this quest. His greatest leadership quality was integrity, which he showed when he gave his life for what he was fighting for. He also showed integrity by taking responsibility for his actions.

He called for leaders of integrity. "Leaders not in love with publicity, but in love with justice. Leaders not in love with money, but in love with humanity."

DIG DEEPER



Visit: Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park at Manhattan Square- 353 Court Street. Rochester, NY 14607



Watch: I Have a Dream, Martin Luther King Jr. Speech.



Read: 7 Books for Talking to Kids about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Watch: Stevie Wonder Sings Happy Birthday to honor Martin Luther King Jr.

