OMNI UN NELSON MANDELA DAY, JULY 18, 2012, MANDELA 94 TODAY. Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace.

OMNI NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL DAYS PROJECT

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Nelson Mandela Day

Quick Facts
Nelson Mandela International Day is annually observed on July 18 to recognize the former South African president’s contribution to peace and freedom.

Name
Nelson Mandela Day

Alternative name
Mandela Day

Nelson Mandela Day 2012
Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Nelson Mandela Day 2013
Thursday, July 18, 2013

Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, is held on July 18 each year. The day remembers Mandela’s achievements in working towards conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, peace, and reconciliation.

Nelson Mandela (postage stamp of Mandela pictured above) is respected for his commitment to values such as freedom, equality, and respect. ©iStockphoto.com/PictureLake

What do people do?

Nelson Mandela Day not only celebrates Nelson Mandela’s life, but it is also a global call to action for people to recognize their ability to have a positive effect on others around them. The day hopes to inspire people to embrace the values that Mandela shared. These values include democracy, freedom, equality, diversity, reconciliation, and respect.

Many people and organizations around the world take part in many activities to promote Nelson Mandela Day. These activities include volunteering, sport, art, education, music and culture. Various events are also held on or around July 18 to honor Nelson Mandela’s works and to promote the different projects that were inspired by Mandela’s achievements.

Mandela Day also celebrates a campaign known as “46664”, in reference to Nelson Mandela’s Robben Island prison number. The campaign was originally launched to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS. However, its focus expanded to broader humanitarian work. The efforts from Mandela Day support the campaign’s ongoing work and other Nelson Mandela charitable organizations.

Public life

Nelson Mandela Day is a global observance but it is not a public holiday.

Background

Nelson Mandela was born in Transkei, South Africa, on July 18, 1918. He is one of the most well-known anti-apartheid activists in South Africa. He was jailed in 1964 for leading the liberation movement against apartheid and for his stance on the human right to live in freedom.

Mandela’s prisoner number was 466 and the year was 1964 when he was imprisoned on Robben Island, off Cape Town in South Africa. The Robben Island
prisoners were never referred to by their names, but rather by their numbers and year of imprisonment – hence 46664 was Nelson Mandela's number. His release from prison in 1990 fed political debates in the country and contributed to South Africa's transition towards a multi-racial democracy.

After his release, Nelson Mandela continued addressing racial issues in his country and supported reconciliation initiatives. His efforts resulted in him becoming elected as South Africa’s president in 1994. He remained in office as president until 1999. He also won the Nobel Peace Prize, together with another former South African president Frederik Willem de Klerk, in 1993. In 2007 Mandela formed the Elders, an independent group of global leaders who offer their influence and experience to support peace building, help address major human suffering causes and promote shared interests of humanity.

The first Mandela Day was launched in New York on July 18, 2009, but the UN’s resolution to declare the day occurred later that year. On November 10, 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring July 18 as ‘Nelson Mandela International Day’. The day marks Nelson Mandela’s contribution to peace through his active involvement in resolving conflicts, promoting human rights, international democracy and reconciliation, and in addressing racial issues.

**Symbols**

Various statues and civic tributes have been made to honor Nelson Mandela. For example, a statue in Mandela’s image stands at Nelson Mandela Square in Johannesburg, South Africa. A bridge, known as the Nelson Mandela Bridge, is also found in Johannesburg. Postage stamps have also been dedicated to Mandela, as well as various musical tributes, in previous times.

**External links**

- [mandeladay.com](http://mandeladay.com)
- [46664.com](http://46664.com)

**Nelson Mandela Day Observances**

**Mandela Day**

Mandela Day on July 18 is an annual international day adopted by the United Nations. It is more than a celebration of Nelson Mandela's life and legacy; it is a global movement to take his life's work into a new century and change our world for the better. Mandela Day asks us all to embrace Madiba’s values and honour his legacy through an act of kindness. Who knows, it might leave you inspired enough to make every day a Mandela Day!

Mandela Day includes a series of events involving interactive art, entertainment, music, film, educational outreach and community service with the hope of inspiring people around the globe to embrace their individual power to make an imprint and help change the world around them for the better.

For more information, please visit [the official Mandela Day website](http://mandeladay.com).

**“Celebrating Nelson Mandela at 93” in 2011**

Charlayne Hunter-Gault, The Root

"He set a standard of conduct to which leaders of any age should aspire. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela is celebrating his 93rd birthday today, marking still another milestone in a life that few, perhaps not even Mandela himself, could have imagined."
The boy who, like all other boys in his rural South African village of Qunu, herded sheep and kicked around a soccer ball in the rolling hills, may have dared to dream, but in those early years of the 20th century, no young black South African like himself, even one of royal lineage, would have dreamed the dream of his journey from prisoner to president of his country and icon of the world."

READ MORE  http://readersupportednews.org/off-site-opinion-section/64-64/6658-celebrating-nelson-mandela-at-93

Danny Schechter, “Nelson Mandela Turns 93”  
Reader Supported News  July 1, 2011  
"The man known by his clan name, Madiba, still evokes wonder and admiration, and almost god-like reverence, with airport stores selling 'We Love Mandela' posters and T-shirts. He is the one South African that most South Africans take pride in, including the older generation that first knew him as an apartheid government-designated terrorist."

READ MORE  http://www.readersupportednews.org/opinion2/287-124/6457-nelson-mandela

Mandela Day - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandela_DayCached - Similar  
You +1’d this publicly. Undo  
Nelson Mandela International Day (or Mandela Day) is an annual international day in honour of Nelson Mandela, celebrated each 18 July (on Mandela’s ...
About the Centre of Memory

The entrance to the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory's offices

The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory delivers the core work of the Nelson Mandela Foundation. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation established in 1999 to support its Founder’s ongoing engagement in worthy causes on his retirement as President of South Africa. The Foundation is registered as a trust, with its board of trustees comprising prominent South Africans selected by the Founder.

The Centre of Memory was inaugurated by Nelson Mandela on 21 September 2004, and endorsed as the core work of the Foundation in 2006. The Centre focuses on three areas of work: the Life and Time of Nelson Mandela, Dialogue for Social Justice and Nelson Mandela International Day. The Centre works closely with its sister organisations, the Nelson Mandela Children’s Fund and The Mandela Rhodes Foundation. It coordinates its activities with those of other institutions that have a stake in its Founder’s legacy, including the 46664 Campaign, the Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, the Nelson Mandela Children’s Hospital, the Nelson Mandela Museum and the Robben Island Museum.

The Centre focuses on three areas of work:

The Life and Times of Nelson Mandela:

Memory resources documenting the life and times of Nelson Mandela are to be found in an extraordinary range of locations, both within South Africa and internationally. These resources are embedded in various legal and other jurisdictions. The Centre of Memory:

- Locates, documents and promotes the preservation of these scattered resources
- Collects and curates Mr Mandela’s personal archive
- Promotes public access to these resources
- Facilitates research by individuals and institutions
- Utilises an array of information-delivery platforms to make information available to global and local audiences

Dialogue for Justice:

Dialogue is fundamental to the legacy of Nelson Mandela and to South Africa’s transition from apartheid to democracy. Dialogue is at once a vital instrument for addressing critical social issues and the most effective vehicle for sharing memory, for growing it, and for engaging it in the promotion of justice. The Centre of Memory:

- Provides dialogical platforms for all its memory work
- Undertakes research and initiates advocacy on critical social issues impacting on its mandate
- Hosts or convenes dialogue processes
- Promotes coordination, resource-sharing and collaboration between memory institutions
- Disseminates the results and lessons learned from dialogue processes

Nelson Mandela International Day:

If the legacy of Nelson Mandela’s life and work is to be dynamic, it must be “owned” by current and future generations. It must be accessible to everyone, and applied in constantly changing contexts of time and place. The Mandela Day campaign was inaugurated as such a vehicle to achieve this. Its objective is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so build a global movement for good. Ultimately it seeks to empower communities everywhere. The campaign’s slogan is: “Take Action; Inspire Change; Make Every Day a Mandela Day.” Individuals and organisations are free to participate in Mandela Day as they wish. We do, however, urge them to find inspiration for their contribution in the legacy of Nelson Mandela and to adhere to the ethical framework of “service to one’s fellow human”.


3. Videos for Mandela Day
4.

Mandela Day
on Vimeo

vimeo.com
Apr 15, 2009

Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- Mandela ...

youtube.com
Jun 28, 2012
andela-turns-93
Reader Supported News    July 17, 2011
Danny Schechter begins: "As the world marks International Mandela Day, Mandela's legacy is debated. Which narrative will prevail?"

END MANDELA NEWSLETTER #1