OMNI UN NELSON MANDELA DAY, JULY 18, 2013, MANDELA 95 TODAY. Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace and Justice.

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Contents #1
Facts
Hunter-Gault
Danny Schechter
Wikipedia
Images
Centre of Memory
Videos
Schechter; Two Mandelas

Contents #2 2013
Facts
Mandela Gravely Ill
Preparations to Celebrate His 95th Birthday
Books
How Far We Slaves Have Come
Long Walk to Freedome
In His Own Words
Nelson Mandela

Former President of South Africa

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela is a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary and politician who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. Wikipedia

**Born:** July 18, 1918 (age 94), Mvezo, South Africa

**Children:** Makaziwe Mandela, Zindziswa Mandela, Makgatho Mandela, Zenani Mandela, Madiba Thembekile Mandela

**Awards:** Nobel Peace Prize, Time's Person of the Year, More

**Spouse:** Graça Machel (m. 1998), Winnie Madikizela-Mandela (m. 1958–1996), Evelyn Mase (m. 1944–1958)

**Education:** University of South Africa (1943), More

Ailing Nelson Mandela's family says 'health is in God's hands now'

Tuesday, Jul 2, 2013, 18:46 IST | Agency: ANI

South Africans have gathered in huge numbers outside the hospital lighting candles and leaving notes for their beloved Madiba.
The grief struck family of former South African President, Nelson Mandela, have ruled out any discussions to end his life support and left it for the God to decide his fate.

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, former wife of Mandela, told CNN in an exclusive interview that it was painful to see him in such critical situation.

Mandela, 94, remains in critical but stable condition at a Pretoria hospital where he has been battling a recurring lung infection since June 8.

South Africans have gathered in huge numbers outside the hospital lighting candles and leaving notes for their beloved Madiba.

South Africans ready to celebrate Nelson Mandela's 95th birthday

Tuesday, Jul 2, 2013, 18:48 IST | Agency: IANS

Mandela's birthday, July 18, was recognised in 2009 by the UN as Nelson Mandela International Day.

South Africans are ready to celebrate the 95th birthday of anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, who has been in hospital for more than three weeks for a recurring lung infection, President Jacob Zuma said.

In the latest official update on Mandela's condition, Zuma said the Nobel laureate "is still critical but stable" in a Pretoria hospital where he was admitted June 8, Xinhua reported.
"We remind all South Africans to begin planning for Madiba's birthday on the 18th of July. We must all be able to do something good for humanity on this day, in tribute to our former President," Zuma said.

The president thanked all South Africans for keeping Mandela and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

On Saturday, National Assembly Speaker Max Sisulu said Mandela was making progress.

"We are pleased with the progress Madiba is making," he said after visiting Mandela.

"We love him dearly and don't want to let him go."

On the same day, Zuma said: "We hope very soon he (Mandela) will be out of hospital."

Mandela's birthday, July 18, was recognised in 2009 by the UN as Nelson Mandela International Day.

For the Fourth Mandela International Day, there will be official programmes to celebrate Mandela's birthday, but various organisations have worked out plans to celebrate the day with public gatherings, concerts and charity events.

Mandela gave call to the world June 27, 2008 that people can all make a difference by doing good in their communities.

Mandela Day serves as an annual call to action to people everywhere to contribute to the global movement for doing good by effecting change within their communities. During the day, people around the globe are urged to give 67 minutes of their time to make a change in their community and thus, the world.

Books
Nelson Mandela is one of the great moral and political leaders of our time: an international hero whose lifelong dedication to the fight against racial oppression in South Africa won him the Nobel Peace Prize and the presidency of his country. Since his triumphant release in 1990 from more than a quarter-century of imprisonment, Mandela has been at the center of the most compelling and inspiring political drama in the world. As president of the African National Congress and head of South Africa's anti-apartheid movement, he was instrumental in moving the nation toward multiracial government and majority rule. He is revered everywhere as a vital force in the fight for human rights and racial equality. The foster son of a Thembu chief, Mandela was raised in the traditional, tribal culture of his ancestors, but at an early age learned the modern, inescapable reality of what came to be called apartheid, one of the most powerful and effective systems of oppression ever conceived. In classically elegant and engrossing prose, he tells of his early years as an impoverished student and law clerk in Johannesburg, of his slow political awakening, and of his pivotal role in the rebirth of a stagnant ANC and the formation of its Youth League in the 1950s. He describes the struggle to reconcile his political activity with his devotion to his family, the anguished breakup of his first marriage, and the painful separations from his children. He brings vividly to life the escalating political warfare in the fifties between the ANC and the government, culminating in his dramatic escapades as an underground leader and the notorious Rivonia Trial of 1964, at which he was sentenced to life imprisonment. Herecounts the surprisingly eventful twenty-seven years in prison and the complex, delicate negotiations that led both to his freedom and to the beginning of the end of apartheid. Finally he provides the ultimate inside account.

Mandela - In his own words

Quotations from Nelson Mandela's best-known speeches and statements

"We plan to make government impossible. I have chosen this latter course which is more difficult and entails more risk and hardship than sitting in jail. I have had to separate myself from my dear wife and children, from my mother and sisters, to live as an outlaw in my own land. I have had to close my business, to abandon my profession, and live in poverty and misery". ANC press statement made from hiding, 26 June 1961

"During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to see realised. But if needs be, my lord, it is an ideal for which I am ready to die." At the Rivonia trial, 20 April 1964

"I stand here before you not as a prophet but as a humble servant of you, the people. Your tireless and heroic sacrifices have made it possible for me to be here today. I therefore place
"my life in your hands." On his release from prison, 11 February 1990

"The achievement of democracy was the defining challenge - the long walk continues."
Farewell speech to Parliament, 29 March 1999

"Apartheid was experienced as such a basic onslaught against human dignity that it demeaned all of us - one has an appreciation for the support received from people all over the world, irrespective of their party political affiliation." Speech to the British Labour Party conference, 29 September 2000

"Today, all of us do, by our presence here, and by our celebrations in other parts of our country and the world, confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud.

Our daily deeds as ordinary South Africans must produce an actual South African reality that will reinforce humanity's belief in justice, strengthen its confidence in the nobility of the human soul and sustain all our hopes for a glorious life for all - never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another, and suffer the indignity of being the skunk of the world."

From Mandela's inaugural address as President of South Africa

"We dedicate this day to all the heroes and heroines in this country and the rest of the world who sacrificed in many ways and surrendered their lives so that we could be free.

Their dreams have become reality. Freedom is their reward.

We are both humbled and elevated by the honor and privilege that you, the people of South Africa, have bestowed on us, as the first President of a united, democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa, to lead our country out of the valley of darkness.

We understand it still that there is no easy road to freedom.

We know it well that none of us acting alone can achieve success.

We must therefore act together as a united people, for national reconciliation, for nation building, for the birth of a new world.

Let there be justice for all.

Let there be peace for all.

Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all.

Let each know that for each the body, the mind and the soul have been freed to fulfill themselves.

Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another and suffer the indignity of being the skunk of the world.

Let freedom reign".

Extracts from Inaugural Address as President of South Africa, 10 May 1994

END MANDELA DAY JULY 18, 2013 BIRTHDAY
NEWSLETTER

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Dick Bennett
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Index:
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National/International Days
See Newsletters
Peace, Justice, Ecology Birthdays
See INMOTION
jbennet@uark.edu
(479) 442-4600
2582 Jimmie Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72703