

Dr. Martin Luther King

10 interesting facts

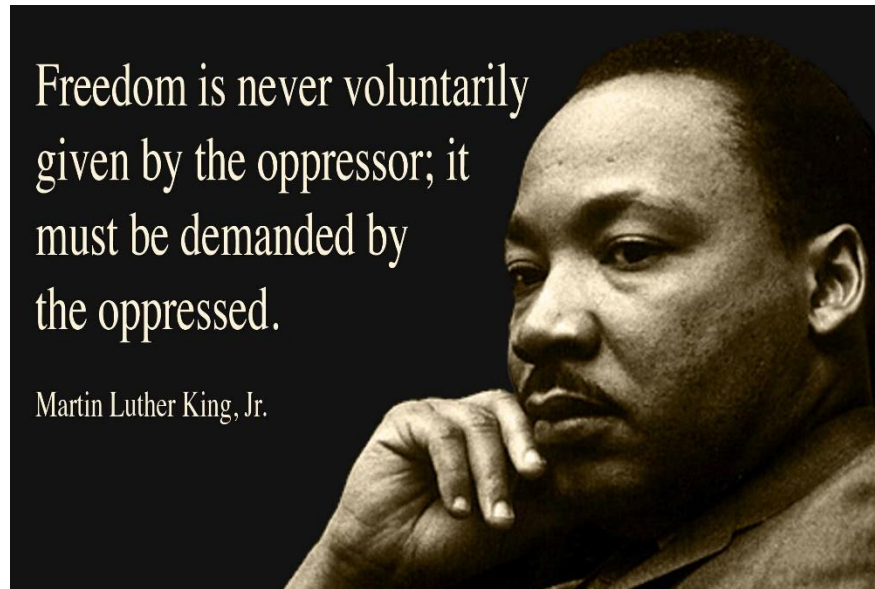
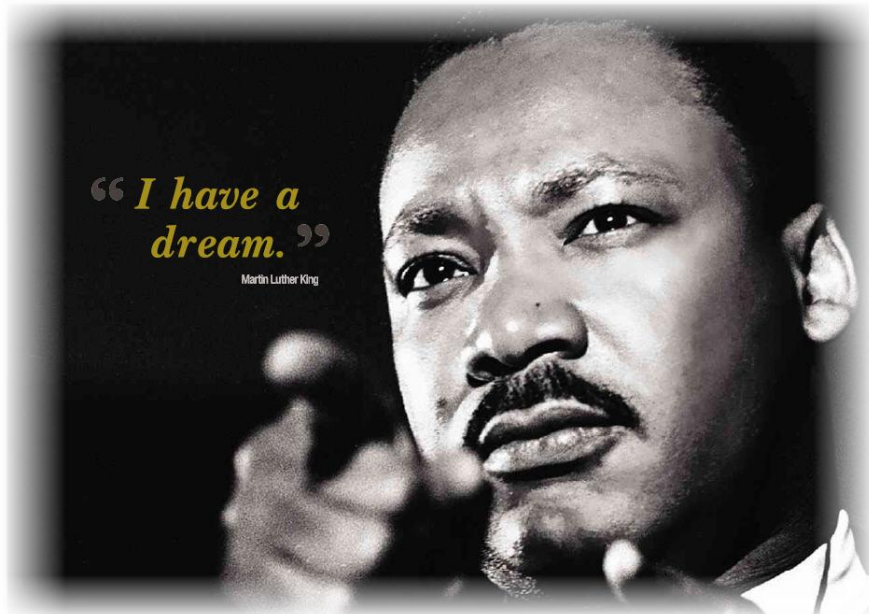
1) His name was originally Michael, not Martin. His father was also Michael King, hence why Martin Luther King Jr. was originally named Michael King Jr. However, after a trip to Germany in 1931, Michael King Sr.



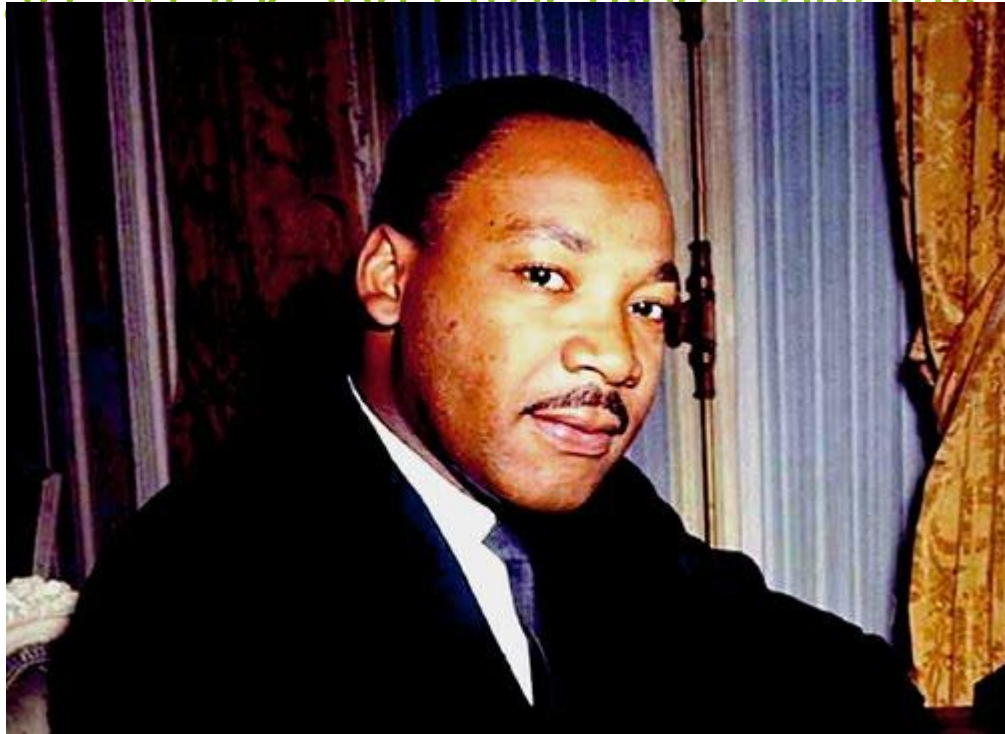
2) At the age of 12, he seems to have tried to commit suicide. It was May of 1941 when his grandmother passed away after a heart attack.



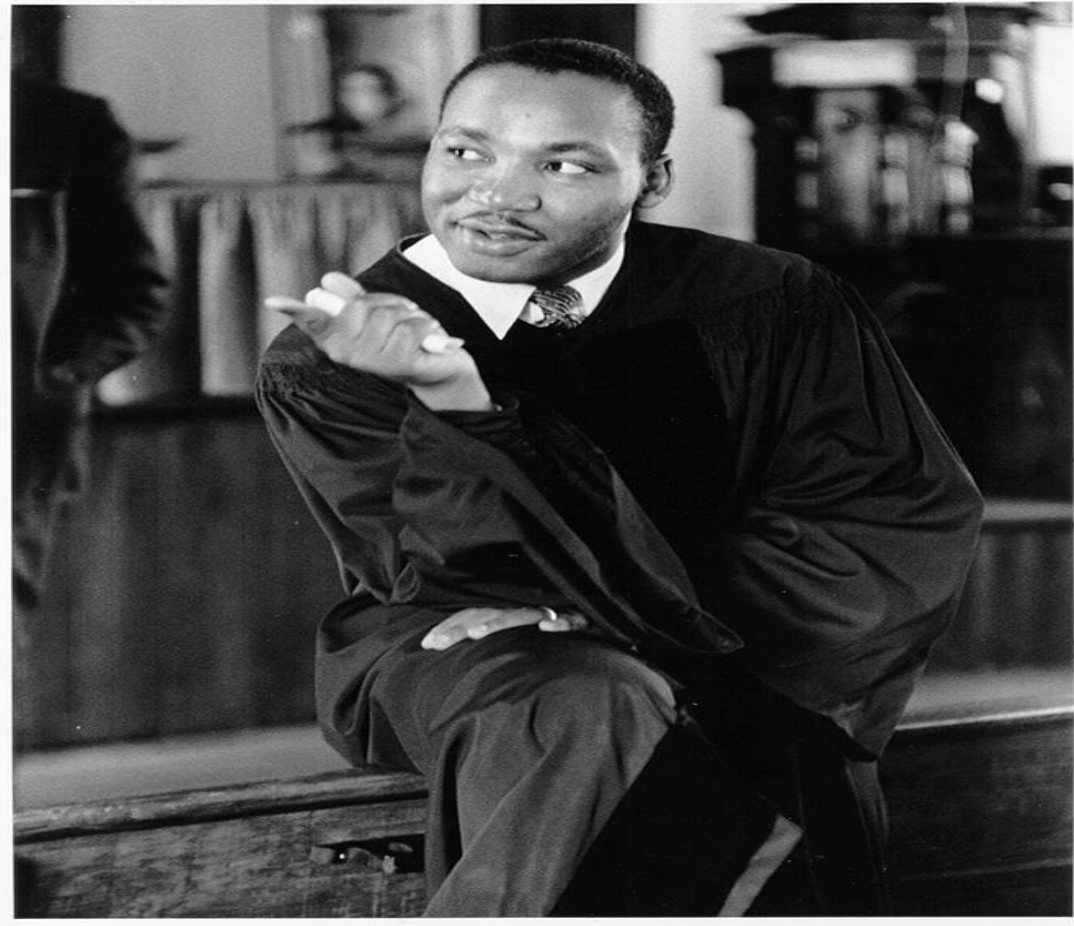
Martin Luther King



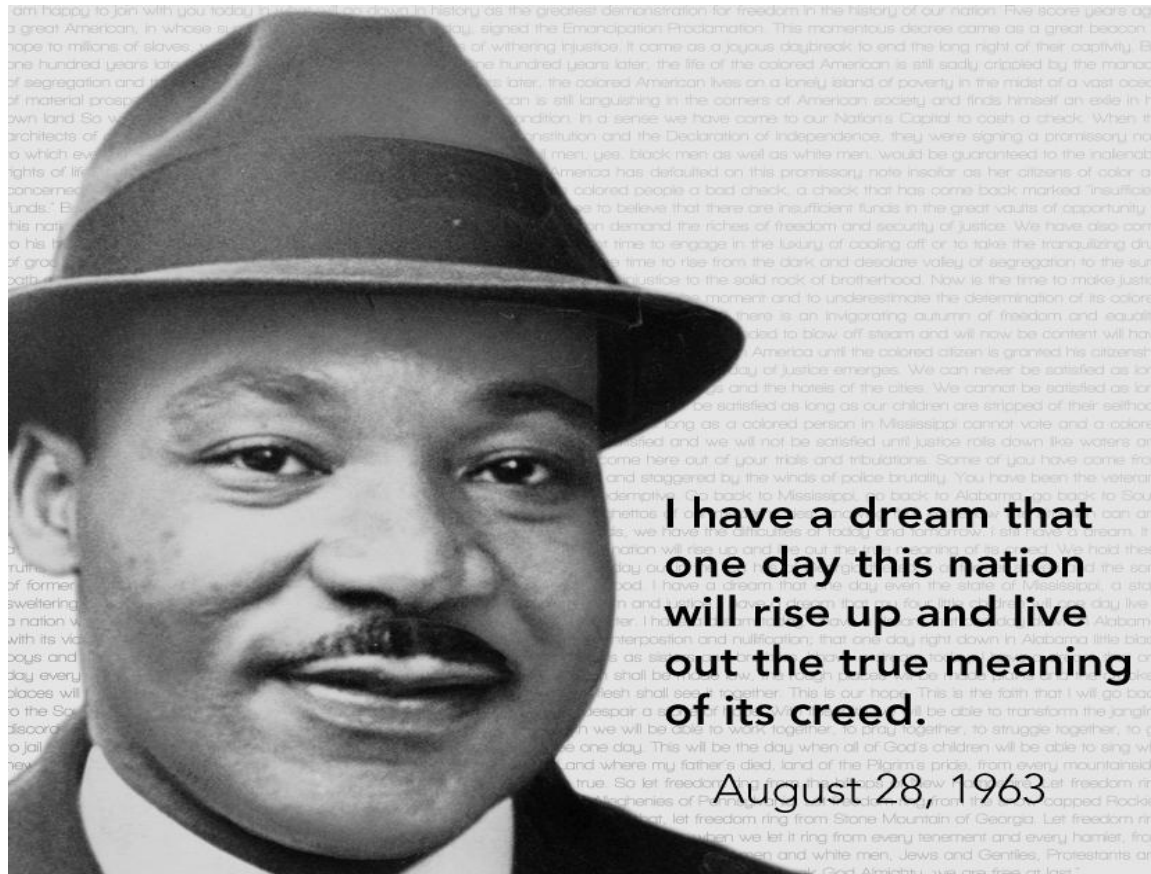
3) King wasn't the only one to die at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis on April 4, 1968. After he was killed, one of the hotel workers, Lorraine Bailey (who was also the wife of the motel owner and who it was named after), upon seeing King get shot, had a heart attack and later died from this.



4) Also on the day King was killed, he was out on the balcony for a smoke. While you'll be hard pressed to find a picture of him smoking, he smoked regularly, though had a habit of hiding this partially due to the stigma, particularly within the church at the time, but also because he didn't want his kids to take up smoking, and so didn't like pictures of himself doing it, nor did he like to smoke when they were around.



5) Martin Luther King Jr. was nearly assassinated a decade earlier than his ultimate death.



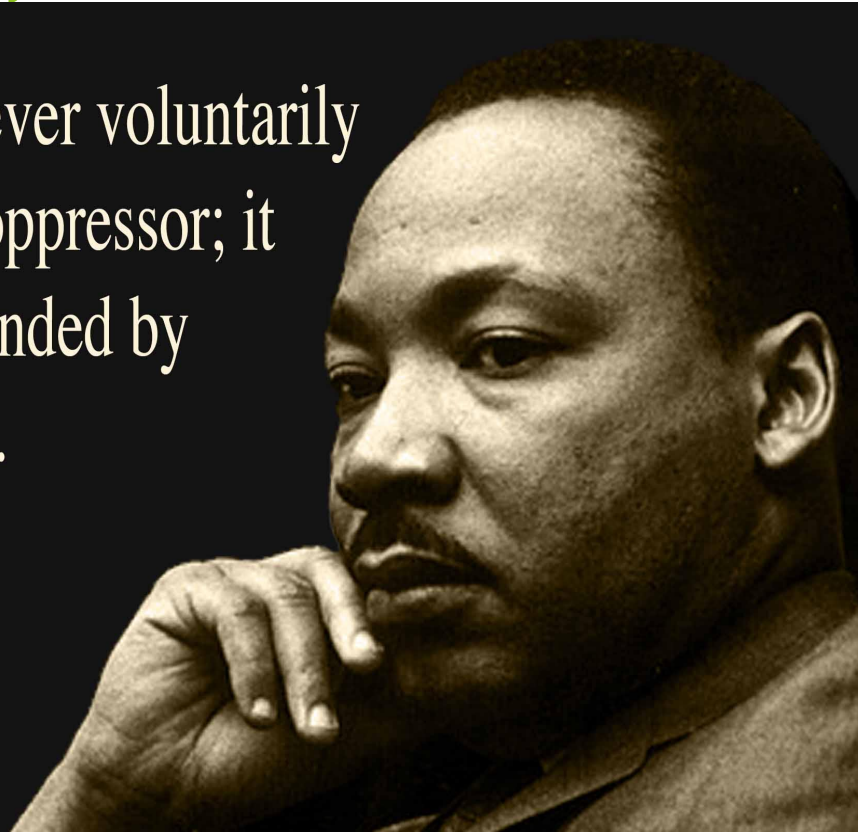
6) King Jr. skipped two grades in high school, 9th and 11th, and entered college (Moorehouse College) at the tender age of 15 in 1944. By 19, he received a bachelor's degree in sociology.



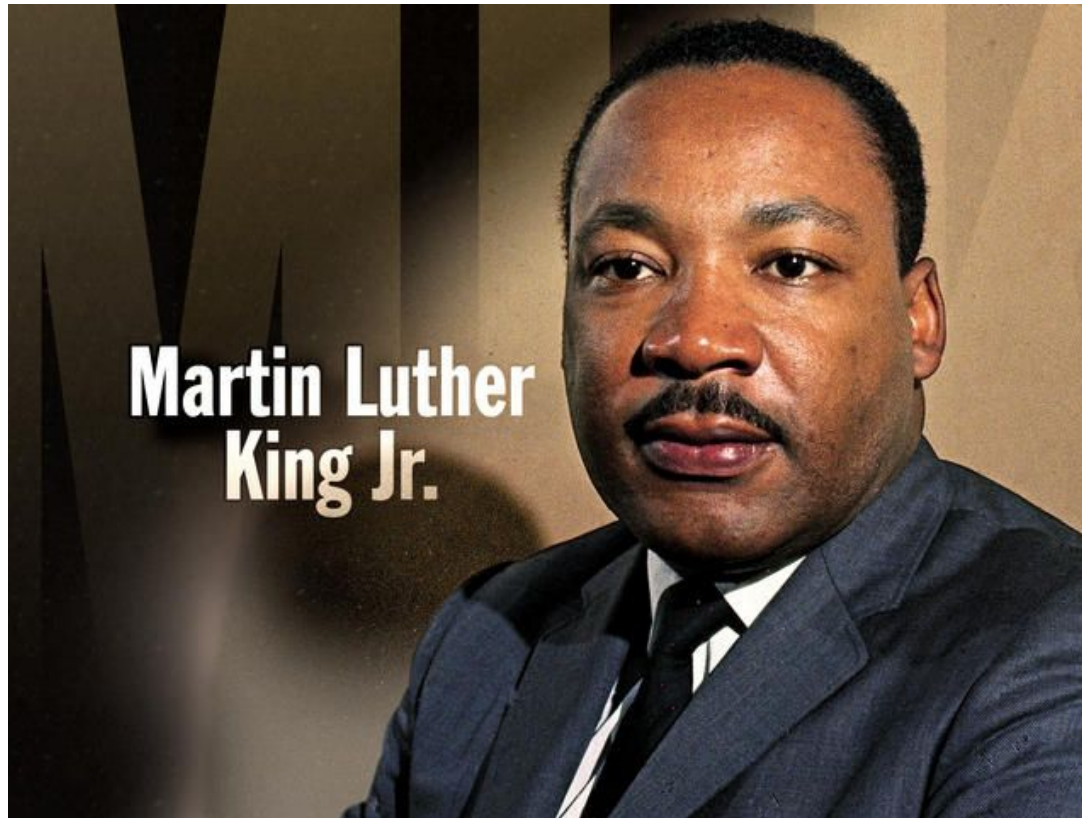
7) He almost didn't become a minister. After graduating from college, he still had serious doubts about Christianity and the Bible and told his father (who was a Baptist minister, as his grandfather had also been) that he didn't want to be a minister and instead was considering becoming a doctor or a lawyer.

Freedom is never voluntarily
given by the oppressor; it
must be demanded by
the oppressed.

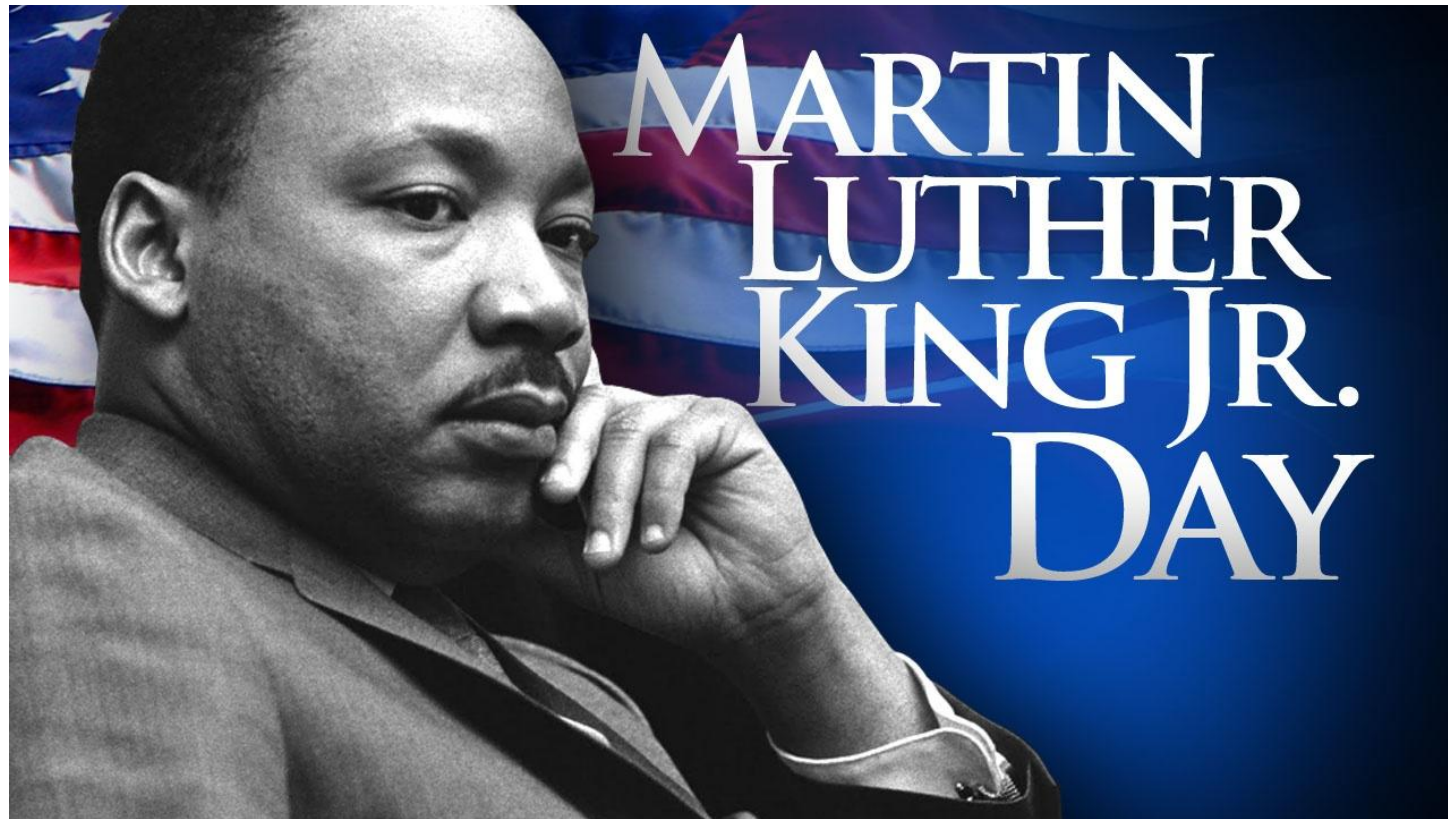
Martin Luther King, Jr.



8) Although King today is often remembered as being an amazing public speaker, he got a C in public speaking during his first year at seminary.



9) His honeymoon was spent at a funeral parlor... not because someone died, simply because a friend owned the parlor and offered to let him use it for his honeymoon.



10) King convinced “Uhura” on Star Trek, Nichelle Nichols (who incidentally later went on to work for NASA), to continue on with the role after the first season.

