



Photo: Theana Calitz / AP

# Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) A Timeline for Peace

ANC Incarceration Special Events

**18 Jul 1918**  
Born Rolihlahla Mandela into Thembu royal family in Mvezo village in the south-east of South Africa.

**1943**  
Joins African National Congress (ANC).

**1952**  
Opens first black law practice in Johannesburg with Oliver Tambo.

**05 Dec 1956**  
Among 156 political activists arrested and charged with treason.

**1961**  
Accruited in treason trial, along with co-accused.

**16 Dec 1961**  
Launch of ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), with Mr Mandela as commander-in-chief.

**12 Jun 1964**  
After famous speech from dock (democracy "is an ideal for which I am prepared to die"), is sentenced to life imprisonment and sent to Robben Island prison off Cape Town

**11 Feb 1990**  
Released from prison.

**05 Jul 1991**  
Elected ANC president

**15 Oct 1993**  
Wins Nobel Peace Prize with De Klerk.

**1999**  
Steps down as president after one term.

**19 Apr 2009**  
Makes his final political address in a recorded message at an ANC election rally.

**11 Jul 2010**  
Appears at the closing ceremony of the football World Cup in South Africa.

**06 Dec 2013**  
Dies at his home in Johannesburg surrounded by family, at the age 95.



**1940**  
Expelled from Fort Hare University College for participating in student strike.

**05 Aug 1952**  
Captured and sentenced on November 7 to five years in prison for incitement to strike and leaving country illegally, having earlier travelled to Ethiopia and Algeria for military training.

**21 Mar 1960**  
Security forces massacre 67 protesters in Sharpeville. Government bans ANC and Pan African Congress and declares state of emergency.

**1963**  
While serving this sentence is charged with sabotage along with other ANC activists arrested in Rivonia near Johannesburg.

**05 Jul 1968**  
Meets president PW Botha and then on December 13 with FW de Klerk, who later succeeds Botha.

**27 Apr 1994**  
Votes for the first time in his life with the country's first all-race elections.

**10 May 1994**  
Inaugrated as president.

**30 May 2012**  
Makes rare television appearance to recieve symbolic flame marking the ANC centenary.





