

Directions: Read the description of each historical figure. What societal problem did they address and how? How did their efforts affect society as a whole?



Mahatma Gandhi

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born in India in 1869. He was a lawyer and an anti-colonialist who used nonviolence in India's freedom struggle to help India become independent from British rule. According to Gandhi, you should share your views and opinions without being violent.¹



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1928. He grew up amid widespread segregation: white and Black people went to separate schools, had separate drinking fountains, segregated public transportation, and more.

Dr. King set out on a mission for equality, seeking to secure for Black people the same rights as those held by white people. His contributions to the civil rights movement in the 1950s and '60s helped pave the way for the struggle for equality that continues today.²

¹ Sharma, S. (2020). Gandhian strategy: The exclusive mantra for solving problems, in modern context. *Gandhi Research Foundation*. <https://www.mkgandhi.org/articles/grelevance.htm>

² Jackson, K. (August 2004). Martin Luther King, Jr. *History of the Contemporary World: Professor Charles Evans*. <https://novaonline.nvcc.edu/eli/evans/HIS135/Events/King68/King68.htm>