Name: _____ Date: _____

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



Read the passage about Martin Luther King Jr. and answer the questions.

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 – 1968) was a pivotal figure in the American Civil Rights Movement. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, King experienced racial segregation early in life, shaping his commitment to social justice. He excelled academically, attending Morehouse College at fifteen and later obtaining a doctorate in theology.

King's leadership in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, sparked by Rosa Parks' arrest, brought him national prominence. He advocated for nonviolent protest, drawing inspiration from Gandhi's principles. His eloquence as a speaker peaked in the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered the iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, articulating his vision of racial equality and justice.

King's activism led to significant civil rights advancements, including the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Despite facing arrests, threats, and violence, he remained steadfast in his pursuit of equality.

Tragically, King's life was cut short when he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1968. His legacy endures, inspiring generations to continue the fight for civil rights.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What was Martin Luther King Jr.'s background, and how did his early experiences shape his future?

2 How did King promote nonviolent protest, and who influenced his approach?

3 How did Martin Luther King Jr.'s efforts contribute to the Civil Rights Movement, and what is his lasting legacy?

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