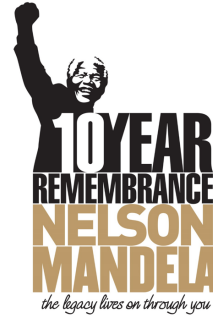




NELSON MANDELA
FOUNDATION

Living the legacy



Note: please always use Nelson Mandela International Day at first mention

What is Mandela Day?

Nelson Mandela International Day (Mandela Day) is an annual global celebration that takes place on 18 July to honour the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela. The day is a call to action for individuals, communities and organisations to take time to reflect on Mandela's values and principles and to make a positive impact in their own communities.

Who was Nelson Mandela?

Nelson Mandela was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader and philanthropist. He served as the first president of a democratic South Africa from 1994 to 1999 and played a crucial role in dismantling apartheid and promoting racial equality.

Why is Mandela Day celebrated?

Mandela Day is celebrated to honour Nelson Mandela's values and his dedication to social justice, human rights and reconciliation. It serves as a global call to action, inspiring individuals to make a positive difference in their communities and to contribute to the betterment of society.

How is Mandela Day observed?

The Nelson Mandela Foundation encourages everyone to make every day a Mandela Day, engaging in daily acts of service that make a positive impact in their communities. This can include volunteering, donating to charitable causes, organising fundraisers or engaging in community projects. No matter how small your action, Mandela Day is about changing the world for the better, just as Nelson Mandela did every day.

Can anyone participate in Mandela Day?

Yes, Nelson Mandela International Day is open to everyone. People of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities are encouraged to participate and contribute to their communities in meaningful ways. The day promotes inclusivity and aims to inspire collective action for positive change. Remember, no matter how small your action, Mandela Day is about changing the world for the better.

Founder: Mr N R Mandela **Chairman:** Professor N S Ndebele **Acting Chief Executive:** Prof. V S Harris

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Are there specific activities recommended for Mandela Day?

Activities that are planned should echo Nelson Mandela's lifetime of service to others. The emphasis is therefore on engaging in acts of kindness, service and community development. Individuals and organisations are encouraged to identify areas of need in their communities and contribute in ways that align with their skills, resources and interests.

In 2023, the Foundation calls on you to join it in its long-term and sustainable interventions which equip communities to ensure food security. Together with global partners, we have championed a national effort to capacitate as many home-based and community food gardens as possible, while planting one million trees, 60% of which will be fruit trees.

As we mark the 10th year since Nelson Mandela passed away, may we all remember that his legacy lives on through us. And may we understand that the Earth is in our hands.

Why get involved in Mandela Day?

Now, more than ever, humanity needs to confront climate change, persistent and increasing levels of poverty, as well as inequality.

For Nelson Mandela International Day 2023, it is the vision of the Nelson Mandela Foundation for the world to unite and act decisively against the consequences of climate change and food insecurity.

The Foundation has embarked on long-term and sustainable interventions that equip communities to ensure food security. Together with global partners, we have championed a national effort to capacitate as many home-based and community food gardens as possible, while planting one million trees, 60% of which will be fruit trees. As we mark the 10th year since Nelson Mandela passed away, may we all remember that his legacy lives on through us. And may we understand that the Earth is in our hands.

How can I get involved in Mandela Day?

To get involved in Mandela Day, research local organisations, charities or community groups that align with your interests. You can enquire about volunteer opportunities, donate funds or resources, or initiate your own community project.

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Also, the Mandela Day website has lists of [suggested activities](#).

Are there any official events or ceremonies on Mandela Day?

While it is largely left to various organisations, institutions and communities around the world to organise their own initiatives and events to commemorate Mandela Day, if you are in Johannesburg, South Africa, you are invited to join the Nelson Mandela Foundation's [Mandela Day Houghton Run](#), scheduled for the Sunday before Mandela Day 2023.

How can I learn more about Nelson Mandela and his legacy?

To learn more about Nelson Mandela, his life and his legacy, you can visit the [Nelson Mandela Foundation website](#), read his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*, or explore biographies written about him. There are also documentaries, films and online resources available that provide in-depth information about his contributions to South Africa and the world.

Can Mandela Day be celebrated beyond 18 July?

While Mandela Day is officially celebrated on 18 July, Nelson Mandela's birthday, the spirit of Mandela Day can be embraced throughout the year and the Nelson Mandela Foundation encourages all people to make every day a Mandela Day. The principles of service, reconciliation and social justice can guide actions and initiatives at any time, empowering individuals to make a lasting impact in their communities.