

Champions of peace

Nelson Mandela



Nelson MANDELA died in December 2013. In his country, South Africa, there was a strict Division between WHITES and NON WHITES until 1994. This was called the Apartheid Regime-BLACK and BROWN people were considered inferior to WHITE people. Nelson MANDELA spent 27 years of his life behind prison bars for fighting against this system.

When he was freed, there was a lot of hatred in South Africa and the Non Whites wanted to take Revenge on the Whites. But Nelson MANDELA told his black brothers to renounce their hatred and to create a new South Africa of all colors.

He talked of a Rainbow Nation where all kinds of people could live together peacefully-everyone would have the same Rights. He was elected President of South Africa in 1994.

Malala Yousafzai



A young 14 year old Pakistani girl, **Malala Yousafzai**, was shot and injured very badly in October 2012. She was attacked as she was fighting for Girls and Boys Rights to go to School.

After her recovery, she spoke in front of the UN Assembly and pleaded for the right to education and tolerance for all. She said that she would not be intimidated by the people who tried to kill her.

She said : “ I am here to speak up for the right of education of every child. ”

Joseph Wresinski



Joseph WRESINSKI grew up in a very poor family in France. Later in his life, he had more money but chose to live among the poor in a camp outside of Paris.

He tells us about the situation at the time: *“ There were almost 1000 children in the camp, and only a third of them could go to school outside of the camp. A school was later built in the camp. There were water points for up to 260 families and only one toilet for the whole camp. In the barracks, called Igloos, there was neither water nor electricity. Together, we started digging the earth in order to double the Igloos and make separate rooms for the children so that they would be less cold in winter and less hot in summer...”*

TOGETHER they constructed a library, a kindergarden and even organized dance classes! A lot of people could not understand the need for fun in such precarious conditions.

Joseph WRESINSKI fought for the poor his entire life so that they had chances too : he is the founder of the Fourth World Movement. He also created TAPORI !

Questions :

In every one of these stories there is an injustice. Could you name it ?

What did Nelson MANDELA, Joseph WRESINSKI and Malala YOUSAFZAI do about it?

Tell us about a case you know where someone fights injustice in order to leave the same chance to everyone.

Send your answers to the following adress :

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