

Malala Yousafzai

A Modern Day Hero

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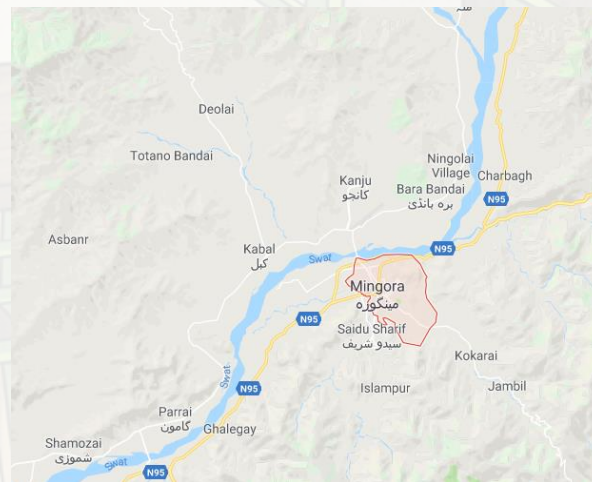
Malala Yousafzai

Malala was born on the 12th July in Mingora, in Pakistan.

Malala was born at home with the help of a neighbor as her family did not have enough money for a hospital birth.

Her parents are Ziauddin and Tor Peki.

She has two younger brothers named Khushal and Atal.



Map of Mingora,
Pakistan.

Education

The Qur'an states that all Muslims should acquire knowledge.

This influenced her father, who believed in education for all. He founded a number of schools in Pakistan, one of which Malala attended.

Malala attended Khushal Public School in 2012 and Edgbaston High School from 2013 to 2017.

In 2017, she started studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Oxford. She graduated in 2020.



Malala's Blog

In 2009, Malala began to write a blog for the BBC Urdu service. She wrote using someone else's name (a pseudonym). In it she described her desire to go to school and her fears living under Taliban rule.

Women were being stopped from going out shopping. Even when Malala and her father received death threats for speaking out and sharing their fears with the world, they did not stop reporting what was happening in their local area. They became well known in Pakistan for their beliefs.

Malala was awarded Pakistan's National Youth Peace Prize for her work in 2011.



Taliban

In 2007, the Taliban, a political group from Afghanistan with strong views who acted with military-style force, started to take control of the areas where Malala was living. They banned education for girls over the age of eight.

They also banned many cultural activities like watching television and dancing.

Malala continued to believe in her right (and the right of every girl) to an education and became a critical target to the Taliban.

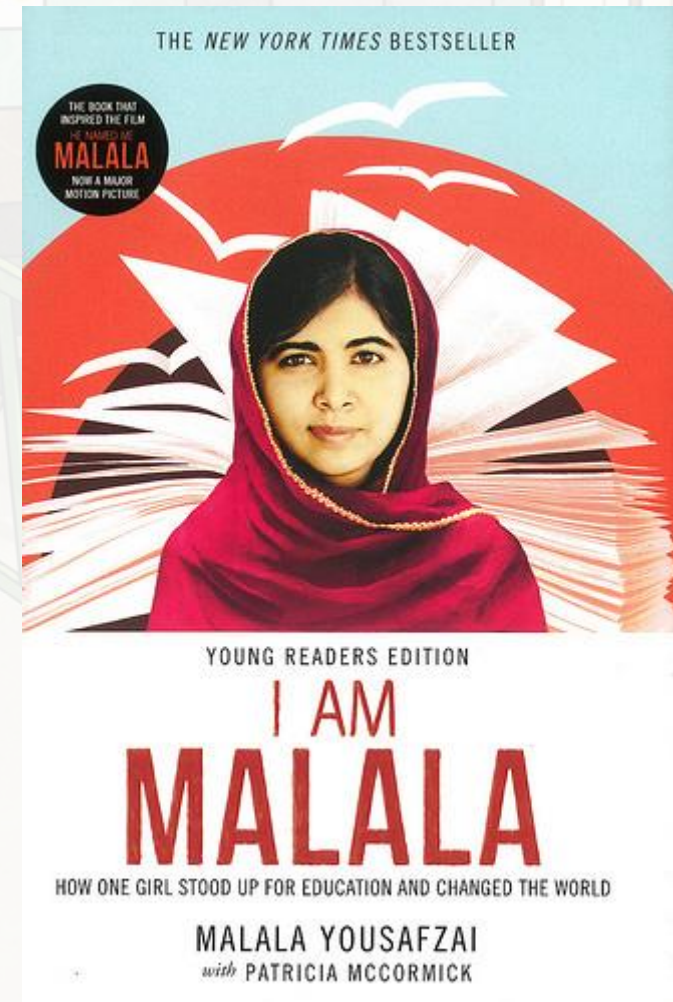


I am Malala

Whilst travelling home from school on a bus on 9th October 2012, when she was 15, Malala was shot in the head by a masked Taliban gunman. Two of her friends were injured in the attack.

Malala was flown to Birmingham, United Kingdom for treatment and she stayed in hospital for three months.

In March 2013 she was able to go to school in Birmingham. Later that year she published a book, 'I am Malala', describing her experiences.



Securing Human Rights

The Taliban's attack on Malala led to wide-spread protests across Pakistan and world wide shock. Over 2 million people signed a right to education petition, and the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Bill was passed in Pakistan.

Now, every child in Pakistan is given the chance to go to school.

In 2013, the Malala fund was set up. The organisation campaigns for all girls to have 12 years of education. Malala is still an active campaigner for the rights of girls around the world to have an education.



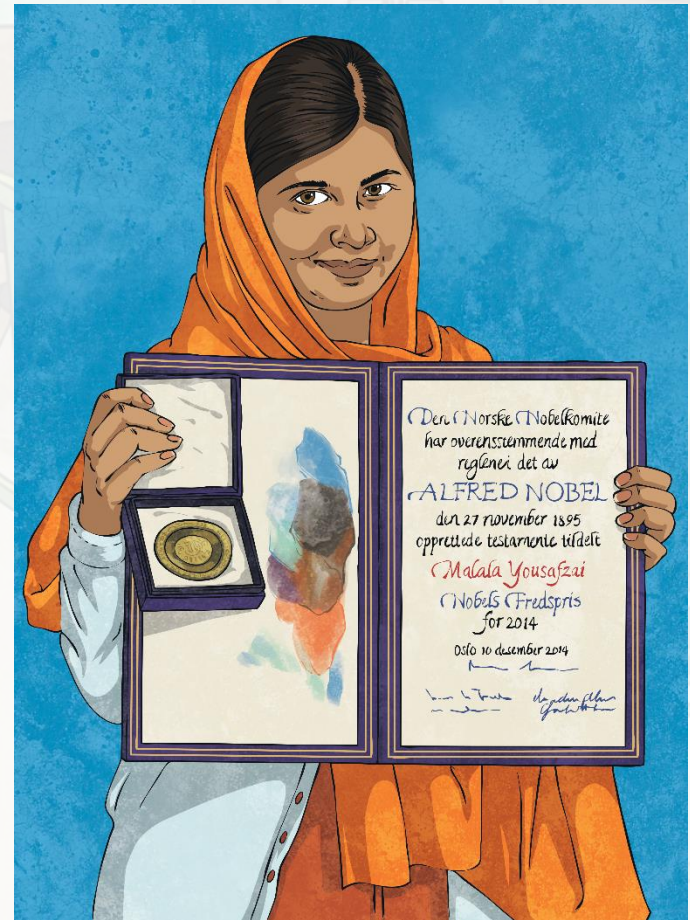
Noble Peace Prize Winner

Malala's tireless campaigning was recognised in 2014 when she was named as the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize winner.

At the age of 17 she is the youngest recipient of the prize.

Malala donated the prize money of more than \$500,000 to build a secondary school for girls in Pakistan.

Malala shared the prize with Kailash Satyarthi, a children's rights activist from India.



Malala's Message

“One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world.”

Malala



What does Malala believe in?





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