Martin Luther King

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Leadership

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Martin Luther King Jr. was born in the year1929, as Michael Luther King Jr. (he later transformed his identity to Martin). Martin spent his early school years at isolated public schools situated in Georgia and graduated from high school at 15 years and later on received his first degree from the Morehouse College which was a notable Negro institution of Atlanta. This institution is where both Luther’s grandfather and father had graduated. Luther King studied theology at Crozer Theological College in Pennsylvania for a period of three years. Here, he got the privilege of being elected president of a predominantly white senior class. Following a path in education, Martin enrolled at Boston University where he was fortunate to complete his residence for the doctorate in 1953.

Martin’s efforts of being a strong worker for civil rights of the black race were seen when he joined the ministry and served as the pastor in Montgomery the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. By early December 1955, Martin had gained leadership of the first Negro nonviolent demonstration meant to raise awareness of black race discrimination in the United States. !957 marked an important year for Martin as he was elected as the President of the Southern Leadership Conference. This organization seemed to be very compatible with the goals of Luther King as it aimed at fighting for the civil rights of the blacks.

Martin Luther used this organization to travel over six million miles, speaking over two thousand times to people of his own race and inspiring them to fight for their rights. He was known to appear in incidents where there were injustice and violation of people’s rights. Martin was behind the organization of a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama (King Jr, 2012). This caught the attention of many nations from around the world and from his works of promoting justice, he became famous. He was well known for the slogan, “I have a dream” when he used it to deliver inspirational speeches on different platforms. At the age of 35, Martin had already received a Nobel Peace Prize. At the balcony of his motel room in Memphis Martin Luther King was assassinated in 1968.

References

King Jr, M. L. (2012). From Letter from Birmingham Jail. *Liberating faith: Religious voices for justice, peace, & ecological wisdom*, 177-187.