

21 MARCH

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

"THE PLAGUE OF RACISM IS INSIDIOUS, ENTERING INTO OUR MINDS AS SMOOTHLY AND QUIETLY AND INVISIBLY AS FLOATING AIRBORNE MICROBES ENTER INTO OUR BODIES TO FIND LIFELONG PURCHASE IN OUR BLOODSTREAM."

- MAYA ANGELOU -

WHY DO WE MARK THIS DAY?



The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on March 21. In 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid 'pass laws' on the 21st March.

Proclaiming the day in 1966, the United Nations General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- ✓ Why is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination celebrated?
- ✓ What does racial discrimination mean?
- ✓ Have you ever witnessed or experienced racial discrimination? If yes, how did you react?
- ✓ As a global citizen, I pledge to contribute to ending racial discrimination by

MEET TODAY'S GLOBAL CITIZEN



NELSON MANDELA

Nelson Mandela was the first president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He has dedicated his life ending the apartheid in the country and has served 27 years in prison. He has emphasized the reconciliation between the country's racial groups and formed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate past human rights violations. Recognized his lifetime struggles for democracy and social justice, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.