

Booker T. Washington and Education for Black People

The South lagged far behind other regions in public education, and African-Americans suffered the most.

The leading champion of black education was ex-slave Booker T. Washington. He taught in 1881 at the black normal and industrial school at Tuskegee, Alabama. His self-help approach to solving the nation's racial problems was labeled "accommodationist" because it stopped short of directly challenging white supremacy. Washington avoided the issue of social equality.

George Washington Carver taught and researched at Tuskegee Institute in 1896. He became an internationally famous agricultural chemist.

Black leaders, including Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois, attacked Booker T. Washington because Washington condemned the black race to manual labor and perpetual inferiority. Du Bois helped to form the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1910.

Booker T. Washington (1856-1915)

- educator reformer
- Preached a philosophy of self-help, racial solidarity and accommodation.
- accept discrimination for a time
- Argued for hard work and material prosperity.
- believed in education in the crafts, industrial and farming skills
- Patience
- win the respect of whites
- Then get accepted as citizens (integration)

W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963)

- scholar and political thinker
- No to Washington's strategy would serve only to perpetuate white oppression.
- Advocated political action and a civil rights agenda (he helped found the NAACP).
- social change could be accomplished by developing the small group of college-educated blacks he called "the Talented Tenth"

Battling for Black Rights

The **Civil Rights Act of 1964** gave the federal government more power to enforce school-desegregation orders and to prohibit racial discrimination in all kinds of public accommodations and employment.

President Johnson realized the problem that few blacks were registered to vote. The **24th Amendment**, passed in **1964**, abolished the poll tax in federal elections, yet blacks were still severely hampered from voting. Congress passed the **Voting Rights Act of 1965**, banning literacy tests and sending federal voter registers into several southern states.

Black Power

Days after the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed, a bloody riot erupted in **Watts**, a black ghetto in Los Angeles. Blacks were enraged by police brutality and burned and looted their own neighborhoods for a week. The **Watts explosion** marked increasing militant confrontation in the black struggle. **Malcolm X** deepened the division among black leaders. He was first inspired by the militant black nationalists in the Nation of Islam. He rallied black separatism and disapproved of the "blue-eyed white devils." In **1965**, he was shot and killed by a rival Nation of Islam.

The violence or threat of violence increased as the **Black Panther** party emerged, openly carrying weapons in the streets of Oakland, California. Just as the civil rights movement had achieved its greatest legal and political triumphs, more riots erupted. **Black unemployment** was nearly double than for whites.

On **April 4, 1968**, **Martin Luther King, Jr.** was shot and killed by a sniper in Memphis, Tennessee. Black voter registration eventually increased, and by the late 1960s, several hundred blacks held elected office in the Old South.

Question:	<u>Martin Luther King</u>	<u>Malcolm X</u>
Religion: Describe the religious outlook of King and Malcolm X	Southern Christian. He was a Baptist minister.	Influenced by the teachings of Mohammed. Became a Muslim after spending time in jail.
Approach to Civil Rights/ Equality for Blacks: Describe the methods each leader used to instruct his followers when fighting for equal rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-violent protesting. • Speaking out for non-violence • Passive resistance • Use what he called "Weapons of love:" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suspicious of whites; willing to use "any means necessary" to achieve equality. • Was a segregationist until his pilgrimage to Mecca.
Key Events: List a number of the events of the life of each person that were instrumental in making a person a leader.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery Bus Boycott (1955) • March in Washington (1963) • Won the Nobel Peace prize in 1964. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joined Black Muslims under Elijah Mohammed. • Travelled the world to learn about other black cultures.
Death: Describe the circumstances of the deaths of King and Malcolm X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 4th, 1968 • Death caused violent riots by blacks across the nation. • "I have been to the Mountain Top speech" predicted his death one day before. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assassinated by members of the Black Muslim movement. • Many scholars believe in a international conspiracy as he represented a threat to the Black muslims after breaking with Elija Mohammed.
Early Life : What events in the youth and early adulthood of two men determined their destiny?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decided to go into the ministry. Attended Morehouse College (GA) • Montgomery Bus boycott put him as leader of the movement. 	Imprisoned for drug use and distribution. Led to a conversion to spirituality.
Effects: Describe the effects each leader had on the Civil Rights Movement and the perception of blacks in America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception has changed towards larger freedom. • His death led to passage of civil rights legislation (1968) • Gave people strength and courage. 	Encouraged protest and instilled black pride.