

# Prisoner to President

I am exuberant and persistent!

I wonder will I ever see a free South Africa.

I hear the black South Africans souls tearing at the hands of injustice.

I see the angel of death in the eyes of my people.

I want to be bold and fearless and lead my people nonviolently from oppression to freedom.

I am exuberant and persistent!

I pretend that I am able to walk along side white South Africans with no fear or discrimination.

I feel the hunger of the black youth to be accepted as equals.

I touch the lives and dreams of my people for a united South Africa.

I worry that there will never be equality between white and black South Africans.

I cry for the pain, suffering and anguish the black South Africans deal with daily under apartheid.

I am exuberant and persistent!

I understand that to tear down the walls of injustice I have to open the hearts and minds of those in power.

I say that the land of South Africa should be a land with no racial division.

I dream of being South Africa's first black president.

I try to peacefully establish an undivided South Africa.

I hope to one day be free from this prison cell and be able to feel the sun kiss my skin again.

I am exuberant and persistent!

I am Nelson Mandela.



## *From Son of a Slave to Leader of Nigeria*

*I was the son of a slave and a commoner.  
I wondered what other nations were like.  
I hear my people's cries for help.  
I saw myself living in a free land someday.  
I wanted to be a history teacher.  
I was the son of a slave and a commoner.*

*I pretended to lead my people to freedom.  
I felt free people around the world lifting me up.  
I touched Nigeria's heart.  
I worried my people would never know liberty.  
I cried for those who had no hope.  
I was the man to lead my people to freedom.*

*I understand that God made all people.  
I say Nigeria should have independence.  
I dream of fairness for everyone.  
I try to make Nigeria and the world a better place.  
I hope my people can live without fear.*

*I am Abubakar Tafawa Balewa.*



# Jomo Kenyatta

I WAS AN OUTSPOKEN NATIONALIST AND THE FATHER OF MODERN KENYA.

I WONDERED ABOUT HOW I COULD HELP MY PEOPLE.

I HEARD PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARIES TEACHING

I SAW MANY UNIVERSITIES WITHIN EUROPE.

I WANTED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN AFRICAN PROTEST MOVEMENTS SO I JOINED THE KCA.

I WAS AN OUTSPOKEN NATIONALIST AND THE FATHER OF MODERN KENYA.

I PRETENDED THAT I WASN'T IN JAIL.

I FELT BORROWFUL WHEN THE MAU MAU BEGAN TO USE VIOLENCE AGAINST THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT AND WHITE SETTLERS.

I TOUCHED THE HEARTS OF MANY PEOPLE BY DEMANDING INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

I WORRIED THAT I WAS GOING TO BE BLAMED FOR THE VIOLENCE OF THE MAU MAU.

I CRIED WHEN I WAS WRONGLY CONVICTED OF MANAGING THEM.

I WAS AN OUTSPOKEN NATIONALIST, AND THE FATHER OF MODERN KENYA.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MAU MAU THOUGHT THE ONLY WAY TO MOVE TOWARDS SELF-GOVERNMENT UNDER AFRICAN LEADERSHIP WAS BY USING VIOLENCE.

I BELIEVE WE SHALL NOT USE VIOLENCE TO ACHIEVE AFRICAN POLITICAL GOALS.

I DREAM THAT MY COUNTRY WILL UNITE UNDER ONE FLAG, BLACKS AND WHITES.

I TRIED ASKING WHITES AND AFRICAN TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRY.

I HOPE TO UNIFY THE NEW NATION OF KENYA.

I AM

Jomo Kenyatta

INDEPENDENCE



## Jackie Robinson

I am talented and courageous

I wonder whether my children will face the same discrimination I do

I hear the cheers and jeers of baseball fans

I see the hate mail and threats of those against me

I want to play baseball without fear

I am talented and courageous

I pretend there is no racism in this country

I feel pressure to change the world

I touch hands of fans, both black and white

I worry that all of my hard work will come to nothing

I cry for young black boys who feel that dreaming is pointless

I am talented and courageous

I understand that the world cannot change overnight

I say it will change soon

I dream of the day when my son can take the field freely

I try to make that dream a reality

I hope my life will serve as an inspiration for others

I am talented and courageous

**I am Jackie Robinson!**

