

0. Mother Teresa: Caring for the Poor - Story Preface

1. Humble Beginnings
2. Plans for the Future
3. The Struggle Begins
4. The Evidence of Kindness
5. Saving the Children
6. Mother Teresa Gets Recognition



On October 1, 1996, President Bill Clinton made Mother Teresa an honorary American citizen, and issued this statement:

Today I am delighted to sign a resolution conferring Honorary United States Citizenship on Mother Teresa.

In 1950, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity. Since then, she has brought hope and love to millions of orphaned and abandoned children the world over. She has nursed the sick, cared for the poor, and shown us how we can make real our dreams for a just and good society.

To be an American citizen is to share certain fundamental values: That we have a duty to help others live up to their God-given promise, that we have a responsibility to build up and reinforce the bonds of community, that we have an obligation to extend our hands to those who cannot help themselves.

By this measure, Mother Teresa is already an American citizen. I am proud to make it official.

This tiny woman has been recognized as a modern-day saint and was admired worldwide. As she approached the end of her life, she was asked to sum up her life experiences. This tireless and selfless woman replied:

By blood and origin, I am an Albanian. My citizenship is Indian. I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling-- I belong to the whole world.

This is her remarkable story.

Footnotes:

- 1) Doig, D., Mother Teresa: Her people and her work., Book, Oct/13/1976, Oct/13/2015, <http://www.amazon.com/Mother-Teresa-Her-People-Work/dp/0060619406>
- 2) Egan, E., Such a vision of the street: Mother Teresa, GoodReads, Oct/13/1985, Oct/13/2015, http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1395425.Such_a_Vision_of_the_Street
- 3) Tames, R., Mother Teresa, Franklin Watts, Oct/13/1989, Oct/13/2015, <http://www.amazon.com/Mother-Teresa-Lifetimes-Paperbacks-Richard/dp/0531246132>

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Mother-Teresa-Caring-for-the-Poor>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Mother-Teresa-Caring-for-the-Poor>

Yesterday is gone.
Tomorrow has not yet
come. We have only
today. Let us begin.



Mother Teresa
ethnic Albanian, Indian
Roman Catholic nun
(1910-1997)

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