**NEED TO KNOW**

1. **Mohandas Gandhi-** Indian lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist, nonviolent resistance led to the successful campaign for India’s independence from British rule (ending British Raj in 1947), leadership in Indian National Congress in 1921, Salt March in 1930; assassinated 1949
2. **Jawaharlal Nehru-** Indian politician, anti-colonial nationalist. Upon India’s independence in 1947, he served as the country’s prime minister for 17 years; promoted parliamentary democracy, secularism, pacifism, and science and technology; he steered India clear of the two blocs of the Cold War (leading role in Non-Aligned Movement)
3. **Kwame Nkrumah-** First Prime Minister and President of Ghana, having led the Gold Coast to independence from Britain in 1957; influential advocate of Pan-Africanism, founding member of the Organization of African Unity; his administration was primarily socialist as well as nationalist; It funded national industrial and energy projects, developed a strong national education system and promoted a pan-Africanist culture; authoritarian regime as he repressed political opposition and conducted elections that were not free and fair (one-party state)
4. **Nelson Mandela-** Was a South African [anti-apartheid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_resistance_to_apartheid) revolutionary and political leader who served as the first [president of South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_South_Africa) from 1994 to 1999. He was the country's first black head of state and the first elected in a [fully representative](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_suffrage) democratic election. [His government](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Nelson_Mandela) focused on dismantling the legacy of [apartheid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apartheid) by tackling institutionalized racism and fostering racial [reconciliation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conflict_resolution). Ideologically an [African nationalist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_nationalist) and [socialist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_socialism), he served as the president of the [African National Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_National_Congress) (ANC) party from 1991 to 1997.
5. **Gamal Abdul Nasser-** 2nd president of Egypt from 1954 until his death in 1970; led the 1952 overthrow of the monarchy; secularist; popularity rose around the Arab world after his nationalization of the Suez Canal and his political victory in the subsequent Suez Crisis; called for pan-Arab unity
6. **Algerian National Liberation Front-** Established in 1954; Nationalist political party in Algeria; Algerian War (against France), sole legal and ruling political part of the Algerian state until other parties were legalized in 1989; the party purged internal dissent and ruled against Islamist groups
7. **Patrice Lumumba-** Congolese independence leader from Belgium; first prime minister of the independent Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in 1960- assassinated; African nationalist and pan-Africanist; appealed to the United States and the United Nations for help to suppress the Belgian-supported [Katangan secessionists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_of_Katanga" \o "State of Katanga). Both refused due to suspicions among the Western world that Lumumba ambiguously held pro-communist views. These suspicions deepened when he turned to the [Soviet Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soviet_Union) for assistance, which the [CIA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIA) described as a "classic communist takeover". Following his assassination, he was widely seen as a martyr for the wider pan-African movement. Over the years, inquiries have shed light on the events surrounding his death and, in particular, on the role played by Belgium, and the United States. In 2002, Belgium formally apologized for its role in the assassination.
8. **Ayatollah Khomeini-** Iranian political and religious leader who served as the 1st Supreme Leader of Iran from 1979 until his death in 1989. He was the founder of the [Islamic Republic of Iran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran) and the leader of the 1979 [Iranian Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iranian_Revolution), which saw the overthrow of the last [Shah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shah) of Iran, [Mohammad Reza Pahlavi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammad_Reza_Pahlavi), and the end of the [Persian monarchy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_monarchs_of_Persia)
9. **Fidel Castro-** Cuban revolutionary and politician who was the leader of [Cuba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuba) from 1959 to 2008, serving as the [prime minister of Cuba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_minister_of_Cuba) from 1959 to 1976 and [president](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Cuba) from 1976 to 2008. Ideologically a [Marxist–Leninist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marxist%E2%80%93Leninist) and Cuban [nationalist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalist), he also served as the [first secretary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretary_of_the_Communist_Party_of_Cuba) of the [Communist Party of Cuba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_Party_of_Cuba) from 1961 until 2011. Under his administration, Cuba became a [one-party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/One-party) [communist state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_state); industry and business were [nationalized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalized), and [state socialist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_socialist) reforms were implemented throughout society.
10. **Che Guevara-** Argentine [Marxist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marxist) revolutionary, physician, author, [guerrilla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guerrilla_warfare) leader, diplomat, and [military theorist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_theorist). A major figure of the [Cuban Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuban_Revolution), his stylized visage has become a ubiquitous [countercultural](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counterculture_of_the_1960s) symbol of rebellion and global insignia [in popular culture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Che_Guevara_in_popular_culture). As a young medical student, he traveled throughout [South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_America) and was radicalized by the poverty, hunger, and disease he witnessed. His burgeoning desire to help overturn what he saw as the capitalist exploitation of Latin America by the United States prompted his involvement in [Guatemala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guatemala)'s social reforms under President [Jacobo Árbenz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacobo_%C3%81rbenz" \o "Jacobo Árbenz), whose eventual [CIA-assisted overthrow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1954_Guatemalan_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat) at the behest of the [United Fruit Company](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Fruit_Company) solidified his political ideology
11. **Ronald Reagan-** U.S. President in 1980s; trickle-down economics (free trade/free market), Iran Contra Affair, reduce the growth of [government spending](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_federal_budget) (EXCEPT MILITARY= Star Wars Speech), reduce the [federal income tax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_income_tax) and [capital gains tax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capital_gains_tax), reduce government [regulation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regulation), and tighten the money supply in order to reduce [inflation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inflation)
12. **Margaret Thatcher-** Prime minister of UK from 1979 to 1990; first woman; economic policies emphasized deregulation (particularly in the financial sector), the privatization of state-owned companies, and reducing the power and influence of trade unions
13. **Jonas Salk-** Polio vaccine inventor (1950s); did not patent vaccine and said “Could you patent the sun?”
14. **Norman Borlaug-** Green Revolution guy (1950s-1960s); developed agricultural techniques (modern agricultural production with semi-dwarf, high-yield, disease-resistant wheat varieties) in Mexico, Pakistan, and India
15. **Mikhail Gorbachev-** 8th and final leader of the Soviet Union; withdrew from Afghanistan; limit nuclear weapons with Reagan; glasnost; allow elections of multiple parties= destabilized Communist control of country= resigned
16. **Saddam Hussein-** 5th president of Iraq from 1979-2003; member of Arab Socialist Ba’ath Party; Arab nationalism; suppressed Shi’a and Kurdish movements; totalitarian government with repressive authoritarian regime; Iran-Iraq War; Persian Gulf War; U.S. led coalition invaded Iraq and deposed this leader after they accused Iraq of possessing weapons of mass destruction and having ties to al-Qaeda; convicted f crimes against humanity and executed in 2006
17. **Mujahideen-** Members of a number of guerrilla groups operating in Afghanistan during the [Afghan War](https://www.britannica.com/event/Afghan-War) (1978–92) that opposed the invading [Soviet](https://www.britannica.com/place/Soviet-Union) forces and eventually toppled the Afghan communist government. Rival factions thereafter fell out among themselves, precipitating the rise of one faction, the [Taliban](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Taliban), and an opposing coalition, the Northern Alliance.