

100 greatest Africans of all time

1. Nelson Mandela	A living legend. The symbol of Africa. Freedom fighter. The most recognisable face in the world.
2. Kwame Nkrumah	Former president of Ghana. He envisaged the African Union long before it became a reality. His footprints are still blueprint for us to follow.
3. Robert Mugabe	President of Zimbabwe. Fearless pan-Africanist of recent times who is fighting for the land which belonged to his ancestors.
4. Julius Nyerere 	Former president of Tanzania. A great leader who refused to allow the trappings of power to corrupt him. He was respected by his country, Africa and the rest of the world.
5. Marcus Garvey	A visionary pan-African leader and thinker. A practical man, he could have united all blacks if he had not been jailed.
6. Patrice Lumumba	A pan African hero and symbol of African nationalism. A martyr of the African cause.
7. Martin Luther King	African-American religious and political leader who changed the course of life for all African-Americans. His speech in 1968 "I have a dream" has become a classic.
8. Thabo Mbeki 	President of South Africa. The representative of the young generation of new African statesmen. A Renaissance man.
9. Malcolm X	African-American political leader. His resistance against racism helped African-Americans to realise their dream.
10. Kofi Annan	UN secretary general. Africa's greatest diplomat of all time. He is handling the reforms at the UN in a calm and efficient way.
11. Muhammad Ali	The greatest boxer of all . "If you can do it, it ain't bragging," he once said. Civil rights activist. The loudest mouth in the world.
Steve Biko	South African activist tortured to death by the apartheid police. He famously said: "the greatest weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed".
Muammar Gaddafi	Libyan Guide and African leader. He has realised you cannot defy the whole world. A rallying point for African heads of state.
12. Winnie Mandela	The most popular woman in Africa. South Africa political leader and former wife of Nelson Mandela.
13. Shaka Zulu	A Zulu king and military genius. An empire builder who wanted to unite all Zulu chiefdoms into one strong Zulu nation for the benefit of all Zulus.
14. Chinua Achebe	A great Nigerian writer and recorder of African history. His first book, Things Fall Apart, has sold 8 million copies worldwide and translated into 50 languages.
15. W. E. B. Du Bois 	African-American intellectual and political leader. The pioneer of African liberation and conscience-father of pan-Africanism.
16. Haile Selassie	The last emperor of Ethiopia. A liberator of his country and the continent.
Thomas Sankara	Former president of Burkina Faso. He changed the country's name from the colonial Upper Volta.
17. Pele 	African-Brazilian footballer. The greatest. His feet and feats on the football pitch brought huge pride and honour to all blacks.
18. Bob Marley	Jamaican musician and creative genius. He touched the hearts and minds of millions worldwide.
19. Olusegun Obasanjo	President of Nigeria. A former military officer who voluntarily gave up power to civilians in 1979. He was returned to power in 1999 to save a worsening situation.
20. George Weah	Liberian footballer and world best player in 2000. An icon of selflessness who has provided financial help out of his own pocket to transport his country's national team to a major tournaments.
21. Kenneth Kaunda 	Former president of Zambia and one of the few first generation independence leaders still alive. He played a vital role in the African liberation struggle.
22. Cheikh Anta Diop	Senegalese writer and one of Africa's greatest historians. His work on Ancient Egypt has become a classic.
Roger Milla	Cameroonian footballer and one of the best in Africa. A huge role model for the African youth.
23. Gamal Abdel Nasser	Former Egyptian president. The pioneer of Arab nationalism and unity.
24. Sir Seretse Khama	Botswana's first president. He inherited an impoverished and little known obscure state and left an increasingly democratic and prosperous country.
25. Maheru Imhotep	Historic figure. Imhotep was chief architect to the Third Dynasty King Djoser (2687-2668 BC). He was in charge of building and designing the step pyramid at Saqqara.