

Mother Teresa

*“Speak tenderly to them.
Let there be kindness in your face,
in your eyes, in your smile,
in the warmth of your greeting.
Always have a cheerful smile.
Don't only give your care,
but give your heart as well.*

*One of the greatest diseases
is to be nobody to anybody*

*We can do no great things;
only small things with great love.*

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

Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa was born in Albania in 1910, and died in 1997. Her real name is Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. She became famous the world over for starting the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta, India. She began this work in 1950 and for over forty years, she looked after the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her humanitarian work.

Agnes developed an interest in helping the less fortunate at a very young age. She was fascinated by stories of people who dedicated their life to help others. She decided to become a nun when she was 12. She joined the Sisters of Loreto as a missionary when she was 18. She initially went to Ireland, to learn English.

She arrived in India in 1929 and became a nun two years later. The poverty and suffering she saw around her in Calcutta deeply disturbed her. A famine in 1943 killed thousands and worsened the situation. In 1946 she received a call from God. "I was to leave the convent and help the poor while living among them. It was an order," she said.

She was an international symbol of charity, visiting many countries to help poor children. At the time of her death her organization was operating in 123 countries. After she died, the Pope started the process that might one day make her a saint. An international survey ranked her as the "most admired person of the 20th Century."

A1. Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right.

1. looked after	a. spell-bound
2. humanitarian	b. at first
3. fortunate	c. troubled
4. fascinated	d. thought highly of
5. initially	e. icon
6. poverty	f. cared for
7. disturbed	g. public-spirited
8. symbol	h. working
9. operating	i. need
10. admired	j. lucky

A2. In one of her famous quotations Mother Teresa recommends us to be ...

- A) kind
- B) cheerful
- C) selfish
- D) greeting

A3. The quotation "One of the greatest diseases is to be nobody to anybody" is about ...

- A) disease
- B) happiness
- C) life
- D) education

A4. Mother Teresa The Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta

- A) knocked down
- B) set up
- C) dismissed
- D) found

A5. Mother Teresa ...

- A) was born in India and lived in Albania

- B) was born in Albania and lived in India
- C) was born in India and died in Albania
- D) was born and died in Albania

A6. Why did she win the Nobel Peace Prize?**T** **F**

- A) Because she looked after needy people
- B) Because she neglected poor people
- C) Because she assisted disadvantaged people
- D) Because she cared for privileged people

A7. Mother Teresa ...**T** **F**

- A) became a nun at the age of 12
- B) was charmed by stories of charitable people
- C) became a nun in 1931
- D) became a nun in 1929

A8. Why did so many people die in 1943?**T** **F**

- A) Because of hunger
- B) Because they were killed by other people
- C) Because of starvation
- D) Because of deprivation

A9. Mother Teresa ...**T** **F**

- A) is not yet a saint
- B) is known all over the world
- C) was a local symbol of charity
- D) founded a very active organization

A10. What is the writer's intention?**T** **F**

- A) To celebrate a great example of love in action
- B) To make Mother Teresa a saint
- C) To condemn an international symbol of charity
- D) To provide a great example of solidarity