

# Malala Yousafzai

## Backstory

Malala Yousafzai was born July 12th, 1997 in Mingora, Pakistan. As a young girl, she became focus on education for girls and started protesting. This lead to the death threats against her by the Taliban. Then, on October 9th, 2012, a Taliban gunman shot Malala in the head as she was traveling home from school that day. Malala fell instantly and was rushed to the hospital, where she barely survived. She had extensive reconstructive surgeries at two hospitals in Pakistan and Britain. After that incident, Malala has continued to be a spokesperson for women's education in the Middle East. In 2013, she was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize, but did not win. Then again in 2014, she was nominated and won the Nobel Peace Prize and became the youngest person ever to win this award.

## Why she is famous

Malala is probably most notable for being the youngest person ever to win the Nobel Peace Prize. She also wrote a book called I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban. Malala has raised over 3 million dollars on sold copies all around the world. Malala says, "I hope the book will reach people around the world, so they realize just how difficult it is for some children to get access to education."

# What Malala does today to impact people

Today, Malala builds schools all over the Middle East for those who don't have any form of good education. She also goes around the world and speaks out about the importance of education. The first school she built was a school for Syrian refugee girls in Lebanon. This school was designed to hold 400 girls from ages 14-18. "Today, on first day of officially becoming an adult, I demand that all governmental leaders invest more on books than bullets for better being of our world's education," Malala proclaimed in one of her new school's classroom.

## Her Family

Malala's family consists of her, her dad, her mom, and her two brothers. Her dad, Ziauddin Yousafzai, is an Pakistani diplomat. Her mom, Tor Pekai Yousafzai, goes with Malala wherever she goes. Her older brother Khushal Yousafzai (14), and younger brother Atal Yousafzai (9) stay with their dad at home in Mingora.

# Summary

In summary, Malala was born and raised in Mingora, Pakistan. She became focused on childhood education and one day was shot in the head by the Taliban. After multiple surgeries, she began speaking out for childhood education and won the Nobel Peace prize in 2014. Today she travel around the world, building schools and speaking out for education.