

Phase 1: Early years

- This person was born in 1931.
- Though he wanted to become a doctor, he trained as a teacher because his family couldn't afford medical school.
- After three years of teaching high school, he began to study theology.
- He was ordained as a priest in the Anglican Church 1960.
- From 1962 to 1966, he studied theology in England, where he graduated with a master's degree.
- In the 1970s, he was Bishop of Lesotho (pronounced "luh-soo-too") and in 1978 he became the first black General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches.
- His advocacy for equal rights was not well-received by his government, so they revoked his passport to prevent him from traveling and speaking abroad.

He said: *"Inclusive, good-quality education is a foundation for dynamic and equitable societies."*

Phase 2: Fighting Apartheid

- Noting the inferior education that Blacks were subjected to, this person left teaching in a quest to improve the lives of Black people in his country.
- As a leader in the Anglican church, he now had a platform to publicly denounce the system that reigned his country – apartheid – as being evil and un-Christian.
- He called for equal rights for all citizens of his country and an equal system of education.
- He became well-known for fighting apartheid in his own country and struggling for human rights globally.
- His fight with his government drew international attention, so he got his passport back.
- As a bishop in the apartheid era, with police brutality roiling the country, this person attended many (Black) [township](#) funerals, where he continued to preach for peace.
- He denounced violence and once courageously put himself between angry young mourners at a funeral and a man accused of being an apartheid collaborator, saving the man's life.
- In 1984, he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end apartheid.
- The award helped to pave the way for stricter economic sanctions against his country in the 1980s, which he had been calling for.

He said: *"I'm not interested in picking up crumbs of compassion thrown from the table of someone who considers himself my master. I want the full menu of rights."*

Phase 3: Truth and Reconciliation

- At the time of his appointment as the Archbishop of Cape Town, this person was in Atlanta, Georgia, receiving the Martin Luther King, Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize.
- “Wow, yippee!” this person shouted after voting at age 62 in South Africa’s first democratic elections in April 1994.
- A month later, he introduced Nelson Mandela as his country’s first Black president.
- A year later, he was appointed by Nelson Mandela’s Government of National Unity to chair his country’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).
- With this person at the helm, the TRC was to investigate past human rights abuses committed by both pro and anti-apartheid groups.
- Between 1996 and 1998, some of the darkest days of apartheid brutality were re-lived in a public way, at a series of hearings that this person held around the country.
- It was "a space within which victims could share the story of their trauma with the nation," this person would later write in the commission's seven-volume report.
- Though many disagreed, he insisted that one should not think of justice as only punitive in nature.
- Unlike the Nuremberg trials of Nazi leaders, this person and his 14 fellow commissioners gathered "not to judge the morality of people's actions, but to act as an incubation chamber for national healing, reconciliation, and forgiveness."
- In 1998, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report about crimes and atrocities that occurred in South Africa during apartheid. This person continued his fight for justice long after.

He said: *“My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together.”*

Phase 4: Continued Activism

- As the years progressed, this person became more distant from South African's post-apartheid governing party, the African National Congress (ANC). He criticized ANC officials for focusing on personal gain while much of the country still lived in poverty.
- He was quoted at a memorial service for members of the ANC's apartheid-era armed wing in Cape Town: "Do you remember the price that was paid for our freedom? ... We had some fantastic young people. They paid a very heavy price. We all paid a very heavy price. And for what? So some of us can have three motorcars?"
- He spoke out even when his stance it collided with institutions that were close to his heart.
- This person became one of the world's most prominent religious leaders to champion LGBTQ rights.
- He continued his activism in retirement in campaigns against HIV/AIDs, tuberculosis, poverty, racism, xenophobia, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, corruption in politics, and the occupation of Palestine, among others.
- He was a passionate climate activist, recognizing how climate change will greatly affect present and future generations.
- He died on December 26, 2021, at the age of 90. He was seen as South Africa's moral compass but always maintained his humility. He would tell people to call him Arch.
- In keeping with the humility he'd shown in life, this person didn't want any lavish spending on his funeral and requested the cheapest coffin available. he wanted to be cremated privately and his ashes interred in the cathedral.

He said: *"There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."*