

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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."

246 words
Flesch Kinkaid 8.1

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