



A black and white portrait of Nelson Mandela, showing the back of his head and shoulder, wearing a dark suit jacket. The portrait is positioned on the left side of the page.

A TRIBUTE TO

Nelson Mandela

1918-2013

A black and white close-up photograph of an elderly man with short, graying hair. He is smiling broadly, showing his teeth, and has his hands pressed against his cheeks. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of his skin and the intensity of his expression. The background is plain and light-colored.

RESILIENCE

“THERE IS NO EASY WALK TO FREEDOM ANYWHERE, AND MANY OF US WILL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH AGAIN AND AGAIN BEFORE WE REACH THE MOUNTAINTOP OF OUR DESIRES.”

Nothing he achieved was inevitable. In the arc of his life, we see a man who earned his place in history through struggle and shrewdness, persistence and faith. He tells us what's possible not just in the pages of dusty history books, but in our own lives as well. — President Barack Obama



COURAGE

**"I LEARNED
THAT COURAGE
WAS NOT THE
ABSENCE OF
FEAR, BUT THE
TRIUMPH OVER
IT. THE BRAVE
MAN IS NOT
HE WHO
DOES NOT
FEEL AFRAID,
BUT HE WHO
CONQUERS
THAT
FEAR."**

Mr. Mandela was more than one of the greatest pillars of our time. He was one of our greatest teachers. He taught by example. He sacrificed so much ... for freedom and equality, for democracy and justice.

— United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon

CONVICTION

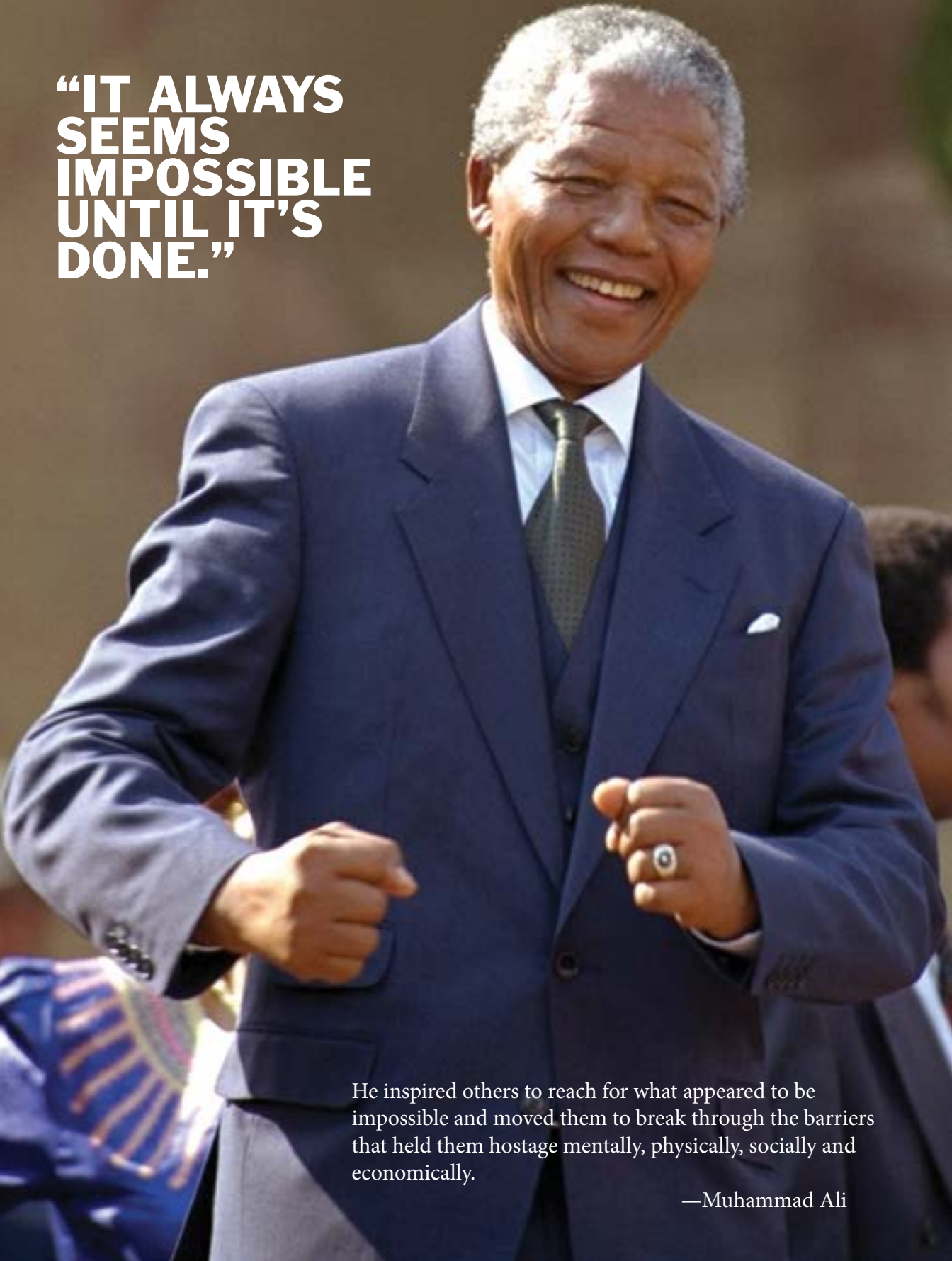
“DURING MY LIFETIME I HAVE DEDICATED MYSELF TO THE STRUGGLE OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE. I HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST WHITE DOMINATION, AND I HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST BLACK DOMINATION. I HAVE CHERISHED THE IDEAL OF A DEMOCRATIC AND FREE SOCIETY IN WHICH ALL PERSONS LIVE TOGETHER IN HARMONY AND WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES. IT IS AN IDEAL WHICH I HOPE TO LIVE FOR AND TO ACHIEVE. BUT IF NEEDS BE, IT IS AN IDEAL FOR WHICH I AM PREPARED TO DIE.”

Mr. Mandela was the pride of the African people. He has dedicated his entire life to the development and progress of the African content.

— Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao

VISION

**“IT ALWAYS
SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
UNTIL IT’S
DONE.”**



He inspired others to reach for what appeared to be impossible and moved them to break through the barriers that held them hostage mentally, physically, socially and economically.

—Muhammad Ali



FORGIVENESS

**“RESENTMENT IS
LIKE DRINKING
POISON AND
THEN HOPING IT
WILL KILL YOUR
ENEMIES.”**

It took a man like Mandela to free not just the prisoner, but the jailer as well; to show that you must trust others so that they may trust you; to teach that reconciliation is not a matter of ignoring a cruel past, but a means of confronting it with inclusion and generosity and truth.

—President Barack Obama

LOVE

“NO ONE IS BORN HATING ANOTHER PERSON BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN, OR HIS BACKGROUND, OR HIS RELIGION. PEOPLE MUST LEARN TO HATE, AND IF THEY CAN LEARN TO HATE, THEY CAN BE TAUGHT TO LOVE, FOR LOVE COMES MORE NATURALLY TO THE HUMAN HEART THAN ITS OPPOSITE.”



Mandela has set out an insurmountable example...that it is only through dialogue and cooperation that discrepancies can be resolved and a civilized relationship established between those who think differently.

— Cuban President Raúl Castro

JUSTICE



**“LET THERE BE
WORK, BREAD,
WATER AND SALT
FOR ALL.”**

To him, life was all about service to others.
He mingled with kings, queens and presidents. ...
At the core, he was a man of the people.

—General Thanduxolo Mandela

A close-up photograph of Nelson Mandela, an elderly man with white hair, laughing heartily. He is wearing a patterned, light-colored shirt with a dark geometric design. His hands are clasped in front of him, and a gold ring is visible on his left hand. The background is a patterned chair with green, brown, and gold tones. The overall mood is joyful and celebratory.

SHINE

**“THERE IS NO
PASSION TO BE
FOUND PLAYING
SMALL - IN
SETTLING FOR A
LIFE THAT IS LESS
THAN THE ONE
YOU ARE CAPABLE
OF LIVING.”**

His life was just an extraordinary journey, from beginning to end, with such an effect, both on his own country, and on the rest of the world. So, enjoy today, enjoy and celebrate what he achieved. We may not see his like again.

— former British prime minister Gordon Brown

POWER



“EVERYONE CAN RISE ABOVE THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES AND ACHIEVE SUCCESS IF THEY ARE DEDICATED TO AND PASSIONATE ABOUT WHAT THEY DO.”

The life of Nelson Mandela is a testament to the power of a single individual who is focused and directed on accomplishing something that advances humanity.

His life is also validation of the secret of life as expressed by Grandfather in the short story “Listen to the Ancestors:” Love begets love, and evil begets evil. And love will always overcome evil, when love acts to. Yet evil always acts while love often waits. Yet a life is but a moment in time without a proper name; while those we enhance or harm, enhance or harm, and enhance or harm for countless generations.

We Can Heal Our Community.
So look in that mirror, and
decide to Be A Hero!

-Howard D. Denson