

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

GOALS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

- 1. End Segregation



GOALS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

■ 2. Voting Rights



THE SIT IN MOVEMENT



- Students staged sit-ins at restaurants
- Sit in white only areas, owners could not make money
- It had to be non-violent to be effective

THE SIT IN MOVEMENT

- The leaders of the movement were afraid that students did not have the discipline to remain non-violent when provoked
- They did, however, remain peaceful



THE FREEDOM RIDERS

- Teams of African-Americans and whites rode buses into the South to protest the continued illegal segregation
- Organized by James Farmer
- When they arrived in Anniston, Birmingham and Montgomery, angry mobs attacked them, slashed tires, threw rocks into windows. Riders were beaten by bats and chains



THE FREEDOM RIDERS

- Kennedy was about to have a meeting with Khrushchev. Wanted the riders to “cool off.”
- James Farmer replied by continuing the rides



THE FREEDOM RIDES



- Kennedy makes a deal with a Senator from Mississippi: James Eastland
- Eastland convinces state to not use violence against riders, Kennedy won't protest arrests
- Kept the deal, no violence ensued

MLK “WE NEED A CRISIS”

- MLK frustrated the Kennedy was stalling the Civil Rights Bill
- Decides to launch demonstrations in Birmingham, knowing it would cause violence
- Only way to get Kennedy to act



VIOLENCE IN BIRMINGHAM

- MLK was arrested after 8 days of protests
- While in prison, wrote famous “Letters from a Birmingham Jail”
 - Argued it was ok to disobey law because they were following a higher moral law based on divine justice
- Millions watched violence on TV
- Police used clubs, dogs, and high pressure fire hoses to respond to protests
- Outraged, Kennedy ordered aides to prepare new Civil Rights Bill

MARCH ON WASHINGTON



- The peace and dignity of the march had built a strong momentum for the Civil Rights Bill
- MLK's Famous "I Have a Dream" speech

CIVIL RIGHTS BILL OF 1964

- After several months of debate and political complications, Johnson signs the Civil Rights Bill of 1964



WHAT DID IT DO?

- Gave the federal government power to prevent racial segregation
- Made segregation illegal in most places of public accommodation
- Gave citizens of all races and nationalities equal access to restaurants, libraries, theaters, etc.
- Attorney General had more power to bring lawsuits that forced school desegregation
- Established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission which monitors job discrimination

- What was missing from the Civil Rights Bill of 1964?

24TH AMENDMENT



- Eliminated poll taxes in federal elections, but not state
- Blacks still had trouble voting
- Between June and October in 1964, 24 African American businesses and churches were destroyed in Mississippi
- MLK: new law needed, staged another protest

THE SELMA TO MONTGOMERY MARCH

- In Selma, blacks the majority, but only 3% registered to vote
- King “We’re not asking, we’re demanding the ballot”
- King and 2,000+ arrested on the 54 mile march to vote
- Violence pursued, African Americans beaten with clubs
- “Bloody Sunday:” Demonstrators approached a bridge to kneel and pray, they were beaten by 200 State Troopers in full view of camera
- 70 were injured and hospitalized



VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

- Authorized the Attorney General to send Federal Examiner to register qualified voters
- No more literacy tests
- By the end of the year, 250,000 African Americans were registered
- More black leaders, turning point in movement



BLACK POWER

- Impatient with the non-violent movement, young African Americans called for black power
- Black Power: Should control the social, political and economic direction of their struggle



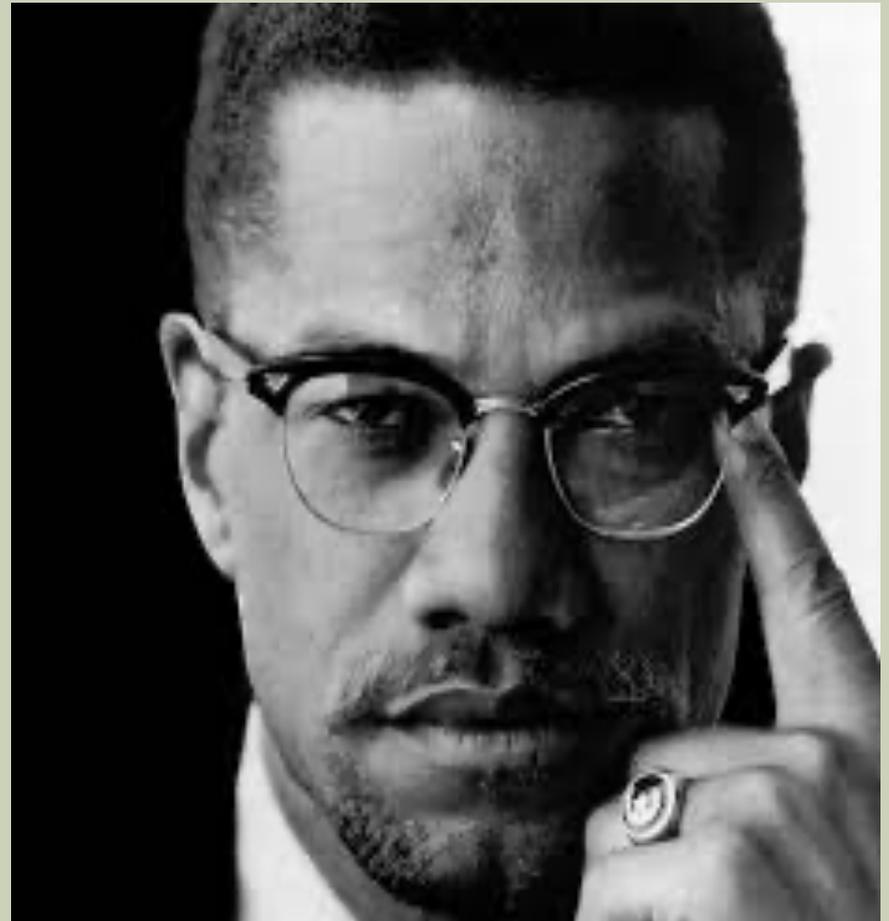
BLACK POWER



- Pride in black culture: racial tension rather than cultural assimilation
- Afros and African-style clothing

MALCOM X

- Became symbol of black power movement
- Joined Nation of Islam: preached black nationalism
- Believed in separatism: blacks should separate themselves from whites and form self-governing communities
- Advocated for self defense, violence when necessary



MALCOM X



- Went to Mecca in Saudi Arabia
- Saw different races worshipping together, concluded that an integrated society was possible
- Broke away from the Nation of Islam, criticized them
- Assassinated by 3 members of the Nation of Islam in 1965

BLACK PANTHERS

- Malcom X's ideas influenced a new generation of militant African American leaders
- Huey Newton and Bobby Seale organized the Black Panther Party for self-defense
- Believed in black power, black nationalism and economic self-sufficiency
- Recruited members from poor urban communities
- Believed that a revolution was necessary to grant them equal rights



ASSASSINATION OF MLK



- MLK went to Memphis in March of 1968 to strike for sanitation workers
- Wanted to lobby the federal govt. to commit billions of dollars to ending poverty and unemployment
- April 4, assassinated by sniper James Earl Ray, who shot him while MLK was on the balcony of his hotel room

CIVIL RIGHTS BILL OF 1968

- Contained a fair housing provision outlawing discrimination in housing sales and rentals

