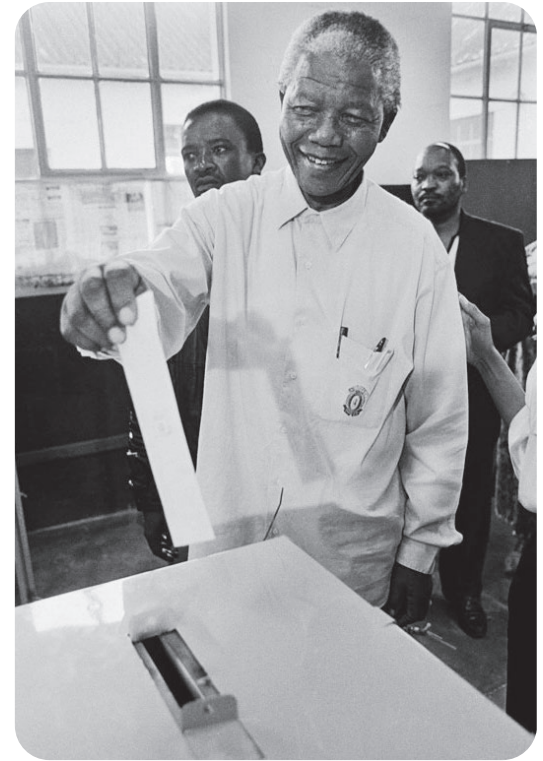


FREEDOM DAY

“The birth of our South African nation has, like any other, passed through a long and often painful process. The ultimate goal of a better life has yet to be realized. But if any one day marked the crossing of the divide from a past of conflict and division to the possibility of unity and peace; from inequality to equality; from a history of oppression to a future of freedom, it is **April 27, 1994.**”

- from “Speech by President Nelson Mandela at the Freedom Day Celebrations,” April 27, 1995

South Africa commemorates Freedom Day every year on April 27 to celebrate its first democratic elections, which took place in 1994. The 1994 election marks the triumph of the courageous, liberatory struggle of Black South Africans against colonialism, segregation, apartheid, and White minority rule. The election established a democratic government with Nelson Mandela as President. The election itself was the result of negotiations between the South African government, the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party, and other liberation movements. The elections were peaceful, although there were threats of violence.



commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mandela_voting_in_1994.jpg#file

We hope to inspire you to continue Mandela’s legacy by committing to service in your communities. Learn more about MPM’s “My Mandela Pledge” [here](#).

#MyMandela67