

Who Was Mother Teresa?

Mother Teresa lived in India. She built hospitals and schools for the poor. People called her the “saint of the gutters” because of her kindness to sick and homeless people from the streets.



Setting the Scene

Calcutta, India

Calcutta—also called Kolkata—is the third largest city in India. It is hot, busy, and colorful.



1910

Agnes Bojaxhiu (born YAD Joo) is born in Skopje, in Macedonia.

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1928

Agnes travels to Ireland to become a nun. In December, she sails to India.

1931

Agnes—now Sister Teresa—begins teaching in Calcutta.

1948

Sister Teresa begins working among the poor.

1950

Sister Teresa starts the Missionaries of Charity and becomes Mother Teresa.

1952

Mother Teresa opens a home for the dying poor in Calcutta.

1965

The Missionaries of Charity open a home in Venezuela.

1979

Mother Teresa wins the Nobel Peace Prize.

1997

Mother Teresa dies at the age of 87.

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