

# How have significant black individuals changed life in Britain?

## Key Vocabulary

colony	A colony is a piece of land that another country has taken over and rules.
Commonwealth	The Commonwealth is a group of 54 independent countries who joined together to promote peace, prosperity and democracy. Almost all of them are former British colonies and the Queen is the head of the Commonwealth. It began in 1931.
demobbed	If you are demobbed you are released from your service in the military, when a war ends many men and women are 'demobbed'.
discrimination	Treating someone unjustly because of a characteristic they have, e.g. gender, race, age, a disability.
empire	When a country has a lot of colonies it is called an Empire.
immigration	This is when you move permanently to another country.
indigenous	Indigenous or native peoples are the people who are living in a country originally.
migrant	Someone who moves to a new place to find work or better living conditions.
Mother Country	In an empire the mother country is the country that rules (e.g. Britain, Spain, Portugal, France etc..)
plantation	Large farms that grow crops such as sugar and tobacco.
racism	Treating people differently or believing they are different because of their race/ colour of their skin.
Transatlantic Slave Trade	In the 1600s African people were taken against their will across the Atlantic. They were bought and sold as slaves and made to work in the European plantations.

## Events and Places



The 8000 mile journey that the ship the **Empire Windrush** made from the Caribbean to the London docks in 1948.



The annual Notting Hill Carnival, a celebration of Caribbean music, dance and culture that first began in London in 1966.

**1948** the British Nationality Act gives all commonwealth citizens the right to settle and work in the UK.  
**1958** Race Riots in many UK cities.  
**1962** Commonwealth Immigration Act restricts those who can come freely to Britain.  
**1965 and 1968** Race Relations Act makes discriminating against people in the UK because of their colour or race illegal.

**1492**  
Christopher Columbus arrived in the Caribbean.

**1500s and 1600s**  
Europeans send ships and people to the Caribbean and establish colonies. The Transatlantic slave trade begins.

**1722**  
It becomes illegal for free Black Africans living in England to be captured and taken back to the Caribbean.

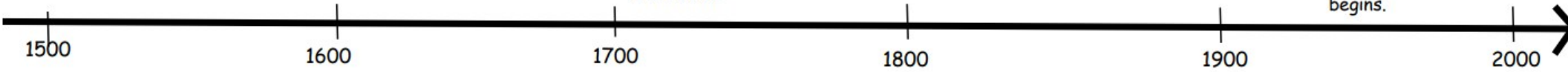
**1807**  
Britain abolishes the slave trade.

**1833**  
Britain abolishes slavery.

**1939-45**  
Men and women from Britain's colonies fought in WWII.

**1948**  
The **Windrush** arrived; postwar immigration begins.

**1960s**  
Caribbean countries gain independence from Britain.





Vocabulary	Definition
Activism	The effort to promote or bring about social change.
Civil Rights	The rights of citizens to political and social freedom and equality.
Protest	A public demonstration expressing strong objection to something.
Segregation	The separation of people, often based on race or ethnicity.
Equality	The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.
Discrimination	Unjust treatment of different categories of people, often based on race.
Nonviolent	Using peaceful methods to achieve goals, especially in protest.
Democracy	A system of government where the people have the power to make decisions.
Legacy	Something handed down by a predecessor; what someone leaves behind after their time.
Inspiration	A person or thing that motivates others to achieve or create.
Windrush Generation	People who arrived in the UK from the Caribbean between 1948 and 1971, marking an important migration period.
Windrush Children	The descendants of the Windrush Generation who contributed to British society and culture.



### Interesting Facts

More than 500 Caribbean migrants arrived on the MV Empire Windrush in 1948, marking the beginning of significant migration to the UK. The Windrush Children faced challenges such as discrimination and were crucial in shaping modern British culture, especially in music and arts.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech is considered one of the most powerful speeches in history. Rosa Parks is often called "the mother of the civil rights movement" for her brave actions in Montgomery, Alabama. Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison fighting against apartheid, a system of racial segregation in South Africa. In 1992, Earl Cameron became the first black actor to break into British cinema with the film "Pool of London." The British poet and activist, Benjamin Zephaniah, uses his platform to advocate for social justice and education. Lenny Henry is a well-known comedian and actor who highlights issues of diversity within the entertainment industry.

