



Leymah Gbowee

THE PEACE BRINGER

Leymah Gbowee was born in Liberia in 1972. Her childhood was full of laughter, but everything changed when war came. At just 17 she saw how violence could hurt families and tear communities apart. She wanted to help, but wondered how one could person stop a war?

Leymah studied trauma counselling and began to gather women—mothers, grandmothers, students—from all walks of life. They wore white clothes and marched peacefully to protest war. Christian and Muslim women stood side by side.

Some people laughed at them. Others said women had no place in politics. But they kept marching, singing, and praying.

Leymah spoke to the president and even blocked doors to peace meetings, refusing to let the men leave until they agreed to end the war. It worked. In 2003, Liberia's war finally ended.

In 2012 she founded the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa (GPFA) and later, won a Nobel Peace Prize. She showed peace doesn't always come from power—it can come from unity, bravery, and persistence.



Leymah Gbowee's story teaches us that peace is possible, even in the darkest times. Her courage reminds us that even the softest voices can lead the loudest change.

Lydia