Florence Nightingale

Florence was born on 12th May 1820 in Florence, Italy. She was born into a rich family and they moved to England in 1821.

As a young woman, Florence heard God telling her to care for others, so she became a nurse.

Florence and the Crimean War

The war began in 1853 and Florence was keen to go and help. At the hospital, there weren't enough medicines or beds, which meant that some soldiers had to rest on the dirty floor. Men were dying from infections, food was

mouldy and there were no toilets, which caused a terrible smell. Florence and the other nurses cleaned the hospital and made sure they washed their hands to stop spreading germs. Florence also organised better food for the soldiers. These changes helped to save many lives.

Did You Know?

Florence was given a nickname by the soldiers. They called her 'The Lady with the Lamp' because she walked around the wards at night with her lantern.

Meeting the Queen

Florence told Queen Victoria about the problems with the Army hospitals. The Army started training doctors and conditions in hospitals got better.

Later in Life

The Nightingale Training School was set up in 1860 and started training nurses.

In 1883, Florence was given the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria. She died in London on 13th August, 1910.









Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale died in 1910 but is still remembered for being the founder of modern-day nursing.

Florence was born on 12th May 1820 in Florence, Italy. She was born into a rich, upper-class British family. The family moved to England in 1821.

Florence the Nurse

She had a strong faith and believed that God had instructed her to dedicate her life to looking after others, so she decided to become a nurse. Her mother was disappointed with her decision as

she thought that Florence should devote all of her time to becoming a mother and wife.

At the age of 33, Florence became superintendent at the Institute for the Care of Sick Gentlewomen in London, however, she only worked there for a short period of time. The Crimean War broke out in 1853; Britain, Turkey and France fought against Russia. Florence was keen to go and help when reports reached Britain about the horrendous conditions for the wounded soldiers. Along with a staff of volunteer nurses and nuns, she travelled to Scutari to do her bit.

Florence and her team found that the wounded soldiers were not receiving decent food. She also found that medicines and beds were in short supply, hygiene was poor and infections were common, in fact, more soldiers died from infections than their battle wounds. As a result of this, Florence asked the British government for help. Sewers were flushed out and the hospital was cleaned. Florence also ensured that the everyone washed their hands regularly. She bought fresh food and organised a chef to cook meals. These changes caused death rates to drop.

Did You Know?

Florence was given the famous nickname, 'The Lady with the Lamp' by the soldiers who she cared for day and night. When it was dark, she carried a lantern with her.



Cuality Standard

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Florence had a meeting with Queen Victoria. She explained all the improvements required in the Army hospitals. The Army then began training doctors and the conditions in hospitals improved.

Later in Life

At the age of 40, Florence established the Nightingale Training School to train nurses. She spent the rest of her life trying to improve health standards and wrote over 200 books and leaflets on hospital planning. Some of these ideas helped influence practices which are still in existence today.

In 1883, Florence received the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria. She died in London on 13th August, 1910.







Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale died in 1910 but she is still remembered today for her forward-thinking advancements in nursing and hospitals. Florence is thought of as the founder of modern-day nursing.

Florence was born on 12th May 1820 in Florence, Italy. She was born into a rich, upper-class British family. The family moved to England in 1821.

As a young woman, Florence believed she had received a calling from God to dedicate her life to the service of others. Consequently, Florence decided to

become a nurse. Surprisingly, this decision was much to the disappointment of her sister and mother, who believed Florence should become a mother and wife without pursuing a career. Another reason for their disapproval was that hospitals at the time were dirty and horrible places where doctors had to operate without anaesthetic. Nurses didn't receive training and were not respected.

Florence travelled and witnessed others caring for the sick, which inspired her to follow her ambition of becoming a nurse. At the age of 33, Florence became superintendent at the Institute for the Care of Sick Gentlewomen in London, however, it was her nursing during the Crimean War for which she is best known.

The Crimean War began in 1853; Britain, Turkey and France fought against Russia. Florence was keen to go and help when reports reached Britain about the horrendous conditions for the wounded soldiers. Along with a staff of volunteer nurses and nuns, she travelled to Scutari to do her bit.

Florence and her team found that the wounded soldiers were not receiving decent food, medicines and beds were in short supply, hygiene was poor and infections were common. In fact, more soldiers died from infections than their battle wounds. Subsequently, Florence asked the British government for help.





Sewers were flushed out and ventilation improved. The hospital was cleaned and Florence ensured that the everyone washed their hands regularly to stop the spread of infection. She bought fresh food and organised a chef to cook meals. Florence worked tirelessly and the changes caused death rates to drop dramatically.

Florence was given the nickname, 'The Lady with the Lamp' by the soldiers as she walked around the wards at night with her lantern.

She made sure the men were comfortable and sat

Florence had a meeting with Queen Victoria; she informed the queen of the necessary improvements needed in army hospitals. The army began training doctors and hospital conditions improved.

with those who were dying to bring them comfort.

In 1860, Florence set up the Nightingale Training School in London to train nurses, the first beginning work in 1865.

Throughout the rest of her life, Florence campaigned to improve health standards and wrote over 200 books and leaflets on hospital planning. Some of these ideas helped influence practices which are still in existence today. In recognition of her hard work, Florence was awarded the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria in 1883.

Florence died in London on the 13th August, 1910. She was so well respected that her family received an offer to bury her in Westminster Abbey amongst monarchs and other significant historical figures, however, her family declined, preferring to bury her near to where she had grown up. Florence had never liked a fuss anyway.





A memorial to Florence can be found in the Basilica of Santa Croce in Florence, Italy; another can be seen in London and hospitals have been named after her.

Did You Know?

There is one known recording of her voice made in 1890: 'When I am no longer even a memory, just a name, I hope my voice may perpetuate the great work of my life. God bless my dear old comrades of Balaclava and bring them safe to shore.'



