Black History FANNIE LOU HAMER

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS



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Fannie Lou Hamer (October 1917 ,6 - March 1977 ,H) was an American voting rights activist and civil rights leader from Mississippi. She was born in Montgomery County, Mississippi, the daughter of sharecroppers, and spent much of her life working as a sharecropper and civil

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READING COMPREHENSION

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FANNIE LOU HAMER



Fannie Lou Hamer (October 1917 .6 - March 1977 JH) was an American voting rights activist and civil rights leader from Mississippi. She was born in Montgomery County, Mississippi, the daughter of sharecroppers, and spent much of her life working as a sharecropper and civil rights activist.

Hamer's activism began in 1962, when she was working as a voting registrar for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). She was arrested for trying to register to vote, and was brutally

beaten in jail. This experience, along with her lifelong commitment to civil rights, led her to become a prominent leader in the Civil Rights Movement.

Hamer's most significant contributions to the Civil Rights Movement came in 1964. She was chosen to speak at the Democratic National Convention, and delivered a powerful speech in which she spoke out against the discrimination and violence faced by African Americans in Mississippi. As a result, the convention adopted a more pro-civil rights platform, and Hamer's speech was widely covered by the national media.

Hamer also co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) in 1964, which gimed to challenge the all-white Mississippi delegation to the Democratic National Convention. The MFDP was successful in drawing national attention to the issue of voting rights in Mississippi, and helped to spur the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Hamer's activism continued throughout her life, and she was involved in a number of civil rights and political organizations, including the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC).

Hamer died in 1977, but her legacy lives on through her contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and through the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute on Citizenship and Democracy, which is dedicated to

preserving her legacy and promoting civil rights and social justice.

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COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- 6. Fannie Lou Hamer's activism began when she worked as a voting registrar for which civil rights organization?
- a) National Urban League
- b) Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) c) Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
- d) Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
- 7. What was the primary focus of Fannie Lou Hamer's powerful speech at the Democratic National Convention in 1964?

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u Hamer born?

Hamer began her activism as a voting registrar for which civil

ion for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) an Leadership Conference (SCLC) t Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

al Equality (CORE)

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march in Washington, D.C. ainst discrimination and violence in Mississippi.

Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP).

d.) She participated in the Selma to Montgomery marches.

- 4. What was the aim of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) cofounded by Fannie Lou Hamer in 1964?
- a) To challenge segregation laws in Mississippi b) To address economic inequality in the state
- c) To advocate for education reform
- d) To challenge the all-white Mississippi delegation to the Democratic National
- 5. Which organization dedicated to preserving Fannie Lou Hamer's legacy and promoting civil rights and social justice was mentioned in the paragraph?
- a) Fannie Lou Hamer Foundation b) Civil Rights Advocates Network
- c) Fannie Lou Hamer Institute on Citizenship and Democracy
- d) Mississippi Voting Rights Coalition

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co-founded by Fannie Lou

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ANSWERS

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c) November 22, 1930	al relations
d) April 30, 1955	
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b) Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)	ations General Assembly
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ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

CLOSE READING GRAPHIC ORGNIZERS INCLUDED

