

Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi Win Nobel Peace Prize

The prize was awarded to them for their efforts in the education of women and against the exploitation of children respectively



Exactly two years and a day after Taliban **gunmen shot** her in the head for **daring** to speak up for the rights of a girl to get an education, Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan was **awarded** the Nobel Peace prize Friday. She shares the award with **veteran** children's rights campaigner Kailash Satyarthi, 60, from neighboring India.

Both Yousafzai and Satyarthi were **lauded** "for their struggle against the **suppression** of children and young people and for the right of all children to education," according to the Nobel Committee's statement. That the two come from rival countries and **oft-clashing** faiths only strengthens the message that the need for children's education **trumps** both nation and **creed**. "The Nobel Committee regards it as an important point for a Hindu and a Muslim, an Indian and a Pakistani, to join in a common struggle for education and against extremism," said the Peace Prize statement.

For Yousafzai, who continues to receive **threats** from the Pakistani Taliban who attempted to silence her demands to be educated two years ago, receiving the Nobel Peace Prize offers no better, and no louder, **rebuttal**. Until about two years ago, Malala was just a 15-year old blogger on a school bus with her friends. It was Oct. 9, 2012, when armed Taliban men boarded Malala's bus and shot her in the head, transforming her from a minor Internet celebrity into an international symbol. She was born in the Swat valley in Pakistan, in 1997, to parents who encouraged her love for education from a young age. Her father, Ziauddin, opened a private school for boys and girls, partly to fight against gender discrimination in Pakistan.

In 2012, armed men **boarded** the converted truck that Malala and her classmates used as a **makeshift** school bus. Malala took a **bullet** to the head. Nine months after she was shot, Malala gave a now-famous speech at the UN. "They thought that the bullets would silence us. But they failed," she said. "And then, out of that silence came thousands of voices. ... Weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born."

Adapted from:

<http://time.com/3482434/malala-yousafzai-wins-nobel-peace-prize/>

<http://time.com/3489223/malala-yousafzai-and-kailash-satyarthi-win-nobel-peace-prize/>

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1) Reading comprehension questions

- 1) When was Malala awarded the Nobel peace prize?
- 2) Does she share it with anyone else? Where does the other winner come from?
- 3) Why was Malala shot two years ago?
- 4) Why were they awarded the Nobel peace prize? How does the Committee's statement read?
- 5) What do the different countries (Pakistan and India) and faiths (Muslim and Hindu) represent for this Nobel Peace prize?
- 6) Does Malala still receive threats?
- 7) What does this prize represent for Malala?
- 8) When and how did Malala's shooting occur?
- 9) What do you learn about Malala's life and family from the text?
- 10) What happened nine months after the shooting?
- 11) What is a famous quote from Malala's speech at the UN?

2) Match the words in column A with their synonyms and definitions in column B:

a. veteran	1. projectile, a small piece of metal fired from a gun
b. to board	2. lorry, van, a motor vehicle for carrying goods and materials
c. to shoot	3. an accepted system of religious belief, faith
d. threat	4. a person armed with a gun, killer
e. to trump	5. used temporarily because nothing better is available, temporary
f. bullet	6. close to
g. converted truck	7. often contrasting, discordant
h. oft-clashing	8. counter-argument, reply, return, answer, defense
i. suppression	9. prevention by force, domination, repression, exploitation
j. to laud	10. menace, intimidation
k. makeshift	11. to grant, confer, give
l. to award	12. to go on board, get on, go aboard, get in
m. creed	13. to be courageous, challenge, face, provoke
n. gunman	14. to praise, applaud, bless, celebrate, congratulate, compliment
o. neighboring	15. to fire, murder, kill, pull the trigger
p. to strengthen	16. to fortify, increase, empower, reinforce
q. rebuttal	17. to outdo, surpass, beat, get ahead of
r. to dare	18. experienced, expert campaigner, mature, wise

3) Reuse some of the synonyms or definitions in the sentences below. Make the necessary changes.

grant	get on	contrasting	makeshift
empower	surpass	reply	experienced

- 1) The need for children's education _____ both country of origin and religious faith.
- 2) The _____ campaigner for children's rights comes from India.
- 3) The rivalry of India and Pakistan and their _____ religions _____ the message Malala and Kailash want to communicate.
- 4) When Malala was shot she was on an _____ school bus with her school friends.
- 5) The Nobel prize represents a _____ to continuous threats from the Taliban for Malala.
- 6) Malala was _____ the prize exactly two years after the shooting.
- 7) The gunmen _____ the bus and shot a bullet to Malala's head.