



The Civil Rights Movement

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What Was The Civil Rights Movement About?

- Between 1954 and 1968
- Social and Political movement to help end institutionalized racism and segregation
- African Americans and allies held nonviolent campaigns (protests, march-ins, boycotts, sit-ins)



Why was the movement needed?

- Jim Crow laws prohibited Black People from schools, restaurants etc
- Widespread segregation, discrimination, and racially motivated violence
- In many places especially the south activists took risks in order to make change and gained a lot of traction which kept the movement going





Important Dates Timeline

Brown V.
Board Of
Education-
1954

Boycotts- 1955

March On
Washington-
1963

Civil Rights
Act Of 1964

Voting Rights
Act Of 1965





Brown vs Board of Ed.



In 1954, Brown V. Board of Education of Topeka was a landmark case brought before the Supreme Court. The ruling made it unconstitutional for students to be segregated

This court Ruling left many white people upset and an influx of riots began making it unsafe for black students to enter schools daily

Montgomery Bus Boycott

- Boycott lasted 381 days
- Rosa Parks refused to give up seat to a white man on a segregated bus
- Many African Americans supported Parks and refused to take the bus
- Due to the boycott the lower courts came to the decision that segregated seating were a violation of the 14th amendment



March On Washington



On August 28, 1963 over 250,000 people gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The March was officially Called the march on Washington For Jobs And Freedom
Martin Luther King Jr. infamous “I Have A Dream Speech” was given



Civil Rights Act Of 1964

The law prohibited segregation in public places

Proposed by President John F. Kennedy and was then signed by Kennedy's successor, Lyndon B. Johnson.

No longer could Black people and other minorities be denied service simply based on the color of their skin



Voting Rights Act Of 1965



- Also signed by President Johnson
- Law meant to make it possible for African Americans to be able to vote
- Literacy test at voting stations were no longer needed for black people to pass in order to vote

Key People



Rosa Parks



Malcolm X



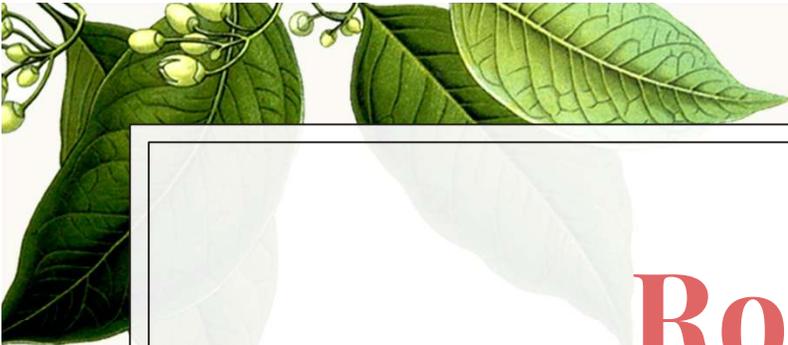
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



John F. Kennedy



Lyndon B Johnson.



Rosa Parks

- Born on February 4th, 1913
- A civil rights activist and secretary of Montgomery NAACP chapter
- She became an international icon of resistance to racial segregation, and organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders





Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

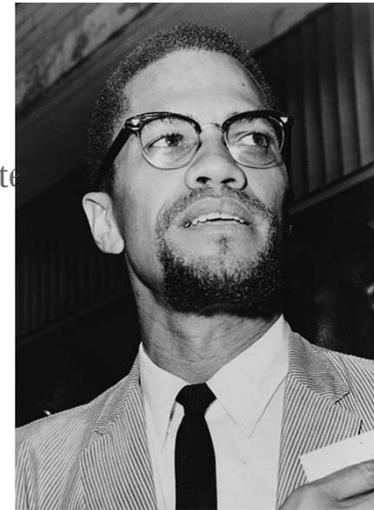
- Born on January 15, 1929
- Sought equality and human rights for African Americans and all victims of injustice through peaceful protest
- Was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964





Malcolm X

- Born on May 19, 1925
- An African American leader in the civil rights movement, minister, and supporter of Black nationalism
- Founded the Organization of Afro-American Unity, which identified racism as the enemy of justice





John F. Kennedy

- Born on May 29, 1917
- 35th President of The United States Of America
- Before his assassination, he had started uniting Americans by denouncing racism in any form, and had begun work on the Civil Rights Act.





Lyndon B. Johnson

- Born on August 27, 1908
- Served as the 36th President of the United States
- worked to get the Civil Rights Act, Voting Rights Act, and Fair Housing Act signed into law





Malcolm X

- Black people have the right to self-defense and to defend themselves against police brutality
- Black People should live separate from white people or even move back to Africa
- Was against working with white politicians
- Wanted to fix all black issues in both the North and South



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

- Nonviolent teachings and did not have his own people being armed
- Wanted economic power for Black people
- Saw integration as a key to success and civil rights
- Focused mostly on voting and desegregation in the south

Civil Rights Activist Then Vs. Now



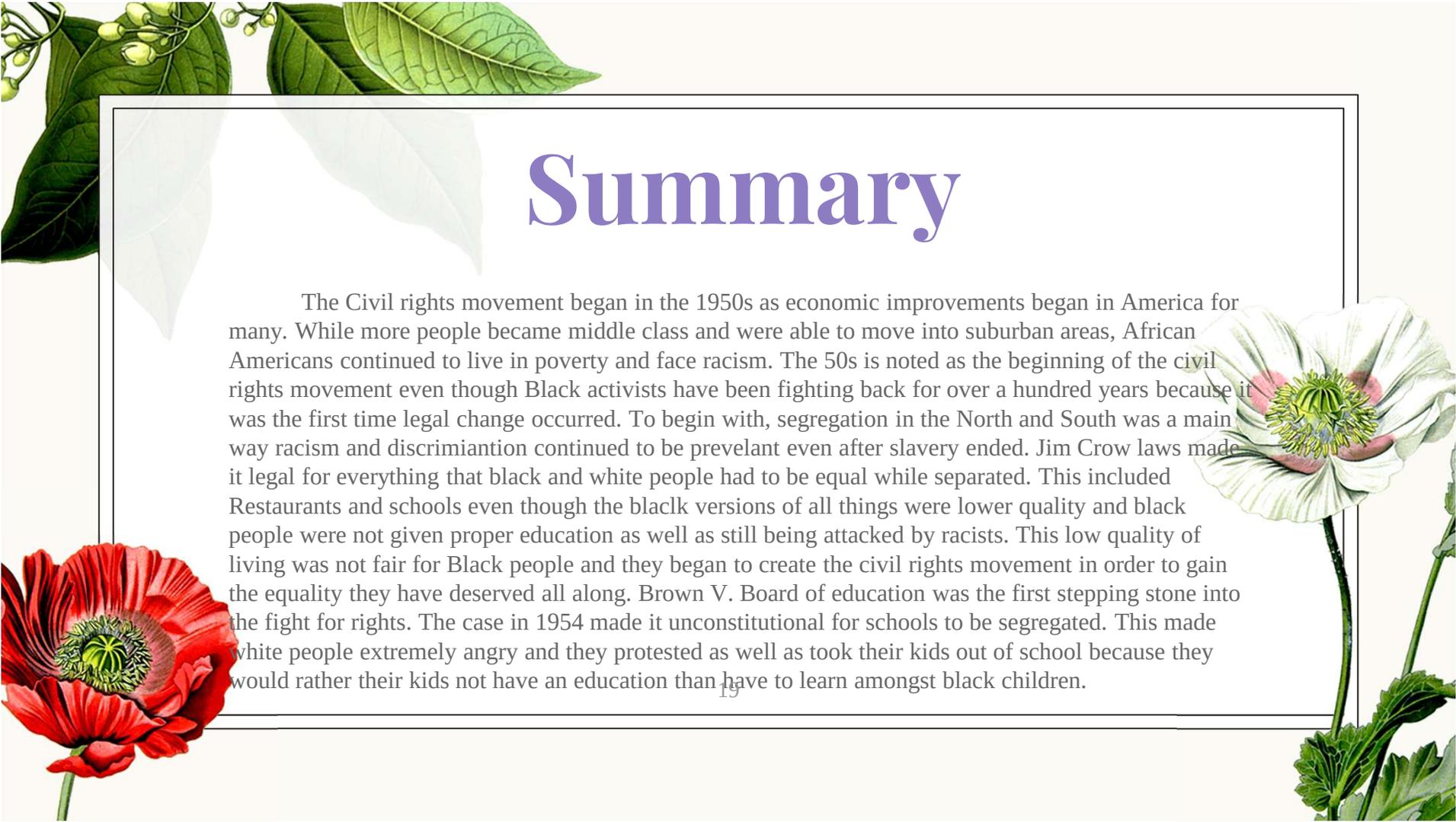
Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges was apart of the cause of civil rights in November 1960 when she became the first African American student to integrate an elementary school in the South

She faced threats daily from people who were not happy with integrated schools but kept going

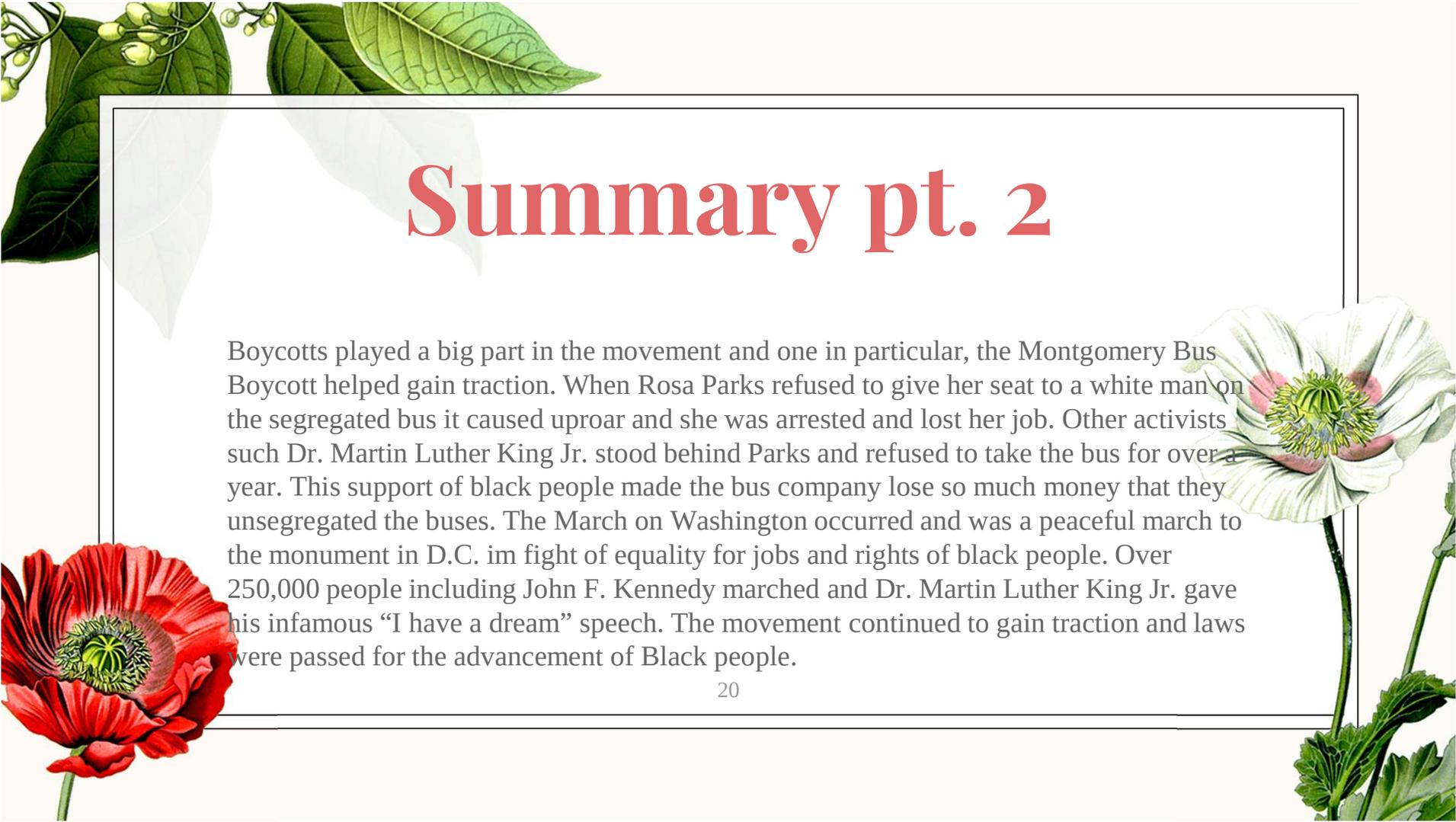
Today at the age of 66, she continues to be a lifelong activist for racial equality





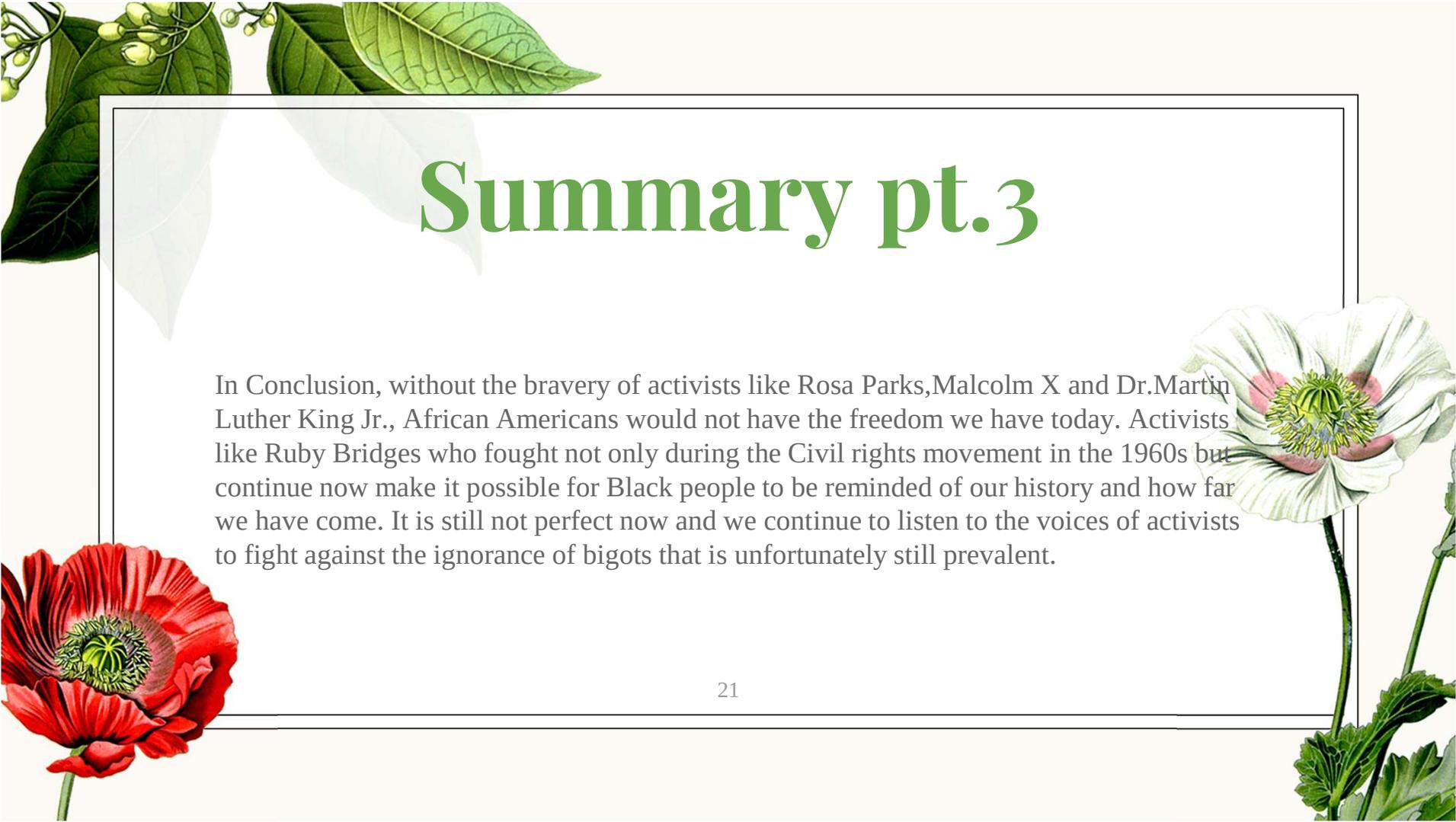
Summary

The Civil rights movement began in the 1950s as economic improvements began in America for many. While more people became middle class and were able to move into suburban areas, African Americans continued to live in poverty and face racism. The 50s is noted as the beginning of the civil rights movement even though Black activists have been fighting back for over a hundred years because it was the first time legal change occurred. To begin with, segregation in the North and South was a main way racism and discrimination continued to be prevalent even after slavery ended. Jim Crow laws made it legal for everything that black and white people had to be equal while separated. This included Restaurants and schools even though the black versions of all things were lower quality and black people were not given proper education as well as still being attacked by racists. This low quality of living was not fair for Black people and they began to create the civil rights movement in order to gain the equality they have deserved all along. Brown V. Board of education was the first stepping stone into the fight for rights. The case in 1954 made it unconstitutional for schools to be segregated. This made white people extremely angry and they protested as well as took their kids out of school because they would rather their kids not have an education than have to learn amongst black children.



Summary pt. 2

Boycotts played a big part in the movement and one in particular, the Montgomery Bus Boycott helped gain traction. When Rosa Parks refused to give her seat to a white man on the segregated bus it caused uproar and she was arrested and lost her job. Other activists such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood behind Parks and refused to take the bus for over a year. This support of black people made the bus company lose so much money that they unsegregated the buses. The March on Washington occurred and was a peaceful march to the monument in D.C. in fight of equality for jobs and rights of black people. Over 250,000 people including John F. Kennedy marched and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his infamous "I have a dream" speech. The movement continued to gain traction and laws were passed for the advancement of Black people.



Summary pt.3

In Conclusion, without the bravery of activists like Rosa Parks, Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., African Americans would not have the freedom we have today. Activists like Ruby Bridges who fought not only during the Civil rights movement in the 1960s but continue now make it possible for Black people to be reminded of our history and how far we have come. It is still not perfect now and we continue to listen to the voices of activists to fight against the ignorance of bigots that is unfortunately still prevalent.

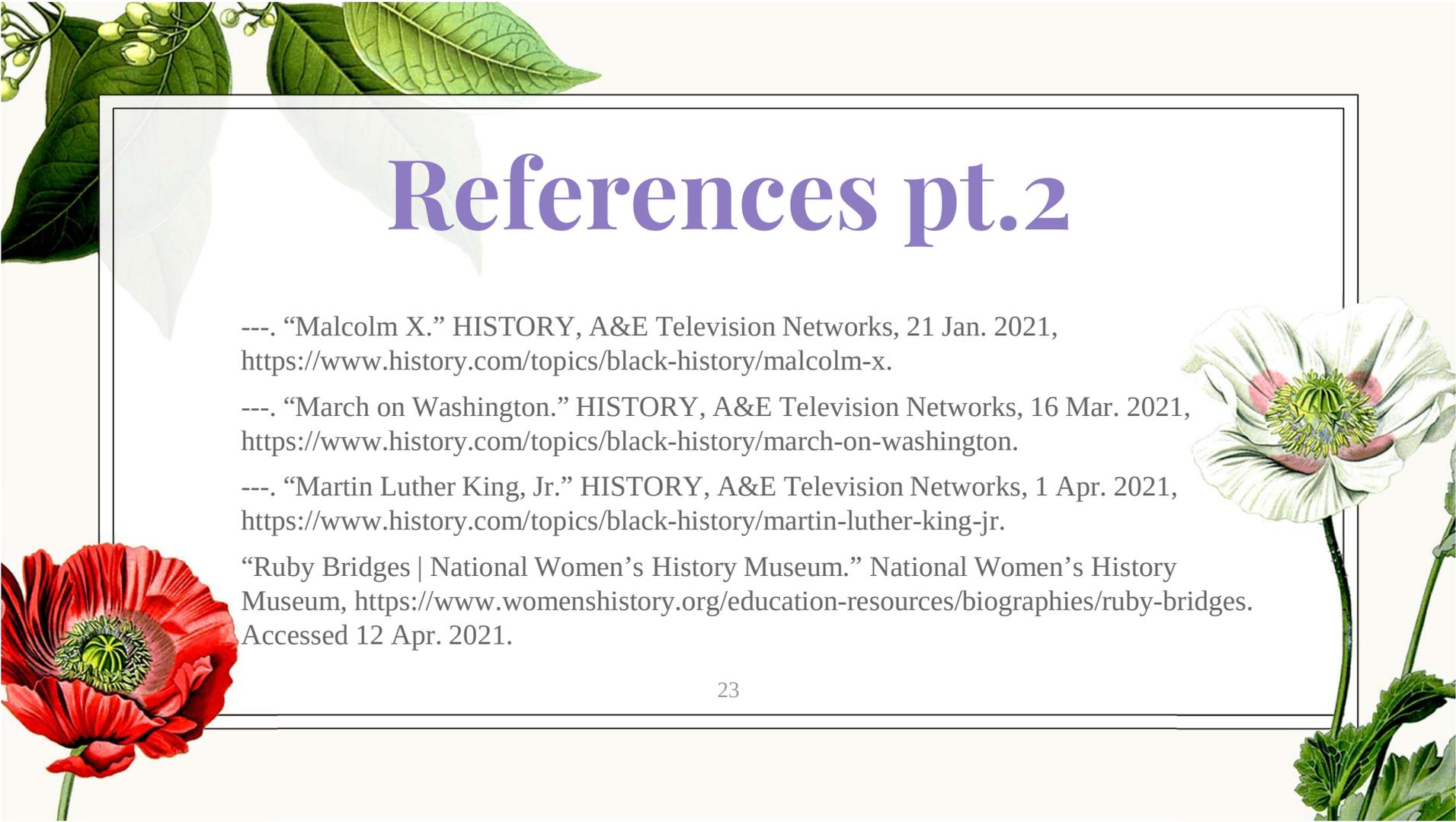


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