



Aung San Suu Kyi – Voice of Freedom from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Aung San Suu Kyi originated from the three relative names; “Aung San” from her father, “Suu” from her paternal grandmother and Kyi from her mother. If we literally translate the meaning of the name, we get “a bright collection of strange victories”. Some people believe that her fate was laid down at the start of her life and her name forecasted the proceedings of her life.

Aung San Suu Kyi, born on June 19, 1945, was the third child in the family. She had two brothers before her, Aung San Lin and Aung San Oo. Aung San Lin drowned at a young age in a lake near her house. Aung San Oo moved to San Diego, California, where he possesses US citizenship. Her father, Aung San, was a military general who commenced the Burma's Independence but was assassinated when Suu Kyi was only 2 years old. Following her father's death, Khin Kyi, her mother, became a well-known face in politics.

Suu Kyi was educated in Burma till the age of 15 but then her mother was chosen as an Ambassador to India where she continued her studies. The lady pursued her further education in England. Soon after she attained her B.A. degree in philosophy, politics, and economics, she further continued her studies in New York but delayed them in order to work as an Assistant Secretary at the U.N. Secretariat.

Suu Kyi left New York and was married to Michael Aris in 1972 who she met in England during her studies at Oxford. Suu Kyi and Aris were gifted with two sons, Alexander and Kim. Suu Kyi returned to Burma in 1988 in order to care for her sick mother. After her mother died, she declared to help the country gain democracy following her parent's footsteps.



Since childhood, Suu Kyi was very active who played many sports. She was a tomboy in her school and a bunch of other students made fun of her but she stood up to the teasers. This showed the courageousness in her and how self-reliant she is when it comes to trounce a difficult situation. She used to be afraid of the dark but faced her fear at the age of 12 demonstrating a great deal of valor.

The lady is full of values having a Buddhist background. She believes in non-violence following Gandhi's theory. In 1991, The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Suu Kyi for her “non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights”. She would not wear a bulletproof vest because she thought she was protecting herself from the Burmese people. She was put under house arrest for 15 years by the military junta but she would fight to survive and never back down. She sacrificed seeing her husband and her two sons because Burma would not grant them visa anymore. At that time, Aris was diagnosed with prostate cancer but Military made an excuse saying that they do not have the required facility to care for him. Her love for her country cannot be described in words.

