

WIK by FILIPA ESCADA

Great missions in the world

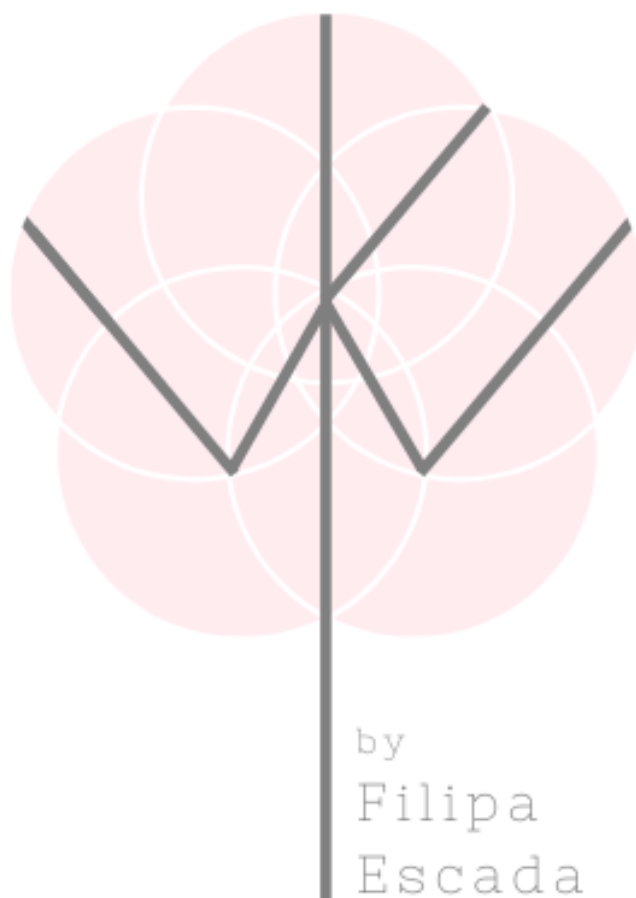
MALALA YOUZAFSAI

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Inglês



I was told to talk about one of the great missions in the world. Well, today I'm going to present, not a mission, but someone who's been making a big difference in the world. She has a mission.

Who would like to have a guess and tell me which person I'm talking about?

Her name is Malala and she is an activist for the right to education, especially female education. First, let me give you some information about her.

Malala Youzafzai was born on 12 July 1997 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, located in the northwest of Pakistan. She grew up with her father, Ziauddin, her mother, and her two younger brothers but they didn't have good life conditions. In 2009, with 11–12 years old, she wrote a blog under a pseudonym for the BBC detailing her life during the Taliban occupation of her district, Swat Valley. She found her inspiration on her father's thoughts and humanitarian work.

The following summer brought some hope. Adam Ellick, a New York Times journalist, made a documentary about her life while the Pakistani military intervened in the region. Her popularity started to increase, by then, as she gave interviews and appeared on television. As a consequence, she was nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize by activist Desmond Tutu.

Then, a tragic accident occurred and her life changed completely. On 9 October 2012, Malala was shot in the head on the way home from school by a Taliban gunman when he attempted to murder her. Her only crime was criticizing the Taliban's strict rules against female education and standing up for her right to go to school. She remained unconscious and in critical condition at the Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology. As her condition improved, she was sent to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, UK so she could make a full recovery.

Since recovering, she became an education activist. In the UK, she founded the *Malala Fund* in 2013 and co-authored *I am Malala*, an international bestseller. In 2014, she was announced as the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, along with the Indian activist Kailash Satyarthi, for her struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education. Aged 17 at the time, she became the youngest-ever Nobel Prize laureate. In 2015, the documentary film *He named me Malala* was released. Nowadays, she studies at the Lady Margaret Hall, in Oxford.

Now talking about her mission. Malala and his father founded, in 2013, the Malala Fund, as I said before. This foundation has been developed to fight for a world where every girl can learn for 12 years and lead without fear. It was thought to work in regions where the most girls miss out on secondary education. Their priority countries are Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria and countries housing Syrian refugees. It has 3 main goals: **advocating** for girls by girls; **investing** for local education activists; and **amplifying** girl's stories in their own words. They believe that secondary education for girls can change the world. Conflict, child marriage, cost, health and child labour are the main reasons why more than 130 million girls are out of school. This foundation has an interaction and collaboration with the UN and governments, but Malala wants to make them spend at least 20% of their budgets on education, sign the Safe Schools Declaration and implement its provisions.

And we can help make that possible. For example, donating on their website [explain]; or starting a fundraiser, by creating our own personal page to share your story, then amplifying your impact by inviting your friends and family to join your efforts, and by that you can raise money using your time, talents, and passion for girls' education globally.

This is Malala's main mission and I believe it can change the world and make a better future.

Now I would like to show you a video about Malala Fund.

Finally, I chose Malala because she gives us an example of a great person who raised her voice to fight against what she most feared before. She was actually considered one of the most influential people in the world, in 2013, by the *Time* magazine. She shows us **respect**, because even though the Taliban has shown an extreme disliking for Malala, she has repeated this humble quote: "I don't want revenge on the Taliban. I want education for sons and daughters of the Taliban."; **caring**, as her passion for education has spread among the society, and she wants her dream to come true for every single child across the nation; and **citizenship**, Malala has become a valuable citizen for every community. She is helping the most impoverished find a way to learn. She has a great mission that can make our world better.

This is Malala Yousafzai. And I believe in her. I believe that "One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can really change the world."

