

Kofi Annan | Class of 1962

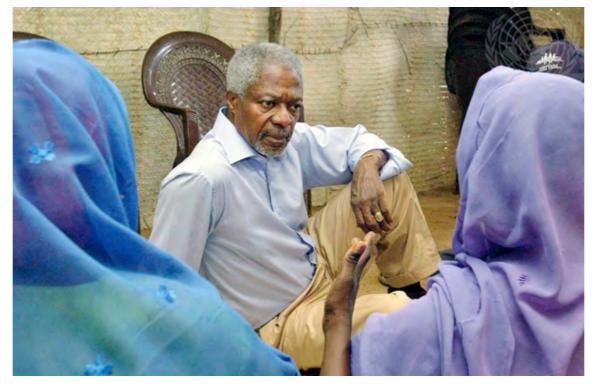
Kofi Annan joined the United Nations (UN) system in 1962. In 1997, he was nominated as its seventh Secretary-General. Kofi Annan shared the Nobel Peace Prize with the UN in 2001 for his efforts towards the promotion of peace and human rights worldwide. During his acceptance speech, he noted that "Peace must be sought, above all, because it is the condition for every member of the human family to live a life of dignity and security".



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Kofi Annan and Youth

"You are never too young to lead", Kofi Annan often said. He believed that young people could be agents of positive change. In 2016, he launched the Extremely Together initiative to support young leaders working around the world to prevent violent extremism.



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Kofi Annan in Darfur

As Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan advocated for the global community's "responsibility to protect" populations from the worst forms of violence and persecution. He is pictured here in 2006, talking to refugees in Darfour, Sudan.



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Kofi Annan and The Elders

Kofi Annan was a founding member of The Elders, a group of independent global leaders convened by Nelson Mandela in 2008, working together for peace, justice and human rights. He chaired The Elders from 2013 to 2018.

