

Don José Julián Martí y Pérez was born in Havana in 1853. He was sentenced to prison as a teenager for expressing his support for the Cuban revolution during the Ten Year War, and went on to become one of the great writers of the Hispanic world. Martí's written works include poems, children stories, plays, articles and commentaries.

Because of his continuing opposition to Spanish rule, and his insistence on a Cuban identity that fully accepted racial equality, Martí was forced to live most of his life in exile. He lived in Spain, Paris, Mexico and Guatemala, before settling in New York in early 1880.

**THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY |**  
In 1892 Martí dedicated himself exclusively to planning and organizing what became Cuba's second war of independence. Aside from enlisting the



I cultivate a white rose  
In July as in January  
For the sincere friend  
Who gives me his hand frankly  
And for the cruel one who tears out  
The heart with which I live  
I cultivate neither nettles nor thorns  
I cultivate a white rose

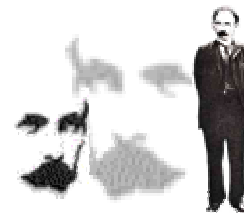
- From *Simple Verses*, 1891

support of Ten Year War veterans Antonio Maceo, Maximo Gómez and others, he started the Cuban Revolutionary Party, which raised funds for the war and established a Cuban government that would take over when the war ended.

Martí died in battle shortly after the war began. His dream of a free Cuba ended harshly, as the war could only produce a new master. Martí is known in Cuba as the father of Cuban independence.

"In Cuba, there is no fear of a racial war. Men are more than white, more than mulatto, more than black. They died for Cuba in the fields of battle; the souls of blacks and whites have risen together up to heaven. In daily life, in defense, in loyalty, in brotherhood, in study, at the side of every white there was always a black."

Martí in *Patria*, March 1892



**JOSÉ MARTÍ TIMELINE**

