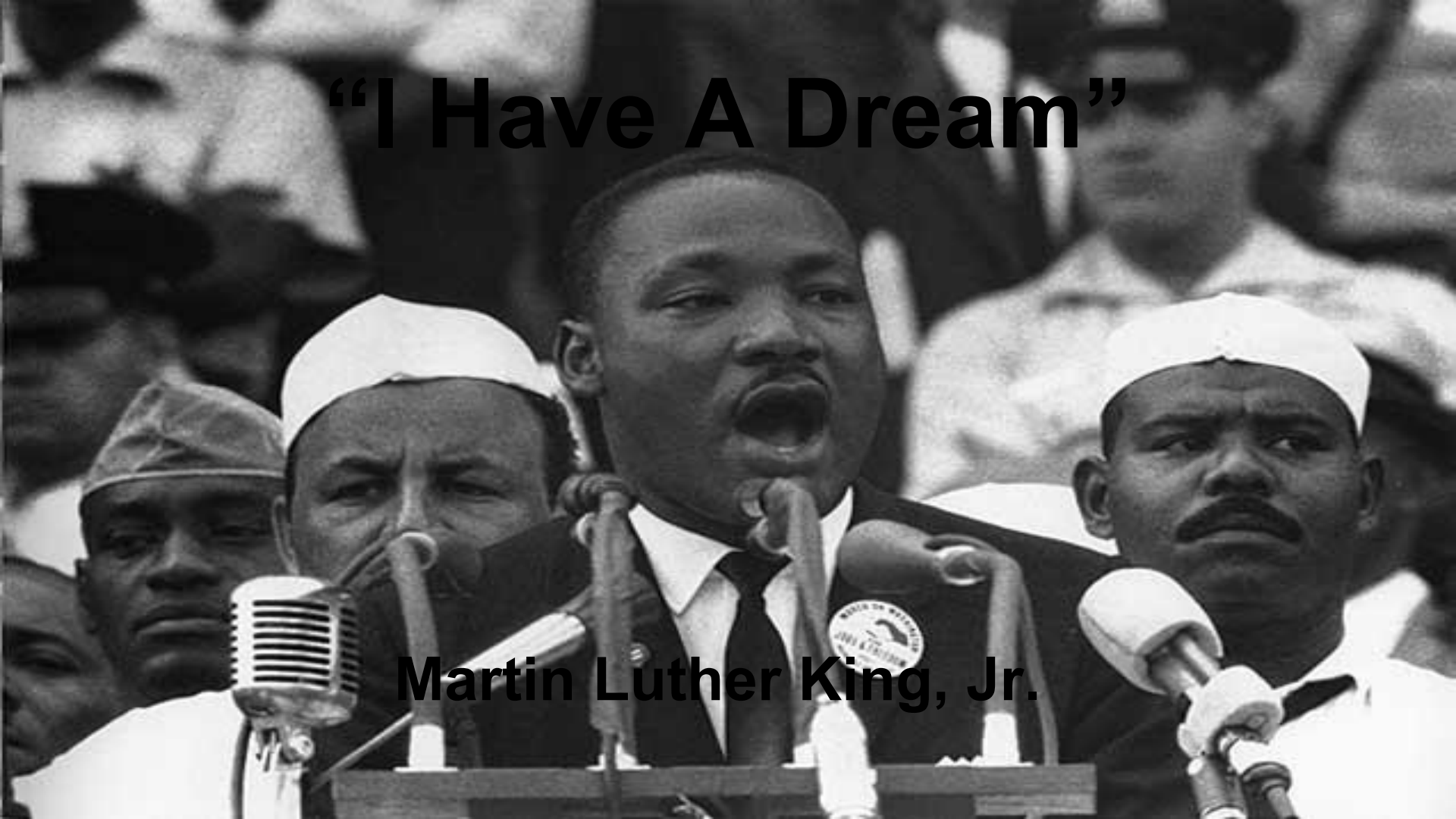


**“I Have A Dream”**

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**



# Hyperbole, Analogy, Rhetorical Question, Understatement, Signifying.

Hyperbole- Don't let anybody tell you anything about the odds are against you. If they draft you, they send you to Korea and make you face 800 million Chinese. This shows how slaves had no right and no say in anything, they had to do what the white man tells you to do, this makes the speech stronger because it convinces the audience that slaves were mistreated.

Analogy- the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination(King para.3). This makes the speech stronger because it compares the life of the negro while still in slavery and the life they still live after the emancipation proclamation.

Rhetorical Question-"When will you be satisfied?"(King para.13). This makes the speech stronger because it puts a question that doesn't ask for an answer in the head of the reader.

Understatement-\*\*\*\*\*

Signifying- I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal"(King para.17). This makes it ironic because america is not keeping their promise of "all men are created equal" and it makes them look bad that they don't do what they say.

# Antithesis, Anaphora, Antonomasia, Irony, and Reversed Structure

**Antithesis-** “With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day” (King para 26). King uses parallel structure to show that whether or not they are free or in jail, they will do it together.

**Anaphora-** “But one hundred years later the Negro is still not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later...” (King para 3). King repeats “One hundred years later” to emphasize the fact that after one hundred years of the Declaration of Independence was written, they are still treated unfairly.

**Antonomasia-** “We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality.” (King para. 13). King is using “the Negro” as a general person, not anyone specific. So instead of saying every black man and woman in america or saying specific names of all of them, he’s using “the Negro” as a nickname. It’s a general term, but we get the full understanding because by using the nickname, he’s saying that it’s every single black man and woman, not just a few.

**Irony-** “This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the “unalienable Rights” of “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note, insofar as her citizens of color are concerned.” (King para 4). King is emphasizing the irony that the document was created for all men, but yet the black men was treated as aliens, excluded from the promissory note.

**Reversed Structure-** “And so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream” (King para 16). King uses reverse structure to transition to his explanation of this dream. He uses it to introduce what he said was the “American dream.” It’s a great strategy because it creates a picture of everyone being equal; everyone being an American regardless of race.

## **Simile, Metaphor, Punctuation, Parallelism, Sentence Structure:**

Simile- "It [momentous decree] came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity."  
(King, para. 2)

The sentence uses AS to compare the decree and a joyous daybreak.

Metaphor-"Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice." (King, para. 6)

It is implying that segregation is a dark and desolate valley, meaning that it is not good.

Punctuation- "But there is something that I must say to my people, who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice: In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds." (King, para. 8)

The colon is used to explain what has been said before. Same idea, just adding on to it.

Parallelism- "We cannot walk alone... We cannot turn back." (King, para. 10-12)

He is using the same structure and almost the exact same words to get a point across.

Sentence Structure-"And some of you have come from areas where your quest -- quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality." (King, para. 14)

Uses dashes like commas, getting one idea from another.

# Bibliography

King Jr., Martin Luther. "I Have A Dream".  
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