

## Bob Marley

Robert Nesta Marley, OM (6 February 1945 – 11 May 1981)

**Bob Marley**, was born on February 6, 1945, in Nine Mile, **British** Jamaica . He was a Jamaican reggae singer, songwriter, musician, and guitarist who achieved international fame and acclaim.



He began his professional musical and international career in 1963, after forming **Bob Marley** and the Wailers. After The Wailers disbanded in 1974, Marley pursued a solo career that culminated in the release of the album *Exodus* in 1977, which established his worldwide reputation and produced his status as one of the world's best-selling artists of all time, with sales of more than 75 million records.

In July 1977, Marley was found to have a type of malignant melanoma under the nail of a toe. Marley turned down his doctors' advice to have his toe amputated, citing his religious beliefs. Despite his illness, he continued touring until his health deteriorated as the cancer had spread throughout his body. He died on 11 May 1981 at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Miami (now University of Miami Hospital) at the age of 36. The spread of melanoma to his lungs and brain caused his death. His final words to his son Ziggy were:

"Money can't buy life."

On 10th February, 1996 in Kingston Jamaica, Bob married Alpharita Constantia "Rita" Anderson. Together, they had four children. However, of these four children, two were adopted from Rita's previous relationships. The Rastafarian Bob Marley went on to have several other children with different ladies that he met at different times in his life. While this may raise eyebrows in today's world, you need to remember that it was a different time in Jamaica back then. Having several mistresses and numerous children was actually the norm.