

Harriet Tubman, known as a fighter for freedom, is a powerful symbol of relentlessness, bravery, and firm belief in the story of America. She experienced a tough life of service and saw the harsh mistreatment of African Americans. It didn't make her bitter; it only made her more determined. Tubman risked her safety on risky journeys into dangerous places, all with one goal: to free her oppressed people. Not only for her work in the Underground Railroad, Tubman's role in resisting during the Civil War and her continuous fight for women's suffrage also make her an influential figure in history. Her actions go well beyond freeing slaves; they've echoed through time and continue to impact future generations up to today. She was a beacon of hope, and difficulties didn't beat her or define her.

## The Underground Railroad: Tubman's Path to Freedom

The Underground Railroad was a secret network that helped enslaved African Americans escape to freedom. Harriet Tubman, a brave woman and herself a former slave, was one of its famous "conductors." Born into slavery, she bravely escaped only to return over 19 times, leading around <u>300 slaves to freedom</u>. This incredible woman, later known as "Moses," used the North Star for navigation, leading the slaves to northern states and Canada, where slavery was illegal. It wasn't a real railroad but a series of houses and secret routes known as "stations." The journey was perilous with the threat of recapture, but Tubman's courage and determination never wavered.

#### Harriet Tubman: The Moses of Her People

Born as a slave, Tubman successfully escaped her masters and decided to help others do the same. She took many risky trips to the South to escort slaves to freedom using the Underground Railroad. Tubman was like Moses, signaling hope and leading a way to freedom for the enslaved. Her reputation is established not just on her brave actions against a horrible system but also on her continuous fight for equality, rights, and justice. Harriet Tubman was more than just an Underground Railroad essay; she was a source of inspiration and an example of unyielding spirit in the face of cruelty.

#### The Dangerous Journey: Details of the Underground Railroad

This was a secret and risky path designed to help American slaves escape to freedom. Tubman, who was a former slave, led 19 brave missions and helped about 300 slaves to become free. She arranged safe places for them to stay and people to essay them on their way. The escape journey was full of dangers like hunger, tough weather, rough land, and people hunting for them. Use smart plans, secret messages, and a firm belief in freedom to outsmart those hunting you, just like Tubman did.

### **Tubman as a Freedom Fighter: Strategies and Challenges**

She used smart tactics to fight against slavery and faced many problems in this process. Her meaningful work towards ending slavery had a big impact that will always be remembered. Remember to use the Underground Railroad! This was the main strategy Tubman used. During her time as a slave, she learned how important it was to be sneaky and secretive. She used this knowledge to carry out about 19 missions to free slaves, saving roughly 300 people. Her bravery and careful planning turned her into a successful leader of the Underground Railroad. She navigated using the North Star and used special songs to give clues about the journey.

She also used political activism and public speaking to fight slavery. When the Fugitive Slave Act was brought in, she became even more active. She began to speak out about her experiences and the wrongs of

slavery, to inform people and gain support. But Tubman faced many problems on her journey to freedom. The Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, which forced runaway slaves to be returned, made her missions more dangerous. She constantly risked being found, caught, and even killed. Being unable to read was another problem.

### Involvements in the Civil War and Women's Suffrage

She not only played major roles in the Civil War but also in the women's suffrage movement, positively affecting both areas. In the Civil War, Tubman took on the duties of a nurse, cook, and spy for the Union Army. Most notably, she was a "scout" who guided hundreds of slaves to freedom via the underground railroad. Taking part in the Civil War was a bold and risky move for Tubman: she put her life on the line to gather and give crucial information and to aid escaping slaves. Her courage and self-sacrifice were key to the Union forces' eventual triumph.

After the Civil War was over, Tubman continued fighting for the rights of underrepresented groups. She supported the women's suffrage movement and worked closely with famous suffragettes like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Demand respect for women's rights and universal suffrage! Tubman traveled the country to speak of her struggles as a slave and to campaign for women's rights and universal suffrage. She resisted the sexist norms of her society and fought for the democratic right of every citizen, regardless of gender, to vote. Harriet Tubman's activities in both the Civil War and the Women's Suffrage movement identified her as a freedom fighter, not just for slaves, but also for women.

# Post-Civil War Era: Tubman's Later Life and Achievements

But her commitment to justice didn't stop after the Civil War. Understand that Tubman's commitment continued even after the war! She devoted her later life to fighting for freedom. She also started caring for aging African Americans. She converted her house in Auburn, New York, into a haven for family, friends, and others in need. This became the Harriet Tubman Home for the Aged, showing her ongoing care for others.

After the Civil War, Tubman played a <u>role in women's suffrage</u>—the fight for women's right to vote. She worked with well-known women like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Her strong voice and spirit linked the abolition fight with later civil rights movements. This made her crucial to these campaigns. In 1896, she was a speaker at the first meeting of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. This shows her importance and influence in fights for equality and justice. Even now, Tubman's legacy is strong. She's been honored in many ways. For example, she's the first Black woman to appear on U.S.

# **Bringing it All Together**

She was not just brave and determined but also empathetic and compassionate, highlighting the strength of the human spirit in seeking justice. One person can make a significant difference. Despite being born a slave, Tubman changed her fate with her courage, inspiring many people. Today, her legacy lives on in people who are fighting for freedom, equality, and social justice. Reflecting on her life, we learn valuable lessons about bravery, undying hope for freedom, and belief in equality.