

Wyclef Jean

“Instead of spending billions on the war, I can use that money to feed the poor”
If I Was President
(2008)



■ **Oct 17, 1972:** **Wyclef Jean** born in Croix-des-Bouquets, Haiti, son of a preacher

■ **1981:** Family moves to New York where Jean learns guitar, studies jazz

■ **1987:** Joins **The Tranzlator Crew**, rap group formed by his cousin **Prakazrel “Pras” Michel** and Michel’s classmate, **Lauryn Hill**

■ **1990s:** Renamed **The Fugees**, band develops mix of hip hop with reggae, soul and creole music

■ **1996:** **The Score** sells more than 18 million copies and wins Grammy for best rap album. Band splits up

■ **1997:** Jean releases **Carnival**, which features **Gone Till November**. Eight other albums follow

■ **2005:** Jean sets up **Yele Haiti Foundation** – charity which funds scholarships for Haitian children

■ **2006:** Appointed ambassador-at-large for Haiti

■ **Jan 2010:** Following Haiti earthquake, charity raises more than \$9 million. Jean denies allegations that he misappropriated funds

■ **Aug 6:** Announces candidacy in Haiti’s presidential election