

Thursday, January 20

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2009: Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th and first African-American U.S. President**

1885: The world's first rollercoaster opened at New York's Coney Island

1903: The musical *The Wizard of Oz* had its premiere in New York

1996: PLO chief Yasser Arafat became the first democratically-elected leader of the Palestinians

2010: A French court ruled that a Russian Orthodox church built in Nice on the orders of Tsar Nicholas II belonged to Russia, ending a long-running dispute between Moscow and local parishioners