

A photograph of Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki. Nelson Mandela, on the right, is wearing a dark suit and a patterned tie, smiling and waving his right hand. Thabo Mbeki, on the left, is also in a dark suit with a red and blue patterned tie, smiling and clapping his hands. They are standing in front of a large window with a wooden frame.

Today in History

June 16, 1999

▲ In a moving ceremony, Nelson Mandela stepped down as South Africa's first black president. He was succeeded by ANC leader Thabo Mbeki

1884: The world's first modern rollercoaster opened at New York's Coney Island

1999: U.S. athlete Maurice Greene set a new world 100m record of 9.79 seconds

2004: Iran warned it could develop a nuclear weapons programme if the IAEA criticised it for lack of cooperation

2009: The four emerging "BRIC" powers, Brazil, Russia, India and China, held their first summit