

A photograph of Oprah Winfrey with her signature voluminous curly hair, wearing round glasses and a white blazer. She is holding a black microphone and appears to be speaking. The background is a textured, light blue-grey.

Today in History

January 29, 1954

▲ **Oprah Winfrey, U.S. actress and TV host, was born. Her hugely successful talk show reputedly made her the best-paid individual on U.S. television**

1949: Britain officially recognised the State of Israel, established by Israel's declaration of independence in 1948

1957: Danish architect Joern Utzon won a competition to design the Sydney Opera House

1994: Austrian skier Ulrike Maier was killed after she hit a patch of soft snow and lost control during a race in Germany

2004: A woman in India gave birth to her own twin grandchildren, acting as a surrogate for her daughter