



Today in History

May 31, 1859

▲ The world's largest four-faced chiming clock, London's Big Ben, began telling the time. The bell's instantly recognisable "Bong" was first heard some weeks later

1891: Construction of the 9,288km Trans-Siberian Railway began

1911: The Titanic was launched in Belfast. The largest vessel then afloat famously sank on its maiden voyage to New York

1994: The death toll in the Rwandan genocide reached 800,000

2021: The WHO began using the Greek alphabet for Covid-19 variants to avoid stigmatizing countries where variants were first detected