



UNTOLD STORIES – Stories of Leaders

Teachers notes

Slide 1	Children to reflect on modern day leaders and leaders they have learnt about within the scheme of work. Discuss qualities and traits.
Slide 2	Children to unpick which leader follows which style and why.
Slide 3 - 4	Information slides about Shapjuri Saklatvala as a political leader in Britain.
Slide 5	Information slides about John Richard Archer
Slide 6	Children to predict challenges faced by John Richard Archer, infering from the life of Shapjuri Saklatvala
Slide 7-8	Further detail about John Richard Archer, children can practice note taking or magpie main details about his life. Using his quotes to infer his experience and purpose in leadership.
Slide 9	Children to design memorial for another British leader whom they can research. (LKS2) Children can write persuasive letter to council member about why their Memorial idea should be used.

What makes a leader?



Different types of leader

Community



Political

Civil rights



Monarchy

Team



Revolutionary

Shapjuri Saklatvala (1874-1936)

In 1921, Saklatvala was adopted as the Labour candidate for Battersea North, despite joining the Communist Party in the same year. In November 1922, he won the seat for Labour and was defeated in December 1923. He regained the seat in October 1924, when he stood as a Communist representative and held the seat until 1929. Saklatvala was the 3rd Asian to become an MP in Britain (all incidentally of Parsee background).

Saklatvala raised Indian issues in Parliament. He was a member of the Indian Home Rule League (founded in 1916). He was also a founder member of the Workers' Welfare League in 1917. This League was initially concerned with the working conditions of Indian seamen in London, but soon widened its objectives to improve the position of all types of Indian workers.





- In his first speech he agitated ministers by fearlessly waging a one-man campaign on parliament with his opening statement: "No Britisher would for a moment tolerate a constitution for Great Britain if it were written outside of Great Britain by people who were not British", making it clear that he saw his position as an opportunity to speak on matters of the empire.

With the backing of the Battersea Labour Party and Trades Council, Saklatvala was successful in 1924, standing as a Communist representative. He sat in the House of Commons until 1929.

Saklatvala constantly raised Indian issues in parliament and fervently advocated for Indian independence. Indeed, he was often referred to as 'the member for India'. He was a member of the Indian Home Rule League (founded in 1916), founding member of the Workers' Welfare League of India in 1917 and was an influential figure to Indian students in London throughout the 1920 and '30s. His progressive thinking and opposition to imperialism and capitalism ('how can the living wage be produced within a capitalist society?' (Saklatvala, 1928)) brought him into conflict with the government.

John Richard Archer (1863-1932)

- John Archer was the first person of African descent to hold civic office in London. He was also the first British black person to represent his country at an international conference abroad, and the first black person to become an election agent for a constituency Labour Party.
- John Archer was the former Mayor of Battersea and the first black person to hold a senior public office in London.



What challenges do you think he faced as a leader?





Mayor of Battersea

Born in Liverpool in June 1863 to a Barbadian ship's steward and an Irishwoman, Archer moved to Battersea with his wife Margaret in the early 1890s. Archer had many different jobs – the 1901 census records that he was a professional singer, and he may also have been a student of medicine.

On 10 November 1913 Archer was elected Mayor of Battersea by his fellow councillors, winning by a single vote. It was the first time a black man held a senior public office in England's capital. In his acceptance speech, he anticipated that the news of his success 'will go forth to all the coloured nations of the world':

They will look at Battersea, and say, 'It is the greatest thing you have done. You have shown you have no racial prejudice, but recognise a man for what you think he has done'.

Archer received letters of congratulations from leading members of the black community in the United States.

His words...

“It is a great victory such as never gained before... I am the proud victor. I am a man of colour. Many of the things that have been said about me, however, are absolutely untrue. I have a brother, but I should have to have several for us to be born in as many places as we have been said to have been born in... I am the son of a man born in the West Indian Islands. I was born in England, in a little obscure village never heard of until now – the City of Liverpool. I am Lancastrian born and bred.”

“calling my mother some of the foulest names that it is possible for a mother to be called... I have been made to feel my position more than any man who has ever occupied this chair, not because I am a member of the Council, but because I am a man of colour... Am I not a man, the same as any man? I may be wrong when I come here and meet this opposition, but would not any other man in my position think the opposition was because of his colour?’ Despite this, he continued to feel a personal sense of pride in his role as a pioneer in the field of politics: ‘It filled my heart with joy to walk in the procession of mayors in that old historic building – the first time that one of our race has done so as mayor.’”

How can we honour his life?

John Richard Archer has been memorialised in Battersea with a plaque, and a portrait of him is in Liverpool Town Hall.

What would you design or create to memorialize leaders from Black African , Caribbean, Asian or Mixed heritage in Hackney?

Can you draw your memorial and write a persuasive letter including interesting facts about a leader of your choice to the council to pitch your idea.



Hot Seat: What would you ask Sadiq Khan about his experience in leadership?

Further research

https://100greatblackbritons.com/bios/john_archer.html

<https://www.liverpooltownhall.co.uk/john-richard-archer-the-first-ever-british-born-black-mayor/>

https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/blue-plaques/john-richard-archer/?utm_source=awin&utm_medium=Affiliate&utm_campaign=Affiliate&awc=5928_1595964740_5eb5632dcbce1854c01988eac497e705

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shapurji_Saklatvala

<http://www.open.ac.uk/researchprojects/makingbritain/content/shapurji-saklatvala>

<https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/person/mp56107/shapurji-saklatvala#comments>

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/equiano-centre/drawing-over-colour-line-database/spotlight-sitters/shapurji-saklatvala>