When GANDHI was shot dead in 1948, he had no job and he wasn’t a King, or a famous (well-known) rock star like Bono or Madonna. He was just a thin old man dressed in a cotton cloth. He lived a simple life, made his own clothes and wouldn’t even have had €5.00 in his pocket. His last meal was goat’s milk and raw vegetables.

Yet, 1 and a ½ million people went to his funeral. Famous people all over the world like King George VI of England, the Pope and the US President sent messages of sorrow. GANDHI was famous because he was a Holy Man, a Saint. He was called a Mahatma in India, which means ‘Great Soul’.

Mohandas K. GANDHI was born in 1869 in the Gujarat region of India. His father and grandfather were local officials in the Raj, the Government of the British Empire in India. To follow the family into local government GANDHI had to study law. So in 1888, aged 18, he left his wife and new-born son behind and went to London to become a lawyer. Three years later in 1891, the day after he passed his exams, he *sailed back to India*. He didn’t stay in Britain longer than he had to.

**Mahatma GANDHI (1869- 1948)**