

# Florence Nightingale



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History is replete with umpteen examples of exalted personalities, who actually swam against the mainstream tides of societal expectations. Situations, at such points got extremely difficult and laborious, just to keep a move on. But when a saturation point is exceeded by the very wits of oneself, it is a realisation in retrospective, about the endless possibilities a human being can execute.

Florence Nightingale, shines as a bright example in such an exceptional genre. Born on 12th May, 1820, in Florence, Italy, the woman basically had her life set straight for her, but ironically, not by her. When the mainstream society around her, threw expectations in the most traditional sense for her to follow, Florence Nightingale shone alike, like a small oil-lamp under a new-moon.

She initiated her journey by being a nurse, and radically changing it with her own unique style. She was honored with the title of 'Lady With a Lamp', at a time, when misogyny was actually in the normal. Modern nursing owes an eternal debt to this woman. Such contributions, at a time of Crimean War, makes her achievements all the more interesting. Even with such a messy time and situation, at just 16, she was aptly clear about her nursing career.

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Women in those times were expected to share the thoughts of their families to the point, which were mostly getting married off. Belonging to a rather rich and aristocratic family, Florence Nightingale had the same internal familial struggle. Despite such heavy obstacles, she not only pursued her own opting career as a nurse, but brought on a paradigm shift never seen before.

No doubt, every single person wants a change. But the steps needed to execute to bring about such changes are abhorrent right from the beginning. Henceforth, most dream of even voicing their opinions. Florence Nightingale, went against all odds, and courageously fought with the society, along with her familial bonds, just to set things straight according to her own standards, and not for once, according to what was expected of her. The struggle bore fruit in the form of her enrollment as a nursing student at the Lutheran Hospital of Pastor Fliedner, in Kaiserwerth, Germany.

There is not an iota of doubt that all jobs require a sense of focus and pin-pointed execution. But nursing as a profession is all about borderline-philanthropy. Florence Nightingale took this meaning to a literal sense, where her main objective was just to serve people. She not only executed her job perfectly, but found new ways to bring in exceptional sanitation changes, efficient and effective management, unique working styles to help people, and moreover, all these with her own wit and ambition.

The society at those times, were not exactly keen on seeing a woman taking a lead role, let alone bring about radical changes. But Florence Nightingale in all such traditional views, and brought about such extreme changes in a positive manner, that even the future nursing professions had no option but to put her and her workings on a pedestal, and use them as precedent to run the whole profession itself.

Florence Nightingale, as a woman, took a bold step at a time when no woman could even think of it, even subconsciously. The results are these very words praising her, even after two centuries, and all the other practices followed after her.

When your vision is clear, your ambition is rock-solid, and the reasons are to make the world a better a place, then no matter any profession or obstacles, you just go on and on. And Florence Nightingale, was one such bright example.

