

# Who Is Kamala Harris? The History and Future of the First Female Vice President



**Who Is Kamala Harris? (Who HQ Now)** by Kirsten Anderson

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By [Author's Name]

## Meet the Trailblazing Vice President

Kamala Devi Harris, the 49th Vice President of the United States, is a beacon of hope and inspiration. She has shattered glass ceilings and made history as the first woman, first Black woman, and first South Asian woman to hold this extraordinary office. Her life and career are a testament to her unwavering determination, sharp intellect, and unyielding commitment to justice and equality.



## **Early Life and Education**

Kamala Harris was born on October 20, 1964, in Oakland, California. Her parents, Shyamala Gopalan Harris and Donald Harris, were both immigrants to the United States – her mother from India and her father from Jamaica. From a young age, Kamala was immersed in the fight for social justice. Her mother was a civil rights activist, and her maternal uncle was a renowned civil rights lawyer.

Kamala attended Howard University, a historically Black university in Washington, D.C., where she studied political science and economics. She then earned her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

### **A Distinguished Legal Career**

After graduating from law school, Kamala Harris began her legal career as a prosecutor in the Alameda County District Attorney's Office in California. She quickly rose through the ranks, becoming the district attorney herself in 2003.

As district attorney, Harris focused on implementing progressive reforms within the criminal justice system. She introduced programs aimed at reducing recidivism and providing alternatives to incarceration. She also established a "Back on Track" initiative to help young people avoid the criminal justice system.

### **Attorney General of California**

In 2010, Kamala Harris was elected Attorney General of California, becoming the first woman and the first African American to hold the position. As Attorney General, Harris continued to champion criminal justice reform. She launched the "OpenJustice" initiative to make the criminal justice system more transparent and accountable.

Harris also made headlines for her legal challenges to the Trump administration, including her defense of California's "sanctuary state" laws and her opposition to the transgender military ban.

### **United States Senator**

In 2016, Kamala Harris was elected to the United States Senate, representing California. She quickly made a name for herself as a vocal advocate for progressive policies. She served on the Judiciary Committee, Homeland Security Committee, and Intelligence Committee, where she grilled witnesses and pushed for legislation on issues such as healthcare, immigration, and climate change.

Harris also gained national recognition for her sharp questioning of Supreme Court nominees and her passionate speeches on the Senate floor.

### **2020 Presidential Campaign**

In January 2019, Kamala Harris announced her candidacy for President of the United States. Her campaign focused on a range of issues, including healthcare, education, and gun violence prevention. She made history as the second woman and the first Black woman to run for President from a major political party.

While Harris did not secure the Democratic nomination, her campaign resonated with voters across the country. She received widespread praise for her intelligence, charisma, and commitment to progressive values.

### **Making History as Vice President**

In August 2020, Joe Biden selected Kamala Harris as his running mate in the presidential election. The Biden-Harris ticket went on to win the election, making Harris the first woman and the first person of color to hold the office of Vice President.

As Vice President, Harris has played a crucial role in the Biden administration. She chairs the President's Council on Domestic Policy,

where she oversees a wide range of domestic issues. She has also been vocal on issues such as voting rights, healthcare, and climate change.

### **Family and Personal Life**

Kamala Harris is married to Douglas Emhoff, an entertainment attorney. She is a stepmother to Emhoff's two children, Cole and Ella. Harris and Emhoff reside in the Vice President's Residence at the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.

In her personal life, Harris is known for her love of cooking, music, and spending time with family and friends. She is also a strong advocate for animal rights and has been a vegetarian for many years.

### **A Legacy of Leadership**

Kamala Harris's life and career are an inspiration to millions around the world. She has broken down barriers and paved the way for a more inclusive and just society. Her unwavering commitment to progress, her sharp intellect, and her compassion make her a role model for generations to come.

As the first woman and the first person of color to serve as Vice President, Kamala Harris has made history. But her legacy extends far beyond this single achievement. She is a trailblazer, a leader, and a beacon of hope for all who believe in a brighter future.

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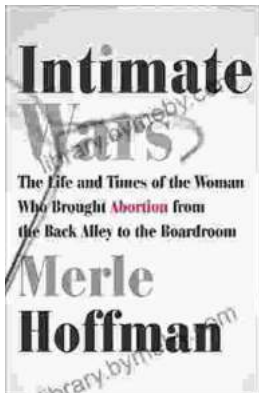


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