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# excalibur

## AMANDLA

Nelson Mandela. The man-martyr-myth arose from the ashes of his oppression like a phoenix reborn of his youth and regenerated of his struggle.

For millions around the world, Mandela's release from South African prisons after 27 years of confinement seemed remarkable. And his recent world tour in support of the African National Congress (ANC) and a negotiated peace in South Africa still seems an astonishing dream.

The media has certainly helped build both the man and the recent events into legendary proportions. Mandela's power has come more from his ability to symbolize rather than realize the end of apartheid, although with the current pace of change, he may yet live to be the next democratically elected leader of a unitary South Africa.

Mandela has the world stage. Everyone is listening to him. He commands the front page and top story in every city he visits.

