

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

TEGLA LOROUPE



Tegla Loroupe, born in 1973, is a renowned Kenyan long-distance runner, marathoner, and global activist. One of 25 children, Loroupe's passion for running was evident from an early age. She would cover a six-mile round trip to school on foot, gradually outpacing older students in foot races. Recognizing her athletic talent, Loroupe set her sights on becoming a professional runner, eventually achieving world records and becoming the first African woman to triumph in the New York City marathon.

In 2003, Loroupe established a foundation with the goal of enhancing peace building, livelihoods, and the resilience of impoverished populations affected by conflicts and civil strife worldwide. Simultaneously, she initiated an annual series of Peace Marathons known as "Peace Through Sports." These races have evolved into significant athletic events that promote peace among African tribes and received commendation from the Kenyan Government in 2010. Loroupe further made a lasting impact by establishing a school and orphanage to support children in northwest Kenya.

Leveraging her platform, Loroupe has been a dedicated advocate for refugees, taking on the role of organizer for the Refugee Team at the 2016 Summer Olympics. In the same year, the United Nations recognized her as "Person of the Year" for her outstanding peace-making efforts in high-conflict areas worldwide.

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“One must be one's own inspiration.”

Further References:

- [New York Road Runners: Hall of Fame](#)
- [Laureus World Sports: Academy Member Tegla Loroupe](#)

