

Jane Goodall Biography (summary)

Jane Goodall began her landmark study of chimpanzees in Tanzania in June 1960, under the mentorship of anthropologist and paleontologist Dr. Louis Leakey. Her work at what was then called the Gombe Stream Chimpanzee Reserve would become the foundation of future primatological research and redefine the relationship between humans and animals.

In 1977, Goodall established the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), which continues the Gombe research and is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. The Institute also is widely recognized for establishing innovative, community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and the Roots & Shoots education program which has 8,000 groups in 96 countries.

Dr. Goodall travels an average 300 days per year, speaking about the threats facing chimpanzees, other environmental crises, and her reasons for hope that humankind will solve the problems it has imposed on the earth. She continually urges her audiences to recognize their personal responsibility and ability to effect change through consumer action, lifestyle change and activism.

Dr. Goodall's scores of honors include the Medal of Tanzania, the National Geographic Society's Hubbard Medal, Japan's prestigious Kyoto Prize, the Prince of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research 2003, the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science, and the Gandhi/King Award for Nonviolence. In April 2002, Secretary-General Kofi Annan named Dr. Goodall a United Nations "Messenger of Peace." In 2004, in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace, Prince Charles invested Dr. Goodall as a Dame of the British Empire, the female equivalent of knighthood. In 2006, Dr. Goodall received the UNESCO Gold Medal Award and the French Legion of Honor, presented by the Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin.

Dr. Goodall's list of publications includes her latest book *Harvest for Hope: A Guide to Mindful Eating*, two overviews of her work at Gombe — *In the Shadow of Man* and *Through a Window* — as well as two autobiographies in letters, the best-selling autobiography *Reason for Hope* and many children's books. *The Chimpanzees of Gombe: Patterns of Behavior* is the definitive scientific work on chimpanzees and is the culmination of Jane Goodall's scientific career. She has been the subject of numerous television documentaries and is featured in the large-screen format film, *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees* (2002). In 2004 she was featured in two Discovery Channel Animal Planet specials—*Jane Goodall's Return to Gombe* and *Jane Goodall's State of the Great Ape*.