

# Here Now Giuseppe Garibaldi: A Detailed Analysis of the Italian Revolutionary's Life and Legacy



**Here, Now** by Giuseppe Garibaldi

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Giuseppe Garibaldi, the legendary Italian revolutionary, is a figure of enduring fascination and inspiration. Born in Nice in 1807, Garibaldi dedicated his life to the cause of Italian unification, playing a pivotal role in the Risorgimento, the movement that led to the establishment of a unified Italian state in 1861.

Garibaldi's military prowess, charismatic leadership, and unwavering commitment to his ideals made him a hero to the Italian people. His exploits, including the Thousand Expedition, the Battle of Calatafimi, and the Siege of Rome, are etched in the annals of Italian history.

This article delves into the life and legacy of Giuseppe Garibaldi, examining his motivations, his achievements, and the lasting impact he had on Italy and beyond.

## Early Life and Military Career

Giuseppe Garibaldi was born on July 4, 1807, in Nice, which was then part of the Kingdom of Sardinia. His father, Angelo Garibaldi, was a sea captain, and his mother, Rosa Raimondi, was a devout Catholic.

Garibaldi spent much of his early life at sea, following in his father's footsteps. However, his adventurous spirit and thirst for freedom led him to abandon his naval career and join the Carbonari, a secret society dedicated to the overthrow of foreign rule in Italy.

In 1833, Garibaldi participated in an abortive uprising against the Piedmontese government. After the failure of the uprising, he was forced to flee into exile. He traveled to South America, where he fought for the independence of Brazil and Uruguay, gaining valuable military experience.

## **The Risorgimento**

Upon his return to Italy in 1848, Garibaldi joined the forces of Charles Albert, King of Sardinia, in the First Italian War of Independence against Austria. After the war's defeat, Garibaldi returned to exile, but he continued to plot and prepare for the liberation of Italy.

In 1860, Garibaldi launched the legendary Thousand Expedition, a daring military campaign that aimed to unify southern Italy under the rule of Victor Emmanuel II, King of Sardinia. With just over a thousand volunteers known as the Red Shirts, Garibaldi landed in Sicily and rapidly gained control of the island.

From Sicily, Garibaldi's forces crossed over to mainland Italy, capturing Naples and defeating the forces of the Bourbon monarchy. Garibaldi's

victories paved the way for the unification of southern Italy with the Kingdom of Sardinia.

## **The Battle of Mentana and the Capture of Rome**

After the unification of southern Italy, Garibaldi turned his attention to Rome, which remained under papal control. In 1867, he marched on Rome with a force of volunteers, hoping to liberate the city and complete the unification of Italy.

However, Garibaldi's forces were defeated by French troops at the Battle of Mentana, preventing the capture of Rome. Garibaldi was wounded in the battle and forced to retreat.

Despite the setback at Mentana, Garibaldi's efforts helped to lay the groundwork for the eventual capture of Rome by Italian forces in 1870. Rome became the capital of the unified Kingdom of Italy, fulfilling Garibaldi's dream of a unified nation.

## **Later Life and Legacy**

After the capture of Rome, Garibaldi retired to his island home of Caprera, where he continued to advocate for social and political reforms. He died in Caprera in 1882, at the age of 74.

Garibaldi's legacy as a national hero and a symbol of Italian unity is enduring. His name is synonymous with the Risorgimento and the birth of modern Italy.

Statues and monuments to Garibaldi can be found throughout Italy, and his image is featured on Italian banknotes and postage stamps. The Italian

navy's largest aircraft carrier, the ITS Cavour, is named after him.



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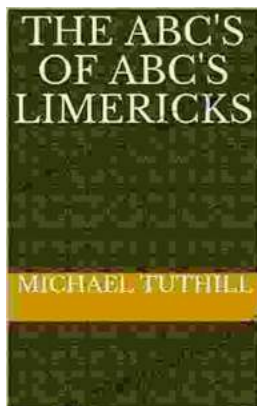
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