



# Florence Nightingale

## History



### Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was born in 1820 in Florence, Italy. She moved back to England when she was a baby. Florence was alive in the Victorian times and men and women were not treated equally then. Her parents wanted her to marry rich and stay at home. but Florence went against her parents wishes and trained to become a nurse.

### Crimean War

A few years after Florence Nightingale had trained to be a nurse, Britain went to war with Russia. This was called the Crimean War as the fighting took place in Crimea. Florence travelled to Scutari to help the soldiers.



### Hospital conditions in Scutari:

Soldiers often died in the hospitals in Scutari. This was due to many reasons:

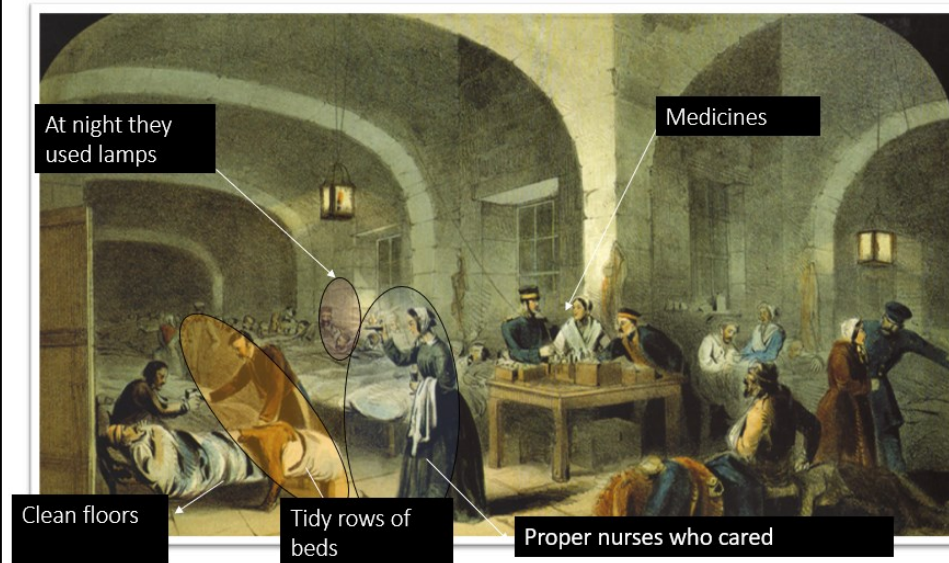
The men were kept in rooms without blankets or decent food.

Unwashed, they were still wearing their army uniforms that were "stiff with dirt and blood".

There were lots of diseases... and even rats!



## How did Florence help to improve hospital conditions?



## How did Florence improve nursing?

Florence turned nursing into a respectable job for women. In 1860 the Nightingale School for Nurses opened in London. This was the first school set up to train nurses to work in hospitals. Florence campaigned to improve nursing and wrote over 200 books on hospital planning. Some of these ideas are still use in hospitals today. Florence Nightingale was given the Order of Merit in 1907.



## Glossary

**Chronological:** Putting events in the order that they happened.

**Hospital:** A place where sick people go to be looked after.



**Medicine:** Given to someone to help them feel better.



**Nurse:** A person who looks after sick people.

**Scutari:** The place where Florence Nightingale went to look after injured soldiers.



**Victorian times:** The time in history when Victoria was Queen.