

The golden rhinoceros was recovered at Mapungubwe, the biggest kingdom on the subcontinent in the 13th century, during site excavations in 1932. South Africa's highest honour, of which Nelson Mandela was the first recipient, is called the Order of Mapungubwe.

In 1912, the Olympic Committee stopped making 24 karat gold medals. They are now required to be covered in just six grams of gold.

Gold can be hammered into sheets so thin that a pile only 2.54cm high would contain more than 200,000 separate sheets.

Gold is so pliable that it can be made into sewing thread.

The Statue of Liberty's torch is covered with thin sheets of 24 karat gold.

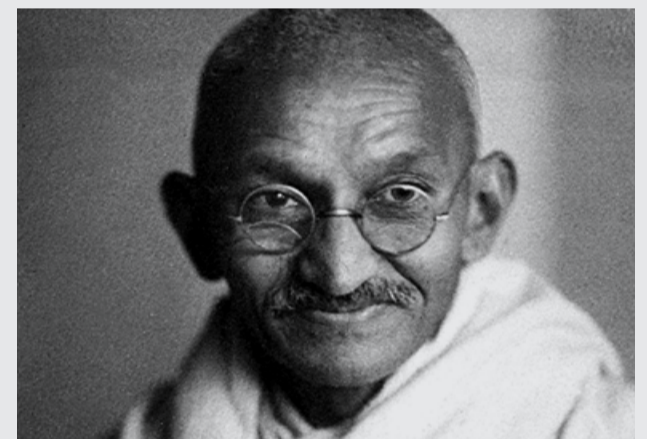
You can eat gold... but the gold isn't digested and just passes right through the body.

Elvis Presley owned three cars manufactured by Stutz Motor Company, in which every part that is normally chrome was converted to gold.



Let the efforts of us all, prove that he [Martin Luther King] was not a mere dreamer when he spoke of the beauty of genuine brotherhood and peace being more precious than diamonds or silver or gold.

Nelson Mandela



It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.

Mahatma Gandhi

GOLD MINING TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

ALLOY	A compound of two or more metals, usually produced by fusion	ORE	Mineral-bearing rock
BULLION	Raw gold that is reduced to nearly pure form ready to be shipped to the mint to be cast into bars or ingots for easy storage and shipping	ORE RESERVE	The amount of ore that is available for extraction
CONCENTRATE	A product that contains the valuable material after all the waste has been eliminated	ORE RESOURCE	Estimated amount of tonnes, grades and gold in situ calculated from fewer measurements than those available for calculating reserves and, therefore stated with less confidence
CUT OFF	The lowest grade of ore that can be mined profitably	REEF	A vein of ore in the earth containing gold
DEPOSIT	An area that has a quantity of gold that has been found	SHAFT	A vertical or sloping opening, giving access to the various levels of a mine, usually equipped with a hoist at the top, which lowers and raises a conveyance for handling miners and material
EXCAVATION	An area where rock has been removed	SIDEWALL	Rock adjacent to and excavated area which forms the vertical wall of an excavation
EXTRACTION	The process of taking out useable ore from waste materials	SLIMES	Finer particles of tailings discharged from a processing plant after the valuable minerals have been removed
FOOTWALL	The block of rock which lies on the underside of an inclined fault or of a vein of mineral	STOCKPILE	Broken ore accumulated in a heap on the surface, awaiting treatment or shipment
HANGINGWALL	The rocks on the upper side of an inclined fault plane or mineral vein	STOPE	An excavation in a mine to remove the ore that is being or has been extracted
IN SITU	In a natural or original position	TAILINGS	Refuse material left over after the recoverable valuable gold has been extracted
INGOT	A gold bar usually cast from a mould for convenience in handling and measuring	ZAMA ZAMAS	Informal miners who enter mines to dig gold for their own gain or extract gold from surface sources illegally
KARAT	A measure of weight for gold		
MALLEABLE	A property of a metal describing the ease with which it can be hammered, forged, pressed, or rolled into thin sheets		