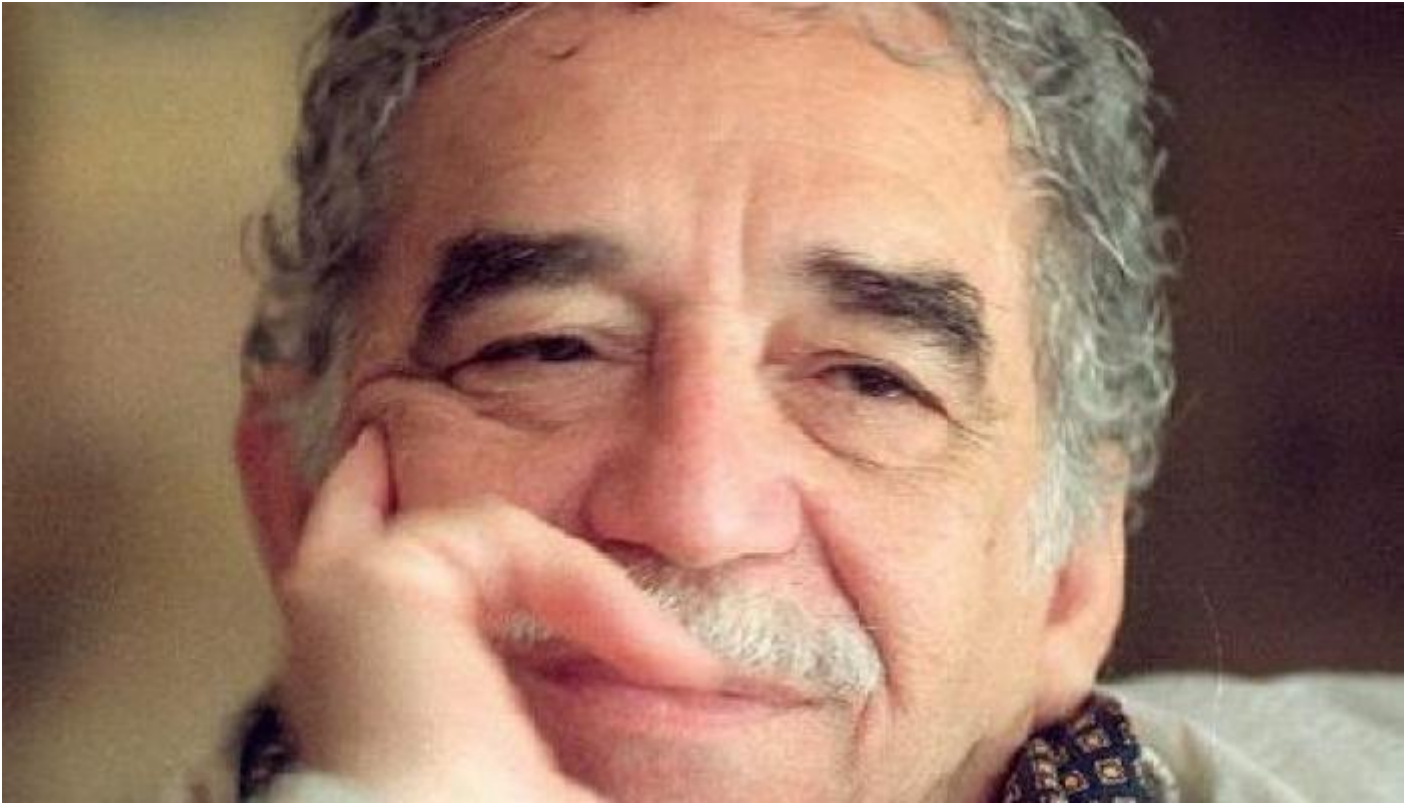


Nobel Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez Dies at 87



Mexico City, April 17, (AP), -- Nobel-winning Colombian author Gabriel Garcia Marquez has died at the age of 87, a source close to the family has confirmed.

Garcia Marquez's magical realist novels and short stories exposed tens of millions of readers to Latin America's passion, superstition, violence and inequality. Widely considered the most popular Spanish-language writer since Miguel de Cervantes in the 17th century, Garcia Marquez achieved literary celebrity that spawned comparisons to Mark Twain and Charles Dickens.

His flamboyant and melancholy works outsold everything published in Spanish except the Bible. The epic 1967 novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" sold more than 50 million copies in more than 25 languages.

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