

Mohandas K. Gandhi

A Life in Pictures

1876 as a child

This is the earliest picture of
Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

He is aged 7



Gandhi's mother Putlibai

Putlibai had a strong spiritual
influence on Gandhi

She was a devout Hindu, who used to
fast regularly

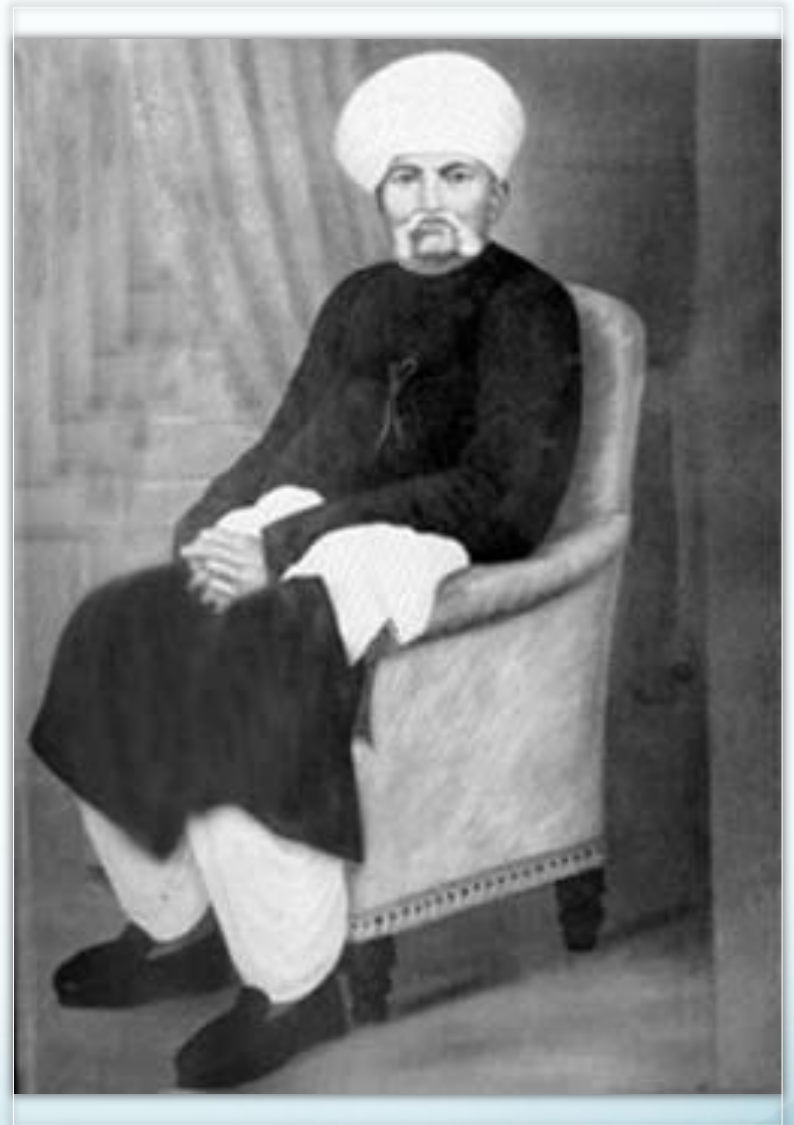
She also took advice from a
Jain priest



Gandhi's father Karamchand

Gandhi's father was a politician

He was Prime Minister of Porbandar,
a small princely
state in Western India



1883 as a teenager

Gandhi played sports such as tennis
and cricket

When he lied to his parents or stole
from his brother he felt very guilty!



1886 with brother

Gandhi had two brothers and
one sister

He was the youngest child

Here he is shown with his elder
brother Laxmidas



1890 in England

This the first picture of Gandhi
in England.

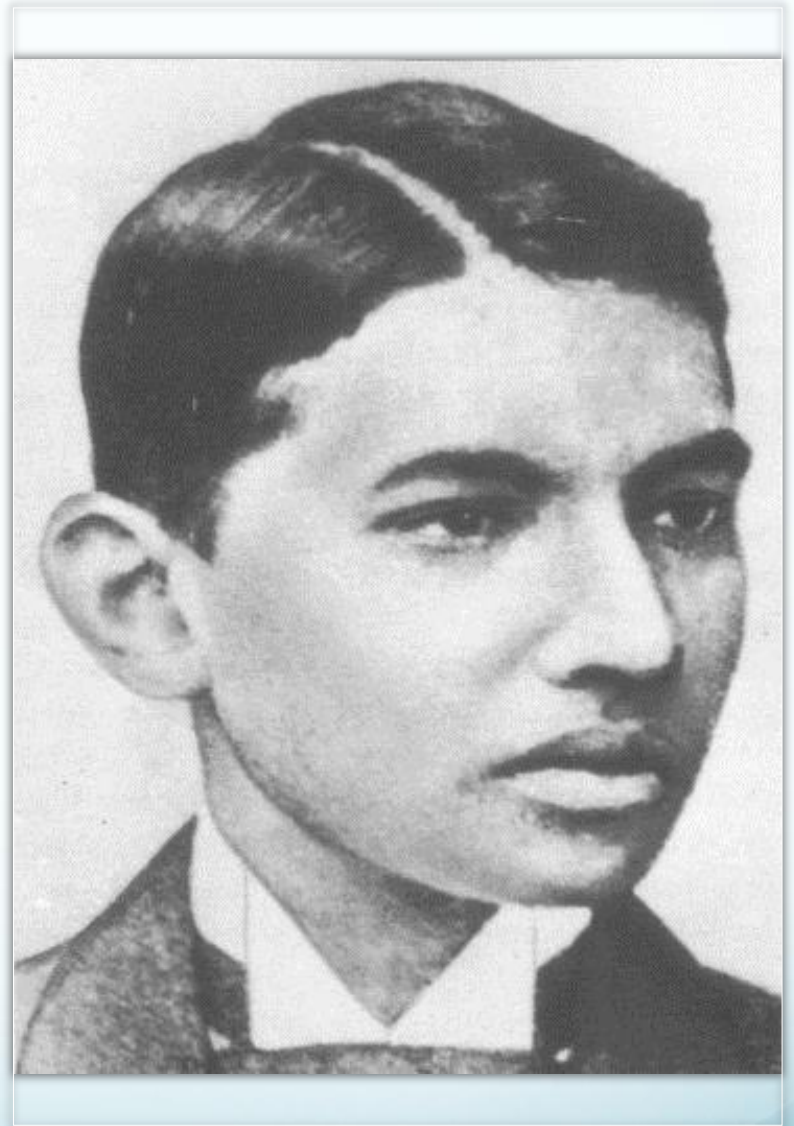
Gandhi was a lifelong vegetarian

He is shown on a visit of the
Vegetarian Society to the
Isle of Wight



1891 law student

Gandhi trained to be a barrister at the
Inner Temple in London



1895 as a barrister

After a brief period back in India,
Gandhi went to South Africa to
practice law

He was retained by a firm of Muslim
merchants, headed by Dada Abdullah
Sheth



1895 Natal Congress

In South Africa he soon became involved in protecting the rights of Indian migrants

Here he is shown with other members of the Natal Indian Congress



1899 ambulance corps

During the Boer War,
Gandhi formed the Indian
Ambulance Corps

“Their unassuming dauntlessness
cost them many lives and eventually
an order was published forbidding
them to go into
the firing line.”

(Mr. Vere Kent
Johannesburg Illustrated Star)



1902 with Kasturbhai

Mohandas and Kasturbai
were married when they
were both aged 13

Later Gandhi became a campaigner
against child marriage



1902 family

Kasturbai (Ba) is shown with their four children (all boys):

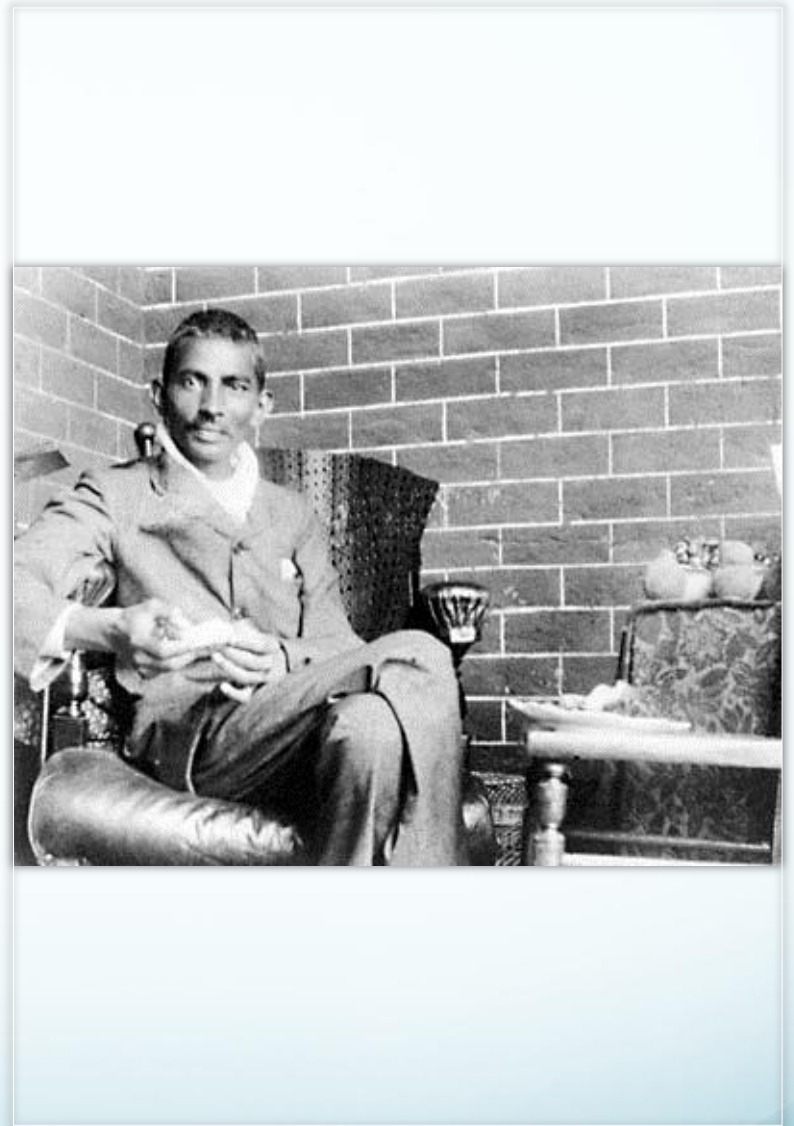
Harilal, born in 1888
Manilal, born in 1892
Ramdas, born in 1897
Devdas, born in 1900



1908 recuperating

Gandhi was sometimes subject to physical beatings because of his activism

When this photo was taken he was recovering from a beating at the hands of other Indians, who objected to the compromise Gandhi made with General Smuts regarding the Pass Laws



1910: letter to Tolstoy

Tolstoy:

“I want to tell others what I feel particularly clearly and what to my mind is of great importance – namely that which is called nonviolent resistance – but which is really nothing else but the teaching of love”

↑
M. K. GANDHI.
Attorney.
|

21-24 Court Chambers,
CANNON ROAD & ADELPHI DIST.
TELEPHONE NO. 124 P.O. Box 6022
TELEGRAMS "GANDHI" A.B.C. Code 825 43111

*London, 4th April, 1910
Transvaal
(S. Africa)*

Count Leo Tolstoy,
Yasnaya Polyana,
Russia.

Dear Sir,

You will recollect my having carried on correspondence with you whilst I was temporarily in London. As a humble follower of yours, I send you herewith a booklet which I have written. It is my own translation of a Gujarati writing. Curiously enough the original writing has been confiscated by the Government of India. I, therefore, hastened the above publication of the translation. I am most anxious not to worry you, but, if your health permits it and if you can find the time to go through the booklet, needless to say I shall value very highly your criticism of the writing. I am sending also a few copies of your letter to a Hindoo, which you authorized me to publish. It has been translated in one of the Indian languages also.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

M. K. Gandhi

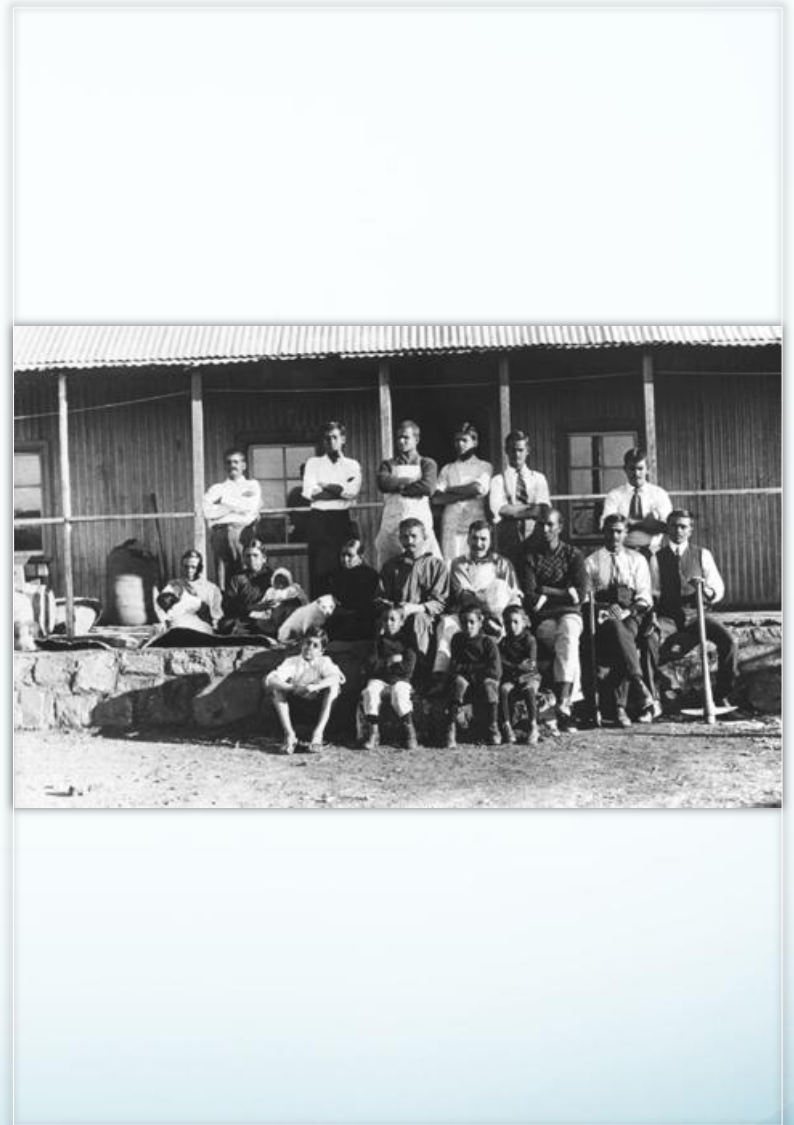
1910 Tolstoy Farm

21 miles from Johannesburg

Gandhi's second venture into
communal living

The first had been Phoenix Farm near
Durban

Later Gandhi founded ashrams
in India



1912 with Gokhale

Many important Indians had become aware of Gandhi's campaigning in South Africa

Here he is shown with Gokhale, a senior leader of the Indian Nationalist movement, who became Gandhi's political 'guru'



1913 Transvaal march

A protest against the ban on Indian immigration, and the ruling that only Christian marriages were legal

Gandhi hoped the marchers would be sent to jail when they entered the Transvaal

Eventually there was a compromise with the government of General Smuts



1913

Satyagraha

Gandhi called his method
'Satyagraha', meaning
'struggle for truth'

He was prepared to sacrifice his own
well-being in order to change the
hearts of his opponents



1913 the Satyagrahi

Gandhi ceased to wear European clothes

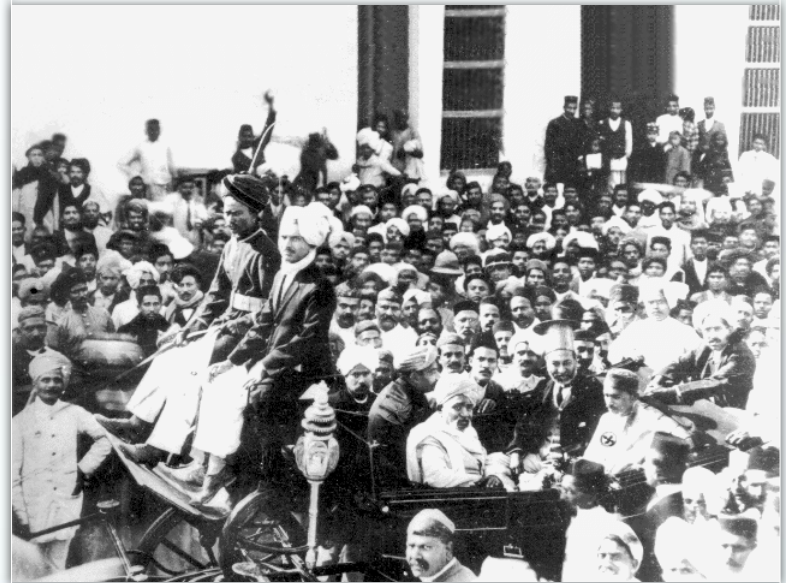
He believed that simple dress was appropriate for defending the rights of ordinary Indians



1915 a hero in India

Gandhi's successes in South Africa were well known throughout India

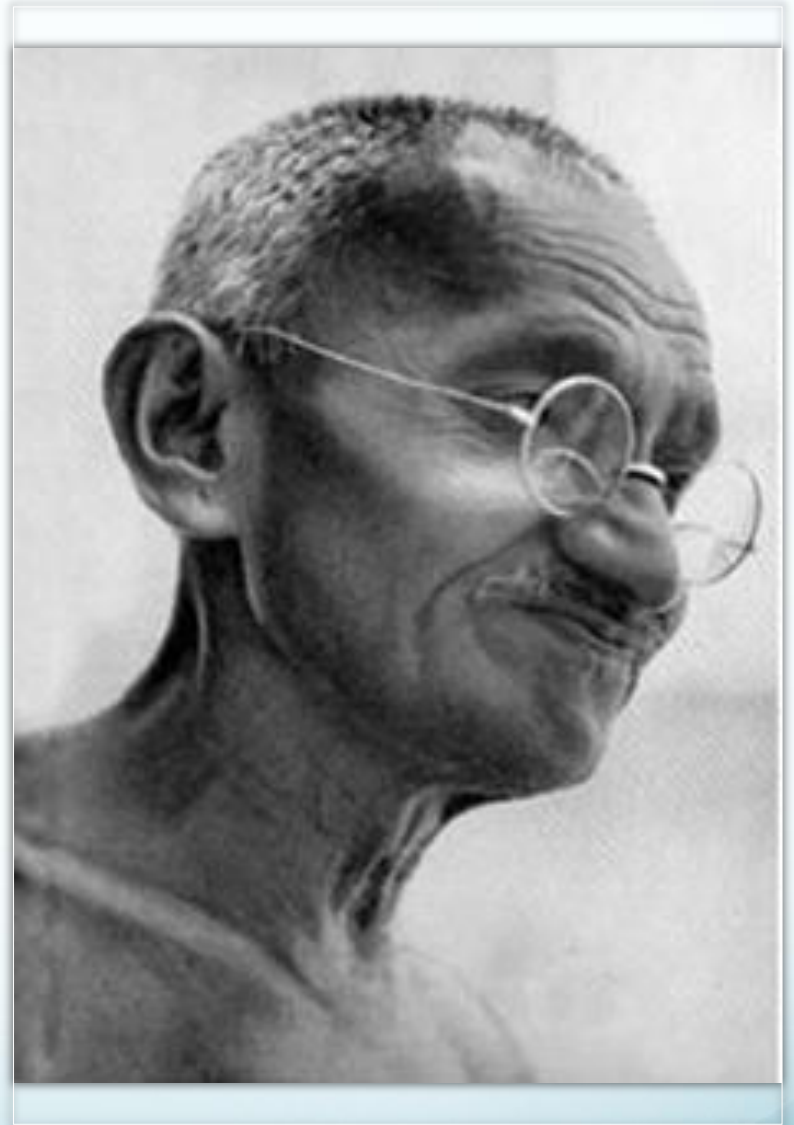
In this picture he is welcomed in Karachi, now in modern-day Pakistan



1929 Gandhi

This picture shows the 'iconic' Gandhi, who had developed by the age of 60

By this time Gandhi had established himself on the Indian political scene, and achieved many notable victories



1930 Salt march

Gandhi was very clever at picking his campaign issues

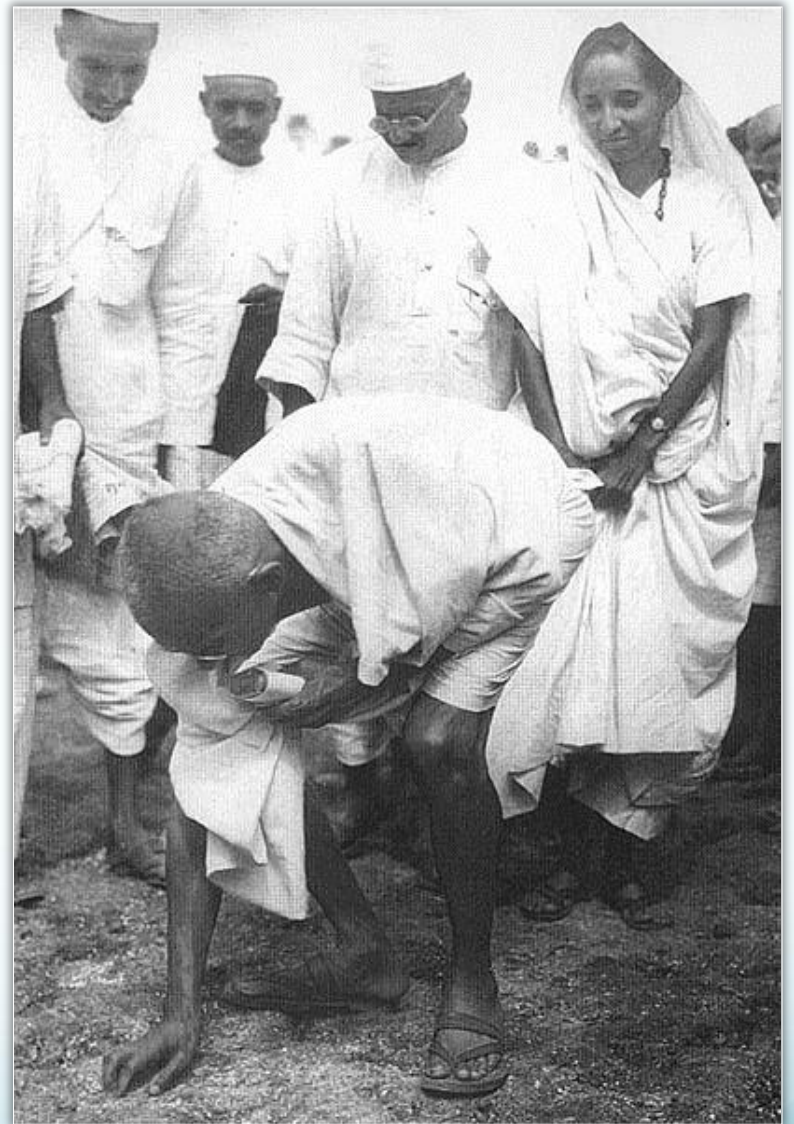
Although the British tax on salt did not raise much money, it was symbolic of the lack of freedom for Indians in their own country



1930 making salt

Gandhi is shown picking up salt from the beach – ‘making’ salt – which was illegal for Indians

Even today foreign companies try to prevent Indians using their own natural resources, such as drugs companies which try to patent Indian medicinal plants



1931 round the table

It seemed that the British government was taking Indian demands for independence seriously

A conference was organised in London, but nothing changed



1931

St James Palace

While in England, Gandhi met the King and the Prime Minister

He told a reporter: “You people wear plus-fours, mine are minus-fours!”



1931 Kingsley Hall

“I find that my work lies outside the conference”

While in London, Gandhi stayed in the poor East End

The Gandhi Foundation maintains its HQ at Kingsley Hall to this day



1931 Lancashire

In India, Gandhi had campaigned against the import of cotton cloth from England

This caused many textile workers in England to lose their jobs

Gandhi visited them to show his solidarity – and they showed theirs!



1932 in jail

Gandhi went to jail many times in both South Africa and India

He used his time in jail to read and study

‘whoever has a taste for reading good books is able to bear loneliness in any place with great ease’



LORD WILLINGTON'S DILEMMA

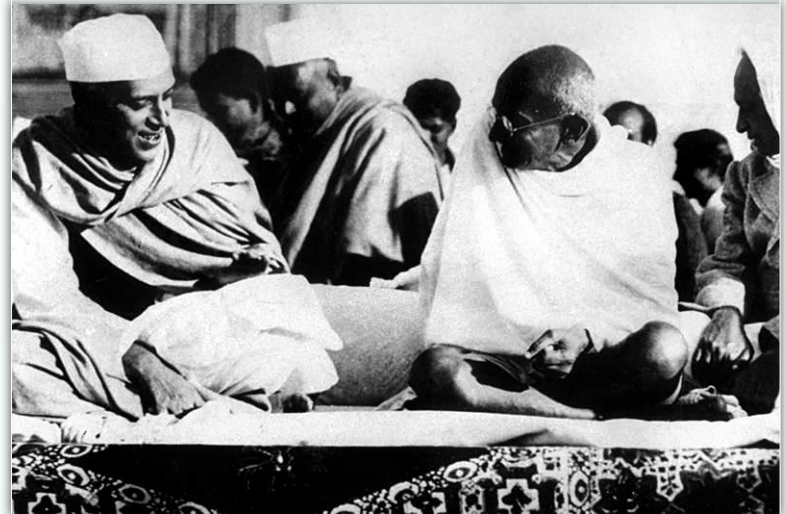
1937 with Nehru

Gandhi had good relations with Nehru, who became Prime Minister of India in 1947

However their visions for India were different

Nehru wanted industrialisation

Gandhi had traditional village life at the heart of his vision



1939 letter to Hitler

Hitler never saw the letter
because British officials
intervened to stop it.

Would Hitler have replied?

Gandhi later published his letter
in his journal 'Harijan'

Am at Wardha
C.P.
India.
23.7.'39.

Dear friend,

Friends have been urging me to write to you for the sake of humanity. But I have resisted their request, because of the feeling that any letter from me would be an impertinence. Something tells me that I must not calculate and that I must make my appeal for whatever it may be worth.

It is quite clear that you are today the one person in the world who can prevent a war which may reduce humanity to the savage state. Must you pay that price for an object however worthy it may appear to you to be? Will you listen to the appeal of one who has deliberately shunned the method of war not without considerable success? Any way I anticipate your forgiveness, if I have erred in writing to you.

Herr Hitler
Berlin
Germany.

I remain,
Your sincere friend

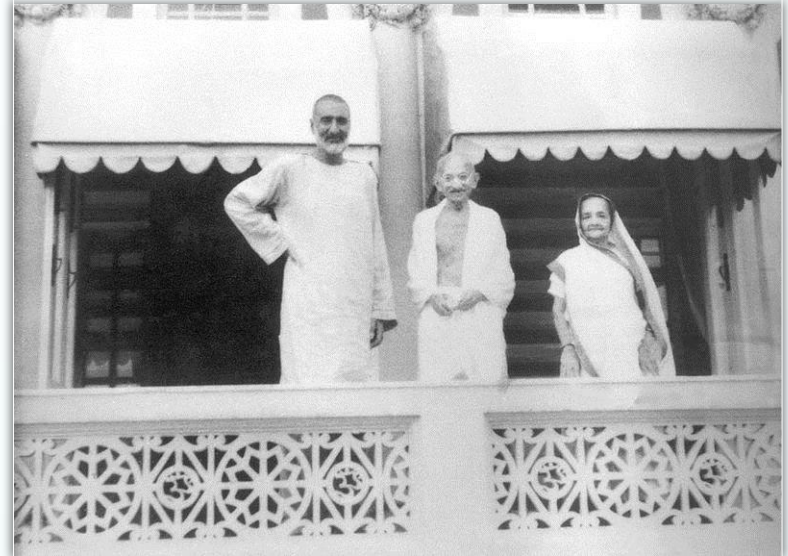
M.K. Gandhi

1940

'frontier Gandhi'

Gandhi had good relations with many Muslims

Here he is shown with Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who was known as the 'frontier Gandhi', for his work promoting peace on the border with Afghanistan



1940 tending a leper

Gandhi had wanted to be a doctor rather than a lawyer, and he nursed many people throughout his life

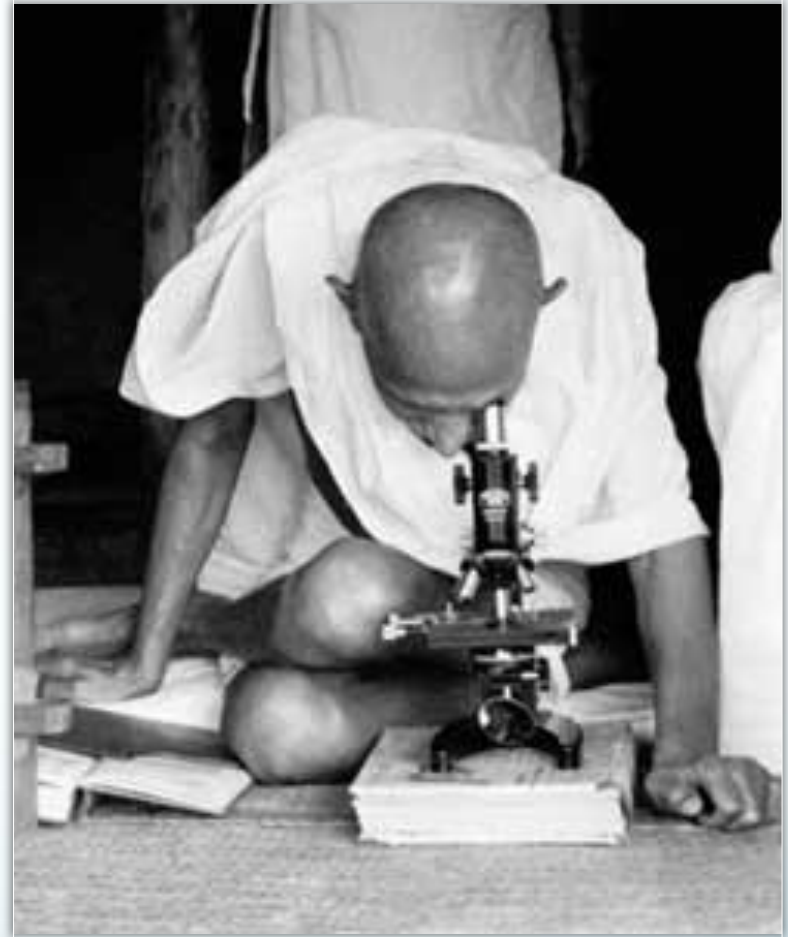


1940 'the scientist'

Here he is shown researching leprosy

Gandhi's autobiography is called 'My Experiments with Truth'

He wanted to bring 'scientific' methods to the exploration of human morality

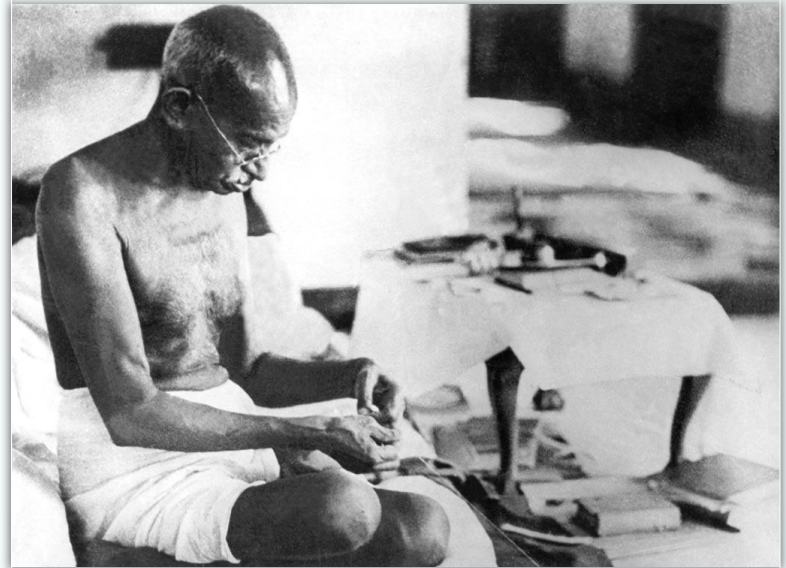


1942 spinning

Gandhi was inspired by Ruskin's ideal of self-reliance

He taught Indians to provide for themselves and not depend on the British

The spinning wheel became the symbol of independence, and was used on the flag of the Indian National Congress.



Indian Flags

INC flag with spinning wheel



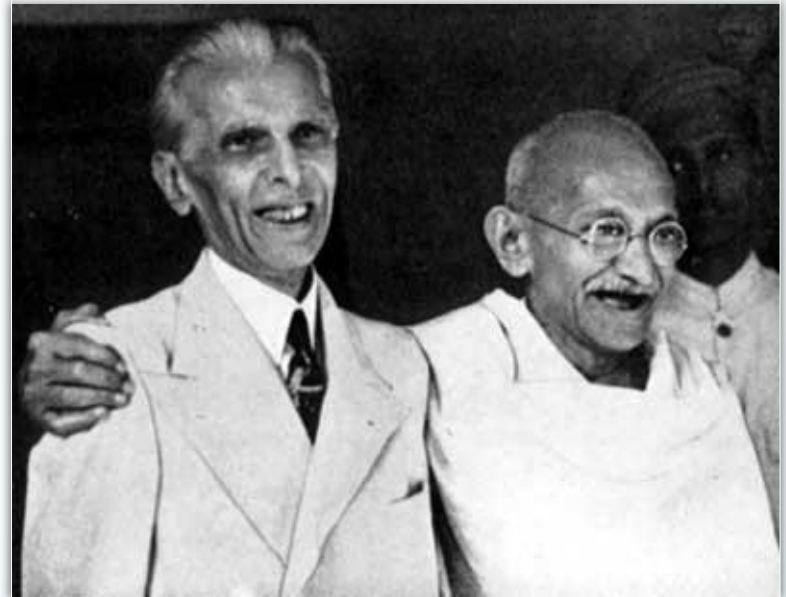
Indian flag with Dharma wheel



1944 with Jinnah

The Partition of Pakistan from India in 1947 broke Gandhi's heart

Gandhi believed that Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians should all live together in India



1947 fasting

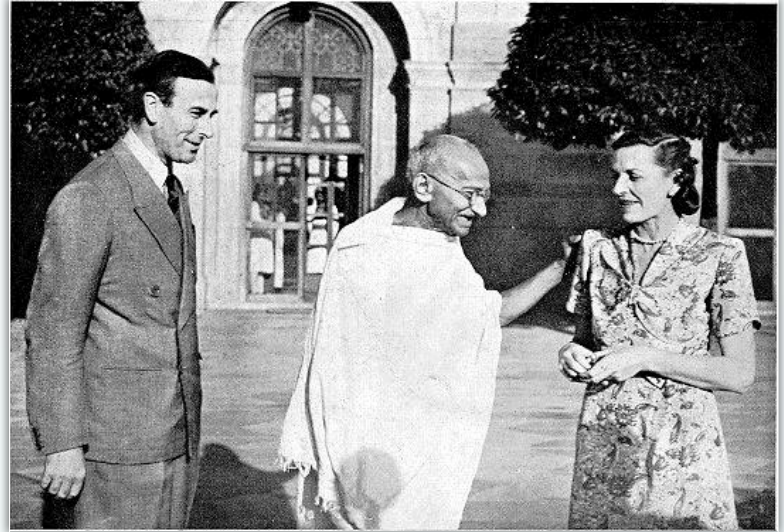
Gandhi fasted so that people
would stop fighting

Without his fasting, it is probable that
more people would have died in the
riots of 1947



1947 the Mountbattens

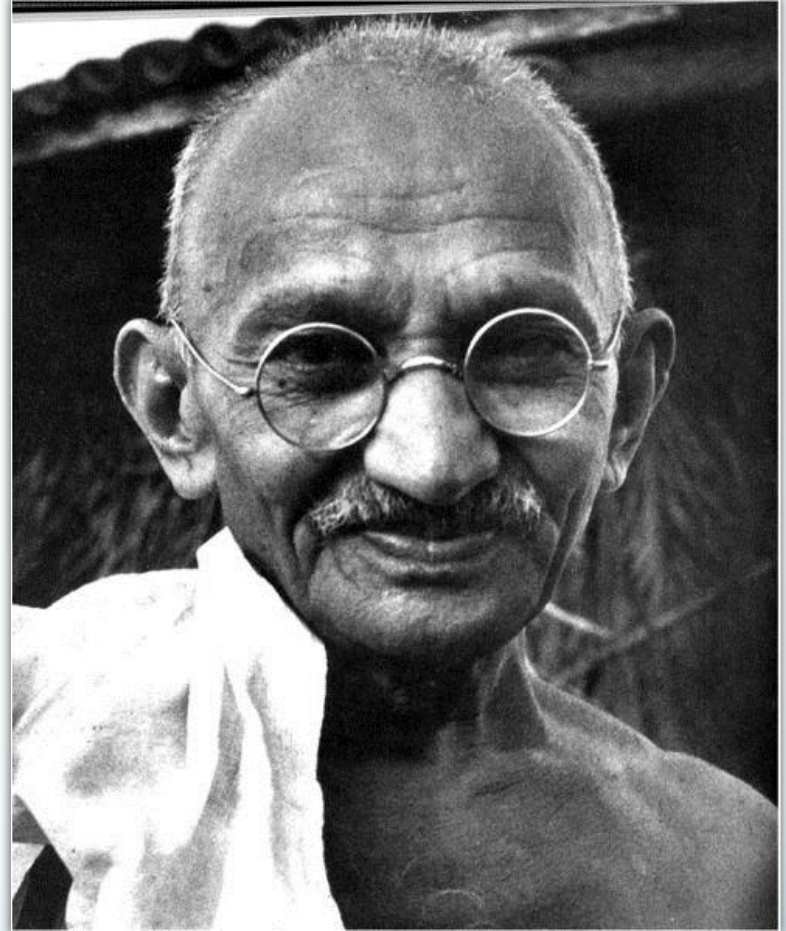
Gandhi continued to work at the highest political level until the end of his life



1948

When he was assassinated by a Hindu extremist his last words were

'Hey Rama'
(O God)





www.gandhifoundation.org

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