

8 -MAHATMA GANDHI



In India we call Mahatma Gandhi as 'Bapu' or 'Rashtrapita'. His full name was Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. He was born on 2nd October, 1869 at Porbandar in Kathiawad, Gujarat. His father's name was Karamchand Gandhi. His mother's name was Putlibai. His wife was Kastoorba Gandhi.



Gandhiji lived the life of a common man and kept himself away from luxuries. He was very honest and truthful from his childhood. Once he read the story of Shravana Kumar. Shravana used to carry his old and blind parents in baskets slung on a bamboo yoke. Gandhiji was deeply touched by his devotion towards his old parents. He decided to be like Shravana and serve his parents.

He went to England to obtain a law degree. After obtaining his degree he returned to India in 1893. He was restless to see his countrymen suffering under the foreign rule. So he devoted his entire life for the upliftment of the poor and to free his country from the clutches of the British Rule. He led the freedom movement against the British Government and started 'Satyagrah', 'Non-Cooperation Movement', 'Dandi Salt March', 'Quit India Movement' and 'Civil Disobedience Movement'. Ultimately, India got freedom on 15th August 1947.



Mahatma Gandhi is known for his principles of non-violence all over the world. He led a saintly life and was against all sorts of injustice and inequality prevailing in the society. He wanted to establish Ramrajya. By Ramrajya he meant the kingdom of God. For him Ram & Rahim were one and the same deity. For his great contribution to the country, Indians call him the 'Father of the Nation' or 'Bapu'. He was assassinated on 30th January 1948 by Nathuram Godse. Since then, 30th January is observed as Martyr's Day in India.

New Words

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
devoted	- /dɪ'vɒtɪd/	समर्पित होना
entire	- /ɪn'taɪə(r)/	सम्पूर्ण
upliftment	- /'ʌplɪftmɛnt/	उत्थान
clutches	- /'klʌtʃɪz/	सिकप
bamboo yoke	- /'bɑːmbuːjɒk/	बंस से जुड़ा
luxuries	- /'lʌʒəriːz/	विलासितापूर्ण
obtain	- /ə'beɪn/	प्राप्त करना
movement	- /'muːvmənt/	आ-चलन
ultimately	- /'ʌltɪmətli/	अखिरकार
injustice	- /ɪn'dʒʌstɪs/	अन्याय
inequality	- /ɪn'ɪkwəlɪti/	असमानता
deity	- /'deɪti/	महात्मा
contribution	- /kɒn'trɪbjʊʃn/	योगदान
assassinated	- /ə'sæsɪnətɪd/	राजनीतिक हत्या

Comprehension Questions

1. Answer the following questions :

- What was Gandhiji's full name?
- When and where was Gandhiji born?
- Write the main qualities of Gandhiji's character.
- Why was Gandhiji restless?
- Whose story inspired Gandhiji to serve his parents?
- Why do we call Gandhiji as 'Father of the Nation'?
- Who assassinated Gandhiji and when?

2. Write 'T' for true statements and 'F' for false statements :

- Mahatma Gandhi was born on 2nd November 1869. ()
- His mother's name was Shantibai. ()
- He was honest and truthful since his childhood. ()

d. 30th January is celebrated as Martyr's Day in India. ()

Word Power

1. Write the opposites of the following words :

honest - ____ kind - ____

poor - ____ equal - ____

justice - ____ dark - ____

happiness - ____ necessary - ____

Language Practice

1. Match the suffix with the root word to make a new word :

Word	Suffix
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truth	dom
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child	ment
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rest	hood
------	------

govern	ful
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king	less
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2. Using the table frame questions, write the suitable 'Yes' or 'No' answer below them:

Does	a bird	fly?	Yes,	it does.
	birds			it doesn't.
a cat	No,		they do.	
cats			they don't	
a frog				
Do	frogs			

Activity

» Collect pictures of some freedom fighters, paste them in your notebook and write a few lines about them.