

Timeline of Gandhi's Life

- 1869 Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi born in Porbandar in Gujarat.
- 1893 Gandhi leaves for Johannesburg for practicing law and is thrown out of a first class bogie because he is colored.
- 1906 Mohandas K. Gandhi, 37, speaks at a mass meeting in the Empire Theater, Johannesburg on September 11 and launches a campaign of nonviolent resistance (*satyagraha*) to protest discrimination against Indians. The British Government had just invalidated the Indian Marriage.
- 1913 Mohandas Gandhi in Transvaal, South Africa leads 2,500 Indians into the defiance of a law, they are violently arrested, Gandhi refuses to pay a fine, he is jailed, his supporters demonstrate. On November 25, Natal police fire into the crowd, killing two, injuring 20.
- 1914 Mohandas Gandhi returns to India at age 45 after 21 years of practicing law in South Africa where he organized a campaign of "passive resistance" to protest his mistreatment by whites for his defense of Asian immigrants. He attracts wide attention in India by conducting a fast --the first of 14 that he will stage as political demonstrations and that will inaugurate the idea of the political fasting.
- 1930 A civil disobedience campaign against the British in India begins March 12. The All-India Trade Congress has empowered Gandhi to begin the demonstrations (see 1914). Called Mahatma for the past decade, Gandhi leads a 165-mile march to the Gujarat coast of the Arabian Sea and produces salt by evaporation of sea water in violation of the law as a gesture of defiance against the British monopoly in salt production
- 1932 Gandhi begins a "fast unto death" to protest the British government's treatment of India's lowest caste "untouchables" whom Gandhi calls *Harijans* -- "God's children." Gandhi's campaign of civil disobedience has brought rioting and has landed him in prison, but he persists in his demands for social reform, he urges a new boycott of British goods, and after 6 days of fasting obtains a pact that improves the status of the "untouchables" (Dalits)
- 1947 India becomes free from 200 years of British Rule. A major victory for Gandhian principles and non-violence in general.
- 1948 Gandhi is assassinated by Nathuram Godse, a Hindu fanatic at a prayer meeting

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