Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

Summary

- The chapter is an extract from Nelson Mandela's autobiography *Long Walk to Freedom*.
- It describes his inauguration as the first Black President of South Africa (10 May 1994) after the end of apartheid.
- Leaders and dignitaries from different countries attended the ceremony.
- Mandela expressed gratitude towards those who sacrificed their lives for freedom.
- He highlighted the importance of **freedom**, **equality**, **justice**, **and human dignity**.
- He admitted that courage is not the absence of fear, but the victory over it.
- He emphasized that both the oppressor and the oppressed are not free until apartheid ends.

Theme

- Struggle against apartheid.
- Value of freedom, justice, equality, and courage.
- Importance of sacrifice for the nation.
- Belief in human dignity and unity.

Characters / Figures

- Nelson Mandela Leader of the anti-apartheid movement, first Black President of South Africa, symbol of courage and sacrifice.
- **Apartheid Heroes** People who struggled, suffered, and sacrificed for freedom (not named individually, but honored).
- **Oppressors** White regime that imposed racial discrimination.

Important Incidents

- 10 May 1994: Mandela's oath-taking ceremony.
- Arrival of international leaders to support South Africa's democratic transition.

- Mandela's **reflection on sacrifice** by freedom fighters.
- Mandela's views on courage, freedom, and responsibilities.

Message

- True freedom means equality and justice for all.
- Courage is about overcoming fear, not the absence of fear.
- Sacrifice is necessary for achieving noble causes.
- Oppressors are also prisoners of hatred—freedom liberates both sides.

Literary Devices

- Metaphor: Freedom as a "birthright".
- Antithesis: "The oppressed and the oppressor alike are robbed of their humanity."
- Repetition: Stressing ideas of freedom and sacrifice.

? Short Q&A (1–2 Marks)

- 1. Who is the author of *Long Walk to Freedom*?
 - Melson Mandela
- 2. When did Nelson Mandela take oath as the first Black President of South Africa?
 - **=** 10 May 1994
- 3. What was apartheid?
 - 👉 A system of racial discrimination in South Africa.
- 4. What did Mandela say about courage?
 - **c** Courage is not the absence of fear but the triumph over it.
- 5. What twin obligations does Mandela talk about?
 - Obligation to family and obligation to the community/nation.

Long Q&A (5–6 Marks)

Q1. Describe the historical importance of the 10th of May 1994 in South Africa.

👉 10 May 1994 marked the end of apartheid in South Africa. On this day, Nelson Mandela

took oath as the first Black President of the country. Dignitaries from all over the world attended, showing solidarity with the new democratic South Africa. It was a day of victory for equality, freedom, and justice, achieved after years of struggle and sacrifice.

Q2. What ideas of courage and freedom does Mandela express in his speech?

If Mandela believed that courage was not the absence of fear but the triumph over it. A brave man is not one who does not feel afraid, but one who conquers fear. He also said that true freedom is not just political emancipation but the ability to live with dignity, equality, and self-respect. Freedom liberates both the oppressed and the oppressor.

Q3. What, according to Mandela, is the greatest wealth of a nation?

Image: Mandela considered the people of a nation, especially their character, as its greatest wealth. Riches or minerals cannot compare with the goodness, courage, and sacrifices of its citizens. The true strength of South Africa lay in the sacrifice of countless men and women who fought against apartheid.

Value-Based Q&A (3–4 Marks)

Q1. What values of Mandela are reflected in the chapter?

(Courage, forgiveness, leadership, humility, patriotism, and sacrifice.

Q2. What message do we learn from Mandela's life?

We learn the importance of equality, humanity, and freedom. His life teaches us that justice and truth always triumph in the end.

Mind Map (Visual Revision)

Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

- Inauguration (10 May 1994) → Mandela sworn in as first Black President.
- **Apartheid** → System of racial discrimination, caused great suffering.
- Heroes of Freedom → Sacrificed lives for justice.
- Key Ideas → Courage = conquering fear; Freedom = dignity & equality.
- Message → Justice, humanity, sacrifice, unity.