

GRADE 5

Reading Biography

Title: The Life of Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi, a name that resonates with peace, non-violence, and freedom, was one of the most eminent personalities in the world's history. Born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, a coastal town in India, Gandhi's life journey was nothing short of extraordinary.

Early Life:

Gandhi was born into a humble family, and his childhood was marked by simplicity and traditional values. He was a bright student and showed an early inclination towards justice and truth. At the age of 19, he went to London to study law, which marked the beginning of his transformative journey.

Struggle in South Africa:

Gandhi's life took a significant turn when he moved to South Africa to practice law. During his time there, he witnessed and experienced racial discrimination against Indians. This injustice ignited a fire within him, and he started his lifelong journey of fighting for the rights of the oppressed.

Champion of Non-Violence:

Gandhi's most significant contribution to the world was his philosophy of non-violence, which he called "Satyagraha." He believed that change could be achieved through peaceful means and that violence only begets more violence. His non-violent protests and civil disobedience campaigns played a pivotal role in India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule.

The Salt March:

One of the most iconic events in Gandhi's life was the Salt March, which took place in 1930. In protest against the British monopoly on salt production and sales, Gandhi led a 240-mile march to the Arabian Sea to make his own salt. This peaceful act of defiance captured the world's attention and highlighted the power of non-violence.

Legacy:

Gandhi's relentless pursuit of justice and equality inspired millions of people worldwide. He played a pivotal role in India gaining independence in 1947. Even today, his principles of non-violence, truth, and simplicity continue to guide people in their quest for a better world.

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Where was Mahatma Gandhi born?

- a) London
- b) New Delhi
- c) Porbandar
- d) Johannesburg

2. What is the philosophy of non-violence advocated by Gandhi called?

- a) Hasta La Vista
- b) Satyagraha
- c) Violent Resistance
- d) Fight Back

3. In which country did Gandhi begin his activism against racial discrimination?

- a) India
- b) South Africa
- c) United Kingdom
- d) USA

4. What event is known as one of the most iconic moments in Gandhi's life?

- a) His birth
- b) The Salt March
- c) His return to India
- d) His graduation in law

5. What year did India gain independence from British colonial rule?

a) 1910

b) 1947

c) 1962

d) 1984

Mahatma Gandhi's life is a testament to the power of determination, truth, and non-violence. His legacy continues to inspire people of all ages to stand up for what is right and work towards a more just and peaceful world.

Answers and Explanations:

1. c Porbandar

Gandhi was born in Porbandar, a coastal town in India.

2. b Satyagraha

Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence is called "Satyagraha."

3. b South Africa

Gandhi began his activism against racial discrimination in South Africa.

4. b The Salt March

The Salt March is one of the most iconic events in Gandhi's life.

5. b 1947

India gained independence from British colonial rule in 1947.