When the backslash character (\) is not quoted, it serves as an escape to signal bash itself to preserve the literal meaning of the following character

[root@localhost ~]# echo Backlash \n

Backlash n

[root@localhost ~]# echo Backlash \

>

[root@localhost ~]# echo -e "abc \n"

abc

[root@localhost ~]# echo "abc \n"

abc \n