



QUICK REVISION MODULE

(UPSC PRELIMS 2021) MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

MAHATMA GANDHI

BRIEF CHRONOLOGY



2 October 1869

Birth at Porbandar, Gujarat.



1882

Marriage with Kasturbai, aged 13.



1888

Reached England.



1893

He landed at Durban(South Africa) to sort out the legal problems of his client **Dada Abdullah.**



1903

The newspaper '**Indian Opinion**' started by Gandhiji in South Africa.



1899

Established **Indian Ambulance Corp** during the Boer War.



1894

Founded the '**Natal Indian Congress**'.



1893

- Gandhi himself **faced racial discrimination & humiliation** in South Africa.
- He was thrown off the first class carriage of the train at Pietermaritzburg Station.



1904

Established '**Phoenix Settlement**' in Natal. It was a precursor to the Tolstoy Farm.



1906

Took the vow of Brahmacharya.



1908

The term 'Satyagraha' adopted based on Maganlal Gandhi's fomulation 'Sadagraha'



1909

Wrote '**Hind Swarajya**' aboard the ship 'Kildonan Castle'.



9 January 1915

Gandhi returned to India from South Africa.



1915

Awarded the '**Kaiser i Hind**' medal.



1912

Gopal krishna Gokhale's South Africa tour commenced. Gopala Krishna Gokhale was the **political mentor of Gandhi**.



1910

Established Tolstoy Farm.



1917

Sabarmati Ashram established.



1917

Champaran Satyagraha (1917)—**First Civil Disobedience**.



1918

Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918) — **First Hunger Strike**.



1918

Kheda Satyagraha (1918)—**First Non-Cooperation**.



1920

Commencement of **Non-Co-operation Movement**.



1920

Hunter Commission of 1920 appointed to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh or Massacre of Amritsar.



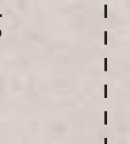
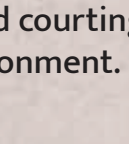
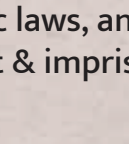
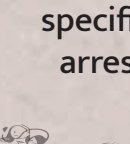
1919

Massacre at **Jallianwala Bagh or Massacre of Amritsar**.



1919

Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act—
• Gandhiji called for a countrywide campaign against the "**Rowlatt Act**".
• Civil disobedience against specific laws, and courting arrest & imprisonment.





1922

Bardoli Taluka resolved against payment of land revenue and Civil-Disobedience.



1922

Policemen at **Chauri-Chaura** killed. Due to this incident Mahatma Gandhi called off the Non-Cooperation Movement.



1924

Presided over the **Belgaum Congress**.



1925

'**All India Spinners' Association**' established by Gandhiji.



1931

Gandhi-Irwin pact signed.



1930

Dandi March commences from Satyagraha Ashram.



1929

Purna Swaraj Resolution adopted at Lahore Congress.



1925

The publication of Autobiography - **The Story of My Experiments with Truth**. ('Satyana Prayogo athava Atmakatha')



1931

In London as the sole representative of the Congress at the **Second Round Table Conference**.



1932

Premier Ramsay Macdonald announced the Communal Award. It was to grant separate electorates for different communities including the depressed classes. It is also known as '**McDonald Award**'.



1932

Poona Pact signed. (It gave depressed classes reserved seats in the provincial and central legislative councils but to be voted in by the general electorate)

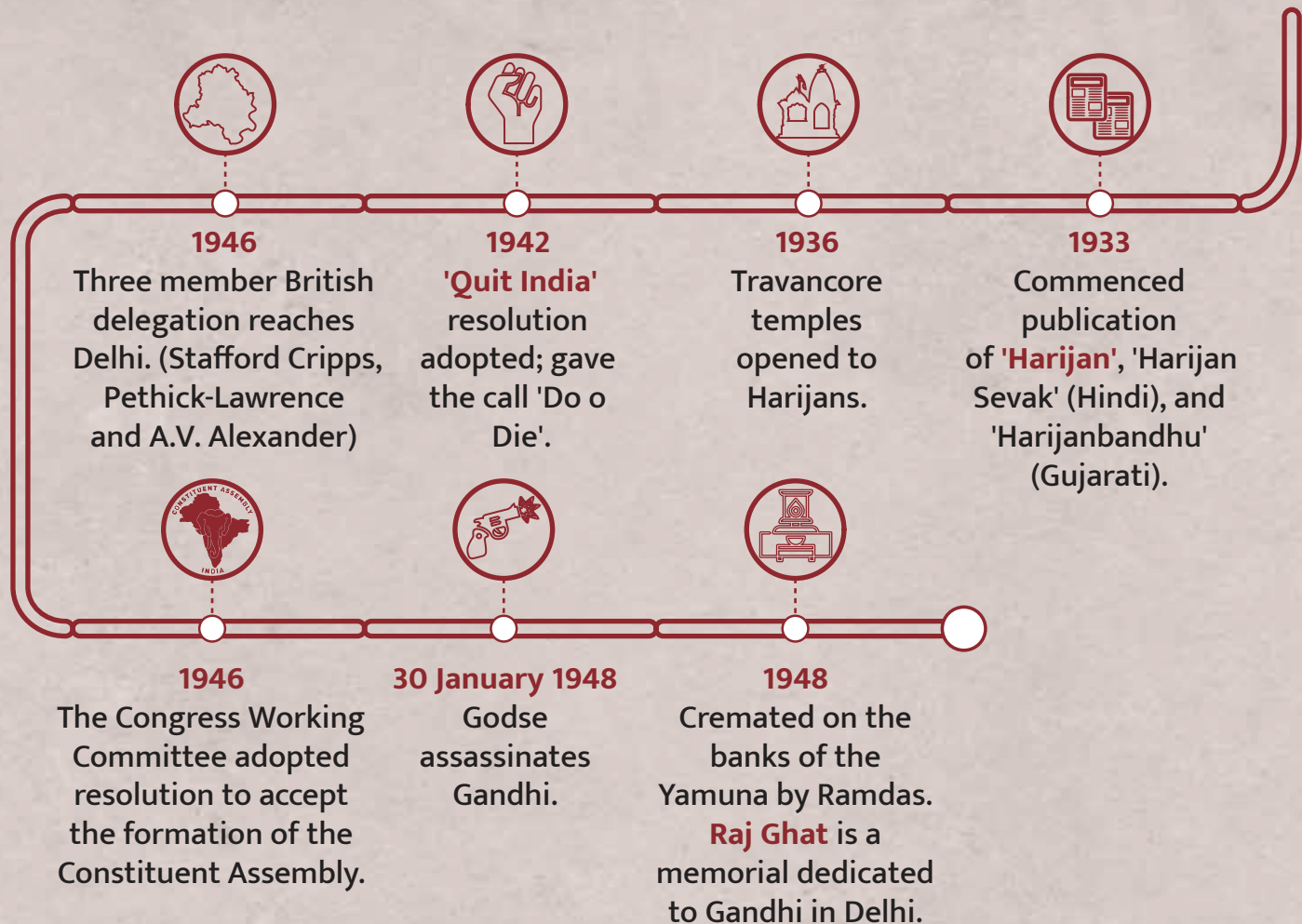


1932

'**Harijan Sevak Sangh**' established.

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MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI

Khadi - In 1918 Mahatma Gandhi started his movement for Khadi as relief programme for the poor masses living in India's villages. He saw it as the end of dependency on foreign materials (symbolizing foreign rule) and thus giving a first lesson or real independence.

Charka - Mahatma Gandhi was critical of the **modern age in which machines enslaved humans and displaced labour**. He saw the **Charkha as a symbol of a human society that would not glorify machines and technology**. The spinning wheel could also provide the poor with supplementary income and make them self-reliant.



Moderate phase of struggle(1894-1906)

Two phases of struggle by Gandhiji in South Africa

Passive resistance phase or Satyagraha(1906-14)

MODERATE PHASE (1894-1906)

- » In this phase, he concentrated on sending petitions, memorials to the South African legislature, the Colonial secretary in London & the British Parliament.
- » In expectation of fair play he also supported the British in the Second Boer War by creating **Ambulance Corps of Indians**.
- » After the war, as a token of gratitude, Gandhi was conferred the title of **Kaisar-i-Hind**
- » (He renounced this title after the Jalianwallah Bagh massacre)
- » In this phase, Gandhi set up Natal Indian Congress & released his newspaper, Indian Opinion.

PASSIVE RESISTANCE PHASE OR SATYAGRAHA (1906-1914)

- » **2nd phase** Gandhi used Satyagraha- Passive resistance or Civil Disobedience;
- » Gandhi formed the **Passive Resistance Association**.
- » With the help of his German friend **Kallenbach**, he created **Tolstoy farm** to house the satyagrahis & give them away to sustain themselves.
- » Tolstoy Farm was a precursor to the Gandhian ashrams in India.

Who is Satyagrahi according to Gandhi?

A satyagrahi was not to submit what he considers wrong

He was to remain truthful, non-violent & fearless.

He will never bow down before evil law or unjust law.

GANDHI'S EXPERIENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA



Masses had immense capacity to participate & sacrifice for a cause that moved them.

He was able to unite Indians from different classes & religions under his leadership.



He realised that leaders have to take unpopular decisions at times.

He evolved his own leadership style & techniques of struggle.



Gandhi ran four publications



Indian
Opinion



Young
India



Navajivan



Harijan

He was not in favour of Home Rule agitation. (Britain was participating in WW1)

9th Jan-1915 Gandhi's return to India

- This day is celebrated as **Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas** in India since 2003.
- PBD 2021 Theme :- **Contributing to Athmanirbhar Bharat.**

Gandhi's early movements in India

Localised struggles & identification with the masses.

Champan Satyagraha (1917):

- First Civil Disobedience;
- **Rajkumar Shukla** requested **Gandhiji** to look into the issues faced by Indigo planters.
- **Tinkathia system** whereby European planters forced Indian peasants to grow Indigo on 3/20 of the total land.

Rowlatt Satyagraha

Rowlatt satyagraha made **Gandhiji** a truly national leader

Rowlatt Act also known as Anarchical & Revolutionary crimes Act, 1919

It allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for two years. This act was met by wide spread anger and discontent among Indians, especially in the Punjab region.

Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918):

- **First Hunger Strike.**
- Dispute between the mill owners & workers over the issue of discontinuation of the Plague bonus.

Kheda Satyagraha (1918): First Non-Cooperation.

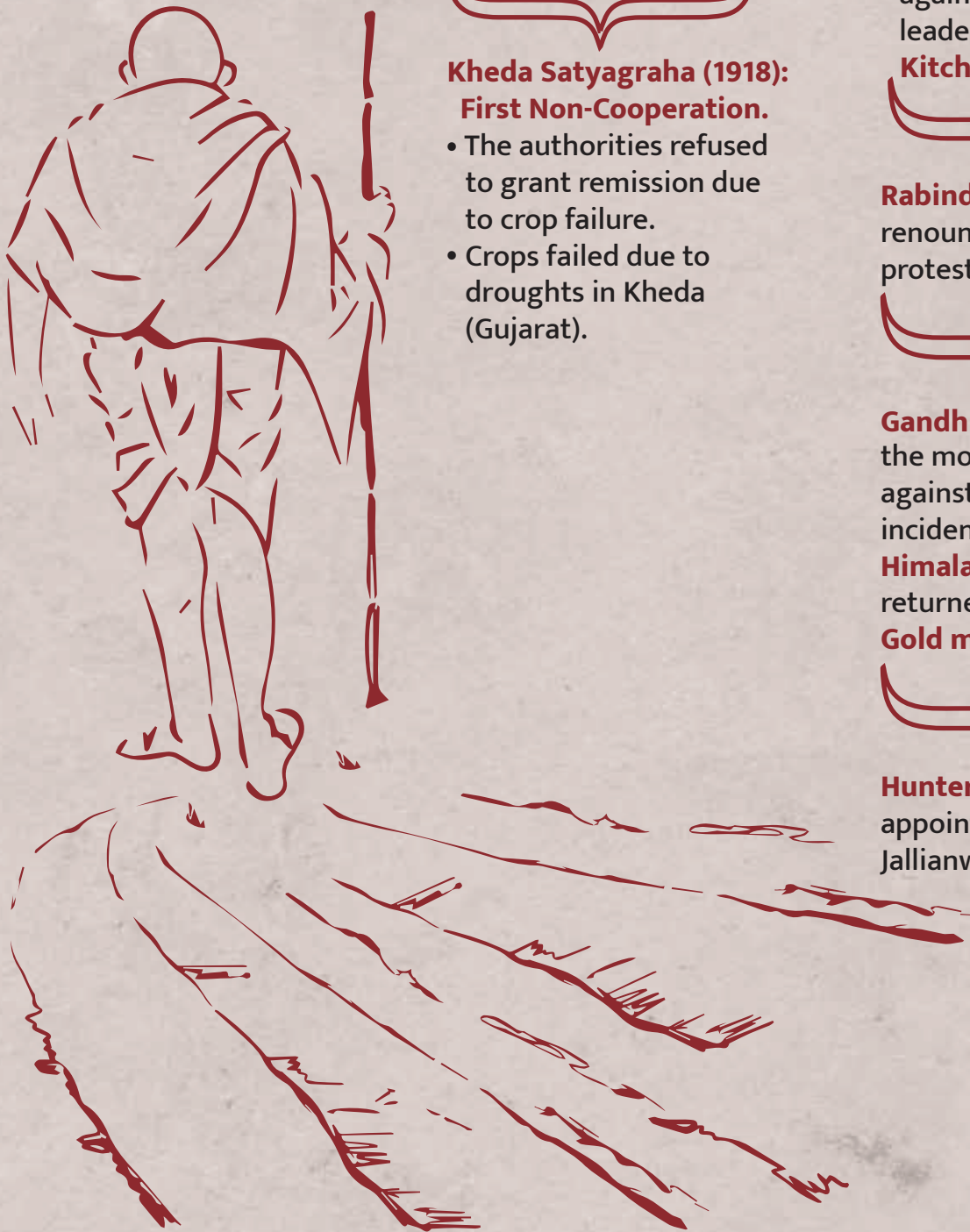
- The authorities refused to grant remission due to crop failure.
- Crops failed due to droughts in Kheda (Gujarat).

- Massacre at **Jallianwala Bagh** or Massacre of Amritsar-1919
- **General Dyer** opened fire on unarmed crowd killing thousands;
- People had gathered on Baisakhi day to protest - against the arrest of their leaders (**Saifuddin Kitchlew & Satyapal**)

Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood in protest.

Gandhi withdrew the movement(satyagraha against Rowlett) after this incident. He called it **Himalayan Blunder** returned the **Kaiser-i-Hind Gold medal**.

Hunter commission of 1920 appointed to investigate Jallianwala Bagh incident.



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DELHI



JAIPUR



HYDERABAD



PUNE



AHMEDABAD



LUCKNOW



CHANDIGARH



GUWAHATI

