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## Mahatma Gandhi: A Champion of Nonviolence

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### 1. Early Life and Education

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, known as Mahatma Gandhi, was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, India. He studied law in London and later worked in South Africa, where he experienced racial discrimination that shaped his social and political views. Gandhi returned to India in 1915 and became a prominent leader in the Indian independence movement.

### 2. Philosophy of Nonviolence

Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent resistance, or "Satyagraha," became the cornerstone of his efforts to gain independence for India. He believed that nonviolence was the most powerful weapon for oppressed people to achieve social and political change. Gandhi organized numerous peaceful protests, boycotts, and civil disobedience campaigns to challenge British rule.

### 3. Key Events and Achievements

One of the most significant events led by Gandhi was the Salt March in 1930. This 240-mile march to the Arabian Sea was a protest against the British monopoly on salt production and sales. Gandhi and thousands of followers marched to make their own salt, defying British law. This event drew global attention to the Indian independence movement and highlighted the effectiveness of nonviolent protest.

### 4. Legacy and Impact

Gandhi's efforts ultimately led to India gaining independence from British rule on August 15, 1947. Although he was assassinated in 1948, his legacy continues to inspire movements for civil rights and social justice around the world. Leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela drew inspiration from Gandhi's principles of nonviolence and civil disobedience.



## 5. Personal Beliefs and Practices

Gandhi was a deeply spiritual man who believed in simple living and self-sufficiency. He practiced and promoted vegetarianism, fasting for self-purification, and spinning his own cloth. His personal lifestyle reflected his commitment to economic self-reliance and resistance to materialism.

### Questions

1. When and where was Mahatma Gandhi born?
2. What personal experience in South Africa influenced Gandhi's social and political views?
3. What is the philosophy of nonviolent resistance that Gandhi promoted?
4. Which event is highlighted as a significant protest led by Gandhi in 1930?
5. What was the purpose of the Salt March?
6. How did the Salt March impact the Indian independence movement?
7. When did India gain independence from British rule?
8. Name two leaders who were inspired by Gandhi's principles of nonviolence.
9. Describe some of Gandhi's personal beliefs and practices.
10. How has Gandhi's legacy continued to influence the world after his death?
  
11. What did Gandhi study in London?
  - Medicine
  - Law
  - Literature
  - Economics



12. Which of the following best describes "Satyagraha"?

- A violent uprising
- A philosophy of nonviolent resistance
- A type of Indian cuisine
- A British policy in India

13. What did Gandhi and his followers do during the Salt March?

- They destroyed British salt factories
- They bought all the salt from the British
- They marched to the Arabian Sea to make their own salt
- They held a violent protest in front of the British government

14. How did Gandhi's personal lifestyle reflect his beliefs?

- He lived in a luxurious mansion
- He practiced and promoted simple living and self-sufficiency
- He frequently traveled by private jet
- He amassed great wealth and material possessions

15. Which of the following statements is true about Gandhi's impact on the world?

- He only influenced the Indian independence movement
- His principles of nonviolence inspired global leaders like Martin Luther King Jr.

and Nelson Mandela

- His ideas were only popular in India and South Africa
- He did not have a lasting impact after his death



## Answers

1. Mahatma Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, India.
2. Gandhi experienced racial discrimination in South Africa, which influenced his social and political views.
3. The philosophy of nonviolent resistance that Gandhi promoted is called "Satyagraha."
4. A significant protest led by Gandhi in 1930 was the Salt March.
5. The purpose of the Salt March was to protest the British monopoly on salt production and sales.
6. The Salt March drew global attention to the Indian independence movement and highlighted the effectiveness of nonviolent protest.
7. India gained independence from British rule on August 15, 1947.
8. Two leaders inspired by Gandhi's principles of nonviolence are Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela.
9. Gandhi's personal beliefs and practices included simple living, self-sufficiency, vegetarianism, fasting for self-purification, and spinning his own cloth.
10. Gandhi's legacy continues to inspire movements for civil rights and social justice around the world.
11. Law
12. A philosophy of nonviolent resistance
13. They marched to the Arabian Sea to make their own salt
14. He practiced and promoted simple living and self-sufficiency
15. His principles of nonviolence inspired global leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela