

**Mahatma Gandhi**

Born on **October 2, 1869, in Porbandar**, Kathiawar, **India**, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi studied law and came to advocate for the rights of Indians, both at home and in South Africa. He studied at **Samaldas College at Bhavnagar, Gujarat**. Also titled as “Mahatma”, title accorded by Rabindranath Tagore. Gandhi became a leader of India's independence movement, organizing boycotts against British institutions in peaceful forms of civil disobedience.

In late 1885, Gandhi's father Karamchand died. Gandhi, then 16 years old, and his wife of age 17 had their first baby, who survived only a few days. The two deaths anguished Gandhi. The Gandhi couple had four more children, all sons: Harilal, born in 1888; Manilal, born in 1892; Ramdas, born in 1897; and Devdas, born in 1900.

In November 1887, the 18-year-old Gandhi graduated from high school in Ahmedabad. In January 1888, he enrolled at Samaldas College in Bhavnagar State, then the sole degree-granting institution of higher education in the region. But he dropped out and returned to his family in Porbandar.

He studied law in **London, England**, but in **1893 went to South Africa**, where he spent 20 years opposing discriminatory legislation against Indians. There he was the legal representative for Muslim Indian traders in the city Pretoria.

In **1914**, Gandhi **returned to India**, where he supported the Home Rule movement, and became leader of the Indian National Congress, advocating a policy of non-violent non-co-operation to achieve independence.

Champaran and Kheda movement 1918, Khilafat movement 1919, Salt satyagraha 1930, Quit India movement 1942. Famous quote, “**An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind**”, famous terms “Do or Die”. His autobiography, “**The story of my Experiments with truth**”. His other writings, Hind swaraj 1909, Harijan [Gujarati, Hindi, English], Indian Opinion [in South Africa], Young India [English], Navajivan [Gujarati and later Hindi]

He was assassinated in **Delhi on January 30, 1948 by Nathuram Godse**.

His birthday has been celebrated as **International day of non-violence**.

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