

## From Satya to Sadbhavana

*Rekha Mohanty*

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, popularly referred to as 'Mahatma', was a sincere worker, co-ordinator, organiser; confident, dedicated and determined person. He symbolised actions; detached but purposeful, complete and resolute. Gandhiji was an idea and purpose; the idea of pursuit and purpose behind the pursuit. Gandhiji was a concept; a temporary concept that changed into an eternal deathless concept during his lifetime. Gandhiji was the mouth, the mouthpiece and the sound; the vibrating and echoing sound of millions of people, and spoke through millions of mouths. Gandhiji was both a Karma Yogi and Bhava Yogi; one that was able to transform each idea into action. Gandhi was an inspiration, an impetus, one that inspired a multitude in a moment.

Though, he was a traveller, he became a path. Gandhiji was a weapon; a sharp double-edged; automatic and effective; rare and powerful; but non-violent weapon. A weapon that illumined the truth and wiped out falsehood and impurities. He was a soul who praised, enhanced and utilised the qualities of others; he added qualities and increased the value of existing qualities. Gandhiji usually remained quiet, kept others quiet and pacified. He loved and liked peace. Non-violence was his strength and non-cooperation was his favourite, simple or difficult path. Gandhiji was a substitute to the desires and wishes of all others, but there was no substitute to Gandhi. There is no substitute to Gandhiji even now.

### IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF MAHATMA GANDHI

02.10.1869	Birth in Porbandar; a part of Kathiabada state; in a Vaishya family; Grand father was a Deewan. Parents : Karamchand Gandhi and Putali Bai and impact of Shrivana and Harishchandra.
May, 1883	Married to Kasturba when a student in a High School. They had four sons Hari Lal born in 1888; Mani Lal born in 1892; Ramdas born in 1897; Devdas born in 1900.
4.9.1888	Went to Southempton at the age of 18 to become a Barrister.
10.6.1891	Returned to India after passing the Law Exam. Got the sad news of demise of his mother; started Law practice in Mumbai.

April, 1893	Went to Africa in the invitation of Abdullah and Co., Durban. After a week went to Pretoria.
November, 1896	Went to Natal and returned back to Durban along with wife and children.
1901	Returned back to India, met Gokhale, travelled throughout India.
1908	Went to Africa.
1893-1914	Civil Rights Movement in South Africa.
January, 1915	Returned to India, established Ashram. Begins his struggle for Indian Independence. Met Gopal Krishna Gokhale; joined and addressed Indian National Congress.
February, 1916	Went to Benares Hindu University.
15 April, 1917	Visit to Champaran, started Kisan Movement, established basic schools.
April, 1918	Gandhi supported the empire during the World War-I and agreed to help recruit Indians for the War. Gandhi's Champaran Satyagraha and Kisan Andolan.
13 April, 1919	Jaliwanwalla Bagh, Gandhi kept fast for three days, announced that 52,000 died and 3,600 were injured.
December, 1921	Reorganised Congress, Swaraj was declared to be the goal.
February, 1922	Chauri Chaura, Gandhi observed fast.
31.12.1929	Demand for 'Purna Swarajya'.
12.3.1930	Dandi Yatra (21 Miles); Salt Satyagraha, Namak Andolan came to an end when he prepared salt at Dandi. India's Independence Day celebrated in Lahore.
6.4.1930	Prepared salt
November, 1930	First Round Table Conference
5.3.1931	Gandhi-Irwin Pact
29.08.1931	Went to participate in 2nd Round Table Conference.
1936	Lucknow Session of the Congress
9.8.1942	Quit India Movement, Arrested
10.2.1943	Fasting in Aga Khan Palace Prison
February, 1944	Death of Kasturba Gandhi
12.8.1946	Nehru invited to form an Indian Government; Jinnah announced Direct Action Day.
6 October, 1946	Opposed the Partition of India to create Pakistan, in the Harijan.

"They can cut me to pieces but they can't make me subscribe to something which I considered to be wrong."

May, 1947	Called to Delhi
15.8.1947	Partition and Freedom
30.1.1948	Killed by Nathu Ram Godse in Birla Bhawan

### FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF GANDHISM

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Truth (Satya)                     | 4. Simple Living (Sadagi)                        |
| 2. Non-violence (Ahimsa)             | 5. Control (Sanyam)                              |
| 3. Overall Progress in 7 'Ss' :      | 6. Equality (Rama-Rajya)                         |
| (i) Swasthya (health)                | 7. Traditional Profession (Vanshanugatya Uddyam) |
| (ii) Sampati (wealth)                | 8. Physical Labour (Sharirika Shram)             |
| (iii) Sahitya (literature and study) | 9. Decentralisation (Vikendrikaran)              |
| (iv) Savyata (civilisation)          | 10. Local Self Government (Gram Panchayat) and   |
| (v) Samskriti (culture)              | 11. Cottage Industry (Kutir Udyog)               |
| (vi) Sadbudhi (Higher intellect) and |  |
| (vii) Sadbhavana (compassion)        |  |

### IMPRISONMENTS OF MAHATMA GANDHI

#### In South Africa

Sl.No.	Date of Arrest	Date of Release	Place
1.	10.01.1908	30.01.1908	Johannesburg
2.	07.10.1908	25.10.1908	Volksrust
3.	26.10.1908	05.11.1908	Johannesburg
4.	06.11.1908	12.12.1908	Volksrust
5.	25.02.1909	02.03.1909	Volksrust
6.	03.03.1909	24.05.1909	Pretoria
7.	06.11.1913	07.11.1913	Charlestown
8.	09.11.1913	12.11.1913	Dundee
9.	12.11.1913	17.11.1913	Volksrust
10.	18.11.1913	17.12.1913	Bloemfontein

**In India**

1.	09.04.1919	11.04.1919	Railway Carriage
2.	13.03.1922	20.03.1922	Sabarmati Jail
3.	21.03.1922	11.01.1924	Yervada Jail
4.	12.01.1924	05.02.1924	Yervada Jail
5.	05.05.1930	26.01.1931	Yervada Jail
6.	04.01.1932	08.05.1933	Yervada Jail
7.	01.08.1933	Released for shifting	Sabarmati Jail
8.	02.08.1933	04.08.1933	Yervada Jail
9.	04.08.1933	23.08.1933	Yervada Jail
10.	09.08.1942	06.05.1944	Aga Khan Palace Prison, Poone

**FASTS OBSERVED BY MAHATMA GANDHI**

Sl. No.	Date of Arrest	Date of Release	Place
1.	01.06.1915	Ahmedabad	Falsehood among Ashram Boys
2.	11.09.1915	Ahmedabad	Against objection to a Harijan
3.	12.09.1915	Ahmedabad	Smoking by an Ashramvasi
4.	12 - 15.06.1916	Ahmedabad	Manila had sent to Harilal
5.	15 - 17.03.1918	Ahmedabad	For the wages of mill-hands
6.	06.04.1919	Mumbai	Started 1st Satyagraha with a fast. Observed fast on 6th April of every year.
7.	13.04.1919	Ahmedabad	Jalianwalla Bagh Massacre. Observed fast on this day every year.
8.	13 - 15.04.1919	Ahmedabad	Riots at Mumbai, Ahmedabad etc.
9.	19 - 21.11.1921	Mumbai	Disturbances in Mumbai caused by the visit of Prince of Wales.
10.	28.11.21, Monday	Ahmedabad	Disturbances in Mumbai. Kept fast from that day, on every Monday, all his life.
11.	12 - 16.02.1922	Bardoli	Massacre at Chauri Chaura
12.	17.30.09.1924	Delhi	For Hindu-Muslim Unity
13.	01 - 07.10.1924	Delhi	For Hindu-Muslim Unity
14.	24 - 30.11.1925	Ahmedabad	Misdeed by boys and girls of the Ashram.

15.	22 - 24.06.1928	Ahmedabad	Some immoral act by an Ashramvasi.
16.	20 - 25.09.1932	Yervada Jail	Against some decision by the Prime Minister of Britain.
17.	03.12.1932	Yervada	To protest against the Government's decision.
18.	08 - 28.05.1933	Parnakuti, Poone	For self-purification
19.	16 - 22.05.1933	Yervada Jail	In protest against the government.
20.	07 - 13.08.1934	Wardha	For injury to Pandit Lalnath
21.	03 - 06.03.1939	Rajkot	Against the Rajkot Ruler
22.	12 - 13.11.1940	Sevagram	Theft by an Ashramvasi
23.	25 - 27.04.1941	Sevagram	Riots in Mumbai and Ahmedabad
24.	29.06.1941	Sevagram	For communal harmony
25.	10.02.1943 to 02.03.1943	Aga Khan Palace Prison	The Government had blamed Congress for disturbances.
26.	20 - 23.10.1946	Delhi	For errors in a letter
27.	15.08.1947	Kolkata	Because of freedom and partition
28.	01 - 03.09.1947	Kolkata	On own birthday
29.	13 - 17.01.1948	Delhi	Against communal riots.

Though, Gandhiji was lean and thin, he was neither unhealthy nor weak. He proved himself to be the most powerful person of his time with his unseen strength, ungauged energy and indomitable spirit. Let's not imitate Gandhiji but try to imbibe his qualities of determination, dedication, non-violence, tolerance, insistence, compassion, cooperation, truthfulness, fearlessness and guidance by example. To me he was all practice, hardly a theory. Therefore, there is no need to preach or praise but practice Gandhism.

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