

M K GANDHI
A Biographical Study

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Gandhi – an unlikely hero

A simple man not daunted by an enormous challenge

A small, shy, soft-spoken man who led India to independence from British rule

A lawyer, activist, political and spiritual leader

Espoused and developed unique non-violent means of fighting – non-cooperation

Continues to inspire leaders and movements for freedom and civil rights across the world



Mohandas K Gandhi

Born: Saturday, 2nd Oct 1869

Born into a family of divans, father a minister.



Mother very devout, modelled religious tolerance and acceptance.



Seeds of the two streams he tried to unite – politics and a humanity of inclusion and tolerance present from the start.



MOON

Experienced goodness and a cocooned life as the youngest child.

0-2

Grew up in a large joint family – 25 members, comfortable with communal living.

4

In awe of authoritative father

Parallel themes of grappling with outer authority and developing inner regard for practices of non-violence, sacrifice and respect for different religions.

5

Revered mother – met a monk, imbibed concepts of non-violence and sacrifice.

7

Moved to Rajkot
Joined school.
Unremarkable shy, tongue-tied student.



8

Active at home shy outside. Enjoyed simple hobbies walking, watering plants, playing with animals.

9

Conscientious, dutiful. Could not bear to be rebuked or cheat in exams. Non-competitive, enjoyed books.

Ideas of righteous conduct, duty begin to take hold

11

Impressed by stories of heroes who stood for truth and duty even at great personal cost.

13

Child marriage brought desire and a battle of wills amongst the teenagers.

MERCURY

Found the heroes he wished to emulate





15

Bout of rebellion – smoking, lying, stealing, ended consciously.

16

Early sexualization and death of father, brought desire and duty into conflict.

19

Ostracized for going abroad. But stuck firmly to his decision.
Birth of 1st son.

18.5

Timely encounter with family advisor set his heart on studying Law in London.

20

Shy but social, exposed to diverse cultural & religious views. Struggled due to vows made to his mother.

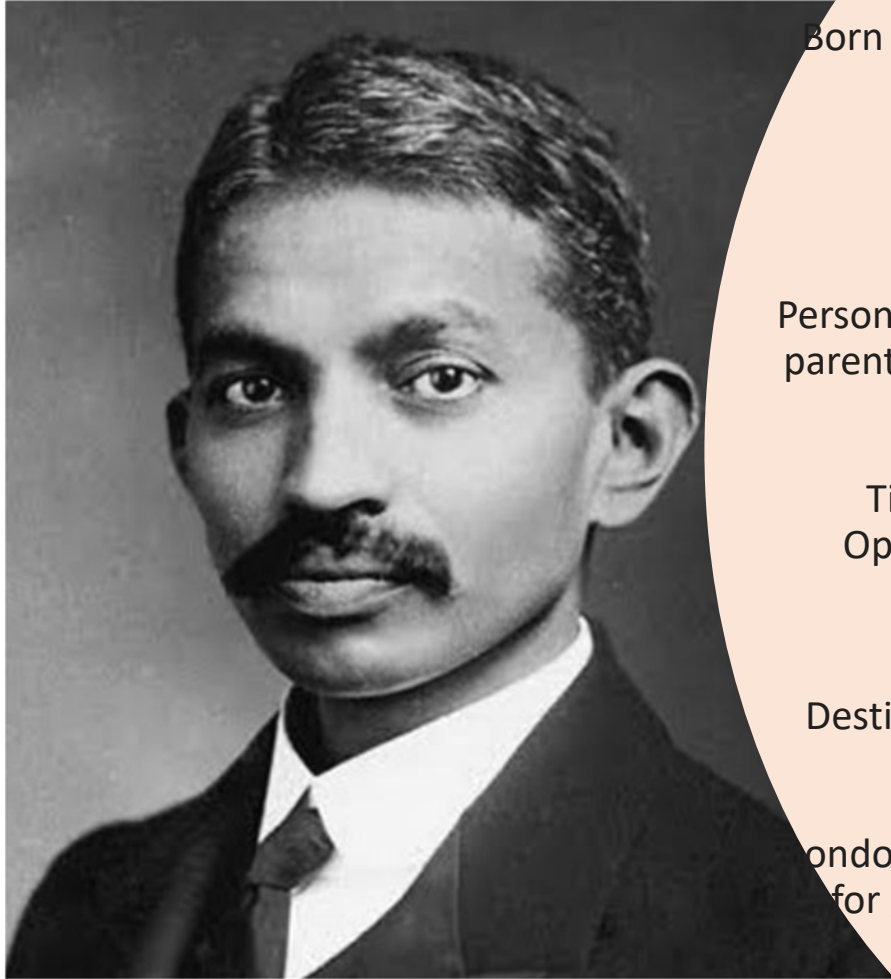
21

Joined Vegetarian Society began to write, lecture and be assertive. Preparation for what is to follow.

Answered the call of destiny at Lunar Node.
Vowed allegiance to truth and morality.



Birth to 21yrs



Born into a unique combination of politics and virtue from the outset.

Developed strong moral and ethical streak.

Personal life timeline accelerated – early marriage, death of parent, fatherhood. Death of his father essential for him to grow and be able to leave.

Timely Karmic Encounter opened path to destiny. Opposition brought forth a quiet determination and courage to follow his conviction.

Destiny took him from the life of a householder to unlikely adventures abroad.

London familiarized him with the British and prepared him for going up against them in the future.

22 Mother dies. Returns to India as a lawyer, wins first case but unable to set up a practice.

23 2nd son is born

24 Takes up to work in South Africa. Faces intense racial discrimination and injustice. Chooses to stay and fight for dignity.

25 Founds the Indian Natal Congress and begins to organize protests against bill that withholds Indians right to vote.

28 Built a successful law practice in SA, becomes leader and representative of Indian diaspora. Published Green Book.

4



Obstacles awaken him to his mission, set him on his destined path.





29

3rd
son
Ramd
as
born.

30

Continually
petitions
Imperial
gov for
rights. Still
sees them
as Allies.

31.5

Birth of 4th
child - feels
procreation
and family
life
incompatible
with public
service.

32

Meets his
mentor in
India.
Forges
important
connection
s in
Bombay,
Calcutta,
Burma.

34

Takes over
publishing
of Indian
opinion.
Begins to
write and
share his
political
views

35

Completes
familial
obligations
with birth
family.



Transformation into
an activist begins.

37 Oath of celibacy - resolves to commit fully to this public work life.

38 Adopts path of passive resistance to fight Black Act – birth of Satyagraha – non-violent disobedience.

40 Publishes Hind Swaraj - Announces idea of seeking home rule in India.

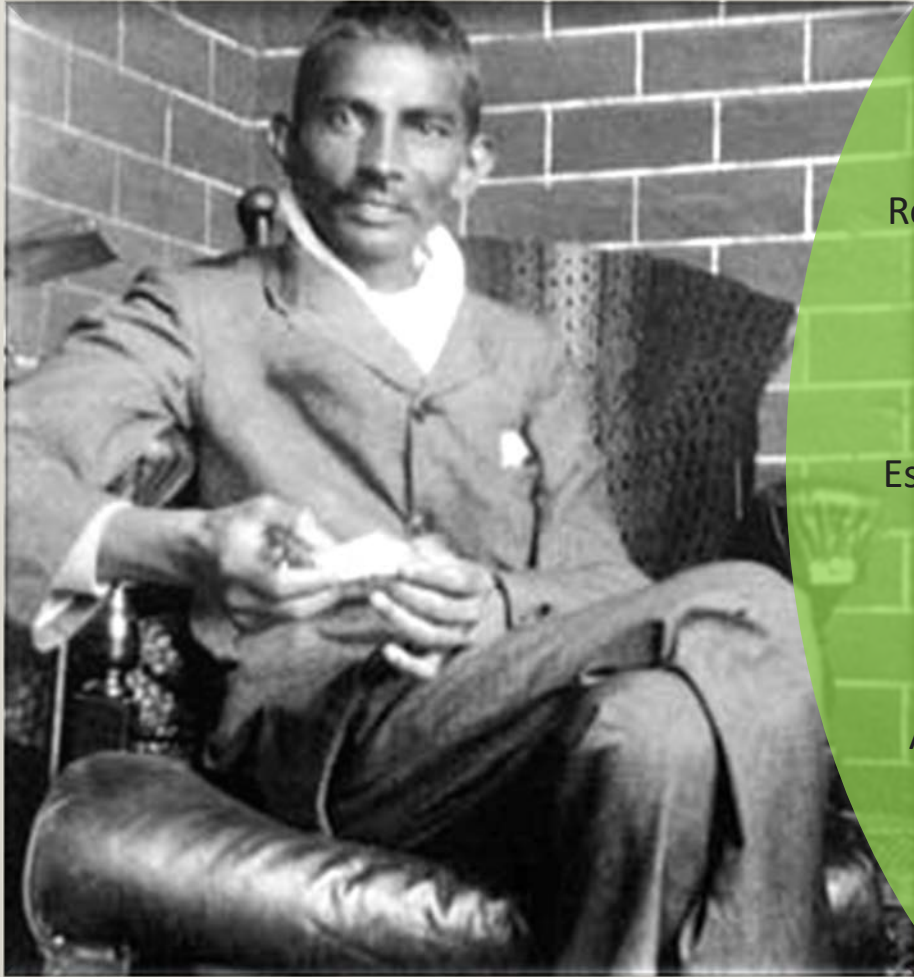
41 First attempt at communal living through Tolstoy Farm.



Gains position and influence as a political leader



21 to 42yrs



Realizes he prefers to help people reconcile and find common ground versus fight.

Answers the call to take up mission in life.

Eschews family life and obligations for public service, transforms into an activist.

Attempts to create a place for communal living.

Acquires experience, capacities, skills required for Public Service and gains stature.



MARS

Undertakes on ground, hands on action to demand reforms

44

Satyagraha in Natal SA attracts huge crowds and brings lot of stature.

45

Returns to India a hero after 21yrs. Joins Congress, mentor dies. Undertakes a long journey to familiarize himself with the lay of the land.

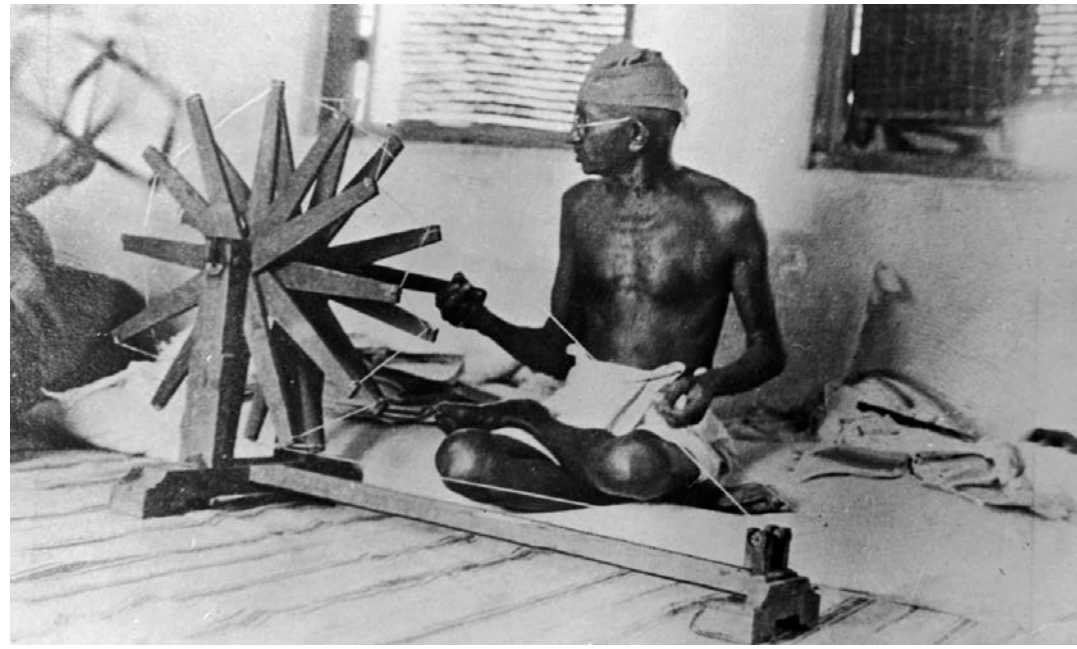
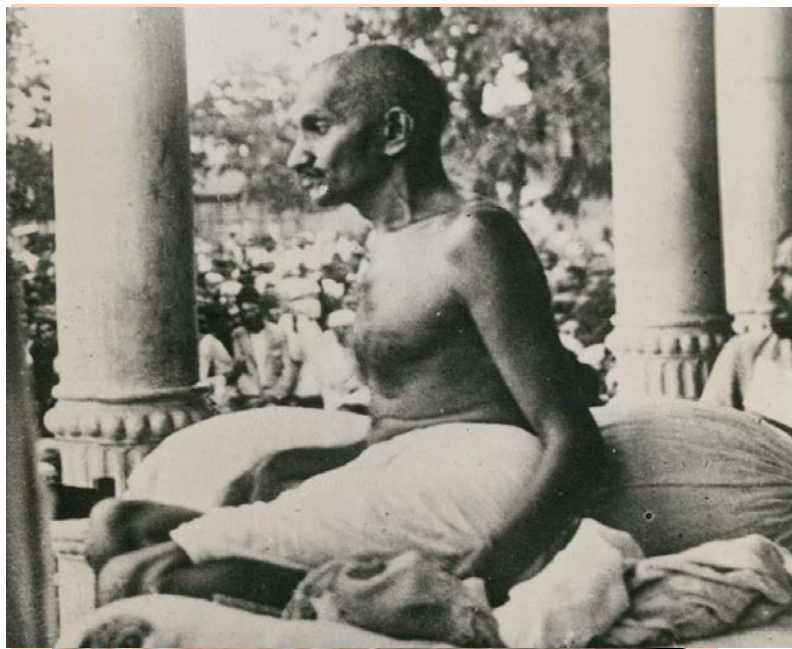
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Establishes Satyagraha ashram a commune, embraces simple life of self sufficiency.

48

49

Sought out by people to represent their cause and lead agitations & campaigns in Champaran and Kheda. Establishes political credentials.



JUPITER

Trying to bring people together for a large common cause.
Role expands from regional to national leader.

50

Announces intent of starting Satyagraha. Calls for nation wide strike. Tries to get Hindus and Muslims together for the cause.

52

Takes leadership of Congress. Launches Non Cooperation. Sheds all symbols of British influence adopts dhoti and khaki.

54

Congress splits into 2 factions, disturbed by the split between the communities.

56

21 day fast for communal harmony – fasting as a political tool. Brings the communities together.

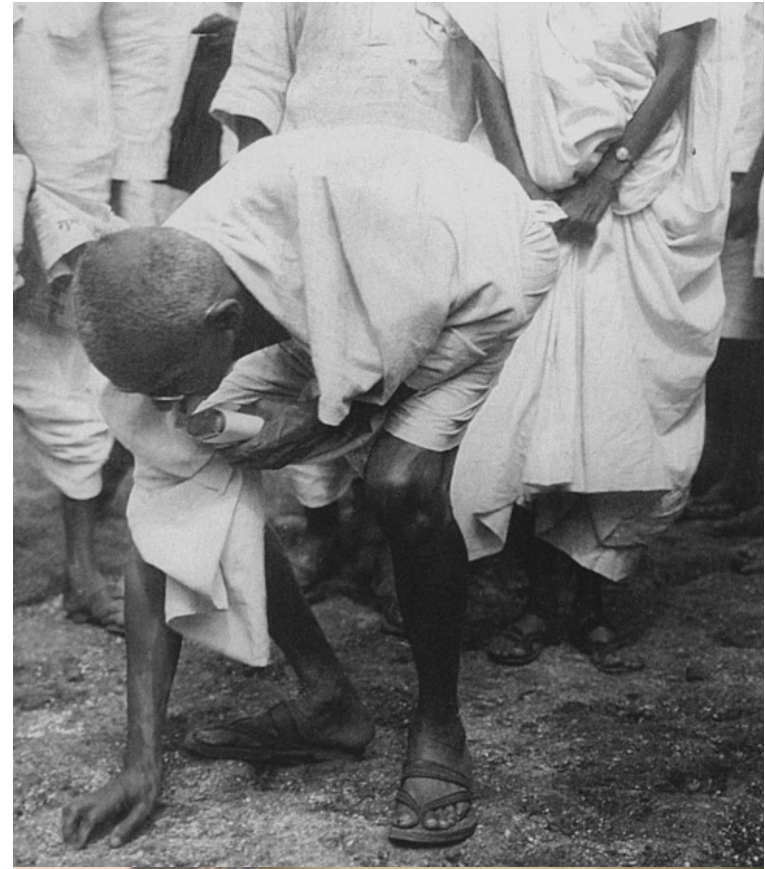


59 Declares intent to fight for total independence.

60 Launches the potent Salt / Dandi March to protest tax on manufacturing salt. Sparks a nationwide Civil Disobedience movement.

62 Signs Irwin Pact and agrees to hold talks with King.

63 Round Table talks fail as different factions seek separate electorates. Insists on unity being the essential.



Begins to live out his destiny and mission.

42 to 63yrs



Takes up cause of Independence. Steps onto the national stage.

Refines methods of non-violent and passive resistance.

Thinker organizer soul type brought forth by increasingly complex challenges

Embraces his mission.

Commits his life to service of his country and cause of unity and independence.



- 65 Demands British withdrawal.
- 66 Attempts to retire from politics.
- 68 Establishes Sevagram ashram, envisions small industries as the way to make people self sufficient
- 70 Withdraws support for British Raj on the outset of WWII.

URANUS

Evolves into a guiding elder, no longer interested in being at the front

MAHATMA GANDHI



QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

8th August

Mantra DO OR DIE

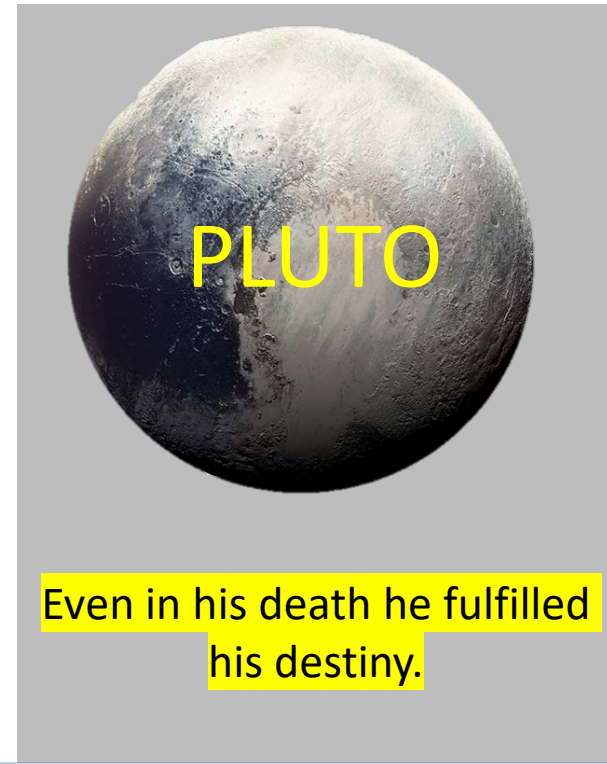
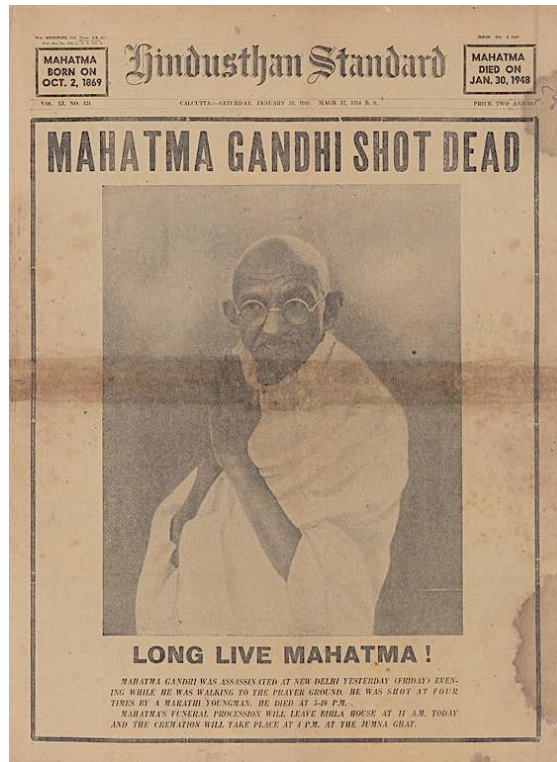
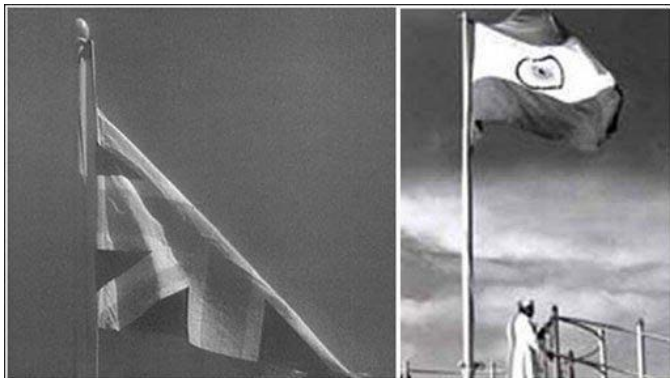
Karo Ya Maro



- 72 Hands over his legacy and names Nehru as his heir.
- 74 Launches final chapter of independence struggle – Quit India Movement.
- 75 Wife dies after 60yrs of marriage. Independence within sight but Jinnah wants separate country for Muslims.
- 76 Actively tries to negotiate to keep diverging interests from splitting the country.
- 77 Talks to keep India united fail. Bitterly disappointed when communal riots engulf the country.



Fire Trial – dream of united India burns to the ground with partition



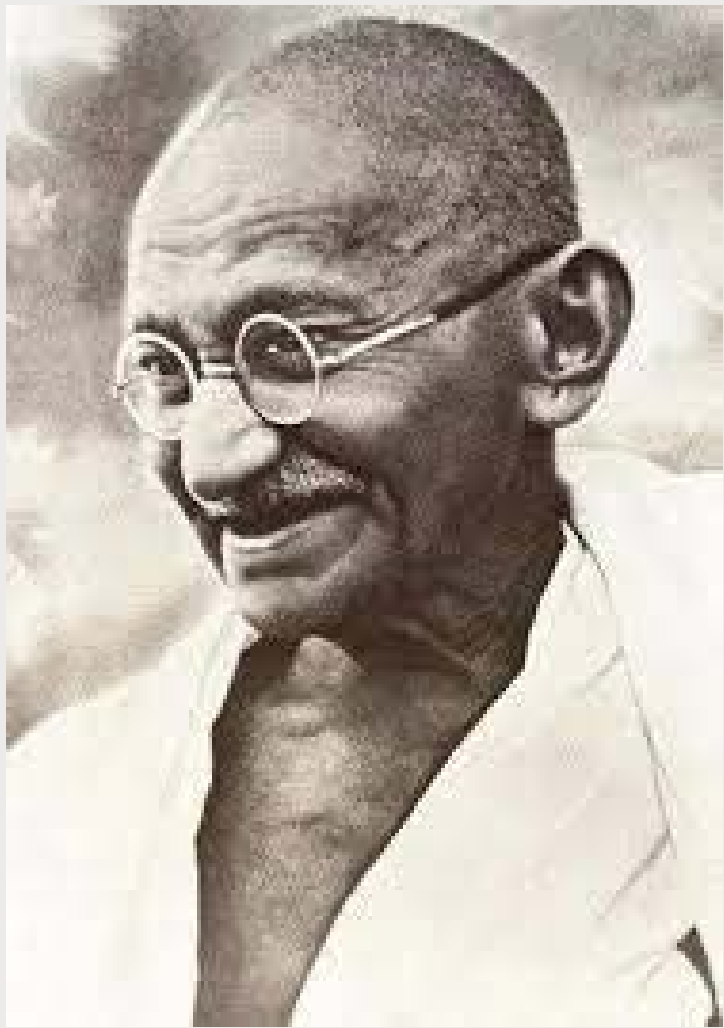
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Achieves mission of independence. But at an unbearable cost – partition. Devastated at the violence – saw it as a failure. Shuns celebrations. Campaigns on ground to cease violence – becomes a father protecting his children.

79

Fasts onto death for Muslims to get their due – shot by a Hindu aggrieved by his bias. Shock of his death brings the communal violence to an end.

63 to 79yrs



Earns the title of Father of the nation.
Tries to bring all his children into the fold.

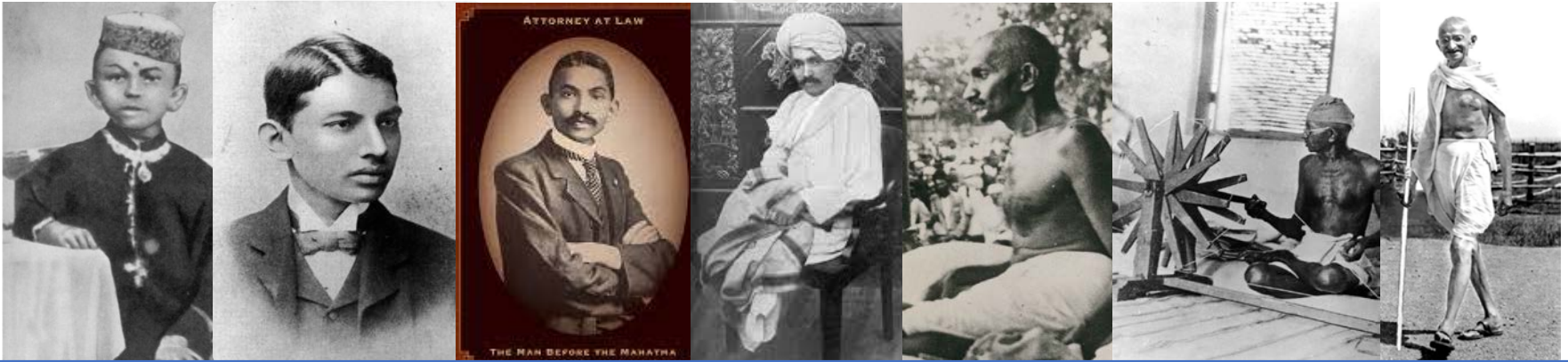
As one dream comes true, Fire trial
reduces the other dream of a united
India to ashes.

Fulfills his destiny and accomplishes his
mission but not in the way he would have
wanted.

Earthly journey guided by spirit

MOON	Cocooned life as youngest child. Idealized mother. Impressed by practices of fasting, non-violence and respect for all religions.	SUN Gives up personal life and family obligations for public service. Creates a new form of resistance - Civil Disobedience / Satyagraha.	SATURN Sparks India resistance through Salt Satyagraha. leader but g force. Prime	<p>63 - 78years Accomplishes mission Cannot reconcile to the cost. Gives his life to the cause. Stayed true to his ideals till the end.</p>	Devastated at the violence and deaths that came with independence. Dies a violent death while appealing for peace. A true elder inspiring and persuading by his actions and words. His death jolts everyone to lay down arms.	
MERCURY	Non competitive, introvert enamoured by ideals of truth, duty and sacrifice. Early marriage and sexualization led to uncontrolled desire and battle of wills with wife.	SUN Activism gains upper hand, drawn to do more public service work. Disturbed by indignity of slavery, fights for equality. Organizes and brings Indian community together.	JUPITER		<p>43 - 63years Embraces his Mission Becomes leader of the masses. Takes up cause of independence. Launches Satyagraha against British rule.</p>	Living out his destiny. Steps onto the national stage. Embraces cause of home self rule. Cultivates signature tools of non violent resistance - passive resistance fasting and non cooperation. Launches Satyagraha.
VENUS	Desire for self control awakened. Accidental pioneer & incongruous outcaste. Discovered courage and authenticity. Found his voice and way in the world.	SUN Mothers death gives him freedom to leave again. Leaves for SA. Obstacles awaken him to his destiny, put him on the path. Starts law practice & petitioning for better rights and representation.	MARS Causes find him, establishes political credentials. Establishes commune. Begins to live out true destiny.			In death he accomplished what he could not while he lived

Transformation and individuation



0-21yrs SPRING

Born into a traditional family in a small port town. Had a good balance of softness, freedom and boundaries. Had an idealistic, conscientious streak. Chose to expand horizons in England.

21- 42yrs SUMMER


Returns home to leave for SA again. Meets his destiny. Builds practice. Acquires experience, skills for Public Service. Gives up personal life over a growing sense of duty to the people.

42-63yrs AUTUMN

Returns home, sheds old persona. No longer a lawyer. Puts skills and experience into service. Ripens his approach of peaceful non-cooperation. Pulls people together to join the fight.

63 – 84yrs WINTER

Transforms into an Elder – called Father by nation. Leads by example. Fulfills mission and destiny. Even in death plays his role in accomplishing the cause - peace.



Meeting his
destiny at
the Moon
nodes

- 18.5yrs Unorthodox choice of going abroad to study law against all norms.
- 37yrs Starts first civil disobedience movement and takes vow of celibacy.
- 56yrs 21 day fast for communal harmony – began using fasting as a political tool.
- 74yrs Launches the final phase of the independence struggle - Quit India Movement.

Jupiter & Saturn Cycle

SATURN	13yrs** Got married	31yrs Began to feel marriage and procreation inconsistent with mission	45yrs Returned to India for good. Joined the Indian National Congress.	74yrs Launched the Quit India Movement. Wife dies.**(60 yrs later)
JUPITER	12yrs Questions the idea of untouchability	38yrs** Launched first Satyagraha in SA 24yrs Arrived in South Africa. On the path to becoming an activist.	48yrs Led first agitation in India 60 yrs** Launched the Salt / Dandi March, started national movement. (23yrs after 1st agitation)	72 yrs Names Nehru his heir.

Mirroring & Metamorphosis

2yrs: lived in a large joint family

5yrs: Goes with his mother to meet Jain monk – non-violence being at the heart of Jainism

40yrs: he shares the idea of independence from British rule for the first time

41yrs: established Tolstoy farm – to create life in an ideal community

38yrs: adopts a path of non-violent or passive resistance and births a new form of protest – civil disobedience

61yrs: launches the Salt March and sparks a nationwide non-cooperation movement.

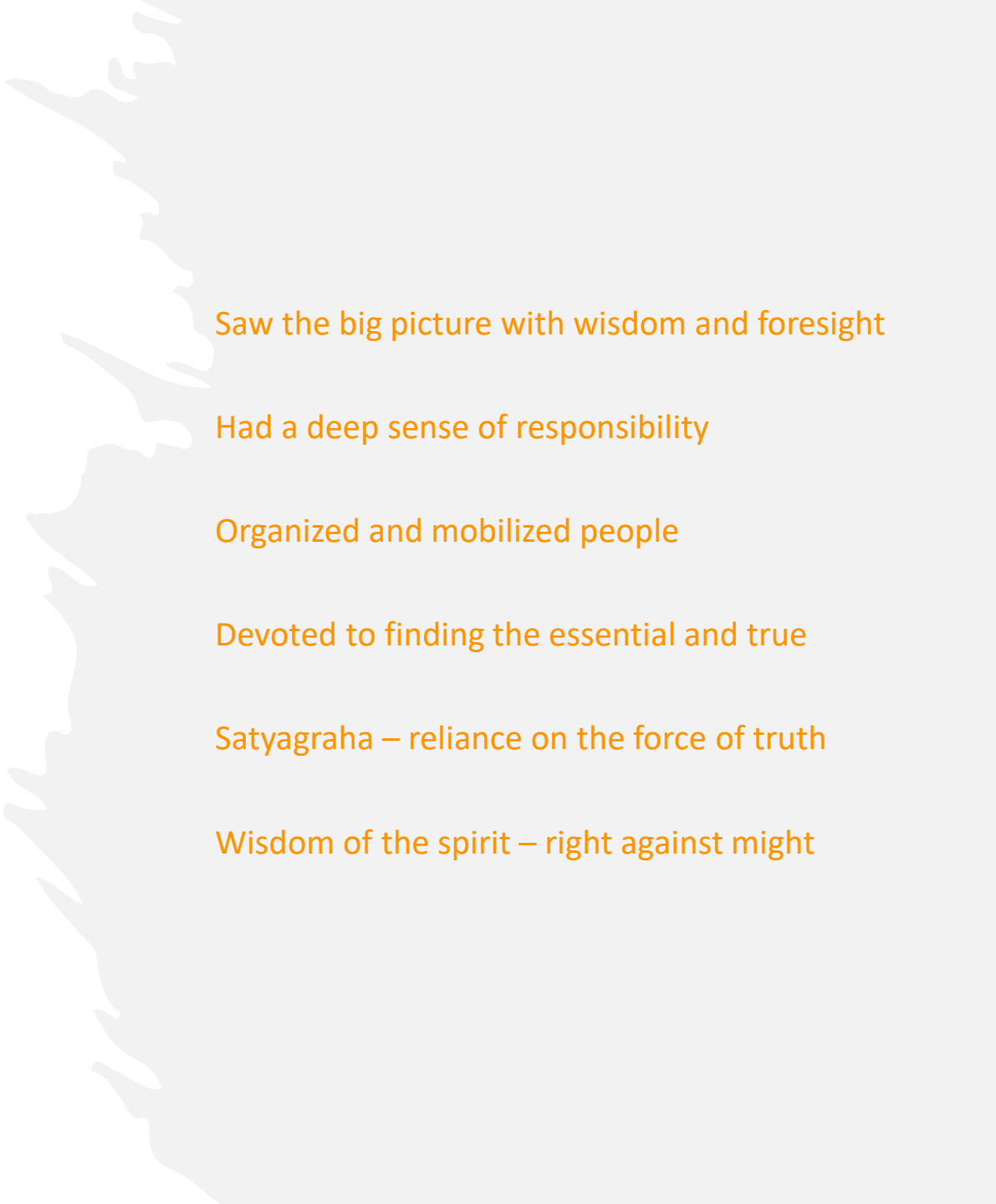
21year rhythm

21yrs for the idea of non-violence to incubate into a form of resistance

21yrs of practice as a lawyer and activist in South Africa

21yrs for the idea of freedom from British to culminate into a non-cooperation movement

42yrs for the idea of removing untouchability to culminate into a concrete action



Thinker
Organizer
Soul Type

Saw the big picture with wisdom and foresight

Had a deep sense of responsibility

Organized and mobilized people

Devoted to finding the essential and true

Satyagraha – reliance on the force of truth

Wisdom of the spirit – right against might

Temperament

Melancholic: truly connected with suffering in the world, idealistic, patient and could truly persevere.

Choleric: man of action, not daunted by challenges, leader.

Planets

Sun

Jupiter

Saturn

Archetype

*“An eye for an eye only ends up
making the whole world blind.”*

The Sage

Universal Biographical Themes



Obstacles as redirection

Challenges awakened him to his destiny

Answering the call of destiny – by
accepting huge demands made on him

Taking on Mission by sacrificing the
personal life at the altar of the larger good

Fire trial burns true dream to the ground

Unique Themes

Mastery over physical instincts

Morality and idealism

Means as important if not more than the end,
always striving for the highest possible ideal

Sacrifice of the personal over need of the
public

Action informed by the wisdom of the spirit -
Reliance on truth and moral strength

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”



Unique accomplishment

Imbuing politics with humanity, morality
and truth

Embodying and living his ideals

Turning his perceived weakness – non-
aggression and passivity into his
greatest strengths.

“In a gentle way, you can shake the world.”