

## CHAPTER-11

# GANDHI-SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIMENTS

1. Reached South Africa in 1893 to work out legal problems of Dadu Abdullah, a Gujarat merchant.
2. The issue of which his South African struggle began was the proposed bill of the Natal government to disfranchise Indians at natal.
3. The first phase of his struggle was during 1894-1906 with constitutional methods. His second phase of struggle was during 1906-1914 with satyagraha as the main method.
4. Formed Indian Natal organization Natal Indian Congress in 1893.
5. Started a weekly Indian opinion in 1903.
6. Formed 'Passive Resistance Association' in 1907 to boycott permit offices associated with registration issue.
7. Established Phoenix farm in Natal.
8. Founded Tolostoy Ashram at Transvaal with the help of his German friend Kallenbach to house the families of Satyagrahis.
9. Suspended 'satyagraha' for the time being on the assurance of Gen. Smuts to repeal the registration law but later Gen. Smuts went back on his words & this created great indignation to the people against him.
10. Began a spectacular march across Transvaal boarder with a huge band of satyagrahis on 6, November 1913 against the supreme court judgement of invalidating all marriages not performed according to Christian rites.
11. Finally he got package deal signed according to which marriage performed according to Indian rites were declared legal, poll tax of 3 pounds on freed laboured was abolished and a domicile certificate was now required only to enter Union of South Africa.
12. Issues against which Gandhi Fought.
  - Bill to disfranchise Indians in the process of being passed.
  - Legislation making it compulsory for Indians to take out certificates of registration which held their finger prints.
  - Restriction on Indian immigration.
  - Poll tax of 3 pounds imposed on all ex-indentured Indians.
  - Invalidation of all marriages not conducted through christian rites and registered by Registrar of marriages.

### SATYAGRAHAS

#### Champaran Satyagraha-(1917)

Led by Gandhi in Bihar on the issue of Tinkathia System under which peasants were obliged to cultivate indigo on 3/20 of their land for European planters at unremunerative prices. The planters later began to demand Shahbarbeshi (rent enhancement) and Tawan (A lumb sump compensation) from the peasants in return of freeing them from the obligation. Satyagraha compagin led to abolition of Tinkathia system, reduction in Shaharbeshi and giving back to the peasant 25% of the total money extracted illegally.

#### Ahmedabad satyagrah - (1918)

Organised by Gandhi to resolve the conflict between the mill-owners and their workers in Ahmedabad. The conflict was on the issue of plague bonus, the workers demanding 35% and the owners being agreed to pay only 20%. Gandhi observed hunger-strike for the first time. The satyagraha resulted in the fulfillment on the demand of the workers that was the plague bonus of 35%.

#### Kheda Satyagraha - (1918)

Under the leadership of Gandhi over the issue of non-payment of land revenue on the part of the peasants in the event of repeated famines in Gujarat. Ultimately they government passed a

secret order directing the officers to raise the revenue only from the who could pay.

#### Non-Cooperation Movement

##### Programme

1. Surrender of titles.
2. Boycott of foreign goods.
3. Boycott of government schools, college, law courts and legislatures.
4. Refusal to vote
5. Resignation from government service, mass civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes (could be reported to later on)
6. Hindu-Muslim unity.
7. Resignation from the councils.
8. Nationalization of education.
9. Raising of a National Fund. (Tilak Swaraj Fund- amount Rs. 1 Crore)
10. Organization of workers for national service.

##### Affected Areas

Punjab Bengal, Mumbai, U.P. Bihar, Orissa and Assam.

Some prominent lawyers who renounced their profession

Motilal Nehru, C. Rajagopalachari, Vallabhbhai Patel, Chitranjan Das, M.R. Jayakar, Saifuddin, Kitchlew, Asaf Ali and T Prakasham.

Objections raised in passing of the programme on non-cooperation at special kolkata session in sept. 1920

1. Boycott of legislative council by C.R. Das and followers of Tilak.
2. Boycott of schools by Lala Lajpat Rai.
3. Goal of Swarajya by M.A. Ninnah and Madan Mohan Malviya.

Three issues on which non-co-operation movement was launched from congress platform

1. Khilafat (b) Punjab wrongs (c) Swarajya

##### Other Aspects

1. Gandhiji announced attainment of Swarajya within one year.
2. Tilak Swaraj Fund was formed to raise fund of Rs. 1 crore.

3. Bardoli was selected as the place to launch Disobedience
4. The call to suspend the movement was given from Bardoli.
5. The programme to start individual or Mass Civil Disobedience was approved by the Congress Session of Ahmedabad.

#### Civil Disobedience Movement

Some of the important 11 points of Gandhi to Lord Irwin on 31, Jan 1930.

- I. 50% reduction in land revenue.
- II. Abolition of salt tax.
- III. Cuts in civil and military expenditure by 50%.
- IV. Textiles protection.
- V. Release of political prisoners.
- VI. Lowering of the rupee-sterling ratio to 1s 4d.

1. Rejection of these demands by the government and beginning of the Civil Disobedience Movement with Dandi March on 12, March 1930 from Sabarmati to Dandi to break the salt-law by Gandhi with his 78 follows.,

#### 2. Programmes:

- (a) To violate salt law.
- (b) Boycott schools and colleges.
- (c) Boycott foreign clothes.
- (d) Resignation from Government services.
- (e) Non-payment of taxes.
- (f) Staging Dharana at liquor shops.

#### 3. Programme introduced in May 1930

- (a) Non-payment of revenue in Ryotwari area.
- (b) Non-payment of Chaukidari tax in zamindari area.
- (c) Violation of forest laws in central provinces.

#### 4. Various Marches

- (a) March from Tiruchirapalli to Vedaranyam led by C. Rajagopalachari in Tamilnadu.
- (b) March from Calicut to Payannur led by K. Kelappan in Malabar.
- (c) March from Sylhet to Noakhali by a band of satyagrahis.

## 5. Associated Struggles

- Red Shirt Movement by Khan Abdul Gaffar Knah in North West frontier province
- Sholapur uprisings in Maharashtra leading to textile mills strike.
- No tax campaign against Chowkidari tax in Eastern India.
- Students agitation against Cunningham Circular in Assam. 9d) Revolt of Rani Gaidinliu in Nagaland.

## 6. Gandhi-Irwin Pact-17, Feb to 5, March, 1931.

- Immediate release of Political prisoners, not convicted for violence.
- Remission of all fines not yet collected.
- Return of confiscated lands not yet solid.
- Leanient treatment to government employees who resigned.
- Right to make salt for consumption to the people living along the sea coast.
- Public enquiry into police excesses (not accepted).

## 7. Leaderships assumed after the arrest of Gandhi by Abbas Tayabji and then by sarojini Naidu.

## 8. N.C. Kelkar, Satyamurti and M.A. Ansari were among those who refused to resign from legislature after the call of the Congress to do so. They are known as new swarajists.

## 9. Council-entry programme was voiced by Satyamurti in October 1933 followed by Bhulabhai Desai, B.C. Roy and M. A. Ansari in April 1934.

## 10. (a) Restarting of Civil Disobedience Movement after Second Round Table Conference-Jan. 1932.

## (b) Suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement-May, 1933.

## (c) Withdrawal of Civil Disobedience Movement at Patna-May, 1934.

### Round table conference

#### First

- |                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 89 Delegates   | - 16 Member                 |
| Princely State | - M.R. Jayakar, M.S. Moonje |

Hindu Mahasabha - T.B. Saprui, C.Y. Chintamani Srinivas Shastri

Muslim League - Aga Khan, Md. Shafi, Jinnah, Fazlul Haq, Md. Ali

Sikhs - Sardar Sampurna Singh

Depressed Classes - Ambedkar

Chirstians - K.T. Paul

Princes - Akbar Hydari (Diwan of Hyderabad), Mirza Ismail (Diwan of Mysore).

#### Second

112 Delegates -

Capitalist - G.D. Birla

Muslim - Iqbal

Women - Sarojini Naidu

Depressed classes - Ambedkar

Liberals - T.B. Saprui

#### Third

46 delegates - T.B. Saprui Ambedkar

#### Congress Socialist and Communist

- There was a development of socialist ideology in national movement between the two world wars.
- The main issues of socialists ideology in national movement between the two world wars.
- In 1931 the first socialist bill was passed in the Karanchi session of the Congress.
- In 1934 the Congress Socialist Party was established.
- Congress Socialist Party laid a great impact on the policy of Congress related to peasants and labourers.
- Indian Communist Party was founded in 1925.
- British government took a bold step against the communist and declared it illegal.
- Communists started working among peasants and labourers.
- Socialist and Communist had same aim but, in order to Quit India Movement differences cropped up between them the socialists were in favour of revolution but the communist were against.