

UNIT 2 : WORDS AND DEEDS

AND THEN GANDHI CAME :

Activity II

Q. How did Gandhiji enlighten the freedom fighters? What kind of leadership did Gandhiji take? What was the effect of this leadership?

Ans. Every child born in India knows the fact that Gandhiji or Mahatma was responsible for the freedom we have today. His arrival marked a new turn of events in Indian politics. To Nehru Gandhiji was a beam of light that would guide India's freedom struggle and leaders. His principles were fearlessness and truth. Gandhiji's ways were convincing to the people. His approach was psychological and he aimed at creating shame in people's minds for suffering British oppression for these long years. Gandhiji's weapon was 'truth' and he would do anything to make truth win. He challenged and resisted foreign rule on one hand and fought social evils on the other. He spoiled the respect for British titles. He knew that 'agriculture' and farming were India's food factors and he awakened the ~~the~~ farmers into action. They were inspired to come forward and fight for India's freedom. In total Gandhiji was a saviour to the Indian people.

Q. Activity III

Speech

Gandhian values in the present day
Respected

Truly, the birthday of the 'Mahatma' is a very apt occasion to think why he was awarded this title.

Gandhiji - a barrister by profession, was shocked by the untouchability of the British people towards the Indian citizen. He threw away his job and rushed into the political scene of India. This man was determined to get the British out of India.

But his weapon was peace, truth and non-violence. He was able to convince the common man that we had no need to suffer the oppression of a foreign power. He made the Indian crowd feel shameful of being suppressed by the British. And he was successful in leading a non-violent struggle to gain freedom.

He wanted Free India to be a home for every poor individual with a feeling of equality. India should have no class and caste distinction. India would be a land of religious harmony too. Even women would be equal to men.

Now, we the young generation should think twice about the free

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India, we all live in. Is it free and equal in the aspects Gandhiji dreamed of? Is truth and non-violence the weapons of Gandhiji, now our weapon or tool? Has any leader influenced our minds psychologically? Gandhian ideals are actually showcase items in the Museum of History in India.

Sorry to say, the Mahatma and his ideals are forgotten. It is up to us to shake off our negative attitudes and pull India together. Gandhiji must be reborn in our hearts and our actions and be given due respect.

Thank You

Activity IV

Group Discussion

"Women will enjoy the same right as men,
This is the India of my dreams"
Gandhiji said.

Equal Rights to Women :

Topic :

Gp I : The Indian Constitution has given equal rights to men and women This was the result of Gandhiji's efforts. But doesn't this remain on paper only? Is it just a document. Think truthfully do the women in India have equality in any field?

Let us really discuss this and find out.

Gp II

Well, we feel that there has been a remarkable change in the status of women. Women play a good part even in the political scenario. They stand along with men hand in hand to manage the economy of the family. They even undertake jobs which were only given to men like driving, soldiers etc. At the business levels, there are women managers and 'CEO's. Even journalism is now women dominated. Thus women do experience equality.

Gp III

Yes, we agree to group II. Education has opened many fields to the Indian girl child. Parents too are not interested in child marriage and female foeticide; like the past. It is the duty of each one of us to respect every female as our mother and sister. India is now known as a land of domestic violence, rape and exporting of women for prostitution. This should change. Everyone is aware of the child rape problems even in Bangalore the IT city of India.

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Group IV : Political leaders and government institutions must also play a strong role in keeping the women of a country secure and protected. Laws must be made and executed. Punishment for rape and molestation must be made strict. Women themselves have to be made aware to protect their individuality. The Police should be noted of crime against women.

Group V Let us sum up all that we have discussed. The point of concern is that the girl child must be educated and aware of rights and laws. Women must be cared for and given respect by each one. "The hand that rocks the cradle can also rule the world" Indian women have earned the fame and popularity in International fields too ... Kalpana Chawla, Mother Teresa, Shakuntala Devi, Kiran Bedi, Indira Gandhi etc. are people known to the world. India has much to offer the world, our women too must get a chance to prove their identity.

Activity V

Letter to the Editor
(How women's issues are presented)

(Sender's
Add)

From: Reena Mathai
Govt MG HSS
Chadayamangalam

To:

To,

The Editor
The Indian
Express
Kottayam

(Date)

12. November 2014

Sir / Madam,

(Addressed)

Sub: How women's issues are presented in media.

This letter represents my deep concern about how women's issues are presented in the media especially newspapers. It is sad to understand that the print media of today is only interested in the circulation and financial benefit of papers and not about social issues. Cases concerning women especially rape and molestation are given undue importance. All this creates a negative impact on the readers especially the younger generation. Moreover false values about women are being spread unnecessarily. Criminals are even glorified.

Kindly understand the seriousness of this situation and try to instill good values and positive

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ideas through your paper. Advise your
reporters to be responsible journalists.
Please publish articles about women
entrepreneurs and administrators who
enjoy high position in society. Let
our media spread good ideas and
values. Let women be respected.

Yours faithfully

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