

Gandhi

Early Life

Mohandas Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar. His father was the dewan, chief minister. His mother was dedicated to living a simple life, and she was a very religious person. At 19, Gandhi left India to go to law school in London. He started a law practice in Bombay, but it was not successful.

A Lawyer in South Africa

In the early 1900s, he worked for a law firm that sent him to South Africa. He lived there for 20 years with his wife and children. Gandhi was an Indian immigrant living in South Africa, and he experienced discrimination. After he was beaten and thrown in jail, he began a movement to protest discrimination. In 1906, he negotiated a compromise with a South African leader.

A Leader for Independence

After Gandhi returned to India, he supported Great Britain during WWI. By 1920, he became a leader in India's struggle for independence. Along with independence, Gandhi believed India needed economic independence from Great Britain. He wanted people to manufacture khaddar, a homespun cloth. This would limit the need for importing British goods. Then, Indians could use their raw materials to produce textiles.

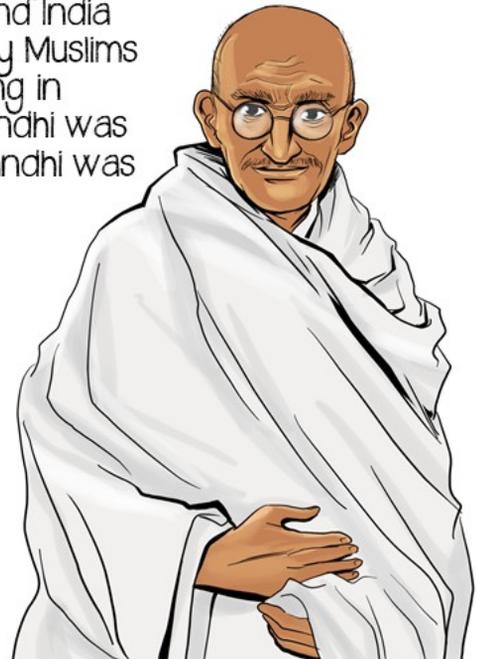
During the fight for independence, Gandhi was imprisoned several times. He promoted noncooperation or a nonviolent approach to protesting the government. He used hunger strikes, boycotts of British goods, and peaceful protests.

Hope for a Peaceful Transition

In 1947, Great Britain divided, or partitioned, India into two separate countries - Pakistan and India. Pakistan was for Muslims, and India was for Hindus. This did not bring peace to the area. Many Muslims lived in India. Gandhi wanted Hindus and Muslims to get along in India. However, some had extreme views and felt that Gandhi was wrong to tolerate Muslims in India. On January 30, 1948, Gandhi was assassinated at Birla House in New Delhi, India.

Gandhi's Legacy

Gandhi was known as Mahatma or "great soul" for his beliefs. The idea of social change, or treating others with fairness and equality, was at the heart of his fight for India. This knowledge would inspire other civil rights movements around the world.



European Union

After World War II, the countries of Europe were left in shambles. Winston Churchill, who had been the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during World War II, tried to develop a plan that would tie the countries of Europe together and prevent wars and destruction between the European countries.

With this idea in mind, in the 1950s countries of Europe began to unite politically and economically to avoid war and hopefully become peaceful economic partners. Rather than fighting over resources, these countries pledged to work together.



The **European Union (EU)** began to provide support for countries that needed help with job creation and building needed infrastructure in poorer areas. In the 1980s, Greece, Spain and Portugal join the EU and the **"Single Market"** is developed which provided for easy trade between all the member nations. The single market removed trade barriers between countries and created similar laws regarding how goods and services are provided. With the end of communism in Eastern Europe in the 1990s, countries of the former Soviet Union, such as Latvia and Slovakia, also joined the EU.

By the 1990s the EU members had attained the *"four freedoms"* of movement: goods, services, people, and money among its member nations. Citizens in countries of the European Union could move among the countries without having to show a passport at all the border and the Euro was the new accepted form of currency in all nations (with the exception of the United Kingdom). People and goods could move around the European continent with greater ease. This ease of movement supported economic growth and better communication between all the member countries. The EU continued to grow in the 2000s as more Eastern European nations joined after the fall of the Soviet Union.

The EU is made up of 4 branches of government: the executive, legislative, judicial, and financial. The first three branches are like those of the U.S government, but the EU also has a financial branch which is responsible for managing the budget of the EU.

The EU government is like the United States government in many ways. It has checks and balances and separation of powers. Members of the EU Parliament are directly elected by the citizens based on population. A country with a larger population will have more Parliament members than a smaller country. The EU has a court system which is responsible for hearing cases between disputing countries. The legislative branch makes the laws for the EU.

However, the EU government also differs from the government of the United States. EU citizens do not vote for the EU president. The president is selected from one of the representative members of the EU.

The Buffalo Soldiers

The Buffalo Soldiers were four regiments of African-American soldiers in the post-Civil War Army, especially two cavalry regiments. The name was given to the men by the Plains Indians. The 180,000 soldiers had fought in segregated units with honor during the Civil War.



The Buffalo Soldiers were posted to Texas, the Southwest and the Great Plains from 1866 to the 1890s. The men were broken down into small companies and stationed at remote garrisons and forts. The Buffalo Soldiers distinguished themselves in the military actions against the Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Sioux and Arapaho. The soldiers also maintained their garrisons, patrolled the frontier, constructed roads, provided protection for mail parties as well as dealing with civilian problems and military duties.

The end of the Indian Wars in the 1890s did not end the service of the Buffalo Soldiers. Regiments served in the Spanish-American War and in the Philippine's Insurrection. Buffalo Soldiers also served with General "Black Jack" Pershing in the attempt to capture Pancho Villa in 1916.

By the turn of the century, the Buffalo Soldiers were facing more racial prejudice and discrimination. None of the Buffalo Soldier regiments saw active duty in World War I France. The Ninth and Tenth cavalries were disbanded during World War II and transferred into service units. The Twenty-Fifth Infantry fought in the Pacific theater during World War II. The unit was deactivated in 1949. The Twenty-Fourth Infantry served in the Pacific and the beginning of the Korean War. They were the last segregated unit to be in battle. The Twenty-fourth was disbanded in 1951. Men from the unit were used to integrate other units that were fighting in Korea at the time.

The Boston Massacre

Tensions were high across the American colonies in 1770. The British government had passed many taxes and restrictive laws. American colonists were on edge as a result of the increased presence of British soldiers in their homes and towns. The **Townshend Acts** passed by Parliament cause resentment and anger in the American Colonies. Letters are written to the British government by several prominent American citizens such as Sam Adams. Rather than changing the restrictive laws, the British government closes the Massachusetts assembly. American colonists attack tax collectors and the British government reacts by sending more troops to Massachusetts. The scene in Boston is set for conflict.

On **March 5, 1770**, a seemingly small act of aggression spirals out of control into a "massacre". A British soldier is on duty outside of the customs house. Private Hugh White was the only soldier guarding the King's money stored inside the Custom House on King Street. A teenage colonist, Edward Garrick, starts harassing Private White. This starts a series of insults being shouted back and forth, culminating with Garrick on the ground after being hit in the head by Private White's musket. As Garrick lays on the ground, he yells for help - and help arrives! Church bells ring as many angry American colonists swarm the street. Hundreds of angry American colonists rush to defend Garrick, and soon Private White is surrounded by an angry mob. Reinforcements arrive to support the British soldier, but seven men against an angry mob becomes a situation that quickly escalates out of control. Yelling soon changes into violence as American colonists start to throw stones covered in snowballs at the British soldiers. American colonists "armed with clubs, sticks..." surround the British soldiers.



Quickly moving past taunting, an American colonist strikes a British soldier with a club, causing him to fall on the ground. The soldier quickly gets up but is hit and falls again. In desperation, he raises his musket and fires. Startled by the gunshot, the other British soldiers also fire their weapons into the crowd. Bullets start to fly as American colonists flee the scene in fear for their lives.

When the smoke clears, bodies lay scattered along the street. 5 American colonists were killed, some dying immediate and two others dying later. Many others were wounded. **Crispus Attucks**, a formerly enslaved man, lost his life, along with Samuel Gray, James Caldwell, Patrick Carr, and Samuel Maverick.

The city of Boston is on edge, anger and emotions are out of control. In order to calm the situation, the governor promises to arrest the British soldiers involved in the incident. At a later trial, the soldiers, defended by John Adams, were acquitted (not found guilty) of murder. The jury believed that they were threatened by the crowd but should have delayed firing.

The incident at Boston inflames the colonists. Stories are written in newspapers and circulated around the 13 Colonies by both the Patriots and Loyalists, trying to encourage Americans to join their side. **Paul Revere**, one of the Sons of Liberty, distributes an image, showing the British soldiers firing on innocent American colonists. This image, along with others, angers people in the colonies. Americans are one step closer to war with Great Britain.