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India's Struggle for Freedom

"Our flag does not fly
because the wind moves it.
It flies because last breathe
of each Soldiers who died
Protecting it"

Every year on August 15, The Indian nation celebrates its independence Day with great pride and enthusiasm. It is the day on which in 1947, the British transferred political power to the Indians after nearly 200 years of Imperial rule over the Country. India shook the chains of bondage and made a passage to freedom after a long period of struggle and sacrifice of thousands of freedom fighters.

The fight for Indian independence is a significant development in Indian history. The freedom fighters were who selflessly gave their lives for their Country's Independence.

India's struggle for independence was actively shaped influenced and nurtured by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi also known as "Father of the Nation" was responsible for freedom. He was against violence and battled for independence of India when Indians had lost all the hopes, his immense contribution for the freedom was not only just in terms of struggle for freedom but his ideologies and thoughts which changed the map of the Country.

India's first war of freedom also known as Sepoy Mutiny, was the first time Indians united against the "British Raj". This rebellion led to the dissolution of the East India Company's rule in India.

and shifted to the powers of the Company to the British Crown 1858.

In 1885, the Indian National Congress was established. It became the leading party alongside the Muslim League and led the Nation in the freedom struggle.

In 1915, the father of India returned to the India from South Africa. He took the charge of Indian National Congress from 1920 to 1947 for a period of nearly three decades. Gandhi's continuous effort and feeling of work with non-violence led Gandhi was undoubtedly the undisputed leader of freedom loving leaders.

Thousands of leaders such as Bhagat Singh, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Maulana Azad, Kalam, Sukhdev, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Tilak, Chandra Shekhar Azad also sacrificed.

There were many brave fighters give their life for struggle together with Gandhi.

A critical examination of strategy adopted by Gandhi reveals that it was "struggle - Truce Struggle" coined by Bipin Chandra.

There was many movements that helped India achieve independence. Including Civil Disobedience Movement. This movement was launched against British monopoly on salt, due to which India could not manufacture or trade it, and paid huge sums of money to buy salt from British people.

In an act of civil disobedience Gandhiji took a crowd from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi Beach in a non-violent manner to protest against the repressive salt tax imposed by British government.

The Satyagrah against salt tax continued for almost a year, ending with Gandhi's release from jail and negotiation with Viceroy Lord Irwin at Second Round Table Conference.

Another event The Lucknow Pact was an agreement between Congress and Muslim League. Muhammad Ali Jinnah had a strong role to play as a member of both, the League and the Congress. He made both the parties agree that they would put more pressure on British so that they adopt a more liberal approach to letting Indians run their country in 1916.

In 1917 Gandhi led an uprising of the farmers of Champaran who were being forced to grow Indigo and were not even being compensated enough for it.

In 1919, the British government had released an Order banning public gathering to punish civilians for their disobedience. However, unaware of this Order thousands of Indians gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar on April 13, 1919 to celebrate the festival of Baisakhi. Brigadier General Dyer called in troops and ordered them to open fire for 10 mins at the mass gathering. The troops had also blocked the main entrance so no one could flee. Many jumped in wells to save themselves. It was this event that prompted the start of the Non-Cooperation Movement. Many people died in the incident.

In 1921 Subhash Chandra Bose quit his high paying ACS job in England to join India's struggle for freedom. After his return he joined Congress and started a newspaper titled "Swaraj". He was sent to prison in 1925 and released in 1927. Upon his release he was made the President of All India Youth Congress and Secretary of Bengal State Congress. In 1930, he became mayor of Calcutta.

We should have but

One desire today.

The desire to die so

that India may live - Netaji

In 1920, Mahatma Gandhi took charge of Congress and started Non-Cooperation Movement. The movement was non-violent and saw people not buying British goods, supporting local artisans and handicrafts. The movement came to an end in 1922 when a protest at Chauri Chaura police station turned violent.

On January 26, 1930, the INC declared Independence of India, which the British did not recognize.

The India Act of 1935 and the creation of a new Constitution laid the foundation for events that would follow in the next decade and thereafter.

And there were many movements led by fighters to gain independence like Quit India, Royal Navy strike of 1946 and Partition of India.

At the stroke of midnight
hour, when the world sleeps
India will awake to life and

freedom ~~and~~ (Jawaharlal Nehru).
A moment comes which comes but
rarely in history, when we step out
from the old to new, when an
age ends and when the soul
of a nation long suppressed finds
utterance.