



# Mohandas K. Gandhi

A Life in Pictures

# 1876 as a child

This is the earliest picture of  
Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

He is aged 7



# Gandhi's mother Putlibai

Putlibai had a strong spiritual  
influence on Gandhi

She was a devout Hindu, who used  
to fast regularly

She also took advice from a  
Jain priest



# Gandhi's father Karamchand

Gandhi's father was a politician

He was Prime Minister of  
Porbandar, a small princely  
state in Western India





# 1883 as a teenager

Gandhi played sports such as  
tennis and cricket

When he lied to his parents or stole  
from his brother he felt very guilty!



# 1886 with brother

Gandhi had two brothers and  
one sister

He was the youngest child

Here he is shown with his elder  
brother Laxmidas



# 1890 in England

This the first picture of Gandhi  
in England.

Gandhi was a lifelong vegetarian

He is shown on a visit of the  
Vegetarian Society to the  
Isle of Wight



# 1891 law student

Gandhi trained to be a barrister at  
the Inner Temple in London



# 1895 as a barrister

After a brief period back in India,  
Gandhi went to South Africa to  
practice law

He was retained by a firm of  
Muslim merchants, headed by  
Dada Abdullah Sheth





# 1895 Natal Congress

In South Africa he soon became involved in protecting the rights of Indian migrants

Here he is shown with other members of the Natal Indian Congress



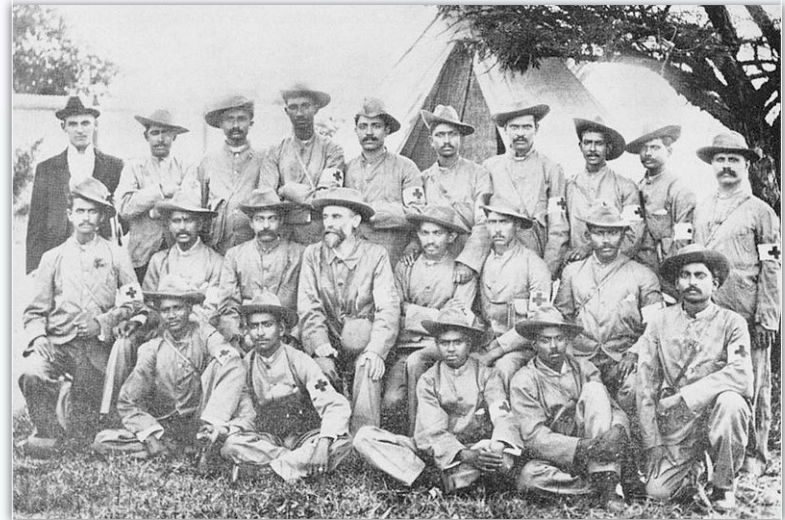


# 1899 ambulance corps

During the Boer War,  
Gandhi formed the Indian  
Ambulance Corps

“Their unassuming dauntlessness  
cost them many lives and  
eventually an order was published  
forbidding them to go into  
the firing line.”

(Mr. Vere Kent  
*Johannesburg Illustrated Star*)



# 1902 with Kasturbhai

Mohandas and Kasturbai  
were married when they  
were both aged 13

Later Gandhi became a campaigner  
against child marriage



# 1902 family

Kasturbai (Ba) is shown with their  
four children (all boys):

Harilal, born in 1888  
Manilal, born in 1892  
Ramdas, born in 1897  
Devdas, born in 1900



# 1908 recuperating

Gandhi was sometimes subject to physical beatings because of his activism

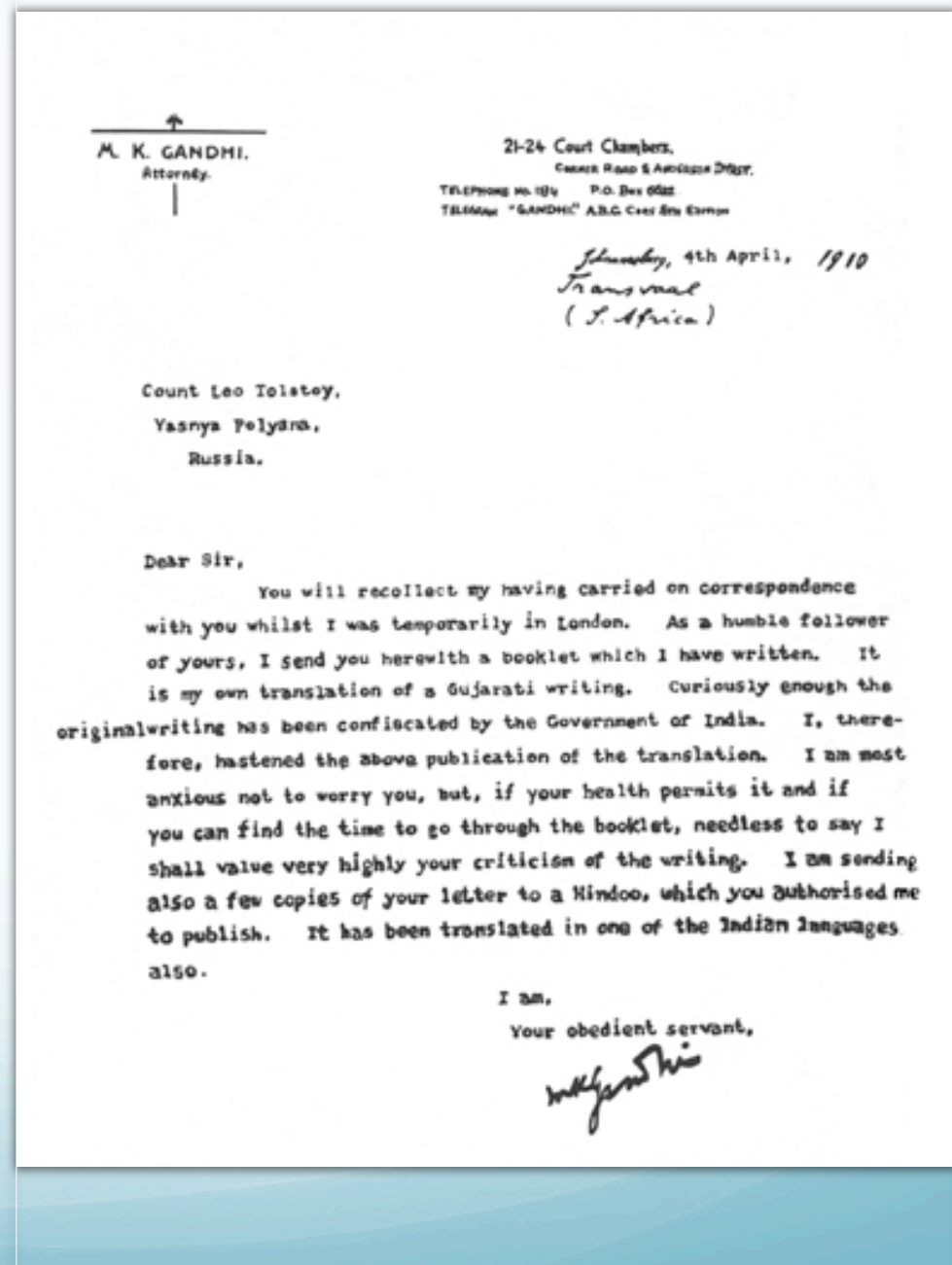
When this photo was taken he was recovering from a beating at the hands of other Indians, who objected to the compromise Gandhi made with General Smuts regarding the Pass Laws



# 1910: letter to Tolstoy

Tolstoy:

“I want to tell others what I feel particularly clearly and what to my mind is of great importance – namely that which is called nonviolent resistance – but which is really nothing else but the teaching of love”





# 1910 Tolstoy Farm

21 miles from Johannesburg

Gandhi's second venture into  
communal living

The first had been Phoenix Farm  
near Durban

Later Gandhi founded ashrams  
in India





# 1912 with Gokhale

Many important Indians had become aware of Gandhi's campaigning in South Africa

Here he is shown with Gokhale, a senior leader of the Indian Nationalist movement, who became Gandhi's political 'guru'



# 1913 Transvaal march

A protest against the ban on Indian immigration, and the ruling that only Christian marriages were legal

Gandhi hoped the marchers would be sent to jail when they entered the Transvaal

Eventually there was a compromise with the government of General Smuts



# 1913 Satyagraha

Gandhi called his method  
'Satyagraha', meaning  
'struggle for truth'

He was prepared to sacrifice his  
own well-being in order to change  
the hearts of his opponents



# 1913 the Satyagrahi

Gandhi ceased to wear European clothes

He believed that simple dress was appropriate for defending the rights of ordinary Indians



# 1915 a hero in India

Gandhi's successes in South Africa were well known throughout India

In this picture he is welcomed in  
Karachi, now in modern-day  
Pakistan

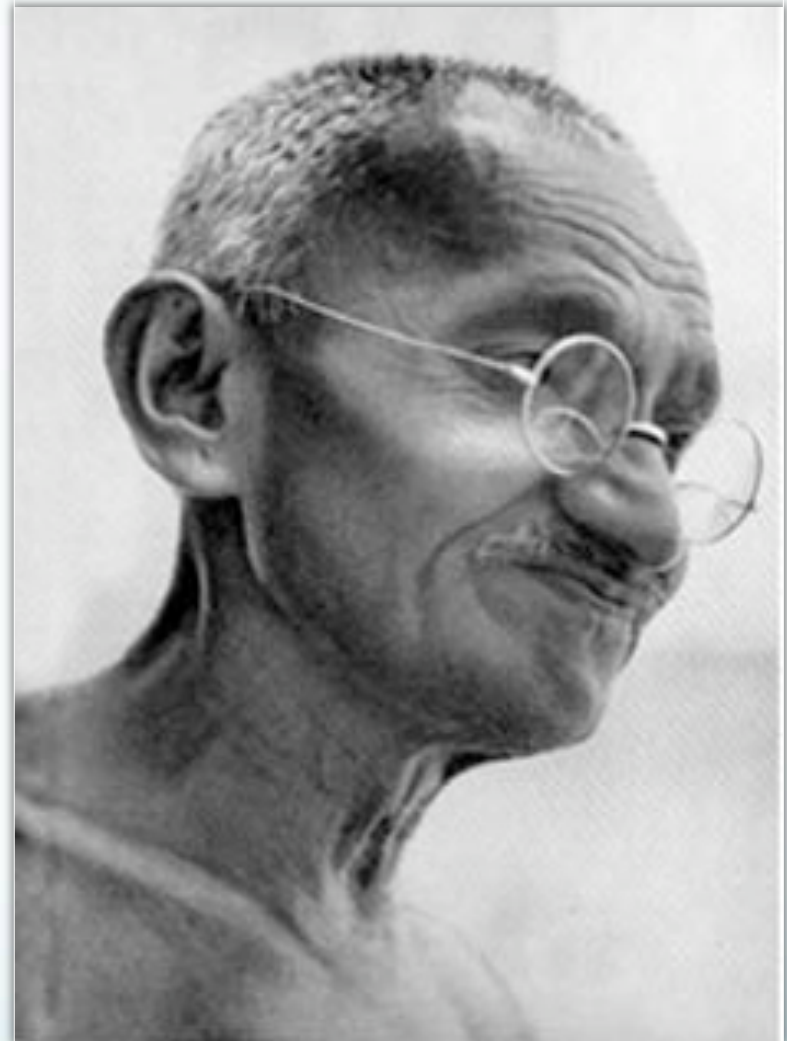




# 1929 Gandhi

This picture shows the 'iconic' Gandhi, who had developed by the age of 60

By this time Gandhi had established himself on the Indian political scene, and achieved many notable victories





# 1930 Salt march

Gandhi was very clever at picking his campaign issues

Although the British tax on salt did not raise much money, it was symbolic of the lack of freedom for Indians in their own country



# 1930 making salt

Gandhi is shown picking up salt from the beach – ‘making’ salt – which was illegal for Indians

Even today foreign companies try to prevent Indians using their own natural resources, such as drugs companies which try to patent Indian medicinal plants



# 1931 round the table

It seemed that the British government was taking Indian demands for independence seriously

A conference was organised in London, but nothing changed



# 1931 St James Palace

While in England, Gandhi met the  
King and the Prime Minister

He told a reporter: “You people  
wear plus-fours, mine are  
minus-fours!”





# 1931 Kingsley Hall

“I find that my work lies outside the conference”

While in London, Gandhi stayed in the poor East End

The Gandhi Foundation maintains its HQ at Kingsley Hall to this day



# 1931 Lancashire

In India, Gandhi had campaigned against the import of cotton cloth from England

This caused many textile workers in England to lose their jobs

Gandhi visited them to show his solidarity – and they showed theirs!





# 1932 in jail

Gandhi went to jail many times in both South Africa and India

He used his time in jail to read and study

‘whoever has a taste for reading good books is able to bear loneliness in any place with great ease’



LORD WILLINGDON'S DILEMMA

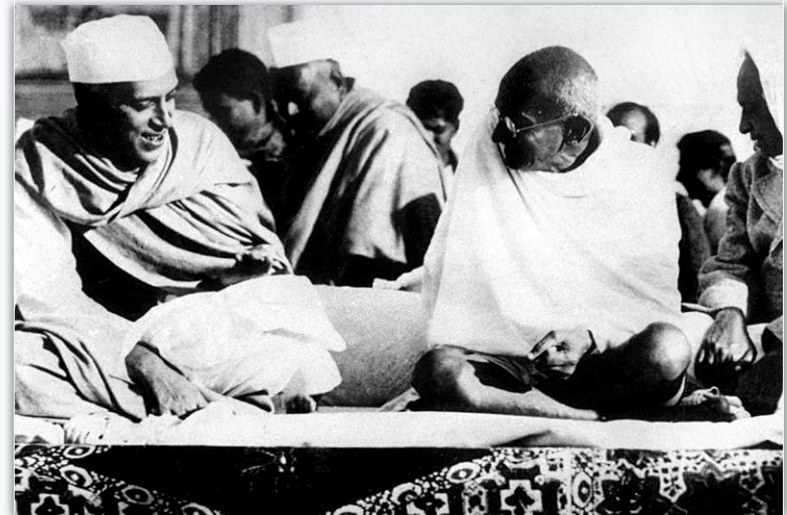
# 1937 with Nehru

Gandhi had good relations with Nehru, who became Prime Minister of India in 1947

However their visions for India were different

Nehru wanted industrialisation

Gandhi had traditional village life at the heart of his vision



# 1939 letter to Hitler

Hitler never saw the letter  
because British officials  
intervened to stop it.

Would Hitler have replied?

Gandhi later published his  
letter in his journal 'Harijan'

Am at Wardha  
C.P.  
India.  
23.7.'39.

Dear friend,

Friends have been urging me to write to you for the sake of humanity. But I have resisted their request, because of the feeling that any letter from me would be an impertinence. Something tells me that I must not calculate and that I must make my appeal for whatever it may be worth.

It is quite clear that you are today the one person in the world who can prevent a war which may reduce humanity to the savage state. Must you pay that price for an object however worthy it may appear to you to be? Will you listen to the appeal of one who has deliberately shunned the method of war not without considerable success? Any way I anticipate your forgiveness, if I have erred in writing to you.

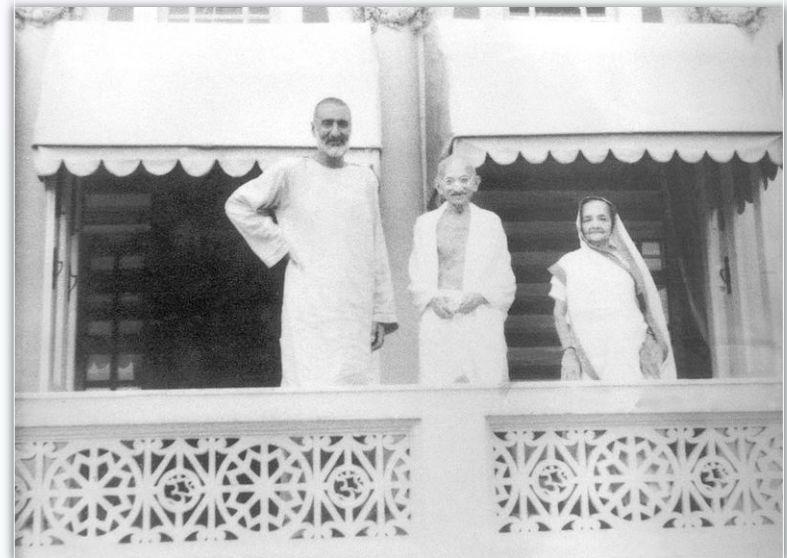
Herr Hitler  
Berlin  
Germany.

I remain,  
Your sincere friend  
M.K. Gandhi.

# 1940 ‘frontier Gandhi’

Gandhi had good relations with many Muslims

Here he is shown with Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who was known as the ‘frontier Gandhi’, for his work promoting peace on the border with Afghanistan



# 1940 tending a leper

Gandhi had wanted to be a doctor rather than a lawyer, and he nursed many people throughout his life



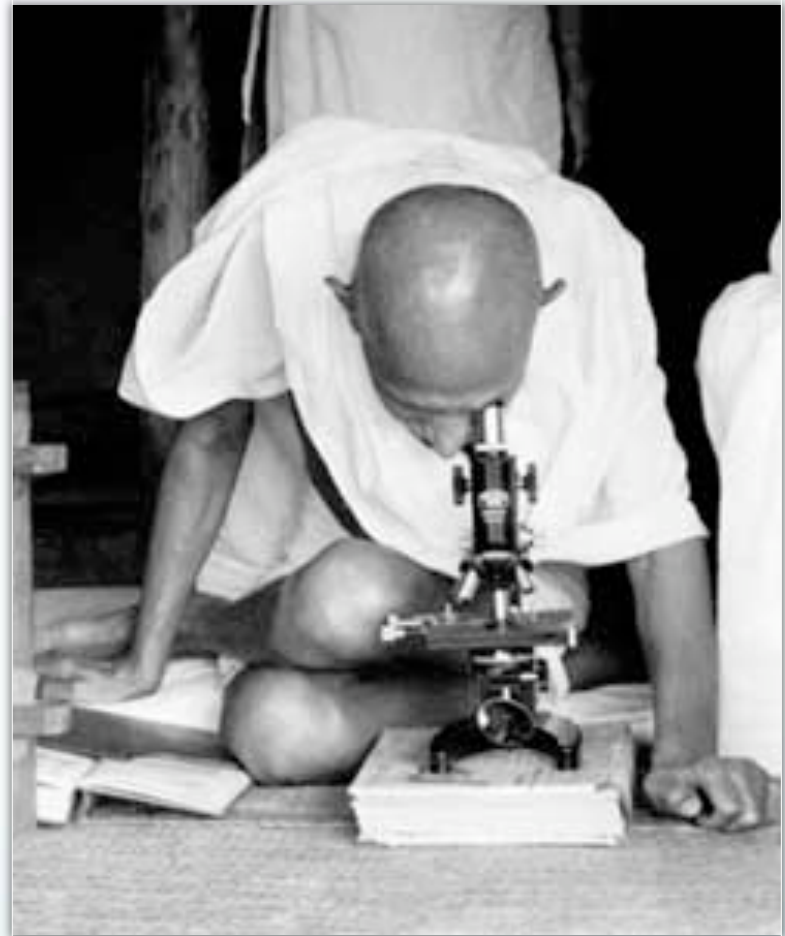


# 1940 'the scientist'

Here he is shown researching  
leprosy

Gandhi's autobiography is called  
'My Experiments with Truth'

He wanted to bring 'scientific'  
methods to the exploration of  
human morality

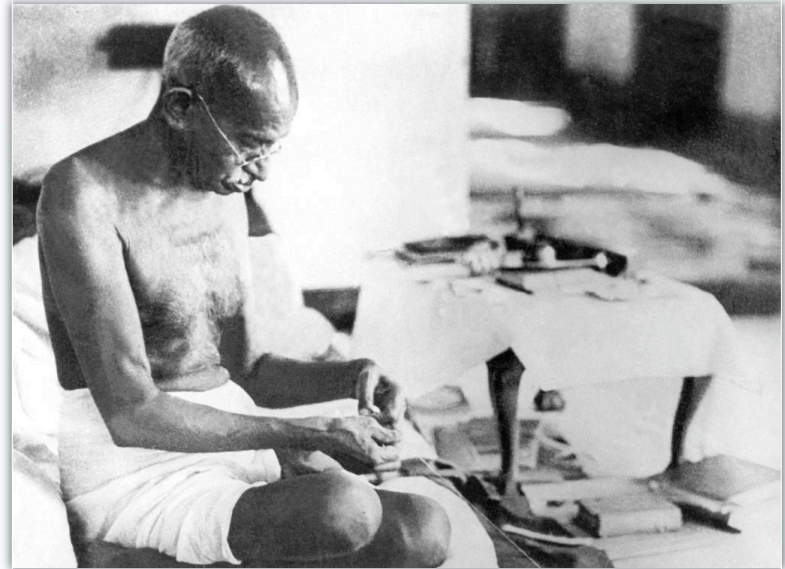


# 1942 spinning

Gandhi was inspired by Ruskin's  
ideal of self-reliance

He taught Indians to provide for  
themselves and not depend on  
the British

The spinning wheel became the  
symbol of independence, and was  
used on the flag of the Indian  
National Congress.



# Indian Flags

INC flag with spinning wheel



Indian flag with Dharma wheel



# 1944 with Jinnah

The Partition of Pakistan from India in 1947 broke Gandhi's heart

Gandhi believed that Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians should all live together in India



# 1947 fasting

Gandhi fasted so that people  
would stop fighting

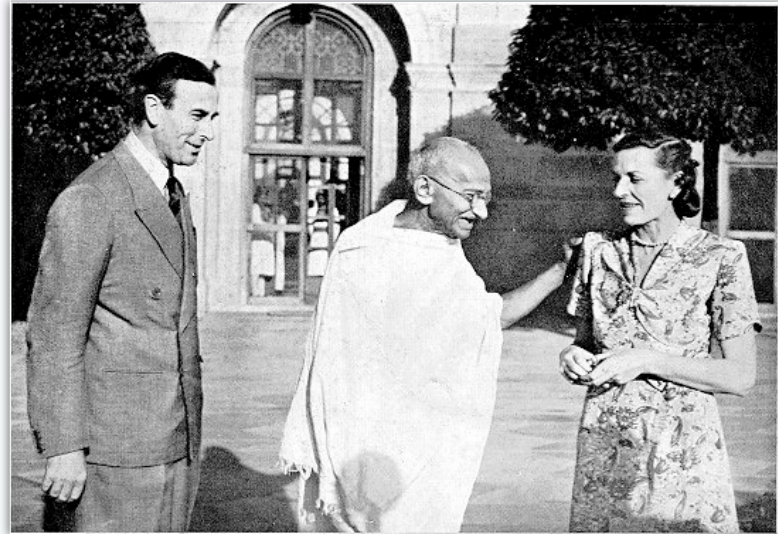
Without his fasting, it is probable  
that more people would have died  
in the riots of 1947





# 1947 the Mountbattens

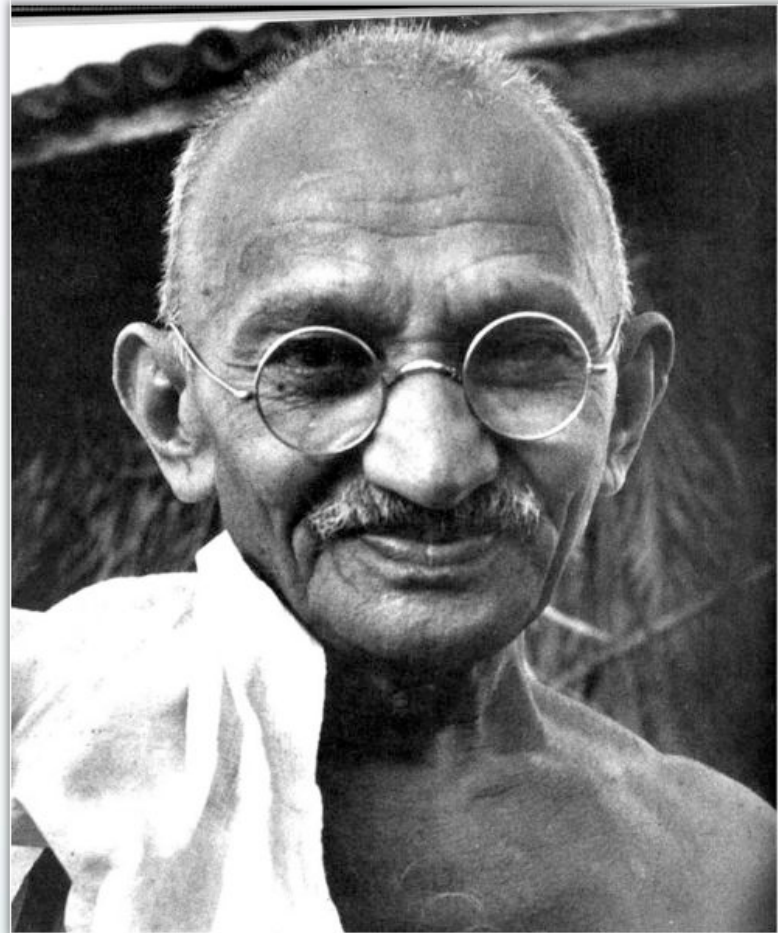
Gandhi continued to work at the highest political level until the end of his life



# 1948

When he was assassinated by a  
Hindu extremist his last words were

‘Hey Rama’  
(O God)





[www.gandhifoundation.org](http://www.gandhifoundation.org)

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