



"GANDHI": Who's Who and What's What (I)

When you see the film GANDHI, and as you read about the life and times of this remarkable man, you will encounter many names, places and events that will be new to you. Here are short identifications of some of the most important of them. You might locate the places on the map printed on *Student Handout 7*.

Ahmedabad: Gandhi established his ashram near here, in the capital of the Gujarat State in West India.

Ashram: Word meaning, among other things, a religious community, a place of discipline and service.

Bapu: "Father" in Gandhi's native Gujarati language, and Gandhi's nickname throughout India.

"Black Act": The Asiatic Registry Act of 1907 in South Africa, which required all Indians and Chinese to be fingerprinted and carry registration certificates at all times. This was the issue against which Gandhi first publicly rebelled.

Bourke-White, Margaret (1906–1971): Internationally known photographer-journalist, who popularized Gandhi in America through her photographs for *Life* magazine and other journals.

Caste: An hereditary division of society into self-contained communities based on birth, occupation, color, wealth, or religion. India has an extremely elaborate caste system.



1982, TelEd, Inc

Champaran: A remote district in Bihar, Northern India, where Gandhi began his movement in 1917, championing the cause of starving farmers.

"Charlie" Charles Andrews (1871–1940): Itinerant British missionary who met Gandhi in South Africa in 1914 and was an intimate of Gandhi.

Colonialism: Control by one country over a subject area or people, as the British controlled America prior to the Revolutionary War. Britain's control over India began as **mercantilism**, which can be defined as the exploitation of a foreign nation for the greatest possible commercial advantage. **Imperialism** is the political and territorial domination of one people by a foreign power through military control. British mercantile domination of India became imperialist domination by the end of the 18th century.

Dhoti: Loincloth worn by Indian men, which became world-familiar when Gandhi adopted it as his only costume.

Gandhi, Indira (born 1917): First woman Prime Minister of India, and one of the first women in the world to be elected head of state, she was initially in power from 1966–77, and was re-elected in 1980. Mrs. Gandhi, the daughter of Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, acquired the surname "Gandhi" by marriage. She is no relation to Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhiji: Title of respect. The "ji" corresponds to "sir."

Gokhale, Gopal K. (1866–1915): Leader of the Indian National Congress in the first decades of the century, westernizer, and Gandhi's political mentor.

Hinduism: One of the world's oldest religions; its teachings encompass all aspects of life, and reflect India's oldest and most diverse ideas and concepts. It embraces many sects and castes, and includes the worship of many aspects of God. Hindus comprise a vast religious majority in India.

Margaret Bourke-White
(Candice Bergen)

Indian National Congress: A political movement, primarily Hindu, founded in 1885 to increase Indian participation in government; later led the drive for complete independence and became the major political party in independent India.

Indigo: Plant that yields blue dye for cloth. In a classic example of how the British placed Indian agriculture on a "cash crop" rather than a food crop basis, farmers in India were forced by the British to continue harvesting indigo even after it was replaced by chemical dyes.

Islam: The religion of the Muslims, who believe Allah (God) is the one and only deity and Muhammed is his greatest prophet. Islam is India's second-largest religion, and friction between Hindus and Muslims, whose differences begin with their most fundamental beliefs and extend through the practices of their daily lives, has been the cause of much bloodshed in India. Ultimately, in 1947, it led to the creation of the separate Muslim state of Pakistan.

(continued on HANDOUT 6)

Charles ("Charlie") Andrews
(Ian Charleson)





"GANDHI": Who's Who and What's What (II)

Jinnah, Muhammad Ali (1876–1948): Wealthy Bombay lawyer who became a major spokesman for the Muslims, broke with the Indian National Congress in 1920, and finally (in 1928) became an advocate of an independent Pakistan. He was Pakistan's first Governor General.

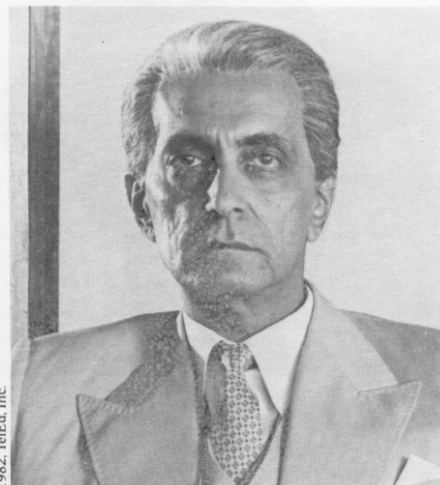
Kaffir: South African racial slur applied to Blacks and extended to Indians in South Africa.

Lancashire/Birmingham: Great Britain's textile industrial midlands, from which much cloth was exported to India. When Gandhi visited here in 1931, many workers supported him, even though his campaign to get Indians to stop buying British cloth and wear Indian homespun had caused great hardship in the English textile towns.

Mahatma: "Great Soul," one of the names by which Gandhi was, and is, known in India.

Mountbatten, Lord Louis (1900–80): The last British Viceroy in India, this great-grandson of Queen Victoria was given the extraordinarily difficult task of terminating the British *raj*, or rule. A remarkable statesman, he found himself unexpectedly allied with Gandhi in the futile effort to prevent bloodshed between Hindus and Muslims.

Muhammad Ali Jinnah
(Alyque Padamsee)



1982, TeleEd, Inc.

"The Mutiny": Also called the "Sepoy Rebellion," a revolt of Hindu and Muslim soldiers in 1857–1858 in major centers of India, which led to the end of the East India company and the establishment of the imperial *raj*. (See *Student Handout 9*)

Nehru, Jawaharlal (1889–1964): Aristocratic son of one of the first leaders of Congress, Nehru was an early supporter of Gandhi (1916). He believed in industrialization, modernization, and social reform; as first Prime Minister, Nehru is one of the major figures in Indian history.

Pakistan: An Islamic nation created on the Indian subcontinent in 1947, when India won her independence from Great Britain. Muslims, afraid for their life and property in an India governed by the Hindu majority, had agitated for their own nation for decades, and although Gandhi bitterly opposed the partition, it was granted nevertheless.

Patel, Vallabhbhai (1875–1951): Indian lawyer and early supporter of Gandhi who became Deputy Prime Minister under Nehru.

Jawaharlal Nehru
(Roshan Seth)



Madeleine ("Mirabehn") Slade
(Geraldine James)

Punjab: Land of the "Five Rivers," a province of northwestern India, once primarily the kingdom of the Sikhs, with a mixed Sikh, Muslim, and Hindu population.

Raj: Literally, "rule," an Indian term usually used to describe the British Imperial rule in India.

Sikhs: A leading Indian religious sect, centered in the Punjab, which remained loyal in the Mutiny of 1857 and became a major unit in British Indian troops. They do not believe in cutting their hair, and can often be identified visually by their turbans.

Slade, Madeleine ("Mirabehn") (1892–1982): Daughter of an English admiral posted in India, she conducted her own spiritual search which led her to join the Sabarmati ashram for a year, after which she lived away from Gandhi, serving the Constructive Program in other ashrams.

Smuts, Jan Christian (1870–1951): Minister for Indian Affairs in South Africa during Gandhi's years there. Later, leading general in World War I and President of South Africa.

Untouchable: The lowest social caste in India, Untouchables are individuals who, because of their ancestry, their work, or local custom, are looked upon as impure by Orthodox Hindus; they were renamed "Children of God" (*Harijans*) by Gandhi.

Viceroy: The ruling representative in India of the British crown. The viceroy and his cabinet had almost complete power over Indian government in the days of the *Raj*.

Jan Christian Smuts
(Athol Fugard)

