

Page Number: 54

Understanding The Text:

1. Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

Answer:

Gandhi considered the Champaran episode a watershed moment in his life because it was India's first Satyagraha movement, and it restored courage and a feeling of self-reliance to the Champaran peasants. As a result, Gandhi regarded it as significant in his life and the course of Indian independence.

2. How was Gandhi able to influence lawyers? Give instances.

Answer:

Gandhi was able to persuade the lawyers by setting a good example. Gandhi was willing to spend time in prison for the sake of the peasants. This prompted them to remain in Champaran and volunteer to accompany him to jail if he was arrested.

3. What was the attitude of the average Indian in smaller localities towards advocates of 'home rule'?

Answer:

During that time, the average Indian in smaller towns and villages was terrified of the British. They were afraid of the repercussions of assisting proponents of "home rule." As a result, while they were supportive of people like Gandhi, they were afraid to express it openly, and only a few dared to do so. In the story, we meet people like Professor Malkani, who had the courage to give shelter to Gandhi on the latter's visit to Muzaffarpur.

4. How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?

Answer:

We know that ordinary people helped the freedom movement in the following ways.

Thousands of poor peasants took part in spontaneous demonstrations around the courthouse in Motihari. Owing to his tenacity, an ordinary peasant named Rajkumar Shukla spearheaded this movement. This resulted in India's first Satyagraha movement, which contributed to the freedom movement.

In Champaran, Mahadev Desai, and Narhari Parikh, two young men who had recently become disciples of Gandhi, and their wives volunteered to teach in a school. Champaran's social and cultural backwardness was alleviated as a result of this. A doctor also volunteered for six months in Champaran.

Talking About The Text:

Discuss the following:

1. "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor." Do you think that the poor of India are free from fear after Independence?

Answer:

Gandhi stated in this story that the true relief for the poor peasants was to be free of fear.

Even after independence, poor literacy rates, a lack of adequate nutrition, and a lack of access to sanitary facilities continue to plague India's poor. Even though many government measures and schemes have been implemented, a lack of awareness of such schemes leads to the underutilization of these helpful measures.

However, a new trend has recently emerged. Non-governmental organizations, private companies, as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs, and concerned individuals have all pitched in to

ensure and uplift the standard and quality of life for the poor and disadvantaged groups. The poor of India will be free of fear as people help one another and develop self-reliance and courage.

2. The qualities of a good leader.

Answer:

Write your own answer

