

Assignment 1

An outline proposal (1000 word equivalent) for a written study on B/ a leading figure in any of the above movements.

For

Assignment 3

A written study (2500 words) of the same protest, resistance or reform movement, or your chosen leading figure(as chosen for assignment 1) assessing their impact and effectiveness.

For this assignment I have chosen to look at a chosen leading figure. I have decided to look at Mahatma Gandhi.

N.B THIS OUTLINE IS VERY MUCH IN NOTE FORM.

Introduction (500 words)

I will start with a very brief background into

Who Mahatma (Sanskrit, "Great Soul or Saint") Gandhi ("Father of India" , Father of the Nation and a "Great Soul in Beggar's Garb")was?.

His Early Life and Education

October 2nd 1869
Porbandar, Gujarat
Hindu family
Father , Karamchad, important leader
Studied law in London
1893 newly qualified lawyer moved to Natal, East Africa

Worked tirelessly in battles against "Untouchability", as well as his dedication to help improve conditions of the oppressed and poor society in India.

Assassinated Jan 30th 1948, by Hindu extremist.
In excess of 1.5 million people marched in his funeral procession.

Controversies - did he do enough to fight Caste system, Racial Segregation, only Partial support of Women's Rights.

Paragraph 1 (800 words)

Reasons/ Influences for his Political Activism - His Father , What Gandhi saw in Natal and the way Indians were being treated there, which then led him to go on to form the Indian Resistance

Form of Resistance/Activism - Non Violent Resistance and Charismatic Leadership, Peaceful Protest Movement.

"Satyagraha" - Non Violent and Truth Focusing to opposing Unfairness. He first brought this form of protest to the forefront in 1894, in Natal, South Eastern Africa , where he led protests to fight anti - Indian legislation.

1915 Gandhi took his form of activism (Satyagraha)to India,

1915 - Elected to Indian National Congress

Strengths - Was able to visualise the status in a society. Was seen as relatable to many.

Weaknesses - Basic principles centred around non violent, self reliance and communal harmony. This form was not the norm for many countries.

Paragraph 2 (600 words)

His most successful accomplishments

“Khadi Movement” - aimed to encourage the use of Indian fabrics , which was a crucial part of “Non- Co-Operation Movement” - advocated the use of Indian goods, thus reducing the dependence on foreign goods.

“Salt March” - walked 240 miles as a protest to the British Government and their salt taxes. 60,000 peaceful demonstrators imprisoned by Britain, which only lead to more support for Gandhi.

“Quit India Movement” - Helped India gain independence after nearly a century of Colonial rule by the British. Firstly campaigned for a voluntary withdrawal by the British from India during the Second World War , Britain refused and instead arrested Gandhi. This lead to widespread demonstrations and a further 100,000 demonstrators were arrested. Eventually Gandhi was released from prison in 1944, at which time Britain began a planned withdrawal from the Indian Subcontinent.

Paragraph 3 (300 words)

Failings and shortcomings - Naivety,

What was and could be learnt from this form of activism and just how important Gandhi was and still is to the present day. Commitment to Justice without the need to resort to any forms of violence

Gandhi's non- violent activism changed the face of Civil Disobedience around the whole World. Martin Luther King followed Gandhi's tactics, for his own Civil Rights Movement and the Dalai Lama was inspired by Gandhi's teachings and his aim to inspire change without the need to incite violence.

Conclusion (300 words)

Conclusion and analysis of essay .

I will also take the opportunity then briefly, to look at if Gandhi's non violent form of Activism can still be effective and appropriate in the present day.

Brief Bibliography of research so far, this will of course expand for the full essay.

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