

Handout A: Quotes

“It is a million times better to appear untrue before the world than to be untrue to ourselves.” - Gandhi, 16 February 1922

“When millions become untruthful and violent, it will mean self-destruction.”
- Gandhi, 28 May 1931

“Slavery consists in submitting to an unjust order, not in suffering ourselves to be kicked. Real courage and humanity consist in not returning a kick for a kick.”
- Gandhi, 18 November 1909

“In its negative form, [ahimsa/nonviolence] means not injuring any living being, whether by body or mind. I may not therefore hurt the person of any wrong-doer, or bear any ill will to him and so cause him mental suffering... In its positive form, ahimsa means the largest love, the greatest charity. If I am a follower of ahimsa, I must love my enemy. I must apply the same rule to the wrong-doer who is my enemy or a stranger to me, as I would to my wrong-doing father or son. A man cannot then practice ahimsa and be a coward at the same time. The practice of ahimsa calls for the greatest courage.”
- Gandhi, October 1916

“Nonviolence is therefore, in its active form, goodwill towards all life. It is pure Love. I read it in the Hindu scriptures, in the Bible, in the Koran.”
- Gandhi, 9 March 1922

“I do not say that the possibility of nonviolence excludes the possibility of revenge when the policy is abandoned. But it does most emphatically exclude the possibility of future revenge after a successful termination of the struggle.”
- Gandhi, 9 March 1922

“I am an uncompromising opponent of violent methods even to serve the noblest of causes. There is, therefore, really no meeting ground between the school of violence and myself.”
- Gandhi, 11 December 1924

“For experience convinces me that permanent good can never be the outcome of untruth and violence.” - Gandhi, 11 December 1924

“I believe in the power of suffering to melt the stoniest heart.”
- Gandhi, 8 December 1921

“For no power on earth can stop the onward march of a peaceful, determined and godly people.” - Gandhi, 8 December 1921