

# SPECTRUM

"Time to open up a new chapter in life, and to explore a larger centre." - Lillian Russell

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## Influence of the French Revolution

- Akshita Sharma, FYBA

The French Revolution obviously had a major impact on Europe and the New World. Historians widely regard the Revolution as one of the most important events in human history. In the short-term, France lost thousands of her countrymen in the form of émigrés, or emigrants who wished to escape political tensions and save their lives. A number of individuals settled in the neighboring countries (chiefly Great Britain, Germany, Austria, and Prussia). However, quite a few also went to the United States. The displacement of these Frenchmen led to a spread of French culture, policies regulating immigration, and a safe haven for Royalists and other counterrevolutionaries to outlast the violence of the French Revolution. The long-term impact on France was profound, shaping politics, society, religion and ideas, and polarizing politics for more than a century. The closer other countries were, the greater and deeper was the French impact, bringing liberalism and the end of many feudal or traditional laws and practices. However, there was also a conservative counter-reaction that defeated Napoleon, reinstated the Bourbon kings, and in some ways reversed the new reforms.

Most of the new nations created by the French were abolished and returned to prewar owners in 1814. However, Frederick Artz emphasizes the benefits the Italians gained from the French Revolution:

For nearly two decades the Italians had excellent codes of law, a fair system of taxation, a better economic situation, and more religious and intellectual toleration than they had known for centuries. Everywhere old physical, economic, and



intellectual barriers had been thrown down and the Italians had begun to be aware of a common nationality. Likewise in Switzerland the long-term impact of the French Revolution has been assessed by Martin:

It proclaimed the equality of citizens before the law, equality of languages, freedom of thought and faith; it created a Swiss citizenship, basis of our modern nationality, and the separation of powers, of which the old regime had no conception; it suppressed internal tariffs and other economic restraints; it unified weights and measures, reformed civil and penal law, authorized mixed marriages (between Catholics and Protestants), suppressed torture and improved justice; it developed education and public works.

The greatest impact came of course in France itself. In addition to effects similar to those in Italy and Switzerland, France saw the introduction of the principle of legal equality, and the downgrading of

the once powerful and rich Catholic Church to just a bureau controlled by the government. Power became centralized in Paris, with its strong bureaucracy and an army supplied by conscripting all young men. French politics were permanently polarized—new names were given, left and right for the supporters and opponents of the principles of the Revolution

The impact of the French Revolution on the Middle East came in terms of the political and military impact of Napoleon's invasion; and in the eventual influence of revolutionary and liberal ideas and revolutionary movements or rebellions. In terms of Napoleon's invasion in 1798, the response by Ottoman officials was highly negative. They warned that traditional religion would be overthrown. Long-standing Ottoman friendship with France ended. Sultan Selim III immediately realized how far behind his empire was, and started to modernize both his army and his governmental system. In Egypt itself, the ruling elite of Mamluks was permanently displaced, speeding the reforms. In intellectual terms, the immediate impact of the French Revolutionary ideas was nearly invisible, but there was a long-range influence on liberal ideas and the ideal of legal equality, as well as the notion of opposition to a tyrannical government. In this regard, the French Revolution brought such influential themes as constitutionalism, parliamentarianism, individual liberty, legal equality, and the sense of ethnic nationalism. These came to fruition about 1876.

In all the French Revolution left a huge impact in France and also the rest of the world.

## Relevance of Satyagraha Today

- Sailee Yadav, SYBA

The term "satyagraha" was first coined by Gandhiji in 1907 when he was in South Africa. It was a particular form of non-violent resistance or civil resistance to oppose the unjust racial discrimination carried out by white people. The term "Satyagraha" includes satya – "truth" and agaraha – "insistence" and this idea was inbuilt into the masses by stating that non-violence was the



most effective and least expensive method to revolt.

Satyagraha can be of two types, one which is violent and unjust by taking away one's rights, and the other is the non-violent way of taking and appealing for the same. Peace is an essential part of Satyagraha and even great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi decided to choose this path of non-violence.

Gandhiji's satyagraha can be taken as resolving conflicts between the masses and opposing community; revolting against the unjust laws and practices not by fighting or killing people but by using non violent methods like non-co-operation. It included strikes, boycott, use of swadeshi goods, taking admissions in Indian schools, resigning from British offices etc. These methods were adopted to make the authorities realize their mistake and thereby solve the problem at its very roots. A protest against the authority by uniting the masses is not only to disparage the authority but also to educate public opinion and bring them under consideration.

Gandhiji believed that violence was wrong as a matter of principle but if we apply this principle of satyagraha to today's world we can see the complete opposite structure - the oneness and unity of people has been lost. Everyone now is working only for their individual benefits. The term "forgive" has evaporated completely at all levels that is at the individual level, state level as well as national level. As the saying goes "The weak can never forgive, forgiveness is the attribute of the strong"

Violence is an instrument which leads only to destruction. It is difficult to practice "Satyagraha" in today's environment as people have lost trust in themselves and also forgotten about the ancient

culture of "Oneness". Terrorism has spread like a contagious disease in the world. It inflicts terrible violence on innocent people and many lives are lost during these terror activities. It creates an explosive atmosphere and all this is undertaken to achieve military or political objectives. Most regions of the world are affected by terror. It can be done for things like revenge, fear, and enthusiasm to prove our particular authority as superior.

Satyagraha is in itself a great way of solving social, economic, political and religious problems. Development and enhancement in the field of science and technology can also become the driving force for such types of communal issues. "The greatness of that nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated". Unfortunately, nowadays humans are treated like animals and also killed for political resistance. This in turn modernizes the term "Satyagraha" and its principles too. Consequently, the main pillars of this ideology that is trust, non-violence, co-operation and unity get damaged completely.

The only way to make this world a peaceful place is to accept a positive change and also to fight and stand with an ideology which is just in a non violent manner and can spread a positive message across nations.

# Adolf Hitler - The Untold Story

- Pooja Dedhia, F.Y.B.A.

**A**dolf Hitler; was a German politician who was the leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany from 1933 to 1945. As dictator he initiated World War II in Europe with the invasion of Poland in September 1939. Hitler was born in Austria, then part of Austria-Hungary, and raised near Linz. He moved to Germany in 1913 and was decorated during his service in the German Army in World War I.



Everyone knows Hitler as one of the most evil persons on earth; a serial murderer and an inhuman person, but very few people know him as a true leader. Many don't know how good a leader he was and how he single handedly controlled the whole of Germany. He ensured that he always led by example and people follow his instruction.

Hitler ruled the Nazi party

autocratically by asserting the "leader" principle. The principle relied on absolute obedience of all subordinates to their superiors. Thus he viewed the government structure as a pyramid, with himself—the infallible leader—at the apex. Rank in the party was not determined by elections—positions were filled through appointment by those of higher rank, who demanded unquestioning obedience to the will of the leader. Hitler's leadership style was to give contradictory orders to his subordinates and to place them into positions where their duties and responsibilities overlapped with those of others, to have "the stronger one do the job". In this way, Hitler fostered distrust, competition, and infighting among his subordinates to consolidate and maximize his own power. His cabinet never met after 1938, and he discouraged his ministers from meeting independently. Hitler typically did not give written orders; instead he communicated verbally, or had them conveyed through his close associates.

"Those who want to live, let them fight, and those who do not want to fight in this world of eternal struggle do not deserve to live." This famous quote by Adolf Hitler was for the people so that they also became fighters. He believed that that every human being is a born fighter; he starts fighting for his basic rights so then why quit and become a coward. Hitler was a man of principles.

He never gave up on his principles; he always ensured that at any given situation he would never compromise on his values and his ethics.

He was a good military strategist and used his very limited resources to gain more and more power. His war techniques forced Poland and France to surrender within a matter of weeks. Hitler served as a soldier in the First World War and proved to be a good soldier. He was awarded many valor decorations and military promotions. He was a visionary and encouraged research and development. During the time Hitler was in power he promoted various programs which led the nation to prosperity. He revolutionized industries and made "Autobahns" all across the country to make travel and transport easy and cheap

Adolf Hitler was extremely confident and passionate, a man of great vision and a tremendous orator to boot. He is known for his eloquence and was very persuasive in his speech. It is also said that he had a photographic memory, and was able to visualize locations based on simply looking at maps. He could quote entire paragraphs from Shopenhauer by memory. Apparently, he was also the brains behind the economic revival of Germany at the time.

Hitler's greatest quality was his unadulterated patriotism. He dedicated his life to uplifting Germany from a

defeated nation to be a dominant nation. His oratory put millions of Germans in frenzy. All were instantly ready to follow him. He motivated Germans to give their best to the country and made it a prosperous nation in less than six years. Corruption, womanizing and wealth never touched Hitler.

He was also a man of extreme conviction, which could be felt in his speeches even if one didn't understand the language. At uncertain times people are drawn to those who are extremely sure of themselves and convinced of their own beliefs. Hitler wasn't the sort of person who had any doubts about his mission or ability. He was incredibly single minded. He wasn't interested in using his position to gain wealth and personal adornments. He was really, really committed to making Germany the world's superpower even if it meant committing genocide. He was ruthless. There are lots of political leaders in the world who would love to be able to dispose of their political enemies permanently but don't have the guts. Hitler was happy to have anyone who disagreed with him murdered and to dispose off his political enemies with either the threat of violence or actual violence. It definitely helped him to obtain and hold power. As long as you're prepared to overlook his total lack of morals, barking insanity and inherently evil ideology he had all the hallmarks of a great leader.

## Does India Need a Revolution To Cure its ills?

- Parita Naik, FYBA

**T**he word 'Revolution' brings to mind several revolutions which the world has witnessed namely The French Revolution that brought down the monarchy, The October Revolution that overthrew the Russian Provisional Government and The Glorious Revolution that took place in England. India has not witnessed a revolution in that sense as those mentioned above. She has experienced wars, rebellions, revolts, unrests, partitions but there has been no revolution on her soil.

India threw away the yolk of foreign rule and gained independence seventy years ago through a policy of non-violence. Since then though the country has experienced several ups and downs there has never really been a need for a revolution. Revolution happens when a government loses the faith of the common man and is incapable of handling crises such as famine, war, or economic downturn. It is an extreme step undertaken by an opposing group to overthrow those in power in order to take control and improve the situation.

What has probably worked in India's favor is that unlike France and Russia which has witnessed revolutions, we do not have a feudal society. We have a more liberal set up

with a tradition of reform. The Green Revolution of the 1960s has probably been the only revolution that we have embarked upon. This event marked an increase in food grain production in the country due to improved agronomic technology. It made the country self-sufficient in agriculture. But the time has come now where we may be required to consider undertaking similar revolutions in various fields, not one but several such revolutions if we are to pull our country out of its sloth and slumber. It is time now for a bloodless revolution. I say bloodless revolution since the country has faced several wars, partitions, rebellions, and armed unrests that has taken a heavy toll on its citizens especially the poorer sections of society.

As a nation we have been fortunate to be a part of a democratic set up where we do not have an autocratic and oppressive rule as in some other parts of the world. Many of our problems are self-made in the name of caste, religion, class, culture, and so many more. Corruption, female infanticide, farmer suicides, and domestic violence are a few of the many social ills in our society. Domestic violence and dowry deaths are two of the most widespread and deeply rooted social ills which also happen to be the most under reported

crimes. Corruption is rampant in every segment of Indian polity and society. While there have been efforts made by the different governments in power to curb this menace and make processes and systems more transparent, we still have a long way to go. The irony of the situation is that fully competent laws exist in the country against dowry and domestic violence; anti-corruption laws and penalty are also in place to punish the defaulters. However, our laws fail to protect the interests of all those concerned. The judicial system has become such a farce with regard to all these above mentioned cases. Therefore it is felt that one way of curbing these ills is by taking up non-violent actions and events that will be more forceful and impactful benefitting the masses at one go.

Despite the severity of the situation it is felt that in a country like ours where majority of the population is below the poverty line, peaceful resistance will work better than a violent one. This is so because firstly, nonviolent campaigns typically attract more participants, including women, elderly folks, educated, illiterates, and others who do not want to take on the risks of carrying weapons and explosives, but are willing to engage in boycotts, strikes or nonviolent

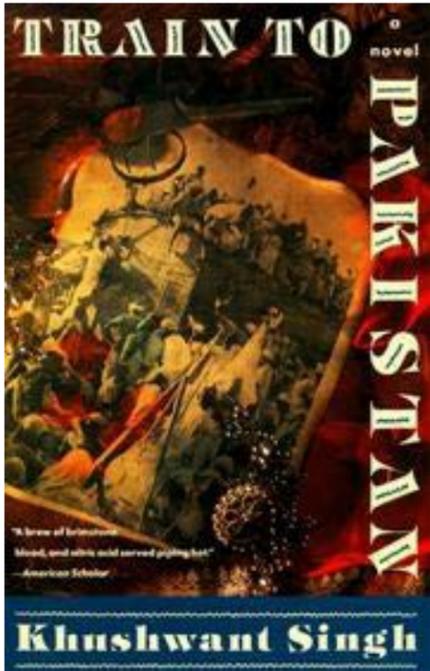
protests. In addition, when the ruling government acts to suppress a nonviolent movement, it is more likely to backfire. Government security forces don't want to fire on unarmed civilians, especially when the crowd includes family, friends and neighbors. And if unarmed civilians are attacked, other citizens are likely to mobilize and the government loses support from the international community and from the other pillars of its own society, such as the local media and the financial sector.



# A Historical Perspective of Train to Pakistan

- Anirudh Nair, FYBA

**T**rain to Pakistan is a highly acclaimed novel by Khushwant Singh, published in 1956.



It is a historical novel that tells the touching story of a Sikh dacoit Juggut Singh and a Muslim girl Nooran set amidst the historical event of the partition of the country.

Singh sets his story in the small

fictional village of Mano Majra on the Indian frontier with a composition of an equal majority of Sikhs and Muslims and a few Hindus. The village though remotely located boasts of a railway station, an officer's bungalow, a mosque and a temple. The three communities have been living peacefully and in harmony with one another since time immemorial. They are simple God fearing people who live in amity with one another and have their own code of conduct which places friendship above everything else. It is in this kind of an environment that Juggut Singh aka "Jugga" and Nooran's love blossoms. Unfortunately Jugga's history as a dacoit catches up with him when his former gang members come looking for him. They implicate him in the robbery and murder of Lala Ram Lal, one of the few Hindus in the village. Jugga along with Iqbal Singh, an ethnic Sikh who had come to Mano Majra to organize the villagers for the People's Party of India are arrested due to local suspicion. It is during their time in prison that Mano Majra gets engulfed in communal violence. The village had so far remained relatively untouched by the violence even as the rest of the

country had begun to feel the tremors of partition. When the flood of refugees from across the border start flowing into India bringing with them their lamentable stories of displacement, arson, rape and murder it begins to affect the villagers of Mano Majra. Furthermore, the vantage location of the village on the railway line on the swelling Sutlej eventually makes it a center of conflict when a trainload of dead bodies of Sikhs and Hindus reaches their village which propels the peace loving communities that had been living together all these years suddenly see each other as the enemy.

Truth meets fiction as Singh gives a vivid account of partition as experienced by the inhabitants of Mano Majra. The communities residing in the village wanted to protect one another and defend their little village from the violence that was raging outside but they became aware that they would not be able to do so. After a long discussion with one another it was decided that those who were in danger must leave the village as their other brethren may not be in a position to save them from the attacking refugees. Singh reveals the sad truth that due to their

circumstances, people were forced to perpetrate violence on one another.

The novel recounts how both sides were brutal to one another. People were subject to all kinds of trauma; murder, rape and loot. In the midst of all this Hukum Chand, the regional magistrate and deputy commissioner of the district, overhears the plot to derail the train that carries Muslims to Pakistan. Chand releases Iqbal Singh and Jugga to rescue the people on board the train which happens to also have Jugga's beloved Nooran. Jugga succeeds in saving the people including Nooran on that fateful train but at the cost of his own life.

What should have been a joyful culmination of decades of anti-British struggle eventually culminated in the partition of the sub-continent into two separate nations on sectarian grounds. Further, the event also goes down as the shameful depiction of the animosity between three communities who turned on each other in a fury of religious bigotry. It turned out to be not only an important event in the history of modern India but in world history.

## Know your Personality



- Janvi Kothari, S.Y.B.A.

- Vini Veera, S.Y.B.A.

**Q:** Tell us something about yourself?

**A:** Hello! I am Roshan Singh and am twenty one years old. I am a student of SYBA course and the official choreographer of S.K Somaiya College. I also work as a chef in Bar Stock Exchange.

**Q:** Why did you decide to become a chef?

**A:** As it is said food is the best way that helps you touch millions of hearts. Similarly, becoming a chef was my personal choice since I had a talent which had the ability to touch millions of hearts. Also, my family has a strong background in the hospitality industry, which will prove to be the stepping stone for me to get into this industry.

**Q:** Tell us something about your work experience.

**A:** We are a team of 4 chefs plus others to assist us. We divide our work accordingly. Each of us specializes in a particular cuisine and together we make sure to give our best in serving our customers with delicious & sumptuous food.

**Q:** Tell us about a difficult situation you have faced and how did you handle it?

**A:** The most difficult situation or let's say the hardest hurdle I faced in my life was the choice given to me by my family to choose between dance and my job as a chef. That was a do or die situation for me as on the one side I had my passion and on the other side I had my responsibility, and I had to choose between them. I managed to convince my parents that I would pursue both, my responsibility and my passion for dancing at the same time.

**Q:** Is there a chef you admire the most? Why?

**A:** There is no chef that I admire the most but in my journey as a chef so far, I have been inspired by many who are already in the field and they are the ones who have motivated and supported me to grow in this industry.

**Q:** What is your favorite cuisine? How many different types of cuisine can you cook?

**A:** As a chef, food is my ultimate favorite but given a choice continental food tops my priority list. My hands show their magic when I cook Oriental and Chinese cuisine.

**Q:** If you were told that your food didn't taste good, what would be the two things you would look into first?

**A:** First of all, I would apologize for the inconvenience caused and then

I would check if the food is cooked properly or not and secondly, whether the ingredients required are added in proper measurements or not.

**Q:** You are also a dancer. Can you tell us something about your experience with dance?

**A:** Dance is a form of art that has the capacity and capability to bring out the best form of emotions hidden within! I started dancing after 10th standard and right from then I have found my passion and probably a way to express my inner self out. Within two years after I started dancing I managed to open my own dance tutorial classes. Teaching dance and helping others feel that happiness of dance was a beautiful experience. One of the best memories I have related to dance is the moment I was selected for screen auditions of INDIA'S DANCING SUPERSTAR- a dance reality show on television.

**Q:** What dance forms do you perform?

**A:** I love to try and experience all the dance types but I have my own expertise and comfort in performing hip-hop, folk and contemporary dance forms.

**Q:** What other hobbies do you have other than cooking and dancing?

**A:** Rapping and playing Kabbadi are two things I enjoy the most after cooking and dancing.

**Q:** How do you manage to cope up

with your studies while pursuing your passions?

**A:** I never find it difficult to manage my studies and passion as I have my college from seven o'clock in the morning. After college I have time until five in the evening to pursue my passion for dance. I was lucky enough to get an evening shift for my job as a chef. Every day when I go to bed I have a feeling of satisfaction as though going through a hectic day has been fun for me because I know I am doing what I love the most!

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in the next five years? As the best dancer or the best chef?

**A:** In five years I wish to see myself as an executive chef and also wish to be capable enough to open my own outlet. The journey towards achieving this goal in my life has already begun!

**Q:** What advice would you offer someone considering a career in dancing?

**A:** Be patient and never give up on your passion for dance. So many dancers have expectations, and when that doesn't happen, frustration sets in and the passion is lost. Also, always have another vocation to help you cope with the finances. You can make a lot of money dancing, but it takes time. So set yourself up so that you can be pulled through without having to stop your dance.

# Selfless Love

- Minal Karani, TY BA

A woman carried me for months nine

She always stood by my side

The one who selflessly loved me

Who crushed her dreams for mine

But I was never there for her side

was awarded with a selfish me

She struggled to meet my needs with no bounds

the one who endured her dreams

The one who relinquished her life for me

Who sacrificed her sleep So I sleep sound

wasn't rewarded with a gleam

Couldn't even get a smiling plea...

She smiled all the while

All that meant her a world,

Through the journey of miles

Wasn't really bothered of her last word,

She lost to make her identity

Till the time her hands could work she was  
greeted with gratitude

Indeed to make my dreams a reality

Latter then dumped like a destitute



## TRIVIA...!!!

- Chandni J. Mehta, SY.B.A.

**Did you know...**



**Sleeping on the left side of the bed makes you more cheerful and positive, study shows.**

**Did you know...**



**All the blinking you do in one day is equal to having your eyes closed for 30 minutes**

**Did you know...?**



**Aluminum dumped into our landfills today will remain there for over 200 years.**

## CROSSWORD (HISTORY)

### Black History Month Word Search Game

Find the words pertaining to African-American history and the civil rights movement.

L	O	P	P	R	E	S	S	I	O	N	Q	D	I	S	I	M
E	S	H	A	R	E	C	R	O	P	P	E	R	R	E	K	N
V	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	L	Y	S	T	X	G	F	K	
R	O	G	Q	B	P	R	O	T	E	S	T	T	F	R	I	N
K	C	L	P	F	M	X	N	W	T	H	Y	A	H	E	W	P
C	N	Q	Y	T	I	L	A	U	Q	E	F	T	J	G	Q	C
I	O	T	T	O	C	Y	O	B	J	R	S	W	I	A	I	O
V	I	H	O	U	Z	U	O	A	I	I	H	Y	M	T	Y	R
I	T	S	F	P	I	U	A	C	N	L	T	A	C	I	R	Y
L	A	W	U	R	V	Z	A	O	F	F	R	N	R	O	E	O
W	R	S	B	F	N	R	I	U	R	C	A	O	O	N	V	S
A	G	D	S	A	F	T	E	E	H	M	I	R	W	P	A	U
R	E	K	W	R	I	R	E	V	B	G	J	T	V	C	L	B
H	T	K	F	L	C	D	A	U	R	M	V	O	W	A	S	C
I	N	T	O	T	O	V	T	G	R	A	T	Q	W	A	W	O
I	I	B	O	M	I	W	I	M	E	E	C	M	O	N	R	X
L	A	H	H	T	R	O	N	H	T	U	O	S	H	Y	F	N

- ABOLITIONIST
- AFRICA
- BOYCOTT
- BUS
- CARVER
- CIVILWAR
- EQUALITY
- FREEDOM
- INTEGRATION
- JIMCROW
- JUSTICE
- KWANZAA
- MARCH
- NAACP
- NORTH
- OPPRESSION
- PROTEST
- RIGHTS
- SEGREGATION
- SHARECROPPER
- SLAVERY
- SOUTH
- SUFFRAGE
- TUBMAN
- VOTE

## • Comic Strip •



**Panel 1:** I SPENT FOUR MONTHS CREATING THIS APP. MOM, I THINK I CAN SELL A MILLION OF THEM FOR \$3.99.

**Panel 2:** I SAW SEVEN APPS JUST LIKE THIS IN THE APP STORE AND FIVE OF THEM WERE FREE.

**Panel 3:** THANKS FOR THE FEEDBACK, DREAM-KILLER. HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF JUST USING YOUR FIRST NAME, LIKE MADONNA?

## \*SUDOKU\*

7	1	3	9		5	7	6	1	3	4	9	8	2	5
			1	6	4	3	8	2	7	5	1	6	9	4
5	4			7		5	9	4	2	8	6	7	3	1
				1		6	2	5	9	7	3	4	1	8
8	7	6	4	9		4	1	9	5	2	8	3	7	6
	1	5		3	6	9	4	3	1	6	5	2	8	7
9	3		6	5		2	5	8	4	9	7	1	6	3
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		8	3		9									