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Class-XII

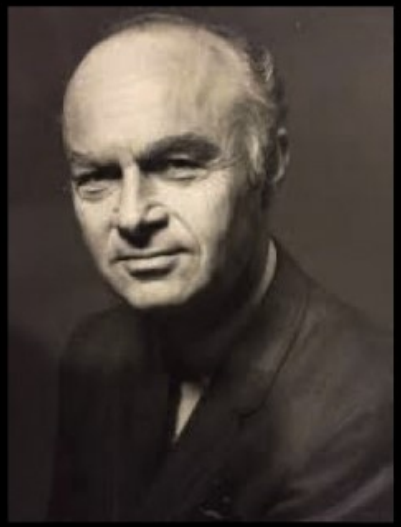
English

Flamingo

Chapter-5

Indigo

Part - 3



Louis Fischer

Neha Rajvanshi

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cooperation : सहयोग
regulate : नियंत्रित करना
concrete : पक्का
baffled: भ्रमित



The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians.

The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial.

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Apparently: स्पष्ट रुप से
conflict of duties: दुविधा
render : सहयोग देना
humanitarian : मानवता

Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors. Gandhi protested against the delay. He read a statement pleading guilty. He was involved, he told the court, in a "conflict of duties"— on the one hand, not to set a bad example as a lawbreaker; on the other hand, to render the "humanitarian and national service" for which he had come.

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disregarded : मना करना
conscience : चेतना
pronounce : सुनाना
bail : जमानत

He disregarded the order to leave, "not for want of respect for lawful authority, but in obedience to the higher law of our being, the voice of conscience". He asked the penalty due.

The magistrate announced that he would pronounce sentence after a two-hour recess and asked Gandhi to furnish bail for those 120 minutes. Gandhi refused.

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reconvened: पुन: बुलाना
prominent : प्रभावशाली

The judge released him without bail.

When the court reconvened, the judge said he would not deliver the judgment for several days. Meanwhile he allowed Gandhi to remain at liberty Rajendra Prasad, Brij Kishor Babu, Maulana Mazharul Huq and several other prominent lawyers had arrived from Bihar.

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conferred : बातचीत करना

They conferred with Gandhi. What would they do if he was sentenced to prison, Gandhi asked. Why, the senior lawyer replied, they had come to advise and help him; if he went to jail there would be nobody to advise and they would go home.

What about the injustice to the sharecroppers, Gandhi demanded.

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The lawyers withdrew to consult. Rajendra Prasad has recorded the upshot of their consultations — "They thought, amongst themselves, that Gandhi was totally a stranger, and yet he was prepared to go to prison for the sake of the peasants; if they,

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adjoining : करीबी
desertion: पलायन

on the other hand, being not only residents of the adjoining districts but also those who claimed to have served these peasants, should go home, it would be shameful desertion."



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exclaimed: कहना

They accordingly went back to Gandhi and told him they were ready to follow him into jail. "Thebattle of Champaran is won," he exclaimed. Then he took a piece of paper and divided the group into pairs and put down the order in which each pair was to court arrest.

province : प्रान्त / प्रदेश

Civil disobedience : सविनय अवज्ञा

triumphed: जीतना

far-flung : विस्तृत

grievances : शिकायत

Several days later, Gandhi received a written communication from the magistrate informing him that the Lieutenant-Governor of the province had ordered the case to be dropped. Civil disobedience had triumphed, the first time in modern India. Gandhi and the lawyers now proceeded to conduct a far-flung inquiry into the grievances of the farmers.

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Depositions : किसी को पद से हटाना
evidence: सबूत
vehement : उग्र / प्रचण्ड
summoned : बुलाना



Depositions by about ten thousand peasants were written down, and notes made on other evidence. Documents were collected. The whole area throbbed with the activity of the investigators and the vehement protests of the landlords. In June, Gandhi was summoned to Sir Edward Gait, the Lieutenant-Governor.

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associates : सहयोगी
protracted : बहुत लम्बे

Before he went he met leading associates and again laid detailed plans for civil disobedience if he should not return.

Gandhi had four protracted interviews with the Lieutenant Governor who, as a result, appointed an official commission of inquiry into the indigo sharecroppers' situation.

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sole : एकमात्र
representative : प्रतिनिधि
uninterrupted : लगातार

The commission consisted of landlords, government officials, and Gandhi as the sole representative of the peasants. Gandhi remained in Champaran for an initial uninterrupted period of seven months and then again for several shorter visits.

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entreaty : निवेदन
assembled : इकट्ठा करना

The visit, undertaken casually on the entreaty of an unlettered peasant in the expectation that it would last a few days, occupied almost a year of Gandhi's life. The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of evidence against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants.