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সৰ্বশিক্ষা অভিযান, অসম
সকলোৱে পঢ়ো সকলোৱে আগবাঢ়ো

CLASS - X

ENGLISH

First Flight

CHAPTER - 2

NELSON MANDELA
LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

Part – 2

The Inauguration

Nipa Das

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Today, all of us do, by our presence here... confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud.

Confer	:	যাঁচি দিয়া
Liberty	:	স্বাধীনতা
Disaster	:	দুর্যোগ
Extraordinary	:	অসাধাৰণ

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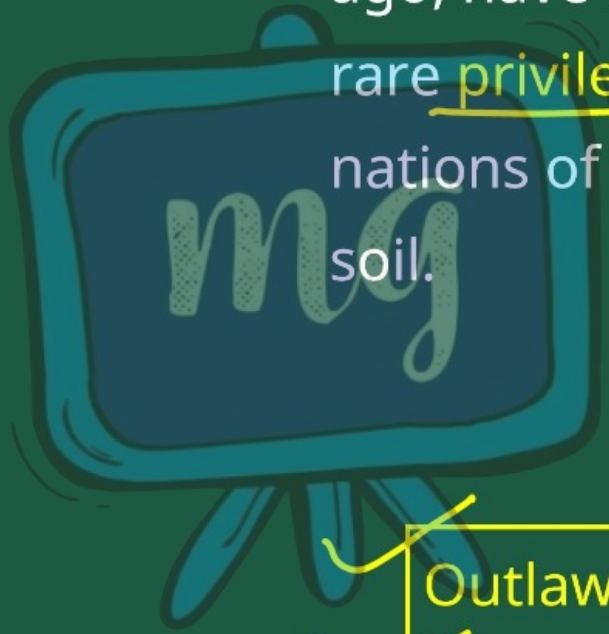
We, who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil.



Outlaws	:	বেআইনী
Privilege	:	বিশেষ অধিকাৰ

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We thank all of our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is, after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity.

Distinguished : সন্মানিত

Dignity : সন্মান

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We have, at last, achieved our political emancipation. We pledge ourselves to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering and gender discrimination.

Emancipation : নিষেধাজ্ঞাৰ পৰা মুক্তি
Deprivation : সুবিধাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত
Discrimination : বৈষম্য

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Never, never, and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another. The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement. Let freedom reign. God bless Africa!

Oppression	:	অত্যাচাৰ
Reign	:	শাসন

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A few moments later we all lifted our eyes in awe as a spectacular array of South African jets, helicopters and troop carriers roared in perfect formation over the Union Buildings.

awe	:	আশ্চর্য
spectacular	:	চমৎকাৰ
array	:	প্ৰদৰ্শন

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It was not only a display of pinpoint precision and military force, but a demonstration of the military's loyalty to democracy, to a new government that had been freely and fairly elected.

Precision : স্পষ্টতা

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Only moments before, the highest generals of the South African defence force and police, their chests bedecked with ribbons and medals from days gone by, saluted me and pledged their loyalty.



Bedecked : সজ্জিত

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I was not unmindful of the fact that not so many years before they would not have saluted but arrested me. Finally a chevron of Impala jets left a smoke trail of the black, red, green, blue and gold of the new South African flag.





Not unmindful : জ্ঞাত

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The day was symbolised for me by the playing of our two national anthems, and the vision of whites singing 'Nkosi Sikelel - iAfrika' and blacks singing 'Die Stem', the old anthem of the Republic.

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Although that day neither group knew the lyrics of the anthem they once despised, they would soon know the words by heart. On the day of the inauguration, I was overwhelmed with a sense of history.

Despised	:	ঘৃণা কৰা
Overwhelmed	:	আপ্লুত হোৱা

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1900 – 1909

1899 – 1902

In the first decade of the twentieth century, a few years after the bitter Anglo-Boer war and before my own birth, the white-skinned peoples of South Africa patched up their differences and erected a system of racial domination against the dark-skinned peoples of their own land.

Patched up	:	সমাধান কৰিবলৈ
Erected	:	নিৰ্মাণ কৰিবলৈ

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1991 – 1999

The structure they created formed the basis of one of the harshest, most inhumane, societies the world has ever known. Now, in the last decade of the twentieth century, and my own eighth decade as a man,

80

Harshest : কঠোৰতম

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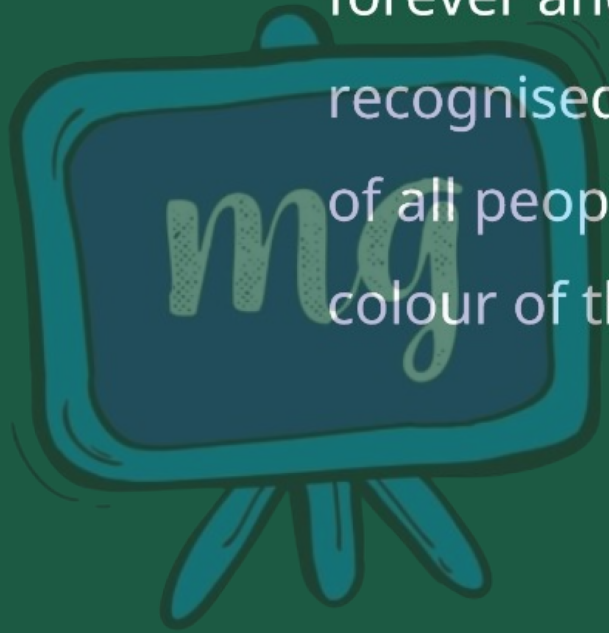
that system had been overturned forever and replaced by one that recognised the rights and freedoms of all peoples, regardless of the colour of their skin.



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That day had come about through the unimaginable sacrifices of thousands of my people, people whose suffering and courage can never be counted or repaid. I felt that day, as I have on so many other days, that I was simply the sum of all those African patriots who had gone before me.

Sacrifices	:	ত্যাগ
Patriots	:	দেশপ্রেমিক

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ASSESSMENT

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1 What was the main theme of Nelson Mandela's speech during the inauguration?

- A Economic development
- B Political revolution
- C Human rights and equality
- D Environmental sustainability

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2 Mandela's speech during the inauguration emphasized economic development.

A True

B False

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3 Thabo Mbeki was sworn in as the second deputy president during Mandela's inauguration.

A True

B False