

My Experiments with Truth Summary: Part-Wise Summary

The book is chronological and consists of an introduction with 5 parts containing chapters and a conclusion. Let's know more about these parts and My Experiments with Truth Book summary:

Part 1

In the first part, Mahatma Gandhi talks about his childhood, adolescence, and the influence of his religiously tolerant father and deeply spiritual mother on his upbringing. He also narrates how his parents determined to get him married at an early age to Kasturbai through a child marriage when he was only 13. Kasturbai, like him, was also a child.

This part also describes how Gandhi became a father after Kasturbai became pregnant with their first child. Following the death of his father, a family friend encouraged him to study law in England to uphold the family's high social status. Despite facing resistance from his caste, which considered overseas travel against their religion, Gandhi chose to follow his ambition.

However, his mother was worried that the foreign culture would lead him astray—fearing he might drink alcohol, eat meat, or be unfaithful to his wife.

But, he pledges not to touch all these and promises not to break the trust of his mother. Eventually starting his England journey and returns only after he becomes a barrister.

Part 2

The second part of the story of My Experiments with Truth covers the details of Gandhi's experience with devising the method of Non-violence and its application in South Africa, where he started his law practice. During his time there, he was thrown off a train due to "*colour prejudice*" (his term for racism), which deeply impacted him and motivated him to fight against injustice.

He also pursued religious studies and established the Natal Indian Congress to represent the rights of the Indian community. Later, he returned to India, where he met his mentor Gokhale and others, but he was soon summoned back to South Africa to continue his "public labour," as he referred to the ongoing agitation for rights and justice.

Part 3

Mahatma Gandhi further dives deep into the practice of self-control. Although by this time he had four kids with Kasturbai, he accepted his life of celibacy. He also commanded an Indian hospital corps during the Boer War, showcasing his commitment to service.

He talks about finding his master Gokhale and his palace in the Indian National Congress. During this time, he worked as an attorney in India. He also highlights his religious convictions when he opposed a doctor's request to give his second son beef broth during an illness, demonstrating his steadfastness in keeping his mother's promise of being a vegetarian.

Part 4

This part covers mostly how he fights against the Asiatic Department in the Transvaal and his personal lifestyle. He also talks about providing legal guidance to the Johannesburg Indians in property acquisition disputes.

He points out that his routine and his living conditions as a celibate are more disciplined. He talks about having a diet including fruits and nuts. Gandhi also endorses the life of celibacy and considers it as a pure process to seek the truth.

Part 5

In the fifth part of his autobiography, Gandhi depicts his political journey. His fight for peasants of the [Camparan Satyagraha](#) and his conviction against the [Rowlatt Act](#), the suspension of [Satyagraha](#) when violence knocked on his doors and the various editing and printing of magazines and newspapers, attending the sessions of the Congress and his resolution of [Non-Cooperation](#).

In the Introduction, he wishes to have self-realization and attain Moksha, and eventually by the conclusion he admits that his life is so public that he cannot add much to let people know of anything new.