

WORKSHEET - V

DAY 1

1. Gandhi's first meeting with Shukla was at Lucknow. Later, he went to Calcutta, Patna, and Muzaffarpur before arriving at Champaran.
2. Gandhi was accompanied by Rajkumar Shukla, whom they knew to be a poor indigo sharecropper. Thus, when the servants saw them together, they mistook Gandhi to be another peasant.
3. The average Indians in smaller localities were afraid to show sympathy for the advocates of home-rule. Gandhi stayed at Muzaffarpur for two days at home of Professor Malkani.
4. Rajkumar Shukla is described as being 'resolute' as even after being told about the prior engagements of Gandhi at Cawnpore and other parts across the country.
5. In Patna, Rajkumar Shukla led Gandhi to a lawyer, Rajendra Prasad. The servants knew Shukla as a poor peasant and when he arrived at his house with Gandhi, the peasants mistook him for peasant.

DAY 2

1. The lawyers decided to return home if Gandhiji was arrested but soon they realised their mistake. When they declared that they would fight for peasants in the event of Gandhiji's arrest and volunteered to court arrest for cause of sharecroppers, Gandhiji was pleased and exclaimed, "The battle of Champaran is won!"
2. The peasants paid the entire indigo harvest, which they had to cultivate on 15% of land as a rent to British. They wanted to release the peasants from this arrangement, provided they compensate for being released.
3. The peasants paid indigo to British as rent. So, they wanted money as compensation for being released from 15% arrangement. The price of natural indigo would go down due to synthetic indigo.
4. The landlords forced peasants to plant Indigo on 15% of their land. All the Indigo produce had to be surrendered as rent and the peasants felt sour about it.
5. The sharecropping agreement seemed irksome to the peasants. Therefore, many of them signed willingly. However, others engaged lawyers to fight their cases. So, the landlords hired thugs.

DAY 3

1. The interviews that Gandhi had with the Lieutenant Governor had beneficial effects for peasants. An official commission was set up for enquiry into the sharecroppers' grievances. This commission comprised landlords, govt. officials and also Gandhi as peasants' representative.
2. Gandhi asked the lawyers what they would do if he was sentenced to prison and the lawyers said they would go home. Gandhi asked them about the injustice to sharecroppers. The lawyers realised their mistake and followed him to jail.
3. The peasants were saved from spending time and money on court cases. After some years, the British planters gave up control of their estates. These now reverted to the peasants; indigo sharecropping disappeared.
4. Prof. J.B. Kriplani came with his students to receive Gandhi at station and made arrangements at Muzzaffarpur for him. Thousands of ordinary people gathered at Matihari to protest against Gandhi's arrest.
5. Gandhi stood for the sharecroppers, which were being exploited by Britishers. He succeeded in getting justice through non-violence and civil disobedience. He agreed going to jail also. With the support of lawyers, he won the battle.