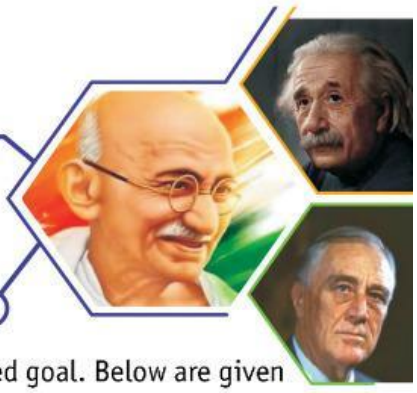


Chapter 30

Torchbearers

A torchbearer is a person who leads or inspires others in working towards a valued goal. Below are given the descriptions of some torchbearers. Read about them :

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

Irish writer Wilde's plays included biting social satire. He was noted for his wit and charm. He is remembered for his epigrams, his novel The Picture of Doricin Gray and his play.





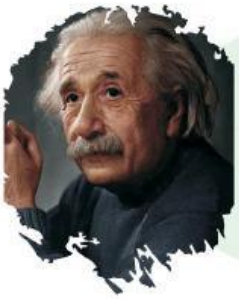
Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1945)

Indian nationalist and politician Gandhi believed in non violent resistance to British rule. He sought to help the 'untouchable' caste and also reconcile Hindu and Muslims.

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Prime Minister of Great Britain during second world war, Churchill played a key role in strengthening British resolve in the dark days of 1940.





Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

German/American physicist, Einstein made ground breaking discoveries in the field of relativity. Einstein was also a noted humanitarian and peace activist.

Franklin D Roosevelt (1882-1945)

US President (1932-1945) Roosevelt led the US through its most turbulent time of the great depression and world war II.





Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)

Dictator of Nazi Germany, Hitler sought to conquer Europe and Russia, starting world war IInd. Also responsible for the holocaust, in which Jews and other victims were killed.

Dwight Eisenhower (1890-1969)

Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during the world war II. Eisenhower also became the President of USA from 1953-1961.





Charles De Gaulle (1890-1970)

French politician, De Gaulle became leader of the 'Free French' after the fall of France in 1940. Became President after the war, writing the constitution of the 5th Republic.

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Chairman Mao (1893-1976)

Mao lead the Chinese Communist party to power during the long march and fight against the nationalists. Mao ruled through the 'cultural revolution' until his death in 1976.



Nelson Mandela (1918-2013)

The first President of democratic South Africa in 1994, Mandela was imprisoned by the apartheid regime for 27 years, but on his release helped to heal the wounds of apartheid through forgiveness and reconciliation.



Martin Luther King Jr (1929-1968)

Martin Luther King was a powerful leader of the non-violent civil rights movement. His 1963 speech 'I have a dream' was a pinnacle moment.





John F Kennedy (1917-1963)

US President (1961-1963), J F Kennedy helped to avert nuclear war during the Cuban missile crisis. He also began to support the civil rights movement before his assassination in Dallas, November 1963.



Pope John Paul II (1920-2005)

Polish Pope from 1978-2005, Pope John Paul is credited with bringing together different religions and playing a role in the end of Communism in Eastern Europe.



Dalai Lama (1935)

Spiritual and political leader of Tibetans, Dalai Lama was forced into exile by the invading Chinese. He is a leading figure for non-violence and spirituality.



Mikhail Gorbachev (1931-2008)

Leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev oversaw transition from communism in Eastern Europe to democracy. He was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1990.

Think Fast

Name these Indian reformers :

1 

2 

3 

4 

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