

# **QUOTES BY FOUNDING FATHERS AND OTHERS ON CITIZENS' DUTIES**

## **MAHATMA GANDHI**

1. "The true source of rights is duty. If we all discharge our duties, right will not be far to seek. If leaving duties unperformed we run after rights, they will escape us like a will-o'-the-wisp. The more we pursue them, the farther they fly".
2. "Right is duty well performed".
3. "A duty well performed creates a corresponding right."
4. "The spinning wheel means national consciousness and a contribution by every individual to definite constructive national work".
5. "A duty religiously performed carries with it several other important consequences."
6. "Today everyone wants to know what his rights are, but if a man learns to discharge his duties right from childhood and studies the sacred books of his faith he automatically exercises his rights too".
7. "I learnt my duties on my mother's lap. She was an unlettered village woman...She knew my dharma. Thus if from my childhood we learn what our dharma is and try to follow it our rights look after themselves... The beauty of it is that the very performance of a duty secures us our right. Rights cannot be divorced from duties. This is how satyagraha was born, for I was always striving to decide what my duty was."
8. "The very right to live accrues to us only when we do the duty of citizenship of the world. From this one fundamental statement, perhaps it is easy enough to define the duties of man and woman, and correlate every right



to some corresponding duty to be first performed. Every other right can be shown to be usurpation hardly worth fighting for.”

9. “A man can give up a right, but he may not give up a duty without being guilty of a grave dereliction”.
10. “Out of the performance of duties flow rights, and those that knew and performed their duties came naturally by their rights”.
11. “Performance of duty and observance of morality are convertible terms”.
12. “The Constituent Assembly is discussing the rights of the citizen. That is to say they are deliberating on what the fundamental rights should be. As a matter of fact the proper question is not what the right of a citizen are, but rather what constitutes the duties of a citizen. Fundamental rights can only be those rights the exercise of which is not only in the interest of the citizen but that of the whole world”.
13. “A pure fast, like duty, is its own reward”.
14. “A national spirit is necessary for national existence. A flag is a material aid to the development of such a spirit”.
15. “No people have risen who thought only of rights. Only those did so who thought of duties”.
16. “Violence becomes imperative when an attempt is made to assert rights without any reference to duties”.
17. “I know, too, that performance of one’s duty should be independent of public opinion”.
18. “No displeasure, even of the dearest friends, can put me off the duty I see clearly in front of me”.
19. “I know that not only is Swaraj our birthright, but it is our sacred duty to win it”.
20. “Swaraj means ability to regard every inhabitant of India as our own brother or sister.”
21. “A nation’s culture resides in the hearts and in the souls of its people.”

22. "Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization"
23. "A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history".
24. "The golden rule of conduct is mutual toleration, seeing that we will never all think alike and we shall always see Truth in fragment and from different points of vision".
25. "Greatness of a nation is judged by the way its animals are treated".
26. "Be the change you wish to see in others".

### **B.R. AMBEDKAR**

1. "Constitutional morality is not a natural sentiment. It has to be cultivated".
2. "However good a Constitution may be, if those who are implementing it are not good, it will prove to be bad. However, bad a Constitution may be, if those implementing it are good, it will prove to be good".
3. "Democracy is not merely a form of Government. It is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience. It is essentially an attitude of respect and reverence towards our fellow men".
4. "Constitution is not a mere lawyers document, it is a vehicle of life and its spirit is always the spirit of age".
5. "If things go wrong in the new Constitution, the reason will not be that we had a bad Constitution, what we will have to say that Man was vile".
6. "So long as you do not achieve social justice, whatever freedom is provided by the law to you will be of no avail".

## **SARDAR PATEL**

1. "Every Indian should now forget that he is a Rajput, a Sikh or a Jat. He must remember that he is an Indian and he has every right in his country but with certain duties".
2. "By common endeavor we can raise the country to a new greatness, while a lack of unity will expose us to fresh calamities".
3. "Non-violence has to be observed in thought, word and deed. The measure of our non-violence will be the measure of our success".

## **RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

1. "मैंने स्वप्न देखा की जीवन आनंद है। मैं जागा और पाया की जीवन सेवा है। मैंने सेवा की और पाया की सेवा में ही आनंद है".

## **SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE**

1. "One individual may die for an idea but that idea will after his death incarnate itself in a thousand lives"

## **SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**

1. "Every nation has a message to deliver, a mission to fulfill, a destiny to reach. The mission of India has been to guide humanity".
2. "Arise, awake and stop not till the goal is achieved"

## **SAROJINI NAIDU**

1. "We want deeper sincerity of motive, a greater courage in speech and earnestness in action".

## **APJ ABDUL KALAM**

1. "As a young citizen of India, armed with technology and love for my nation, I realize, a small aim is a crime".
2. "Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man."