

## GANDHI IN CHAMPARAN: A REVISIT

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Champaran Satyagraha is generally described as Gandhiji's first significant non-political grassroots struggle for the cause of poor and exploited peasants in Champaran district in North Bihar located in the foot hills of Himalayas. British Planters had moved in to Champaran area in the early nineteenth century and took over the cultivation from gawky Zamindars and thekedars. The British planters forced the tenant farmers to cultivate indigo (Neel) in three twentieth part of a Bigha of their operational holding.*

*Nanda has noted that after collecting and presenting evidence of 8,000 tenants. Gandhiji had thoroughly acquainted himself with all possible agrarian problems in the region.*

*The Banias were mostly outsiders who purchases with avidity the propriety rights of the Zamindars and peasants when they came under the operation of the sale law. As village money lenders they also practiced unmitigated usury.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Peasant Movements, Non-Violence, The Satyagraha*