



Centurion
UNIVERSITY
*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...*

Module 2: How Gandhi is different from Marx?

Dr. Bibhunandini Das



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

Similarity between Gandhi and Marx

- Establishment of stateless and classless society
- Emphasis is on equal status and equal distribution of wealth for the lower working or labour class



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...*

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

❖ CONCEPTION OF IDEAL STATES

- Class Collaboration (Gandhi)
 - Non-violent means
- Class Conflict (Marx)
 - Violent means



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

❖ CAPITALISM

- # How Gandhi is different from Marx?
- Non-violent Means
 - Economic decentralization
 - Encouraging cottage industries
 - Making the capitalist trustees
 - Violent Means
 - No faith in economic decentralization
 - Remove government through revolution



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

❖ SPIRITUALISM Vs. MATERIALISM

- Spiritualism

- Gandhi was spiritualist
- Staunch believer in God
- Did not attach any importance to materialism and luxuries of life
- Man should have minimum needs
- Did not attach any importance to politics devoid of religion



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

- Materialism

- Marx did not believe in God
- For Marx religion as opium for the workers- religion made man a fatalist
- Did not allow discontentment to arise in the workers against capitalism
- Hence lacked organization and enthusiasm needed for revolution
- Marx was materialist and gave materialistic and economic interpretation of history
- Stressed the importance of economic factors



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

❖ CLASS WAR

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

- Mahatma Gandhi- Class struggle brought ruin to the country and it made production of goods fall considerably
- All propertied persons were not bad
- Capitalist should become the trustees of the country's wealth
- Should use their genius for the common weal
- Should fix a normal profit in consultation with the society
- All classes should co-operate with one another in order to increase production
- In favour of cottage industries



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...*

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

- **CLASS WAR**

- Marx had a deep faith in class struggle
- Existence of two classes in each country- exploiters and exploited
- Capitalists are exploiters and workers are the exploited
- There can never be compromise between the two
- There would be continuous conflict between the two



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

Investment of Capital

- Marxist- should be socialism of the means of production
- Transfer to it to the control of all industries
- Mahatma Gandhi allows the investment of private capital but not exploitation through it
- Gandhi wants to make the capitalist trustees of the national wealth
- If capitalists don't agree- ready to give the power to the state to control the industries of the capitalists
- Gandhi was ready to accept private ownership on land, while Marx was not
- Gandhi was in favour of co-operative farming while Marx was in favour of collective farming



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

How Gandhi is different from Marx?

❖ DEMOCRACY Vs. DICTATORSHIP

- Gandhi had a strong faith on Democracy
- There should be decentralization of power
- Panchayats should be given more powers
- Supporter of welfare states
- Marxists believe in Dictatorship of the proletariat
- Want to give maximum powers to the workers