

**Boys Who Grew
Up to Change the**



Lionel Messi



Mahatma Gandhi

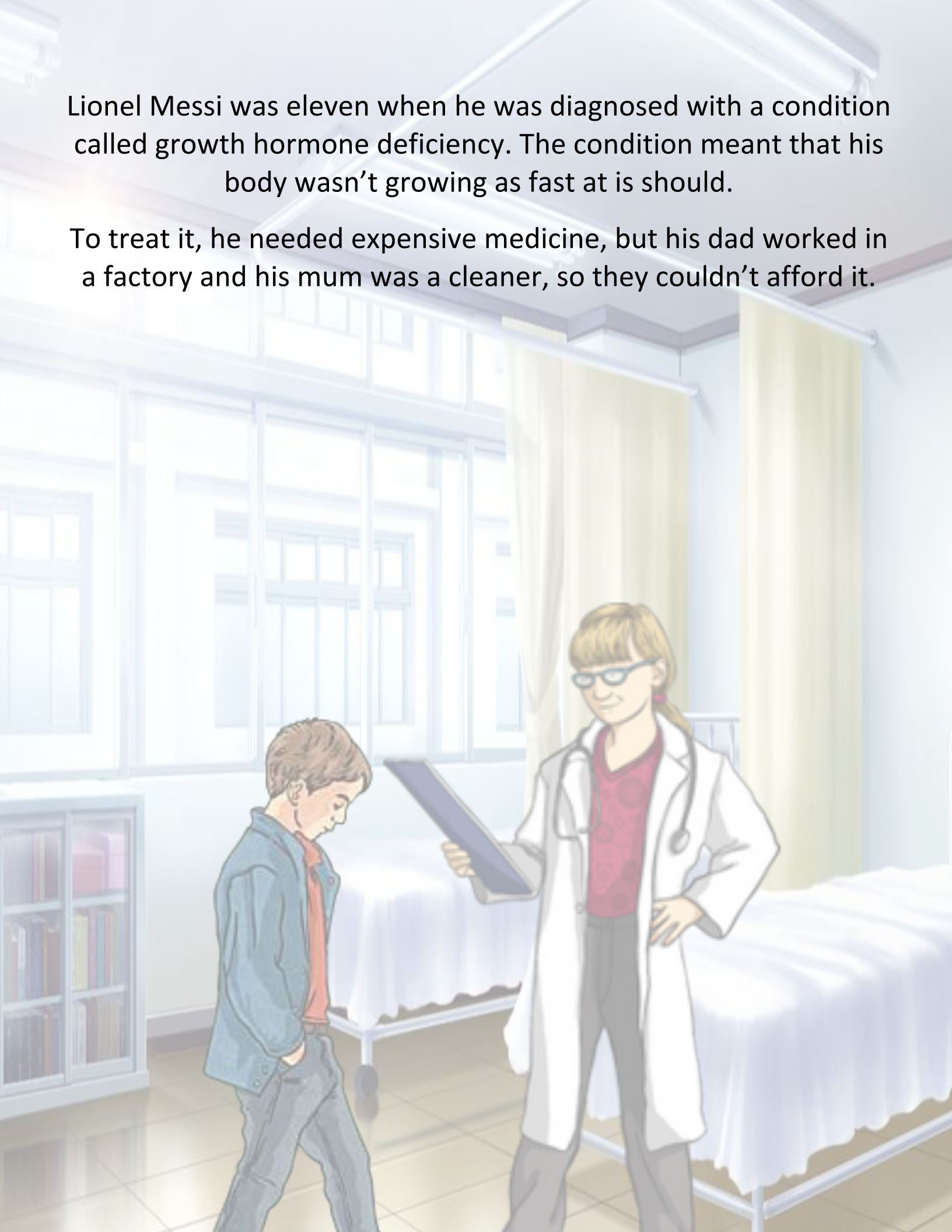
Lionel Messi

(Born 1987)



Lionel Messi was eleven when he was diagnosed with a condition called growth hormone deficiency. The condition meant that his body wasn't growing as fast as it should.

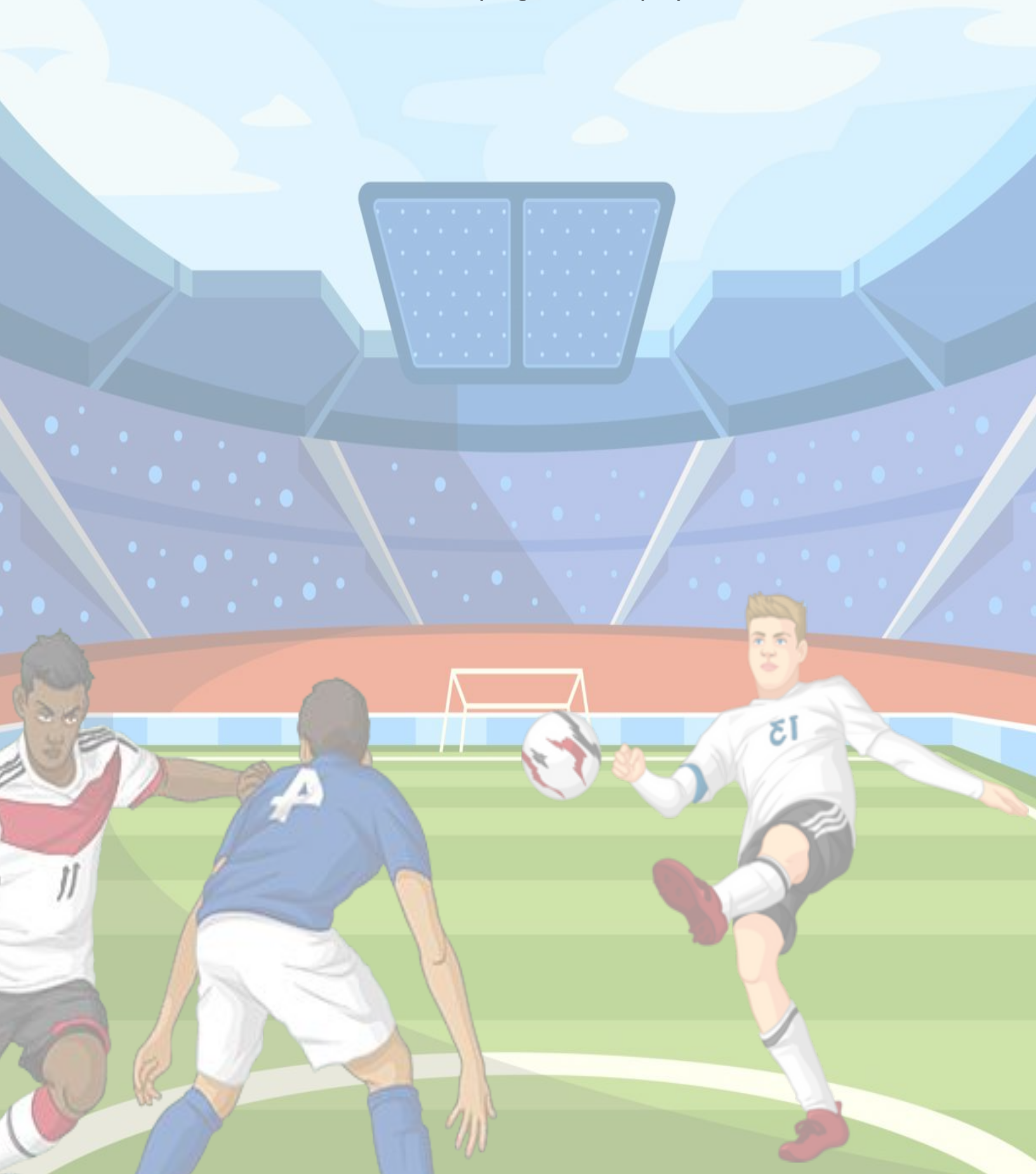
To treat it, he needed expensive medicine, but his dad worked in a factory and his mum was a cleaner, so they couldn't afford it.



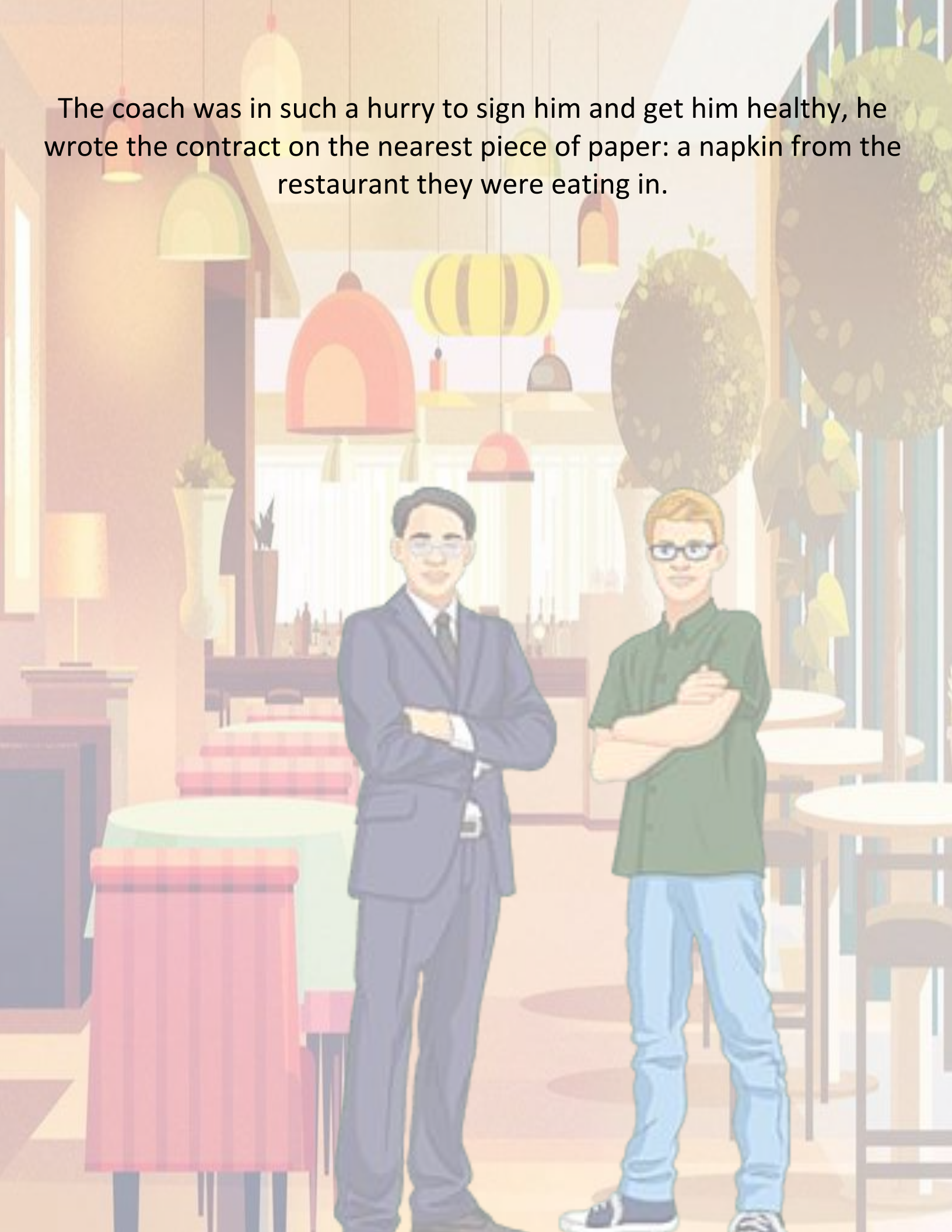
Even at that age, Messi showed amazing talent as a footballer, and a team in his country, Argentina, wanted to sign him. But the team couldn't pay for his medicine, so he had to turn them down.



Next, Messi tried out for the Barcelona team, which he impressed the coach so much that they agreed to pay for his treatment.



The coach was in such a hurry to sign him and get him healthy, he wrote the contract on the nearest piece of paper: a napkin from the restaurant they were eating in.



Very quickly, Messi proved himself to be one of the greatest footballers in history.

In 2012, he broke the record for the most goals scores in a year. The previous record was eighty-five and had stood for forty years. That year, Messi scored ninety-one.



When he was asked to move to the English Premier League, he said no. when he was offered more money than any footballer ever, to join a Russian team, Messi said no to that too. He still felt loyal to Barcelona, who'd helped him as a child when he needed it most.



And because he knows how it feels to need help, he now campaigns for the rights of children, runs his own charity and donates money to hospitals so they can afford to care for young people that need it.



Gràcies - Gracias - Thank you - Merci
Obrigado - Grazie - Dankjewel

Leo Messi

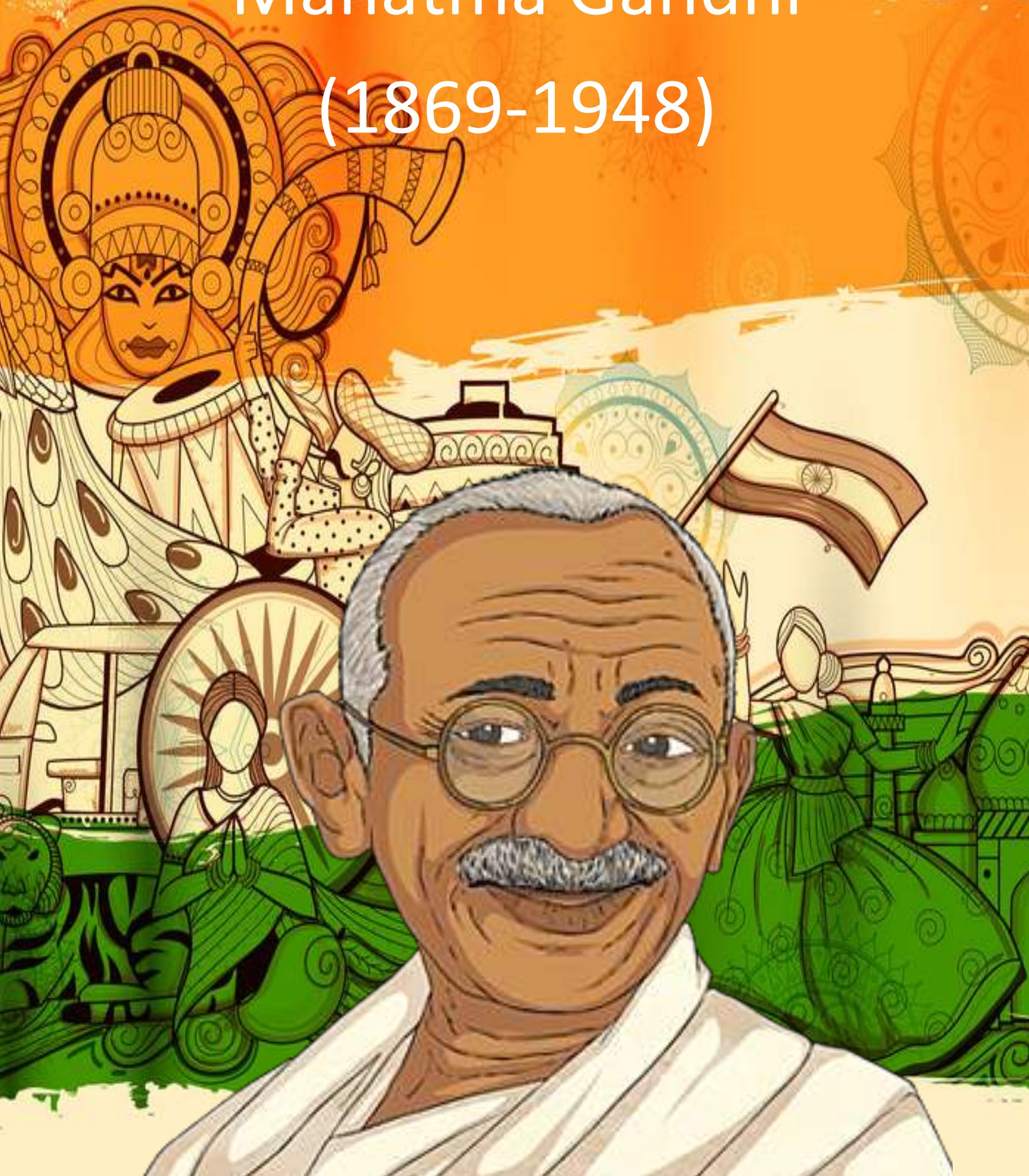
- Joseph, 10, Make-A-Wish UK
- Courtney, 18, Make-A-Wish UK
- Jack, 9, Make-A-Wish UK
- Dorian, 13, Make-A-Wish Belgium South
- Berkley, 13, Make-A-Wish Belgium South
- Anthony, 11, Make-A-Wish Switzerland
- Markus, 15, Make-A-Wish Italy
- Sam, 10, Make-A-Wish France
- Adam, 10, Make-A-Wish Ireland
- Thomas, 18, Make-A-Wish Ireland
- Luisinho, 10, Make-A-Wish Portugal
- Sebastian, 7, Make-A-Wish Slovenia
- Edgen, 12, Make-A-Wish Northwestern California
- Adrian, 9, Make-A-Wish Washington
- David, 11, Make-A-Wish San Diego
- Andrew, 12, Make-A-Wish Philadelphia
- Quinn, 8, Make-A-Wish Philadelphia
- David, 11, Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area
- Jason, 8, Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area
- Bennett, 10, Make-A-Wish Wisconsin
- Orwell, 13, Make-A-Wish Central Washington
- Alfred, 20, Make-A-Wish Orange County
- Andrew, 8, Make-A-Wish Orange County
- Boyer, 10, Make-A-Wish North Texas
- Fernando, 16, Make-A-Wish North Texas
- Kyle, 13, Make-A-Wish Southern Florida

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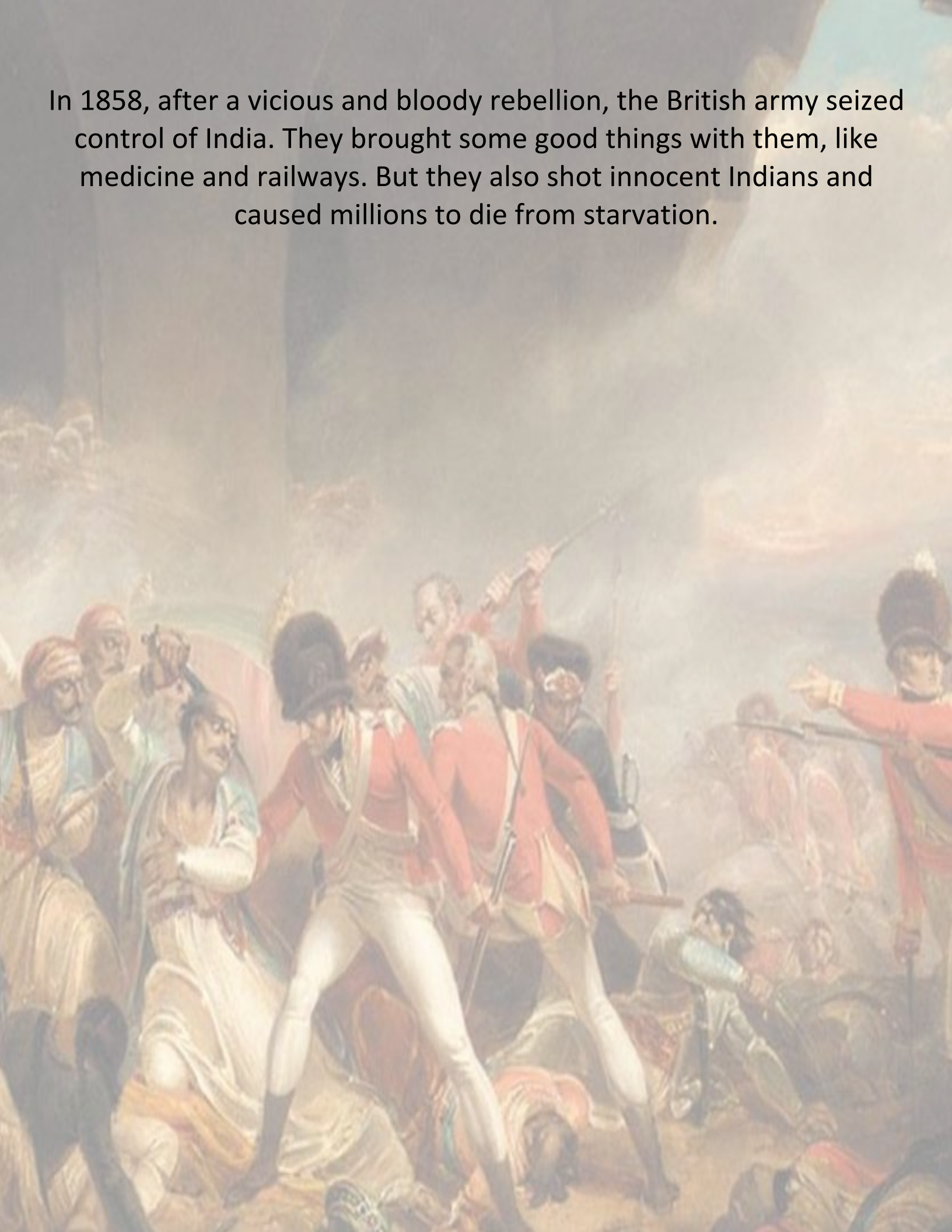
28/10/2014

Mahatma Gandhi

(1869-1948)



In 1858, after a vicious and bloody rebellion, the British army seized control of India. They brought some good things with them, like medicine and railways. But they also shot innocent Indians and caused millions to die from starvation.

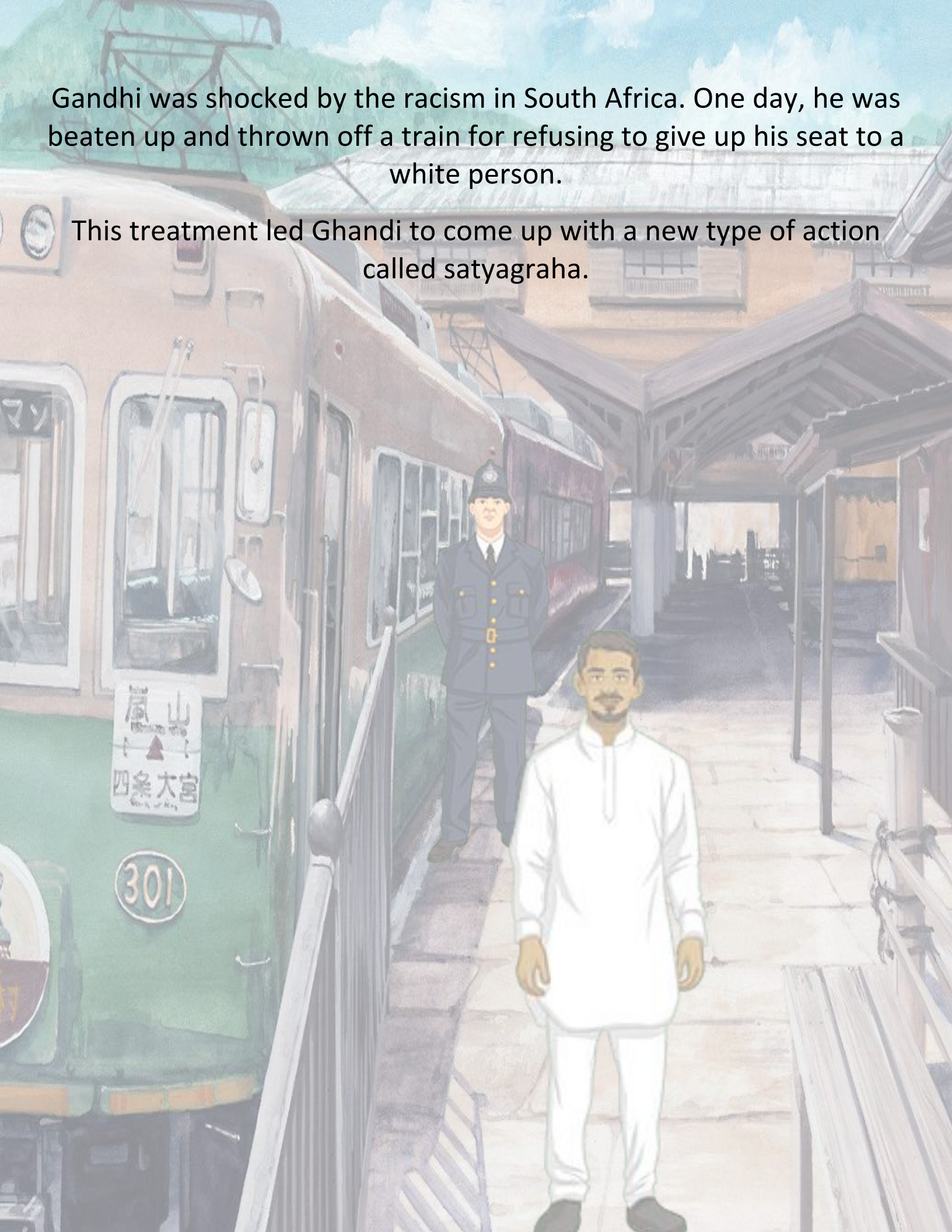


Thirty years later, a nineteen-year-old man called Mahatma Gandhi travelled to England to study law. With his degree, he got a job and was sent with his family to work in South Africa.

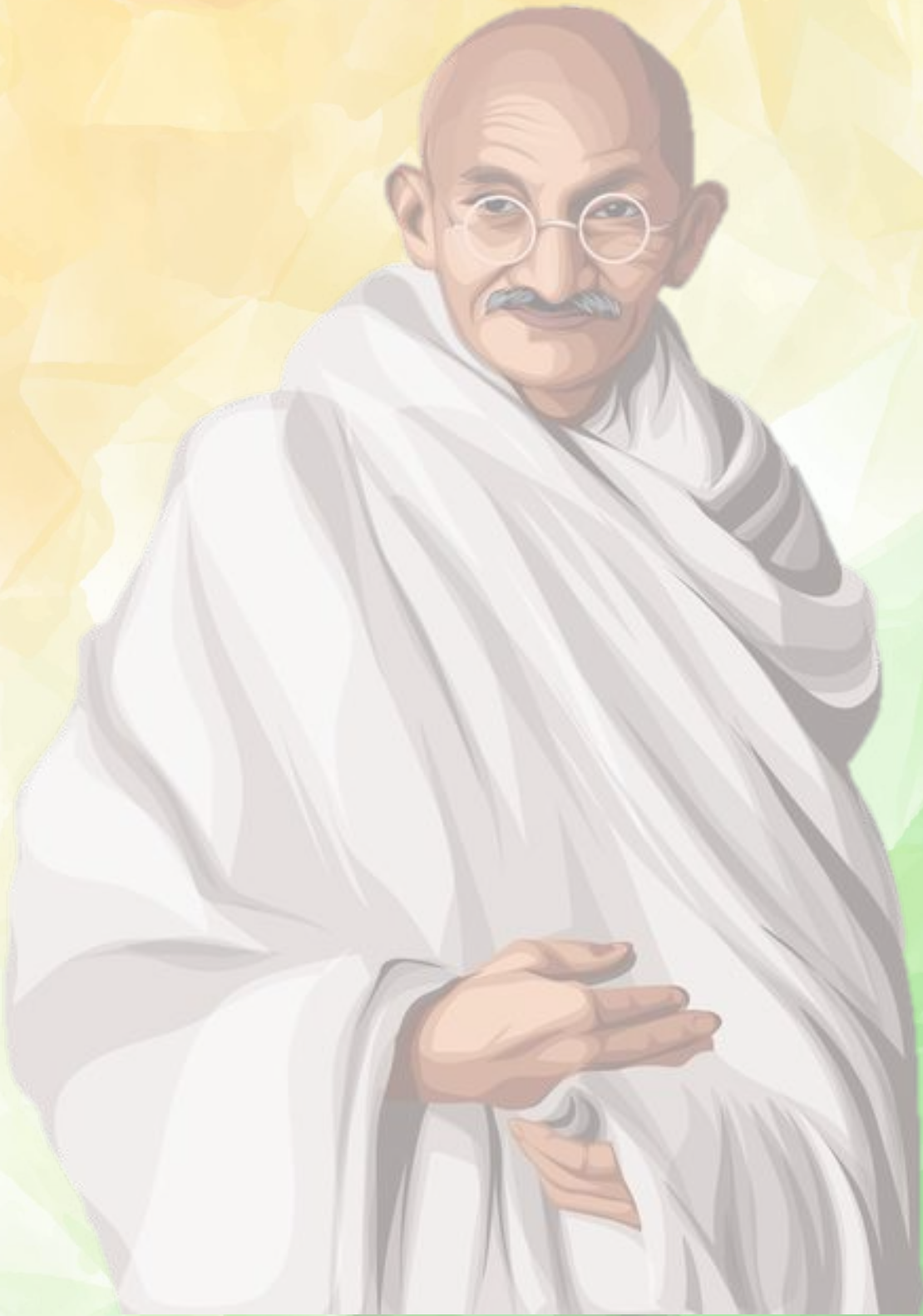


Gandhi was shocked by the racism in South Africa. One day, he was beaten up and thrown off a train for refusing to give up his seat to a white person.

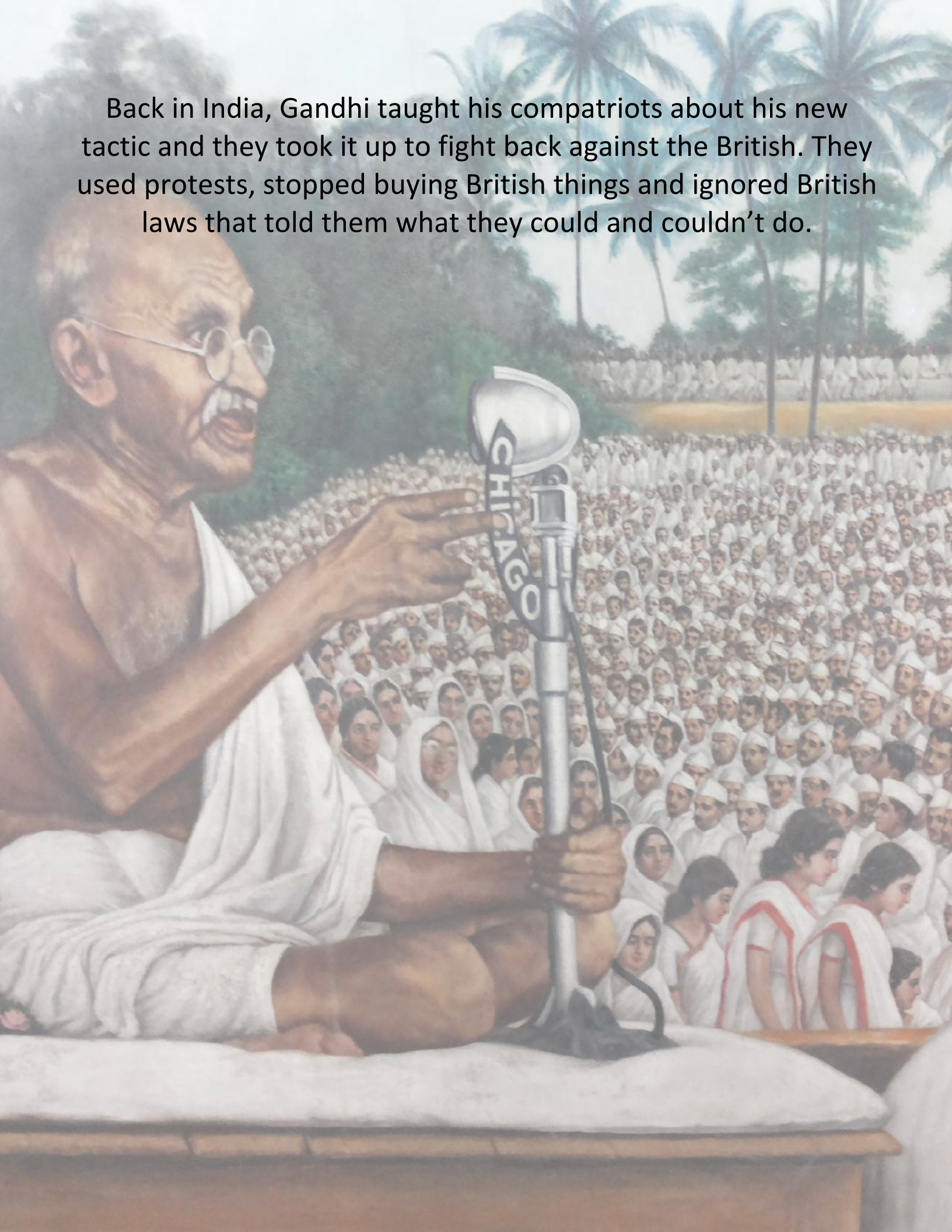
This treatment led Gandhi to come up with a new type of action called satyagraha.



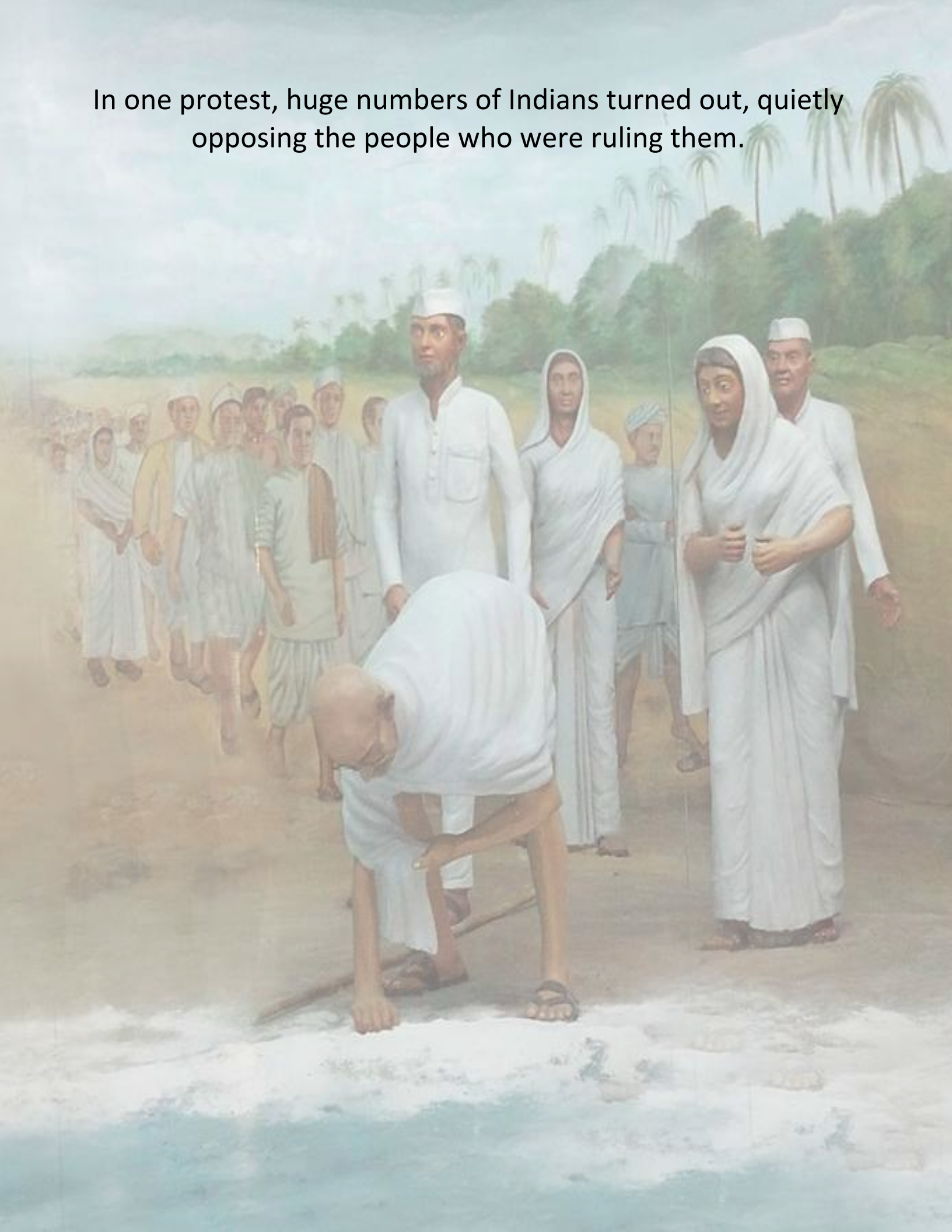
Satyagraha means 'truth force' and using it means never allowing violence and only speaking the truth. According to Gandhi, non-violence isn't being afraid to fight, it's just a different type of fighting, it's fighting with the heart and mind. It's fighting by refusing to hide, run or attack with weapons.



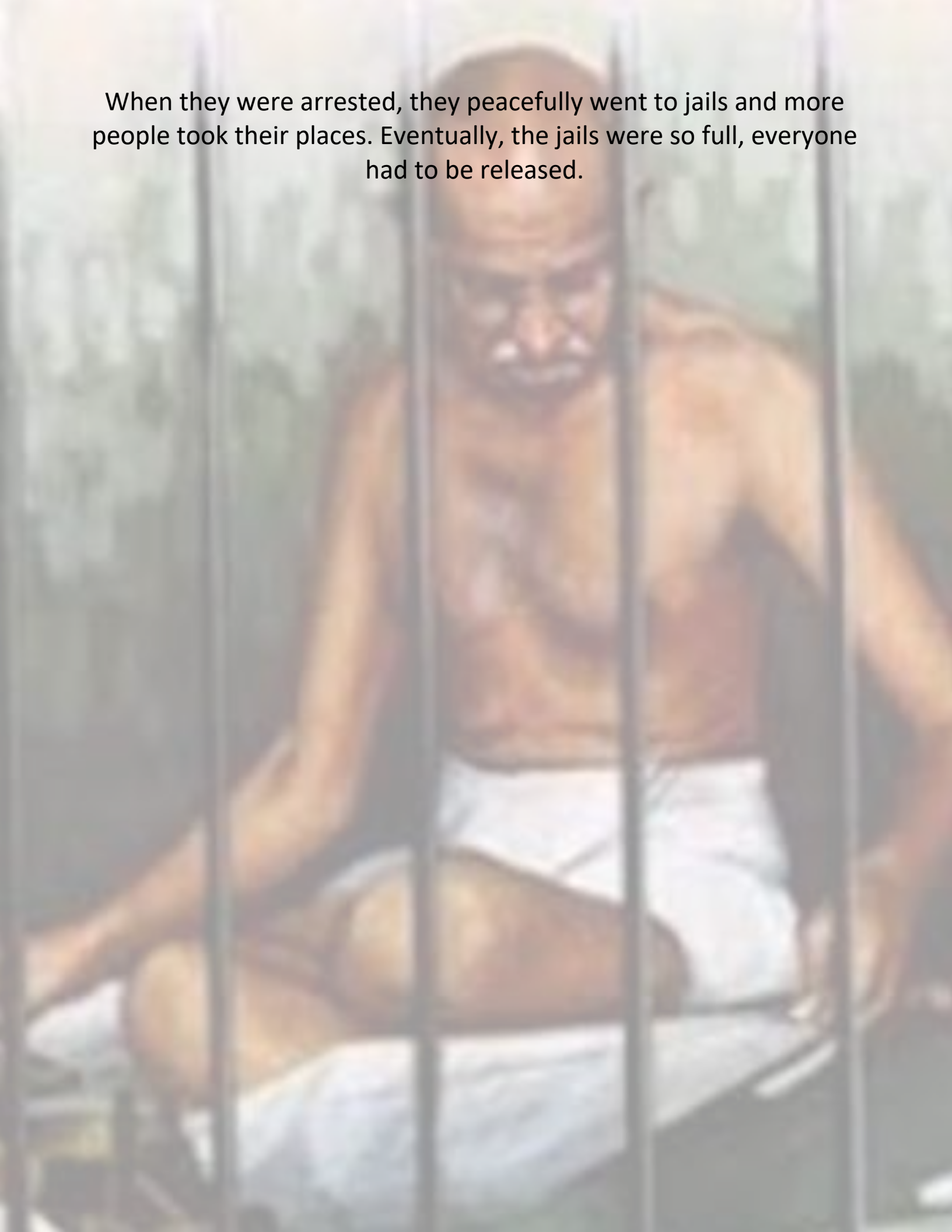
Back in India, Gandhi taught his compatriots about his new tactic and they took it up to fight back against the British. They used protests, stopped buying British things and ignored British laws that told them what they could and couldn't do.



In one protest, huge numbers of Indians turned out, quietly opposing the people who were ruling them.



When they were arrested, they peacefully went to jails and more people took their places. Eventually, the jails were so full, everyone had to be released.



Finally, in 1947, India gained its independence and the British sailed home.





THINK

DIGITAL ACADEMY