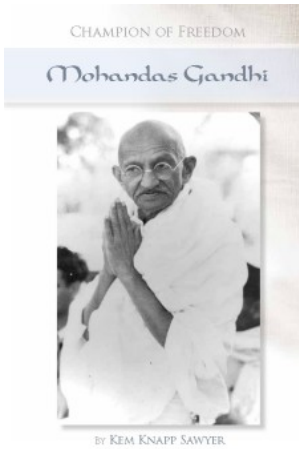


Champion of Freedom



Booklist

Mohandas Gandhi.

By Kem Knapp Sawyer.

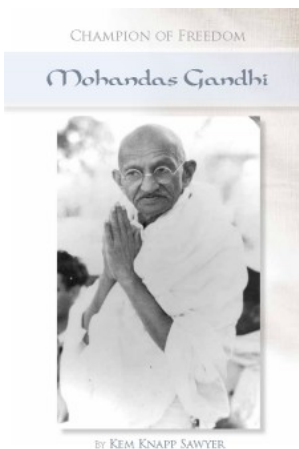
2011. 144p. illus. Morgan Reynolds, lib. ed., \$28.95 (9781599351667). 954.03.

REVIEW

First published October 1, 2011 (Booklist).

This title in the Champion of Freedom series starts with an overview of the British Raj at the time of Mohandas Gandhi's birth and what life was like for those living under it. The thorough biography then goes on to trace the key events, philosophical influences, and personal relationships that shaped the life and career of a man who spread the doctrine of nonviolence. Interesting anecdotes, explanations of Indian culture, and an engaging, well-organized narrative make this a solid resource for middle-school students and even those in early high

school. Reproductions of maps, drawings, and photographs seem squeezed into the text but are accompanied by informative captions. Backmatter includes a timeline, citations to sources, bibliography, websites, and index. -Linda Perkins



School Library Journal - October, 2011

SAWYER, Kem Knapp. *Mohandas Gandhi*. 144p. (Champion of Freedom Series). illus. maps. photos. reprints. bibliog. chron. index. Web sites. CIP. Morgan Reynolds. 2011. PLB \$28.95. ISBN 978-1-59935-166-7. LC 2010047904.

Gr 8 Up—This is a fairly straightforward biography, focusing on Gandhi's political roles and belief in nonviolent resistance. The less-savory aspects of his personality, including his treatment of his wife and sons, are covered briefly. Sawyer conveys the importance of his early years fighting racial inequality in South Africa to his philosophy of satyagraha, mentioning the inspiration provided by Tolstoy and Thoreau. The chapters devoted to Gandhi's return to India are largely a report on the resistance to British rule in which he played a central role, but at this point it reads more like history than biography. —Rebecca Donnelly, Loma Colorado Public Library, Rio Rancho, NM