

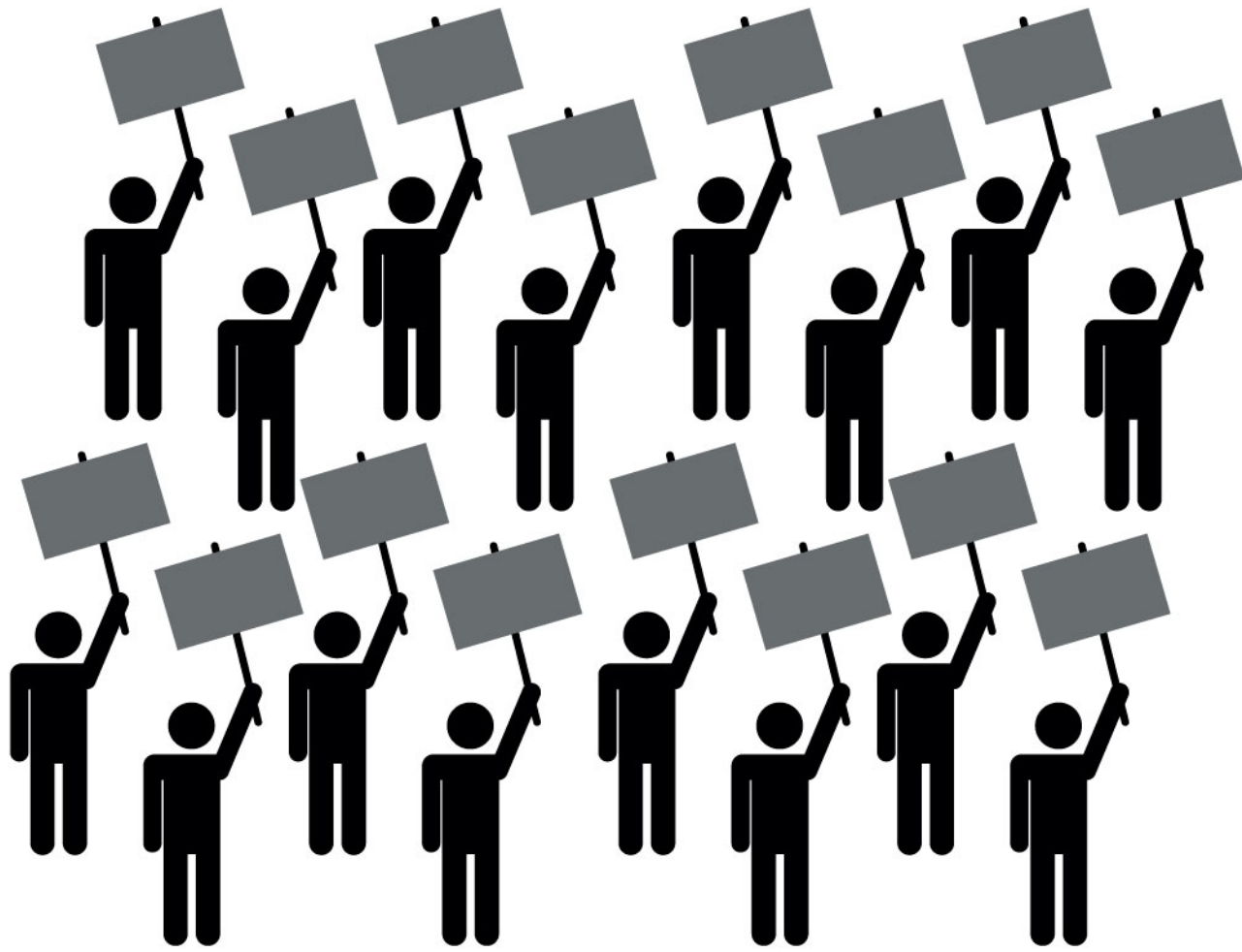
The Non-Cooperation Movement was launched on 1 August, 1920, which included boycott of government schools and colleges, of law courts and foreign cloth, and was to be extended to include mass civil disobedience with giving up untouchability and observe strict non-violence.



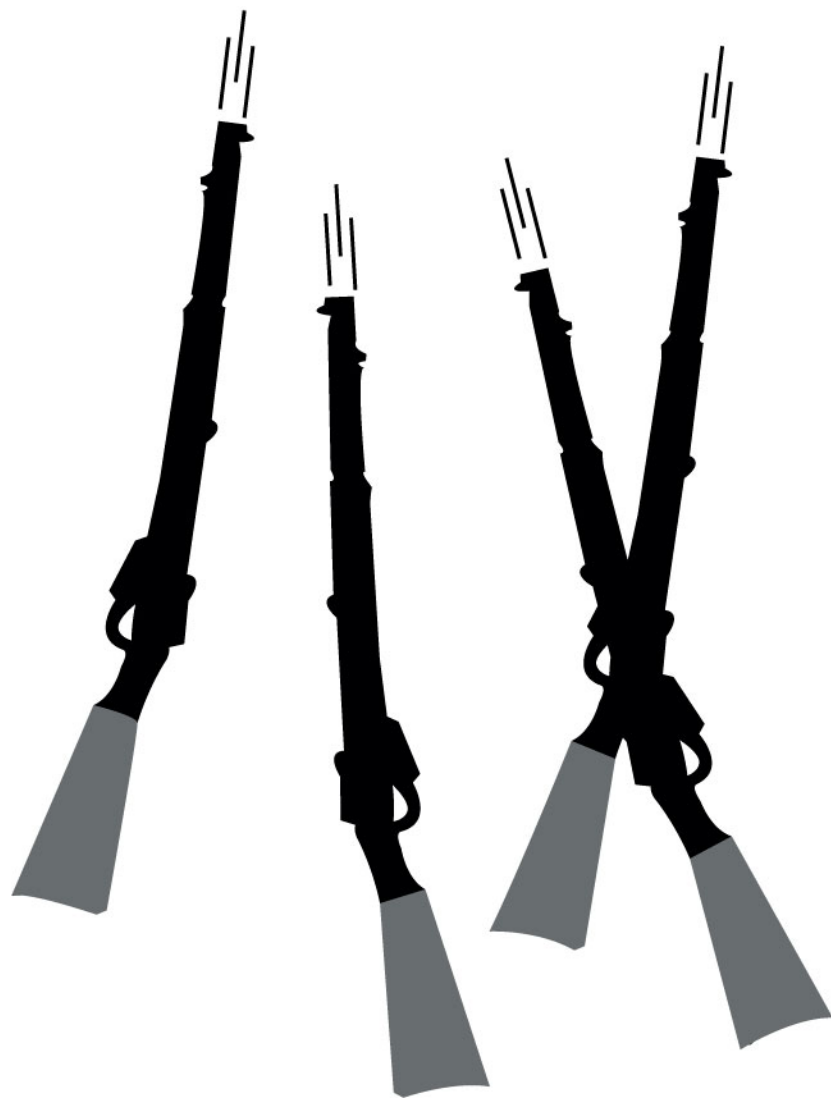
A group of well-organized volunteers was picketing the local market against liquor sales and high food prices on 2 February 1922.



The local police beat up the volunteer leader, an army pensioner named Bhagwan Ahir, and locked up several volunteers in the local chowki.



On 5 February, approximately 2,000 to 2,500 protesters gathered in front of the local police station shouting slogans demanding the release of their leader.



In an attempt to frighten and disperse the crowd, the police fired warning shots into the air.



This only agitated the crowd who began to throw stones at the police.

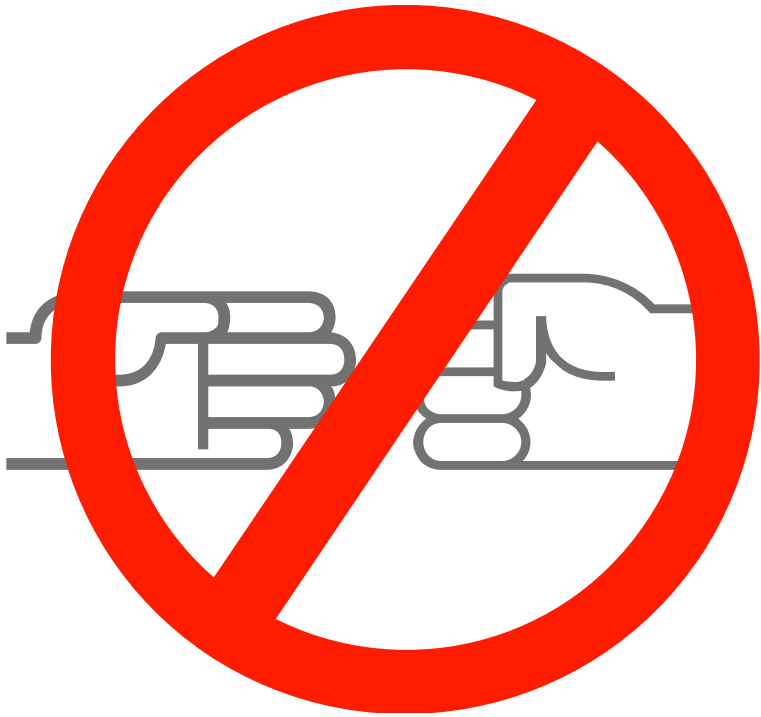


The Indian sub-inspector in charge ordered the police to open fire on the advancing crowd killing three and wounding several others.

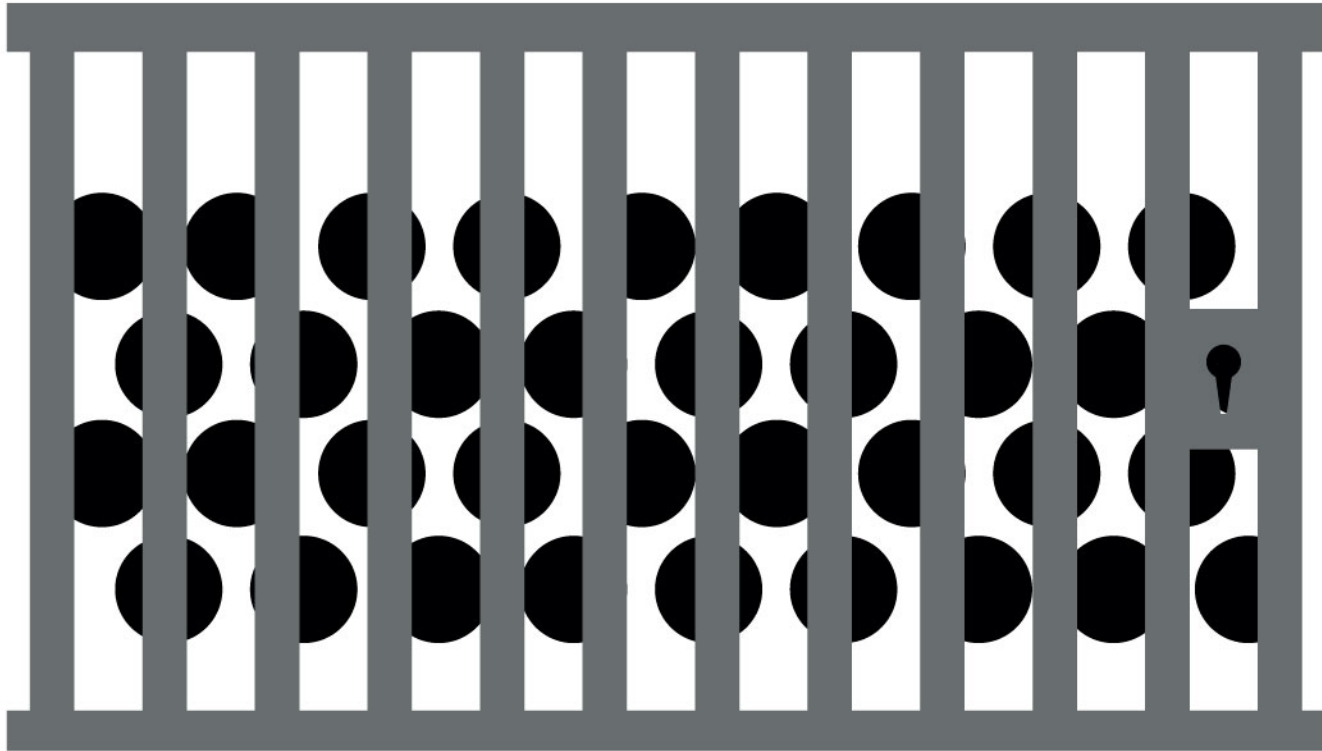


When the angry mob advanced further, the police who were heavily outnumbered, ran inside the police chowki to take shelter. Angered by the police gunfire, the crowd set the chowki ablaze, killing all of the Indian policemen and peons (official messengers) trapped inside.

Most were burned to death, while those who tried to escape were killed by the crowd at the entrance of the chowki and their bodies thrown back into the fire. 22 people died inside the police chowki.



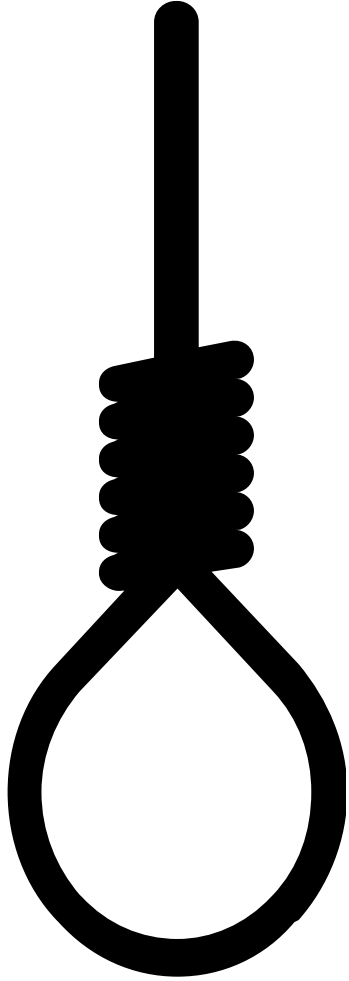
On hearing of this incident, Gandhiji decided to withdraw the Non-Cooperation movement, which formally ended on 12 February, 1922.



British authorities declared martial law in and around Chauri Chaura and conducted several raids in which hundreds of people were arrested.



A total of 228 people were put on a trial for rioting and arson, a trial that lasted for 8 months. Of these 6 died while in police custody.



172 were sentenced to death by hanging. Eventually 19 were hanged and the rest were transported, after the case was heard by Allahabad high court.



The British government, who had not dared to touch Gandhi till now, plucked up courage to arrest him on 10 March, 1922 and awarded him a 6-year jail sentence.