

CBSE Class 10 English Language and Literature

Revision Notes

Chapter 02

Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

- 10th of May was, a day of freedom for South Africa and there was huge gathering of international leaders and dignitaries.
- Inauguration ceremony or swearing in ceremony was held in Union Building in Pretoria and first non-racial government took the charge.
- Nelson Mandela gave speech on the victory for justice, peace and human dignity.
- Mandela pledged to liberate his people from poverty, suffering and discrimination.
- A colorful show by jets and helicopters to show military's loyalty took place.
- Singing of two national anthems was done-the old 'Nkosi Sikelel' by the whites and the new 'Die stem' by the blacks.
- A new system that recognized the rights and freedoms of all people was formed.
- Mandela remembered and thanked the people who sacrificed their lives for the freedom.
- Salutation to some great freedom fighters – Oliver Tambo, Walter Sisulu, Chief Luthuli, Yusuf Dadoo and others.
- Mandela said in speech that a country is rich because of its people not because of the minerals. Courage is not the absence of fear but the victory over it. People should love others and not hate them due to color or religion. Love comes naturally not by force, which is the natural goodness.
- He also stated that a man should try to make a balance between his duties – duty to his family and duty to his community and country. A black person was treated badly and not allowed to perform his duties.
- According to Mandela, freedom has many aspects like – for a kid it is to run and play, for adult it is to fulfil the need of his own and his family. Real freedom means equal rights for everyone.
- Nelson Mandela joined African National Congress (ANC). He desired for people to live with dignity and respect. He wanted the oppressor and the oppressed to be liberated.