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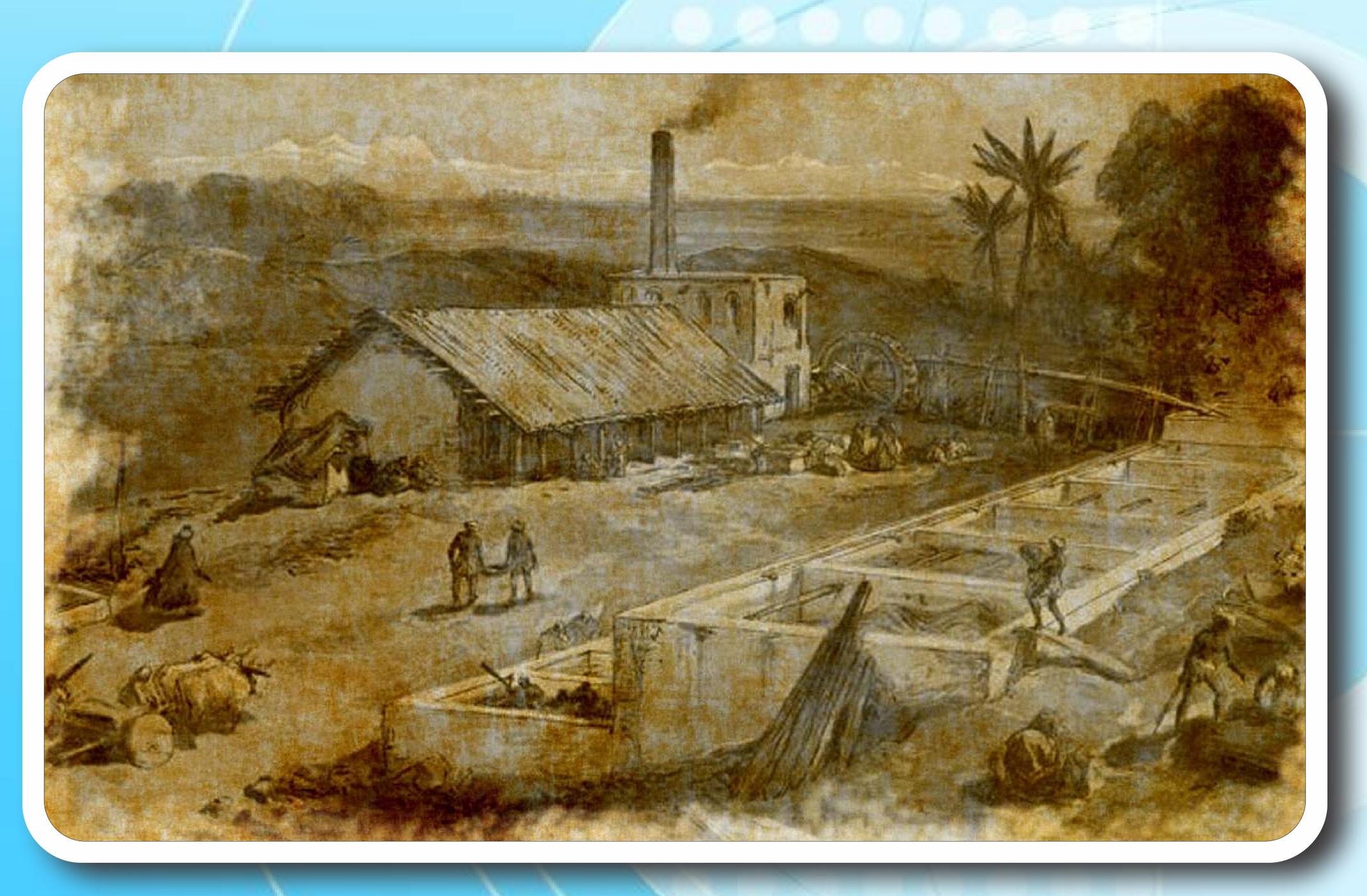
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Make in India



Champaran Movement marking Satyagraha's 100 years

Gandhiji's first great experiment in 'Satyagraha' came in 1917 in Champaran, a district in Bihar. The peasantry on the indigo plantations in the district was excessively oppressed by European planters. They were compelled to grow indigo on their land and to sell it at prices fixed by the planters.

Upon invitation Gandhiji reached Champaran in 1917 to fight for the peasants. The infuriated district officials ordered him to leave Champaran, but he defied the order and was willing to face trial and imprisonment. This forced the government to cancel its earlier order and to appoint a committee of inquiry on which Gandhiji served as a member.

Ultimately, the sufferings of the farmers were reduced and Gandhiji won his first battle of civil disobedience in India.

