

Abstract:

The thesis will be discussing the concept of hunger strikes, that in the world, especially in Indian subcontinent serve as the way of political weapon. The work is divided into four parts linked with each other. The first chapter presents the basic division of hunger strikes' causes. From fasts, that can play the role of healthy or religious act to a hunger strike as the social protest against repression from higher posts of hierarchy. The second and also the key chapter presents the most important Indian thinker throughout the 20th century, M. K. Gandhi, who is known by his unprecedented number of fasts and hunger strikes, mainly with political background. He had created and moreover incorporated his own philosophy, which is also included into his hunger strike as a non-violent weapon. The third and at the same time the vastest chapter of my work contains the most interesting Indian hunger strike examples after Gandhi's death. The last chapter briefly informs about the complete hunger strike transformation and depicts the most outstanding hunger strikes' mistakes and reasons of failure consequences.