

Indian independence saw youth wings of the Indian National Congress mobilize rural communities through marches and boycotts, spreading Gandhi's message of nonviolent resistance.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott marked a pivotal civil rights protest led by African Americans refusing segregated bus seating, inspiring national activism.

The “Year of Africa” saw 17 countries gain independence, fueled by young intellectuals organizing nationalist movements across the continent; meanwhile, U.S. students launched sit-ins to challenge segregation, forming SNCC to lead direct action.

Global student movements erupted: in France, protests against rigid social structures united with workers in a massive general strike; in the U.S., campus activism targeted the Vietnam War and racial injustice.

Poland's Solidarity Movement grew with student support, combining labour strikes and underground media to challenge communist rule, contributing to its eventual collapse.

The Earth Summit spotlighted youth activism on global environmental issues, exemplified by 12-year-old Severn Cullis-Suzuki's impassioned call for sustainable action.

The Arab Spring showcased youth using social media to coordinate mass protests against authoritarian regimes across the Middle East and North Africa.

Malala Yousafzai survived an assassination attempt and became a global icon for girls' education and youth-led gender equality movements.

Youth-led campaigns like March for Our Lives and Fridays for Future mobilized millions globally, advocating for gun control and urgent climate action.

Hong Kong youth played a central role in mass protests against a controversial extradition bill, employing creative tactics like class boycotts and human chains to demand democratic reforms.

Following George Floyd's murder, young activists spearheaded worldwide racial justice protests and viral movements such as #BlackLivesMatter, demanding systemic change.

1947

1955-1956

1960

1968

1980s

1992

2010-2012

2012

2018

2019

2020