



Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019-2020





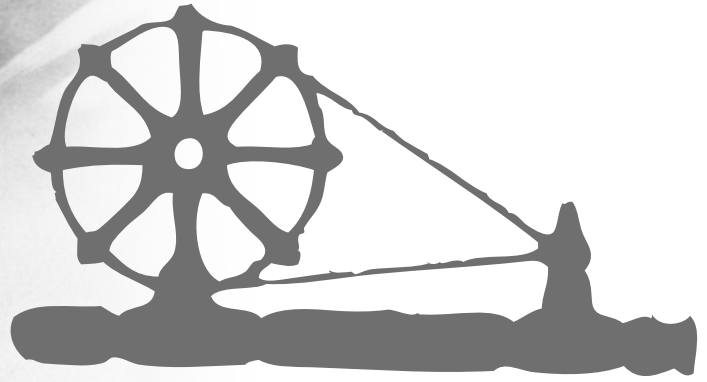
*Gandhi and People Gathering by Shri Upendra Maharathi*  
(Courtesy: <http://ngmaindia.gov.in/virtual-tour-of-bapu.asp>)







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# Foreword



## Revisiting Gandhian Vision on Technology

*I want the concentration of wealth, not in the hands of few,  
but in the hands of all” – Mahatma Gandhi*

In the present hyper-technological era, every day we are witnessing rapid advancement in technology which changes the very way we live and how we perceive the world. New innovations and use of artificial intelligence, expansion of personalized and predictive medicine system, block-chain technology, and extended reality are among the myriad technological advancements that are sweeping across the world. Notwithstanding the fact that many of these technologies are redefining on how we live and what we do, there are many which are not without any controversy. For use of many of these new advancements, there have been major global debates – quite often polarized and even getting embroiled in ethical and moralistic debates and ambiguities in the context of science.

For instance major advancement in artificial intelligence and robotics will lead them to be more autonomous which can lead to situations that could spark intense ethical issues. Similarly, debates on ethics and morality have already started in approaches to human genetics and genome-based treatment. Also in spite of the amazing flight towards newer technologies, the world looks broken, having problems unprecedented in world history. Right from major challenges of climate change to societal upheaval in different parts of the world, the problems are mounting, which advancements of technology are not able to provide adequate answers; instead in many instances it is accentuating the problem.

In light of the above concerns of use of technology and how it can even lead to ethical crisis, it would be pertinent to revisit the Gandhian vision of sustainable technology.

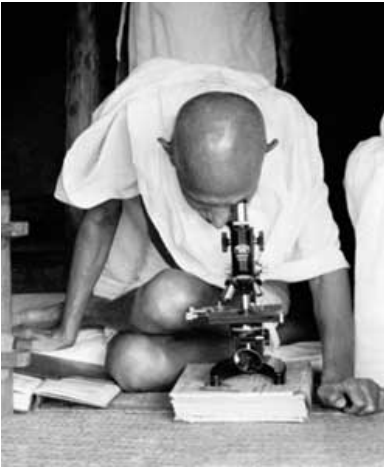
To start with, it is important to clear any misconceptions that Mahatma Gandhi was against machinery and technology. He was a great innovator. He makes his point on machinery when he says in ‘Young India, 17-6-26’, “Are you against all machinery? My answer is emphatically, ‘No’. But I am against its indiscriminate multiplication. I refuse to be dazzled by the seeming triumph of machinery. I am uncompromisingly against all destructive machinery. But simple tools and instruments and such machinery as saves individual labour and lightens the burden of the millions of cottages, I should welcome.”

Further in ‘Young India’ (13-11-24) he talks on the ethical issues related to machinery and technology. He is clear that all scientific truths and discoveries should stop being instruments of greed and exclaims on why people are so crazy with new machinery when it actually could finish off their jobs. He notes, “What I object to, is the craze for machinery not machinery as such. The craze is for what they call labour-saving machinery. Men go on ‘saving labour’, till thousands are without work and thrown on the open streets to die of starvation. I want to save time and labour, not for a



*“What I object to, is the craze for machinery not machinery as such. The craze is for what they call labour-saving machinery. Men go on ‘saving labour’, till thousands are without work and thrown on the open streets to die of starvation. I want to save time and labour, not for a fraction of mankind, but for all...”*

*M.K. Gandhi*



fraction of mankind, but for all; I want the concentration of wealth, not in the hands of a few, but in the hands of all. Today machinery merely helps a few to ride on the back of millions. The impetus behind it all is not the philanthropy to save labour, but greed. It is against this constitution of things that I am fighting with all my might. “Then you are fighting not against machinery as such, but against its abuses which are so much in evidence today.” I would unhesitatingly say ‘yes’; but I would add that scientific truths and discoveries should first of all cease to be mere instruments of greed.”

On the issue of greed which is propelling human beings to push for new inventions so that these can be fulfilled, Mahatma Gandhi notes, “A time is coming when those, who are in the mad rush today of multiplying their wants, vainly thinking that they add to the real substance, real knowledge of the world, will retrace their steps and say: ‘What have we done?’ Civilizations have come and gone, and in spite of all our vaunted progress, I am tempted to ask again and again, ‘To what purpose?’

Wallace, a contemporary of Darwin, has said the same thing. Fifty years of brilliant inventions and discoveries, he has said, have not added one inch to the moral height of mankind.”

Mahatma Gandhi questions, “Is the world any better for quick instruments of locomotion? How do these instruments advance man’s spiritual progress? Do they not in the last resort hamper it? And is there any limit to man’s ambition? Once we were satisfied with traveling a few miles an hour; today we want to negotiate hundreds of miles an hour; one day we might desire to fly through space. What will be the result? Chaos.” (Young India, 21-1-1926)

He was philosophical when he said, “I wholeheartedly detest this mad desire to destroy distance and time, to increase animal appetites and go to the ends of the earth in search of their satisfaction. If modern civilization stands for all this, and I have understood it to do so, I call it satanic.... (Young India, 17-3-1927). Mahatma Gandhi was prophetic when we warned on the chaos and ethical crisis that incessant rush for newer technologies could encourage.

Further on the ethical issues of use of technology, Gandhi’s one of the ‘seven deadly sins’ was ‘science without humanity’. Mahatma Gandhi was concerned if science and technology would leave us with decadent values and ethics, it was of no use. As we make advancements, it is pertinent to look if these are really going to benefit humankind or could have detrimental effects on human beings.

As Mahatma Gandhi understood on the importance of human interdependence, he was against the dominant worldview of human supremacy, conquest and greed. These are the crux of the problems and he felt that technology has to be in sync with the principles of human interdependence. He was clear that human beings should not become slaves or victims of the technology and machines.

Mr. N S Ramnath in his article on “Today in Tech: Gandhi on technology; Microsoft’s new visa proposal” wrote that “Mahatma Gandhi was for machines that could reach the masses, and make their lives better. He was constantly looking for ways to make Chakra even better. He was against the de-humanising aspect of machinery. Louis Fischer wrote that a meeting with Gandhi probably influenced Charlie Chaplin to make *Modern Times*, a film on that theme. Gandhi was also worried about the inequality that mechanization could create, and, therefore, addressed these issues of concern.

In view of contentions and contestations of the rapid advancement of technology and the ethical issues revolving around them, it is critical that innovators and scientists across the world adopt human-centric approaches. Also the approaches should be mindful of the essence of human interdependence. By ensuring these twin strategies, we would be able to create technologies that are truly in the service of humankind.

**Dipanker Shri Gyan**  
Director



# Introduction



*A view of the Gandhi Smriti Museum in Gandhi Smriti.*

## **Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti: A Profile**

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) was formed in September 1984 by the merger of Gandhi Darshan at Rajghat and Gandhi Smriti, at 5, Tees January Marg as an autonomous body, and is functioning under the constructive advice and financial support from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The Prime Minister of India is its Chairperson and it has a nominated body of senior Gandhians and representatives of various government departments to guide it in its activities. The basic aim and objective of the Samiti is to propagate the life, mission and thought of Mahatma Gandhi through various socio-educational and cultural programmes.

The Samiti has two campuses:

### **(a) Gandhi Smriti**

Gandhi Smriti, housed in the Old Birla House on 5, Tees January Marg, New Delhi, is the sacred place where Mahatma Gandhi's epic Life ended on 30 January 1948. Mahatma Gandhi had lived in this house from September 9, 1947 to January 30, 1948. Thus, the hallowed house

treasures many memories of the last 144 days of his life. The Old Birla House was acquired by the Government of India in 1971 and was converted into a National Memorial of the Father of the Nation and was opened to the public on August 15, 1973.

The preserves include the room where Gandhiji lived and the prayer ground where mass congregation used to be held. This was the place where Gandhiji was felled by the assassin's bullets. The building and the landscape have been preserved as they were in those days.

### **The Memorial consists of:**

1. *Visual Aspects* to perpetuate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and the noble ideals they represented,
2. *Educative Aspects* to focus concentrated attention on certain values of life that made Gandhi a Mahatma and
3. *Service Aspects* to introduce activities in order to sub-serve certain felt needs.

On display in the Museum are photographs, sculptures, paintings, frescos, inscriptions on rocks and relics pertaining to the years Gandhiji spent here. The meagre personal effects of Gandhiji too are carefully preserved.

The entrance gate itself is of great historical significance as it was from the top of this Gate, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru announced to the World about the passing away of Mahatma Gandhi, "... the light has gone out our lives and there is darkness everywhere..."

the Martyr's Column on the lower lawns are the words of Gurudev Tagore, "He stopped at the threshold of every hut..."

In the Centre of the Prayer Ground, is a Pavilion with frescos on the walls, depicting the continuity of India's cultural voyage, her interaction across the globe and the emergence of Mahatma Gandhi as a 'Universal Man', embodying in his person all that is sublime in human life as he said: 'For my material needs my village is my world but for my spiritual needs the whole world is my village'.



*A view of the Prayer Ground in Gandhi Smriti.*

A larger than life statue of Mahatma Gandhi, with a boy and a girl holding a dove in their hands, standing on either side, emerging out of the globe, symbolising his universal concern for the poor and the deprived, welcomes the visitor at the main entrance of the Gandhi Smriti. It is the work of the renowned sculptor, Padma Bhushan Sri Ram Sutar. The legend at the base of the sculpture says, "My Life is My Message".

A Martyr's Column stands at the spot where the Father of the Nation was assassinated, commemorating the Martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi as the embodiment of all the sufferings and sacrifices that characterised the long struggle for India's Freedom. A broad stone pavement is laid round the Column for devotees to take a reverential *parikrama* (walk around). The wide space in front of the Column is made for devotees to offer homage. Close to

Outside the Pavilion there is a bench, made of red sand stone on which Mahatma Gandhi used to sit during the prayer or in conversation with the vast mass of humanity who would assemble on the lawns of the Old Birla House seeking his counsel and solace in those troubled days.

The green lawns are the main feature of the Prayer Ground with peripheral decorations with flowers laid round the lawn. Near the entrance of the memorial on its right lawn is inscribed "India of Gandhi's Dream". At the roundabout close to the prayer ground are the words of Albert Einstein, "Generations to come will scarce believe..." In the centre of the roundabout is a creation of the renowned artist Shri Sankho Chowdhury in bronze, symbolising the 'Eternal Flame' lit by Gandhi with his Martyrdom.





*The Martyr's Column - the site of the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti.*

*Gandhiji's Room* at Gandhi Smriti has been kept exactly as it was on the day of his assassination. All his possessions are on display: his glasses, walking stick, a knife, fork and spoon, the rough stone he used instead of soap. His bed was a mattress on the floor, plain white, with a low, wooden desk by its side. There is also an old and well-used copy of the *Gita*.

The entire building is now divided into different sections. On either side of the main entrance of the building a Prayer composed by the Mahatma 'A Servants Prayer' and his eternal message, His 'Talisman' are on display.

The evolution of *Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi to Mahatma Gandhi* is depicted in the south wing through the panels of black and white photographs accompanied by a simple narrative. The south wing also houses an auditorium and a committee room.

Digital installations depicting the history of freedom struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi has been set up in the museum as a tribute to the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi. One of the interactive installations lead the visitors to witness artistes from their countries (across the globe) singing *Vaishnava Jana Tau*, which the Government of India and the Ministry of External Affairs had undertaken with the inspiration of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi to have singers from over 124 countries of the world sing the hymn in Hindi.

Besides, the exhibition has been so aligned that the south wing gives a simple narration of the journey and evolution of a boy called Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and how through his 'experiments with truth', he leads India and humanity to its emancipation.

The northern wing has five different sections. The first section, the gallery leading towards the room where Gandhiji spent the last 144 days of his life is devoted to his Peace Pilgrimage and Martyrdom. Next to this is the



*H.E. Dr. Angela Merkel, German Chancellor seeing the digital exhibition in the Gandhi Smriti Museum along with Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi who hosted Dr. Merkel during the latter's state visit.*



*A view of Mahatma Gandhi's Room in Gandhi Smriti*

second section, another room where portraits drawn by famous artistes on Mahatma Gandhi from his life – which was received from the National Gallery of Modern Art – have been depicted. This section has also an auditorium with facilities to screen films on Mahatma Gandhi where visitors engage themselves with the Holographic Gandhi. These initiatives have been taken with the Department of Science and Technology. Further photographic panels depicting the last 48 hours of Gandhiji's life adorn the walls of this section.

The third section of the north wing projects the 'India of Gandhi's Dreams' and the formulae he has left behind for posterity to realise this dream: the Eighteen Point Constructive Programme. Gandhi wanted to present India as a model of development before the world with scientific precision. The epic journey ends – Father of the Nation is gone. But his legacy lives on. Above all, an unfulfilled dream remains as a challenge before us to build the 'India' of his 'dreams'.

The fourth section *Sumana* has twenty-eight enclosures/panels in all. The section, which is today, houses the Minifigures. These powerful *dioramas* depict important events in the life of Mahatma Gandhi from his boyhood to his martyrdom. Crafted by Smt. Sushila Rajni Patel, this section of the Museum is an enriching experience.

In the fifth section *Sanmati*, the Gandhi Smriti Literature Centre, there is a vast collection of *Gandhiana* and other related and relevant books available under one roof.

A special section is devoted to explain how the world reveres Mahatma Gandhi. The first part is through the eyes of the artists reflecting the magnificent life of the Mahatma. The second part is Gandhi on himself.

In the centre, people are led to assimilate, absorb and feel the presence of the Mahatma through a 40 second multi-media animation, depicting the last journey of the Father of the Nation towards his Martyrdom. This is depicted through the rendition by one of the renowned vocalists Kumar Gandharva.

The pergola – which provides an interface with the visiting mass of humanity – is now a walking art gallery, which provides an opportunity to artists from all segments of our society and all parts of the world to witness the journey of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi to Mahatma Gandhi in the sprawling exhibition *From Mohan to Mahatma* prepared by senior Gandhians like Shri Anupam Misra and developed by the National Archives of India. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Dr. Mahesh Sharma on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, 2015 in Gandhi Smriti.

While on their journey, the visitors also witness the magnificent World Peace Gong that stands facing the roof top where the mortal remains of the father of the nation was kept on January 31, 1948 for thousands of people to pay their last tributes. The Peace Gong, gifted to Gandhi Smriti by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India after being received from the World Peace Gong





**Children from different schools are seen visiting the exhibition “From Mohan to Mahatma” in the pergola (walking art gallery) in Gandhi Smriti.**

Committee of Indonesia was inaugurated at a special function commemorating the 100 years of Satyagraha on September 11, 2006. This is a gentle reminder to the world of the enormous struggles by peace marchers across the world to live in harmony with one another.

From here the visitors are guided into the room where Bapuji spent the last 144 days of his life. As they come out of this room they are acquainted with history of these 144 days through the Photo Exhibition, Digital Displays accompanied by narratives culled out from the accounts of the eye witnesses.

*Swaraj* at Gandhi Smriti showcases Gandhian emphasis on khadi, cottage industries and rural development.

The *Kirti Mandap* pandal christened by the eminent Sarod Player Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, near the Martyr’s Column at Gandhi Smriti has the capacity to accommodate 500 participants for major programmes.



**Bed used by Mahatma Gandhi for meditation during his stay in erstwhile Birla House is exhibited in Gandhi Smriti.**

In an endeavour to provide the underprivileged section of the society skills in computer, stitching and embroidery, early childhood care and education, community health, spinning and weaving, mime and music, *Srijan* – the Gandhi Smriti Educational Centre – has been set up at Gandhi Smriti. *Srijan* aims to help them learn these vocational courses in order to instill in them appreciation for self-help, confidence and bread-labour.

The museum added in April 2005 a multimedia exhibition entitled *Eternal Gandhi*, which is housed on the entire first floor of the building. It has used state-of-the-art electronic hardware and new media to bring Gandhiji’s life and vision alive. The approach has been both historical and interpretative. This exhibition using 21st century technology highlights the core of Gandhian thought – the commitment of a Satyagrahi to the principles of truth. Two sculptures of Ba and Bapu made in rganized , which are the creations of a couple, Mr. Decha Saisomboon and Mrs. Wipa Saisomboon from Thailand, are also kept at the multi-media museum.

It is these components that together make Gandhi Smriti a *Composite Museum*.

**(b) Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat**

The second campus is situated adjacent to the Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi at Rajghat.

It was twenty-one years after the Mahatma’s martyrdom that the whole world decided to observe his centenary in 1969 in a way worthy of the Pilgrim of Peace. It was then the sprawling thirty-six acre campus came into existence to mark the centenary of Mahatma Gandhi. Thirteen Indian states and seven foreign countries had joined hands in creating the magic, called the *Gandhi Darshan International Exhibition*. The main objective of the exhibition was the interpretation of Gandhi’s message and gospel of truth and non-violence against the background of the modern world and the way it has permeated and affected the nation’s life and influenced the other countries of the modern world.

Today two exhibitions exist in Gandhi Darshan - *My Life is My Message* and *Freedom Struggle* in clay models.

In the first pavilion entitled *My Life is My Message*, hundreds of archival photographs have been arranged on the walls, along with brief textual narratives. Some of these images of Gandhiji as a child and young man are rarely seen. There is also a model of the house in which he was born, as well as the actual army vehicle in which his body was transported for cremation to the grounds, now known as Rajghat.

In addition, visitors can see Gandhiji’s school report cards, newspaper clippings and cartoons that show contemporary reports and reviews of his activities, the letters exchanged

*A view of the Gandhi Darshan complex in Rajghat.*



*Photo credits: Master Yash Khulbe, Class IX, Happy School, Daryaganj.*

between Gandhiji and Leo Tolstoy, portraits of his wife and parents and other fascinating material. One display showcases the many commemorative stamps issued by countries around the world in the years that followed Gandhiji's assassination; and another displays the letters that were sent to him.

These, especially, reveal, how widespread was the fame that a simple Gujarati Lawyer acquired in his lifetime. For example, one is addressed to 'Gandhiji: Wherever He May Be'; another (posted in New York) simply has a sketch of Gandhiji on the envelope.

To summarize, this pavilion with 274 panels has the following:

- 1) In Panel no. 1-273 there are photographs on life of Gandhiji from birth till assassination, there are 1600 photographs approximately.
- 2) In Panel no. 274 there are 75 stamps from different countries, released on the centenary year of Mahatma Gandhi.
- 3) There is the boat and bench used during Salt Satyagraha and Gun Carriage which carried the mortal remains of Mahatma Gandhi from Birla House to Rajghat.



*Statue of Mahatma Gandhi sculpted by Russian Sculptor Mr. Dmitry Borisovich Ryabichev is in display in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*

- 4) There are models of:
  - a) Gandhiji's house at Porbandar in Gujarat
  - b) Sabarmati Ashram
  - c) Yervada Jail

The pavilion on *Freedom Struggle* comprises of beautiful clay models on different aspects of the freedom movement.

In 1994, during the 125<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Gandhiji, while addressing the nation the then Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao formally announced the setting up of *International Centre of Gandhian Studies* at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat. On January 30, 2000, the then President K. R. Narayanan unveiled a Column declaring the entire Campus as the International Centre of Gandhian Studies and Peace Research in the presence of the then Prime Minister and Chairman of the GSDS, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and several other dignitaries.

#### Infrastructural Facilities:

##### Facilities available at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat

- 1) A library and documentation centre with over 15000 books by and on Gandhi, and related subjects.
- 2) Comprehensive walk-in exhibition entitled 'My Life Is My Message'
- 3) Conference, seminar and lecture halls with all facilities
- 4) International Hostel for scholars-in-residence
- 5) Permanent photographs and books related to Mahatma Gandhi.
- 6) Dormitories with facilities to accommodate 100 persons)
- 7) Publications Division: Apart from books, it publishes a Journal and a News Magazine
- 8) Photo unit
- 9) Camping facility for major national and international meets
- 10) Open space for contact programmes



*The bench used by Mahatma Gandhi during the Salt March of 1930 in Vejalpur Village, Gujarat to address the mass, is in display at the "My Life is My Message" exhibition in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*



*A view of the sprawling "My Life is My Message" exhibition gallery in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*



*A view of the International Hostel for scholars-in-residence in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*



*The Gun Carriage that carried the mortal remains of Mahatma Gandhi from erst while Birla House to Rajghat (for the final rites) is in display at the "My Life is My Message" exhibition in Gandhi Darshan Rajghat.*



**The objectives of the Samiti are:**

1. To plan and carry out activities for the promotion of Gandhian ideals and philosophy.
2. To keep Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti open for public as per standard rules related to museum and maintain it to provide maximum convenience to visitors.
3. Promote Audience Development and Museum Management Framework in both Gandhi Smriti Museum and Gandhi Darshan Exhibition.
4. Promote initiatives to create awareness on the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi through educational media like exhibition, films, Gandhiana, posters, and different forms of Art, Culture and Technology.
5. To develop and preserve a library of books including rare books, literature, photographs, films and documents etc.
6. To collect, preserve and exhibit important relics of Mahatma Gandhi.
7. Promotion of volunteerism for Gandhian work and betterment of the society.
8. Focus on empowering the marginalized through different activities related to philosophy and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.
9. Developing capacities of children, youth, women and other groups for imbibing Gandhian values and work to bring attitudinal changes/development through practical applications of Gandhian philosophy.
10. To restore, protect and manage both the complexes at Gandhi Darshan and Gandhi Smriti and all movable and immovable properties therein according to requirement.
11. To bring publication for various sections of people to enhance their knowledge about Mahatma Gandhi and the values he propagated.
12. To conduct inter-disciplinary research on Gandhian philosophy in the context of contemporary issues.
13. Encourage and promote Gandhian perspectives on education and facilitate education for peace, ecological security, equality and justice.
14. To work extensively with different Universities and Academic Institutions for better and in-depth understanding of Mahatma Gandhi and Gandhian philosophy.
15. Empowerment of the weaker sections of the society through vocational training programmes and other livelihood initiatives as part of Gandhian constructive work.
16. Respond and work to address challenging problems of the society.
17. Involving different stakeholders to work for a culture of collective living, collective working, peace and nonviolence.
18. Reaching the unreached with the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi especially in far flung areas.

To undertake such other activities and to do all the foregoing mandate and to cooperate and seek cooperation from other institutions for the aforesaid purposes.



*Boat used by Mahatma Gandhi during the historic Dandi March, of 1930.*

# Structure of the Samiti

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## GOVERNING BODY

### Chairman

The Hon'ble Prime Minister

### Vice-Chairperson

Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of Culture

### Members

Minister In-Charge, Ministry of Culture

The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi

Mayor of Delhi

Shri Laxmi Dass

Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal

Ms. Rajni Bakshi

Shri Narayan Bhai Bhattacharjee

Dr. Harsh Vardhan Kamrah

Ms. Neelima Vardhan

Dr. Suparna Goptu

Secretary, Ministry of Culture

Information Advisor to the Prime Minister

Chief Engineer, CPWD

Secretary, (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance

Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development

Commissioner of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of  
Delhi

President/Administrator, New Delhi Municipal  
Committee

### Member Secretary

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture

### Executive Committee

Chairperson

Shri Prahlad Singh Patel

### Members

Shri Laxmi Dass

Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal

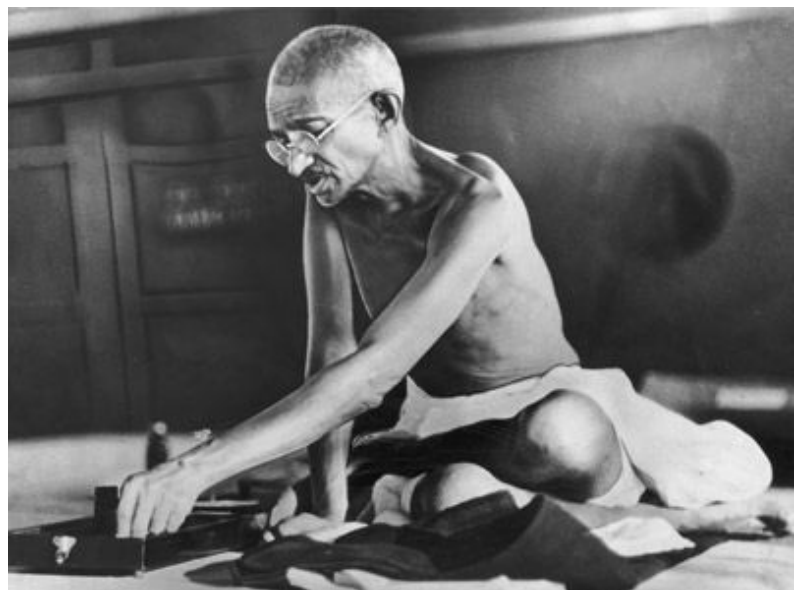
Ms. Rajni Bakshi

### Member Secretary

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture,  
Government of India

### Director

Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (J.A.S.)



# Time Line of Programmes

APRIL 2019 – March 2020

## Activities Undertaken during the Year 2019-2020

Sl No	Approved Programmes in April 2019 to January 2020	Date of Organizing the Programme	Venue	About the Programme
01	Theatre Workshop for Underprivileged	April 1-6, 2019	Adarsh Primary School, Noida	Along with theatre, children were also trained in character designing, dialogue making, voice modulation and variation, body language and stage combat. Almost 100 children took part in the programme.
02	Commemorating the 100 years of Mahatma Gandhi's first imprisonment in India	April 10, 2019	PALWAL, HARYANA	To mark the 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of first arrest of Mahatma Gandhi, a Sarva Dharma Prarthana (inter-faith prayer) was organized at Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) Rajghat, New Delhi and Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust, Palwal, Haryana on April 10, 2019.
03	Jallianwala Bagh Massacre: 100 Years –Tributes	April 13, 2019	Jallianwala Bagh at Amritsar	This year on April 13, 2019, as part of the centenary commemoration of the Jallianwala Bagh incident, several institutions in Delhi and NCR including institutions from different states as part of the GSDS initiative took part in the commemorative programme to raise awareness about the significance of the tragedy that unfolded 100 years ago.
04	Health Camp	April 13 and 22, 2019	New Delhi	The first camp was organised for the staff and family members of GSDS on April 13, 2019. Almost 150 persons took part in the camp. The second camp was organised for the slum of Bela (gaon) Village. Doctors from AIIMS conducted this camp Almost 750 people from the slum colony of Bela Gaon were got their examinations during the camp.
05	Inauguration of Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi as a Lawyer in Saket District Court	April 22, 2019	New Delhi	The exhibition was inaugurated by Justice Asha Menon, District and Sessions Judge, South East District, Saket Courts.
06	Pursuing the power of Mediation in judiciary through Non-violent Communication	April 27, 2019	Saket, New Delhi	A session on "Non-Violent Communication" was organised at the premises of the District and Sessions Court, Saket, New Delhi. The programme was headed by Justice Asha Menon, District & Sessions Judge, South
07	Interaction with tribal children from Chittorgarh	May 1-2, 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	Over 75 participants from the Bhil tribe of Chittorgarh Rajasthan took part in a two-day interactive session.
08	Workshop for School Children on Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living	May 3-4, 2019	Swaroop Nagar, Delhi	The objective of the workshop was to promote mutual co-existence between Human to Human, Human to Nature and Human to Wildlife so that everyone could live happily. Almost 100 children took part in the programme.
09	Workshop for School Children on Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living	May 6, 2019	Mehrauli, New Delhi	The purpose of conducting the workshop was to do practice about mindfulness and through examples the journey from "I" to "US". Almost 100 children took part in the programme.



10	Workshop for adolescents and children of Reform Home	May 16-17, 2019	Reform Home in NOIDA Uttar Pradesh	The aim of the workshop in the remand home for boys in Noida was to get the attention of the children towards some central themes that the organization encourages them to think about and to make minor changes in the thinking processes of the particular group of children.
11	Energetic children present their understanding of Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living during the workshop	May 17, 2019	Swastik Public School, Ibrahimpur Village, New Delhi	To make Children aware of the importance of co-existence and why it is so vital for nature, human and wild life to remain in unison. About 100 participants took part in the programme.
12	Symposium on Interface on Changing Function of Libraries in an Information Society	May 18, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi	About 150 participants took part in the programme which included librarians from various institutions/libraries under the aegis of DPL. The other sub-theme of the symposium was "Gandhi and Peace: Relevance for Librarians".
13	Gandhian thoughts come live through brush strokes	May 18-21, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	GSDS in association with North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC) Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh organised a "Workshop-cum-Painting Exhibition" in Gandhi Darshan from May 18-21, 2019. Artists from Delhi, Ghaziabad and Uttar Pradesh took part in the programme.
14	Exhibition on 'Gandhian Economics and Contemporary Society'	May 22, 2019	Saket District Court in New Delhi	The GSDS-designed and researched exhibition on "Gandhian Economics and Contemporary Society" was inaugurated on May 22, 2019 by Justice Dudani at the Saket District Court in New Delhi.
15	Health Camp	May 26, 2019	Burari, New Delhi	GSDS and Healthy Aging India in close collaboration with the Doctors from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) organised a 'Health Camp' at Burari on May 26, 2019. Almost 200 people took part. The series of health camps were organised in different slums as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, taking forward his philosophy of inclusion and healthy life.
16	GSDS sets up 'Gandhi Gallery' at Kolkata Airport	May 2019	West Bengal	The Samiti in association with the Airport Authority of India (AAI), Kolkata set up "Gandhi Gallery" (Mohan Se Mahatma) – a permanent gallery on the life, ideas, philosophy and activities of the Mahatma at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata to commemorate the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal Shri K C Tripathi inaugurated.
17	Gandhi Summer School	May 27-31, 2019	Assam	A five-day Gandhi Summer School was organised by GSDS in collaboration with State Bal Bhawan, Social Welfare Department, Government of Assam from May 27-31, 2019 at the State Bal Bhawan at Ujanbazar, Assam. Almost 82 children took part in the programme. Activities such as: Workshop on Comics, Mime, Story Telling, Puppetry and Newsletter as part of the communication exercise was conducted for the students through different resource persons.
18	PUBLICATIONS	May 2019	GSDS New Delhi	As part of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS has undertaken an initiative to bring out few publications under the 'Gandhi 150 Series'. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. गांधी शतकोत्तर – रामउपदेश सिंह विदेह (पृष्ठ :104)</li> <li>2. पंचायती राज – लक्ष्मीदास (पृष्ठ :144)</li> <li>3. आधुनिक भारत के गुमनाम समाज शिल्पी – डॉ. प्रमोद कुमार (पृष्ठ :284)</li> <li>4. गांधी युग के हास्य-व्यंग्य – सम्पादक प्रवीण दत्त शर्मा (पृष्ठ :110)</li> <li>5. सामाजिक आन्दोलन – लक्ष्मीदास (पृष्ठ :256)</li> <li>6. Unsung Builders of Modern Bharat – Dr. Pramod Kumar (pages : 260)</li> <li>7. Nonviolent Communication : A Gandhian Approach – Vedabhyas Kundu (pages 48)</li> <li>8. Ethics Matters! The time is now!! – Rahul Sharan (pages 144)</li> </ol>
19	Symposium on World Environment Day	June 4, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The Samiti in association with 'Ecosophical Society' organised a symposium on the eve of World Environment Day. Almost 60 participants took part in the symposium in Gandhi Darshan on June 4, 2019.

20	Workshop on Nonviolent Communication for Public Prosecutors	June 12, 2019	Delhi Judicial Academy	The workshop was conducted by Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS. He explained about Gandhian nonviolence, the different elements of nonviolent communication and how the public prosecutors could use the tools in their professional work.
21	Seminar on 'Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes' and release of the book on "Mahatma Gandhi's Vision: Radhakrishna's Action"	June 19, 2019	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	Radhakrishna Pratisthan in collaboration with GSDS organised a one-day seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes" on June 19, 2019 in Gandhi Smriti. The day marked the 25 <sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Naina K.S Radhakrishna. The programme commenced with a seminar on the 'Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes' at the Gandhi Smriti. Eighty-five local and outstation participants from Gandhian Organisations attended the seminar.
22	5 <sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day organised with D.G. Home Guards	June 21, 2019	Raja Garden, New Delhi	Almost 1000 participants joined in the celebration to mark the 5 <sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day at Directorate General of Home Guards at Raja Garden New Delhi on June 21, 2019. Demonstrating yogaasanas to the enthusiast participants which also included GSDS staff members, Yogacharya Dilip Tiwari along with two assistants conducted the yoga session.
23	Seminar on Naturopathy with Delhi Home Guards organised as part of 5th International Yoga Day	June 21, 2019	Raja Garden, New Delhi	On the occasion of the 5 <sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day with the Delhi Home Guards, a seminar on Naturopathy was organised as part of the health awareness programme of GSDS. Dr. Manju Aggarwal, senior doctor of Naturopathy and Reflexology conducted the seminar and discussed various benefits of naturopathy treatment.
24	5 <sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day celebrated in	June 21, 2019	Gandhi Darshan,, New Delhi	Around 200 participants gathered in Gandhi Darshan complex to celebrate the 5 <sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day on June 21, 2019. Participants from the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) RC 2, Khadi and Village Industries Commission KVIC at Gandhi Darshan complex took part in the Yoga Day celebration. Yoga Practitioners Varun Nautiyal along with Neha, Amit, Manoj conducted the yogaasanas as per the 'Common Yoga Protocol'.
25	Dialogue on "Contribution towards strengthening the society of Mahatma Gandhi and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan"	June 25, 2019	Gandhi Darshan New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan Sansthan organised a dialogue on "Contribution towards strengthening the society of Mahatma Gandhi and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan on July 25, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. The programme outlined the philosophies of Jayaprakash Narayan as an activist, theorist, socialist and political leader and Mahatma Gandhi's eternal concept of non-violence and Satyagraha. Around 90 people took part in the discussion. Former Governor of Sikkim, Shri B.K. Singh was the chief guest on the occasion.
26	Vice Chairperson of the Samiti pays tributes to the Father of the Nation	June 29, 2019	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti's new Vice-Chairperson and Union Minister for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel paid tributes to the Father of the Nation at the Martyr's Column in Gandhi Smriti on June 29, 2019. This was his first visit to Gandhi Smriti.
27	Three-day International Conference on "World Peace to Commemorate 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Preservation of Buddhist Cultural Heritage of Himalaya"	June 26-28, 2019	Leh – Jammu and Kashmir	A three-day International conference on "World Peace to commemorate the 150 <sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Preservation of Buddhist Cultural Heritage of Himalaya" was organised jointly by the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre, Leh, Ladakh and GSDS at Leh, from June 26-28, 2019 with an aim to generate awareness about the need of world peace in today's turbulent time. Another special focus of the convention was towards promoting walking and spiritual tourism.
28	Pubilcation	June 2019	New Delhi	"Gandhian Economic Principles" by Dr. Y P Anand has been published.
29	Two-day Media Workshop	July 6-7, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Different aspects of Media and Journalism profession have been discussed in this workshop. About 100 students of various colleges, institutes and universities of journalism participated.

30	Seminar Mahatma Gandhi Ka Bhasha Chintan	July 10, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Rajbhasha Karyanvyan Samiti for NTPTI Faridabad had organised a seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi Ka Bhasha Chintan" at their premises. Various PSUs of Delhi and adjoining areas participated in the seminar along with GSDS. A book sale counter on Gandhian literature was also set up in the seminar and this was liked by the enthusiastic participants.
31	Mahatma Gandhi's ideas reflected at Prabhash Prasang	July 15, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The tenth memorial lecture remembering senior journalist Prabhash Joshi was organized.
32	International Conference on "Legacies of Gandhi and Mandela and its Contemporary Relevance"	July 18-19, 2019	Gandhi Bhawan, Delhi University	A two-day international conference on "Legacies of Gandhi and Mandela and its Contemporary Relevance" at Gandhi Bhawan on July 18-19, 2019. The inaugural programme on July 18 began with the inauguration of the photo-exhibition on Gandhi and Mandela by the Vice-Chancellor of University of Delhi, Prof. Yogesh Kumar Tyagi.
33	Consultative Meet on observing August 23 as "Shantisena Day" – "Towards a Non-Violent and Non-Killing India"	July 20, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The Samiti organized a consultative meet on July 20, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat in which it was proposed to observe August 23 every year as "Shantisena Day – Towards a Non-Violent and Non-Killing India". The meeting was presided by Prof. N Radhakrishnan, Chairman, Gandhi Peace Mission, Kerala and Member of the Gandhi: 150 Committee formed by the Government of India.
34	Training of Newly Recruited Judicial Officers in Nonviolent Communication at Delhi Judicial Academy	July 27, 2019	Delhi Judicial Academy	About 100 judicial officers took part in the training. The training was conducted by Prof T K Thomas, senior media educators and Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti.
35	Workshop on "Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health"	July 26, 2019	Kalyanpuri Police Station, New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST) organised a one-day workshop on "Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health" on July 26, 2019 at Kalyanpuri Police Station. The aim of workshop was to get the attention of children towards encouraging them to think about changes in the thinking of people about 'Gender Sensitization' and 'Menstrual Health & Hygiene'. Adolescent girls, domestic workers, house wives and others from the local community took part in the workshop.
36	Gandhi Katha organised for teachers of MCD Primary School Teachers	June 27, 2019	Delhi	The Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate Governance (SCOPE) conducted the ToT with twenty-five teachers from Municipal Corporation Primary Schools of Delhi (North and South Zones) for holding the Gandhi Kathas for the primary class students to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
37	Swachhata Abhiyan initiated by GSDS at Jagannath Puri	July 4-14, 2019	Odisha	Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti as part of the initiatives taken towards the celebration of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, participated in the Rath Yatra at Jagannath Puri in Odisha from July 4-14, 2019 during which they initiated a special sanitation campaign during the Rath Yatra by cleaning the entire area by volunteers and staff of the GSDS. Regular shramdan by the GSDS members for the Rath Yatra in the periphery of the Jagannath Temple, the beach have been organized.
38	Gandhi Gallery – Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre" inaugurated at Kolkata Airport	July 25, 2019	West Bengal	Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal, H.E. Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi inaugurated the "Gandhi Gallery – Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre" at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata on July 25, 2019 at a special function organized at the Kolkata Airport to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
39	'73 Hours of Handwritten Change Ideas for the Nation' a Pan India campaign	August 2019	Across the Country	The 73rd Independence Day of India this year was celebrated with a unique burst of social change ideas from across India inspired by the change mantra of Mahatma Gandhi. GSDS in association with the Kochi based non-profit Letter Farms launched a unique campaign '73 hours of Handwritten Change Ideas for the Nation' inviting students across India to handwrite one social change idea that they passionately want to see, on simple postcards, inspired by the timeless change mantra of Mahatma Gandhi: Be the change that you wish to see in the world. The campaign got a resounding support with CHANGE 150 workshops organized by institutions across the length and breadth of India, from rural to the urban, cutting across caste, creed, religion and economic status.



40	Gram Swaraj Yatra as part of Gandhi 150	August 16-19, 2019	Damoh, Madhya Pradesh	On the occasion of commemorating the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organised a “Gram Swaraj Padyatra” to take the life, message and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi to different sections of the society with the aim to carry the message of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi to the people through a padyatra. The Gram Swaraj Padyatra was led by none other than the Hon’ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel from District Anantpur in Madhya Pradesh to Damoh, Madhya Pradesh from August 16-19, 2019.
41	Press Conference to celebrate August 23 every year as ‘Shanti Senda Day’	August 1, 2019	New Delhi	Shanti Sena, a peace brigade conceptualised by Mahatma Gandhi and taken forward by Vinoba Bhave, is likely to be revived by a group of Gandhian organisations. Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, the Gandhi Peace Mission and the All India Harijan Sevak Sangh along with other organisations at New Delhi on August 1, 2019, announced the plan, which included designating August 23 – the day when Vinoba Bhave launched it in 1957 – as Shanti Sena Diwas.
42	Ideas of ‘Responsible Patriotism’ floated through Chai Kaafi and Music	August 4, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Manzil Mystics organized a “Chai Kaafi and Music” on the theme of ‘responsible patriotism’ in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat as a celebration to the 73 <sup>rd</sup> Independence Day and as part of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. About 150 participants comprising of students, mentors from different areas of life, army personnel, senior musicians took part in the programme.
43	Orientation Programme of newly recruited Assistant Secretaries (IAS Officers) on Gandhian Philosophy	August 9, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti organized a one-day orientation programme of newly recruited Assistant Secretaries on August 9, 2019. About 160 assistant secretaries were taken around Gandhi Smriti, National Gandhi Museum and the pavilions in Gandhi Darshan. Besides a lecture on Gandhian philosophy and ideals was delivered by Mr Srikrishna Kulkarni, Chairman of IIM, Kolkata and great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi.
44	Signature for Khadi as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi	August 10, 2019	New Delhi	‘Sankalp for Khadi’ – an initiative by Incredible Transforming Charitable Foundation (ITCF) organized Signature for Khadi, to mark the celebration of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth anniversary and 100 years of Charkha in association with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. The gala event hosted on 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2019 at The Ashok Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi witnessed a first of its kind fashion show where Bunkars from 7 Indian states showcased their exclusive craft, contributing towards promotion of Khadi, the Freedom Fabric.
45	Sanitation campaign initiated on Id-Ul-Juha in Jama Masjid	August 11, 2019	New Delhi	Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in association with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Foundation organized a sanitation drive in Jama Masjid on the occasion of Id-Ul-Juha on August 11, 2019. Shri Arabindo Mohanty from the GSDS coordinated the programme along with Mr. Imran Khan, President of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Foundation. Staff of GSDS enthusiastically took part in the event. A meeting was later held with the Shahi Imam Bhukari. Almost 50 participants took part in the programme.
46	Launch of Gandhi Talks in Gandhi Darshan	August 14, 2019	New Delhi	Youth of India, in an endeavour to dissipate the message of our Mahatma among the youth, launched the “Gandhi Talks” in a special programme in Gandhi Darshan, as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on August 14, 2019.
47	73 <sup>rd</sup> Independence Day celebration	August 15, 2019	New Delhi	Director GSDS unfurled the Tricolour on the occasion of the 73 <sup>rd</sup> Independence Day in Gandhi Darshan Rajghat on August 15, 2019 and reiterated the vision of Mahatma Gandhi for a honest society. Calling upon the staff members to work constructively for the society, Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan said the everybody must contribute for the society. Children of the staff members presented cultural performances on the occasion.

48	Discussion on supporting the "Silver India" takes focus on the 19 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of AIIMS	August 17-18, 2019	New Delhi	The "19 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Association of Gerontology (India) and Multi-Disciplinary Workshops on Emerging Scenario of Population Ageing" organised by Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, in collaboration with Department of Anatomy and Department of Geriatric Medicine and supported by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, Help Age India, Indian Council of Medical Research and Indian Ageing Congress was on August 17-18, 2019 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. The theme of the conference was "Changing Paradigms of Well-being in an Ageing World: From Cell to Society."
49	One Student-One Tree – Tree Plantation	August 23, 2019	New Delhi	GSDS and IGNOU RC-2 jointly led an initiative towards making it compulsory for the students enrolling in different courses in Indira Gandhi National Open University to plant a tree which has become part of their curriculum and credit points will be awarded to them. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Administrative Officer, Shri S A Jamal, Dr. Reeta Chauhan and other professors from IGNOU joined the plantation drive on August 23, 2019.
50	Pension Adaalat	August 23, 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	A "Pension Adaalat" was organised on August 23, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan along with the retired staff of the Samiti. Discussing the issues related to the pensioners, Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Administrative Officer GSDS Shri S A Jamal felt that such gathering gives scope of redressing the grievances of the pensioners and the issues they are facing, which need direct official intervention. About 50+ pensioners took part in the discussion.
51	President of India inaugurates the World Youth Conference for Kindness	August 23, 2019	New Delhi	The UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) concluded the first-ever World Youth Conference on Kindness at the Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on August 23, 2019, on the theme 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Gandhi for the Contemporary World: Celebrating the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi'. The conference in which the Samiti was a partner, was inaugurated by the Honourable President of the Republic of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, and saw participation from approximately 1,000 youth representing over 27 countries.
52	Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi's influence in our Literature Tradition	August 25, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Akhil Bharatiya Sahitya Parishad organized a seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi's influence in our Literature Tradition" in Gandhi Darshan on August 25, 2019. Former Justice of Allahabad High Court and Lokayukta of Chhattisgarh Shri Shambhunath Srivastava, who was the chief guest on the occasion, said that the welfare of the entire creation is wished in the consciousness of Indian literature.
53	Screening of movie on Kasturba Gandhi	August 27 & 29 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	A screening of a movie on Kasturba Gandhi entitled "Gandhi Ki Prerna Kasturba" was organized in Gandhi Smriti on August 27, 2019. Directed by Mr. Manish Thakur, the film describes the role played by Kasturba Gandhi during the struggle for Independence whether it was in South Africa or India. The portrayal of 'Ba' as Kasturba Gandhi was popularly called as a strong-willed personality was depicted through the film.
54	Seminar on "Gandhian Economic Principles for Equitable Growth"	August 28, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti in association with the Federation of Indian Export Organizations organized a day-long seminar on Gandhian Economic Principles for Equitable Growth on August 28, 2019. About 60 participants from different groups/business houses which are part of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations took part in the seminar.
55	"Give Non-Killing A Chance – Are Non-Killing Societies Possible" book released	August 31, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Konark Publishers Pvt Ltd organized a book release function of Shri Anoop Swarup's Book, "Give Non-Killing a Chance – Are Non Killing Societies Possible" in Gandhi Smriti on August 31, 2019.

56	R P L Training program for auto drivers inaugurated	August 13, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	During August 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28, 2019, three batches of training program were conducted along with assessment by the assessors, Mr. Arun Kumar Maharaj and Mr. Rishi; Mr. Arvind Kumar and Mr. Arpit and Mr Serak Mehdi and Mr. Arjun Arora for the respective batches. Almost 126 auto drivers took part in the training program.
57	Young voices reiterate their commitment to Gandhian mission of peace-building	August 29, 2019	Coimbatore	Shanti Ashram in collaboration with Gandhi Smiriti and Darshan Samiti jointly organized the Coimbatore Peace festival 2019 on August 29 at GRD Auditorium, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore. Totally 1,432 young people from 47 institutions participated in the Day of Prayer and commitment for peace.
58	Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre inaugurated in Gumla	August 30, 2019	Jharkhand	In continuation of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti in association with Vikas Bharti Bishunpur established the Interpretation Centre at Gumla, Jharkhand. The Interpretation Centre was inaugurated on August 30, 2019 at Bishunpur.
59	Workshop for School Children on Peace Building and Mutual Co-existence	August 09, 2019	Guwahati, Assam	A workshop on “School Children on Peace Building and Mutual Co-Existence” was organized by GSDS for School Children of Axom Vidya Mandir, Noonmati, Guwahati, Assam on August 09, 2019. About 110 participants took part in one day workshop
60	Teacher’s Training on Importance of Peace and Non-violent Communication between Teachers and Students	August 16-17, 2019	Umrangso, Assam	A training programme for “Teachers on Importance of Peace and Non-violent Communication between Teachers and Students” was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi in association with Jamuna Devi Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Umrangso on August 16-17, 2019. About 75 teachers and principals took part in this training programme from different schools of Umrangso.
61	Workshop on Solar Power: A Source of Sustainable Energy	August 13, 2019	Shangpung, Meghalaya	About 200 students including teachers of Khad-Ar-Nor Upper Primary School took part in the workshop.
62	Five Day Workshop on “Techno-Gandhian Philosophy”	August 27-31, 2019	Arunachal Pradesh	GSDS in association with the Gandhi Study Centre, NIT Arunachal Pradesh organised a five-day workshop on “Techno-Gandhian Philosophy” in the National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh. Different colleges and schools from Arunachal Pradesh participated in the the event.
63	One Day Workshop on Sustainable Leadership to achieve Sustainable Development Goals	August 29, 2019	Dibrugarh, Assam	The workshop on sustainable leadership to achieve sustainable development goals was organized for the students of Moran Junior College, Moranhat, Dibrugarh, Assam on August 29, 2019. About 300 students and teachers took part in the workshop.
64	Mutual Co-existence and Children’s Role in Peace Building	August 31, 2019	Guwahati, Assam	The Samiti organized a one- day workshop on Mutual Co-existence and children’s role in Peace Building at Amalprabha Das Shiksha Pratishthan, Lalmati, Basistha, Guwahati on August 31, 2019. This school was established in the memory of senior Gandhian in northeast, Late Baideo Amalprabha Das. About 100 students took part in the workshop.
65	Hon’ble Speaker of Chattisgarh Assembly Dr. Charandas Mahant visits Gandhi Smriti	August 29, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	Hon’ble Speaker of Chattisgarh Assembly Dr. Charandas Mahant visited Gandhi Smriti on August 29, 2019 and was welcomed by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan. The honoured guest also took a tour of the Gandhi Smriti museum.
66	International Conference on “Mahatma Gandhi and Diaspora”	September 17-18, 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (DRRC) - Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad-Bharat (ARSP) and GSDS jointly organised a two-day International Conference in New Delhi on 17-18 September, 2019 on the topic: “Mahatma Gandhi and Diaspora” in partnership with the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS), New Delhi. The conference was organised in commemoration of 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and inaugurated by Hon’ble Minister of Culture and Vice Chairman GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel.
67	President of India inaugurates Gandhi Katha by Pujya Morari Babu	September 24-October 2, 2019	New Delhi	Hon’ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the Gandhi Katha by Pujya Morari Babu, being organised by the Harijan Sevak Sangh to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, on September 24, 2019 at Gandhi Ashram, Harijan Sevak Sangh, Kingsway Camp, Delhi.

68	Meeting with school teachers for Gandhi 150	September 6, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	GSDS organised a meeting with teachers and coordinators from different schools and institutions of Delhi and NCR on September 6, 2019. The meeting was chaired by Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS who mooted various initiatives of the Samiti for celebrating the 150 <sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Almost 55 teachers from 30 schools took part in the meeting in Gandhi Darshan.
69	Central Jail no. 16, Mandoli Jail Workshop on Gender sensitization and Menstrual Health	September 6, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti organized a workshop on “Gender sensitization and Menstrual Health” in Central Jail no 16, Mandoli Jail on September 6, 2019. The aim of workshop in Tihar, Mandoli Jail, was to get the attention of the women prisoners towards the themes that the organization encourage them to think about changes in the thinking of peoples about Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health & Hygiene and Natural therapy.
70	Remembering two Saints and Satyagrahis	September 11, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti remembered two saints and satyagrahis – Mahatma Gandhi and his spiritual son, Acharya Vinoba Bhave at a programme commemorating the 113 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first historic Satyagraha launched by Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa on September 11, 1906. The programme organised on September 11, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan also paid tribute to Acharya Vinoba Bhave on his 125 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary.
71	Rehearsals for Gandhi Jayanti programme	September 14, 24, 26, 29, 30, October 1, 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	Over 1000 children draw from 31 schools of Delhi and NCR took part in the musical rehearsals as a preparation to celebrate the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan from September 14, 24, 26 and 29. On September 30 and October 1 rehearsals were organised in Gandhi Smriti. 85 Children participating in the Value Creation Camp from five different schools.
72	Gandhi Quiz in association with MyGov.in	July to September 2019	New Delhi	To reawaken the spirit of Gandhism in all, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti had organized the Gandhi Quiz from June 25, 2019 to August 09, 2019 at MyGov.in. The significance of the quiz was to acclimatize citizens with the life, message and philosophy of the Father of the Nation. More than one lakh people across the country took part in this online quiz. Final three winners in both English and Hindi Category were awarded with the Gandhian Literature along with the prize money of Rs 21,000; Rs.15, 000 and Rs.11000, respectively. The results were declared on September 2019.
73	Logo and tagline designing contest for “Mahatma Gandhi Mobile Quiz App”	September 2019	New Delhi	As part of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti has added one more way to modulate the frequencies of community with the “My life is my message “ quote of Mahatma. The Samiti came up with the multiplayer “Mahatma Gandhi Mobile Quiz App”. The basic intention behind launching the Application was to connect the people with the teachings of Mahatma and thereby widening the user engagement through digital platform. This was initiated during September 2019.
74	Hands-on-training on Charkha draws huge crowd in Delhi Book Fair	September 11-15, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti took part in the Delhi Book Fair by putting up an exhibition on the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi. A painting competition was also organised for the participating children, which saw an overwhelming participation.
75	National festival on Youth for Preventive Health	September 20-21, 2019	New Delhi	NISHTHA in collaboration with GSDS organised its 1 <sup>st</sup> National Festival “Youth for Preventive Health” as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan on September 20-21, 2019. 200 people took part in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Laxmi Dass, Vice President, Harijan Sevak Sangh with Shri Begraj Khatana former Vice President, National Child and Women Development and Member Hindi Samiti. Dr. Gopal ji chaired the session.
76	Ten-day Value Creation Camp inaugurated	September 24, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The ten-day Value Creation Camp from September 24 to October 3, 2019 was inaugurated in Gandhi Darshan by Shri Manhar Valjibhai Zala, Chairman, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment who was the chief guest.



77	Meeting with 'Dharam Gurus'	September 27, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan welcomed religious leaders of different faith in Gandhi Smriti on September 27, 2019 at a small discussion regarding the Gandhi Jayanti (October 2) programme in Gandhi Smriti. The meeting was in light of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
78	Plantation of Tree gifted by National Sanitation Mission	September 28, 2019	New Delhi	Shri Pankaj Sharma Technical Associate along with Ms. Lalita planted a tree gifted to Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan by the National Sanitation Mission in Gandhi Darshan on September 28, 2019.
79	State Level Observation of 125th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Acharya Vinoba Bhave & Launching of one year program on 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi	September 11, 2019	Odisha	Vinoba Seva Pratisthan(VSP) in association with Gandhi Smriti & Darshan Samiti(GSDS) New Delhi, an autonomous body of ministry of culture, Govt.of India, Department of Culture & Odia Language Literature , Govt.of Odisha, Gandhi Global Foundation and Odisha Gandhivadi Forum were jointly organised the state level convention on the eve of 150th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
80	Two-Day Workshop and Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar	September 10-11, 2019	Bihar	A two-day youth workshop and seminar on "Mahatma Gandhiji and B R Ambedkar" held on September 10-11, 2019 at Babhnagama in Madhepura district, Bihar. Former Bihar Chief Minister Bhola Paswan Shastri inaugurated the two-day programme that was organized in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi.
81	North East Youth Conclave	September 6-8, 2019	Tezpur University, Assam	The Department of Mass Communication & Journalism, Tezpur University in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi organized a three day North East Youth Conclave on the theme 'Role of Youth in Contributing to a Culture of Peace and Non-violence' during September 6-8 2019. A total of 150 participants from 18 institutions across North East India participated in the Conclave.
82	Introducing Nonviolent Communication in Schools	September 26, 2019	Assam	About 50 teachers and students of education took part in an orientation programme to introduce Gandhian nonviolent communication in schools organized on September 26, 2019 at Sarania Ashram, Guwahati. The GSDS Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the workshop. He explained the different elements of nonviolent communication and how these can be integrated in classroom and school management practices.
83	Symposium on Rashtrapita and Rashtrabhasha	September 28, 2019	Manipur	A symposium on the "Father of the Nation and National Language" was organised on September 28, 2019 by Nagri Lipi Parishad in association with GSDS at, S Kula Women's College, Nambol Vishnupur, Manipur as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Acharya Shri Shyam Kishore Singh, who is the national language campaigner of Manipur organised this symposium.
84	Celebrating the 150 <sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (Gandhi Jayanti) and International Day of Non Violence	October 2, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	The Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind led the nation into paying rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on October 2, 2019 celebrating the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and International Day of Non-Violence. Almost 1000 children drawn from 38 institutions of Delhi and NCR, Madhya Pradesh and Jalandhar took part in the programme and offered musical tribute to the Mahatma.
85	Gandhi Global Solar Yatra: 1 Million Students join celebrations across the globe as Solar Ambassadors	October 2, 2019	Across the Country	To mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, about one million student solar ambassadors from different parts of the country assembled with their 'solar study lamps' in a grand ceremony on October 2, 2019. The event was organized jointly by GSDS in collaboration with IIT Mumbai. The objective of the GGSY was aimed towards sensitization of over one million students towards adverse effects of climate change and making them future propagators of renewable energy and creating "Global Student Solar Ambassadors".
86	Children display their creativity at the valedictory function of Value Creation Camp	October 3, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Children of Value Creation Camp organized in Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi performed in concluding ceremony on October 3, 2019. The chief guest on this occasion was Shri Alok Goswami from Madhya Pradesh. Teachers also shared their experiences on the occasion.

87	National Discuss Meet on Relevance of Gandhian Educational Ideas: Implications for Policies and Practices	October 4-5, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti in association with the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration organized a two-day national discussion meet on Relevance of Gandhian Educational Ideas: Implications for Policies and Practices on October 4-5, 2019.
88	Orientation on Integrating Non-Violent Communication in Judicial System	October 14, 2019	Delhi Judicial Academy	GSDS & Delhi Judicial Academy jointly organized an orientation programme on "Integrating Non-Violent Communication in Judicial System" for the judicial officers in Gandhi Darshan on October 14, 2019. Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS inaugurated the training programme by welcoming the 150 judicial officers. Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS conducted the day-long interactive training programme.
89	Netritva Sadhana Shivar	October 16-20, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) organized the 9th Edition of the "Netritva Sadhana" in Gandhi Darshan from October 16-20, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. 39 delegates from 15 states others took part in the residential training programme. The programme had 30 sessions including Model Parliament.
90	Dialogue on Mahatma Gandhi's thought and principles on Hindi Language	October 18, 2019	New Delhi	Delhi Public Library, Delhi Hindi Sahitya Sammelan under the aegis of GSDS organised a seminar on "Hindi aur Gandhi" in Gandhi Darshan on October 18, 2019 as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. O P Kohli, former Governor of Gujarat was the chief guest of the programme
91	Exhibition-Cum-Book-Sale at Sardar Patel Vidyalaya	October 19-20, 2019	New Delhi	Sardar Patel Vidyalaya Lodhi Road, as part of Gandhi: 150 organised a special programme in their school on October 19-20, 2019. Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti took part in the programme by displaying Khadi products from Srijan GSDS and also a book exhibition on books on and by Mahatma Gandhi was set up. Ms. Soni Rai and Ms. Simran represented the Samiti.
92	National Seminar on "Gandhi in India's Literary Imagination"	October 22-23, 2019	New Delhi	To commemorate Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi's 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, a two-day National Seminar titled Gandhi in India's Literary Imagination was organized by the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi on October 22-23, 2019.
93	National Gandhi Jayanti Seminar 2019 on "Gandhi and the Contemporary Issues: Old Theory, New Perspective"	October 23-24, 2019	New Delhi	GSDS, Indialogue Foundation, Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi, Gandhi Bhawan University of Delhi as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi organized a two-day National Gandhi Jayanti seminar on "Gandhi and the Contemporary Issues: Old Theory, New Perspective" on October 23-24, 2019 at Gandhi Bhawan University of Delhi. The fundamental objective of this seminar was to present the relevance of Gandhi's ideas and to show how his ideas could be reformulated in order to fulfil the demands of the challenges posed by various contemporary issues.
94	International Seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi across Boundaries"	October 23-24, 2019	New Delhi	Gandhi Study Circle of Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi in association with GSDS organized a two-day international seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi across Boundaries" on October 23-24, 2019 at Ram Lal Anand College. About 170 participants took part in the programme. Her Excellency Ms. Faduma Abdullahi Mohammad, Ambassador of Somalia in India was the chief guest on the occasion.
95	Creativity with colours marks Diwali Celebrations	October 25, 2019	GSDS, New Delhi	GSDS staff joined in the mood celebrating the festival of lights by decorating their respective departments with beautiful and colourful designs (rangoli). The celebration on October 25, 2019 culminated with a cultural programme and awarded the best rangoli design to Ms. Shubhangi Girdhar.
96	Pledge administered as part of observance of Vigilance Awareness Week	October 28, 2019	New Delhi	Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan administered the pledge of honesty and integrity and transparency as part of the observance of the "Vigilance Awareness Week" in Gandhi Darshan on October 28, 2019. Administrative Officer Shri S A Jamal was also present on the occasion.

97	Exhibition at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi	September 30 to October 3, 2019	New Delhi	As part of the celebrations to mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti set up an exhibition on "Mohan Se Mahatma" in The Ashok International at Chanakyapuri from September 30 to October 3, 2019. Books on and by Mahatma Gandhi and other allied subjects were displayed during this period. A Khadi stall by Srijan GSDS was another attraction of the programme.
98	"Run For Unity" organized on 144 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	October 31, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Almost 225 participants took part in the "Run For Unity" eight kilometer race organized in Gandhi Darshan to commemorate the 144 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on October 31, 2019. The "Run For Unity" was led by Asian Marathon Champion Dr. Mrs Sunita Godara.
99	Moniya se Mahatma Gandhi Quiz at Mygov.in and Doordarshan	September-October 2019	New Delhi	To mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Doordarshan has jointly organized "Moniya se Mahatma Tak" Quiz at MyGov.in. After three weeks of Preliminary quiz at MyGov.in, 24 participants (4 top scorers from the six zones) from the Moniya category and 24 participants (4 top scorers from the six zones) from the Mahatma Category from approximately 80,000 participants in total were selected and thence further called up to Delhi for the next rounds.
100	Gandhi Jayanti celebrated at	October 2, 2019	Palwal, Haryana	The Samiti in collaboration with Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust, Palwal Haryana organized a public event to celebrate the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2019 in Palwal, Haryana. The programme began with yoga by the acharyas from the Arya Samaj. More than 300 people attended the programme.
101	Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi's life in Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express	October 2, 2019	Bihar	The East Central Railway Zone of Indian Railways paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary by converting an express train to a veritable exhibition on the transformation of "Mohan to Mahatma". The "Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express" chugged off from Muzaffarpur with upgraded coaches. This exhibition was curated by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and was inaugurated on October 2, 2019 by hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Radha Mohan Singh.
102	Mahatma Gandhi and Tradition Farming – A dialogue	October 6-7, 2019	Sikar, Rajasthan	The Samiti organized a two-day dialogue on "Mahatma Gandhi and Traditional Farming" (Mahatma Gandhi evam Paramparik Krishi) in Jor Ki Dhani, Godham Village Pist Katrathal, District Sikar, Rajasthan on October 6-7, 2019. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan addressed the gathering of about 145 participants from the village.
103	Special session with Hon'ble Members of Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly	October 3, 2019	Chattisgarh	A special session on "Understanding Gandhi" was held in Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly for the hon'ble Members of the Vidhan Sabha on October 3, 2019 for celebrating the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Eminent Gandhian and Vice President of Harijan Sevak Sangh Shri Laxmi Dass was the main speaker on the occasion.
104	Mahatma Gandhi brought to life in Paris: Mahatma's life-sized hologram participates at Ahinsa lecture	October 1, 2019	New Delhi	The UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP), in cooperation with the Permanent Delegation of India, and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti hosted the fourth Ahinsa Lecture, featuring a dialogue between panelists and a life-size hologram of Mahatma Gandhi, on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education. The dialogue was on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Education.
105	Visit of German Chancellor H.E. Dr. Angela Merkel	November 1, 2019.	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi visited Gandhi Smriti with German Chancellor H.E. Dr. Angela Merkel on November 1, 2019. They visited the museum and saw sketches and paintings made by renowned artist Shri Upendra Maharathi and Indo-Hungarian painter Elizabeth Brunner. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel then paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr's Column and offered floral tributes.

106	VIMARSH: 2019 Youth Conclave	November 2-4, 2019	New Delhi	The Samiti in association with Samarth Shiksha Samiti organized "Vimarsh: 2019" a three-day discussion on various issues of development during the three-day seminar held in Gandhi Darshan in association with the GSDS from November 2-4, 2019. Scholars, academicians, litterateurs took part in the three-day programme.
107	Music for Peace in association with Embassy of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to India	November 13, 2019.	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	As a part of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti have started an initiative "In the Path of Mahatma Gandhi" to reach out to different sections of the society – both within the country and globally to propagate the message of the Mahatma. In this context, the Samiti had a cultural program – Music for Peace in collaboration with the Embassy of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to India at Gandhi Smriti on November 13, 2019.
108	"Music for Peace" in association with Embassy of Guatemala to India	November 18, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	Almost 100 participants took part in the programme. The dignitaries of the function included An interactive session between students with HE Mr Giovanni Castillo, Ambassador of Guatemala was another highlight of the programme. His Excellency Mr. Giovanni René Castillo, the Guatemalan Ambassador to India, Mr. Esmaylin Thomas Daniel Gómez, the First Secretary and Consul.
109	Pallavan	November 17, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Almost 350 people comprising of artists, litterateurs, academicians, social workers, anthropologists took part in a one-day discussion 'Pallavan' that was organized at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat by the Samiti in association with Sanskar Bharati on November 17, 2019. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (HCM & VC, GSDS) inaugurated the programme along with Dr. Sonal Mansingh (Eminent Dance Guru), Dr. Rajeshwar Acharya (Hindustani Classical Vocalist) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, GSDS). The discussion was based on preservation and promotion of Indian cultural heritage.
110	Visit of International Delegation to GSDS	November 20, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Ms. Tolstaya Ekaterina, Mr. Andrey Tolstoy, great-great grandson of Leo Tolstoy descendents of Leo Tolstoy from the Museum Estate – Leo Tolstoy Museum in Russia "Yasnaya Polyana" along with a nine member delegation visited Gandhi Darshan on November 20, 2019. The delegation was welcomed by Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member of GSDS. A tour was also conducted in Gandhi Darshan in the pavilion "My Life is My Message."
111	Fundamental Duties and Moral Values	November 26, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	143 students drawn from 12 schools of Delhi and NCR including students of Symbiosis Law School took part in a dialogue on "Fundamental Duties and Moral Values" as part of the celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of the Constitution of India. The programme was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat on November 26, 2019.
112	Nai Talim and Basic Education	November 21-23, 2019	Patna, Bihar	A three-day brainstorming session on "Nai Talim and Basic Education" of Mahatma Gandhi was organized from November 21-23, 2019 in Vrindavan Basic School, Champaran, Bihar. The programme was organised in association with the Center for Innovation in Public Systems (CIPS), Patna.
113	Gandhian Approach to Rural Development and Management	November 23, 2019	Patna, Bihar	The Samiti in association with the Department of Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, Patna University organized a one-day seminar on "Gandhian Approach to Rural Development and Management" on November 23, 2019 in Patna.
114	Nonviolent Communication	November 23, 2019	Patna, Bihar	A half-day training session on nonviolent communication was organized for students of Arcade Business School, Patna, Bihar by the Samiti on November 23, 2019. The Samiti's Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the programme. Another a half-day training session on 'nonviolent communication' was organized for students of Indian School of Business, Patna, Bihar by the Samiti. The Samiti's Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the programme.



115	Joy of Reading Festival	November 4-8, 2019	Roing, Arunachal Pradesh	The "Joy of Reading Festival", Roing, Arunachal Pradesh organized from November 4-8, 2019 by the Lower Dibang Valley District Administration of Arunachal Pradesh in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and the ICDS Department as part of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi saw a huge response from the participants, both young and old. It was inaugurated on November 4, 2019 by eminent educationist and 'grandmother of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) in India', Prof Vimala Ramachandran.
116	Inculcate Gandhian Values	November 28, 2019	Imphal, Manipur	An orientation programme on how to 'Inculcate Gandhian Values' was organized for students of Delta Advance School, Imphal, Manipur on November 28, 2019. Different dimensions of Gandhian philosophy were discussed and how these can assimilate in daily lives by the children.
117	A two day training of teachers on how to introduce peace and nonviolence in schools	November 29-30, 2019	Imphal, Manipur	The Samiti organized a two day training of teachers on how to introduce peace and nonviolence in schools on November 29-30, 2019 in Imphal, Manipur in association with the State Council of Education Research and Training, Manipur. About 100 participants took part in the training programme.
118	Swedish King, Queen pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi	December 2, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf Folke Hubertus and Queen Silvia Renate Sommerlath on Monday paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Smriti on December 2, 2019. The visiting delegation offered their tributes at the Martyrs Column.
119	Women from the community raise their voice on community development	December 4-5, 2019	New Delhi	Around 30 women from different areas of SEWA which included Mustafabad, Sundernagri, Harkeshnagar, Rajeevnagar, Raghubirnagar, New Ashoknagar, Uttamnagar, Jahangirpuri along with representatives from Punjab and Bihar took part in a training of trainers "Agewan Vikas Initiative Program" in Gandhi Darshan on December 4-5, 2019.
120	"In the Path of Mahatma Gandhi, India-Zambia towards Peace and Non-violence"	December 6, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	In continuation of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS tried to reach out to different Embassies/High Commissions in New Delhi to have a joint cultural programme with an aim to propagate the relevance of the Gandhian Philosophies of Peace and Non-violence in the international realm. On December 6, 2019 a programme with the High Commission of Zambia in New Delhi was organised in Gandhi Smriti. The High Commissioner of Zambia to India, H.E. Mrs. Judith K.K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga was the chief guest in the function.
121	Book "Unsung Builders of Modern India" presented to Shri Pranab Mukherjee	December 6, 2019	New Delhi	Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Asst Editor GSDS, Shri Pankaj Chaubey and author of the book "Unsung Builders of Modern India" Shri Pramod Kumar presented the copy of the GSDS publication to former President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee at a small function in Shri Pranab Mukherjee's residence on December 6, 2019. Director GSDS also present a token memento to the former President.
122	First Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture	December 8, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	As part of 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi the first "Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture was organized and this lecture was delivered by His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche on December 8, 2019. Prof. (Dr) Kesava Rao Vurrukula, Vice Chancellor, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, presided over the function.
123	Discourse on "A Gandhian Path for a Global Non-Violent Planet"	December 9, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	GSDS organised a day-long discussion on "A Gandhian Path for a Global Non-Violent Planet: Strategies of Action for a Culture of Peace" in Gandhi Darshan on December 9, 2019. In this discussion, eminent Gandhians and other enlightened people of the country discussed on the procedure to establish peace in the world and the importance of non-violence in world peace. The chief speaker was Venerable Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche. Shri Laxmidas, Vice President of Harijan Seva Sangh moderated the discussion.

124	Japanese Delegation from Shizenkan University visits Gandhi Smriti	December 10, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	Shizenkan University comprises Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation in Tokyo, Japan. This University in collaboration with School of Inspired Leadership (SOIL), Gurugram, India visited Gandhi Smriti on December 10, 2019.
125	Prabudh Samvad urges people to preserve the cultural and traditional heritage of India	December 10, 2019	New Delhi	A dialogue on 'Nationalism and Cultural Heritage' was organised in Gandhi Darshan on December 10, 2019. The distinguished guests who addressed the gathering of over 400 participants spoke on the need to take pride in the cultural heritage of India.
126	Book "Unsung Builders of Modern India" presented to Shri Lal Krishna Advani	December 13, 2019	New Delhi	Shri Pankaj Chaubey along with author of the book "Unsung Builders of Modern India" Shri Pramod Kumar presented the copy of the book published by GSDS as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi to Shri Lal Krishna Advani at his residence on December 13, 2019.
127	Sensitize and mobilise people towards the idea of non-killing: Prof. N Radhakrishnan	December 18, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	The Samiti organised a dialogue on "Launch of Non Killing India & One Crore Non Violent Family" in Gandhi Darshan on December 18, 2019. The discussion was chaired by Prof. N Radhakrishnan, Member Gandhi: 150 Committee, Government of India. The other participants at the discussion included Dr. Anoop Swarup, Shri Govindnathan Nair, Dr. Y P Anand, Du. Gurudutt, Prof. Sanjeev, Prof. Ramesh Kumar, Shri Yatish Mishra, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, students and youth.
128	Three-day Youth Leadership Development programme	December 19-21, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	GSDS in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Central Delhi organised a three-day "Youth Leadership Development Programme" in Gandhi Darshan from December 19-21, 2019. 55 participants took part in the programme.
129	Gandhi and Buddha can light us in our enlightenment: Shantum Seth	December 22, 2019	Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi	GSDS in association with 'Ahimsa Trust' organised a dialogue with almost 55 international participants from different parts of the world on a pilgrimage in the path of Mahatma Gandhi and Gautam Buddha. The delegation was led by Dharmacharya Shantum Seth of Ahimsa Trust. The members offered their tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr's Column in Gandhi Smriti on December 22, 2019.
130	Third Anupam Mishra Memorial Lecture	December 22, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Eminent journalist and former editor of Hindi daily "Jansatta", Shri Banwari ji delivered the third "Anupam Mishra Memorial Lecture" in Gandhi Darshan on December 22, 2019. Almost 95 participants that included representatives from different Gandhian organisations; youth and students, journalists and family members of late Anupam Mishra attended the programme. The theme of the lecture was "Swaraj and Gandhiji".
131	Live painting demonstration as part of Gandhi-150	December 23, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Media Family in association with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organised a live painting demonstration on December 23, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. Artists did a live painting on Mahatma Gandhi as a tribute to the Father of the Nation as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Gandhiji.
132	Gandhi Katha as part of Gandhi: 150	December 24, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	'Gandhi Katha' by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna was organized in Gandhi Darshan by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Culture and GSDS on December 24, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. With a view to commemorate the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Gandhi Katha was organized that saw the participation of almost 270+ youth from the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.
133	Sadbhavna Preeti Bhoj Prasad	December 26, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	To mark the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS hosted a "Sadbhavna Preeti Bhoj Prasad" on December 26, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. Rajiv Gandhi Kalyan Sansthan organised this programme by offering gifts to the poor children, especially the girl child. About 255+ people took part in the programme.
134	Annual Review Meeting organised	December 30, 2019	Gandhi Darshan, New Delhi	Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan took an Annual Review Meeting in Gandhi Darshan on December 30, 2019 for the entire staff. Different units made their presentations at the review meeting which discussed the future programmes the Samiti could organise as part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The day-long meeting addressed various issues of different units and provided a solution to the problems.

135	Tributes to former Member of Parliament Shri A. V. Swamy	December 31, 2019	New Delhi	Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan led the staff in paying tributes to former Member of Parliament from Odisha, Shri Alajangi Viswanath Swamy on December 31, 2019. He was 91. The former parliamentarian breathed his last at his residence in Khariar Road of Nuapada district. Born on July 18, 1919 in Nabarangpur district, Shri Swamy was elected to Upper House of Parliament, Rajya Sabha as an independent candidate from 2012 to 2018.
136	Gandhi Exchange programme	December 24-26, 2019	Patna Bihar	The Samiti organised a three-day Gandhi Exchange Programme by sending the children of the two Buniyadi Vidyalyas of Brindavan, Kumarbagh and Sirasia Adda to the School of Creative Learning in Patna. 30 children and coordinator teachers took part in the programme from December 24-26, 2019.
137	Seminar on Gandhian Principles and the Judiciary	December 10, 2019	Ranchi, Jharkhand	The Samiti in association with the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi organized a one-day seminar on Gandhian Principles and the Judiciary on December 10, 2019 in Ranchi. As part of this seminar different dimensions of Gandhian Principles were discussed which are important for the Judicial System.
138	Workshop on Nonviolent Communication in the Judicial System	December 11, 2019	Ranchi, Jharkhand	A one-day workshop was organized by the Samiti on Nonviolent Communication in the Judicial System at the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi on December 11, 2019. Students of several law colleges took part in this workshop.
139	Seminar on Gandhian Perspective to Skill Development	December 13, 2019	Ranchi, Jharkhand	To discuss the Gandhian perspective to skill development, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organized a one-day seminar on December 13, 2019 in Ranchi, Jharkhand. The programme was organized in association with Vikas Bharti Bishunpur. The seminar was presided over by Padmashree Shri Ashok Bhagat who stressed on the Gandhian approach to skill development.
140	GSDS participates in Book Exhibition in Delhi Public Library	January 1 to 15, 2020	Delhi	As part of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 550th Prakash Parv, Delhi Public Library (DPL) organised a 15-day festival from January 1-15, 2020 at Delhi Public Library, during which various programmes were organised. An exhibition on books and photographs of Mahatma Gandhi was displayed.
141	In the Path of Mahatma Gandhi – India-Rawanda towards Peace and Non-Violence	January 7, 2020	Delhi	GSDS in association with the High Commission of Rwanda in India organised an interactive session on January 7, 2020. His Excellency Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda in India delivered the lecture on the history of Rwanda and how the country evolved itself as a peaceful state after the Rwandan genocide of 1994 on the principles of reconciliation and dialogue. Addressing a gathering of 125+ participants including students from Raman Munjal Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Delhi-Jaipur Highway, Haryana and Manthan School Ghaziabad, took part.
142	Quiz competition on 'Know Your Constitution' organized	January 10, 2020	Delhi	As part of the 70 years of the Constitution of India, the Samiti, in collaboration with Doordarshan organized a quiz titled "Know Your Constitution" on January 10, 2020 in the studios of Doordarshan.
143	Rehearsals for 72nd Martyrdom Day	January 2020	Delhi	Almost 450+ children took part in the musical rehearsals organised by the Samiti as a tribute to the 72 <sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan and Gandhi Smriti on January 17, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28 and 29, 2020 respectively. Children from over 20 schools of Delhi and NCR took part in the rehearsals.
144	Ten-day Value Creation Camp organised	January 23 to February 2, 2020	Delhi	Almost 46 children with teachers and coordinators from Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Sewapuri, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh; eight schools recommended by the District Administration of Madhepura Bihar; and Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Hyderabad Telengana took part in the ten-day Value Creation Camp organized by GSDS from January 23 to February 2, 2020 in Gandhi Darshan.
145	Lecture by Austrian Historian Dr. Margit Franz	January 27, 2020	Delhi	As part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi GSDS in association with the Austrian High Commission in India organized a lecture by well-known historian Dr. Margit Franz on January 27, 2020. The lecture, organized on the eve of 'International Holocaust Remembrance Day' was delivered by Dr. Margit Franz on "Gandhi's India: A safe haven for Exiled Jews".

146	Dialogue with 'Holographic' Gandhi on "Future of Education"	January 27, 2020	Delhi	As part of the 150 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and in celebration to mark the 'United Nations International Day of Education' almost 400 participants including teachers, educators, students, academicians and policymakers took part in a discussion on "Future of Education" in Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi on January 27, 2020 organised by UNESCO MGIEP in association with GSDS.
147	72 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's Martyrdom.	January 30, 2020	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M Venkaiah Naidu and hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led the nation in paying tributes to Gandhiji. Sangeet Martand Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj led the Bhakti Sangeet. Almost 500 Children from 23 schools of Delhi, NCR, which included children from eight schools recommended by the District Administration of Madhepura, Bihar; Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan Hyderabad Telengana and Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Sewapuri Varanasi offered a musical tribute to Mahatma Gandhi.
148	Exhibition of charcoal sketches on M K Gandhi by artist Sanjiv Anand inaugurated	January 30, 2020	Gandhi Smriti	Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, former VC GSDS and present Chairperson of National Gandhi Museum inaugurated a fourteen-panel exhibition of free-hand charcoal sketches on prominent historical incidents from Mahatma Gandhi's life in Kirti Mandap, Gandhi Smriti on January 30, 2020. The sketches have been drawn by Shri Sanjiv Anand, an Indian, living in Florida presently.
149	Workshop on Enhancing the capacities of the Women in Panchayati Raj Systems	January 20, 2020	Raipur Chattisgarh	Almost 335 women from Raipur District from five Gram Panchayats took part in a day-long workshop on "Enhancing the Capacities of the Women in Panchayati Raj Systems" in Raipur Chattisgarh on January 20, 2020 organised by the Naveen Ankur Mahila Mandal in association with the GSDS.
150	In the Path of Mahatma- India Armenia towards peace and non-violence	February 10, 2020	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	A cultural-exchange programme in Gandhi Smriti was organized as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary. H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador of Armenia to India was the chief guest on the occasion.
151	In the Path of Mahatma- India Uzbekistan towards peace and non-violence	February 14, 2020	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	The Samiti in association with the Embassy of Uzbekistan organised an interactive session on "In the Path of Mahatma – India-Uzbekistan Towards Peace and Non-Violence". A cultural programme on Uzbekistan folk music was presented by Uzbek artists. An exhibition by the Embassy was also set up.
152	Prof. J S Rajput's book - Gandhi Ko Samajhne Ka Yahi Samay" released by Shri Mohan Bhagwat	February 17, 2020	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	Almost 525 people took part in the launch programme. Eminent Constitution expert Dr. Subhash Kashyap, Prof. J S Rajput took, academicians, writers, and others attended the programme.
153	Gandhi-Karigar Haat inaugurated	February 20, 2020	Gandhi Darshan New Delhi	At a special function, former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Karan Singh, inaugurated the "Gandhi-Karigar Haat" in Gandhi Darshan in the presence of over 200 people from different walks of life. Jain Muni Rev. Rashtrasant Gurudev Sri Namra Muni, Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member of GSDS and Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh, eminent Gandhian Shri Basant Singh, Shri Sita Ram Gupta, CEO Lupin Human Welfare Organisation, Bharatpur along with Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan were present on the occasion.
154	National conference on "Report to Gandhi"	February 21-23, 2020	Gandhi Darshan New Delhi	About 125 participants that included Sardovaya workers, Gandhian constructive workers, academicians from different states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Odisha, Haryana, Kerala took part to discuss issues and challenges of the contemporary world, the work done so far by those organisations as part of Gandhi 150 and the road ahead.
155	Kasturba Katha on 76th Nirvan Divas of 'Ba'	February 22, 2020	Gandhi Darshan New Delhi	'Ba', Kasturba Gandhi's 76 <sup>th</sup> Nirvan Divas (death anniversary) was observed in Gandhi Darshan on February 22, 2020 by organising the 'Kasturba Katha' by Katha Vyas Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna. 'Kasturba Katha' by Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna covered the narrations of the various phases of Kastur's life starting from her years in India to her incarceration in Agha Khan Palace and her last day in Bapu's lap on 22nd February 1944.



156	Lecture on "Practicing Non-Violence in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century"	February 25, 2020	Gandhi Darshan New Delhi	As part of the 'Peace and Non-Violence Lecture Series' initiated by the Samiti, a lecture on the theme "Practicing Non-Violence in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century" was delivered by Dr. Martin Arnold, eminent German Scholar in Gandhi Darshan.
157	Ahimsa Sadbhawna Yatra and Dialogue	February 26, 2020	Gandhi Smriti New Delhi	Jain Muni Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj took part at the culmination of the pilgrimage 'Ahimsa Sadbhawna Yatra' that began from Rajkot to Kolkata to Varanasi and then to Delhi covering a distance of approximately 2700+kilometres. Almost 200 people took part in the programme.
158	Two-day's workshop for youth on 'Nonviolent Social Leadership'	February 22-23, 2020	Kolkata	GSDS in association with Salt Lake Institute of Personality Development and Value Education (SIPDAVE), Kolkata organized this youth workshop for "Nonviolent Social Leadership". The workshop was organized in the Ramakrishna Mission Institute for Culture, Kolkata. About 300 youth from different districts of West Bengal took part in the workshop. The participating youth took a pledge to work using nonviolent strategies for the last person of the society.
159	Dialogue on "Mahatma Gandhi's Experiment with Food – Key to Health"	March 2, 2020	New Delhi	Gandhi Smriti and Darshan hosted a one-day dialogue on "Mahatma Gandhi's Experiment with Food – Key to Health" in Gandhi Darshan on March 2, 2020. The programme was organised by Kendriya Bhandar along with its strategic partner, Centre for Strategy and Leadership. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jitendra Singh was the chief guest on the occasion. "Those who tend to dismiss Mahatma Gandhi's views regarding healthcare and food as mere fads or whims, actually do a great injustice to themselves because in doing so they only deprive themselves of a sound scientific opinion", the Minister said.
160	Peace prayer on the eve of International Women's Day	March 7, 2020	New Delhi	Guild of Services, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti joined together on the eve of the International Women's Day in Gandhi Smriti on March 7, 2020 by organising an inter-faith peace prayer meet. Religious leaders from different faiths, singers and members from the civil society took part in the programme. Chairperson of Guild of Services, Dr. V. Mohini Giri was present on the occasion. Songs of Kabir, Tulsidas, Guru Nanak rang in the atmosphere of Gandhi Smriti, the site of the Martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi's favourite songs Vaishnavajana Tau and Ram Dhun made the occasion more sombre.
161	BRICS delegation visit Gandhi Smriti	March 12, 2020	New Delhi	On March 12, 2020, a delegation of eight Russians as representatives of BRICS Forum paid their tribute to Gandhi Smriti on the 90 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dandi March. It was not the first time for Ms. Ludmila Sekacheva, the President of the Public Regional Organisation to visit Gandhi Smriti as she has been keenly working on the "Great Teachers of BRICS". Ms. Ludmila with Dr. Guzel Strelkova, Associate Professor of Institute of Asian and African countries, Moscow, presented GSDS the flags and leaflets which had a message of healthy and lifelong association between the countries of BRICS. Another special guest was Guru Prem Prayojan who was born in England but now mastering Vedas in Vrindavan.
162	Awareness Workshop on COVID 19	March 17, 2020	New Delhi	50 participants from GSDS took part in an awareness workshop in the light of COVID 19 that has been declared a 'Pandemic' by the World Health Organisation. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Manju Aggarwal on March 17, 2020 in Gandhi Smriti where protective masks were distributed to the participants. A handout of 'Dos' and 'Don'ts' was also handed over to the participants. A similar awareness programme was conducted by Dr. Manju Aggarwal in Gandhi Darshan Rajghat on March 17 that was attended by almost 100 participants. The workshop culminated with practical demonstration of various techniques of hand washing and other health and hygiene guidelines.

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# Tributes to Mahatma Gandhi

**Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (Gandhi Jayanti) and International Day of Non Violence**

The Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind led the nation into paying rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on October 2, 2019 celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and International Day of Non-Violence. Almost 1000 children drawn from 38 institutions of Delhi and NCR, Madhya Pradesh and Jalandhar took part in the programme and offered musical tribute to the Father of the Nation. Children during the programme held flags of the 193 Member States of the United Nations including the Indian Tri Colour during the programme.

Minister of Culture and Vice Chairperson of GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel, Secretary MoC, Shri Arun Goel, Joint Secretary MoC Shri S C Barmma, GSDS EC Members Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, Shri Laxmi Dass, gandhian workers Shri Basant and people from different walks of life took part in the programme.

Religious leaders from different religious faiths participated in the *Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha* (Inter-faith prayer meet) on the occasion. Marking the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the International Day of Non-Violence, Shri Rajiv Chandran Officer In-Charge of the United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan read the message of the UN Secretary General, H.E Antonio Guterres on the occasion.

Leading classical artist, Padma Shri Pandit Ajoy Chakraborty led the Bhakti Sangeet on the occasion with renditions of poem by Gandhi ji himself, Rabindranath Tagore, Acharya Vinoba Bhawe and others on the occasion.



**Hon'ble President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind leads the Nation into paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Gandhi Jayanti celebrations.**



**Hon'ble former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti.**



**Hon'ble Culture Minister and Vice Chairperson GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti, as Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan looks on.**



**Padma Shri Pt. Ajoy Chakraborty who rendered the Bhakti sangeet on the occasion, offers his tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2019.**



*(From Top to Bottom): Children from 38 institutions in Delhi and NCR including Madhya Pradesh and Jalandhar and also people with special abilities joined the 150th Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations carrying flags of India and 193 Member States of United Nations during the programme.*

*Padma Shri Pandit Ajoy Chakraborty presents a token to Hon'ble President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind, as hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel and Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan looks on. Also seen behind are the various religious leaders.*

**Sangeet Martand Pandit Jasraj leads Bhakti Sangeet on Martyrdom Day**

91-year-old Sangeet Martand, Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj’s mellifluous rendition of Mahatma Gandhi’s favourite bhajans reverberated in Gandhi Smriti as the nonagenarian paid tribute to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of the Father of the Nation’s 72<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary on January 30, 2020. Hon’ble Vice President of India Shri M Venkaiah Naidu and hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi hummed Gandhiji’s favourite bhajan *Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram* as over 2000 people from different streams of society joined the evening prayer meet. Former Vice President, Dr. Mohd Hamid Ansari, former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, former VC GSDS Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, officials from the Ministry of Culture also joined the commemorative programme.



*Hon’ble Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti, as Hon’ble Minister of Culture & V.C. GSDS, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel joins the occasion.*



*Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi offers his homage to Mahatma Gandhi during the 72nd death anniversary of the Father of the Nation in Gandhi Smriti.*



*Hon’ble Minister of Culture and Vice Chairperson GSDS, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel offers tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr’s Column in Gandhi Smriti, as Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan join the hon’ble Minister.*



*Grand daughter of Mahatma Gandhi and former V.C. GSDS Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee offers tribute to her grandfather Bapuji on the 72nd Martyrdom Day in Gandhi Smriti.*



*(From Left to Right): Shri Yogendra Tripathi, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Culture; Shri S.C. Barmma, Joint Secretary Ministry of Culture (C) along with Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS offer tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.*



Almost 500 Children from 23 schools of Delhi, NCR, which included children from eight schools recommended by the District Administration of Madhepura, Bihar; Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan Hyderabad Telengana and Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Sewapuri Varanasi offered a musical tribute to Mahatma Gandhi that was coordinated by Shri Sudhanshu Bahuguna of *Swar Trishna*. Young Krishna Prasanna assisted Sudhanshu ji in the flute.

Children from Bapa Ashram Residential Primary School, Harijan Sevak Sangh and Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya Ishwar Nagar along with their coordinators spun on the charkha throughout the programme, as religious leaders from different faith read hymns from the scriptures.

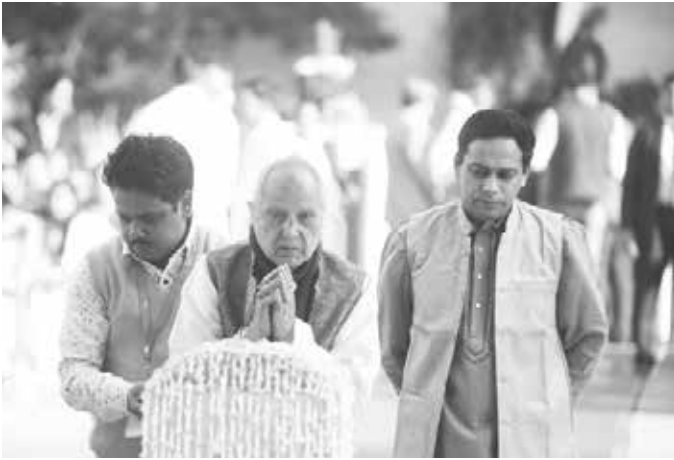
The programme concluded with a two-minute silent tribute to Gandhiji.



*Sangeet Martand Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj leading the Bhakti Sangeet in Gandhi Smriti on January 30, 2020, commemorating the 72nd Martyrdom Day of Mahatma Gandhi.*



*Almost 500 children from 23 schools of Delhi and NCR, Bihar, Hyderabad and Varanasi joined to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti, as a galaxy of distinguished gathering and people from different streams of society offered tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.*



*Sangeet Martand Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyrs Column in Gandhi Smriti on January 30, 2020.*



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India greets Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj after the programme. The hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla (L) also joins this moment.*



*Leaders from different religious faith are seated in the Prayer Ground in Gandhi Smriti during the January 30, 2020 programme. Also seen is Shri Sudhanshu Bahuguna (R) coordinating the musical tribute by children to Gandhiji. Shri Krishna Prasanna is seen accompanying on the flute.*



*Spinners are seen spinning on the charkha during the commemorative programme.*



*Silent tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Father of the Nation.*

# Significant Initiatives

## SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES AS PART OF GANDHI: 150

### • KOLKATA

#### GSDS sets up 'Gandhi Gallery' at Kolkata Airport

Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal, H.E. Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi inaugurated the "Gandhi Gallery – Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre" at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata on July 25, 2019 at a special function organized at the Kolkata Airport to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, Member, Executive Committee GSDS and President Harijan Sevak Sangh; Shri Kaushik Bhattacharya, Airport Director, Kolkata Airport; Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS and others were present at the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Manish from Bhuma Infotech was also present on the occasion.



*(Above and Below): Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal, H.E. Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi lights the ceremonial lamp at the inauguration of the "Gandhi Gallery" at Kolkata Airport, as Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, EC Member GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS and Shri Kaushik Bhattacharya, Airport Director joins the inaugural function by offering their homage to Gandhiji.*

After the inauguration, the hon'ble Governor also was given a guided tour of the exhibition at the Gandhi Gallery and a journey into the life of Mahatma Gandhi through digital intervention at the kiosk.

The "Gandhi Gallery – Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre" has been established the GSDS in collaboration with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by conscientising the local masses of Mahatma Gandhi's association with their respective region. This is a permanent gallery on the life, ideas, philosophy and activities of the Mahatma.



*Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi (C) inaugurates the digital interactive kiosk at the Kolkata Airport as (from L to R) Smt. Geeta Shukla; Shri Kaushik Bhattacharya, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal join the special moment.*



*Distinguished gathering from left to right are seen seated along with Hon'ble Governor of Kolkata, Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi at the inaugural ceremony of the "Gandhi Gallery" in Kolkata as part of Gandhi:150 celebrations.*

The walk through “Gandhi Gallery” has been set up at the arrival lounge of the Kolkata Airport, where Mahatma Gandhi’s association with West Bengal has been displayed in 24 panels. His association with local leaders, freedom fighters and others has been discussed through photographs and text. Gandhiji’s relationship with Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has been prominently shown. Sodepur Ashram, Noakhali tour, his efforts to maintain communal harmony in 1946-47 are also elaborately displayed.



*Members of the Airports Authority of India, Kolkata; officials of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti join the Hon’ble Governor of West Bengal Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi (C) for a group photograph.*

The ‘Digital Kiosk’ installed at the Gandhi Gallery to bring before the masses the life and times of Mahatma Gandhi through the use of technology. It further includes quiz, films on the Mahatma and other information, for drawing the younger generation closer to understanding the ideals and philosophy of Gandhi ji.

Mahatma Gandhi’s association with Kolkata, particularly Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore is known to all. It was on his return from Phoenix Ashram that Mahatma Gandhi along with his family and others chose Shantiniketan as their temporary sojourn. For here, the Poet, ‘who was the singing voice and embraced freedom in a thousand bonds of delight’; and the Mathama, ‘who exemplified stark renunciation’, met; and their love of India and mankind united them. Gurudev conferred on Gandhi the title of “Mahatma”, ‘The Great Soul’.

It was also Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose who for the first time in 1944 addressed Bapuji as “The Father of the Nation”.

It may be mentioned that the Ministry of Culture, Government of India has entrusted GSDS to set up “Gandhi Gallery” at 50 designated Airports throughout India in phase wise manner of which this is the second installation of the phase. The first, being the ‘Gandhi Gallery’ at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi that was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh,

H.E. Shri Ram Naik along with Hon’ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath on January 2019.

The Samiti in association with the Airport Authority of India (AAI), Kolkata set up “Gandhi Gallery” (Mohan Se Mahatma) – a permanent gallery on the life, ideas, philosophy and activities of the Mahatma at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

It may be mentioned that the Ministry of Culture, Government of India has entrusted GSDS to set up “Gandhi Gallery” at 50 designated Airports throughout India in phase wise manner of which this is the second installation of the phase. The first, being the ‘Gandhi Gallery’ at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi in January 2019.

Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, Executive Body Member of the GSDS and President Harijan Sevak Sangh, who visited the airport in Kolkata said, “ This is a very good initiative for setting up of ‘Gandhi Gallery’ in different Airport premises which would open a new dimension, as it would be witnessed by lots of people coming from various corners of the world. Bapu’s messages of Peace, Universal Brotherhood and Non-Violence, which is so relevant today, not only among the commuters, but also among the younger generation who will pass through the Airport, as they are not much acquainted with Gandhiji”.

Shri Sanyal also met Shri Kaushik Bhattacharjee, Airport Director, Shri H Pulla, General Manager (OPS), Shri Pankaj Gupta, general Manager (Engg -Civil) and other officials of the AAI on May 10 and 13, 2019 and discussed further possibilities as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

• **JHARKHAND**

***Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre inaugurated in Gumla***



*Hon’ble Shri Sudhir Joshi (Bhaiya ji) sees the exhibition developed by GSDS at the Mahatma Gandhi Interpretation Centre in Gumla, Jharkhand, as Padmashri Shri Ashok Bhagat (Chairperson Vikas Bharti Bishunpur) and Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer, GSDS join the inaugural programme.*

In continuation of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti in association with Vikas Bharti Bishunpur established the Interpretation Centre at Gumla, Jharkhand. The Interpretation Centre was inaugurated on August 30, 2019 at Bishunpur by Shri Sudhir Joshi (Bhaiyya ji) and Shri R P Singh, Regional Director ONGC, Bokaro. Padmashri Shri Ashok Bhagat, Secretary of Vikas Bharti joined the inaugural ceremony.



*(Above): Hon'ble Shri Sudhir Joshi ji, Padmashri Shri Ashok Bhagat and other dignitaries at the inauguration of the Interpretation Centre and (Below): Smt. Geeta Shukla (Research Officer GSDS) gives a guided tour to the guests.*

Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS, who curated the exhibition and the layout of the Interpretation Centre was present at the inaugural ceremony and also gave a guided tour to the delegates during the programme.

• **MADHYA PRADESH**

**Gram Swaraj Yatra as part of Gandhi 150**

As part of commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organised a "Gram Swaraj Padyatra" to take the life, message and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi to different sections of the society with the aim to carry the message of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi to the people through a padyatra. The *Gram Swaraj Padyatra* was led by none other than the Hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel from District Anantpur in Madhya Pradesh to Damoh, Madhya Pradesh



*(Above & Below): Hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel leads the 86 kms 'Gram Swaraj Padyatra' from District Anantpur in Madhya Pradesh to Damoh involving the citizens to partake in this yatra.*





*(Above): Hon'ble Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (Centre) during the Gram Swaraj Padyatra with people from different sections of the society taking part in the yatra. Also seen is Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (front Left) taking part in the yatra.*



*A panoramic view of the 'Gram Swaraj Padyatra' in progress with the citizen's participation.*



from August 16-19, 2019. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Shri Srikrishna G. Kulkarni, great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and member Gandhi 150 Committee of Government of India, Shri Basant former Advisor of GSDS, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS, Shri Jagdish Prasad, Shri Raman Kumar, Shri Yatender and few other staff members joined the hon'ble minister in the yatra covering a distance of 86 kilometres. Shri P V Rajagopal from Ekta Parishad also joined the yatra.

In his lifetime, Mahatma Gandhi undertook many *padyatras* in an attempt to awaken the consciousness of the citizens and involve them in the liberation of India from the British Raj. In Mahatma Gandhi, *satyagraha*, fasting, *padyatras*, prayer meetings etc., the main elements were emphasis on transparency, human outlook and purity of means so that the desired people could submit their life memoranda with their dignity.

Taking this basic philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament to go on a "*Padayatra*" in their constituencies and to connect Mahatma Gandhi's vision on rural economy by connecting with eminent citizens from each booth.

On August 16, the hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh began the yatra from Anantpura to Chandpur; Chandpur to Chirari, Chirari to Bagaspura; Bagaspura to Gopalpura, Gopalpura to Guna; Guna to Baleh (Rahli Vidhan Sabha) covering a distance of 22 kilometres approximately.

On August 17, the Yatra began from Baleh to Piparia Ghat and proceeded to Gunjora. From Gujnora to Udaipura; Udaipura to Mothad Piparia; Mothad to Garahakota; Garahakota to Datpura Tiraha; Dantpura to Khejra Tiraha; Khejra Tiraha to Ghogra; Ghogra to Bansakala covering a distance of approximately 32 kilometres.

On August 18, the Yatra moved from Pathriya Vidhan Sabha to Khojakhedi Pathriya Vidhansabha covering a distance of approximately 23 kilometres. The following places covered were: Bansakala to Pathriya; Pathriya to Bailkhedi; Bailkhedi to Noru Tiraha; Noru Tiraha to Mara Tiraha; Mara Tiraha to Chapri; Chapri to Sadguan Tiraha; Sadguan to Semra; Semra to Jortala; Jortala to Khojakhedi Pathriya Vidhansabha.

On August 19, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel started for the culmination of his yatra from Khojakhedi Vidhan Sabha to Damoh Vidhan Sabha and the following places were covered: Khojakhedi to Parsoriya; Parsoriya to Pipariya Tiraha; Pipariya Tiraha to Tidoni Tiraha; Tidoni Tiraha to Imlai Chauraha; Imlai Chauraha to Gurdwara in Damoh. It was here in the slums of Damoh, Madhya Pradesh, Gandhiji laid the foundation of the Gurudwara. Mahatma Gandhi came to Damoh from Anantapur via Gadhakota. Meera Ben was with them. He was brought

to Damoh in the car by Pandit Jagannath Prasad Pateria Chevrolet, the region's leading freedom fighter.

Shri Prahalad Singh Patel in his address to the huge gathering that followed him during the Yatra said that this is where he decided to culminate the yatra as this where Mahatma Gandhi had laid the foundation stone of the Gurdwara and this was a befitting tribute that could be paid to the Mahatma.



*Glimpses from the 'Gram Swaraj Padyatra' as part of the 150th birth anniversary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi undertaken by GSDS under the leadership of hon'ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel from August 16-19, 2019 in different districts of Madhya Pradesh where the hon'ble Minister also interacted with thousands of people.*

**'73 Hours of Handwritten Change Ideas for the Nation' a Pan India campaign**

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day of India this year was celebrated with a unique burst of social change ideas from across India inspired by the change mantra of Mahatma Gandhi. GSDS in association with the Kochi based non-profit LetterFarms launched a unique

Change ideas have come in from 35 cities spread across 15 states of India. Right from the Navodaya Vidyalayas, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawans & Delhi Public Schools to the IIMs, IITs and Sainik schools, the enthusiasm to be part of this unique sesquicentennial year celebration has been extraordinary. In fact, due to an unprecedented shortage of postcards in several post offices, many of these educational institutions re-

**BREATHING LIFE INTO BAPU'S 'CHANGE MANTRA' ACROSS LENGTH & BREADTH OF INDIA**



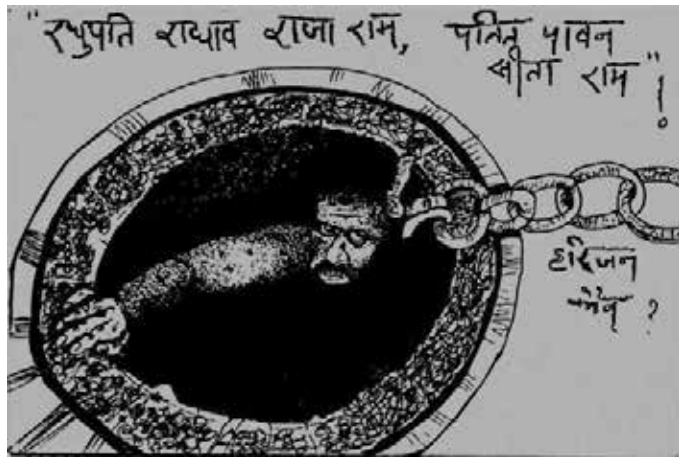
campaign '73 hours of Handwritten Change Ideas for the Nation' inviting students across India to handwrite one social change idea that they passionately want to see, on simple postcards, inspired by the timeless change mantra of Mahatma Gandhi: *Be the change that you wish to see in the world.* Personal invitations were emailed to over 1500 educational institutions all over India requesting them to organize CHANGE150 workshop – an hour long session during which students will come together to articulate their social change ideas on postcards - at their respective institutions in the 73 hours leading up to the Independence Day of India. Over one lac participants joined this campaign.

The campaign got a resounding support with CHANGE150 workshops organized by institutions across the length and breadth of India, from rural to the urban, cutting across caste, creed, religion and economic status.

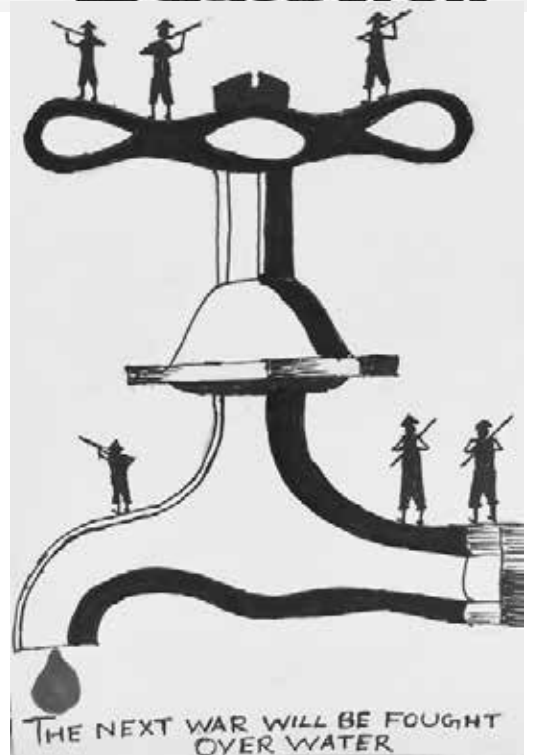
scheduled their CHANGE150 workshops to a later date and many even created postcards on their own using chart papers.

Even as the timelines were very pressing, GSDS and LetterFarms worked hard to invite over 1500 educational institutions spread across the country, through emails and personal letters, thereby engaging them to be part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary year of Mahatma Gandhi and transform his timeless change mantra into action points. Even as change ideas continue to pour in, collaborations such as this successfully adds a phenomenal gush of energy to the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of the Mahatma by engaging the youth in different parts of the country simultaneously. Their effectiveness can rise manifold with more resources and meticulous follow-ups.

CHANGE150 project, by Kochi based non-profit organization LetterFarms, began on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 and has been on a people-powered mission to mobilize handwritten change ideas on postcards by ordinary citizens from 150 cities across states of India, identify 150 compelling civic change innovations from the tens of thousands received thus transforming Mahatma's change mantra into action-points, and engaging young India to think for the greater good of our society and the nation.



CHANGE IDEAS...



Partnering with prestigious organizations such as India Post, National Gandhi Museum Delhi, National Rail Museum Delhi and the Kochi Muziris Biennale, CHANGE150 Postcard Display has been inspiring thousands of ordinary citizens to pick up a simple postcard and take their first steps to being a social changemaker inspired by the change mantra of Bapu.

### **President of India inaugurates Gandhi Katha by Pujya Morari Bapu**

Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the Gandhi Katha by Pujya Morari Bapu, being organised by the Harijan Sevak Sangh to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, on September 24, 2019 at Gandhi Ashram, Harijan Sevak Sangh, Kingsway Camp, Delhi.



*Hon'ble President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind (C) receives a copy of the GSDS publication "Ethics Matters! The time is now!" authored by Shri Rahul Sharan from the hon'ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel. In the picture is also seen H.H. Swami Chidanand Saraswati (L), H.H. Pujya Murari Bapu (R) and Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, President Harijan Sevak Sangh.*

Addressing the gathering, the President said that Gandhiji was born in India, but he belonged to entire world and humanity. The entire world remembers him as a 'great soul' who has shown us the path of 'Ahimsa' and 'Satyagraha'. The life of Gandhiji is like an epic. And millions of people across the world are listening to his life-story and getting inspiration from it. The President said that in his visits across the country and to other nations, he always found that from ordinary people to Head of States, all held great respect for Gandhiji.

Shri Prahalad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Tourism was also present on the occasion. Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, President Harijan Sevak Sangh also welcomed the gathering. The Hon'ble President also visited the exhibition on Kasturba Gandhi at the Gandhi Ashram.

An exhibition on "Mohan to Mahatma" was displayed on the occasion by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan

Samiti. A publication of GSDS, "Morality and Ethics" was presented to the hon'ble President on the occasion.

### **First Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture**

As part of 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi the first "Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture" was organized and this lecture was delivered by His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche on December 8, 2019. Prof. (Dr) Kesava Rao Vurakula, Vice Chancellor, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, presided over the function. Shri Laxmi Dass, Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh and EC Member GSDS, Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, former VC GSDS, Dr. Y P Anand, former Director National Gandhi Museum, Shri Ram Chandra Rahi, President Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, senior Gandhians Shri Satyapal, Shri Ramesh Sharma, academicians from colleges, people from the Korean Embassy and others joined on the occasion.



*(Above): His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche (R), Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee (C) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (R) lighting the ceremonial lamp at the inauguration of the programme.*

*(Below): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan presents a Mahatma Gandhi bust to His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche.*

Children of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan's Mehta Vidyalaya presented an inter-faith prayer as an invocatory performance.



*His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche delivering the 'First Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture', as a distinguished gathering keenly listens.*

*Also seen are children from Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan's Mehta Vidyalaya (Top L), rendering the inter-faith hymn on the occasion.*



Ven. Prof. Rinpoche based his lecture on the philosophy of the Buddha and Gandhi and emphasised on their integral philosophies of spiritual and practical approach to non-violence. He also referred to Mahatma Gandhi's seminal work 'Hind Swaraj' as the key to solve many of the mounting problems which he termed as 'civilisational crisis'.



**Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan presents a charkha to Prof. (Dr) Kesava Rao Vurrakula, Vice Chancellor, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi during the programme.**



**His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche (C) and Prof. (Dr) Kesava Rao Vurrakula (R) releasing a book authored by Shri Laxmi Dass (second from left) along with Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (extreme left) at the 'First Gandhi Smriti Peace and Nonviolence Lecture'.**

"Gandhian concept of Non-Violence is extremely apt for us because this concept of Non-Violence is accepted and practiced by His Holiness, our leader and he says that the Gandhian interpretation of Non-Violence is correct or the real one. And therefore we must study it; we must try to understand what the concept is?"

"In an era when the globalisation of blind materialism has proven its destructive propensity, the key to real peace, harmony and prosperity lies in Gandhi's concept of Swaraj. The study and deeper contemplation on Hind Swaraj is essential to salvage humanity. It is in Hind Swaraj that the symbiotic connections among all

our private and corporate economic, political, cultural and spiritual dimensions of life are found in a profound vision and philosophy of a moral order of life", he said, adding, "If the present generation feel the need to keep something for posterity, the relevance of Gandhian values of morality and self-restraint as envisioned in Hind Swaraj becomes most pertinent in today's world".

The occasion also saw the release of the Samiti's publications: *In the Path of Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi –A Convention for Global Peace* by GSDS; *Gandhi Evam Samajik Andolan* authored by Shri Laxmi Dass; *Panchayati Raj, Buniyadi Sasakiye Ekai* authored by Shri Laxmi Dass and *Gandhi Yug Ke Hasya Vyang*, edited by Shri Praveen Dutt Sharma.

Earlier Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan in his address said that this lecture series has been initiated as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi and the Samiti in due course proposed to bring out a publication of all the lectures.

### **Dialogue with 'Holographic' Gandhi on "Future of Education"**



**Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank (C), Dr. Karan Singh, former member of Rajya Sabha (R), Dr. J S Rajput, India's Representative to UNESCO Governing Board Chair UNESCO MGIEP (second from L) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (L) addressing an attentive delegation (below) at the dialogue.**





*Shri Anantha Duraiappah, Director UNESCO MGIEP (C) led the discussion with eminent panelists (R) and the holographic Gandhi (extreme left) that revolved around the meaning of education in today's world and measures that need to be undertaken for achieving the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 – of ensuring 'inclusive and equitable quality education' and promoting 'lifelong learning opportunities' for all.*

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and in celebration to mark the 'United Nations International Day of Education' almost 400 participants including teachers, educators, students, academicians and policymakers took part in a discussion on "Future of Education" in Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi on January 27, 2020 organised by UNESCO MGIEP in association with GSDS. Through the 'Holographic Gandhi' the discussion commenced with an interactive session with the young enthusiastic participants. Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank was the chief guest on the occasion. Dr. Karan Singh, eminent author and poet and former member of the Rajya Sabha; Ms. Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, former Minister of Education, France; Mr. Jagmohan Singh Rajput, India's Representative to UNESCO Governing Board Chair UNESCO MGIEP and SD; Shri Anantha Duraiappah, Director UNESCO MGIEP along with Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS took part in the discussion. Shri Anantha Duraiappah, Director UNESCO MGIEP moderated the discussion.

The panel discussion commenced with a standing hologram of Gandhi, who spoke for 7 minutes about the ideologies of Gandhi. The talk, developed by the technical team of Mahatma Gandhi Digital Museum, was based on excerpts from Gandhi's writings on Education, Satyagraha (the truth), Ahinsa (non-violence), Kindness and Critical Inquiry. While most people may only know Gandhi for his political views and writings, the hologram brought to light what Gandhi had to say about education.

The dialogue was opened by Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India, who highlighted the importance of promoting the Gandhian values of peace

and non-violence to build a culture of sustainable peace in the world. Mr. Pokhriyal Nishank stated: "Academic success, while important, cannot be the end goal of our education system. Education must pursue a grander goal; an education for human flourishing. If real societal change is to be achieved, Gandhiji's learnings will need to be built into our education systems and exemplified in our daily lives."

In his address, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, said, "If real societal change is to be achieved, Gandhi's learnings, which he meticulously imbibed through his experiments, need to be built into our education systems and exemplified in our daily lives. These skills or competencies such as empathy, mindfulness, impulse control and kindness can be built through constant experimentation and experience, the same key pathways that Gandhi himself deployed to build". He also emphasised that the growth of the global challenges such as inequality, exclusion, violence and sectarianism has resulted in a foreseeable social imbalance that has driven humanity apart and said that an education that is focussed on building emotional intelligence and character should be the main goal of individuals, society or nation.

Noting the current state of education, Ms. Belkacem observed: "Education systems today need to look beyond developing skills suited to the work force. We need to develop the emotional skills of our children and in this Gandhi's teachings and practice of empathy, compassion, non-violence and emphasis on the truth, can be extremely beneficial for our education systems."

Commenting on the dialogue series, Dr. Duraiappah expressed, "For a better future, we must not just focus on an education that builds human capital

but human flourishing”. He further added, “Unless our present education systems embrace building emotional intelligence, we might end up in a world of highly literate people who are lacking in empathy and only concerned with their own wellbeing. This is not sustainable and will not build peaceful and sustainable societies.”

Further, Dr. Karan Singh, noted “When we look at the state of the world today, we realise we need future leaders who are not just brilliant in their leadership and intellectual skills; instead we need emotionally resilient, kind, compassionate and empathetic leaders - leaders such as Gandhiji. How can we empower the young to emulate and practice the qualities Gandhiji stood so strongly for? I think our education systems can play an imperative role in introducing such qualities at a young age.”



*Holographic Mahatma Gandhi interacting with guests during the dialogue.*

The discussions revolved around the meaning of education in today’s world and measures that need to be undertaken if the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 – of ensuring ‘inclusive and equitable quality education’ and promoting ‘lifelong learning opportunities’ for all, are to be achieved. The panel also discussed the critical need to inculcate the emotional as well as cognitive aspects in our education systems to build competencies of empathy, compassion and kindness in the young – if they are to become citizens, who promote sustainable peace. The discussions further focused on the future of education and key competencies that need to be inculcated in education systems in pursuit of more peaceful and sustainable societies.

A unique aspect of the dialogue was a youth perspective on the panel. Kuany noted the qualities of Gandhi that inspired him, stating “I bumped into the Mahatma almost a decade ago while striving to fill the emptiness of schooling through self-education. I took and ran with inquiry or experimentation and nonviolence from his corpus. My regret is that, up until then, my years in school had failed to equip me with the tools necessary to think for myself and curate values that would enable me to coexist harmoniously on this beautiful planet. I, therefore, thank Gandhi for the light and hope that the

students of today and the future will not have to look back and regret the consequences of such an archaic, torturous, intellectually sedative and emotionally numbing experience that is most schooling.”

**Gandhi-Karigar Haat inaugurated in Gandhi Darshan**

At a special function, former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Karan Singh, inaugurated the “Gandhi-Karigar Haat” in Gandhi Darshan on February 20, 2020 in the presence of over 200 people from different walks of life. Jain Muni Rev. Rashtasant Gurudev Sri Namra Muni, Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member of GSDS and Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh, eminent Gandhian Shri Basant Singh, Shri Sita Ram Gupta, CEO Lupin Human Welfare Organisation, Bharatpur along with Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan were present on the occasion.



*Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Karan Singh laying the foundation stone of the multi-purpose auditorium in Gandhi Darshan on February 20, 2020 . Also seen (from L to R) are Shri Basant Singh, Shri Sita Ram Gupta and Shri Laxmi Dass at the inaugural ceremony.*



*Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Karan Singh (C) inaugurating the ‘Gandhi-Karigar Haat’ in Gandhi Darshan, as Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Shri Basant Singh, Shri Laxmi Dass, Shri Sita Ram Gupta and a host of other guests partake in the inaugural programme.*

Dr. Karan Singh not only inaugurated the “Gandhi-Karigar Haat” on the occasion, he also laid the foundation stone of the “Multi-purpose Community Centre” which will be developed in Gandhi Darshan. The inaugurated ‘Gandhi-Karigar Haat’ and the “Multi-purpose Community Centre” have come to fruition from the grant of Rupees Two Crore received from Dr. Karan Singh from his Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (Member MPLADS).

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Karan Singh said that this is the single largest grant from his MPLAD funds that he has given to Gandhi Darshan, since he felt that the money will be used fruitfully at the Gandhi Darshan for the purpose of conducting cultural, academic and various other activities related to skill development and promotion of indigenous products.



Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan addressing the gathering at the inauguration of the ‘Gandhi-Karigar Haat’ as Dr. Karan Singh (C), Shri Sita Ram Gupta (L), Shri Basant Singh (second from L) and Shri Laxmi Dass (R) are all ears.



Shri Laxmi Dass is seen addressing the gathering at the inauguration of the ‘Gandhi-Karigar Haat’, as (from L to R) Shri Sita Ram Gupta, Shri Basant Singh, Ven. Rashtrasant Gurudev Sri Namra Muni, Dr. Karan Singh and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan looks on.



(Above): The occasion also saw Shri Sita Ram Gupta, along with Shri Laxmi Dass and Shri Basant Singh giving away the tool kits of Barber and Mason to Shri Pramod Ram and Shri Genda Lal of GSDS respectively in recognition of their work.

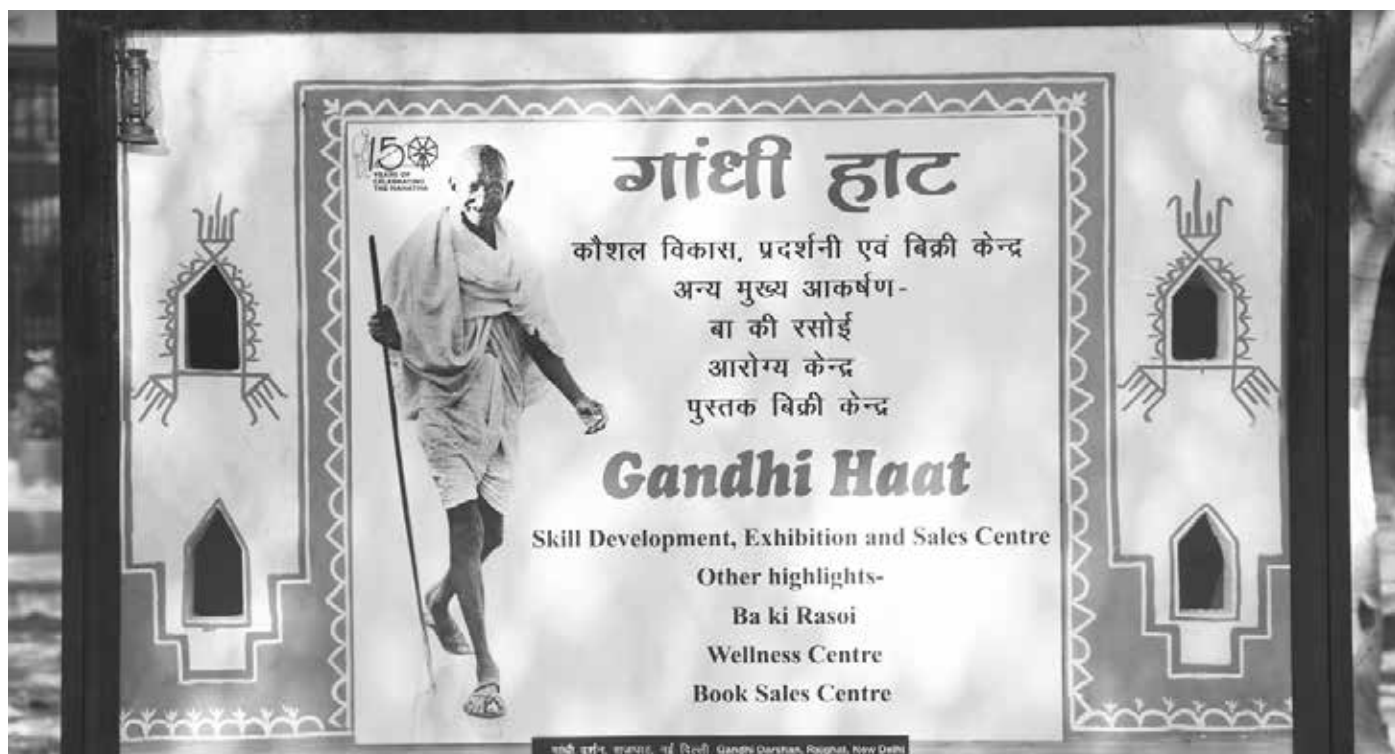


Participants at the inauguration of the ‘Gandhi-Karigar Haat’.



Artists from Tansen Sangeet Vidyalaya, Nazafgarh led by Shri Jyoti Prakash Mishra (R) performed hymns and Mahatma Gandhi’s favourite bhajans on the occasion.





He further said that he had seen Mahatma Gandhi and that one moment meeting with Gandhiji had changed his life. He said that though there has been tremendous development, conflicts have also risen, which is devastating. He expressed his concern over the rise in hate speech and anger and said that the relevance of ahimsa or non-violence can only lead human beings to be more humane. He called upon the youth to develop 'compassion' within themselves.

Shri Laxmi Dass, Shri Basant and Shri Sita Ram Gupta also spoke on the occasion and reiterated their commitment towards the cause of the artisans and rural development and hoped that the 'Gandhi-Karigar Haat' will give opportunities to the indigenous workers and promote the concept of self-reliance as espoused by Gandhiji.

The occasion also saw Shri Sita Ram Gupta giving away the tool kits of Barber and Mason to Shri Pramod Ram and Shri Genda Lal of GSDS respectively in recognition of their work.

Earlier Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan Director GSDS expressed gratitude to Dr. Karan Singh for having thought of giving the grant from his MPLAD fund to GSDS, because of which the 'Gandhi Karigar Haat' could be set up and hoped that this could provide opportunities for many to showcase their talent and harness their skills here. He also assured Dr. Singh of setting up the "Multi-purpose Community Centre" shortly.

The programme began with hymns sung by artistes from Tansen Sangeet Vidyalaya, Nazafgarh, led by Shri Jyoti Prakash Mishra who performed favourite hymns of Mahatma Gandhi.



*Glimpses from the inauguration of the 'Gandhi-Karigar Haat'.*



# International Programmes

## ➤ LEH – JAMMU AND KASHMIR

**Three-day International Conference on “World Peace to Commemorate 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Preservation of Buddhist Cultural Heritage of Himalaya” organised**

*We belong to one global family – Bhikkhu Sanghasena*

the ‘Dharma Padh Yatra’ (Walk for World Peace) in the Himalayas. This peace walk initiative, besides inspiring and motivating people to work for world peace, has helped in strengthening spiritual and cultural relationships between the Buddhist country Thailand and the people of the Himalayas. The one-and-a-half month arduous peace walk is organised under the guidance and leadership of great peace promoter, Venerable Pharteppariyatti



**PILGRIMS PROGRESS:** *Almost 200 monks, nuns and common people from Thailand took part in the ‘Dharma Padh Yatra’ (Walk for World Peace) in the Himalayas inspiring and motivating people to work for world peace and strengthen cultural relationships.*

A three-day International conference on “World Peace to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Preservation of Buddhist Cultural Heritage of Himalaya” was organised jointly by the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre, Leh, Ladakh and GSDS at Leh, from June 26-28, 2019 with an aim to generate awareness about the need of world peace in today’s turbulent time. Another special focus of the convention was towards promoting walking and spiritual tourism, which in turn would raise concern, towards preservation of Buddhist Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas and attract the attention of the world towards the development of the Himalayan region.

The programme saw the participation of 200 monks, nuns and common people from Thailand in

Thongsuk, Governor of Ecclesiastic Province of Singburi Royal Temple, Thailand.

After the completion of the *yatra*, the three day conference initiated by Venerable Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder of Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre (MMIC) began and the venerable monk welcomed the pilgrims to the MMIC campus.

In this conference, former ambassador of Kazakhstan Phunchok Stobdan spoke about the Himalayan Cultural Heritage and explained how we can save the Himalayan Culture.

Dr. Tashi Dorji, CIMOD, Nepal spoke about the welfare of the Himalayan region. He also stressed on

how we could save the belt of the Himalayan region and requested all the countries who are on the belt to come forward to save the belt.

H.H. Bhikku Sanghasena, in his address congratulated the pilgrims for the completion of the yatra and said, "People are unable to comprehend that fundamentally all religions are the same. That all humans are born and brought up under the sun, drink the same water, and at the end, we all will die. So, where is the difference? Our ignorance creates this difference. This walk is to remind everyone that we belong to one global family".



*Monks of the Order addressing the international conference on World Peace as distinguished gathering on dais are all ears.*

The Pad Yatra delegates were presented with Khattak (Ladakhi traditional scarves). Phra Pariyatthisutti (Lord Abbot of Thai Royal Temple and leader of the Padh Yatra delegation) also address the participants.

Eminent speakers like Dr. Suzanne Von Der Heide, Shri Binod Chaudhary, Dr. Binny Sareen and many more prominent delegates spoke on the occasion.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India also sent his greetings for the MMIC International Conference. In this message the Prime Minister wrote: "... The initiative to conduct the celebrations, along with a 'Peace Walk' at Leh, is a timely and thoughtful one. India has been widely acknowledged for being a peace-loving and non violent society and nation through the ages. The ideas, ideas and life of Mahatma Gandhi have inspired several generations to tread the path of truth and non-violence. Peace has been a philosophy and everyday way of life in our country. Meditation and Yoga can go a long way in ushering in inner peace and harmony for all".

The message further read: "The motto of MMIC – "Compassion in Action, Meditation in Action" surely sets the tone for the conference. I am sure that the dialogue among the different faiths will lead to a better appreciation and higher understanding of each other's beliefs, thoughts and actions".

### International Conference on "Legacies of Gandhi and Mandela and its Contemporary Relevance"

Gandhi Bhawan, Delhi University in association with GSDS organized a two-day international conference on "Legacies of Gandhi and Mandela and its Contemporary Relevance" at Gandhi Bhawan on July 18-19, 2019. The inaugural programme on July 18 began with the inauguration of the photo-exhibition on Gandhi and Mandela by the Vice-Chancellor of University of Delhi, Prof. Yogesh Kumar Tyagi.



*Glimpses from the international conference on 'Legacies of Gandhi and Mandela and its Contemporary Relevance' organised by Gandhi Bhawan, Delhi University and GSDS as part of Gandhi:150.*

At the onset, Prof. Ramesh C. Bharadwaj Director, Gandhi Bhawan, University of Delhi delivered the welcome address. The programme was presided over by the VC DU. The inaugural session deliberated upon the "Gandhian Forget, Forgive and Move Forward with Nelson Mandela's truth and Reconciliation" and work for the development of society. He further explained Gandhian Truth and Ahimsa with Mandela's Hope and Determination.

H. E. Alem Tsesaye, Ambassador, The State of Eritrea in India, New Delhi and Deam African Diplomatic Corps was the chief guest on the occasion. Prof. S C Dubey, Director College of Open Learning, University of Delhi and Chairman, SOL, University of Delhi also spoke on the occasion.



A book of Dr. Nelson Mandela (Hindi) of Prof. Mohini Mathur was also unveiled on the occasion. Prof. Mathur also shared her views with the audience regarding the biography. Prof. Suresh Kumar, knowledge partner of Department of African Studies, University of Delhi presented the vote of thanks.

The Technical Sessions on July 19, 2019 saw two 'plenary' sessions and three 'technical' sessions. Eminent personalities like Shri Ram Chander Rahi, President, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Rajghat, Shri Anadroy Ramdew, Attorney Conveyancer Braamfontein Johannesburg, South Africa and others spoke on the occasion. The valedictory session was graced by Shri Prafulla Ketkar, Editor Organiser Weekly.

### President of India inaugurates the World Youth Conference for Kindness

**"Education needs to go beyond mere literacy": Ram Nath Kovind**

The UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) concluded the *first-ever World Youth Conference on Kindness* at the Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on August 23, 2019, on the theme '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Gandhi for the Contemporary World: Celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi*'. The conference in which the Samiti was a partner, was inaugurated by the Honourable President of the Republic of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, and saw participation from approximately 1,000 youth representing over 27 countries in regions such as Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe. On this occasion, the tenth edition of UNESCO MGIEPs' flagship publication, *The Blue Dot*, was unveiled, focused on Social and Emotional Learning.

Union Minister, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'; Chair, Governing Board, UNESCO MGIEP, Prof. J S Rajput; Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, Shri R. Subrahmanyam and Nobel Peace Laureate, Founder- Kailash Satyarthi's Children's Foundation, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi also spoke on the occasion.

Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, the Conference aimed to provide global youth and policymakers an innovative, engaging and inspiring platform to come together and discover ground-breaking pathways to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The opening session also included voices of two youth representatives, Ms. Suhani Jalota, Founder, Myna Mahila Foundation, and Ms. Sorina Petrescu, Founder, TMOves.

In his inaugural address as Chief Guest, the Honourable President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind said, "Education needs to go beyond mere literacy. We need to educate young people such that they can defy and transcend boundaries of class and race." The President emphasized that "Following Gandhiji's footsteps, we must let ourselves and our children interact and engage with those whom we tend to define as 'them'. Greater interaction is the best way to develop a sensitive understanding, which can help us overcome our prejudices."

Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Honourable Minister, Ministry of Human Resource Development on the occasion observed "Gandhi, synonymous with Kindness, had said that to show kindness to one person was more praiseworthy than the bowing of a thousand



*The hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the first World Youth Conference on Kindness along with a host of other dignitaries on the dais including Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' who also graced the occasion.*

*The hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind along with Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' unveiled the tenth edition of UNESCO MGIEPs' flagship publication, 'The Blue Dot'.*

heads in prayer.” Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development continued by expressing that “Mahatma Gandhi’s call to people in India and the world was to understand that character is most important” and that “human qualities such as kindness can be inculcated each in one of us.”



*Grammy Award winning musician and SDG champion Mr. Ricky Kej lends voice to #KindnessMatters. The young and talented musician who won the Grammys in 2015 for his album Samsara uses music to drive home the message of Environmental Consciousness*

The Chair, Governing Board, UNESCO MGIEP, Prof. J S Rajput spoke of the relevance of Gandhian principles such as non-violence for the youth in the world today, which is facing turmoil. He went on to state “The very basis for the premise of the establishment of the Institute based on designing education for peace, sustainable development and global citizenship harmonises fully with the principles of Mahatma Gandhi.”

Dr. Anantha Duraiappah, Director, UNESCO MGIEP, during his address said the motivation for this conference was the general observation that “people have increasingly started to think that being kind is a sign of weakness whereas aggressiveness is respected.” He explained that humans are neurologically wired at birth to be kind but the process of socialisation tears that away. He further said, “If real societal change is to be achieved, Gandhi’s learnings, which he meticulously imbibed through his experiments, need to be built into our education systems and exemplified in our daily lives. The World Youth Conference for Kindness is a step towards our goal of creating a movement of inspired and empowered youth through kindness to transform”.

As part of the Opening Ceremony, Grammy Award winner & UNESCO MGIEP’s global ambassador for Kindness, Ricky Kej, launched the Kindness Anthem: “Shine Your Light”, featuring musicians from four continents, including Grammy Award-winning flute virtuoso, Wouter Kellerman, Grammy Award winning singer, Laura Dickinson, the Mzansi Youth Choir and Grammy nominee and co-author of the song, Lonnie.

Following the Opening Ceremony, numerous plenary discussions were held bringing together experts from diverse areas such as philosophy, the neurosciences, filmmaking, literature, acting, education, meditation, activism and social work. Panel 1 focused on the “Art and Science of Peace”.

The post lunch session opened with a high-level Talking Across Generations on Education (TAGE) on the theme ‘*Kindness and Prevention of Violent Extremism: From a platitude to a force*’. The session was moderated by Chaker Khazaal, author and public speaker.

The Conference culminated with the adoption and release of the ‘*New Delhi Declaration on Kindness for the SDGs*’. The New Delhi Declaration is a synthesis of 1,200+ youth voices from 117 countries; meticulously substantiated and summarised by the 60 youth participants from 27 countries. During the closing ceremony, the two youth participants who represented the 1200+ youth voices presented the Declaration, which was unanimously adopted by the audience gathered at the Conference.

In concluding remarks at the closing ceremony of the Conference, Nobel Laureate, Kailash Satyarthi, shared his strong views of youth empowerment and how his organization is working with youth on building qualities such as empathy, compassion, towards a sustainable future.

Following the Conference, the first-ever UNESCO MGIEP *Kindness Concert* was held at the IIT Delhi on August 23. The power-packed performances were led by Grammy-Award Winning Musician and UNESCO MGIEP’s Global Kindness Ambassador Ricky Kej with fellow-Grammy Winner Laura Dickinson and an ensemble of artistes including IP Singh (Band Faridkot), Fateh and Murad Ali, Manoj George and Manjunath. The concert, attended by nearly 1,000 people, also marked the official global release of the full #KindnessAnthem, a collaboration of 3 Grammy-winners (including Flautist Wouter Kellerman) and the Mazansi Youth Choir from South Africa. Additionally, **World-Renown Speed Painter** Vilas Nayak made magic with the music by painting a beautiful piece of art on ‘Mahatma Gandhi’ for the night!

The Conference was preceded by a 3 days intense capacity-building workshop at O.P. Jindal University, Sonapat, Haryana, from August 20 – 22, 2019, during which 60 young people from 27 countries were trained in social and emotional learning and on prevention of violent extremism through education.

The Conference was organised as part of the #KindnessMatters for the SDGs campaign, launched on the International Day of Non-Violence or the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, October 2, 2018. The goal of this campaign is to mobilize the world’s youth to achieve the 17 SDGs through transformative acts of kindness. Thus far, through the campaign, close to 5,000 transformative acts of kindness have been generated from over 50 countries.

The Campaign aims to be the foundational step towards the ultimate request (backed by 250, 000 transformative stories of kindness by global youth) for the Member States of the United Nations to declare a Decade of Kindness for the Sustainable Development Goals – 2020 to 2030.

**International Conference on “Mahatma Gandhi and Diaspora”**

Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (DRRC) - Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad-Bharat (ARSP) and GSDS jointly organised a two-day International Conference in New Delhi on 17-18 September, 2019 on the topic: “Mahatma Gandhi and Diaspora” in partnership with the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS), New Delhi. The conference was organised in commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and inaugurated by Hon’ble Minister of Culture and Vice Chairman GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel. Eminent Gandhian Shri Ramjee Singh was the guest of honour.

Former Ambassador Shri Virendra Gupta, President ARSP, former Ambassador Anup Mudgal, Chairperson DRRC, Shri Narayan Kumar, Hon. Director, ARSP were also present on the occasion. International participants from Mauritius, Fiji, USA, California, Suriname, Netherlands, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Maharashtra, Varanasi and New Delhi took part in the conference.

The conference discussed the influence of Mahatma Gandhi’s principle of “Satyagraha” on the thought process of diaspora, first in South Africa and girmitiya countries followed by a global foot print, which in turn characterised the Indian diaspora world over in the contemporary times. The Gandhian principles of peace and non-violence have left a deep impression on the larger national character of Indians, including the diaspora.

Another highlight of the conference was a special session with Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, Gandhiji’s granddaughter and former Vice Chairperson of GSDS.

*Hon’ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel delivers the inaugural address at the international conference in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

*In the picture (From L to R) are seen Shri Narayan Kumar, Hon. Director ARSP; Shri Shyam Parande, Secretary General ARSP; Prof. Ramjee Singh eminent Gandhian thinker; Shri Virendra Gupta, former Ambassador and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti.*



*Hon’ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (C) releases a publication “Diaspora and Nation Building” along with members of the dais (From L to R) - Shri Narayan Kumar; Shri Rakesh Pandey; Shri Shyam Parande; Prof. Ramjee Singh; Shri Virendra Gupta; Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and Ambassador Shri Anup Mudgal.*



*Distinguished participants from different countries attended the programme.*

Smt. Tara Gandhi shared her personal experiences with Gandhiji, which added a very special feature to the proceedings and outcomes of the conference.

The four technical sessions deliberated on the relevant themes with greater depth: They were:

1. **Mahatma Gandhi and India Diaspora – I**, was chaired by Mrs. S.N Gayan, Director General, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. The other speakers at this session included: Mr. Dharam Yashdeo Dhuny, Chairperson, Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, Mauritius; Dr. Annapurna Pandey, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA; Dr. Sheetal Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Mr. Anil Joshi, Former Second Secretary, Indian High Commission to Fiji; Prof. T.P Singh, Professor, Department of Political Science, & Coordinator, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; Dr. Rajni Sarin Medical Doctor & ARSP Member and Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Rai, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Migration & Diaspora studies, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalya, Wardha.
2. **Mahatma Gandhi and India Diaspora – II**, was chaired by former Ambassador Shri Virendra Gupta. The speakers in this session included: Prof. Triloki Nath Pandey, Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz; Dr. Amba Pande, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Dr. Mrs. Sarita Bodhoo, Chairperson, Bhojpuri Speaking Union Mauritius; Prof. Chandra Shekhar Bhatt, Former Professor of Eminence, Tezpur University & Professor of Sociology & Director, Centre for the Study of Indian Diaspora, University of Hyderabad; Dr. Vidhan Pathak, Assistant Professor, Centre for African Studies, University of Delhi; Mr. Chandraprakash Ramkalawon, President, Gandhi Bhawan Laventure, Mauritius; Dr. Munnalal Gupta, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Migration & Diaspora studies, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalya, Wardha and Mr. Rakesh Pandey, Editor, Pravasi Sansar.
3. **Gandhi and Inclusive Development** was chaired by former Ambassador Shri Anup Mudgal. Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee was the special guest on the occasion. The other speakers included: Mr. Anil Dutta Mishra, Eminent Gandhian Scholar and Writer Editor, Sulabh India; Ms. Ruchika Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Noida International University, Greater Noida; Prof. Vimlesh Kant Verma, Former Professor of Linguistics, University of Delhi and Mr. Amit Gupta, Joint Secretary, ARSP.

4. **Core Values of peace and non-violence in contemporary times** was chaired by Shri Shyam Parande, Secretary General ARSP. The speakers in this session included: Prof. Gita Dharampal, Dean of Research, Gandhi Research Foundation, Maharashtra; Dr. Narinder Mohkamsing, Associate Professor, Anton de kom University, Suriname; Dr. Neerja A Gupta, Principal, Bhavan's Arts and Commerce College, Khanpur, Ahmedabad, Director cum Coordinator, Study Abroad Program and Diaspora Studies, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad; Prof. Subhash Chandra, Associate Professor.(Hon.); Intercultural Open University (IOU), Netherlands; President GHA & Chairman Board – Global Harmony Association, India GHA and Amb. Manju Seth Retd. Foreign Diplomat.

A round-table discussion organised as part of the conference was chaired and moderated by Shri Narayan Kumar.



*Distinguished participants from different countries listening to Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, former Vice-Chairperson of GSDS, as Prof. Ramjee Singh joins the conversation.*

The conference generated serious interest not only amongst the academicians and scholars but equally among the political/diplomatic community and media, as such a wide ranging and contemporary themes were seen in full sync with the recognition of Mahatma Gandhi's contribution towards the Diaspora. The participants

explained in detail as to how Mahatma Gandhi touched upon every important aspect of human society- political, social, economic, gender, cultural, international relations, sustainability, technology and faith. They also made out a convincing case that Gandhiji's philosophy was not limited only to the realm of philosophy or history but was equally relevant in contemporary times if the humanity was genuinely interested in creating a society based on the principles of peace, non violence, justice and equity. Indeed, the idea of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (The Whole World is One Family) is not possible without the Gandhian values of peace, non violence and open mindedness.

The conference culminated with an equally impressive valedictory which was presided over by Shri Shyam Parande, Secretary General of ARSP. President of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Dr. Vinay Sahsrabuddhe was the chief guest of the occasion. Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, President of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) was the guest of honour.

The participants reiterated that today, the Indian society and Diaspora are valued as much for their skills as for their commitment to peace and tolerance. In the same manner, Gandhiji's own personality, thoughts and tools were directly influenced by the hardships faced by the Indian diaspora in South Africa and Mauritius. It may be recalled that all these tools of Gandhian philosophy were first experimented with and within Diaspora. This has been an important two-way stream, the diaspora influencing Gandhiji's initial political thoughts, which in turn shaped their larger character and image. Any efforts to study Indian Diaspora would seem impossible without getting intertwined with the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi.

#### ***Mahatma Gandhi brought to life in Paris: Mahatma's life-sized hologram participates at Ahinsa lecture***

The UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP), in cooperation with the Permanent Delegation of India, and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti hosted the fourth Ahinsa Lecture, featuring a dialogue between panelists and a life-size hologram of Mahatma Gandhi, on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for education on October 1, 2019. The dialogue was on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for education.

It was opened by the Ambassador of India to France and Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO, His Excellency, Mr. Vinay Mohan Kwatra and the Assistant Director-General Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO, Mr Firmin Edouard Matoko. Mr. Anantha Duraipapp Director UNESCO MGIEP moderated the discussion about the importance of Gandhi's philosophy of education for human flourishing.



*A view of the holographic image of Mahatma Gandhi interacting with the participants at the 'Ahinsa Lecture' in UNESCO Paris.*

The event attracted about 1000 people, including youth, educators, academics, policy-makers and delegates from several member states of UNESCO.

The Ahinsa dialogue, held on October 1, 2019 at Room No. 1, UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, commemorated the International Day of Non-Violence on October 2 which marks Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. 400 people attended the lecture and more than 20000 logged in online.

Indian Ambassador Shri Kwatra opened the discussion highlighting the importance of promoting Gandhian values of education. His remarks set the tone for a highly engaging dialogue between the hologram of Mahatma Gandhi, Gregoire Borst, Vera El Khoury Lacoueilhe and Anantha Duraipapp.

The discussion started with the panel presenting their perspectives on the meaning of education in the world today. It focused on raising awareness on the future of education and SDG 4 (to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all).



*Distinguished participants from different countries taking part in the UNESCO MGIEP 'Ahinsa Lecture' in Paris.*

Mahatma Gandhi's hologram exchanged views with Gregoire Borst, Professor of Developmental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience of Education, CNRS and Vera El Khoury Lacoeuilhe, Member of Advisory board of UNESCO MGIEP's TECH 2019.

The holographic avatar of Mahatma Gandhi was created using photo-mapped images from 1930-1940 and advanced contouring software and 3D printing to create a life size wire-frame of the Mahatma. Digital sculpting tools were used to add colour and texture to produce a real life image of Gandhi. Through Holography, a standing hologram of Mahatma Gandhi can speak for a total of 15 minutes with 2 to 3 minutes which set the tone for discussion. The talk was extracted with due reference of his writings on Satyagraha, Ahinsa, Kindness, critical inquiry and education.

One of the quotes from the hologram of Mahatma Gandhi emphasizes, "The essence of all education is kindness – kindness to all, friends, foes, men and beasts. The chief objective of education is the building of character. Imparting knowledge should aim at character building. Knowledge is the means and character building is the end".

***Gandhi Global Solar Yatra: 1 Million Students join celebrations across the globe as Solar Ambassadors***

To mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, about one million student solar ambassadors from different parts of the country assembled with their 'solar study lamps' in a grand ceremony on October 2, 2019. The event was organized jointly by GSDS in collaboration with IIT Mumbai.

The Gandhi Global Solar Yatra (GGSY) was kick-started by Professor Chetan Singh Solanki of IIT-Bombay on Dec. 25, 2018, from Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat. This year, GGSY gave more than 10 lakh students hands-on training in solar lamp assembly on October 2, which marked the culmination of this yatra. This year over 80 countries took part in this initiative.



*Children from several institutions of India and abroad participated in this unique initiative where they learnt the nuances and skills to assemble the solar lamps with the tools and kits at their disposal provided to them through IIT Mumbai along with technical knowhow.*





Photo source: <https://www.google.com/search?q=global+solar+yatra&newwindow>



This one-day event was conducted on the same day in nearly 180 countries especially in the countries of South Asia, Africa, and Latin America which face a lack of access to energy. According to GGSY, this event was held on October 2 to celebrate the Gandhian principles of self-sufficiency.

The objective of the GGSY was aimed towards sensitization of over one million students towards adverse effects of climate change and making them future propagators of renewable energy and creating "Global Student Solar Ambassadors".

On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, over 10,000 students set the Guinness Book of World Records by "assembling and lighting" their own solar lamps as part of the Global Student Solar Assembly.

While this was a pan India movement, the schools that took part under the aegis of GSDS were: Rajkiya Buniyadi Vidyalaya, Brindaban Champaran; Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya Bithiharwa; Rajkiya Buniyadi Vidyalaya, Sirasia Adda; Kasturba Gandhi Intermediate College, Sewapuri, Varanasi; Government J P B Girls Higher Secondary School, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Saraswati





**150 GLORIOUS YEARS:** Children celebrating their moment of success with the assembled solar lamps by paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary by creating a similar image.

Shishu Mandir High School, Chattarpur, Madhya Pradesh; Noble Public School, Sagar, M. P.; Kendriya Vidyalaya, Damoh, M.P; Rajkiya Utkrith Higher Secondary School, Damoh, M.P; Shashkiya Naveen Hr. Sec School, Hata, M.P; Shashkiya Model High School, Damoh, M.P.; Shri Jageshwar Nath Higher Sec. School, Damoh; Government Excellence Boys Hr. Sec. School, Damoh, M.P.; Saraswati Shishu Kanya Hr. Sec School, M.P; Navjagruti Hr. Sec School, M.P; Shashkiya Model Hr. Sec School, Madhya Pradesh; Axom Vidya Mandir Hr Sec School, Guwahati, Assam; Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Assam and Parijit Academy, Guwahati.

**International Seminar on “Mahatma Gandhi across Boundaries”**

Gandhi Study Circle of Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi in association with GSDS organized a two-day international seminar on “Mahatma Gandhi across Boundaries” on October 23-24, 2019 at Ram Lal Anand College. About 170 participants took part in the programme. Her Excellency Ms. Faduma Abdullahi Mohammad, Ambassador of Somalia in India was the chief guest on the occasion. The seminar was organized as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Shri Ramesh Bhawadwaj, Director Gandhi Bhawan, Shri Rajdeep Pathak, Programme Executive, GSDS, Principal of the College, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, the Convenor and Organising Secretary of GSC, RLA College Dr. Devendra Kumar also spoke on the occasion.



Speakers at the international seminar organised by Gandhi Study Circle of Ram Lal Anand College, Delhi University.

The two-day conference saw seven different sessions that saw speakers such as Prof. Salil Mishra, Pro Vice Chancellor, Ambedkar University; Dr. Harpreet Kaur, Principal Mata Sundari College; Prof Subrata Mukherjee, Prof. of Political Science; Dr. Hoimanti Barua, scholar from Bangladesh; Dr. Manoj Sinha, Principal Aryabhata College, University of Delhi; Prof. Sanjay Bharadwaj, SIS JNU, Prof. Vighnesh Kumar, from CCSU Meerut; Shri Daya Prakash Sinha; Shri Brij Kishore Sharma and others. Prof. Ramin Jahan Begloo, Executive Director, Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Peace Studies and Vice Dean of the School of Law at Jindal University; Prof. Gianluigi Segalebra, University of Vienna, Austria and Prof. Ananta Giri, from the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai.



Prof. Salil Mishra speaking at the international seminar at Ram Lal Anand College, Delhi University to a packed audience.

# Cultural Exchange Programmes with Embassies as part of Gandhi:150

## In the Path of Mahatma Gandhi

- **India-Bolivia towards Peace and Non-violence**

As a part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti has started an initiative “In the Path of Mahatma Gandhi” to reach out to different sections of the society – both within the country and globally to propagate the message of the Mahatma.



*Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member GSDS lighting the ceremonial lamp as H.E. Mr. Juan Cortaz Rojas, Bolivian Ambassador to India (C), Madam Jenny Cardenas, musician (L); and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS join the programme.*



*(Above): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan presents a Gandhi Bust and Charkha to the Bolivian Ambassador Mr. Juan Cortaz Rojas.*



*(Left): Madam Jenny Cardenas speaks about the Bolivian music on the occasion.*



*(Above): Bolivian musical troupe ‘Capihuaras’ perform songs of peace as children from Blue Bells Model School enjoy the music from far off land.*

In this context, the Samiti had a cultural program – *Music for Peace* in collaboration with the Embassy of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to India at Gandhi Smriti on November 13, 2019. The dignitaries included: His Excellency Mr. Juan Cortaz Rojas, the Bolivian Ambassador to India, Shri Laxmi Dass, the EC Member of GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS, Mr. Ricardo Calla, former Minister of Indigenous People’s Affairs (BOLIVIA), and Madam Jenny Cardenas with her musical troupe- Capihuaras from Bolivia. Children from Gaur International School and Blue Bells School, Gurugram took part in the programme.

The relevance of the philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi in the contemporary world especially, in the international realm was the key agenda of the programme.

The message of peace was in the lyrics of the songs sung and composed by Madam Jenny who shared her experience of losing her father and the grand-father who were the soldiers in the Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay. She also expressed her deepest concern over Non- Violence in modern times and how the two countries settle to the foundation.

The former minister of Bolivia, Mr. Ricardo mentioned the Gandhian movement of Non-violence towards climate change followed back home and the importance of Charka, “loom” to symbolize economic development. Besides, His Excellency emphasized the power of music which in the event showcased the impact of war on the civilians of Bolivia.

• **India-Guatemala towards Peace and Non-violence**

A similar programme in this series was organized cultural programme – “Music for Peace” in collaboration with the Embassy of Guatemala to India at Gandhi Smriti on November 18, 2019. Almost 100 participants took part in the programme that included students of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan’s Mehta Vidyalaya. The dignitaries of the function included His Excellency Mr. Giovanni René Castillo, the Guatemalan Ambassador to India, Mr. Esmaylin Thomas Daniel Gómez, the First Secretary and Consul, and Dr. Anju Tandon, Principal of Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan’s Mehta Vidyalaya. Wife of the Ambassador of Guatemala Madam Leslie Castillo was also present on the occasion.



*H.E. Mr. Giovanni Rene Castillo, Guatemalan Ambassador to India lights the ceremonial lamp along with his wife Madam Leslie Castillo during the programme.*

His Excellency acknowledged the whole idea of the program with great importance as it celebrated in accord with the three great events – 21st October as Revolution of 1944 of Guatemala, 13th November on which the Guatemalan Civil War started against the leftists, and 16th November as an International Day for Tolerance. He encouraged the people to materialize the values of peace, self-respect, and social justice by quoting one of the Mahatma’s sayings, “An eye for an eye only ends up

in making the whole world blind”. As an ambassador of Guatemala, the Excellency talked about the importance of dialogue between people to maintain peace and avoid genocides that took thousands of lives leaving behind grief. The video exhibited by the Secretary on the occasion explained the series of actions that took place in Guatemala to achieve peace and make the country stable.



*(Above): Children of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan’s Mehta Vidyalaya present an invocatory performance on the occasion led by Mrs. Neela Sarkar and Shri Deepak.*



*(Left): H.E. Mr. Giovanni Rene Castillo, Guatemalan Ambassador to India addresses the children and faculty members of the school on the occasion.*



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu Programme Officer GSDS presents a Charkha to H.E. Mr Giovanni Rene Castillo, Guatemalan Ambassador to India.*



*Children; faculty members & heads of school; GSDS officials join for a group photograph with H.E. Mr Giovanni Rene Castillo, Guatemalan Ambassador to India at the World Peace Gong in Gandhi Smriti.*

Earlier Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu highlighted the importance of the programme and its significance in today's world scenario and the necessary to initiative dialogue with fellow human being. The students of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan also presented a musical inter-faith prayer. An interactive session between students with HE Mr Giovani Castillo, Ambassador of Guatemala was another highlight of the programme.

**• India-Zambia towards Peace and Non-violence**

In continuation of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS tried to reach out to different Embassies/High Commissions in New Delhi to have a joint cultural programme with an aim to propagate the relevance of the Gandhian Philosophies of Peace and Non-violence in the international realm.



*Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli, Research Associate GSDS presents a Mahatma Gandhi Bust to the High Commissioner of Zambia to India, H.E. Mrs. Judith K.K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga during the programme.*



*Children from Cambridge School Indirapuram and Rashtra Shakti Vidyalaya gave musical presentations on the occasion.*



*The participating children also interacted with the High Commissioner of Zambia.*

On December 6, 2019 a programme with the High Commission of Zambia in New Delhi was organised in Gandhi Smriti. The High Commissioner of Zambia to India, H.E. Mrs. Judith K.K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga was the chief guest in the function. The Deputy High Commissioner of Zambia to India, Minister Plenipotentiary H.E. Ms. Natihaika Francis Msuya from the Tanzanian High Commission in India, Deputy High Commissioner of Malawi, Mr. Patrick Mphepo and a host of other dignitaries from various embassies took part in the programme.



*The High Commissioner of Zambia to India, H.E. Mrs. Judith K.K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga (Inset) address the distinguished gathering during the programme in Gandhi Smriti.*



*Ms. Mansi Sharma coordinator of the cultural cxchange programmes with the Embassies in India provides an understanding of the initiative of GSDS in connecting with the Embassies and High Commissions.*



*The High Commissioner of Zambia to India, H.E. Mrs. Judith K.K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga (second from left) was given a guided tour of the Gandhi Smriti Museum by Rajdeep Pathak, Programme Executive GSDS.*



Students from Cambridge School, Indirapuram and Rashtra Shakti Vidyalaya, Uttam Nagar gave their musical performances on the occasion. During the interaction with H.E. Mrs. Judith, the children felt worth coming and knowing about the history of the country apart from western nations. To their surprise, Mahatma Gandhi had a great impact on the peace marchers and freedom fighters of the African nation to get their independence from the same colonizer.

The High Commissioner gave the audience an inspiring presentation on the First President of Zambia, Kenneth David Kaunda who also received Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Peace and Reconciliation.

Also, while interacting with the participating children, H.E. Mrs. Judith spoke on the essence of respecting humanity and the philosophy of humanism which inspired their first President Mr. Kenneth Kaunda to follow the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi and how Zambia has been a peaceful nation. She however feared that rumours spread by social media can become a detriment to the peaceful country. She also gave detailed information on the law and order of her country and the educational system. She took pride in informing about how women in Zambia have been recognised on the basis of their merit.

• **India-Rawanda towards Peace and Non-Violence**

In continuation of the series of programmes initiated with different Embassies and High Commissions to propagate the relevance of the Gandhian Philosophies of Peace and Non-violence in the international realm the GSDS in association with the High Commission of Rwanda in India organised a interactive session on January 7, 2020. His Excellency Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda in India delivered the lecture on the history of Rwanda and how the country evolved itself as a peaceful state after the Rwandan genocide of 1994 on the principles of reconciliation and dialogue.



*His Excellency Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda in India lights the ceremonial lamp at the inauguration of the dialogue in Gandhi Smriti as Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (third from left) along with other delegates from the High Commission of Rwanda and Shri Vivek Rathor of GSDS (R) join the moment.*



*His Excellency Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda in India (Above) addresses a distinguished gathering of scholars and academicians during the interactive session.*



*Ms. Mansi Sharma presents a Charkha to a guest from the High Commission of Rwanda during the programme.*

Addressing a gathering of 125+ participants including students from Raman Munjal Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Delhi-Jaipur Highway, Haryana and Manthan School Ghaziabad, Father Agnel School, academicians and representatives from other Embassies and High Commissions in India, Mr. Ernest began by mentioning the influence he had since his early days from Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. He said, "I grew

up a Gandhian, long before I came to India. Mahatma Gandhi Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela had huge effect on me. They taught me the way of non-violence for attaining global peace". He added, "Their ideas should be taken to the younger generation".



*Participating children from Raman Munjal Vidya Mandir Sr. Sec School, Delhi-Jaipur Highway, Haryana and Manthan School, Ghaziabad join for a group photograph with representatives from the High Commission of Rwanda.*

In his emotional outburst of the tragic history of Rwanda that killed between 500,000–1,074,017 people during the mass murder or genocide of 1994, Mr. Ernest said that there was none to blame but ourselves. "It happened within our community and ethnic groups. It happened at a time when the world outside had all the opportunities to stop this massacre". Those were troubled times. The scale and brutality of the massacre caused shock worldwide, but no country intervened to forcefully stop the killings. Most of the victims were killed in their own villages or towns, many by their neighbours and fellow villagers".

He said, "As a nation, we could not afford to lose our own men. We had to go back to the same villages and live next to the same perpetrators and this was a huge challenge". "The government decided to go for a process of reconciliation – 'no revenge'. The government realised one fact that only the victims can give back and forgive. 'Never Again' became 'Never Again' as the motto of the process of reconciliation.

Mr. Ernest also mentioned about the 'Gacaca Courts' which the government established at all administrative levels of Rwanda. He informed that the Gacaca Courts system traditionally dealt with conflicts within communities, but it was adapted to deal with genocide crimes. Among the principal objectives of the courts were identification of the truth about what happened during the genocide, speeding up the process of trying genocide suspects, national unity and reconciliation, and demonstrating the capacity of the Rwandan people to resolve their own problems.

"We looked into ourselves to evolve a process for long-term solution that involved the community, taking the help of women in rebuilding the societal process, where perpetrators of a family were asked to donate something to the family of the victims as an asset".

"Today Rwanda is a colourful country that came back from the dark", informed Mr. Ernest and the government machinery along with the people in the community are working hand in hand towards the progress of the country.

A documentary of the history, art, culture and community life of Rwanda was also shown on the occasion. Earlier students of both the schools presented songs of harmony and Mahatma Gandhi's favourite hymns.

#### • **India Armenia towards Peace and Non-Violence**

As part of the initiative of the GSDS towards reaching out to different embassies in India to take the message of Mahatma Gandhi in the international realm, the Samiti in association with the Embassy of Armenia in India organized a cultural-exchange programme in Gandhi Smriti on February 10, 2020. The programme was organized as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador of Armenia to India was the chief guest on the occasion. Students from Ashray Adhikar Abhyaan and Summer Fields School, Gurugram took part in the programme.



*H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador of Armenia to India join other distinguished delegates Mrs. Jill Carr-Harris (R) and Dr. Mohsin Wali (L) in lighting the ceremonial lamp during the programme in Gandhi Smriti.*



*H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador of Armenia to India (C) releasing the bilingual Hindi-English Armenian fairy tales book of Hovhannes Tumanyan, "The Golden City" along with other delegates.*

He introduced to us the key events going on (e.g. Jai Jagat), associated with Mahatma Gandhi to promote peace and how the people around the globe are being part of it. He also told about the Armenian Velvet Revolution of 2018 which is another example of a peaceful protest. He urged the audience to continue their faith in idealism.



*A representative from the Embassy of Armenia presenting a cultural history of Armenia to the distinguished gathering below.*



*Students from Ashray Adhikar Abhiyaan (Right to Shelter) rendering an invocation during the programme.*



*A musical performance by Armenia's 'Kyat Band' was another attraction of the cultural exchange programme with the Embassy of Armenia in India.*

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Martirosyan said, "It's rightly said that Gandhi belongs not just to India but to the entire world, and therefore, his thoughts still have a special resonance in all the corners. A leader, statesman, politician, writer, journalist, barrister, philosopher and social activist, he wore several hats in his lifetime and touched upon the lives of billions around the world. Indeed, I would say that there is hardly any country in the world where Gandhiji's passion for non-violence and his genuine humanism have not inspired people, transcending the divisions of race, religion and ethnicity today. And Armenia is no exception".

"Gandhiji has left the legacy of teachings of morality, self-sufficiency, forgiveness and non-violence. He lived with his ideals and did not compromise them in the most difficult of times. Today, this integral component of his philosophy 'idealism' has regrettably either been assigned to oblivion or grossly misinterpreted. Today, we are losing our faith in idealism and regard it mostly as an abstract philosophy rather than a practical approach to daily life. Idealism is still competitive for the purpose of childhood education, but reality often turns out to be brutally material. This view of the world leads us to constant rivalry and struggle, both domestically and internationally. As a result, the textbook of modern politics becomes "The Prince of Machiavelli".

“Thus, we divide our lives into two compartments: one in which we indulge ourselves in fine theories and sentiments, and another in which we shake off this dream and deal with reality in all its earthly manifestations. The latter diminishes the value of moral education.”



*H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador of Armenia to India along with other delegates from the Embassy of Armenia in India; GSDS officials at the Gandhi Smriti Prayer Ground.*

The occasion also saw the release of the bilingual Hindi-English Armenian fairy tales book of Hovhannes Tumanyan entitled: “The Golden City”. The book has been translated by Ms. Naira Mkrtychyan with paintings by Narek Khachatryan. Ms. Jill Carr-Harris, from *Jai Jagat Golbal Yatra* (India to Geneva) also spoke on the occasion.

A mesmerizing performance by the ‘Kayt Band’, virtually took the audience to the streets of Armenia with their folk music. Along with Shavali, Gorani, and Havkunk, Baghi Pat was a song. The lyrics of the song signified the pain of lovers during war, where the soldier didn’t have enough time to feel the happiness of life, for he already had to go to war.

- **Cultural exchange programme with the Embassy of Uzbekistan**

The Samiti in association with the Embassy of Uzbekistan organised an interactive session on “In the Path of Mahatma – India-Uzbekistan Towards Peace and Non-Violence” in Gandhi Smriti on February 14, 2020. H.E. Mr. Azamjon I Mansurov, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan was the guest of honour on the occasion. In his address to participating students from Andhra Education Sr. Sec. School, ITO and other members, Mr. Azamjon spoke about the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan.



*H.E. Mr. Azamjon I Mansurov, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in India addressed a gathering of students and other delegates on the occasion.*



*(Above): Children from Andhra Education Society Sr. Sec. School and (Below): Uzbek artists giving their rich cultural presentations.*

Speaking on the occasion, he said, “Relations between Uzbekistan and India have their roots deep in history. There are frequent references to Kamboja, which is stated to include parts of present day Uzbekistan, in Sanskrit and Pali literature. Sakas participated in Mahabharata on the side of Kauravas. Ancient trade route ‘uttarpath’ passed through Uzbekistan. In later years, Fergana, Samarkand, Bukhara in Uzbekistan emerged as major towns on the trade routes linking India with Europe and China.” He further added, “India had close interaction with the Uzbek SSR during the Soviet times. Indian leaders often visited Tashkent and other places”.

He also added that three Uzbek educational institutions, nationwide, promote studies of Hindi language, from primary to post-graduate level and said that Uzbek TV channels regularly show Indian films and serials.

He also mentioned about the artistes from Uzbekistan who paid a musical tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on October 20, 2018, when Mahatma Gandhi’s Autobiography translated into the Uzbek language was gifted to Gandhi Smriti.

Adding more colours to the programme, children from the Andhra Sr. Sec. School presented Mahatma Gandhi’s favourite hymn *Lead Kindly Light* and *Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram*. Uzbek artistes also presented a musical panorama of their culture that included folk songs and dances adding colour and vibrancy to Indo-Uzbek relations.

A temporary exhibition on books of the culture of Uzbekistan was also organised on the occasion and made open for public viewing in the Gandhi Smriti gallery.

# Special Programmes

## • PALWAL, HARYANA

### Commemorating the 100 years of Mahatma Gandhi's first imprisonment in India

April 10, 1919 is marked as the day when the crusade of Mahatma Gandhi against the Rowlatt Act was obstructed by his official first arrest at Palwal Railway Station by the then colonial regime. To mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of first arrest of Mahatma Gandhi, a *Sarva Dharma Prarthana* (inter-faith prayer) was organized at Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) Rajghat, New Delhi and Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust, Palwal, Haryana on April 10, 2019.



(L): An insignia depicting the first arrest of Mahatma Gandhi on Indian Soil at Palwal.

(R): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan during his visit to Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust, Palwal.



Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS; Shri Devi Charan Mangla, Head, Gandhi Sewa Ashram Trust and Smt Alka Gupta, Principal, D.A.V Public School, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS; Shri Gulshan Gupta, Shri Rizwan Ur Rahman, Shri A. Mohanty, Ms. Kanak Kaushik, Shri Vivek and Shri Rakesh were present on the occasion.

The programme began by paying offerings through rituals of hawan/yagya ceremony. This was followed by *Sarva Dharma Prarthana*, which saw readings from the Holy Bible by Shri Vivek, readings from the Holy Quran by Shri Rizwan Ur Rahman, Buddhist Prayer by Shri Arbinda Mohanty, Bhakti Paath from Bhagwat Gita by Shri Gulshan Gupta and Gurubani by Ms. Kanak Kaushik.

The programme concluded with National Anthem after offering flowers at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi along with the felicitation of trustees and participants such as: Shri Mahendra Kalra, Shri Satyaprakash Mittal, Shri Mukut Lal Gautam, Shri Hem Chand Singla, Shri Vinod

Bansal, Shri Dharampal Goyal, Shri Ashish Mangla, Shri Daulat Ram Gupta, Shri Kailash Arya, Shri Gurmeh Arya, Shri Hariom, Shri Varun, Shri Arun Saini and many other Gandhians who were present there.

### Jallianwala Bagh Massacre: 100 Years – Tributes

100 years ago, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1919, a peaceful congregation of about 20,000 men, women and children assembled in Jallianwala Bagh at Amritsar on Baisakhi Day – one of Punjab's largest religious festivals – to protest against the Rowlatt Act taking the casualties to almost 1000.



A sketch on school black board of the Jallianwala Bagh incident of April 13, 1919 prepared by children of the BSF School, Shillong, Meghalaya.



Children of Delhi Public School Sonapat commemorating the centenary year of Jallianwala Bagh massacre by paying a silent tribute.

The ghastly massacre sent a terrific wave of shock, horror, consternation and sorrow throughout the length and breadth of the country. The Jallianwala tragedy changed the course of history and the complexion of the





*Delhi Public School Panipat City joined in commemorating the centenary year of Jallianwala Bagh massacre with children leading the school assembly on the occasion.*

struggle of India to overthrow the yoke of British rule. It served as the biggest source of warmth and inspiration to freedom fighters devoted to the cause of Indian independence for the next 28 years, when ultimately India attained freedom from foreign rule.

A 100 years later the world and humanity is still hungering for peace. While conflicts and struggles continue unabated around different parts of the world, the global challenge today remains how a peaceful society coexists. The world community and the entire humanity are of the firm belief that violence can never produce peace. In his discourse on the essence of non-violence, Mahatma Gandhi had time and again reiterated that “An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind”. Fortunately there are growing numbers of voices of sanity and nonviolence across the globe.



*Art work by a child from Blue Bells School, Gurugram*



*Children of Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya, Ishwar Nagar displayed their creative talents by painting the tragic incident of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre that happened 100 years ago.*



*Children of Axom Vidya Mandir, Nonmati, Guwahati took part in different activities conducted as part of the commemorative programme.*



*Children and teachers of Geet Vitan Kala Kendra School of Performing Arts Chattisgarh paying tributes to the martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh in their school on April 13, 2019.*

This year on April 13, 2019, as part of the centenary commemoration of the Jallianwala Bagh incident, several institutions in Delhi and NCR including institutions from different states such as Assam, Chattisgarh, Shillong, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Sonapat and Panipat as part of the GSDS initiative took part in the commemorative programme by involving the children to take part in various creative activities to raise awareness about the significance of the tragedy that unfolded 100 years ago.



*Children from Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Intermediate College, Sewapuri, Varanasi take part in the commemorative programme.*



*Students of Little Flowers School Shahadra share their thoughts of peace, environmental protection & paintings of Jallianwala Bagh massacre as part of the commemorative programme organised by GSDS in different parts of the country.*



*Children from B. S. F. Sr. Sec. School Umpling, Shillong Meghalaya take part in the commemorative programme.*

The institutions that took part in the commemorative programme included: *Axom Vidya Mandir, Noonmati, Guwahati; Geet Vitan Kala Kendra of Performing Arts, Chattisgarh; B S F Senior Secondary, School, Umpling, Shillong, Meghalaya; Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Intermediate College, Sewapuri, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh; Delhi Public School, Sonapat; Delhi Public School, Panipat City; Summerfields School Gurugram; Blue Bells School, Gurugram; Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya Ishwar Nagar Delhi; Jaspal Kaur Public School, Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi, Sulabh Public School Little Flowers Public School, Shahadra, New Delhi and Delhi Public School, Mathura Road.*

Almost 3000 children from 11 schools took part in the programme wherein they not only spoke about the event that shook humanity 100 years ago, but also gave their ideas of peace and how the world should adopt this for saving humanity. They also engaged themselves in creative pursuits, putting their thoughts into paper through art, poetry, music and prayer. Children also shared their thoughts on the historic event that plunged Mahatma Gandhi more actively into the freedom struggle during the commemorative programme.

The principal of all the participating institutions also spoke on the occasion and led the children and staff into a silent tribute as a respect to the martyrs.

• **ODISHA**

**Swachhata Abhiyan initiated by GSDS at Jagannath Puri**

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti as part of the initiatives taken towards the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, participated in the Rath Yatra at Jagannath Puri in Odisha from July 4-14, 2019 during which they initiated a special sanitation campaign during the Rath Yatra by cleaning the entire area by volunteers and staff of the GSDS. Regular *shramdan* by the GSDS members for the Rath Yatra in the periphery of the Jagannath Temple, the beach have been organized.



The Samiti also set up exhibitions. 12 panels on *Gandhi and Education*; 16 panels on *Gandhi in Utkal*; 200 placards on *Swachhata (Satyagraha se Swachhagraha)* were set up. Stall at the mela by the GSDS was also set up on the occasion.



*(Above and Below): Representatives of GSDS with other volunteers during the cleanliness drive at Odisha. Also seen behind is the exhibition in display curated by GSDS, entitled “Gandhi in Odisha” as part of the Jagannath Rath Yatra.*

On the occasion, the GSDS officials also conducted orientation of the local *swachhagrahis* campaigning in the area for cleanliness drive. The orientation was based on Mahatma Gandhi’s philosophy of sanitation and cleanliness, his vision on peaceful interaction with people.

**Gandhi Katha organised for teachers of MCD Primary School Teachers**

The Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate Governance (SCOPE) conducted the ToT with twenty-five teachers from Municipal Corporation Primary Schools of Delhi (North and South Zones) for holding the Gandhi Kathas for the primary class students to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr Ravi Chopra briefed the participants of the various activities and programmes of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India already done for the celebration and the plans.

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, National Coalition for Education (NCE), India and Akhil Dilli Prathmik Shikshak Sangh (ADPSS) were the collaborating organisations for the programme on July 27, 2019. The venue of the ToT was NCE seminar hall, D Block, Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi. The participants

received the PDF and PPT presentation on Mahatma Katha along with songs to be used in presenting the Gandhi Katha for students. They will be making the schedule for the Gandhi Katha and will be conducting Gandhi Katha in their schools as “*Mei Bhi Gandhi.*”

**Sanitation campaign initiated on Id-UI-Juha in Jama Masjid**



*Sanitation drive at Jama Masjid also saw GSDS representatives putting up messages of Mahatma Gandhi through placards. A meeting with Shahi Imam Bhukari was also organised (below-R).*



Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in association with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Foundation organized a sanitation drive in Jama Masjid on the occasion of Id-UI-Juha on August 11, 2019. Shri Arabindo Mohanty from the GSDS coordinated the programme along with Mr. Imran Khan, President of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Foundation. Staff of GSDS enthusiastically took part in the event. A meeting was later held with the Shahi Imam Bhukari. Almost 50 participants took part in the programme.

**73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day celebrated**



*Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Top R) unfurling the Tricolour in Gandhi Darshan, as participants (Below) rise for singing the National Anthem.*



Director GSDS unfurled the Tricolour on the occasion of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day in Gandhi Darshan Rajghat on August 15, 2019 and reiterated the vision of Mahatma Gandhi for a honest society. Calling upon the staff members to work constructively for the society, Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan said the everybody must contribute for the society. Children of the staff members presented cultural performances on the occasion.

### Remembering two Saints and Satyagrahis

The Samiti remembered two saints and satyagrahis – Mahatma Gandhi and his spiritual son, Acharya Vinoba Bhave at a programme commemorating the 113<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first historic Satyagraha launched by Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa on September 11, 1906.

*Former Librarian GSDS, Smt. Shashwati Jhalani speaks on Acharya Vinoba Bhave and his mentor Mahatma Gandhi as Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu looks on.*



The programme organised on September 11, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan also paid tribute to Acharya Vinoba Bhave on his 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary.

Speaking on the occasion, former Librarian GSDS Smt. Shashwati Jhalani remembered Acharya Vinoba Bhave and said how as a child she was fortunate to have been mentored by Acharya ji. Shri SA Jamal Administrative Officer, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS also shared their views on the occasion.

### Gandhi Quiz in association with MyGov.in

To reawaken the spirit of Gandhism in all, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti had organized the Gandhi Quiz from June 25, 2019 to August 09, 2019 at MyGov.in. The significance of the quiz was to acclimatize citizens with the life, message and philosophy of the Father of the Nation. More than one lakh people across the country took part in this online quiz.

Final three winners in both English and Hindi Category were awarded with the Gandhian Literature

along with the prize money of Rs 21,000; Rs.15, 000 and Rs.11000, respectively.



The results were declared on September 2019. The names of the final three top winners were: Saurabh Ramakant Doijad, Sandeep Kumar and Vikram Gandhi for the Hindi version. For the English version, the winners included Rajesh Derangula, Poonam Mishra and Prashant Swami. Weekly winners were also awarded with the Gandhian Literature.

- **ODISHA**

### State Level Observation of 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Acharya Vinoba Bhave & Launching of one year program on 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

“Being a landless is considered as low esteem for any individual, despite several planning by the various govt. still thousands landless people are reeling under poverty so the government must sort out the problem immediately for the alleviation of poverty and inclusive development of the society said veteran freedom fighter Bhabani charan pattnayak while inaugurating the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Acharya Vinoba Bhave on September 11, 2019 at Jayadev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar.

Vinoba Seva Pratisthan(VSP) in association with Gandhi Smirti & Darshan Samiti(GSDS) New Delhi, an autonomous body of ministry of culture, Govt.of India, Department of Culture & Odia Language Literature , Govt.of Odisha, Gandhi Global Foundation and Odisha Gandhivadi Forum were jointly organised the state level convention on the eve of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Materialistic life without religion is a curse for any civilisation, if people will not follow the path of truth and true religion, holistic development society is not feasible said the national president of Acharyakul, Wardha, Dr Pushpita Awasthi. She appreciated the organiser's initiatives for creating a space to discuss about the philosophy of Gandhi-Vinoba among younger generation.



*Distinguished speakers (above) and an august audience (below) at the inaugural ceremony of the 125th birth anniversary of Acharya Vinoba Bhave in Odisha organised by Vinoba Seva Pratisthan.*

Hon'ble M.L.A. Ms. Latika Pradhan focused on the concept of *Sarvodaya* (upliftment for all) by Gandhi and Vinoba which is very much similar of a classless society propounded by Karl Marx.

Then former union minister Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy said the Bhoodan Movement was historic, even the impact of this movement was more in Odisha than other state. He felt anguish over the growing wideness among rich and poor in our society, is against the philosophy of Gandhi and Vinoba.

Former State Women Commission Member Ms. Namrata Chadha had stressed upon cohesiveness between man and nature to avoid any natural or manmade disaster or climate change impact as suggested by Mahatma Gandhi.

The meeting was chaired by the general secretary of Vinoba Seva Pratisthan Shri Manoj Jena. On this occasion "MAA RASOI" a socio-economic empower project of vinoba seva pratisthan for unprivileged women was launched by the guest. Nearly 400 people including eminent Freedom Fighters, Gandhian Leaders, Sarvoday Workers, Civil Society leaders, Bhoodan Workers, Writers, Academicians, Social Activists, Women leaders, Youth & Students etc were participated the programme.

## Logo and tagline designing contest for "Mahatma Gandhi Mobile Quiz App"

As part of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti has added one more way to modulate the frequencies of community with the "My life is my message" quote of Mahatma. The Samiti came up with the multiplayer "Mahatma Gandhi Mobile Quiz App". The basic intention behind launching the Application was to connect the people with the teachings of Mahatma and thereby widening the user engagement through digital platform. This was initiated during September 2019.



In this endeavour, GSDS invited entries at MyGov. in from people of different walks of life for a "Logo and Tagline" (not more than six words) specially designed for the quiz App. The prerequisite to design both the categories was to be in well context with the philosophies and constructive works of Mahatma Gandhi.

After being scrutinized by the honorable committee headed by Shri Laxmi Dass, EC member of GSDS, the final winners were selected. The winner in the category of designing the logo was Aditya Narayan Yadav, whereas for tagline the winner was Pratibha Maurya.

The designer of the finally selected Logo and Tagline were awarded with the prize money of Rs.25,000 and Rs.15,000 respectively.

## Moniya se Mahatma Gandhi Quiz at Mygov.in and Doordarshan

To mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Doordarshan has jointly organized "*Moniya se Mahatma Tak*" Quiz at MyGov.in. The two target two groups were Moniya (for the age group of 16 to 30 years) and Mahatma (for the age group of 50-70 years), respectively. The whole event was divided into two parts viz. Preliminary Quiz at MyGov.in which was organized from August 22, 2019 to September 10, 2019 and further Final rounds which are recorded and currently running weekly at Doordarshan.



After three weeks of Preliminary quiz at MyGov. in, 24 participants (4 top scorers from the six zones) from the Moniya category and 24 participants (4 top scorers from the six zones) from the Mahatma Category from approximately 80,000 participants in total were selected and thence further called up to Delhi for the next rounds.

After the four day game played from September 26-29,2019, three final winners were selected which are Mr. Mukesh Nemani, Mr.Smruti Ranjan, Mr. Praveen Kr Jha and they were awarded with the prize money of Rs. 1,00,000, Rs.75,000 and Rs.50,000, respectively by Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS.



*(Left): Ms. Richa Anirudh anchored the Gandhi Quiz in Doordarshan, as participants below are seen responding to the questions.*

*Photo Credit: Doordarshan*



The quiz anchored by Ms. Richa Anirudh had run on Doordarshan for two months. The joint team of Doordarshan and GSDS including Dr. K. Padmavathi, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli, Shri Praveen Dutt Sharma, Shri Pankaj Chaubey and Ms. Kanak successfully organized the event.

• **CHATTISGARH**

**Special session with Hon'ble Members of Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly**

A special session on "Understanding Gandhi" was held in Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly for the hon'ble Members of the Vidhan Sabha on October 3, 2019 for celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Eminent Gandhian and Vice President of Harijan Sevak Sangh Shri Laxmi Dass was the main speaker on the occasion. As the Executive Member of the GSDS, Shri Laxmi Dass spoke on the "Importance of Gandhian Thought in Contemporary Society". Hon'ble Speaker Shri Charan Das Mahant graced the occasion. A big wooden charkha was also presented by the GSDS on the occasion.

At another special programme as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Hon'ble Governor of Chattisgarh, Smt. Anusuiya Uikey inaugurated an exhibition on "Mohan Se Mahatma" developed by GSDS on the occasion. Shri Bhupesh Baghel, hon'ble Chief

Minister of Chattisgarh and Shri Charan Das Mahant, hon'ble Speaker Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly also graced the occasion.

**Celebration of 50 years of Gandhi Darshan**

The retired staff of the Samiti joined in a celebration of the 50 years of the establishment of Gandhi Darshan on November 16, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. The programme entitled *Gandhi Darshan Milan Samaroh* witnessed experience sharing of the birth centenary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi. They also sang the favourite *bhajans* of Mahatma Gandhi and Ram Dhun. Smt. Hena Chakraborty, Smt. Shobha Girdhar, Smt. Shashwati Jhalani, Shri Brij Narain, Shri Shivnandan, Smt. Prabha Kawde, Shri Hari Singh, Shri Ram Janam Ram, Dr. Sita Ojha, Smt. Sunanda Tyagi, Smt. Krishna Samajdar, Shri Pinto, Shri Tkahur, Shri Bhasin, Smt. Gunjan, Smt. Jaya Raheja, Smt. Sharda Tyagi, Smt. Pratibha Nigam, Shri Jagdish and others were present.



*(Above): Retired staff members of GSDS join for a photograph as part of the 50-years' celebration of Gandhi Darshan.*

*(Below): Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan along with Administrative Officer GSDS Shri S A Jamal join for lighting 50 lamps as part of the 50 years of Gandhi Darshan.*

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Administrative Officer Shri S. A. Jamal and Programme Officer, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu joined the celebration and lighted fifty candles on the occasion.

## “70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Constitution of India”

### **A fearless person can only serve humanity: Laxmi Dass**

143 students drawn from 12 schools of Delhi and NCR including students of Symbiosis Law School took part in a dialogue on “Fundamental Duties and Moral Values” as part of the celebrations to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Constitution of India. The programme was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in Gandhi Darshan, on November 26, 2019 Rajghat. Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member GSDS and Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh and Shri Biraja Mahapatra, senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India.



*Shri Laxmi Dass, Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh and EC Member GSDS speaking at the 70th anniversary of the Constitution Day programme in Gandhi Darshan, as Shri Birja Mahapatra, Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court of India, keenly listens.*



*Shri Laxmi Dass presents Shri Biraja Mahapatra a Charkha during the programme in Gandhi Darshan while welcoming him, as Mr. Sushil Kr. Shukla (Behind) looks on.*

Addressing the students, Shri Biraja Mahapatra, who is also the Founder Director of ‘Build India Group’, asked the students to develop a sense of ownership. Quoting the ‘Preamble’ Shri Biraja Mahapatra emphasized on the word ‘ourselves’ and said, “We give this Constitution to ourselves’ and, therefore, “It is our moral, social, ethical and fundamental responsibility and duty to own it and respect it and dedicate our service towards humankind”.

Calling this day as the ‘citizens day’ in its true spirit, Shri Mahapatra asserted that the students should try to become true citizens of their motherland or soil, for only then they will be able to understand the roots and the fragrance of the soil”. Asking the students to think of the whole country as the ground of activity, he concluded by stating: “My health is country’s wealth”, which the students also repeated.



*Participants from different institutions of Delhi and NCR are seen sharing their inputs during the programme to mark the 70th anniversary of the Constitution Day in Gandhi Darshan.*

In his address, Shri Laxmi Dass spoke about the importance of mother tongue and how that binds one to one’s roots and reiterated the sentiment of Shri Biraja Mahapatra saying that one has to take care of one’s health so that they could serve the nation properly.

Reflecting on Mahatma Gandhi’s principles of truth and fearlessness, Shri Laxmi Dass said, “A fearless person can only serve humanity. The Constitution has bestowed this fearlessness and an identity to us in terms of our social, religious, caste, etc. We have a right to life, and, therefore, it is necessary to attain knowledge without conditioning the mind”. He further said that for Mahatma Gandhi ‘Ahimsa’ or non-violence was not cowardice. Non-violence promotes compassion and kindness which Gandhiji had time and again spoken about to humankind.

Students also participated in the interactive session with the guests. Earlier two documentaries on “Making of Indian Constitution” and “Importance of Fundamental Duties” were shown.



*Participants from different institutions of Delhi and NCR are seen displaying posters on 'Fundamental Duties and Human Values' with Shri Laxmi Dass and Shri Biraja Mahatpatra (third & fourth from R) at the 70th anniversary of the Constitution Day in Gandhi Darshan.*

Students also participated in the "Integrity Building Exercise" and wrote their views on how they plan to serve the country. Many students also wrote in their mother tongue the 'integrity pledge'.

What was unique about this pledge was that none of the participating students expressed that they abhorred politics. While some chose to become teachers, engineers, there were a large number of them who expressed their keenness towards joining politics and serving the nation.

The programme concluded with an integrity pledge that was read out by Shri Biraja Mahapatra. Shri Laxmi Dass read out the 'Preamble to the Indian Constitution' which the participants repeated in chorus.

A one minute silence was also observed on the occasion as a mark of respect to the victims of the 26/11 Mumbai Attack of 2008.

### **Live painting demonstration as part of Gandhi-150**

Media Family in association with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organised a live painting demonstration on December 23, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. Artists Mr.



Harpal Singh Chauhan, Mr. Gulrez Alo, Ms. Anamika S, along with Ms. Mahi Yashodhar, Mr. Vikas Mishra did a live painting on Mahatma Gandhi as a tribute to the Father of the Nation as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Sr. Journalist and General Secretary of Delhi Journalist Association, Shri Amlesh Raju was also present on the occasion.

### **Gandhi Katha as part of Gandhi: 150 organised**

"Gandhi Katha" by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna was organized in Gandhi Darshan by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Culture and GSDS on December 24, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. With a view to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Gandhi Katha was organized that saw the participation of almost 270+ youth from the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.



*(Above): Gandhi Katha by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna in progress in Gandhi Darshan.*

*(Below): Songs written by Shri Narain Bhai Desai was rendered by Mr Deepak Kalra and Ms Swati Bhagat (R). Shri Gurbej Singh (Tabla - L) and Shri Ganesh Singh (flute) were the accompanists.*

The 'Katha' is in a narrative style of telling episodes from the life of Mahatma Gandhi with music accompanying the narrative. Songs written by Narayan Bhai Desai (son of Mahadev Desai, the personal secretary to Gandhiji) make the katha more poignant. Each Gandhi Katha is contextual and is based on the historical connection and influence of Mahatma Gandhi in that place.

Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna emphasised her narrative on what she said, “The strength of soul, love and peace” which according to her Gandhiji advocated and practiced all through his life. She began the ‘katha’ with these words: “We are all born of truth, so long as the fear infused by the society doesn’t grips us in”, adding, “Gandhiji overcame that fear with truth and steadfastness”.

The artists who accompanied Dr. Shobhana in the Gandhi Katha included: Mr. Deepak Kalra and Ms. Swati Bhagat in the vocals, Shri Gurbej Singh on the Tabla, Shri Chetan Singh on the Harmonium and Shri Ganesh Singh on the Flute. During the narrative, Shri Rakesh spun on the charkha.

Earlier Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan felicitated the artistes with angavastrams.

**Quiz competition on ‘Know Your Constitution’ organized**

As part of the 70 years of the Constitution of India, the Samiti, in collaboration with Doordarshan organized a quiz titled “Know Your Constitution” on January 10, 2020 in the studios of Doordarshan.

The first prize went to Shri Rishabh Gupta and Ms. Soumya Singhal from Maharaja Agrasen Public School,



(Above): First prize winners Shri Rishabh Gupta and Ms. Soumya Singhal from Maharaja Agrasen Public School and (Below): winners of second prize, Shri Arsh Mishra and Shri Suyash Chitre from Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar respectively receiving the prize from the guests that also included Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (L).



The third prize winners, Shri Rahul Pandey and Shri Pradyuman Arora of Class X from Modern School, Barakhambha Road with their prize.

Ashok Vihar. The second prize went to Shri Arsh Mishra and Shri Suyash Chitre, class XI students from Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar. The third prize winners were Shri Rahul Pandey and Shri Pradyuman Arora of class X from Modern School, Barakhambha Road.

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan gave away the prizes to the winners.

**Lecture by Austrian Historian Dr. Margit Franz**

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS in association with the Austrian High Commission in India organized a lecture by well-known historian Dr. Margit Franz on January 27, 2020. This was in continuation of the programmes the Samiti initiated with different Embassies and High Commissions to propagate the relevance of the Gandhian Philosophies of Peace and Non-violence in the international realm. H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Oepfinger-Walchshofer, the High Commissioner of the Austrian Embassy to India was present on the occasion. Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, former VC GSDS was the guest of honour. The Ambassador of Ireland and various delegates from Israel, the United Kingdom, Austria, and MEA (India) also took part in the programme.



(Left): Well-known Austrian historian Dr. Margit Franz delivering the lecture in Gandhi Smriti.



H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Oepfinger-Walchshofer, the High Commissioner of the Austrian Embassy also spoke on the occasion.



The lecture, organized on the eve of 'International Holocaust Remembrance Day' was delivered by Dr. Margit Franz on "Gandhi's India: A safe haven for Exiled Jews".

The presentation by the historian was based on the age of the Second World War, when the Jews were persecuted within their nation and Gandhi's India welcomed them with arms wide open, despite the fact that India then under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi had launched the "Quit India Movement".



*Austrian historian Dr. Margit Franz; H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Oepfinger-Walchshofer, the High Commissioner of the Austrian Embassy in India and Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS with children from different states at the Martyr's Column.*

Dr. Franz focused on the theory of equality in religion taught by Mahatma which attracted the exiled Jews to settle in the sub-continent. She said, "In the middle of their struggle for independence, India managed to accommodate the highly skilled refugees in different parts of India". Also, the presentation surprised the audience by the facts and acts of the combination of humanity, peace, and non-violence.

Children participating at the Value Creation Camp from eight schools recommended by the District Administration of Madhepura, Bihar; Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Hyderabad Telangana and Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Intermediate College, Sewapuri, Varanasi Uttar Pradesh attended the programme. Students from Telangana also performed an Inter-Faith Prayer on the occasion.

**"Gandhi Ko Samajhne ka Sahi Samay" book launched**

"Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, better known as Mahatma Gandhi, was a staunch Hindu and he never shied away from showing his credentials", Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat said, adding, "Gandhi even described himself as 'an orthodox sanatani Hindu'".

"He travelled to understand India and became one with aspirations and sufferings of India and that is

why he was never ashamed of being a Hindu. He said I am a staunch 'sanatani' Hindu. He also taught to respect other religions." Shri Mohan Bhagwat was speaking at the launch of a book "This is the time to understand Gandhi" (*Gandhi Ko Samajhne ka Sahi Samay*) by former NCERT director Prof. JS Rajput in Gandhi Smriti on February 17, 2020. Almost 525 people took part in the programme.

Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat said that India which Gandhi dreamt of is yet to be formed but he has full faith in the present generation that they will realise this even if it is 20 years from now. "Young generation instils confidence in him that if not today, in the next 20 years, there would come a time when on October 2, we could tell him that he can work with peace in India," said Shri Bhagwat.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan presenting a memento and Charkha to Sarsanghchalak Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat during the book launch programme in Gandhi Smriti.*



*Sarsanghchalak Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat addressing an august gathering in Gandhi Smriti during the book launch programme.*



Citing Mahatma Gandhi's policy of opting for honesty and atoning for his mistakes when his experiments failed, Shri Bhagwat said those who are responsible for fostering movements in the current scenario that turned violent are neither held responsible nor do they make amends. "Sometimes Gandhiji's movement went wrong, but he knew his method was wrong and not his intent. He used to atone for that and take responsibility. But the movements that are going on today, if there are law and order problems is there anyone who will atone? Is there anyone who will take responsibility? If there is a lathi charge or firing, the ones who are killed atone, the one imprisoned have to face courts. But those who organise these movements either win or lose," he said.



*Author of book "Gandhi ko Samajhne ka Sahi Samay", Prof. J. S. Rajput speaking about his book at the launch programme.*

Criticising those who are responsible for stoking unrest, Shri Mohan Bhagwat said, "For India's future, it is imperative to follow Gandhi's first lesson that honesty is everything. "Honesty is not a policy, it is everything."

On Mahatma Gandhi's ideas and his books, Shri Mohan Bhagwat said whatever great personalities say or do is according to circumstances. "If we try to take it literally, it will not remain relevant. Whatever Gandhiji said or did, even in his time, people had different views on it. Now if you go into that, you will get confused... we cannot carbon copy his deeds and ideas. Even Gandhiji would have stopped us. But the philosophy based on which Gandhiji formulated his ideas needs to be followed," he said.

Speaking about the contribution Mahatma Gandhi made to the freedom struggle and beyond, Shri Mohan Bhagwat said, "Gandhiji did not only initiate the freedom struggle, the direction that is needed to change the future of a country, that direction has come out comprehensively



*Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat (C) releasing the book "Gandhi ko Samajhne ka Sahi Samay" by Prof. J S Rajput (L) along with noted political scientist Dr. Subhash Kashyap (R) in Gandhi Smriti.*

through him. If you read Gandhi's 'Hind Swaraj' you'll see he had a view of what India should do after getting rid of the British. This is the reason to remember Gandhi today. As we have gained independence but continue to face problems."

Describing Gandhi as a "saint", the RSS chief said he was the voice of India in his times and always emphasised on development which centred around human beings.

Speaking about truth and fearlessness, Dr. Subhash Kashyap former Member of Parliament and Constitutional expert said that truth and purity alone can triumph only when the intention for good will for others is within one's action. Calling politicians as 'extravagant' and 'no less than Mughals', Dr. Kashyap said the new parliament building on which a large amount of money will be spent is against the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. "The new parliament building will further widen the gulf between the parliament and the poor man's hut as money which should be utilised for the poor will be used for this building". While he appreciated the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*, Dr. Kashyap said that a campaign to clean the country has started but it's not known when a campaign will be started to clean politics.

Earlier Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan felicitated the RSS Chief Shri Mohan Bhagwat with a shawl and a statue of Mahatma Gandhi. He also felicitated Dr. Subhash Kashyap and Prof. J S Rajput.

The programme began with an invocation *Vaishnava Jana tau* by students from Tansen Sangeet Vidyalaya Nazafgarh led by Shri Jyoti Prakash Mishra. They also performed *Vande Mataram* at the end of the programme.

**Non-violent Campaigns have become standard practices:  
Martin Arnold**

As part of the ‘Peace and Non-Violence Lecture Series’ initiated by the Samiti, a lecture on the theme “Practicing Non-Violence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” was delivered by Dr. Martin Arnold, eminent German Scholar in Gandhi Darshan on February 25, 2020. Chairman Gandhi Peace Mission Kerala and Member of Gandhi 150 Committee of Government of India, Prof. N Radhakrishnan chaired the session that was attended by almost 65 people.

Addressing academicians and students from different colleges, Dr. Arnold said that for people across the world, new models have developed on peaceful methodologies and people both from academics and politics are beginning to realise that Mahatma Gandhi’s methods had positive approach and therefore could garner so much support from people across different segments.



*Eminent German Scholar Dr. Martin Arnold delivering the ‘Peace and Non-Violence Lecture Series’ in Gandhi Darshan.*

He further said the ‘satyagraha’ is not only about protests. “It is a ‘people’s university’ of coordinating and organising movements and campaigns. Nonviolent campaigns have become standard practices today. I regard ‘Nonviolent Peace Force’ as one of the most fundamental development of Mahatma Gandhi’s principles of ‘Satyagraha’. The mission of nonviolent peace force is to protect civilians in situations of conflict by means of satyagraha. The role of this peace force is to work alongside local communities; to work with the goal to spread the model of deployment as a means of defending the life and dignity of people in regions of conflict”.

“We should look at Gandhi on how he began and how he worked at situation and complexities and how he overcame them through his persuasive power of non-violence. “We should make non-violence a personal virtue and then turn it into a societal virtue”, concluded Dr. Arnold.

2<sup>nd</sup> Counsellor of the High Commission of the Republic of Zambia Mr. Mycuo Ructishisha, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Dept of Political Science, Zakir Hussain College, former Diplomat Shri Rajesh Mehta and others took part in the discussion.

*(Below): 2<sup>nd</sup> Counsellor of the High Commission of the Republic of Zambia Mr. Mycuo Ructishisha (second from R) shares his perspective at the lecture, as Dr. N Radhakrishnan, (top), Dr. Y P Anand and Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu keenly listens.*



Prof N. Radhakrishnan in his address briefed the participants on the ‘courageous experimentation’ of Mahatma Gandhi with the strength of truth and humility that shook even the mightiest of empires. He also stressed on the role of civil societies in reducing conflicts and working within the communities.

**Strength behind Mahatma Gandhi’s Ahimsa was his Truth:  
H.H. Namra Muni**

“Aaj sanskar ko pura vishwa namaskar kar raha hai Aur Mahatma Gandhi ne aapne jivan, aur charitra me sanskar ko aaapnaya hai. Tabhi, woh yug purush kahelate hai. (Today the whole world is saluting values and ethics, and Mahatma Gandhi has adopted those values and ethics in his life and character. Thus he became a *Yug Purush*)”, said Jain Muni Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj at the culmination of the pilgrimage *Ahimsa Sadbhavna Yatra* that began from Rajkot to Kolkata to Varanasi and then to Delhi covering a distance of approximately 2700+kilometres as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj was addressing a gathering of almost 200 people in Gandhi Smriti on February 26, 2020 after he offered his tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr’s Column in Gandhi Smriti, the place of Mahatma Gandhi’s Martyrdom. This dialogue on “Ahimsa and Sadbhavna” was organised by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (R) receiving a panel of rare photographs of Mahatma Gandhi's meeting with Jain Sadhvi Rev. Ujjwala Kumari Mahasati ji in 1945 from Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj ji and others on the occasion.*

He further said that the seeds of character building, values, morality, truth and ethics were germinated in Mahatma Gandhi at a very young age and Gandhiji had spread these values through his various experiments by upholding the dignity of human beings to the core.

While referring to the 19-day interaction between Mahatma Gandhi and the Jain Sadhvi Rev. Ujjwala Kumari Mahasati ji in 1945, when Gandhiji had spent 19 days in the Jain Muni's Ashram, Rev. Namra Muni ji said, "The transforming role of saints in the life of Mahatma Gandhi can be seen through his actions. Gandhiji was given the vow by the Jain Monk Shri Bechar ji (Sthaakwasi Gujrati Sampraday) in the presence of his mother Putlibai that Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi would not taste alcohol; he would not eye other woman in England; he would not eat meat and Gandhiji had kept his promise throughout his life".

Other monks of the order also shared their views on the occasion. They said that Mahatma Gandhi was a lie defater. He had continuously introspected upon truth and led his life through a spiritual awakening. They further said that Mahatma Gandhi had become a *shravak* (one who follows the vows given by Lord Mahavir) through his actions.

A book on "Mahatma Gandhi and Jainism" by Dr. Amit Rai Jain, Director Shahjad Rai Research Institute, the co-organiser of this dialogue was released by Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj on the occasion.

Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj ji also presented a memento with an exhibition



*Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj ji (L) during the programme in Gandhi Smriti.*

panel of rare photographs of Mahatma Gandhi's meeting with Jain Sadhvi Rev. Ujjwala Kumari Mahasati ji in 1945. *Ahimsa Sadbhavna Awards* were also presented to many workers for their contribution to the welfare of the society. GSDS Director, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan was also one of the recipients of the award.

Earlier Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan felicitated Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H.H. Shri Namramuni Maharaj ji by presenting him a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, Charkha and *Angavastram*.

Sharing his perspective on peace, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan said that at a time when violence and conflict has taken over society, the seed of ahimsa (non-violence) is being germinated through this dialogue. "For us to have to become human, we've to understand Mahatma Buddha, Mahatma Mahavir and Mahatma Gandhi for their principles can only reduce the flames of violence.

# Programmes for Children

## Theatre Workshop for Underprivileged Children

A six-day theatre workshop was organised by a joint initiative of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Healthy Aging India from April 1-6, 2019 and was conducted by Ms. Madhumita Khan.

In this workshop, the underprivileged children of Adarsh Primary School, Noida were trained in theatre. A number of intellectual and physical games were organised along with training in basic acting skills. They



*Children enjoy their moment during the theatre workshop organised by GSDS with Healthy Aging India.*

were also trained in character designing, dialogue making, voice modulation and variation, body language and stage combat.

In conclusion, the students prepared a street play 'Beto Bachao Beti Padhao' that focused on the importance and equality of educating a girl child irrespective of their religion, caste or creed. The students of Adarsh Primary school will be performing this play at various places and events to spread the message and bring a big change to the society.

## Interaction with tribal children from Chittorgarh, Rajasthan organised

Over 75 participants from the Bhil tribe of Chittorgarh Rajasthan took part in a two-day interactive session in Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti from May 1-2, 2019. The children who participated in this programme were from the marginalised sections of the society and represented Utkarsh Adharshila Balika Vidya Prangan an initiative of *Pratirodh*.

Being imparted training in different skill-sets with primary focus on their education at the "Utkarsh Adharshila Balika Vidya Prangan" (UABVP) which has

become their home; the children were then living under extreme hazardous conditions without a roof or even proper toilet facilities. With the efforts of Shri Khemraj Choudhary, Founder of the UABVP along with Smt. Suman Chauhan and the support of Mrs. Neena Verma, the children, mostly girls are seeing hope.



*(Above): Children perform traditional songs in Gandhi Darshan and (Below): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS receives a handmade greeting card from a child from Chittorgarh.*



*Global HR of Kangaroo Globals, Shri Ajay Aggarwal shows his handmade card made by this little girl (L) from the Bhil Tribe of Chittorgarh during their visit to Gandhi Darshan.*

During their visit, the children visited Rajghat and offered their tributes at the Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi at Rajghat. The children also as part of their educational tour visited Gandhi Smriti memorial. Visits to other places of importance such as the National Science Centre, Shankar's Dolls Museum, National Bal Bhavan, Rail Museum and so on.



*Dr. Neena Verma (L); Smt Suman Chauhan (C) receives Khadi clothes for making uniform for the children of Utkarsh Adharshila Balika Vidya Prangan of Chittorgarh in Gandhi Darshan.*



*Children display their creativity through posters as part of the workshop organised with them during their visit.*

On their day of arrival, children also spent their time at Pavilion No 1, *My Life is My Message* and Pavilion No 4, *Indian Struggle for Independence through clay models* understanding the person called Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

On day two, the children displayed their creativity and talents through various cultural performances. Shri Yogesh Verma, Dr. Neena Verma, mentors to Utkarsh Adharshila Balika Vidya Prangan, and Global HR of Kangaroo Globals, Shri Ajay Aggarwal were present on the occasion.

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, in his address to the gathering welcomed the children to the

Samiti and invited them to partake in the Value Creation Camp during September-October 2019. He also proposed to start a 'skill centre' under 'Srijan' at Chittorgarh for providing training to the girls.

Director GSDS further asked the children to send their feedbacks about their visit at different places and their stay.

The evening also saw colourful presentations of folk songs, dance and recitation by the children. From *Kal Belia* dance to *Ghumar* to narrating their experiences, the performances by children were spell-binding.

A message by one of the mentors Shri Pratyush through audio was shared with the children, in which Shri Pratyush thanked GSDS for their support and asked the students to strive for the three S – *swasthya*, *swachhatta*, and *shiksha* (Health, Sanitation and Education).

Director GSDS also gifted rolls of Khadi clothes to the children from the marginalised background which Dr. Neena Verma said will henceforth become part of their uniforms.

The programme concluded with children gifting a greeting card to all the seniors and the coordinators of the camp, Shri Vivek, Shri Deepak and Shri Shakeel.

### **Workshop for School Children on Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living**

A two-day workshop on "Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living" for children was organized at KAMS Convent School, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi from May 3-4, 2019. About 150 students of class from 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> took part in two days workshop. Mr. Gulshan Gupta and Mr. Shakil from GSDS were the resource persons in the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to promote mutual co-existence between Human to Human, Human to Nature and Human to Wildlife so that everyone could live happily.



*Children participating at the workshop in the school in Swaroop Nagar, Delhi.*

On the first day about 70 students of class from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> were present. Promoting truth, honesty and empathy among students are the key formulas to infuse





*Mr. Shakil Khan representative of GSDS (C) conducting the workshop, as children keenly listens.*

the Gandhian values and enhance the happiness among humans. To reinterpret Gandhi ji's ideas and works to inspire and prepare the children for building peaceful future society, it is necessary to introduce Gandhi among children.

The method of the workshop was storytelling, lecture demonstration, audio-visual presentations and presentations by students on chart papers.

The workshop underlined the message that suppose, if we are six members in a family and all live happily with mutual understanding, then why we three 'Human, Nature and Wildlife' can't live together on this planet, mother earth.

Among these three elements of Mother Earth, humans are much active and performing being than others. Only humans are responsible for creating many problems like global warming, climate change, melting glaciers, deforestation, deep ground water, influenced monsoon, unstable rainfall but nature and wildlife are also suffering equally. Coming generations will not get fresh air, drinking water, healthy and nutritious food, green and clean nature.

The only solution to all these problems is to minimize the need and repression of greed, otherwise after few years maximum resources on earth will be destroyed or will be consumed by humans to fulfil their greed. Mr. Gulshan Gupta, Northeast Coordinator, GSDS has stated.

On second day May 4, 2019 about 80 students were present. Mr. Shakil in a conversation with students of 5th and 6th class shared that we live in this planet earth and its resources are freely available to each of us. Mahatma Gandhi ji had rightly said that "The world has enough for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed". Mr. Shakil also said that we are a unique creation of God, we should not harm ourselves and similarly we shouldn't harm nature because it is also a peerless creature of God.

Mr. Gulshan Gupta said that if we will respect each other and will take care of each other then we will be able to spread the message of happiness and mutual co-existence. If you are a true human being, you will never evince your doings before others. There is a saying that "Be discreet with your kindness – Neki Kar Dariya Me Daal".



*Mr. Gulshan Gupta N.E. Coordinator GSDS (R), conducting the workshop, as children make their presentation.*

We can learn this big lesson from a small animal 'Squirrel'. Squirrels are known for hiding the nuts and seeds in various places for future use. Squirrels hide it in so many holes that they forget where they have buried them. But squirrels do not bother with it. They do not stop their job of hiding nuts for their future use. Some of these hidden and forgotten nuts, uneaten seeds and other squirrel delicacies germinate and grow into new plants. Lakhs of plants and trees have grown up on this earth because of the Karma of a small squirrel.

We humans should not become selfish; we should learn to live for others. This will be the real contribution towards making a happy society and peaceful nation.

In the valedictory session about 150 students were present. Students made their presentations. Total seven groups (Class 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>) presented their presentation on chart paper and workshop was concluded with distribution of certificates to all the participants. Vote of thanks was given by the principal of the school.

### **Workshop for School Children on Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living**

GSDS organised a workshop on "Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living" for the children of Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya ward No 2, Mehrauli on May 6, 2019. Ms. Saumya Agarwal, Founder Director, Youth for Peace International conducted the workshop along with Ms. Kanak Kaushik of the GSDS.

The session started with *play for peace energisers* where participants actively took part. Both the resource persons shared the purpose of conducting the workshop and talked about Gandhi Ji where students shared their

understanding about the life of Gandhi Ji and how he promoted Non-violence. Then, we started building the understanding of active listening through paper tearing activity. The participants were given a sheet of paper each and they had to close their eyes.



*Ms. Saumya Agarwal, Founder Director, 'Youth for Peace' International conducted the workshop along with Ms. Kanak Kaushik of GSDS (above) to enthusiastic children of the school.*

They were given instructions on folding and tearing the paper from certain angles, which they were to follow as they understood individually. At the end of the instructions everyone was asked to open their eyes and unfold their sheet of paper and show it to others. The result was that everyone's sheets looked different. They were then asked which the 'correct' design was. Some students realized that everyone's design was 'correct' even though they were different. It was understood through this activity that the same situation or instruction can be perceived very differently by each person in the group. It was also recognized that during the activity, some students might have had more similar looking designs than others. Further, it didn't mean that the very different looking designs were wrong. Thus, the aspect of conformity was also discussed in an attempt to become aware about triggers which might lead to a biased behaviour.

Students further discussed about how different perspectives lead to conflict and can lead to bigger issues between two people/ parties. They brainstormed and shared that how stereotypes and prejudices at times leads to conflict while communication.

Discussions with few examples from the daily lives of the participants, where they had stereotype about some person/community/place etc was also conducted. Students further reflected and wrote one incident about stereotype. They also were asked to do practice about mindfulness and through examples the journey from "I" to "US" was explained.

As part of the exercise, students were given four words – 'Respect', 'Understanding', 'Appreciation' and 'Non-Judging' and were divided into four groups where they brainstormed as a group on how they can use it in their daily lives and shared with each other.

#### **Workshop for adolescents and children of Reform Home organised**

The Samiti organised a two-day workshop on "Empowering Life Skills and Positive Mindset" for the adolescent and children of Reform Home in NOIDA Uttar Pradesh on May 16-17, 2019. 70 children attended the workshop.

The aim of the first day of workshops in the remand home for boys in Noida was to get the attention of the children towards some central themes that the organization encourages them to think about and to make minor changes in the thinking processes of the particular group of children. Mr. Gulshan Gupta, North East Coordinator, Ms. Kanak Kaushik conducted the workshop. Ms. Urmil Chatterjee intern with the GSDS also took part.

Mr. Gulshan Gupta while speaking to the children said that situations or events often influence people to develop their characters. During the interaction, while some children said that they wanted to pursue higher education, others said that they wanted either secured jobs or would start business. Surprisingly many of them divulged that they had no such plans and preferred resorting back to theft, etc, with hopes of not getting caught again.

During the interaction, it was gauged that a good number of the boys had never been to school. There are others who had left after a certain level of schooling. It was also found that many were educated and from economically better backgrounds, who unwillingly discontinued their education only after detention and custody in the remand home. However, most of the boys were from economically weaker sections.

Further, based on their choices about their future aims, four types of work were explained to them such as: (investment, explorer/research, business – small and large firms, and employment through jobs).

Ms. Kanak Kaushik took a session on mindfulness and meditation, in which she addressed the restless behaviour of the children and they were asked to focus on their positive being. They were slowly guided to focus on some of the toughest situations they ever faced. Most of the children expressed that they could sense the negativity associated with that. They were asked to leave the associated negativity there and then for good, and to embark on a new chapter of their lives. Ms. Kanak further emphasised upon the children to 'think positive'.

Ms. Urmi an Intern with the Samiti spoke briefly about the notions of 'morality', what is perceived as 'good' and the concept of 'goodness' as it differs across individuals. An analogy of the mind containing three parts was used: the human one, trying to reason and question, and find positivity, a mirror reflecting the reality and keeping the person in check, and a wall of negativity, separating the two. This wall, as explained, could be overcome if the other two parts were powerful enough, over time.

In the valedictory session, Shri Atul Soni, District Probation Office addressed about 70 participants. Certificates were distributed on the occasion.

### **Energetic children present their understanding of Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living during the workshop**

The Samiti organised a one-day workshop on "Mutual Co-Existence and Happy Living" for students of Class VII to X of Swastik Public School, Ibrahimpur Village on May 17, 2019. Mr. Shakeel Khan coordinated the programme and conducted the session along with Shri Vivek Kumar and Ms. Kanak Kaushik. Ms Urmi also took part in the programme.



*Mr. Vivek Rathor representative of GSDS (R) conducted the workshop to enthusiastic children of the school.*

Various activities were conducted with the children to make them aware of the importance of co-existence and why it is so vital for nature, human and wild life to remain in unison. The workshop started with an icebreaking session that required the students to enact three types of species: monkeys, trees and peaceful humans, serving a foundation for the theme that was covered during the day.

The children were informed that man hasn't been peace with nature as they can witness for themselves. Man constantly tries to manipulate nature and benefit himself according to his needs and that has led to the very instrumental use of nature. It was placed before the children that only through small steps and changes major changes in lifestyle can be brought about. Starting from the smaller steps, the children were asked why lighting *diyas* during the festival of Diwali is considered significant from the environmental perspective. Other than their positive vibes, earthen lamps are a healthy alternative to other sources of lighting and celebration which also indirectly contribute to bigger issues such as climate change.



*Children of Swastik Public School carry out activities during the workshop under the supervision of GSDS representatives, Mr. Vivek Rathor, Ms. Kanak Kaushik and Ms. Urmi.*

Mr. Vivek spoke on nature and mutual coexistence, covering topics like the role of the five elements *panchamahabhuta* (fire, water, earth, air, and sky) and their peaceful and purposeful coexistence. He also explained that human beings, having intelligence and the power to reason and think, also have a greater responsibility towards protecting the ecosystem and the way it functions naturally. Little steps can be taken by individuals themselves to complete greater contributions of the whole mankind, for the mankind. Here he illustrated through a personal example of saving an electrocuted monkey's life, and another example of how tribal societies have used afforestation and other nature-management strategies to nurture the peace in the surroundings. By contrast, how humans in the industrial societies have taken to greed and relentlessly continue to exploit natural entities. Lastly, he told the students how Mahatma Gandhi's 'Nai Talim' philosophy also includes environment-management strategies to nurture the ecosystem, in his conception of work experience in learning.

Mr. Shakeel Khan conducted an activity game with balloons and briefed the students that in our competitive mode, we tend to miss on cooperation and helping others win. Children also made posters during the workshop.

Since mutual coexistence also requires us to be responsive to the needs of nature and the wildlife, Ms. Urmi carried the discussion forward by telling that listening

forms a very crucial part of understanding others, as well as what our environment needs, using examples from nature itself, and how one can bring changes in the way one listens.

### Rehearsals for Gandhi Jayanti programme conducted



*Shri Sudhanshu Bahuguna of Swar Trishna (inset) conducting the rehearsals for the 150 years of Gandhi Jayanti (October 2) in both Gandhi Darshan and Gandhi Smriti.*

Over 1000 children drawn from 31 schools of Delhi and NCR took part in the musical rehearsals as a preparation to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan from September 14, 24, 26 and 29. On September 30 and October 1 rehearsals were organised in Gandhi Smriti. 85 children participated in the Value Creation Camp from five different schools of Madhya Pradesh and one school of Jalandhar who took part in the Value Creation Camp (September 24-October 3) also took part in the rehearsal. Songs of Kabir, compositions of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, and Acharya Vinoba Bhave and other compositions were taught to the children.

### Ten-day Value Creation Camp inaugurated

The ten-day Value Creation Camp from September 24 to October 3, 2019 was inaugurated in Gandhi Darshan by Shri Manhar Valjibhai Zala, Chairman, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment who was the chief guest on September 24, 2019. Present at the inaugural ceremony was H.H. Swami Karya Siddheshwar Maharaj of Sidhagiri Gurukul Foundation, Kaneri Math, Padma Shri Shri Kamal Singh Chauhan, Shri Basant Singh, former Advisor GSDS, Shri Umesh Chandra Gaur, Chairman CCBOS, Shri Bishnu Chetri from KKSS, West Bengal along with Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan.

Almost 85 children from Saraswati Shishu Mandir Sr. Sec. School, Keshavnagar, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Saraswati Shishu Mandir Sr. Sec. School, Dist. Rehli Sagar, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Shashkiya Utkrishtha Sr. Sec. School, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Kendriya Vidhyalaya,



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS during an ice-breaking session with the children at the Value Creation Camp in Gandhi Darshan.*



*Shri Yatender Singh of GSDS (L) training the children of the Value Creation Camp to use the spinning wheel (Charkha).*



*Rev. Swami Karya Siddheshwar ji Maharaj of Sidhagiri Gurukul Foundation (C), along with other distinguished guests inaugurated the Value Creation Camp in Gandhi Darshan by lighting the ceremonial lamp.*

Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Shri Guru Nanak Sr. Sec. School, Jabalpur Naka, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh and B. S. F. Sr. Sec. School, Jalandhar, Punjab along with their teachers and coordinators from six schools of Madhya Pradesh



*Hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel invited all the participating children at his residence in New Delhi. Singer Padma Shri Sh. Kailash Kher also interacted with the children. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan was also present on the occasion.*

and one school from Jalandhar took part in the Value Creation Camp in different activities such as shramdaan, theatre, photography, music rehearsals, spinning. Also sessions on 'Mindfulness' 'Non-violent communication' was conducted by Ms. Kanak Kaushik, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu and Shri Gulshan Gupta. Ms. Shashwati Jhalani took a session on 'Understanding Gandhi', Dr. Manju Aggarwal took classes on 'Naturopathy and Reflexology' and Ms. Madumita took theatre classes. Shri Guitar Rao, a Civil Engineer by profession, now into promoting music to children and youth took music classes on the occasion.

The inaugural programme saw the children sharing their expectations during the camp. Cultural performances by children left the distinguished gathering mesmerised. Words of inspiration from the distinguished gathering acted as a morale boost to the participating children who were also introduced to the Gandhian philosophy.

Shri Jagdish, Shri Vivek, Ms. Shobha, Ms. Sunita Joshi, Ms. Asha, Shri Umesh coordinated the day-to-day affairs of the camp.

The participating children, their coordinators and GSDS coordinators along with Director GSDS, Shri

Dipanker Shri Gyan had a rendezvous with renowned singer Padma Shri Shri Kailash Kher at the residence of the hon'ble Minister of Culture and Vice Chairman GSDS Shri Prahalad Singh Patel on October 1, 2019, when the hon'ble Shri Prahalad Singh Patel ji hosted a small discussion for the children. Children also performed some traditional dances and songs on the occasion.

The children also visited various historical places on the occasion such as National Gallery of Modern Art, Lotus Temple, not to miss Gandhi Smriti Museum and the Gandhi Samadhi at Rajghat.

***Children display their creativity at the valedictory function of Value Creation Camp***





Children from B S F Sr. Sec School, Jalandhar; Saraswati Shishi Mandir Sr. Sec School, Keshavnagar, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Saraswati Shishi Mandir Sr. Sec. School, District Rehli Sagar, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh; Shashkiya Utkrishtha Sr. Sec School, Damoh Madhya Pradesh, Kendriya Vidyalaya Damoh, Madhya Pradesh and Shri Guru Nanak Sr. Sec School, Jabalpur Naka, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh presented a wide range of cultural



*The chief guest at the valedictory function of the Value Creation Camp in Gandhi Darshan was Shri Alok Goswami from Madhya Pradesh (third from left).*

performances at the concluding ceremony of the ten-day Value Creation Camp organized by GSDS from September 24 to October 3, 2019. While folk dances of Punjab and Madhya Pradesh enthralled the gathering, street theatre on corruption left a great impact on the students. The chief guest on this occasion was Shri Alok Goswami from Madhya Pradesh. Teachers also shared their experiences on the occasion.

• **BIHAR**

**Gandhi Exchange programme for children**



*Inauguration of the Gandhi Exchange Programme at the School of Creative Learning in Patna in progress.*



*Distinguished guests viewing the creative scientific models prepared by the children during the 'Inno Fest'.*

The Samiti organised a three-day Gandhi Exchange Programme by sending the children of the two Buniyadi Vidyalayas of Brindavan, Kumarbagh and Sirasia Adda to the School of Creative Learning in Patna. 30 children and coordinator teachers took part in the programme from December 24-26, 2019. During the exchange programme, the participating children from the three schools exchanged ideas of creativity and innovation. Shri Vijay Prakash founder Director of the School of Creative Learning and Principal, Mrs. Mridula Prakash facilitated the programme. Shri Atul Priyadarshi coordinated the programme on the behalf of GSDS.



*Children of the two Buniyadi Vidyalayas of Brindavan, Kumarbagh and Sirasia Adda along with the children of School of Creative Learning in Patna join for a group photograph during the Inno Fest.*

A creative fair with the theme "Inno Fest" was also organised as part of this programme in which participants from other schools of Patna also took part. A competition on innovative techniques was organised in which a child from Buniyadi Vidyalaya Sirasia Adda won the first prize.

**Rehearsals for 72<sup>nd</sup> Martyrdom Day**

Almost 450+ children took part in the musical rehearsals organised by the Samiti as a tribute to the 72<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan and Gandhi Smriti on January 17, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28 and



*Shri Sudhanshu Bahuguna conducting the rehearsals for the musical tribute by children to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of Martyrdom Day.*

*Participating children from different schools of Delhi and NCR including Bihar, Hyderabad and Varanasi took part in the musical training programme for January 30, 2020.*



29, 2020 respectively. Children from over 20 schools of Delhi and NCR took part in the rehearsals conducted by Shri Sudhanshu Bahuguna. Later from January 22 children participating in the ten-day Value Creation Camp (January 23-February 2, 2020) from Madhepura, Bihar, Hyderabad Telengana and Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh joined. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan also addressed the students during the rehearsals on January 29 in Gandhi Smriti and extended his wishes for their performance on January 30. Talking to the children he shared his belief that the children will perform to the best of their abilities under the guidance of Shri Bahuguna.

Earlier a meeting with the representatives of various schools was conducted on January 15, 2020 in Gandhi Darshan in which Programme Executive Shri Rajdeep Pathak briefed the teachers about the modalities of the programme and the manner in which children has to be oriented.

**Ten-day Value Creation Camp organised**



*Indian origin artist from USA, Mr. Sanjeev Anand (C) joins Mrs. Paramjeet Kaur, Founder Director of Ashray Adhikar Abhiyaan (R), Dr. Manju Aggarwal of GSDS, and teachers and children at the inauguration of the Value Creation Camp.*

Almost 46 children with teachers and coordinators from Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth Sewapuri, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh; eight schools recommended by the District Administration of Madhepura Bihar; and Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Hyderabad Telengana took part in the ten-day Value Creation Camp organized by GSDS from January 23 to February 2, 2020 in Gandhi Darshan. The camp was inaugurated on January 23, on the occasion of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose’s 123rd birth anniversary by Mrs. Paramjeet Kaur, senior Advocate Supreme Court of India and Founder Director Ashray Adhikar Abhyaan and Superintendent of Mandoli Prison Ms. Neeta Negi. Artist Mr. Sanjeev Anand also spoke on the occasion.



*(From Top to Bottom): Children learn the nuances of stitching and embroidery from Ms. Meera of GSDS Srijan. Children are seen participating in Yoga and Shramdaan as part of the morning activity.*



*Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Left and Inset) after hoisting the Indian National Flag as part of the celebration to mark the 71st anniversary of the Republic Day on January 26, 2020 in Gandhi Darshan. Participating children, GSDS staff and teachers join for the National Anthem.*



*Mr. Vivek Rathor leads the march past by the children during the 71st Republic Day function in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

Children during the ten-day camp took part in the musical tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on January 30 in Gandhi Smriti. Besides regular sharamdaan, yoga and charkha classes, classes on non-violent communication techniques, classes on personality development through gratitude, compassion, kindness, etc., emotional intelligence were also conducted for the participating children.

Children also visited different historical sites including the Metro Museum. They also offered tribute to Gandhi in Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi at Rajghat as part of his 72nd death anniversary. To learn about the 'digital Gandhi', the children accompanied by the Director GSDS

Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan also visited the museum of the Department of Science and Technology (DST). Further a visit to the 'Bharat Parv' organised by the Ministry of Tourism was also arranged for the children at Red Fort.

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, hoisted the Tricolour on the Republic Day on January 26, 2020 in Gandhi Darshan with staff members of GSDS and participating institutions taking part in the programme enthusiastically. Shri Vivek Rathor led the march past by the children.

The valedictory function was organised on January 31 in Gandhi Darshan that different cultural presentations by children. A special feature of one of the performances was a street play presentation on the different Gandhian principles non-violent communication which they learnt during their training programme.

Addressing the children at the valedictory programme on January 31, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan reiterated his faith upon children calling them as ambassadors of peace. He appreciated the strong coordination among the children and believed that the opportunities that they got during their visit to the Metro Museum and the DST Digital Gallery on Mahatma Gandhi would enable their creative capabilities. He said that the

street play by the children of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan Hyderabad Telengana on NVC techniques will be shown during such orientation programs.

He further advised the children to share such lessons with others who did not come so that things learnt could multiply. He also hoped that the schools have self exchange programmes among themselves.



Moments from the Value Creation Camp organised by GSDS during January 2020.



# Programmes for Youth

## Two-day Media Workshop organised

The Samiti in association with (CMRA) Centre for Media Research and Analysis organised a two-day 'Media Worksop' in Gandhi Darshan on July 6-7, 2019.

The first day workshop was divided into five sessions and various topics were discussed, in which students of various colleges, institutes and universities of journalism such as Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Maharaja Agrasen, Aditi College, Ramlal Anand College, School of Journalism, Bharti College, IP University, IIMT and Makhanlal University participated.

The keynote speaker Mr. Shekhar Trivedi, senior journalist and anchor, Zee News told all the students present in the workshop about the topic "Mobile Journalism" in the current era of changing forms of media (digital media) Introduced the importance of mojo, utility and income in the future in the form of income.

The second session speaker, Mr. Pradeep Bhandari Editor-in-Chief and CEO, *Jan Ki Baat*, while addressing the topic "Discussion on online and YouTube channel", said that the advent of online media has increased the field of freedom of expression.

He emphasized that all students should keep their stories firmly based on true journalism, fact-based and ground journalism.

Shri Narendra Thakur said that the media should be responsible for the country and society. Along with this, Shri Ravindra Kumar, CMRA's national convenor and senior journalist, told the participating students that national interests should always be taken care of in journalism. Issues related to the unity, sovereignty and security of the country should be reported very thoughtfully.

The other speakers included Praveen Tiwari, Shri K G Suresh Director IIMC, who spoke on 'anchoring' and 'reporting' respectively.

On Day II, senior journalist of Zee Media, Adarsh Pande ji, talked about TV production as per the theme of the session. He told how a story has to go through the whole process, where graphics plays a vital role.

Others who shared their inputs on Day II included Shri Pankaj Shukla; Shri Mayank Jain and Shri Atul Gangwar.

## Ideas of 'Responsible Patriotism' floated through *Chai Kaafi and Music*

The Samiti in association with Manzil Mystics organized a "Chai Kaafi and Music" on the theme of 'responsible patriotism' in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat as a celebration to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day and as part of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. About 150 participants comprising of students, mentors from different areas of life, army personnel, senior musicians took part in the programme. Shri Rajesh Mehta, Shri Manoj Jha, Mr. Deepak Castelino, Ms. Prema Iyer, popularly known as 'Campus Nani', Mrs. Seema Tyagi along with her husband, and others were present on the occasion on August 4, 2019.



(Left): Mr. Rajdeep Pathak, Programme Executive GSDS addresses the gathering during the programme.

(Below): Musical performances by various artists marked the occasion.





Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rajesh Mehta talked about music as his inspiration since his childhood and how it binds people from one nation to another. He also spoke about the initiative of the Government of India in involving artists from 150 nations to sing Gandhiji's favourite bhajan *Vaishnava Jana Tau*. Crooning a few lines from *Aye Mere Pyare Vatan*, Shri Rajesh Mehta concluded by reminding everybody committed towards their family, society and nation, per se.



*Famous Guitarist Mr. Deepak Castellino of 'Char Yaar' jams the session with his songs on inclusiveness.*



*Former diplomat Mr. Rajesh Mehta who was the special guest on the occasion also addressed the gathering.*



During the programme, students from Manzil Mystics also performed on the occasion. Performances by Faraz Ali, *My Perch*, *Manzil Music Vocal Class*, and Roshini on hope, peace and patriotism made the evening very special. Rahul Wahi from *Manzil Mystics Beats* set the stage up for ten minutes and involved all the audience. It was one of the best ways to engage the audience into a jamming session of music for peace.

Further, Mayank, Navya-Muskesh, Neha and The Mantash Band gave their performance on songs of Kabir Das. Joining them was septuagenarian, Ms. Prem Iyer, wife of an army officer, who has dedicated her life towards war widows.

The other highlight of the programme was Shri Arjun Kheriyal HCGD, Into Tibetan Border Police posted at China Border who shared his views on patriotism and also sang *Matti* from the film *Kesari*. Another attraction of the evening was a session on interlinking rivers, states, food and culture through music and an impromptu composition called *Unche Himalaya Tak* by famous guitarist Mr. Deepak Castellino of *Char Yaar*. This song was dedicated towards making the world inclusive (a one big family).

Manzil Mystics concluded the evening by singing *Aao Hum* (a song on peace, unity and Gandhi's view of world as one family), *Halke Gadi Hako* (a Kabir Bhajan on good karma) and *Ram Dhun*.

### Signature for Khadi as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi

'Sankalp for Khadi' – an initiative by Incredible Transforming Charitable Foundation (ITCF) organized Signature for Khadi, to mark the celebration of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary and 100 years of Charkha in association with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. The gala event hosted on August 10, 2019 at The Ashok Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi witnessed a first of its kind fashion show where Bunkars from seven Indian states showcased their exclusive craft, contributing towards promotion of Khadi, the Freedom Fabric.



*(Above): "Roots of India" a fashion show of Khadi and handloom from seven states of India was organised.*

*(Below): Mr. Shyam Jaju (R) National Vice-President BJP felicitates a craftsperson on the occasion (C), along with Ms. Paridhi (L) of 'Sankalp for Khadi'.*



The initiative was organized in the presence of more than 100 eminent personalities from various domains like politicians, sportsman, diplomats, bureaucrats, artists, and socialites etc. who gathered as a gesture for celebration for 100 years of Charkha and to inscribe their signatures on the Khadi canvas with a message, "I endorse Khadi too" to invoke the feeling of pride and patriotism among the citizens of our nation.

Amongst the eminent personalities who were part of this initiative were Salman Khurshid (Alam Khan is

an Indian politician, designated senior advocate, eminent author and a law teacher), Shyam Jaju (Indian politician who is National Vice President of the BJP), The Great Khali (Wrestler), Sanjana Vij (Femina Miss India 2019, Runner up), TV actor, Shri Abhinav Chaturvedi to name a few.

'Roots of India', a fashion show of *khadi* and handloom fabrics from seven different states of India (Odisha, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Nagaland to empower and commemorate the 'Sashaktikaran' of Bunkars (weavers) gave colossal platform to the Bunkars for explicitly presenting their handwork, leaving an enduring imprint on the mind of people. The Bunkar Fashion Show also accommodated one renowned personality from each state as a show stopper.

*Sankalp for Khadi* also introduced 'Gandhi Smriti Chinh Awards 2019' to acknowledge efforts of young enthusiasts who have upheld the Gandhian principles of Equality, Women Empowerment, Education, Swachh Bharat, Khadi and Non Violence.

**Launch of Gandhi Talks in Gandhi Darshan**

*Youth of India*, in an endeavour to dissipate the message of our Mahatma among the youth, launched the "Gandhi Talks" in a special programme in Gandhi Darshan, as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on August 14, 2019. The program was attended by Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS; Shri Suresh Jain from Bharatiya Vikas Parishad; Shri Bharat Bhushan, Founder, Team Bharat; Smt. Pinky Pradhan, Director Communications & Marketing, Plan India; and Prof. K.G. Suresh, Director IIMC. Sh. Sailesh Ms. Sushila Sh. Sunil Singhal, Founder, Youth of India were also present on the occasion.



(Left): Shri Basant Singh of Karigaar Panchayat addresses the gathering during the launch programme of 'Gandhi Talks' in Gandhi Darshan to an august gathering (below).



*Gandhi Talks* revolves around leading the youth of India by example on the various issues raised by Gandhi during his lifetime, including a world without violence by following the principles of Ahimsa, Non-Violence and Swaraj; developing leadership ethics by his non-cooperation movement and leading a life by example of sustainability; which could be broadly seen in the current 17 Sustainable Development Goals given to the humanity by United Nations.



Distinguished speakers at the launch programme of 'Gandhi Talks' in Gandhi Darshan.

The *Gandhi Talks* is a program which is based on the ideas and the teachings of the honourable Father of our Nation. His journals *Young India* of engaging, empowering and evolving the Youth of India inspires the young people to further propel his message ahead during his 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. *Youth of India* hopes to initiate 150 talks across the globe as part of this endeavour.

• KERALA

**Violence spreading in the emerging global context should cause concern: N Radhakrishnan**

As part of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth Anniversary a two-day Shanti Sena Sammelan on the theme of 'Violence' was organized under the aegis of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Vinoba Bhave Shanti Sena Foundation at Manjeswaram (a border town between Kerala and Karnataka) on August 23-24, 2019 to sensitize the youth to counter the menace of violence and educate youth particularly to adopt nonviolent conflict management strategies both in private and public life. It was in this town Acharya Vinoba Bhave introduced the *Shanti Sena* on August 23, 1957 during his *Bhoodan Yatra* to the South.



Eminent Gandhian thinker Shri Ramesh Sharma leads the prayer at the inaugural programme.

Three exhibitions were arranged in the eastern portion of the venue of the building. One was a pictorial exhibition on the history and development of Shantisena . The second was an exhibition of Gandhi literature put up by the Gandhi media centre while the third was a sales counter of Khadi and village industries products arranged by the Sarvodaya Sangh. Chancellor of Shobhit University Kunvar Shekhar Vijendra and Vice Chancellor Jagaran Lakecity University and President of Global Non-killing Akademy, Honolulu Prof. Anoop Swarup were the Chief Guests at the Sammelan.



*Eminent Gandhian scholar Prof. N Radhakrishnan addresses the gathering, as distinguished guests on the dais keenly listens.*

Prof. Dr. N.Radhakrishnan, Chairman of Gandhi Peace Mission and Shanti Sena Foundation delivered the presidential address. He said: "The manner in which violence is spreading in the emerging global context should cause concern in every peace-loving individual. Glorification of violence in media, particularly in television and films, is disturbing. The type of education that exists in most of the countries also is not conducive to accepting nonviolence as a way of life or a philosophy of life either in private or public life", and added, "The most disturbing trend in recent times is the acceptance of violence as reliable method of conflict management.

Prof. Radhakrishnan closed his presidential address by appealing to the participants to reflect on some of these aspects during the two-day *sammelan* and suggest appropriate strategies for reviving Gandhi's Shanti Sena as an effective body to tackle the problem of violence in the country.

The Inaugural address was delivered by Sri Kunvar Shekhar Vijendra, Chancellor of Shobhit University Meerut. He pointed out that inner peace; conviction and commitment for peace should become the integral which are important for global peace.

The inaugural address was followed by the keynote address by Prof. Anoop Swarup who outlined the concerns of humanity as violence and killing escalate in various forms.

A new book entitled "Give Non Killing a Chance" written by Dr. Anoop Swarup, Vice Chancellor of Jagaran University, Bhopal was released by the Chief Guest Sri. Kunvar Shekhar Vijendra, Chancellor of Shobhit University, Meerut and the author of the book explained the content and the uniqueness of the book.

Day two began with a *sarvadharm prarthana* (inter-faith prayer). 'Youth Assembly' on the problem of violence was organized. The 'Youth Assembly' had one president and seven speakers from various Institutions which had a fruitful discussion on "Role of Youth to Reach New Horizons".

On the second day 30 former *Shanti Sena* volunteers, leaders, trainers and a few other volunteers were honored with the title 'Best Shanti Sainiks'. They shared their experiences in *Shanti Sena* and conflict identification, analysis, management, including identifying early warning signals and considering preventive peace action.



*Chancellor of Shobhit University, Sh. Kunvar Shekhar Vijendra delivered the keynote address during the programme.*

Sri Rajmohan Unnithan, Member of Parliament was the Chief Guest at the valedictory function. Sri Rajmohan Unnithan in his observation expressed his happiness that his constituency was selected for this historic initiative. Several youth representatives and a few of the resource persons shared their perspectives on the two-day *sammelan* and the follow-up work that need to be undertaken back in their places and institutions from which they have come.

The *sammelan* also congratulated the Samiti on the creative initiative of supporting collaborative programmes of the present nature in different parts of India during the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

- **COIMBATORE**

***Young voices reiterate their commitment to Gandhian mission of peace-building***

Shanti Ashram in collaboration with Gandhi Smiriti and Darshan Samiti jointly organized the *Coimbatore Peace Festival 2019* on August 29, 2019 at GRD Auditorium, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore. Totally 1,432 young people from 47 institutions participated in the Day of Prayer and commitment for peace. Shri.Marabin Mainthan Muthiah, Editor, Namadhu Nambikkai, Coimbatore; Shri.L.Gopalakrishnan, Managing Trustee, PSG Trusts, Coimbatore; Dr.D.Brindha, Principal,



*(In the pictures above): Glimpses from the Coimbatore Peace Festival 2019 organised by GSDS in association with Shanti Ashram.*



*Dr. Kezevino Aram, President Shanti Ashram (R) addressing the gathering during the Coimbatore Peace Festival 2019.*

PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore; Mrs. Umamaheswari Yuvaraj, Joint Managing Director, Ananya Shelters PVT Limited, Coimbatore and Dr. Kezevino Aram, President, Shanti Ashram were the distinguished guests on the occasion.

**Highlights of Coimbatore Peace Festival 2019**

- *STAND UP FOR PEACE was the resounding call of the evening that brought the city together with 1432 young people from 47 institutions as a collective commitment and responsibility towards peace building. Many have appreciated the way that this observance has served as a platform amongst youth to unite towards a shared objective of promoting peace and solidarity*
- *Youth and children to understand the role and responsibility in eradication of poverty and child rights.*
- *5 young volunteers of Coimbatore were honoured as an appreciation of their outstanding and committed social work. Each year the participants get a chance to understand the spirit of volunteering activities in Coimbatore.*
- *Multi-faith prayer and 8 thematic cultural presentations by children and youth were not only the popular segment of the programme but also showcased the artistic talents from across the city. 6 dance performances and 2 mime presentation were based on peace and interreligious perspectives.*

**National festival on Youth for Preventive Health organised**

NISHTHA in collaboration with GSDS organised its 1<sup>st</sup> National Festival “Youth for Preventive Health” as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan on September 20-21, 2019. 200 people took part in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Laxmi Dass, Vice President, Harijan Sevak Sangh with Shri Begraj Khatana former Vice President, National Child and Women Development and Member Hindi Samiti. Dr. Gopal ji chaired the session.



*Distinguished gathering at the inauguration of national festival on ‘Youth for Preventive Health’ in Gandhi Darshan.*





*Glimpses from the national festival on 'Youth for Preventive Health' in progress in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*

Shri Laxmi Dass impressed upon the health of youth, future of India and its progress and dealt on the topic "Gandhian concept of Naturopathy". The other eminent speakers on the programme were Dr. Sudhir Singh, Assistant Professor, Dayal Singh College, Delhi University who spoke on "Gandhi and Youth". Dr. Monika Hira, HOD, Vivekanand Kendra spoke on "Eating Right – The Gandhian Way".

In the afternoon, indigenous sports were organised for the participants with a view to establish linkage of yoga with the sports. A colourful cultural programme was also organised.

On September 21 an interactive session was organised on Naturopathy by Shri Naval Kishore from Seva Foundation. Dr. Pawan Kumar Chauhan, Senior Executive Officer NIOS, Ministry of HRD, Government of India took part in the interactive session.

**Netritva Sadhana Shivir**

The Samiti in association with Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) organized the 9th Edition of the "Netritva Sadhana" in Gandhi Darshan from October 16-20, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. 39 delegates from 15 states from diverse backgrounds such as Law, Chartered Accountancy, Engineering, Management, Social Work, Medical, Academics and Business among others took part

in the residential training programme. The programme was inaugurated on October 16 by Shri Shyam Jaju, National Vice President, BJP in the presence of Shri Ravindra Sathe, Director General of RMP and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS interacts with the young participants during the programme in Gandhi Darshan.*



*Chairperson ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahashrabudhe is seen addressing the participants at the leadership training programme in Gandhi Darshan.*



*Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi interacts with a young leader at the session organised during the leadership training programme.*



*A view of the leadership training programme in progress in Gandhi Darshan complex, Rajghat.*





*Mr. Vivek Rathor makes his presentation during the mock parliament organised as part of the leadership training programme.*

The programme had 30 sessions including Model Parliament, guided tour of Photo Gallery at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi and screening of a play titled as “ Aao Panchayat khelen” directed by Smt. Madhumita Khan. The model parliament session was organised on October 19 in the gracious presence of Smt. Shikha Roy, as speaker. The session was moderated by Shri Amber Swami.

During the five days programme participants also had an opportunity to interact with prominent leaders like Dr Vinay Sahashrabudhe, Shri Shyam Jaju, Shri Babul Supriyo, Smt Meenakshi Lekhi and Dr Sudhanshu Trivedi among others.

The valedictory function was graced by the presence of Dr Sanjeev Singh, Associate Professor, IIC, University of Delhi, as the chief guest. On this occasion, Dr Sumeet Bhasin, Director- PPRC, Shri Ravi Pokharna, RMP-Executive Head (Administration & Projects) and Shri Basant, former Advisor of GSDS were also present on the occasion.

**“Run For Unity” organized on 144th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**



Almost 225 participants took part in the “Run For Unity” eight kilometer race organized in Gandhi Darshan to commemorate the 144<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on October 31, 2019. The “Run For Unity” was led by Asian Marathon Champion Dr. Mrs Sunita Godara. GSDS Programme Officer Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu



*(Above): Runners partake in a jumba session in Gandhi Darshan.*

*(Below): The ‘National Unity Day’ pledge being taken by the runners.*

along with other staff took part in the programme. Besides doctors, professionals, advocate, businessmen and many national level athletes took part in the programme. An “Integrity” and “National Unity” (*Rashtriya Ekta*) pledge was also administered on the occasion to the participants. The programme received an overwhelming response from the participants with the Zumba fitness team.



*Asian Marathon Champion Dr. Sunita Godara (R) felicitates runners on the occasion.*

• RAJASTHAN

**Discussion on Mahatma Gandhi and Traditional Farming**

A one-day seminar on Mahatma Gandhi and Traditional Agriculture was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti on November 8, 2019 at Jor Ki Dhani, Gaudham village in District Sikar, Rajasthan. In the seminar, the views of Mahatma Gandhi related to the farmer and the relevance of his views in today's time was discussed.



*Discussion on traditional farming in progress in Rajasthan.*

Traditional farming was discussed in the inaugural session of the seminar. Mr. Yatendra Singh of GSDS said that Mahatma Gandhi placed farmers at the center of each of his activities and schemes. The farmer of the country would be happy, only then the country would progress, he believed. He said that traditional agriculture has great importance. Today, farmers can increase their income by adopting traditional methods in the field of agriculture.

Local philanthropist and seminar Director Shri Kan Singh Nirvana made the participants aware of the importance of Gandhi's creative works in his address. He said that Gandhi's agricultural policies are relevant even today. There is a need to implement these policies today. 145 participants participated in the program.

Earlier on October 6, a seminar was also organized at village Jor Ki Dhani. In which the GSDS Director Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan addressed on Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Gram Swaraj. The program was conducted by Yatendra Singh of GSDS.

**Sensitize and mobilise people towards the idea of non-killing: Prof. N Radhakrishnan**

The Samiti organised a dialogue on "Launch of Non Killing India & One Crore Non Violent Family" in Gandhi Darshan on December 18, 2019. The discussion

was chaired by Prof. N Radhakrishnan, Member Gandhi: 150 Committee, Government of India. The other participants at the discussion included Dr. Anoop Swarup, Shri Govindnathan Nair, Dr. Y P Anand, Du. Gurudutt, Prof. Sanjeev, Prof. Ramesh Kumar, Shri Yatish Mishra, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, students and youth.



*Prof. N Radhakrishnan (L) along with Shri Govindnathan Nair at the dialogue.*



*Dr. Y P Anand (L) keenly listens to Dr. Anoop Swarup during the dialogue in Gandhi Darshan, as participants below join the discussion.*



Mooting the discussing, Prof. Radhakrishnan said, "We must give revive Mahatma Gandhi's idea of young soldiers of peace, whom Gandhiji called the 'Shanti Sainiks' as a gift to Gandhiji's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. Saying that "Violence travels fast and non-violence travels at a snail's pace", Prof Radhakrishnan called for taking this concept to the families, where the approach should be based on individual acceptance, and thereby we could reach to one crore families".

Dr. Y P Anand while quoting how Mahatma Gandhi defined 'Ahimsa', referred to the indirect or structural violence in the society that needs to be addressed, to begin what he called as the basic right of a child to be educated. He said that one needs to have a clear definition of 'non-killing' and that it must also address structural killing or structural disparities, where there's killing slowly by degrees. He stressed that the bottom lines in terms of education, health and sanitation be clearly drawn to take this initiative further".

Others like Dr. Anoop Swarup stressed on Gandhiji's concept of dialogue and reconciliation to bring down inequalities; Dr.Gurudutt spoke on the concept of 'fraternity' or 'brotherhood' to take this step further. Prof. Ramesh Kumar suggested that this initiative be coordinated with the UGC.

Prof Sanjeev suggested that there is an urgent need to address the whole issue of psychological violence and to start moral education in schools which Ms. Mansi reiterated. Dr. Vedabhyas informed the initiative of GSDS in Manipur and informed that state governments are interested to take up sessions on non-violent communication in different schools.

In conclusion, Dr. Anand further suggested that as India is a melting pot of cultures, the Gandhian ethics can form the basis of moral education.

**Three-day Youth Leadership Development programme organised**

GSDS in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Central Delhi organised a three-day "Youth Leadership Development Programme" in Gandhi Darshan from December 19-21, 2019. 55 participants took part in the programme The guests at the inaugural programme included Shri Nand Kumar Singh State Director, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Delhi who was the chief guest, Shri Surender Kumar Babbar Assistant Director, Shri Rajdeep Pathak Programme Executive GSDS, Major Satish Sharma NCC and Shri Rajesh Kumar Jadon District Youth Coordinator. Shri Jagdish Prasad, coordinated the programme.



(In the picture - Above and Below): Glimpses from the 'Youth Leadership Development' training programme in Gandhi Dashan.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Nand Kumar Singh said that the objective of Nehru Yuva Kendra is to develop leadership capacity among the youth so that youth can become partners in their community and nation building and put their energy into the progress of the country.

Different sessions were conducted for the youth on 'Career Counseling', 'Training in Community Development', 'Communications', 'Value Education and Role of Youth', etc. The training programme concluded with certificate distribution.

• **KOLKATA**

**Two-day workshop on 'Youth Nonviolent Social Leadership'**

GSDS in association with Salt Lake Institute of Personality Development and Value Education (SIPDAVE), Kolkata organized a two-day's workshop for youth on 'Nonviolent Social Leadership' on February 22-23, 2020. The workshop was organized in the Ramakrishna Mission Institute for Culture, Kolkata. About 300 youth from different districts of West Bengal took part in the workshop. The participating youth took a pledge to work using nonviolent strategies for the last person of the society.



(In the picture - Above and Below): Prof. Biplab Laha Choudhary addresses a gathering of almost 300 participants at the two-day 'Youth nonviolent social leadership' workshop in Kolkata, as Prof. Partho Chatterjee, Director SIPDAVE (3rd from L) and other distinguished speakers on dais keenly listens.

Speakers at the workshop delved on different aspects of 'Mahatma Gandhi – the Leader'. His nonviolent leadership, his firm belief on *Truth is God* and his idea on the cosmocentric view of human nature was discussed at length. There were discussions on how young people can reach out to the unreached using Gandhian strategies.



Prof Partho Chatterjee, senior Gandhian and writer and Director of SIPDAVE took a simulating session on Gandhian approach to leadership values and Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS conducted a workshop on Leadership using Nonviolent Communication.

**Awareness Workshop on COVID 19**

50 participants from GSDS took part in an awareness workshop in the light of COVID 19 that has been declared a ‘Pandemic’ by the World Health Organisation. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Manju Aggarwal on March 17, 2020 in Gandhi Smriti where protective masks were distributed to the participants. A handout of ‘Dos’ and ‘Don’ts’ was also handed over to the participants.

A similar awareness programme was conducted by Dr. Manju Aggarwal in Gandhi Darshan Rajghat on March 17 that was attended by almost 100 participants. The workshop culminated with practical demonstration of various techniques of hand washing and other health and hygiene guidelines. Detailed demonstration of hand-washing techniques was shown on the occasion by Dr. Aggarwal. Interaction with the participants on Covid 19 was also organised. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and Programme Officer Dr Vedabhyas Kundu took part in the programme. Safety re-usable cloth masks prepared by the Srijan Unit of GSDS was also distributed to the participants.



*Dr. Manju Aggarwal (in picture above and below and inset) conducting COVID-19 awareness workshop for the GSDS employees in both Gandhi Smriti and Gandhi Darshan campuses. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Programme Officer Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu attended the awareness programme.*



# Programmes for Women

## Workshop on “Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health

The Samiti in association with Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST) organised a one-day workshop on “Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health” on July 26, 2019 at Kalyanpuri Police Station.

The aim of workshop was to get the attention of children towards encouraging them to think about changes in the thinking of people about ‘Gender Sensitization’ and ‘Menstrual Health & Hygiene’. Adolescent girls, domestic workers, house wives and others from the local community took part in the workshop. The session began with an introduction about GSDS by Ms. Asha and Ms. Shobha.

Senior Resource Person Ms. Amita Joshi spoke to the participants on gender sensitization. She said that ‘Gender Sensitization’ helps adolescent girls and women in examining their personal attitudes and beliefs on questioning the realities which they aren’t aware of most of the time. “Changes have to begin from the grass roots. In many families in both rural and urban areas while boys are encouraged to study and have a career, girls are taught to concentrate on household chores”, she said. They also showed a movie clip on the same subject.



*Dr. Manju Rani Aggarwal conducting hand washing demonstration session during the workshop in Kalyanpuri with ISST.*



*Participants taking part in group activities conducted by representatives of GSDS, Ms. Asha Rani (Left top) and Ms. Shobha Khulbe (Right below).*



Activity was done by the participating girls on gender equality where they showed they that girls are also equal and as important as boys.

The second session began with Dr. Manju Aggarwal lecture on ‘Good Touch and Bad Touch’, ‘Health & Hygiene and Menstrual Hygiene’. She gave demonstration on how girls can realize what ‘Good touch’ is and ‘Bad touch’. She told the young girls about the difference between good touch and bad touch. “Good touch feels pleasant, and not uncomfortable. It is a way to show care, love and help – like your parents gives you a goodnight kiss or your grandparents hold you in their arms and you hold your friends hands while playing, is not considered as a bad touch. Whereas, bad touch is that makes you uncomfortable and you feel unpleasant. If someone touches your private parts without your approval or if someone touches you and tells you not to tell anyone or if someone touches you in a way that you do not like, say No to them. It’s your body and no one can touch in a way that you do not like”, asserted Dr. Aggarwal.



*Group activities brought out varied and complex issues of the girl child as in the picture above. Participants also presented issues on water scarcity, eve-teasing and other grave social issues.*

Further she demonstrated how to wash hands properly by showing them through different steps and she has also demonstrated how adolescent girls & women should maintain the menstrual health & hygiene of their body. Many girls and women face challenges with managing their periods safely. She told about personal hygiene during menstruation. She encouraged the adolescent girls and women to use sanitary napkins.

Division of Group and Group Exercise was done by Ms. Asha and Shobha. 65 participants were divided into 5 groups (13 person in each group). We gave different



topics to group which was raised by participants as following such as: "Personal Problem"; "Gender Equality"; "Health and Hygiene"; "Menstrual Hygiene" and "Health"

The five groups made presentation during the interactive session on these subjects. Many Participants have written their problems which they are facing through drawings or by writing slogans. During the interaction the participants raised various issues on security/ safety / eve-teasing and prejudice/discrimination between boys and girls. They said that their parents prevent them from talking to boys or even playing with them. Some of the participants felt that since they have to go out for their studies their parents showed allow them to bit more flexibility.

**Screening of movie on Kasturba Gandhi organized**

A screening of a movie on Kasturba Gandhi entitled "Gandhi Ki Prerna Kasturba" was organized in Gandhi Smriti on August 27, 2019. Directed by Mr. Manish Thakur, the film describes the role played by Kasturba Gandhi during the struggle for Independence whether it was in South Africa or India. The portrayal of 'Ba' as Kasturba Gandhi was popularly called as a strong-willed personality was depicted through the film. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, APS to HCM Shri Alok Nayak, Mr. Gaurav from MyGov and other GSDS staff were present at the screening.

Another screening was held at Gandhi Darshan which was attended by Shri Laxmi Dass, Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, EC Members of GSDS, Shri Krishna G Kulkarni, member of Gandhi 150 Committee of Government of India.

**Women from the community raise their voice on community development**

Around 30 women from different areas of SEWA which included Mustafabad, Sundernagri, Harkeshnagar, Rajeevnagar, Raghubirnagar, New Ashoknagar, Uttamnagar, Jahangirpuri along with representatives from Punjab and Bihar took part in a training of trainers "Agewan Vikas Initiative Program" in Gandhi Darshan on December 4-5, 2019.



*Trainers during the training programme encouraged the participants to partake in community services for their self-empowerment.*

Discussion on the differences between the formal and the informal sector to get an idea of what the Ageawaans understand about the formal and informal sector and what are the benefits that the informal sector cannot access due to its nature was conducted. Group presentations formed a major part of the programme.



*A participant makes a presentation on 'gender rights' during the training programme.*

**• RAIPUR CHATTISGARH**

**Workshop on Enhancing the capacities of the Women in Panchayati Raj Systems**

Almost 335 women from Raipur District from five Gram Panchayats took part in a day-long workshop on "Enhancing the Capacities of the Women in Panchayati Raj Systems" in Raipur Chattisgarh on January 20, 2020 organised by the Naveen Ankur Mahila Mandal in association with the GSDS. The chief guest on the occasion was Shri Sanjay Srivastava. The other guests included MS. Savita Parate, Sarpanch Dhamat Gaikwad from Mandir Hasood, Advocate Mrs. Tuli Majo Madar and CO Nagar Nigam Raipur, Ms. Usha Rai. Smt Meena Gautam of Naveen Ankur Mahila Mandal was also present on the occasion.



*(Top): A women Sarpanch being felicitated by the chief guest of the programme, Shri Sanjay Srivastava.*



*(Left): Participants from Raipur District from five Gram Panchayats took part in the programme.*

*The discussion focused on these key factors:*

1. Education for girls
2. Build capacities of Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) for effective functioning and setting of women's agenda.
3. Institutionalize mechanisms to strengthen capacity building of EWRs to better understand and perform their functions.
4. Mobilize community and strengthen processes of constituency building to enable women to articulate their voices and participate in the electoral process.
5. Mobilizing people to participate in gram sabha meetings
6. Strengthening women's collectives and building networks

The speakers felt that experience sharing of EWRs needs to be actively encouraged, wider publicity to success stories and greater exposure for women's groups through visits and sammelans is required. Documentation and record keeping are additional areas that require attention. Another major component that needs to be strengthened is the interventions that are specifically targeted at women belonging to marginalized sections.

Interactive sessions with the participants were also organized. Cultural presentations by local artists added colour to the programme. Earlier children from the primary school led the invocation. 50 women from different Gram Panchayat who have done commendable work in their area and have made themselves self empowered were felicitated by the guests with mementos.

### 76<sup>th</sup> Nirvan Divas of Kasturba Gandhi observed

'Ba', Kasturba Gandhi's 76<sup>th</sup> Nirvan Divas (death anniversary) was observed in Gandhi Darshan on February 22, 2020 by organising the 'Kasturba Katha' by *Katha Vyas* Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna. Participants attending the three-day national conference "Report to Gandhi" took



*Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna (C) narrating the 'Kasturba Katha' as a tribute to 76<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi.*

part in the 'Kasturba Katha' along with many others from the Gandhian fraternity. Joint Secretary Ministry of Culture and Member Secretary GSDS, Shri S C Bamma was the guest of honour. Shri Basant, Shri Kalanand Muni, Shri Aditya Patnaik Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and others also took part in the programme.

'Kasturba Katha' by Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna covered the narrations of the various phases of Kastur's life starting from her years in India; Kasturba with her two sons in Durban in South Africa; her sojourn to India with four sons and back to Durban; life in Phoenix Settlement and the first Satyagraha; Sevagram Ashram life, Kasturba's role in three national Satyagraha and other smaller Satyagraha; her incarceration in Agha Khan Palace and her last day in Bapu's lap on 22nd February 1944.



*Distinguished gathering attending the 'Kasturba Katha' as a tribute to 76<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi in Gandhi Darshan.*

The *Katha Vyas* had also pointed how Kasturba had seen Mohandas in every shade. A boy hell-bent on establishing superiority on account of being older; a child scared of school; a serious but uninspired student; a son hurt by the absence of his father; a father deranged by the untimely death of his son; an infatuated husband; an unemployed English speaking young man grappling with a traditional family's needs who had suddenly grown into an intelligent and capable man after the experience of South Africa. "It seemed to Kastuba that her Mohandas had found his purpose in life", said Dr. Shobhana.



*Odissi dance recital by Ms. Ratna Padma Ayusmita Jangyaseni was another special tribute to (Ba) Kasturba Gandhi.*

Prior to the *Katha*, the excerpts from Ramcharitmanas and Bhajans were sung by Smt Swati Bhagat and Shri Deepak Kalra who also accompanied the *Katha* Vyas by singing Kasturba Katha dhun and geet. The Audiovisual presentation was done by Dr Ravi Chopra.

Songs of Kabir, Tulsidas, Guru Nanak rang in the atmosphere of Gandhi Smriti, the site of the Martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi's favourite songs Vaishnavajana Tau and Ram Dhun made the occasion more sombre.



*Joint Secretary Ministry of Culture, Shri S C Barmma felicitates Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishnan with the Charkha, as GSDS EC Member Shri Laxmi Dass (L) join the felicitation ceremony.*

The evening also saw a powerful Odissi dance recital by Ms. Ratna Padma Ayusmita Jangyaseni, a disciple of Guru Shri Manoranjan and Smt. Minati Partha and Ms. Sonali Mahapatra pay her tribute to Kasturba Gandhi through her spell-binding presentation of Krishna Leela (the anecdotes and narratives of Krishna's life) and Nava Durga (nine manifestations of the goddess Durga). Shri Ritabrato Mallik from West Bengal also performed Rabindra nritya (dance) on the occasion.

### **Peace prayer on the eve of International Women's Day**

Guild of Services, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti joined together on the eve of the International Women's Day in Gandhi Smriti on March 7, 2020 by organising an inter-faith peace prayer meet. Religious leaders from different faiths, singers and members from the civil society took part in the programme. Chairperson of Guild of Services, Dr. V. Mohini Giri was present on the occasion.

Earlier, Dr. Mohini Giri along with members of the civil society joined together in appealing to the world for peace and non-violence. Expressing their deep concern for the climate of violence in the world many organisations called for peace and amity and ceasing hostilities. They said that "There is no way to peace, but peace". Dr. Mohini Giri in her address appealed for peace and harmony amongst all beings.



*Peace Prayer as part of the International Women's Day in Gandhi Smriti.*

# Programmes in Tihar

- **Central Jail No. 16, Mandoli Jail**

## **Workshop on Gender sensitization and Menstrual Health**

The Samiti organized a workshop on “Gender sensitization and Menstrual Health” in Central Jail No. 16, Mandoli Jail on September 6, 2019. The aim of workshop in Tihar, Mandoli Jail, was to get the attention of the women prisoners towards the themes that the organization encourage them to think about changes in the thinking of peoples about *Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health & Hygiene and Natural therapy*. The session began with an introduction about Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti to the participant by Ms. Asha and further more information about the museum of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti was given by Ms. Shobha.



*Glimpses from the workshop in Central Jail No. 16, Mandoli by GSDS and Tihar Prisons.*

Dr. Manju Aggarwal while speaking about gender sensitization said that gender sensitization helps adolescent girl and women in examining their personal attitudes and beliefs on questioning the realities they though they know. She also told about personal hygiene during menstruation. She encouraged the prisoners to keep themselves neat and clean. She also highlighted the dangers of open defecation. She further gave demo on hand hygiene through *hast mudra vinyan*.

Various activities were performed by prisoners such as one of the prisoners recited a motivational poem and another prisoner had sung a motivational song.

Division of group and group exercise was conducted by Ms. Asha and Shobha. 64 participants were divided into five groups. These groups made drawings and wrote slogans on chart papers.

Jail Superintendent Ms. Neeta Negi later took feedback from the participating prisoners. The programme concluded by distributing certificates to the participants.

## **Wall Painting in Mandoli Jail as part of Gandhi: 150**

Twenty four walls have been painted in Central Jail 12, Mandoli under Tihar Prisons as part of the initiative to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi’s 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary. The paintings have been done by artists who are prison inmates as well as few from outside engaged by Tihar Prisons through the volunteer organization Delhi Street Art.

The paintings dedicated to the life and journey of Mahatma Gandhi was under the theme “Moniya to Mahatma”. The paintings depict the epic life of the Mahatma and some of the major events from his life and also focusing on the ‘constructive programmes’ as underlined by Gandhiji. Dr. Manju Aggarwal, Ms. Perna Jindal and Ms. Kanak Kaushik coordinated this initiative under the supervision of Smt. Geeta Shukla..



# Programmes to Promote Hindi

## Mahatma Gandhi Ka Bhasha Chintan

Rajbhasha Karyanvyan Samiti for NTPTI Faridabad had organised a seminar on “Mahatma Gandhi Ka Bhasha Chintan” at their premises on July 10, 2019. Various PSUs of Delhi and adjoining areas participated in the seminar along with GSDS. A book sale counter on Gandhian literature was also set up in the seminar and this was liked by the enthusiastic participants.

The speakers at the seminar said that Mahatma Gandhi was practical in his thinking about the ideal plaintiff. His ideals were Swaraj, equality, society, simple life, expansion of domestic industries, which got a boost during the Swadeshi movement. They further opined that Gandhiji had expressed his free opinion on many questions of language, literature, politics, economic policy and life. They said that considering the language problem of India, he described Hindi as the national language of the country, which he wanted to develop as Hindustani. By Hindustani Mahatma Gandhi meant the language that blended many elements of Hindi and Urdu. For he believed that when Hindus and Muslims and the majority of the people of India speak a mixed language, which he named Hindustani, it can be written in both the Devnagri and Arabic scripts.

## Symposium on Rashtrapita and Rashtrabhasha

A symposium on the “Father of the Nation and National Language” was organised on September 28, 2019 by Nagri Lipi Parishad in association with GSDS at, S Kula Women’s College, Nambool Vishnupur, Manipur as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Acharya Shri Shyam Kishore Singh, who is the national language campaigner of Manipur organised this symposium.

As keynote speakers Shri Vinod Babbar, Editor of Rashtra Kinkar, Shri Arun Paswan, former co-director of All India Radio and Mr. K Yaduvanshi of Jaunpur University, expressed their views on the language philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi.

## Dialogue on Mahatma Gandhi’s thought and principles on Hindi Language

Delhi Public Library, Delhi Hindi Sahitya Sammelan under the aegis of GSDS organised a seminar on “Hindi aur Gandhi” in Gandhi Darshan on October 18, 2019 as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. O P Kohli, former Governor of Gujarat who was the chief guest on the occasion inaugurated the programme along with Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS. The central theme



(Above): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan addresses the gathering of distinguished speakers and thinkers.

(Below): Shri Ram Sharan Gaur Chairman Delhi Public Library addresses an august gathering.

of the programme was “Rashtrapita Mahatma Gandhi: Hindi aur Unki Bhawna” (Mahatma Gandhi: His thought on Hindi). Dr. B L Gaur, senior journalist, Shri Vinod Babbar, Senior Journalist and Prof. Ved Prakash were present on the occasion. Dr. Ramsharan Gaur, President, Delhi Library Board and Mr. Mahesh Chandra Sharma, former Mayor, Delhi were present at the inaugural programme. Several Hindi poets present on the occasion recited their poems that touched on the human personality and society per se.

## Prize Distribution Ceremony of Hindi Pakhwara organised

The Samiti organised the prize distribution ceremony of the Hindi Pakhwara on November 27, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat. Shri Ved Prakash Gaur, Director, Rajbhasha, Ministry of Culture who was the chief guest on the occasion distributed the prizes to the winners of



the Hindi Pakhwara that was organised by the GSDS in September 2019.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Ved Prakash Gaur expressed his happiness that the GSDS is taking initiatives towards promotion and use of Hindi language in daily functioning in the office. He said that information about such efforts should be sent to the Ministry of Culture and also due publicity should be made so that information is generated. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan was also present on the occasion.



*Shri S A Jamal, Administrative Officer GSDS welcomes Shri Ved Prakash Gaur, Director Rajbhasha, MOC in Gandhi Darshan.*



*Shri Ved Prakash Gaur (C) addresses the gathering in Gandhi Darshan, as Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L), Shri Pankaj Chaubey and Shri Praveen Dutt Sharma (R) keenly listens.*



*(Top): Ms. Kalpana Chauhan shares a point on the occasion, as Shri Rakesh Sharma (Top R) and Shri Ashok Kumar (Top Bottom) receives prizes from Shri Ved Prakash Gaur and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan.*



Participants who received their prizes also narrated poems on the occasion. Prizes were awarded in different categories which are as under:

**1. Essay Writing – Group A**

- a. Shri Ram Singh Chauhan – First Prize
- b. Shri Vijay Kumar – Second Prize
- c. Shri Dharamraj Kumar – Third Prize
- d. Ms. Sashiprabha, Ms. Shakuntala and Ms. Renu – Consolation Prizes

**2. Essay Writing – Group B**

- a. Shri Rakesh Sharma – First Prize
- b. Shri Sunil Kumar – Second Prize
- c. Shri Manish – Third Prize
- d. Ms. Ruby Tiwari, Shri Rohit Kumar, Ms. Suman Narang – Consolation Prizes

**3. Poetry Writing – Group A**

- a. Shri Dharamraj Kumar – First Prize
- b. Shri Vijay Kumar – Second Prize
- c. Shri Piyush – Third Prize
- d. Shri Rishi Pal, Shri Ram Singh, Ms. Shakuntala – Consolation Prize

**4. Poetry Writing – Group B**

- a. Shri Rohit Kumar – First Prize
- b. Shri Shakeel Khan – Second Prize
- c. Ms. Ruby Tiwari – Third Prize
- d. Shri Rakesh Sharma, Ms. Smita Bhan, Shri Manish – Consolation Prize

**5. Speech – Group A**

- a. Shri Dharamraj Kumar – First Prize
- b. Shri Mukesh Kumar – Second Prize
- c. Shri Piyush Haldar – Third Prize
- d. Shri Rishipal, Ms. Shakuntala, Shri Dipak Tiwari – Consolation Prize

**6. Speech – Group B**

- a. Ms. Kalpana Chauhan – First Prize
- b. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh – Second Prize
- c. Shri Rohit Kumar – Third Prize
- d. Ms. Rachna, Ms. Smita Bhan, Shri Kishan Kumar – Consolation Prize

# Discussions/Dialogues/Seminars

## **Symposium on Interface on Changing Function of Libraries in an Information Society**

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Delhi Public Library (DPL) and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti jointly organised a symposium on “Changing Function of Libraries in an Information Society” at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat on May 18, 2019. About 150 participants took part in the programme which included librarians from various institutions/libraries under the aegis of DPL. The other sub-theme of the symposium was “Gandhi and Peace: Relevance for Librarians”.

The inaugural session included speakers such as Dr. Ram Sharan Gaur, Chairman Delhi Library Board; Shri Rajesh Kr. Singh, Director Libraries, Ministry of Culture; Dr. H K Kaul, Director Developing Library Network (DELNET); Dr. Nabi Hassan, Librarian IIT Delhi; Shri Prem Lal Sharma (Retd IAS) & former Joint Secretary Railway Board and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan expressed his concern over the lack of good books on Mahatma Gandhi. “There are writers on Gandhi, but there are shortage of good writers”, he said, emphasising on the online availability of text books. “There is abundant of information on Mahatma Gandhi, but many of the information is incorrect with factual errors”, he said.



*Dr. Ram Sharan Gaur addresses the gathering in Gandhi Darshan as members on the dais are all ears.*

Dr. H. K. Kaul in his address called upon for developing a knowledge centre on Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, and said that this centre will provide and collect all kinds of information on Mahatma Gandhi and grow from a nucleus to a big tree. He expressed his concern over the dismal state of public libraries despite

the Library Acts that has been passed in 19 states. “Libraries don't know the needs of users and there's a gap between information and user's needs, which needs to be bridged”. He also stressed upon the need to develop quality content and said that public library should cater to all aspects of readers – from crafts to literature, to music and arts. “Librarians have to become knowledge experts”, he said.

Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh while addressing the gathering said that books should reach the last person or reader. “Google cannot create good product, and therefore, librarians should know their role.

Dr. Nabi Hassan spoke in details about the functioning of libraries and shared his initiatives at IIT Delhi for promoting readership for the students. He spoke in details about Mahatma Gandhi as an avid reader and said that Gandhiji had a huge collection of 110000 books which today is the Sabarmati Ashram Library. He also said that Mahatma Gandhi took keen interest in books and libraries to which he informed that the Diamond Jubilee Library in South Africa was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi. Also Dr. Hassan informed that a library in the name of Gopal Krishna Ghokale was also inaugurated by Gandhiji. He further called upon the librarians and readers to discard bad books and buy books authored by good writers. He hoped that libraries could develop a gateway on Gandhi and create hyperlink of the same.



*Distinguished gathering at the symposium in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

Shri Prem Pal Sharma stressed on how books change and influence an individual. He based his observations on how libraries can promote a culture of peace in the society for if one has to go to seek knowledge, there's no better place than a library. “For poor or developing country, a library can be a source of

development or energy". He also asked for opening a library at each home.

Referring to the behavioural non-violence which Mahatma Gandhi practiced, Dr. Ram Sharan Gaur called upon the participants for *acharan* (self practice of service).

The first session on "Non-violent Communication for the Libraries", was presided by eminent litterateur Dr. Vinod Babbar. The second session "Importance of Knowledge of Information and Communication in Libraries Today", was presided by Dr. Lokesh Sharma, Director General DPL. Dr. Babita Gaur, senior Information Officer was also present on the occasion and shared her perspective.

### Symposium on World Environment Day organised

The Samiti in association with 'Ecosophical Society' organised a symposium on the eve of World Environment Day. Almost 60 participants took part in the symposium in Gandhi Darshan on June 4, 2019.

*(Inset) Senior Journalist Shri Arvind Mohan addresses the participants, as Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan keenly listens.*



Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS were also present on the occasion. Shri Saurabh Anand coordinated the programme on behalf of the Ecosophical Society.

Senior journalist Shri Arvind Mohan Mishra took part in the discussion with the participants and spoke on Gandhian approach to ecology and environment. He said that Mahatma Gandhi's ideas on the environment emerged from his vision of an alternative economy and polity that he envisaged for the country. Mahatma Gandhi, therefore strongly advocated that nature provides enough for man's need but not for his greed. Sustainable development and social welfare of human beings and nature was his prime concern throughout his life, the speaker said.

Prof. Chandra Kumar Varshney who was another speaker, in keeping with the theme of the 'World Environment Day 2019' "Air Pollution" reiterated the urgency to adopt measures to prevent air pollution. He called upon the youth to work in communities and generate awareness to curb air pollution. "We can't stop

breathing but we can do something to improve the quality of air that we breathe", he said.

Some of the facts related to air pollution were also shared during the discussion with the participants.

- Around 92 percent of the people worldwide do not breathe clean air.
- Every year, air pollution costs the global economy \$5 Trillion in welfare costs.
- From air pollution approximately 7 million people in the world die due to air pollution and out of 7 million, 4 million occur in Asia-Pacific.
- By 2030, ground-level ozone pollution is expected to reduce the staple crop yields by 26 percent.

### Seminar on 'Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes' and release of the book on "Mahatma Gandhi's Vision: Radhakrishna's Action"

*Radhakrishna Pratisthan* in collaboration with GSDS organised a one-day seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes" on June 19, 2019 in Gandhi Smriti. The day marked the 25<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Naina K.S Radhakrishna.

The programme commenced with a seminar on the 'Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes' at the Gandhi Smriti. Eighty-five local and outstation participants from Gandhian Organisations attended the seminar to discuss 'Where we find Gandhi in our work' and 'What are we doing for Gandhi@150.'



*Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS addresses the gathering at the book launch programme in Gandhi Smriti, as distinguished guests on the dais keenly listens.*

The first session brought out the various facets of the Constructive Programmes and the solutions found by them according to the demands of the current situation.

The representatives of the Gandhian organisations reported about the work at the district levels for undertaking activities towards Gram Swaraj, disaster preparedness and rehabilitation, establishing communal harmony, strengthening women’s groups, camps, training of youth for national integration and communal harmony, water conservation, environment issues and empowering elected representatives at the grassroots in the Panchayats.

The highlight of the second session was on the various initiatives undertaken so far by the Gandhian organisations to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in different parts of India. On the national level the talks for youth, Padayatras for taking the vision of Gandhiji to remote areas, cycle rallies through disturbed areas, lectures, campaign for saving the western ghats and organising Shanti Sena camps.



*Distinguished speakers at the book launch programme in Gandhi Smriti.*



For the next phase of Gandhi@150 programs, it was decided to bring the participating Gandhian organisations on one platform. Institutions will simultaneously work to create a visible impact of Gandhi@150 activities on the national level by mobilising youth to work for constructive programmes, organise district level Gandhi Yatras, holding Gandhi Kathas in five states, training of trainers and a conference of Gandhian Organizations from 21-25 February 2020 in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi.

On the International level, they are delivering lectures on Mahatma Gandhi in 31 countries, establishing Gandhi peace centre in five universities, publication of the book on the ‘Global impact and influence of Mahatma Gandhi’ and organising the International Conference in the last week of January 2020 in New Delhi with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

The book authored by Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna on the multi-dimensional aspects of constructive programmes implemented by Radhakrishna ji titled “Mahatma Gandhi’s Vision: Radhakrishna’s Action” was also released on the occasion by Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, President, IGNSA in the presence of Shri H.K.Dua, former MP, diplomat and political commentator, Dr S.N.Subbarao, Founder of the National Youth Project. Other distinguished dignitaries present were Dr (Smt) Kapila Vatsyayan, Shri T.N. Chaturvedi. Shri Ram Bahadur Rai in his speech recalled his long association with Late Shri Radhakrishna ji and his impact in the Gandhian and Sarvodaya movement.

Earlier, Smt Gita Shukla, Research Officer from GSDS welcomed the guests. Shri Kumar Kalanand Mani from ‘Peaceful Society’ gave a detailed introduction of the book.

Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna, the author of the book and daughter of Radhakrishna ji, gave the genesis of the book and the wide-ranging and multi-dimensional impact of Radhakrishna ji in his five decades of public work as one of the leading torchbearers of the post-Gandhian movement.

Eminent Gandhian Padma Shri Dr S. N. Subbarao, Shri Ram Chandra Rahi, Chairman, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, and Dr Varsha Das, Former Chairperson of NBT recalled the role Radhakrishna had played in spearheading the work of rural reconstruction, preparing the next generation of Gandhian leaders and establishing and mentoring hundreds of grassroots organisations all over India. Dr. Y.P. Anand, Former Chairman Railway Board, Shri Annamalai, Director, National Gandhi Museum, Shri Ashok Kumar, Secretary Gandhi Peace Foundation and representatives of prominent Gandhian organisations were also present and it was a well- attended function with an audience of around 120 persons.



### **Seminar on Naturopathy with Delhi Home Guards organised as part of 5th International Yoga Day**

On the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day on June 21, 2019 with the Delhi Home Guards, a seminar on Naturopathy was organised as part of the health awareness programme of GSDS. Dr. Manju Aggarwal, senior doctor of Naturopathy and Reflexology conducted the seminar and discussed various benefits of naturopathy treatment. Speaking to a large gathering on the occasion, Dr. Aggarwal said, "Naturopathic medicine is a system that uses natural remedies to help the body heal itself. It embraces many therapies, including herbs, massage, acupuncture, exercise, and nutritional counselling. The goal of naturopathic medicine is to treat the whole person – that means mind, body, and spirit. It also aims to heal the root causes of an illness – not just stop the symptoms". She also demonstrated various *mudras* or signs through which a person can reduce stress, gain energy, develop the habit of sound sleep, etc.



*Dr. Manju Aggarwal addressing the gathering during the seminar.*

Interactions with the participants was also organised during which Dr. Aggarwal responded to various queries of the participants. She received an overwhelming response and the participants also felt that workshops be conducted regularly on naturopathy and reflexology.

### **Dialogue on "Contribution towards strengthening the society of Mahatma Gandhi and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan"**

The Samiti in association with Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan Sansthan organised a dialogue on "Contribution towards strengthening the society of Mahatma Gandhi and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan on July 25, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. The programme outlined the philosophies of Jayaprakash Narayan as an activist, theorist, socialist and political leader and Mahatma Gandhi's eternal concept of non-violence and Satyagraha. Around 90 people took part in the discussion.

Former Governor of Sikkim, Shri B.K. Singh was the chief guest on the occasion. Shri Som Pal Shastri, former Union Minister, Shri Kumar Prashant, President Gandhi Peace Foundation, Prof. Anand Kumar, renowned sociologist, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS, Shri Shyam Gambhir, Socialist Leader, Mrs. Manju Mohan, Mr.



*Former Governor of Sikkim, Dr. B P Singh (Inset) addressing an august gathering in Gandhi Darshan during the dialogue.*



Sunil Kumar Sinha, President Indian Democratic Party, Dr. Bhagwan Singh, famous historians and other important guests took part. Shri Abhay Sinha General Secretary and Shri Onkareshwar Pandey from Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan Sansthan were also present on the occasion.

A cultural performance by artistes of Gurukul Kathak Arts Centre enthralled the gathering.

### **Mahatma Gandhi's ideas reflected at Prabhash Prasang**

"There was great harmony between Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba. If both had the freedom to walk and do their will in their lives, then it never came as a protest. The relevance of tradition and thought was such that Kasturba could never openly opposed Gandhi. Yes, it is also certain that when Kasturba felt that some things were important in terms of sociality even in opposition to Gandhi's will, then she did not lag behind in implementing it. Kasturba's role in recognizing Gandhi as a giant thinker on the global stage and setting his height high can never be ignored."



*Union Human Resource Development Minister Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, who was the chief guest on the occasion, addresses the gathering as, distinguished guests keenly listens.*





*Author and Gandhian Shri Giriraj Kishore (L) delivering the 'Prabhash Joshi Memorial Lecture' in Gandhi Darshan to a packed audience (below).*



"Gandhi's respect is not in South Africa less than in India. Nelson Mandela says Gandhi is very important to Africa. Ba was like a companion with Gandhi all the time, who took care of the freedom fighter Badshah Khan who came to his ashram. This was stated by Giriraj Kishore, author of the unique, highly acclaimed novel 'First Girmitya Saga', in his lecture on July 15, 2019 in the tenth memorial lecture remembering senior journalist Prabhash Joshi.

Shri K C Tyagi, General Secretary of Janta Dal United also spoke on the occasion. Shri Banwari ji also spoke on the occasion.

Shri Rambahadur Rai, Managing Trustee of the Prabhash Parampara Nyas and President of the Indira Gandhi National Center for Arts, announced the name of Shrish Mishra, former local editor of Jansatta, for this year's Prabhash Vriti/scholarship and also gave information about the activities of the trust.



*(In the picture - From L to R): Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, Chairperson IGNC; Shri Giriraj Kishore, Shri Banwari ji and Shri K C Tyagi releasing various publications during the programme.*

On this occasion, former Union Minister and presently Member of Bihar Legislative Council Prof. Sanjay Paswan, former Lok Sabha MP Dr. Arun Kumar, former Bihar Minister for Cabinet Renu Kushwaha, Vijay Singh Kushwaha, former Legislative Councilor Ajay Kumar Almast, Senior Journalist and Editor of Jansatta Achyutanand Mishra, former editor Rahul Dev, former editor of Hindustan Vichar Arvind Mohan and many other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Union Human Resource Development Minister Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, who was the chief guest on the occasion, while remembering the journalism of Prabhash Joshi, reminded the journalists present that he always emphasized on the fairness of the news. Prabhashji did not mix news and thoughts. "The passion of Gandhi and Vinoba influenced by (Prabhash) Joshi's simple, and intensely opposite situation is an inspiration for us. Such journalism is needed today", Shri Nishank said. He further added that Prabhash Joshi was opposed to Macaulay's education policy. The draft which has been prepared by the Central Government today has included the views of thinkers and editors like Prabhash Joshi, which are sought from common people.

Senior journalist Shri Banwari said that at the age of 27-28 years, Gandhiji had seen and understood India and the world. Mahatma Gandhi associated education with morality and emphasized that the scripture that does not lead to a special superpower is not right education. In Prabhash Joshi's journalism, the idea of Gandhi and Vinoba was harmonized.

Shri Khushal Sharma, a disciple of classical singer Pt. Madhup Mudgal, recited Kabir Bhajan.

### **Consultative Meet on observing August 23 as "Shantisena Day" – "Towards a Non-Violent and Non-Killing India"**

The Samiti organized a consultative meet on July 20, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat in which it was proposed to observe August 23 every year as "Shantisena Day – Towards a Non-Violent and Non-Killing India". The meeting was presided by Prof. N Radhakrishnan, Chairman, Gandhi Peace Mission, Kerala and Member of the Gandhi: 150 Committee formed by the Government of India.



*Director National Gandhi Museum, Dr. A Annamallai speaking at the programme, as former Director NGM, Dr. Y P Anand is all ears.*

Initiating the discussion, Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan talked about the vision of Gandhiji and Acharya Vinoba Bhave and stressed on the importance of celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Vinoba Bhave throughout the country.

Prof. N Radhakrishnan said that “The idea behind the revival of Shanti Sena is to make the youth pledge against hatred, killing, and violence and to pledge allegiance to Gandhian principles of non-violence, peace and sacrifice”.

Shri Basant former Advisor to GSDS proposed that a recommendation be sent to the hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, with a request to declare August 23 every year as the Shanti Sena Day from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the Independence Day.



*Shri Basant Singh (R) is seen sharing his perspective at the dialogue, as Shri Ramesh Sharma (C) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) are all ears.*

“Shanti Sena” (peace army), envisioned by Mahatma Gandhi to counter communal violence, and established by Acharya Vinoba Bhave on August 23, 1957, is being revived to mark Gandhi’s 150 birth anniversary and take it further to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Acharya Vinoba Bhave.

The others who spoke on the occasion were Shri Vineet Tiwari of Amar Ujala, Shri Ramesh Chand Sharma, Shri A R Patil, Shri Yatish Mishra, Shri Manoj Kumar, Shri Nityanand Tiwari, Shri A. Annamalai, Dr. Y P Anand, Shri Ajay Kumar Chaubey and others.

### **Press Conference to celebrate August 23 every year as ‘Shanti Sena Day’**

***Revive ‘Shanti Sena’ to strive to create environment for peace, communal harmony in country: Prof. N Radhakrishnan***

“Shanti Sena”, a peace brigade conceptualised by Mahatma Gandhi and taken forward by Vinoba Bhave, is likely to be revived by a group of Gandhian organisations.

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, the Gandhi Peace Mission and the All India Harijan Sevak Sangh along with other organisations at New Delhi on August 1, 2019, announced the plan, which included designating August 23 – the day when Vinoba Bhave launched it in 1957 – as *Shanti Sena Diwas*.



*(In the Pix - From L to R): Dr. Ramesh Kumar, Secretary Harijan Sevak Sangh; Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS; Kunvar Shekhar Vijendra, Chancellor Shobhit University; Shri Sankar Kumar Sanyal, President Harijan Sevak Sangh; Prof. N Radhakrishnan, former Director GSDS and Prof. Anoop Swarup, President Non-Killing Academy, Honolulu addressing the press conference in Gandhi Smriti.*

The idea of brigade, Gandhi’s answer to the problem of violence and disharmony, was to be taken up on February 8, 1948 at Wardha. But Gandhi was assassinated just few days before on 30 January 1948.

The initiative to remember Mahatma Gandhi’s efforts in his 150th birth year, also involves a two-day conference, starting on August 23, at Manjeswaram, a border town between Karnataka and Kerala, where Vinoba Bhave launched the Shanti Sena.

The idea behind the revival of Shanti Sena is to make the youth pledge against “hatred, killing, and violence” and to pledge allegiance to Gandhian principles of non-violence, peace and sacrifice.

On the relevance of the revival plan, GSDS Director Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan said that the structural violence many Indians are complaining against is not the guiding force behind the initiative, but it has been planned as a peace movement.

According to the representatives of these Gandhian organisations, a trained brigade of youth will form part of the Shanti Sena. Training centres would be set up at seven places, including Delhi, Madurai, Ahmedabad, Gandhigram, Sodepur and Manjeswaram, to train the youth in “non-violent conflict management, non-killing initiatives, non-violent communication strategies” among others.

The training will seek to correct the “moral and spiritual value” depletion in India’s youth with a focus

on social justice and harmony, Prof. N. Radhakrishnan, Chairman of the Gandhi Peace Mission, told IANS. It will also focus on inculcating positive attitudes on water

**Discussion on supporting the “Silver India” takes focus on the 19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of AIIMS**

The “19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Association of Gerontology (India) and Multi-Disciplinary Workshops on Emerging Scenario of Polulation Ageing” organised by Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, in collaboration with Department of Anatomy and Department of Geriatric Medicine and supported by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, Help Age India, Indian Council of Medical Research and Indian Ageing Congress was on August 17-18, 2019 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

*Mr. Mathew Cherian, Founder Director Help Age India (R) addressing the AGI-2019 conference to an attentive young students of medicine (Below).*



The theme of the conference was “Changing Paradigms of Well-being in an Ageing World: From Cell to Society” emphasizing the intent to reach valued goals of wellbeing at all stages of life. The focus areas of the conference were:

- Biomarkers
- Cognitive Impairment
- Frailty and sarcopenia
- Long term care in changing society
- Molecules and mechanisms
- Population Ageing
- Social support for silver India and
- Technology in old age care

**Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi’s influence in our Literature Tradition**

The Samiti in association with Akhil Bharatiya Sahitya Parishad organized a seminar on “Mahatma Gandhi’s influence in our Literature Tradition” in Gandhi Darshan on August 25, 2019. Former Justice of Allahabad High Court and Lokayukta of Chhattisgarh Shri Shambhunath Srivastava, who was the chief guest on the occasion, said that the welfare of the entire creation is wished in the consciousness of Indian literature. He further said that literature has the power to inspire society. Our saints worked to connect the nation through their creations.

President of Delhi Library Board, Dr. Ramsharan Gaur, Dr. Nandkishore Pandey, Director, Central Hindi Foundation, Shri Rishi Kumar Mishra, National General Secretary of All India Literature Council spoke on the occasion.

Director of Haryana Sahitya Akademi, Dr. Purnamal Gaur, Shri Rishi Kumar Mishra, National General Secretary of All India Literature Council Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu and Mr. Tilak Chandna, Secretary, Mangal Srishti Nyas were also present on the occasion.

Different sessions were organised as part of the seminar:

- Indraprastha Sahitya Bharti Historical Session
- Our literature tradition
- Gandhiji’s contribution to our literary tradition

**Seminar on “Gandhian Economic Principles for Equitable Growth”**

The Samiti in association with the Federation of Indian Export Organizations organized a day-long seminar on Gandhian Economic Principles for Equitable Growth on August 28, 2019. About 60 participants from different groups/business houses which are part of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations took part in the seminar.

Senior Gandhian, Dr Y P Anand was the key note speaker who delved on different dimensions of Gandhian Economic Principles. He spoke on Gandhian gram swaraj, village industries and economy of permanence. The GSDS Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu spoke in the session on Gandhian Management Principles.

The Executive Director of Lupin Foundation Mr Sitaram Gupta spoke at length on Gandhi’s Trusteeship and Corporate Social Responsibility while senior Gandhian Shri Basant spoke on the issues and concerns facing rural artisans.

*Senior Gandhian and former Director National Gandhi Museum, Dr. Y. P. Anand is seen addressing the gathering.*



- BIHAR

### **Two-Day Workshop and Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar**

The views of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar were different, but patriotism was codified in both great men. Despite differences of opinion, the views of both were one in the interest of the country. It is normally shown as if there was strong opposition on both the issues while on a neutral investigation, the truth appears to be something else. Speakers expressed this in a two-day youth workshop and seminar on "Mahatma Gandhiji and B R Ambedkar" held on September 10-11, 2019 at Babhnagama in Madhepura district, Bihar.

Former Bihar Chief Minister Bhola Paswan Shastri inaugurated the two-day programme that was organized in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi.

The seminar was inaugurated by the former secretary of Delhi-based Gandhi Peace Foundation and Gandhian thinker Shri Surendra Kumar. The chief guest on the occasion was Prof. Sanjay Paswan, former Minister of the Central Government.

Educationist Shri Sunil Kumar Sinha, BPS College Principal Prof. Akhilesh Kumar, Dr. KK Chaudhary, Gandhi Gyan Mandir President Prof. Devnarayan Paswan Dev, Secretary Shri Dinanath Prabodh, former cabinet minister of Bihar Government, Ms. Renu Kushwaha, Prof. Ravindra Charan Yadav, Dr. Vinay, principals and professors of other colleges in Madhepura district including Kumar Jha took part in the programme.

The speakers clearly stated that when Mahatma Gandhi was killed, Bhimrao Ambedkar was the first person to reach the spot and according to eyewitnesses he stayed there for a long time. Many of us would consider it courtesy. But the foundation of nearly 20 years of direct and indirect relations between Gandhi and Ambedkar had a wonderful affinity and mutual sympathy that is rarely discussed.

Some people may wonder that for a long time Mahatma Gandhi did not know that Ambedkar himself was an alleged untouchable. He considered him a social reformer upper caste leader of his own kind. Considering the scholarly, unconcerned and confident manner in which Ambedkar spoke, this misunderstanding was not very big in the society at that time.

Quiz sessions were also held among the dignitaries of the area including the students of the school colleges of the area. The participants posed several questions to the visitors about Mahatma Gandhi and B R Ambedkar in order to clear the doubts in their minds. The speakers were felicitated on the occasion with bags, etc from GSDS.

### **National Discuss Meet on Relevance of Gandhian Educational Ideas: Implications for Policies and Practices**

The Samiti in association with the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration organized a two-day national discussion meet on Relevance of Gandhian Educational Ideas: Implications for Policies and Practices on October 4-5, 2019.

Senior academicians and practitioners took part in the national discussion meet on how to integrate Gandhian educational ideas in education in the current and emerging socio-economic context, and their implication for revitalizing skill and rural education.



*Prof. Avinash Kumar Singh, Head, Dept. of Educational Policy, NIEPA, Delhi is seen addressing, as in the picture (from L to R): Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS; Prof. Abhijit Pathak, JNU, Delhi; Prof. K K Pandey; Prof. N .V. Varghese, Vice Chancellor, NIEPA, Delhi are all ears.*

The aim was to discuss innovate practices of education and work followed in different educational institutions and identify problems and constraints faced in the implementation of basic education scheme through sharing of its institutional practices.

The different themes in which the discussions took place included: Gandhian Philosophy of education; role of Gandhi in universalisation of elementary education; alternative pedagogy and alternate schooling; implication of the Gandhian educational ideas for New Education Policy-2019, and others.

### **National Seminar on "Gandhi in India's Literary Imagination"**

To commemorate Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, a two-day National Seminar titled *Gandhi in India's Literary Imagination* was organized by the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi on October 22-23, 2019. The seminar began with a welcome address by the Convenor of the seminar and Head, Department of English, Prof Nishat Zaidi.

Prof Zaidi in her retracing the march of history elaborated Gandhi's long association with Jamia Millia Islamia spanning from the politically turbulent times of the 1920s to times of financial crisis with Gandhi himself endeavouring to beg on the streets to stem this crisis. Prof Zaidi highlighted that for Gandhi, Jamia represented the vision of a nationalist university in terms of embodying the pluralistic ethos.



*Engrossed speakers and participants at the National Seminar on “Gandhi in India’s Literary Imagination” organised by the Dept. of English, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with GSDS.*

While testifying to the singular status of Gandhi in the history of Jamia as can be seen in the letters of Gandhi to the founding fathers of Jamia and his own son, Devdas Gandhi, having taught in the Department of English in its earliest years, Prof Zaidi believed that this Seminar would enable us to rethink, assimilate, manifest and critically interrogate Gandhi’s philosophy, his vision and ideals so as to reconstruct them in our cultural and social imaginary.

The convenor of the seminar and Head, Department of English, Prof Nishat Zaidi welcomed the gathering. Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS also spoke on the occasion. Prof Alok Bhalla, Prof (retd.) English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad and Jamia Millia Islamia chaired the session. Prof Harish Trivedi, Former Head, Department of English, University of Delhi, delivered the key note address.

Over the course of the two days of the seminar, around 40 delegates from across the length and breadth of our country presented papers on Gandhi in thematically varied academic sessions. The papers presented investigated the Gandhian myth, sensibility and political philosophy in fictional representations and varied cultural representations offering wide ranging insights into the various debates of nation-state, women’s role and agency, the contours of history, reconfiguring tribal movements, transforming Dalit consciousness, violence and praxis.

The different sessions included:

1. *Women’s participation and assimilation within the Gandhian movement;*
2. *Varied literary articulations of Gandhi;*
3. *Gandhian philosophy and its resonance within the nation-state and the discourses of shining developing India;*
4. *Gandhi’s multiple trajectories in fictional imagination traversing secular and religious domains;*
5. *Gandhi’s significance in terms of the nation-state and the Partition discourse*
6. *Interrogating the ecological crisis, Tribal and Peasant resistances through the exploration of Gandhi’s philosophy;*
7. *Adapting Gandhi for popular consumption and fashioning self;*
8. *Cinematic representations of Gandhi*
9. *Gandhi’s configuration within pedagogical practices, Dalit discourses and world literatures*
10. *Gandhi’s political and cultural significance in the contemporary world as resonating from an attitude of fearlessness and an unwavering quest to explore truth in all its naked tenacity*

**National Gandhi Jayanti Seminar 2019 on “Gandhi and the Contemporary Issues: Old Theory, New Perspective”**

GSDS, Indialogue Foundation, Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi, Gandhi Bhawan University of Delhi as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi organized a two-day National Gandhi Jayanti seminar on “Gandhi and the Contemporary Issues: Old



Theory, New Perspective” on October 23-24, 2019 at Gandhi Bhawan University of Delhi.

The fundamental objective of this seminar was to present the relevance of Gandhi’s ideas and to show how his ideas could be reformulated in order to fulfil the demands of the challenges posed by various contemporary issues. The seminar attempted to put forth the applicability of Mahatma Gandhi’s thoughts in solving various contemporary social, political, economic and environmental issues. The seminar also brought to the fore, the contemporary issues and the relevance of the Gandhian views in dealing with those problems at one place, while trying to find out what should be reinterpreted or reformulated in his philosophy.



(From top to bottom): Distinguished speakers and participants at the National Gandhi Jayanti Seminar 2019 organised by GSDS, Indialogue Foundation, Dept. of Philosophy, D.U. and Gandhi Bhawan, D.U.

The inaugural session was addressed by Prof. Balaganapathi Devarakonda, Chairman, Department of Philosophy, D.U; Ambassador Shri Ashok Sajjanhar, former Ambassador to Kazakhstan, Latvia and Sweden; Prof. Ramesh Bharadwaj, Director Gandhi Bhawan, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS and Mr. M. Behzad Fatmi, Secretary General, Indialogue Foundation.

Five technical sessions were scheduled in two days. Technical Session I and Technical Session II was on 22nd October 2019, and Technical Session III, Technical Session IV and Technical Session V were on 23rd October 2019, followed by Valedictory Session for the seminar.

Some of the major themes that the seminar covered included:

#### Gandhi and the power of non-violence

1. The concept of the truth: How the Ideal could be achieved?
2. The Feminine and the Masculine: Gandhi’s Views on the Status of Women
3. The Problem of Religious Intolerance: Gandhi’s Approach to Religion
4. The Care for One’s Body and the Earth: A Gandhian Approach
5. A Gandhian Critique of the Modern Civilisation
6. A Path of a Satyagrahi: How to Make a Fair Demand?
7. The Gandhian Way of Ending a War: From Power to Peace
8. Gandhi and His Contemporaries: How to differ from others without being disrespectful?

There were total of 15 speakers who presented papers and covered 15 different aspects of *Gandhian view from Ahimsa, The Art of Persuasion, Sufism, Faithbased Humanism, Deep Ecology, Air pollution and Climate Change to the contemporary struggle of Farmers in Champaran, decolonisation and human rights.*

The seminar concluded with Valedictory session on the evening of 23rd October 2019 with Prof. R. C. Sinha, Chairman, ICPR as the chief guest and chair of the session Prof. Ramesh Bharadwaj, Gandhi Bhawan, DU.

Valedictory address was delivered by the eminent Gandhian Scholar Prof Bindu Puri on ‘The Continuities that Make for a Good Human Life: Aapbhog and the great tapasvi’, followed by special address by Mr. Qamar Agha, Senior Journalist & President, Indialogue Foundation, and vote of Thanks by Dr. Aditya Kumar Gupta, DU.

**Vimarsh 2019 discusses issues of development**

The Samiti in association with “Vimarsh” organized a three-day discussion on various issues of development during the three-day seminar held in Gandhi Darshan in association with the GSDS from November 2-4, 2019. Scholars, academicians, litterateurs took part in the three-day programme.

In the several sessions discussions were held on various published books; four sessions on issues of Women such as “Role of Women for Awakened Bharat”, “Women in News: Strengthening Women’s Voices and Representatives in News”; “Gender Health”, “Social Media Warriors”, success stories were held.

Discussions on Arts, Social Science, Language, Literature, Science, etc were held. Open discussions were organized on “Indic thoughts vs unindic thoughts”; Nationalism in the context of media and literature” and so on.

Sessions on “Revisiting Golden Triangle: National Security and Personal Liberty”, “Techno Nationalism”; were also discussed.

**Discussion: ‘Pallavan’ organised**

A one-day discussion ‘Pallavan’ was organized at Satyagraha Mandap, Gandhi Darshan by the Samiti in association with Sanskar Bharati on November 17, 2019.



*Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (HCM & V.C., GSDS) inaugurated the programme along with Dr. Sonal Mansingh (Eminent Dance Guru), Shri Amir Chand (Social Thinker), Dr. Rajeshwar Acharya (Hindustani Classical Vocalist) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, GSDS).*



*Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (HCM & V.C., GSDS) being felicitated by Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, GSDS) on the occasion.*

The ‘Pallavan’ was a gathering of eminent personalities from severe art fields i.e. Literature, Music (Instrumental and Vocal), Folk and Classical Dance, Sculpture, Fine Art, Journalism and Social Workers. The programme was attended by more than 350 artists from Delhi-NCR region. The discussion was based on preservation and promotion of Indian cultural heritage.



*Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (HCM & V.C., GSDS) (L) addressing an august gathering (Below) on the occasion.*



Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (HCM & VC, GSDS) inaugurated the programme along with Dr. Sonal Mansingh (Eminent Dance Guru), Dr. Rajeshwar Acharya (Hindustani Classical Vocalist) and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, GSDS).

Some of the eminent personalities who attended the programme were Shri Adwaita Gadanayaka (Director General, NGMA), Dr. Sachchidananda Joshi (Member Secretary, IGNC), Shri D.P Sinha (Eminent Writer & Historian), Dr. Saroja Vaidyanathan (Bharatnatyam Guru), Shri Rajesh Chetan (Eminent Poet), Shri Bankelal Gaur, Shri Amirchand, Smt. Dr. Swarananil Dubey and others.

- **PATNA**

**Discussion on new invocations for making Basic Schools as Schools of Excellence organised**

A three-day brainstorming session on “Nai Talim and Basic Education” of Mahatma Gandhi was organized from November 21-23, 2019 in Vrindavan basic school. The programme was organised in association with the Center for Innovation in Public Systems (CIPS), Patna.

The program was inaugurated by Chief Guest Prof. Upendra Reddy from the Center for Innovation in Public System; former DEO, Shri Lal Babu Mishra, Shri Dipankar Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS and other guests.

In this program, a detailed discussion on Mahatma Gandhi’s ‘Nai Talim and Basic Education’ system was held

for two days in which about 100 participants took part in which, including former and current headmen, principals of basic schools, District Education Officers, senior educationists of the area were present. Teachers working in the basic schools were also present.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Second from R) along with other distinguished guests at the inauguration of the discussion in Vrindavan School.*



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, GSDS) join other guests; students and teachers of the school in the tree plantation programme.*

Discussions on how to convert basic schools into model schools so that the children could be connected with the basic education of Gandhiji along with the current pattern of education were held. All present gave their suggestions on this subject.

Further, a meeting was held on November 23 at Bihar Vidyapeeth, Sadaqat Ashram, Patna to consider and implement these suggestions. Representative of both GSDS and CIPS were present. Director GSDS was also present on the occasion.

**Programme on Gandhian Approach to Rural Development and Management**

The Samiti in association with the Department of Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, Patna



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan welcomes senior resource person Shri Atul Priyadarshani on the occasion, as Prof. Upendra Reddy (behind) is all smiles.*

University organized a one-day seminar on “Gandhian Approach to Rural Development and Management” on November 23, 2019. The speakers at the seminar were: Mr Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS; Prof Avinash Kumar Singh, NIUPA, New Delhi; Prof Upendra Reddy, Advisor, CIPS, Hyderabad; and Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS.

*Shri Atul Priyadarshani (Inset) is seen taking a session as students listen with rapt attention.*



Different dimensions of Gandhian approach to rural development were discussed in the seminar and the students came up with their own reflections on how Gandhian philosophy was critical for village self-development.

• **UTHAAN FOUNDATION, KOLKATA**

**Seminar on Gandhiji’s Trusteeship and D.B. Thengadiji’s Labourisation in four Provinces - Nagda (M.P), Sikkar (Rajasthan), Barrackpore (W.B) and Banaras ( U.P)**

1. September 14-16, 2019 at Nagda Madhya Pradesh
2. September 20-22, 2019 Pragoti Shikshan Sansthan, Dhodh Road, Sikkar (Rajasthan)
3. November 15–17, 2019 at Barrackpore Sadar Bazar, (Kolkata)
4. Sri B. N. Raiji gave a keynote Address on the Subject on Trusteeship of Mahatma Gandhi and Labourisation of Lt. D. B. Thengadiji

A series of seminars were organized by Uthaan Foundation, Barrackpore Kolkata in association with GSDS with the following objectives:

To make aware the participants about the life and working of Mahatma Gandhi and Sri D.B.Thengadiji.

1. To make aware about Trusteeship and Labourisation
2. To publicise their 2 concepts in the public.
3. Industrialist and Mazdoor must know about their Real Role in developing Industry in the Country.
4. To minimize the Enemity and differences in Industrialist and Labour.

**1. September 14 –16, 2019 at NAGDA ( Madhya Pradesh)**

The first in the series was organized on September 14-16, 2019 at Nagda, Madhya Pradesh. 172 participants took part in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Sri Dilip Singh Gurzar (M. L. A) Khachroud , Nagda. On September 14, Discussion on Gandhiji life and his concepts – ‘Trusteeship’ was organized. This was followed by the discussion on Sri Thengadiji’s life and his concept ‘Labourisation’ on September 15 Sri Anil Sirodia, hon’ble Member of Parliament was the chief guest. On September 16, group presentations and evaluations of the seminar was organized. **Sri Sultan Singh Shekhawat** addressed the gathering.

**2. September 20–22, 2019 at Pragoti Shikshan Sansthan, Dhodh Road, Sikkar (Rajasthan)**

153 participants consisting of social workers, politicians, trade union leaders and students took part in the seminar organized by Uthaan Foundation at Rajasthan from September 20-22, 2019. Nagarpalika Chairman Smt. Aparna Roln inaugurated the seminar. Sri Ratan Jaldhar (Ex. M.L.A.) Sri Gobardhan Verma (Ex. M.L.A.) Sri Baij Nath Rai, Managing Trustee of Uthaan Foundation and Sri Sultan Singh Shekhawat, Ex. President, Madhya Pradesh, Asangathit Board and Sri Pratap Singh Shekhawat, Secretary of Uthaan Foundation Rajasthan Unit were present on the occasion.



*Speakers during the discussion in the programme in Sikar, Rajasthan.*



*Participants during the discussion in the programme in Sikar, Rajasthan.*

**3. November 15–17, 2019 at Barrackpore Sadar Bazar, (Kolkata)**

165 persons took part in the programme. In this Programme a public meeting was organized on November 15, 2019 at Mochi Mahal Morh, Barrackpore Sadar Bazar, Barrackpore. Sri Gupteshwar Barnwal, a retired senior teacher presided over the meeting. Sri Sunil Munshi, Gandhian Leader and Ex. Director of Gandhi Sangrahalaya, Barrackpore; Maharaj Nitya Rupananda Swami, Ramkrishna Vivekananda Mission; Sri Baij Nath Rai, Managing Trustee, Uthaan Foundation; Sri Manoj Saha, Secretary, Barrackpore Trader Association; Sri Narendra Bhagat, a renowned social worker and Dr. Pranab Chandra Chand, Well known Doctor took part in the programme discussing the vision of both Shri D B Thengadi and Mahatma Gandhi. The second day programme was presided over by Sri Hari Das Bhagat and Oldest and Renowned Social Worker of the Locality. Question and answer session was also organized on the occasion.

**4. November 22–24, 2019 at Micro Tek College of Management & Technology, Maldahiya, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**

181 persons took part in the programme. Sri Mangla Prasad Ex Principal ITI College, Sri Mithilesh Kumar Rai (Social Worker), Sri Awadhesh Kumar Mishra (President of Uthaan Foundation), Sri Baij Nath Rai, Managing Trustee of Uthaan Foundation attended the seminar. Sri Awadhesh Kumar Mishra, All India President of Uthaan Foundation presided over the 3 days seminars.

Sri B. N. Rai gave the keynote Address on the Subject on Trusteeship of Mahatma Gandhi and Labourisation of Lt. D. B. Thengadiji. Discussions on the principles wealth, labour, trusteeship, Gandhian economics and social development took place during the seminar through the resource persons.

### Discourse on “A Gandhian Path for a Global Non-Violent Planet” organised

GSDS organised a day-long discussion on “A Gandhian Path for a Global Non-Violent Planet: Strategies of Action for a Culture of Peace” in Gandhi Darshan on December 9, 2019. In this discussion, eminent Gandhians and other enlightened people of the country discussed on the procedure to establish peace in the world and the importance of non-violence in world peace. The chief speaker was Venerable Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche. Shri Laxmidas, Vice President of Harijan Seva Sangh moderated the discussion.



(From top to bottom): Shri Laxmi Dass along with Rev. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche; Below (L) Shri Sri Krishna Kulkarni and (R) Dr. Ashok Pradhan share their perspectives at the Discourse.

Inaugurating the discussion, Prof. Rinpoche said that if we expect change, then we have to change ourselves first. Only by changing ourselves, we can ask others for change. To end peace, we must first understand what is the root cause of *Ashanti*? Violence is the root cause of *Ashanti* (disturbance). The root cause of violence is malice, ignorance is the cause. So first we have to end ignorance to end the malice. The end of malice will end the violence, and the end of the violence automatically establishes peace. The Buddha said that the end of malice will not be with malice, but through malaise and compassion, hatred can be eliminated. Therefore, it is very necessary to end the animosity to try peace.

The others who took part in the discussion included: Shri Sri Krishna Kulkarni, great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and member of the Gandhi-150 Committee, Dr. Ashok Pradhan, Director Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Vice Chancellor of Shobhit Vishwavidyalaya Shri Kunwar Vijendra Shekhar, Senior Prof. of Delhi University

Kailashnath Tiwari, Senior Gandhian and educationist Shri Baldev Raj Kamra, Mrs. Indu, Mr. Rajeev Vohra, Dr. Prasoon Chatterjee, Dr. Pramod Kumar Saini, Mr. Gopalji, Neelima Kamra, Shashiji, Mr. Subhash Gupta and others.

### Prabudh Samvad urges people to preserve the cultural and traditional heritage of India

A dialogue on ‘Nationalism and Cultural Heritage’ was organised in Gandhi Darshan on December 10, 2019. The distinguished guests who addressed the gathering of over 400 participants spoke on the need to take pride in the cultural heritage of India. The guests who spoke on the occasion were, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Dr. Murli Mahohar Joshi, Sadhvi Rithambara, Shri Trilokinath Pandey, Shri Vinay Katiyani, Shri C S Vaidyanathan and others.



(Above): Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Sadhvi Rithambara lights the ceremonial lamp at the programme, as an august gathering (Below) wait eagerly to hear the distinguished guests.

Speakers like Shri L. K. Advani and Dr. M.M. Joshi while speaking about Lord Ram, said that Ram stood for the oppressed classes, he embraced the *kewat* (boatman) and even performed the last rites of the bird *Jatayu*. This was what Gandhiji had learnt from Ram’s teachings and applied it through patience and seriousness. They said that once the goal is achieved, one should remember that the work has just begun to make the country more strong. One should try to evolve to a level where conflict ends from within.





*Distinguished gathering on the dais, including Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Sadhvi Rithambara, Shri Trilokinath Pandey, Shri Vinay Katiyani, Shri C S Vaidyanathan and Shri Champat Rai rise for the National Song ‘Vande Mataram’ on the occasion.*

Sadhvi Rithambara spoke about how women in this country still feel insecure even before birth and how the rate of female foeticide is increasing. She appealed that our heritage is our women and we must evolve into a nation where a woman’s dignity is not tarnished and where every child feels secure.

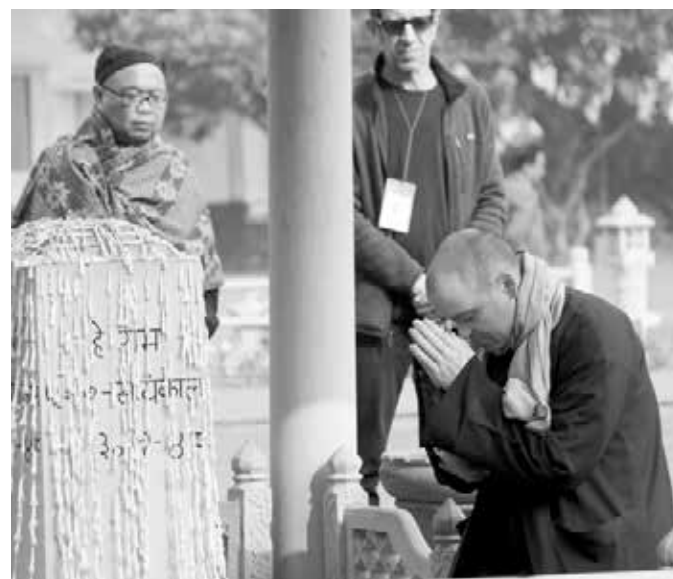
**Gandhi and Buddha can light us in our enlightenment: Shantum Seth**

GSDS in association with ‘Ahimsa Trust’ organised a dialogue with almost 55 international participants from different parts of the world on a pilgrimage in the path of Mahatma Gandhi and Gautam Buddha. The delegation was led by Dharmacharya Shantum Seth of Ahimsa Trust. The members offered their tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr’s Column in Gandhi Smriti on December 22, 2019.

Later in a dialogue with the participants, Dh. Shantum Seth said, “We are meandering through life and Mahatma Gandhi and Buddha guide us in our path of righteousness. Buddha’s ideas and Gandhiji’s use of these ideas in practical life is an example of sacrifice for humanity, which we all must follow”, adding, “Mahatma Gandhi and Buddha can light us in our enlightenment”.



*Dharmacharya Shantum Seth is seen addressing the gathering in Gandhi Smriti.*



*(Above): Participants take part in the discussion in Gandhi Smriti. (Below): Pilgrims offer their tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at the site of his Martyrdom.*

Speaking about the concept of ‘ahimsa’ or nonviolence, Dh. Shantum Seth said, “In every Indian, there’s a string of Gandhi and these strings can build civilisations on the lines of ‘ahimsa’.

Speaking about spinning, he further said that “Spinning was Mahatma Gandhi’s constructive meditation, for Gandhi always wanted his country folks to be self sufficient and thereby have their own economy of permanence”.

Earlier Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu spoke on the initiatives of the GSDS and said that compassion, sympathy, empathy and understanding of the concepts of non-violence communication can usher in dialogue and peace.

On this occasion, Shri Dharamraj spun on the charkha which some of the delegations also tried to learn.

**Third Anupam Mishra Memorial Lecture**



*Shri Basant Singh, former advisor GSDS (L) felicitates Shri Banwari ji with a Charkha during the programme.*

*Shri Rakesh Singh (below), introduces key speaker Shri Banwari ji during the occasion.*



Eminent journalist and former editor of Hindi daily “Jansatta”, Shri Banwari ji delivered the third “Anupam Mishra Memorial Lecture” in Gandhi Darshan on December 22, 2019. Almost 95 participants that included representatives from different Gandhian organisations; youth and students, journalists and family members of late Anupam Mishra attended the programme. The theme of the lecture was “Swaraj and Gandhiji”.

• **RANCHI, JHARKHAND**

**Seminar on Gandhian Principles and the Judiciary**

The Samiti in association with the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi organized a one-day seminar on Gandhian Principles and the Judiciary on December 10, 2019 in Ranchi. As part of this seminar different dimensions of Gandhian Principles were discussed which are important for the Judicial System. The GSDS Director, Sh. Dipanker Shri Gyan discussed the practical applications of Gandhian ethics and how to promote ethical legal practices. He discussed several case studies during his presentation.



*Distinguished gathering including Prof. Kesava Rao Vurrakula, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu and faculty members of the college at the book release programme.*



*Distinguished gathering including Prof. Kesava Rao Vurrakula, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu and faculty members of the college at the inauguration of the programme by lighting the ceremonial lamp.*

The GSDS Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu made a presentation on Gandhian Approach to a Nonviolent Jurisprudence. A salient feature of the seminar was insightful presentations by students of several law colleges on Gandhian Principles and the Judiciary. Perspectives such as judicial empathy, restorative justice, Gandhi as a lawyer, issues related professional ethics etc were discussed.



*Students of the National University of Study and Research in Law making a presentation during the programme.*

Earlier the Vice Chancellor, Prof Kesava Rao Vurrakula in his introductory address underlined that for young lawyers there was much to learn from Gandhi the lawyer.

**Seminar on Gandhian Perspective to Skill Development**

Mahatma Gandhi, all through his long public life invariably insisted on use of better and higher skills for working in whichever task or field he happened to be concerned with at any time. He believed in a constant and continuous learning process including experimentation, keeping the ideal as the goal but also knowing that human beings must always keep improving and rising in their skills but can never attain absolute perfection. To discuss the Gandhian perspective to skill development, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organized a one- day seminar on December 13, 2019 in Ranchi, Jharkhand. The programme was organized in association with Vikas Bharti Bishunpur. The seminar was presided over by Padmashree Shri Ashok Bhagat who stressed on the Gandhian approach

to skill development. Those who spoke on the occasion included Prof Nand Kumar Yadav, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jharkhand; Prof Kamini Kumar, Pro Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS.

Later during the sessions, Dr Manju Aggarwal conducted an extensive session on naturopathy and healthy living for the about 100 participants who took part in the programme.

- **WARDHA MAHARASHTRA**

### **Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi and Indian Languages**

The Samiti in association with the Department of Gandhian Studies and Peace Research of Mahatma Gandhi Antarashtriyā Vishwa Vidyalaya (MGAVV) Wardha Maharashtra organized a two-day seminar on “Mahatma Gandhi and Indian Languages” on January 23-24, 2020 in the MGAVV campus. Prof. Kusumlata Kedia, Vice Chancellor of the MGAVV inaugurated the seminar as the chief guest. Dr. Nriprendra Prasad Modi, Convenor of the seminar welcomed the gathering and also highlighted about the importance of the seminar in the present context.

Professor Kedia said that in order to know the reasons behind the language problem in India, we need to know the 19th century Europe. In 19th century Europe there was the spread of nationalism with which the phase of disunion started.

“There has never been a language problem in India, but of late it has started.” He said that once upon a time when Sanskrit was the language of the whole of Central Asia, which can be called as unified India in a unified manner, hence the languages derived from Sanskrit bind India.

Contributors to the seminar analysed social movements and philosophical discourses, raising fundamental questions about the nature and process of the unfolding process of Gandhi’s concept of language as a medium of communication in reaching out to thousands in the remotest corner of the country and seeking their participation in the freedom struggle. The speakers also analysed the power and depth of communication that Gandhi used to address multitudes of people through his writings and speeches.

Spread over two days, a distinguished forum of speakers comprising eminent members of academia, research scholars, and domain experts representing the fields of political science, sociology, human rights, philosophy, anthropology, economics, history, law, gender studies gathered to present their ideas, addressing the many dimensions of the communication techniques of Mahatma Gandhi.

### **‘Report to Gandhi’ – A three-day National Conference**

About 125 participants that included Sardovaya workers, Gandhian constructive workers, academicians from different states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Odisha, Haryana, Kerala took part in a national conference on “Report to Gandhi” in Gandhi Darshan from February 21-23, 2020 to discuss issues and challenges of the contemporary world, the work done so far by those organisations as part of Gandhi 150 and the road ahead. The national conference was organised by GSDS in association with Radhakrishna Collective. Shri Kumar Kalanand Muni, Shri Basant, Padmashri Shri Kamal Singh Chauhan, Shri Aditya Patnaik, Prof. Manoj Kumar, Shri Chandan Pal, Shri Sita Ram Gupta along with Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan took part in the deliberations. Smt. Kamala Radhakrishna, wife of Dr. Radhakrishna was also present at the inauguration of the programme.



*Distinguished speakers which included grassroots workers, academicians, social thinkers, lawyers and students during the dialogue in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

The main idea of different sessions during the three-day conference was to present a report by all the theorists of Mahatma Gandhi of their ongoing projects and their responses towards the celebration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Besides, the global responses of special programmes by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna were also discussed towards promoting Gandhi Katha all over the world including India. It was thus one of the major components of the seminar to discuss how international thinkers acknowledge the ideas of peace, non-violence, and self-reliance.

The participants not only showcased their work and Gandhian ideologies, they also discussed various issues which are affecting the integrity and dignity of India. They expressed their concern over the eluding faith, ethics, morality and vision from the path of righteousness and truth.

The programme also highlighted success stories of individuals, groups or organisations working on the 18-point Constructive Programme of Mahatma Gandhi and how they have been able to improve the livelihood of minorities, especially adivasi women and children, which have also positively impacted the living quality among the people in extreme rurals.



*Distinguished gathering that included Joint Secretary Ministry of Culture, Shri S C Barmma (Fifth from L) along with Shri Basant Singh, Shri Sita Ram Gupta, Shri Kamal Singh Chauhan, Shri Kalanand Muni, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and others releasing the book "Influences That Shaped The Gandhian Ideology – Gokhale, Rajchandra, Tolstoy, Ruskin" authored by Shri Anup Taneja, published by Research India Press, as part of the commemoration of Mahatma Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary.*

The participants reiterated that Mahatma Gandhi dreamt about a society where there would be no discrimination, no inequalities and no violence and they hoped that the youth adopt the Gandhian technique and methodology of non-violence and restrict from making hate speech and that communication with those affected by either violence, disaster, etc be made for their rehabilitation.

On the concluding day on February 23, a book "Influences That Shaped The Gandhian Ideology – Gokhale, Rajchandra, Tolstoy, Ruskin" authored by Shri Anup Taneja, published by Research India Press, as part of the commemoration of Mahatma Gandhi's 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary was released.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, presents copies of the GSDS publication to Shri Kalanand Muni (R), as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shri S. C. Barmma looks on.*

### **Govt. Following Gandhian Thought for Inclusive Development: Shri Jitendra Singh**

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan hosted a one-day dialogue on "Mahatma Gandhi's Experiment with Food – Key to Health" in Gandhi Darshan on March 2, 2020. The programme was organised by Kendriya Bhandar along with its strategic partner, Centre for Strategy and Leadership. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jitendra Singh was the chief guest on the occasion.

Delivering the key note address, Shri Jitendra Singh said that the government is following the Gandhian thought for inclusive development of the country, according to an official statement. He said, "Those who tend to dismiss Mahatma Gandhi's views regarding healthcare and food as mere fads or whims, actually do a great injustice to themselves because in doing so they only deprive themselves of a sound scientific opinion". Shri Jitendra Singh also launched a special series of programmes to mark the 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth.



*Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jitendra Singh was the chief guest on the occasion is being felicitated with a Charka.*

He further said, "Like in other spheres of life, Gandhiji not only experimented in depth, but also tested the influence of his experiments on his own self. This he did famously in case of his experiments with "Truth" and so also in case of health and lifestyle".

Citing several instances, Dr Jitendra Singh said, for example, Mahatma Gandhi walked on foot, on an average, for nearly 18 Kms each day and believed that this was a fitness test for him. He continued to do so till the end.

Dr Jitendra Singh further recalled that Gandhiji lived in the pre-antibiotic era and the first antibiotic drug namely Penicillin came into use around the time of Mahatma Gandhi's death. "But, what is amazing is that even though he was never a student of science, Gandhiji

had conducted experiments with his physique and came to certain conclusions like, for example, that the consumption of two ounce of raw vegetable or raw salad was more useful than nine ounces of cooked vegetable because it provided a higher quantity of vitamins and antioxidants which helped in building up immunity of the body against infection and other diseases”, he said.



*Shri Basant Singh, former advisor GSDS addresses the gathering during the dialogue in Gandhi Darshan.*

“Our government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is committed to promoting the teachings of Bapu, which are crucial for the development of a nation. Be it yoga, swachata or healthy eating, we are following Gandhian thought for inclusive development,” he said.

Kendriya Bhandar’s Managing Director Shri Mukesh Kumar said, “It is a unique privilege for Kendriya Bhandar to play a small part in commemorating the 150th year of Mahatma Gandhi by conducting a series of five events each focused on a key topic that was not only important to the Father of the Nation, but is also critical to the growth and development of the people of the nation.”

Talking on the theme of the first event of the series, Shri Vikas Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Strategy and Leadership, said that “Gandhiji’s life is a lesson and one should adopt his teachings in everyday life, particularly the youth of the nation who can make the greatest difference through his ideals.” “A healthy and well-nourished populace is a pre-condition for sustainable development of the country. Gandhi’s ideas on food can help us improve our lifestyle and lead better (healthier) lives,” said Vikas Sharma, director and chief executive of CSL.



*(Above): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS addresses a packed gathering (Below) on the occasion.*

Thematic discussions, a live cooking session, and a yoga dance performance “Shiv Tandav Stotram” by Ms. Jyoti from *Blossom Yoga* were the highlights of the programme. The programme also featured an exhibition with free diet and yoga consultation for all participants.

The programme was attended by members of parliament, senior government officials, eminent Gandhians, heads of missions of various countries, representatives from the United Nations, doctors, dieticians, naturopaths, chefs, bloggers, and media, the statement issued by Kendriya Bhandar said.

Earlier Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, along with Shri Basant felicitated Shri Jintendra Singh with angavastram and charkha. They also took part in a session on ‘Mahatma Gandhi’s Experiments with Food: Key to Health’ in which speakers such as Mr. Bishow Parulji from the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and Dr. A K Arun from Gandhi Smarak Prakritik Chikitsa Samiti took part.

Chefs of The Ashok, ITDC participated in the food expo organised as part of the day-long programme.



# Orientation Programmes

## ***Pursuing the power of Mediation in judiciary through Non-Violent Communication***

A session on “Non-Violent Communication” was organised at the premises of the District and Sessions Court, Saket, New Delhi on April 27, 2019 by GSDS. The programme was headed by Justice Asha Menon, District & Sessions Judge, South; Justice Girish Katpalia, District & Sessions Judge, South East; Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS and Shri Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS. Justice Vineeta Goyal, Additional district judge, coordinated the initial ceremonies and welcomed the guests.



*Justice Asha Menon lighting the ceremonial lamp at the inauguration of the programme in District and Sessions Court, Saket.*

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Asha Menon, set the tone of the programme. She talked about the Gandhi as a lawyer and his attitude. Quoting Marshall Rosenberg, she reflected as how Empathy is the most foundational spirit for better human relations. She also shed light on the non-violent communication as a required tool of mediation in judicial practices.

The occasion also saw the release of the module based on Nonviolent Communication penned by Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu.

In his session on “Introduction to Non-Violent Communication”, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu spoke on how communication is as important as eating healthy food and inhaling clean air. He stressed, “Positive and loving communication nourishes us, makes us healthy, promotes our well-being and happiness. Whereas, negative and violent communication makes us stressful, unhappy, takes a toll on our health, promotes conflicts, creates ill-will and contributes to breakdown of relationships”.

Quoting the Vietnamese Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh, Dr. Kundu said, “When we say something that nourishes us and uplifts the people around us, we are feeding love and compassion. When we speak and act in a way that causes tension and anger, we are nourishing violence and suffering.”



*(Above): Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) addresses the gathering, as (Below): Lawyers raise their observations during the discussion. Also seen are Mr. Girish Katpalia, District & Sessions Judge (SE); Ms. Asha Menon, District & Sessions Judge (South) and Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS on the dais.*

Talking about words that can be helpful for nourishment, he said, “We can use words that will nourish ourselves and nourish another person. He added that what you say, what you write, should convey only compassion and understanding. Your words can inspire confidence and openness in another person. Generosity can be practiced wonderfully with loving speech”.

He further focussed his session as on how day in and day out we tend to indulge in unhealthy communication. He said that “Most of the times we are unmindful of it. Our ego, feelings of hegemony

and superiority, differences with others, our own life conditions and many other reasons could be factors on why we pursue unhealthy communication. Usually, we don't have the patience to listen to others or might be we are not self-aware and knowingly or unknowingly we get into petty talks or use words that can cause suffering for not only ourselves but others. It is in such a situation when the way we communicate becomes part of our unhealthy lifestyle that special efforts need to be made to indulge in communication that nourishes us and makes us healthy”.



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS is seen conducting a session on Non-Violent Communication.*

He further described the five basic pillars of Gandhi's nonviolence which includes: 'Respect', 'Understanding', 'Acceptance', 'Appreciation' and 'Compassion' and went on to describe the Gandhian approach to nonviolent communication which are: nonviolent speech and action; maintenance of relationship and enrichment of personhood, openness, flexibility.

He concluded by saying that the underlying principle of Gandhian engagement with an opponent in a conflict is to keep the channels of communication open, to avoid intimidation and to remove all obstacles to dialogue. "Such openness calls for, a well-planned strategy of social interaction and, second, a rigorous personal attitudinal discipline", he said.

Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, shared his experiences as a former legal professional. He focussed his discussion based on actual experiences he faced as a lawyer and attempted towards building a platform to solve, communicate and replicate the steps whenever required.

He enunciated the important elements of nonviolent communication like empathy, mutual toleration and respect in critically trying to understand the other point of view from a need-based level, practicing active listening skills, flexibility in one's approach, etc, which he said, if practiced can help in creating a better client-lawyer relationship. He described that it can also help in creating a congenial environment between two opposing parties thereby opening the doors for dialogue and mediation.

Citing case studies, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan further elaborated that how by using techniques of nonviolent communication, a mediator can effectively contribute to

reconciliation between disputing parties. He added that by using the elements of nonviolent communication, the mediator can help to connect with the needs of one party that are motivating them to the conflict situation and then communicating those to the other party. Also, the use of the techniques could help the disputing parties to agree for a dialogue and begin to cooperate to find strategies that could work for both of them.

"Nonviolent Communication helps a mediator to listen to each party without any bias or stereotypes and is not judgmental. It supports an honest, authentic and respectful dialogue. The mediator will develop capacities to ensure each of the parties is given a patient and compassionate hearing", he emphasised, adding, "A common motive for mediation is to heal relationships that are being experienced as painful, where people are struggling with mutual trust. Mediation is especially valuable when we have tough-to-solve conflicts in relationships that we really care about (for example with family members, friends, neighbours or colleagues)".



*Interactions with Lawyers and Advocates formed an integral part of the programme.*

Further, he embarked a concept for better relations in judiciary context which are *Deep hearing-patient hearing; never a win-win situation in court as nothing is personal and Empathy.*

Interactive sessions were also organised on the occasion during which the judges actively took part and shared their experiences. One of the advocates shared his experience of practicing mutual respect by simply addressing every new or old colleague respectfully.

Justice Girish Katpalia, proposed the vote of thanks.

### **Workshop on Nonviolent Communication for Public Prosecutors**

GSDS organized a half-day orientation of public prosecutors on "Gandhian nonviolent Communication" in association with the Delhi Judicial Academy on June 12, 2019. About 70 public prosecutors took part in the orientation programme. The workshop was conducted by Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS. He explained about Gandhian nonviolence, the different elements of nonviolent communication and how the public prosecutors could use the tools in their professional work.



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu conducting a session for Public Prosecutors in Gandhi Darshan.*



Different case studies during examination of witnesses were discussed and how different elements of nonviolent communication could be used in different situations was explored. The programme was part of the initiative of the Samiti to introduce Gandhian nonviolent communication and conflict resolution in the legal process.

**Training of Newly Recruited Judicial Officers in Nonviolent Communication at Delhi Judicial Academy**

The Samiti organized a one-day training of newly recruited judicial officers on nonviolent communication at Delhi Judicial Academy on July 27, 2019. About 100 judicial officers took part in the training. The training was conducted by Prof T K Thomas, senior media educators and Dr Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti.



*(Inset): Prof. T. K. Thomas conducted a session in the Delhi Judicial Academy.*



Dr Kundu elaborated on the different elements of nonviolent communication and their importance in the legal system. He also spoke on judicial empathy. There were detailed discussions on how elements of nonviolent communication could help in meaningful interactions between the Bar and the Bench. Prof T Thomas took the session on the importance of self awareness and intrapersonal communication. Group activities were taken up during the workshop.

**Orientation Programme of newly recruited Assistant Secretaries (IAS Officers) on Gandhian Philosophy**

The Samiti organized a one-day orientation programme of newly recruited Assistant Secretaries on August 9, 2019. About 160 assistant secretaries were taken around Gandhi Smriti, National Gandhi Museum and the pavilions in Gandhi Darshan. Besides a lecture on Gandhian philosophy and ideals was delivered by Mr Srikrishna Kulkarni, Chairman of IIM, Kolkata and great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi.



*Participants (Below) are seen interacting with the speakers Shri Krishna Kulkarni and Mr. K Srinivas (Above) in Gandhi Darshan.*

He spoke at length on different dimensions of Gandhian philosophy and values which are of importance for civil servants. The Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training, Mr K Srinivas spoke at length on how civil servants can integrate Gandhian approach in the discharge of their duties.

**Orientation on Integrating Non-Violent Communication in Judicial System**

GSDS & Delhi Judicial Academy jointly organized an orientation programme on “Integrating Non-Violent Communication in Judicial System” for the judicial officers in Gandhi Darshan on October 14, 2019.

Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS inaugurated the training programme by welcoming the 150 judicial officers. Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS conducted the day-long interactive training programme.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS is seen interacting with the judicial officers during the training programme in Gandhi Darshan, as Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS (L) keenly observes the proceedings.*

**Training in Nonviolent Communication**

A half-day training session on nonviolent communication was organized on November 25, 2019 for students of Arcade Business School, Patna, Bihar by the Samiti. The Samiti’s Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the programme.

Another a half-day training session on ‘nonviolent communication’ was organized for students of Indian School of Business, Patna, Bihar by the Samiti. The Samiti’s Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the programme.



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (R) conducting a session in Patna, as students (L) are in rapt attention.*

# Programmes in the North East

## • ASSAM

### Gandhi Summer School organised

A five-day Gandhi Summer School was organised by GSDS in collaboration with State Bal Bhawan, Social Welfare Department, Government of Assam from May 27-31, 2019 at the State Bal Bhawan at Ujanbazar, Assam. Almost 82 children took part in the programme. Activities such as: Workshop on Comics, Mime, Story Telling, Puppetry and Newsletter as part of the communication exercise was conducted for the students through different resource persons. The resource person for Mime was none other than international famous Mime Artist Shri Mainul Haque. Ms. Devarshee Goswami trained the students in Mime. While Shri N Das took the session on Story Telling, the puppetry training programme was conducted by Ms. Archana Talukdar. Ms. Illora Goswami conducted the training on news letter writing.



(Above): Inauguration of the Gandhi Summer School in State Bal Bhawan, Assam in progress.

(Below): Traditional folk dance by participants enthralled the gathering.

The students as part of their field visit also visited the Gandhi Ashram at the Sarania Hills and also visited the Babu Kutir at the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust Assam Branch where the sister pratinidhis spoke to them on the life's message of Mahatma Gandhi.



(Above & Below): Glimpses of various activities in which the students were engaged during the Gandhi Summer School in Assam.



Prayer and other musical renditions at the valedictory programme of the Gandhi Summer School made the occasion very remarkable.



The valedictory function of the five-day summer school on May 31, 2019 saw vivid demonstration of the rich cultural heritage of Assam by the participating children, who also showcased their final production to the Vice Chancellor of the Guwahati University, Dr. Mridul Hazarika, who was the chief guest on the occasion. Eminent Artist, Shri Ramesh Barua was the guest of honour on the occasion. Ms. Kusum Bora, social worker and Shri Jaidev Das was also present. Director Social Welfare Department Assam Ms. Jury Phukan also graced the occasion. Smt. Kabita Sharma Bhattacharya, Principal State Bal Bhawan Assam, who coordinated the entire five-day Gandhi Summer School workshop, was also present on the occasion.



*Thematic performances by children (Above) on 'peace and non-violence' kept the audience engrossed (Below) at the valedictory programme.*

In this address to the gathering, Dr. Mridul Hazarika emphasised that besides imparting regular curriculum based education to the children, they also must be made aware of the cultural heritage of India.

**Workshop for School Children on Peace Building and Mutual Co-existence**

A workshop on “School Children on Peace Building and Mutual Co-Existence” was organized by GSDS for School Children of Axom Vidya Mandir, Noonmati, Guwahati, Assam on August 09, 2019. About 110 participants took part in one day workshop which was started at 8.30 in morning and concluded by 3.00

pm followed by Lunch. Four speakers from different background and professions motivated the students by their lectures and presentations.

Mr. Kiran Chandra Das, Retired Principal, Pub Guwahati High School and a known social worker in the area inaugurated the programme.

Mr. Gulshan Gupta, Northeast Coordinator from GSDS, has shared his views on peace building and mutual coexistence.



*Principal, Axom Vidyamandir Mr. Ramen Talukdar, speaking to the children during the programme.*

Ms. Ishita Adhikari Patro, Demonstration Officer from Food and Nutrition Extension Unit, Guwahati, (Ministry of Women and Child Development) spoken on the topic 'Importance of Food Habits for Peaceful Life and Mutual Coexistence'. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Das, Social Worker, was the last speaker of the workshop.

Principal, Axom Vidyamandir Mr. Ramen Talukdar, informed the students about the Gandhi Global Solar Yatra which is to be organized by GSDS on October 2, 2019.

**Teacher’s Training on Importance of Peace and Non-violent Communication between Teachers and Students**

A training programme for “Teachers on Importance of Peace and Non-violent Communication between Teachers and Students” was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi in association with Jamuna Devi Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Umrangso on August 16-17, 2019. About 70 teachers and principals took part in this training programme from different schools of Umrangso. Including resource persons, volunteers and organizers more than 75 people were present during the workshop.

Shri Kanti Deb Nath, Principal J.D Hagjer College, Umrangso was the key speaker of the programme. He said, the essence of professional education includes transmitting not only knowledge, but also values and attitudes from one generation to the next. He suggested that there are many ways to peace – such as ‘Observe’, ‘Mediate’, ‘Forgive’, ‘Listen’, ‘Surrender’.



*Shri Gulshan Gupta, N.E. Coordinator GSDS (extreme left) with the participants pose for a group photograph during the programme.*

Ms. Biva Johari, Principal of Dimaraji School, Umrangso also spoke on the occasion. On Second day Mr. Malay Krishna Das from Kapili High School spoke on teaching aspects and conflict between teachers and students. He said Respect of teachers and Compassion for students both are equally important in teaching practices.

Mr. Hoichungling Khelma from Khelma Federation another speaker of the day talked about the Gandhi's nonviolence and his life.

Representative from GSDS, Mr. Gulshan Gupta has also presented his presentation on the subject both the days. First day the presentation was based on Gandhian theory of nonviolent communication. In which he shared famous Gandhian activist and follower of Gandhi's philosophy Late Sh. Natwar Thakkar's idea of Nonviolent Communication Literacy, where he talked about the ability and capacity to communicate not only with ourselves but with the society.

#### • MEGHALAYA

#### Workshop on Solar Power: A Source of Sustainable Energy



*A file photo of children of a school in Meghalaya holding their solar lamps with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Mr. Conrad Sangma (C).*

*(Photo Courtesy: <https://www.facebook.com/ProfChetanSinghSolanki/photos/expanding-in-meghalaya-new-souls-are-opened-in-betasing-block-of-meghalaya>).*

'The world has enough for everyone's need but not enough for everyone's greed' by emphasizing on the words of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Damewan Suchiang, a Nuclear Physicist from Jowai College, was indicating towards the resources made available and provided by the Nature to the beings living on this mother earth.

He was addressing students during a day-long workshop on "Solar Power: A Source of Sustainable Energy", which was organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti at Khad-Ar-Nor Upper Primary School, Shangpung, West Jayantia Hills, Meghalaya on August 13, 2019. About 200 students including teachers of Khad-Ar-Nor Upper Primary School took part in the workshop.

Shri Rahul Kumar Parikh another resource person of the workshop spoke on who solar energy can be used for sustainable growth of human being.

Mr. Gulshan Gupta from GSDS coordinated the programme. He also shared information on 'Gandhi Global Solar Yatra' programme initiated by the GSDS in collaboration with IIT New Delhi. The vote of thanks was given by Mr. Heibormi Sungoh, Headmaster of the School.

#### • ARUNACHAL PRADESH

#### Five-Day Workshop on "Techno-Gandhian Philosophy" organised

GSDS in association with the Gandhi Study Centre, NIT Arunachal Pradesh organised a five-day workshop on "Techno-Gandhian Philosophy" in the National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh on August 27-31, 2019. Different colleges and schools from Arunachal Pradesh participated in the the event namely, Doimukh Govt College, Industrial Training Institute Yupia, Binny Yanga Govt Women's College and Govt Hr Sec. School Naharlagun. Around 57 students from outside NIT-AP and 08 students from NIT-AP have registered for the event.



*GSDS North East Coordinator, Shri Gulshan Gupta addressing the gathering in Arunachal Pradesh.*



The event was inaugurated with lamp-lighting by dignitaries namely, Mr. Gulshan Gupta, North East Coordinator, GSDS, a representative of GSDS, Director NIT-AP, Dr. Kimjolly, Coordinator of Workshop & GSC, and other faculties present.



*Participants are seen engaged at the craft-making workshop during the programme in Arunachal Pradesh.*

Mr. Mrigendra Gogoi Head Yoga Instructor, Art of Living, Arunachal Pradesh, Dr. Taka Longkumer, Medical Officer, ITBP, Yupia, A.P.; Shri Nazuddin Khan, Assistant Commandant, ITBP, Yupia; Prof. Elizabeth Hangsing, Professor at Department of Education and Hod, RGU, Rono Hills, Arunachal Pradesh took part in the workshop.

The second half of the workshop constituted various indoor and outdoor activities. Indoor activities consisted of Bamboo crafting (for making various products like garbage bins, basket etc), Essay competition, Slogan competition, Crafting competition, Student of the week competition etc. Students have participated in the competitions activity and with that, exciting trophies, seals, certificates and cash prizes were arranged for the competitions as encouragement.

Outdoor activities consisted of field visit to Handloom and Textile Industry, under the Govt of A.P, located at Doimukh and visit to private textile industry Aka's Creation, Nyorch.

The event concluded with a beautiful valedictory program-cum-prize distribution. Prizes were distributed by Director, NIT-AP (Competition prizes) and Dr. R.P Sharma, Associate Professor, BAS, NIT-AP (Participation certificates). It was successfully completed with full enthusiasm, sincerity and joy with a very good feedback from the participants and a conclusion vote of thanks from Director, NIT-AP. The Director, NIT-AP delivered a vote of thanks followed by lunch and departure.

- **ASSAM**

**One Day Workshop on Sustainable Leadership to achieve Sustainable Development Goals**

The workshop on sustainable leadership to achieve sustainable development goals was organized for the students of Moran Junior College, Moranhat, Dibrugarh, Assam on August 29, 2019. About 300 students and teachers took part in the workshop.



*GSDS North East Coordinator, Shri Gulshan Gupta (above) is seen conducting the workshop in Dibrugarh, Assam.*

Shri Prasanta Dutta, Principal of the College discussed on different aspects of sustainable leadership and how it helped in community building. He also talked how sustainable leadership can help in promoting mutual coexistence.

Mr Gulshan Gupta NE, Coordinator, GSDS said Mahatma Gandhi is considered as one of the most influential leaders. Many of Gandhi's core principles are remarkably relevant in the realm of leadership competencies and self-development.

**Mutual Co-existence and Children's Role in Peace Building**

The Samiti organized a one- day workshop on Mutual Co-existence and children's role in Peace Building at Amalprabha Das Shiksha Pratishthan, Lalmati, Basistha, Guwahati on August 31, 2019. This school was established in the memory of senior Gandhian in northeast, Late Baideo Amalprabha Das.

About 100 students took part in the workshop. Teachers, school staff and management committee members were also present in the whole workshop.



Smt. Kusum Bora Mokashi, Pratinidhi, Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Sarania Ashram, Guwahati talked about the Gandhian approach to environment and his teachings. She said adopting the Gandhian approach was important the root causes of environmental degradation.

Mr. Gulshan Gupta, NE Coordinator, GSDS said that we all talk about our rights but only talk about our duties. He talked about the need to nurture positive human values which was the key to peace and mutual coexistence.

### North East Youth Conclave organised

The Department of Mass Communication & Journalism, Tezpur University in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi organized a three day *North East Youth Conclave* on the theme 'Role of Youth in Contributing to a Culture of Peace and Non-violence' during September 6-8 2019. A total of 150 participants from 18 institutions across North East India participated in the Conclave. The conclave witnessed a most wonderful confluence of youthful energy, vibrancy and enthusiasm that demonstrated the power and potential of youth people to create change in the world.



*A participant at the North East Conclave shares his point to an attentive audience below.*



The inaugural ceremony was graced by senior journalist Sh. Samudra Gupta Kashyap as the Chief Guest, prominent social activist Sh. Dibyajyoti Saikia as special invitee and Sh. Gulshan Gupta, the North East Coordinator of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti as part of the guest

panel. The dais was also graced by Dr. Joya Chakraborty, Head, Department of MCJ-TU and Prof. Abhijit Borah, former Head and Professor in the Department.

The Head of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Dr. Joya Chakraborty delivered the welcome address. Gulshan Gupta shared his insights on Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. Speaking on the occasion, he quoted, "By birth, we are all non-violent." Following this, the inaugural address was delivered by Professor Abhijit Bora, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism.

#### DAY ONE:

- SESSION I: *Understanding a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence in the Context of North-East*
- SESSION II: *Towards a Science of Human Strengths and Virtues*
- SESSION III: *Education for Cultivating Peace, Harmony and self-improvement*

#### DAY TWO:

- SESSION IV: *Understanding the Chemistry of a Social Emotion*
- SESSION V: *Building an Emotion through Skills for Peace and Harmony*
- SESSION VI: *Conflict Resolution - Tools and Strategies-I*
- SESSION VII: *Conflict Resolution - Tools and Strategies-II*
- SESSION VIII: *Tools and Skill Practice Preparation of Presentation for 'Appreciating Diversity'*

#### Valedictory Session:

The valedictory session of the North East Youth Conclave began on the afternoon of the third day of the conclave, that is, August 8th, 2019. The session was hosted by Abhilash Bapanasha and Sangita Kalita, students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Tezpur University.

A drama presentation that was prepared under the guidance of the resource persons from [banglanatakdotcom](http://banglanatakdotcom), Ms. Suravi Sarkar and Mr. Santu Guchait. It involved a video telecast of the previous day's (Session VI and VII) exercises. The theme of the performance was surrounded around Racism (racial conflict faced by people belonging to the Mongoloid race in India), Social evils and superstitions, and Cyber bullying. It dealt with different kinds of conflicts, how one deals with them in real life and how one can resolve differences

by means of peace and justice. It showed that addressing small issues and working towards resolving the underlying factors of conflict, one can restore peace and harmony in the world. The message that the act sent across was that “we are one, we are human, we come with nothing and we will go back with nothing, so don’t discriminate”.



*A view of the participants at the North East Youth Conclave organised by GSDS in association with Dept. of Mass Communication, Tezpur University, Assam.*

Later, the certificates were distributed to all the visiting participants by the Pro Vice Chancellor and the Head of the Department, Mass Communication and Journalism. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sh. Joy Chakraborty, a student of the third semester, M.A. in Mass Communication and Journalism.

### **Introducing Nonviolent Communication in Schools**

About 50 teachers and students of education took part in an orientation programme to introduce Gandhian nonviolent communication in schools organized on September 26, 2019 at Sarania Ashram, Guwahati. The GSDS Programme Officer, Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the workshop. He explained the different elements of nonviolent communication and how these can be integrated in classroom and school management practices.

- **ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

### **Joy of Reading Festival organized**

The “Joy of Reading Festival”, Roing, Arunachal Pradesh organized from November 4-8, 2019 by the Lower Dibang Valley District Administration of Arunachal Pradesh in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and the ICDS Department as part of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi saw a huge response from the participants, both young and old. It was inaugurated on November 4, 2019 by eminent educationist and ‘grandmother of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyas (KGBVs) in India’, Prof Vimala Ramachandran.

The weeklong festival which highlighted the themes ‘Joy of Reading’ and ‘Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao’ included lectures and interactions by Prof Vimala

Ramachandran and eminent Gandhian scholar from Assam, Dr Alaka Sarma as well as a range of book activities, contests and book exhibitions. On special display was the Mahatma Gandhi’s biography in five Arunachal languages Adi, Apatani, Mishmi, Nyishi and Nocte by Tulika Books.



*Grandmother of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyas in India, Prof. Vimala Ramachandran inaugurating the ‘Festival’ in Roing, Arunachal Pradesh.*

The weeklong festival concluded on November 8, 2019, leaving behind warm and rich memories for book lovers of all age groups.

Speaking at INV Roing, Prof Vimala Ramachandran shared her vast experiences of educational innovations across India and South East Asia, and elaborated on the little known GOI document on “Positive Discipline”, which is today adopted by many reputed schools. At KGBV Dambuk, she outlined the origin of KGBV schools in India.





Describing the sterling contribution of the Mahila Shiksha Kendras in 1980s and 90s to help the rural adolescent girls of north and central India to break free from the fetters of illiteracy, stagnant traditions and unjust customs, she explained how KGBV is not just a school, but a model of total education for marginalised deprived adolescent girls. Addressing women activists, SHG members and ICDS personnel, Prof Ramachandran exhorted the anganwadi workers and SHG members to imbibe reading habits to acquire latest ideas in early childhood education, and help mould a new generation of a learning society in Arunachal. She also appealed to the officers of the state Government to proactively contribute their energies to bring social and educational advancement of the rural Arunachali women.



*A visitor at the 'Joy of Reading Festival' looks at the book exhibition.*

Enchanting the audience with her deeply touching anecdotes and personal experiences, Dr Alaka Sarma, who is the Hon. Director of International Centre of Gandhian Studies, Shillong, brought out how Gandhiji's life and message is so relevant and useful to all of us even in 21<sup>st</sup> century. She reminded the audience that Gandhiji is not just a national or political leader, but was a man of action, who strove to uphold truth in everyday life, however unpleasant it could be for some.

His philosophy was to transform the Indian society and help life become meaningful to even the poorest of the poor. Addressing packed audiences of senior students and teachers of Roing schools, she answered several questions on Gandhian philosophy and how it can enrich a young Indian's life. Prof Alaka Sarma also held an interaction session with the weavers of Roing town at the District Craft Centre.

The event also included various Art and Literary competitions among School Children like Elocution, Essay Writing, Poster making, story-telling and Skit competitions on topics such as "What is my Understanding of Peace"; "How can I Practice non-violence in my daily Life"; "Different elements of non-violent communication", etc., respectively.

The "Joy of Reading Festival" brought ample opportunities to the people of Roing, Korunu, Jia, Bolung and Dambuk town to partake a feast of books through a 5 day Mobile book Exhibition supported by Ashok Leyland, Guwahati, side by side with a permanent exhibition in Roing



*Thematic cultural programmes formed an integral part of the 'Joy of Reading Festival' in Arunachal Pradesh.*

town. The festival also saw the return of an (National Book Trust) NBT Book Exhibition to Dibang Valley, after nearly two decades, along with other reputed publishers. The book exhibition was managed by the Lohit Youth Library Network, with volunteers from Dibang Youth Library, VKV Roing, Intaya Public School and Scouts & Guides of the district education dept.

• **ASSAM**

**National Seminar on Gandhi’s Way to Peace: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Perspectives**

A national seminar on “Gandhi’s Way to Peace: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Perspectives” was organised by GSDS in association with Assam University, Silchar was organised on November 14-15, 2019 in the University campus. 200 participants attended the seminar.



*Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya, His Excellency Shri Tathagata Roy (R) delivering the inaugural address at the National Seminar organised by GSDS and Assam University, Silchar.*



*Distinguished speakers from the field of academics interacted with the participants during the National Seminar organised by GSDS and Assam University, Silchar.*

The seminar was inaugurated by His Excellency Sri Tathagata Roy, Honourable Governor of Meghalaya and emphasised that in order to draw proper lessons from a man’s life one must restrain from categorising his in the category of sainthood.

The participants and resource persons joined for a vibrant interaction on both the days of the seminar for a meaningful dialogue on Gandhian principles and ideology. Resource persons came all the way from the state of Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Delhi.

The keynote speakers were Prof. Nandana Dutta of Gauhati University and Prof. A. Natraju of Assam University. Other noted resource persons were from EFLU, Shillong and NIT, Silchar. As many as 42 papers were presented by academicians and research scholars.

• **MANIPUR**

**Programme on ‘Inculcating Gandhian Values’**

An orientation programme on how to ‘Inculcate Gandhian Values’ was organized for students of Delta Advance School, Imphal, Manipur on November 28, 2019. Different dimensions of Gandhian philosophy were discussed and how these can assimilated in daily lives by the children.

Dr Oinam Sareeta Devi, senior Gandhian and Dr Vedabhyas Kundu conducted the programme which saw interesting experience sharing by the children on how inculcating good values helps them.



*Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS conducting the orientation programme along with Dr. O. Sareeta Devi (behind) in Manipur.*

**Introducing Peace and Nonviolence in Schools of Manipur**

The Samiti organized a two day training of teachers on how to introduce peace and nonviolence in schools on November 29-30, 2019 in Imphal, Manipur. The programme was organized in association with the State Council of Education Research and Training, Manipur. About 100 participants took part in the training programme.

The different sessions that were organized included understanding of peace, nonviolence and conflicts; nature and types of conflicts; nonviolent resolution of conflicts in schools and classrooms; use of arts and other creative expressions to promote peace-building by children; nonviolent communication; how children can inculcate values like forgiveness, gratitude, compassion etc. It was felt that the ideas of peace and nonviolence should be reflected in school text-books too.

# Srijan

## R P L Training program for auto drivers



Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan along with Shri Basant Singh and other resource persons at the inauguration of the RPL training programme in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.



Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (C) addresses the gathering as Shri Basant Singh, former advisor GSDS (L) and Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Associate GSDS are all ears.



Naturopath Dr. Manju Aggarwal gives away certificate to a successful candidate of 2018-19 during the programme.

After the successful completion of the first batch of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) training program initiated by the GSDS in collaboration with the Skill India Mission under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) during the 100 years of the Champaran Satyagraha for the auto drivers from Champaran plying in New Delhi, the Samiti launched the second batch of the R P L training programme for the auto drivers in Delhi and NCR in Gandhi Darshan on August 13, 2019. This was inaugurated by Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS, Shri Basant, former Advisor to GSDS, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, GSDS, Shri Bishwajeet Singh, Chief Coordinator of the RPL training programme, Shri Prashant Srivastava, Resource Persons along with the team of Shiv and Santosh and Anand.



In the Pix (from L to R): Shri Basant Singh, Shri Kalanand Muni, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan join resource persons of RPL training programme, coordinators and participants at the valedictory programme in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.



Shri Kalanand Muni (C) joins other distinguished guests in giving away certificate to an auto driver, as Shri Basant Singh and Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (behind) are all smiles.

Sr No	Name of Program	Objective	Eligibility	Achievement (number of Persons Trained)	No of Courses
1	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY), Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India for Champaran and Delhi NCR Auto Drivers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize the existing skill set of Auto Drivers.</li> <li>2. Certify them to bring them out of the casual and unorganized work force category.</li> <li>3. Provide Hand holding support for Life skills and digital skills.</li> </ol>	Licensed Auto Drivers.	2000 Auto drivers including 1000 autodrivers of Champaran residing in Delhi NCR and 1000 auto drivers of Delhi NCR having domicile of any state.	1 course of PMKVY RPL .



*Shri Biswajeet Singh (L) main coordinator of RPL training programme hands over a completion certificate to a successful auto driver.*

During August 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28, 2019, three batches of training program were conducted along with assessment by the assessors, Mr. Arun Kumar Maharaj and Mr. Rishi; Mr. Arvind Kumar and Mr. Arpit and Mr Serak Mehdi and Mr. Arjun Arora for the respective batches. Almost 126 auto drivers took part in the training program.

Training was provided by the resource persons – Dr. Manju Aggarwal on ‘Naturopathy’; Mr. Prashant Srivastava on ‘Stress Management’; Mr. Bishwajeet Singh on ‘Finance and Management Skill’; Mr. Pawan Nagar on ‘Maintenance of auto and self safety during driving’; Mr. Lalan Ray on ‘Rules and Regulation: Domain Training’ respectively.

### SRIJAN SKILL-BUILDING CENTRES

- JAMMU AND KASHMIR**



*Women engaged in the stitching and tailoring centre of the Srijan skill building centre in Narwara, Srinagar.*

The Samiti in association with Paradise Women’s Welfare Society set up the Skill Development Training and Production Centre in Jammu and Kashmir during August 19, 2019. Ms. Shameem Raina, Founder Director of Paradise Women’s Welfare Society coordinated the setting up of the centre on behalf of the GSDS. 60 women have been trained in cutting tailoring, skill development in fashion designing and embroidery. The centre was established in Narwara, Srinagar.



*Women of the locality in Narwara Srinagar are seen learning the nuances of cutting and tailoring for their skill development in fashion designing at the centre in Narwara, Srinagar.*

- VIDISHA, MADHYA PRADESH**

Garment Production Training center was established by LUPIN Foundation at district Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh) with the financial assistance of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) for the sustainable livelihood development of rural poor families through the skill development. Lupin Foundation established skill centre at village Tamoriya of Block Vidisha which is only 5 kms far from the district head quarter. The inauguration of training center was done in presence of Sh. Manoj Kedare, DDM, NABARD on Jun 26, 2019.



*Trainers at the Vidisha training centre imparting skill-based education to young learners.*



First batch of 25 women participants was started on June 26, 2019 and completed on September 26, 2019. The second batch of 25 women participants began on October 5, 2019. All the women are doing job work as self employment. They are also taking contracts of garment making as well as mask production.

- **BHARATPUR, RAJASTHAN**

In 2017 the Gandhi Smriti Garment Training and Production Centre was set up in Bharatpur, in association with Lupin Human Welfare Organisation in Rajasthan. 100 women from the in and around villages were trained in this centre for making them self-reliant and they have benefited after their training. Today they have further been linked to the export house in Jaipur and they are getting order round the year, which has boosted their morale and confidence.



*Trainees with their mentors at the Bharatpur Srijan Kendra in Rajasthan.*

- **DHAULPUR DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN**

A Srijan Centre in joint collaboration with LUPIN Foundation and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti was established December 2019 at Basedi Tehsil in Dhaulpur District of Rajasthan. The centre was inaugurated on



*(In the picture): Young girls are seen receiving training in the Srijan Centre at Dhaulpur district of Rajasthan, established by the GSDS and Lupin Human Welfare Organisation.*

6 March 2020 by District Collector Shri Rakesh Kumar Jaiswal.

The objective of this Srijan Centre is to empower the women of the area and make them financially self-dependent. 40 women have been trained at this Garment production centre. During Covid-19 pandemic the centre was closed. The training period is of 3 months. Garment is being produced as per the modern design and market demand.

- **MAHASAMUND, CHHATTISGARH**

A Srijan centre for training in Cutting and Tailoring was established in Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh in joint collaboration of Nari Manch and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. Financial empowerment of a woman is equality important in a family in context of self-reliant India. This 6 months training will help Women in making their children's future bright and can contribute to support their family.

Nari Manch is planning to train 60 women in Cutting and Tailoring skill in next 6 months. They will learn to stitch woman garments like Salwar, Plajo, Kurti etc. Lions Club, Mahasamund has forwarded its support and to stop the use of polythene, they have purchased hand-made clothe bags from this centre.



*Distinguished gathering at the inauguration of the Srijan Centre in Mahasamund, Chattisgarh by GSDS in association with Nari Manch.*



*Women from the locality who have enrolled themselves in the skill-building centre of Srijan at Mahasamud are seen working at the centre.*



# Miscellaneous Programmes

## Health Camp organised

As part of its extension programmes, the GSDS has started to organise health camps in the slums of New Delhi in association with Healthy Aging India and All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Doctors from AIIMS with the cooperation of Dr. Prasun Chatterjee, Head Department of Geriatrics AIIMS conducted the health camp.



*Doctors from AIIMS examining GSDS staff during the Health Camp organised by GSDS in association with Healthy Aging India and All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Gandhi Darshan.*

The first camp was organised for the staff and family members of GSDS on April 13, 2019. Almost 150 persons took part in the camp. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan was also present on the occasion. Shri Vivek Rathor from GSDS coordinated the camp on behalf of the GSDS.

The second camp was organised for the slum of Bela Village (gaon) on April 22, 2019. Doctors from AIIMS conducted this camp that was coordinated by Shri Vivek.

Almost 750 people from the slum colony of *Bela Gaon* were got their examinations during the camp. Orientation was also conducted on issues regarding health, menstrual issues, sanitation, etc during the camp.



*Doctors from AIIMS during the Health Camp organised by GSDS in Bela Gaon (village) in Rajghat.*

## Health Camp organised at Burari

GSDS and Healthy Aging India in close collaboration with the Doctors from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) organised a 'Health Camp' at Burari on May 26, 2019. Shri Vivek coordinated the camp along with Shri Shakeel. The series of health camps are being organised in different slums as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, taking forward his philosophy of inclusion and healthy life. Doctors from AIIMS besides conducting free medical



*Doctors from AIIMS during the Health Camp organised by GSDS in Burari Village.*

checkups also briefed the residents of the Burari Village on matters related to sanitation, menstrual hygiene, vaccination, etc. There was huge response from the people who came in large numbers to the Mobile Health Care Van from AIIMS for their medical examinations.

**5<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day organised with D.G. Home Guards**



General Secretary, Tagore Foundation also performed yogas. The programme was organised in collaboration with Directorate General of Home Guards.



*Officials of GSDS and Home Guards join together in celebrating the 5th International Yoga Day at the Directorate General of Home Guards, New Delhi.*

Almost 1000 participants joined in the celebration to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day at Directorate General of Home Guards at Raja Garden New Delhi on June 21, 2019. Demonstrating *yogaasanas* to the enthusiast participants which also included GSDS staff members, Yogacharya Dilip Tiwari along with two assistants conducted the yoga session. Home Guards personnel took active part in the programme and performed the *aasanas* with sincerity. The programme was conducted as per the 'Common Yoga Protocol'. Commandant Shri D S Rawat was also present on the occasion. Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS along with Mr. Ashish Mehta,

**5<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day celebrated in Gandhi Darshan**



*An enthusiastic child partakes in the 5th International Yoga Day celebration in Gandhi Darshan along with others.*

Around 200 participants gathered in Gandhi Darshan complex to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day on June 21, 2019. Participants from the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) RC 2, Khadi and Village Industries Commission KVIC at Gandhi Darshan complex took part in the Yoga Day celebration. Yogacharya Varun Nautiyal along with Neha, Amit, Manoj conducted the *yogaasanas* as per the 'Common Yoga Protocol'.

*Yogacharya Varun Nautiyal (Inset) leading the yoga asanas during the 5th International Yoga Day in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*



Later a seminar on "Importance of Yoga" was also organised in association with IGNOU at Gandhi Darshan that was attended by almost 150 persons. Kumar Sushmakar, resource person of Yoga conducted the seminar. Speaking to the participants he said, "Yoga helps us to deal with our problems, worries and everyday demands. It also influences us to understand ourselves, the purpose of life and develops our relationship with God. Yoga leads a spiritual path to knowledge and eternal bliss in the union of eternal self with universal self. Yoga is that supreme and infinite principle. Yoga is that ray of life that is universal cognizant that is awake". He underlined the following benefits of yoga in our daily life as:

- Develops our Physical health
- Develops our mental health
- Develops our social health
- Develops our spiritual health
- Helps in our self-realization

**Vice Chairperson of the Samiti pays tributes to the Father of the Nation**

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti’s new Vice-Chairperson and Union Minister for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel paid tributes to the Father of the Nation at the Martyrs Column in Gandhi Smriti on June 29, 2019.

This was his first visit to Gandhi Smriti. He showed deep interest in the paintings and the ‘bench’ symbolically placed at the Prayer Ground encircling Martyr’s Column.



*Hon’ble Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of Culture and Vice Chairperson GSDS offers tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti during his first visit as a V.C. GSDS.*



*Hon’ble Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of Culture and Vice Chairperson GSDS visits GSDS Srijan Sale Centre in Gandhi Smriti along with Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS.*



*Hon’ble Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, along with Shri Alok Mohan Nayak, APS to HCM (L), Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (R), Shri S A Jamal, Administrative Officer GSDS and other guests viewing the exhibition panels at the Gandhi Smriti Museum.*

Historical background of the building evinced keen interest in him. He went around the photo galleries of the Samiti reading the text with full concentration. He spent most of his time in the room where Gandhiji spent the last 144 days of his life. Things used by Gandhiji in his everyday life also interested him. He also visited the “Srijan” centre and applauded the initiative taken up by the Samiti.

The unit which attracted Shri Patel the most was the “Mini Figures” made by Smt. Sushila Rajni Patel. He saw with awe the minutest details shown in displaying the life and times of Mahatma Gandhi.

His words: “One feels positive energy in the environs of Gandhi Smriti” depicts his experience at memorial of the Father of the Nation.

**Training in Heritage Tour Guide organised**

*Ms. Smita Vats (R) conducting the training programme in Gandhi Darshan, as participants (Below) are all ears.*



Volunteer Guide of Gandhi smriti and Darshan Samiti as part of Pradan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna received a training programme in “Heritage Tour Guide” from July 15-22, 2019. This Training was organised under the aegis of RPL program as part of the Pradhanmantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana. The training was imparted by Ms. Smita Vats Founder Director of ITIHAAS. Ms Suhas also took the training on communication.



*Ms. Suhas (Inset) addresses the GSDS participants (Below) during the training programme in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*





**One Student-One Tree – Tree Plantation organised**



*(Above and Below): Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan along with officials from the GSDS and IGNOU Regional Centre -2 join for tree plantation drive in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

GSDS and IGNOU RC-2 jointly led an initiative towards making it compulsory for the students enrolling in different courses in Indira Gandhi National Open University to plant a tree which has become part of their curriculum and credit points will be awarded to them. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Administrative Officer, Shri S A Jamal, Dr. Reeta Chauhan and other professors from IGNOU joined the plantation drive on August 23, 2019.

**Pension Aadaalat organised**



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (L) interacts with retired staff members of the Samiti (Below L to R) during the Pension Aadaalat in Gandhi Darshan.*



A "Pension Aadaalat" was organised on August 23, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan along with the retired staff of the Samiti. Discussing the issues related to the pensioners, Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Administrative Officer GSDS Shri S A Jamal felt that such gathering gives scope of redressing the grievances of the pensioners and the issues they are facing, which need direct official intervention. About 50+ pensioners took part in the discussion.

**Hands-on-training on Charkha draws huge crowd in Delhi Book Fair**

The Samiti took part in the Delhi Book Fair from September 11-15, 2019, by putting up an exhibition on the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi. Further a hands-on-training on charkha spinning was also provided by Shri Vivek, Ms. Renu and Shri Dharamraj during the five-day book fair. Children from the Bela village slums, children from Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya Ishwar Nagar also took part in the programme. The live demonstration of spinning on the charkha became a huge attraction that drew large number of visitors to try their hand on the charkha.

*Participants at the Delhi Book Fair receiving hands-on-training on the spinning wheel from the GSDS staff, Shri Dharamraj (Inset).*



A painting competition was also organised for the participating children, which saw an overwhelming participation. Smt. Hena Chakraborty, former curator GSDS and an eminent artist with senior artist Shri Madhusudan judged the children. Shri Vivek from GSDS coordinated the programme.



**Tree Planted**

Shri Pankaj Sharma Technical Associate along with Ms. Lalita planted a tree gifted to Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan by the National Sanitation Mission in Gandhi Darshan on September 28, 2019.

**Exhibition at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi**

As part of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Samiti set up an exhibition on “Mohan Se Mahatma” in The Ashok International at Chanakyapuri from September 30 to October 3, 2019. Books on and by Mahatma Gandhi and other allied subjects were displayed during this period. A Khadi stall by *Srijan* GSDS was another attraction of the programme. Shri Mohan and Shri Shyam Lal represented the Samiti to this book fair-cum-exhibition.



*GSDS had put up an exhibition at Hotel Ashok on Gandhiana and the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi.*

**Exhibition-Cum-Book-Sale at Sardar Patel Vidyalaya**

Sardar Patel Vidyalaya Lodhi Road, as part of Gandhi: 150 organised a special programme in their school on October 19-20, 2019. Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti took part in the programme by displaying Khadi products from *Srijan* GSDS and also a book exhibition on books on and by Mahatma Gandhi was set up. Ms. Soni Rai and Ms. Simran represented the Samiti.



**Creativity with colours marks Diwali Celebrations**

GSDS staff joined in the mood celebrating the festival of lights by decorating their respective departments with beautiful and colourful designs (*rangoli*). The celebration on October 25, 2019 culminated with a cultural programme coordinated by Ms. Kanak, Ms. Prerna and Ms. Mansi. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan awarded the best *rangoli* design to Ms. Shubhangi Girdhar.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan lights an earthen lamp on the occasion of Diwali.*



*Moments from the Diwali celebration in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*

**Pledge administered as part of observance of Vigilance Awareness Week**

Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan administered the pledge of honesty and integrity and transparency as part of the observance of the “Vigilance Awareness Week” in Gandhi Darshan on October 28, 2019. Administrative Officer Shri S A Jamal was also present on the occasion.

**GSDS Publication presented to Shri Pranab Mukherjee**



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS presents a book and angavastram to former President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee.*

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Asst Editor GSDS, Shri Pankaj Chaubey and author of the book “Unsung Builders of Modern India” Shri Pramod Kumar presented the copy of the GSDS publication to former President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee at a small function in Shri Pranab Mukherjee’s residence on December 6, 2019. Director GSDS also present a token memento to the former President.



*Shri Pankaj Chaubey presents a copy of the book “Unsung Builders of Modern India”, a GSDS publication to Shri L. K. Advani on behalf of the Samiti.*

On another occasion, Shri Pankaj Chaubey along with author of the book “Unsung Builders of Modern India” Shri Pramod Kumar presented the copy of the book published by GSDS as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi to Shri Lal Krishna Advani at his residence on December 13, 2019.

**Sadbhavna Preeti Bhoj Prasad**

To mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS hosted a “Sadbhavna Preeti Bhoj Prasad” on December 26, 2019 in Gandhi Darshan. Rajiv Gandhi Kalyan Sansthan organised this programme by offering gifts to the poor children, especially the girl child. About 255+ people took part in the programme that saw a



*Maj. General (Retd) Shri Ranjit Singh AVSM VSM speaking on the occasion to a distinguished guest on the dais (R).*



*Maj. General (Retd) Shri Ranjit Singh AVSM VSM presents Shri Laxmi Dass (C) a memento as Shri Om Prakash Batra (L) join the presentation ceremony.*

gathering of speakers like Shri Laxmi Dass, Vice President Harijan Sevak Sangh and EC Member GSDS, Dr. A K Merchant, Trustee Bahai House of Worship, Maj General (Retd) Shri Ranjit Singh AVSM VSM and former Vice Chancellor Central University & CRS University Jind, Smt. Jasbeer Kaur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Khattar Industrialist and Shri Om Prakash Batra Chairman and Trustee of Rajiv Gandhi Kalyan Sansthan.

**Annual Review Meeting conducted**



*GSDS Administrative Officer Shri S. A. Jamal makes his presentation during the meeting in Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.*



*Mr. Rizwan-Ur Rahman presents report from the Accounts Section.*

Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan took an Annual Review Meeting in Gandhi Darshan on December 30, 2019 for the entire staff. Different units made their presentations at the review meeting which discussed the future programmes the Samiti could organise as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The day-long meeting addressed various issues of different units and provided a solution to the problems.



*Staff of GSDS is seen interacting with Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (Top C) during the Annual Review Meeting in Gandhi Darshan.*

**Tributes to former Member of Parliament Shri A. V. Swamy**

Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan led the staff in paying tributes to former Member of Parliament from Odisha, Shri Alajangi Viswanath Swamy on December 31, 2019. He was 91. The former parliamentarian breathed his last at his residence in Khariar Road of Nuapada district. Born on July 18, 1929 in Nabarangpur district, Shri Swamy was elected to Upper House of Parliament, Rajya Sabha as an independent candidate from 2012 to 2018.



*A. V. Swamy*

*(July 18, 1929 to December 31, 2019)*

The Samiti members also paid a silent tribute to one of its housekeeping staff's mother who passed away on December 31, 2019.

• **VARANASI, UTTAR PRADESH**

**Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth, Sewapuri**

During the year 2019-2020, Kasturba Mahila Vidyapeeth, Sewapuri Varanasi conducted various activities like participating in cleanliness drive, Gandhi Yatra, solar yatra, painting competitions, elocution competitions, pledge taking during the National Unity Day and so on. Principal Dr. Anita Singh led the students in paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba Gandhi on the their birth and death anniversaries.



# Book Fairs and Exhibitions

## Inauguration of Exhibition on 'Mahatma Gandhi as a Lawyer' in Saket District Court

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti put up an exhibition on 'Mahatma Gandhi as a Lawyer' in the Saket District Court, New Delhi. The exhibition was inaugurated on April 22, 2019. The exhibition was inaugurated by Justice Asha Menon, District and Sessions Judge, South East District, Saket Courts.

Those present on the occasion included Justice Girish Kathpalia, District and Sessions Judge, South District; Justice Anuradha Shukla Bharadwaj, Special Judge (P C Act), Justice Karnail Singh, President, Bar Association, Saket Court Complex; Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director, GSDS; Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer, Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer, GSDS other senior judges and advocates and staff member of the GSDS.



(Above): Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan felicitates Justice Asha Menon, District and Sessions Judge, South East Delhi, Saket with a memento of Mahatma Gandhi.

(Below): In display, an exhibition on "Mahatma Gandhi as a Lawyer" which was curated by Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS, was exhibited on the occasion.

## Gandhian thoughts come live through brush strokes

Artists over time and since long have been displaying their creativity on different facets of Mahatma Gandhi's life and philosophy by portraying episodes from the enigmatic life of the Father of the Nation. Each has their own understanding and through their art Gandhi has been time and again immortalised.

Taking this thought forward, GSDS in association with North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC) Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh organised a "Workshop-cum-Painting Exhibition" in Gandhi Darshan from May 18-21, 2019. Artists from Delhi, Ghaziabad and Uttar Pradesh took part in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan along with Shri Ajay Gupta from NCZCC.

Among the artists who took part in the four-day programme included Ms. Hemlata, Dr. Ram Bali Pragapati, Ms. Mamta, Shri Sanjeev Mandal, Shri Dilip, Shri Subhash Pal, Shri M Bali Chauhan, Shri Suman Kumar Singh, Satyendra Kumar Himani and Shri Matreyie Kumar.

## Exhibition on 'Gandhian Economics and Contemporary Society' inaugurated

The GSDS-designed and researched exhibition on "Gandhian Economics and Contemporary Society" was inaugurated on May 22, 2019 by Justice Dudani at the Saket District Court in New Delhi. Senior Gandhian and former Advisor of GSDS, Mr Basant and Member Gandhi 150 Committee, Mr Aditya Patnaik along with judges of the Saket District Court were present at the launch of the exhibition that was on display till May 27, 2019. This is the second exhibition put up by the Samiti in the Court as part



of the 150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma. Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS who developed the exhibition along with Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu Programme Officer GSDS were also present.

While Shri Basant spoke on the 18-point constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion, Shri Aditya Patnaik shared his perspective of Gandhiji's mediation techniques and his principles of 'Sarvodaya' and 'Antodaya'.

• BIHAR

**Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi's life in Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express**

The East Central Railway zone of Indian Railways paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary by converting an express train to a veritable exhibition on the transformation of "Mohan to Mahatma". The "Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express" chugged off from Muzaffarpur with upgraded coaches. These coaches were painted and affixed with photographs and information on various events of Gandhiji's life. This exhibition was curated by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and was inaugurated on October 2, 2019 by hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Radha Mohan Singh.



*An image of the Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express that was inaugurated on October 2, 2019 by Member of Parliament, Shri Radha Mohan Singh. The train was converted into a veritable exhibition on 'Mohan to Mahatma'.*

"I am thankful to the Railways for coming up with such a novel idea for paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi whose links with Champaran and Motihari are recorded in history," Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Radha Mohan Singh said during a function that was organised after the train reached Bapu Dham Motihari station in East Champaran district. Shri Radha Mohan Singh also flagged off the "Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Sapt Kranti Express"

Shri Radha Mohan Singh, who is also the chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways, said the Bihar government also deserves commendation for taking up the face-lift of various spots in the state which have been associated with Gandhi.

Earlier, a cleanliness campaign/drive was organized on October 2, 2019 from Gandhi Chowk to Bapu Dham Railway Station Motihari via the Mahatma Gandhi Marg in Motihari in which almost 1000 people took part actively.

An exhibition by GSDS on "Mahatma Gandhi in Champaran" was set up at Charkha Park as part of the

'Gandhi Mela' organized to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

**GSDS participates in Book Exhibition in Delhi Public Library**

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 550<sup>th</sup> Prakash Parv, Delhi Public Library (DPL) organised a 15-day festival from January 1-15, 2020 at Delhi Public Library, during which various programmes were organised. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Ram Sharan Gaur Chairman of DPL Book exhibitions formed an integral part of the programme in which the GSDS took active part. Shri Mohan and Shri Manish of GSDS represented the Samiti at the exhibition by displaying books on and by Mahatma Gandhi including few exhibition panels on Gandhiji's life and philosophy.

**Exhibition of charcoal sketches on M K Gandhi by artist Sanjiv Anand inaugurated**

Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, former VC GSDS and present Chairperson of National Gandhi Museum inaugurated a fourteen-panel exhibition of free-hand charcoal sketches on prominent historical incidents from Mahatma Gandhi's life in Kirti Mandap, Gandhi Smriti on January 30, 2020.

The sketches have been drawn by Shri Sanjiv Anand, an Indian, living in Florida presently. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Programme Officer, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, former advisor GSDS Shri Basant Singh, Naturopath, Dr Manju Aggarwal and a host of other dignitaries along with the artist Shri Sanjiv Anand were present at the inauguration.







01	Gandhi as a Lawyer	Saket Court	Bilingual	April	Standeeds
02	Gandhian Economics	Saket Court	English	May	Standeeds
03	Gandhi in Odisha	Jagannath Puri	English	July	Standeeds
04	Swachhata	Jagannath Puri	English	July	Standeeds
05	Probation	Jagannath Puri	English	July	Standeeds
06	Mohan se Mahatma	Jaipur	Bilingual	August	Panels on sunboard
07	Mohan se Mahatma	Ajmer	Bilingual	August	Panels on sunboard
08	Varanasi Airport, Varanasi	Varanasi	U.P.	January 10 to 5 March 2019 May 2019	Panels on sunboard
09	Kolkata Airport	Kolkata	W.B.	July	Panels on sunboard
10	Damoh	Damoh	M.P.	August	Standeeds



# Library, Documentation and Publication

In conformity with the objective of the Samiti to organise and preserve books, photographs, films, documents, leading to better understanding of Mahatma Gandhi's work and thought, a Library and Documentation Centre functions. The library has a collection of approximately 10,600 books on Gandhiji's life and thought, art, culture, history, economics, politics, religion, archaeology, including reference books, namely World Atlas, Encyclopedias and Dictionaries. There is a special section for children. It also subscribes to various journals and magazines on a regular basis and caters to the needs of scholars, research fellows and students. New books were added during the year.

At the Documentation Centre – an inherent part of the Library – press-clipping files are being maintained on different topics such as Gandhi, Women, Children, Youth, Crime against Women, Environment, Indo-Pak relations, Communalism, International affairs. This is done in an effort to strengthen the Documentation Centre. Other topics are regularly added. The process of digitalization of the library is almost over with new publications being procured from time to time.



*A view of the Gandhi Smriti Library-cum-book sale counter.*

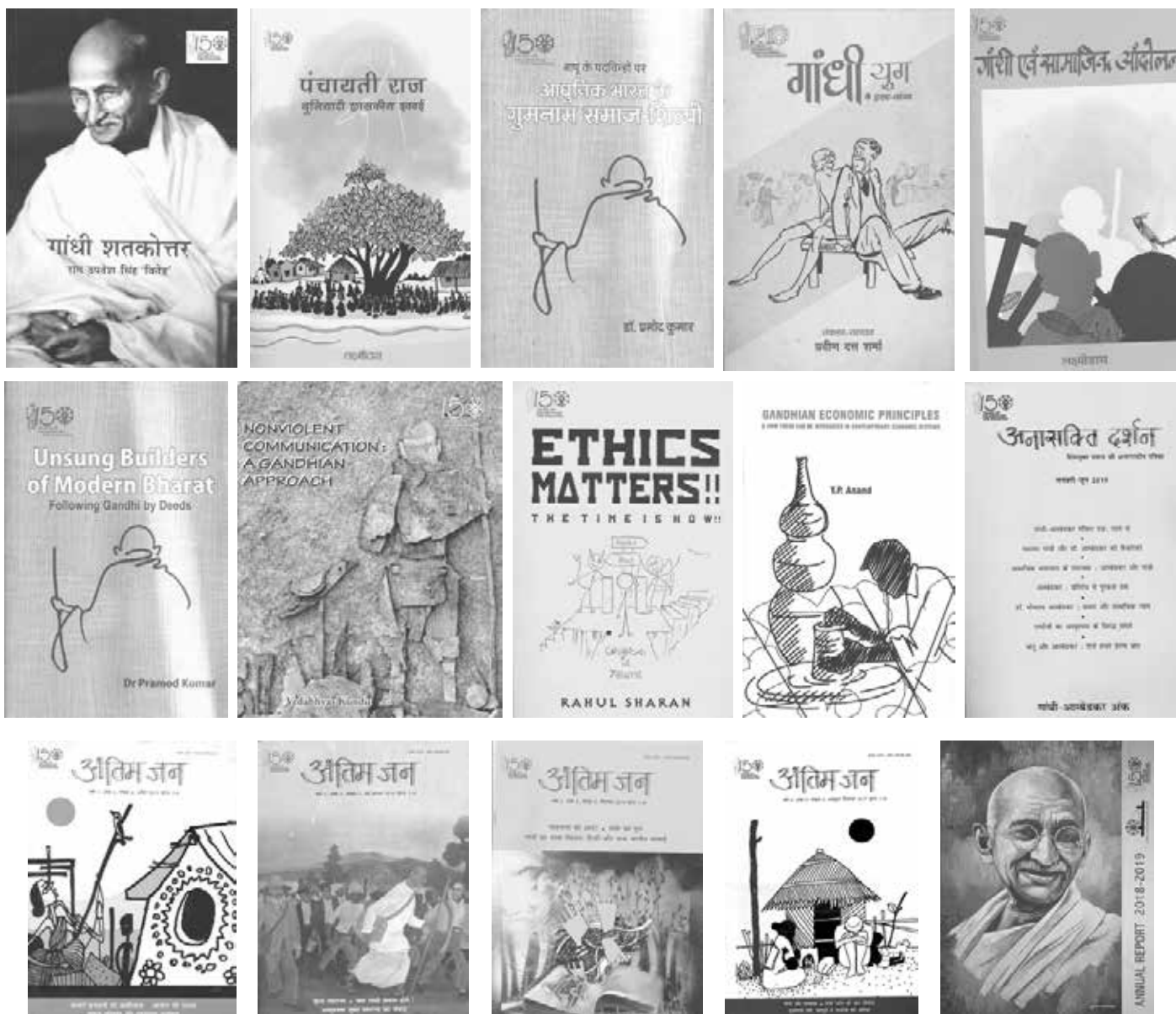


*A view of the Gandhi Darshan Reference Library.*



As part of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, GSDS has undertaken an initiative to bring out few publications under the 'Gandhi 150 Series'. It is a humble step to take the message and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi across the society and also introduce different concepts and subjects that are crucial for the peaceful existence of humankind. The lists of the so-far published books are:

1. गांधी शतकोत्तर— रामउपदेश सिंह विदेह (पृष्ठ :104)
2. पंचायती राज—लक्ष्मीदास (पृष्ठ :144)
3. आधुनिक भारत के गुमनाम समाज शिल्पी—डॉ. प्रमोद कुमार (पृष्ठ :284)
4. गांधी युग के हास्य—व्यंग्य—सम्पादक प्रवीण दत्त शर्मा (पृष्ठ :110)
5. सामाजिक आन्दोलन— लक्ष्मीदास (पृष्ठ :256)
- 6- Unsung builders of modern Bharat-Dr. Pramod Kumar (pages : 260)
- 7- Nonviolent Communication: A Gandhian Approach – Vedabhyas Kundu (pages 48)
- 8- Ethics Matters! The time is now!!- Rahul Sharan (pages 144)
- 9- "Gandhian Economic Principles" by Dr. Y P Anand (pages - 52)



# Visitors

Hon'ble Speaker of Chattisgarh Assembly Dr. Charandas Mahant visited Gandhi Smriti on August 29, 2019 and was welcomed by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan. The honoured guest also took a tour of the Gandhi Smriti museum.



*Hon'ble Speaker of Chattisgarh Assembly Dr Charandas Mahant with a model Charkha in Gandhi Smriti.*



*Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan gifts books written by Mahatma Gandhi to Hon'ble Speaker of Chattisgarh Assembly.*



*United Nations Deputy Secretary General Ms. Amina J. Mohammed offers tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr's Column.*

United Nations Deputy Secretary General Ms. Amina J. Mohammed visited Gandhi Smriti on September 8, 2019 and paid tributes at the Martyr's Column. She also visited the Gandhi Smriti gallery led by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan.



*United Nations Deputy Secretary General Ms. Amina J. Mohammed is seen sounding the World Peace Gong during her visit to Gandhi Smriti.*

- Students from Delhi Public School Sector 45 Gurugram visited Gandhi Smriti on September 27, 2019
- Delhi Public School Faridabad visited Gandhi Darshan on September 26, 2019

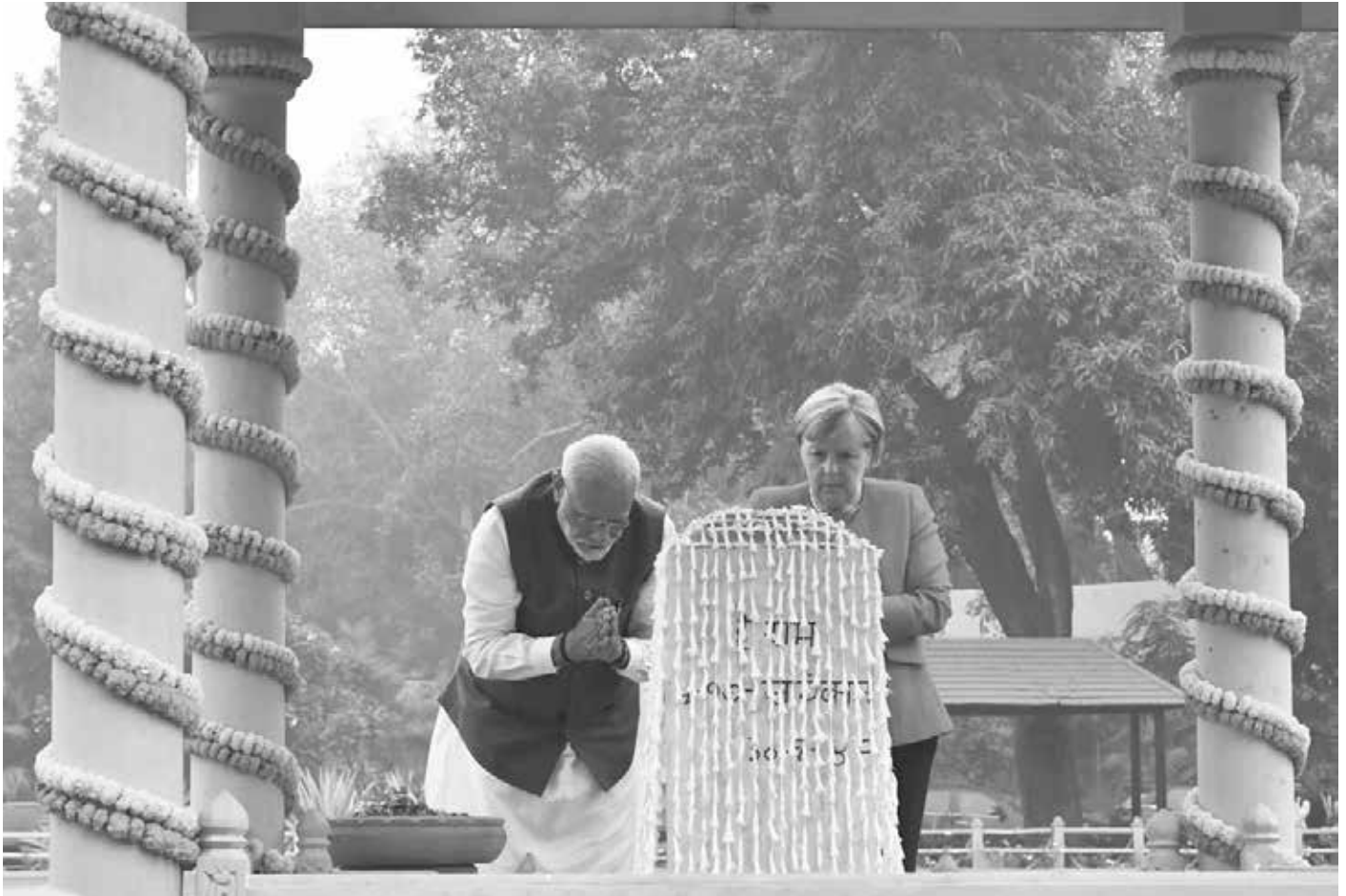


*Governor of New Jersey Mr. Phil Murphy along with Mrs. Tammy Murphy pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyrs Column. Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) and Programme Officer GSDS, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (R) accompanied the delegation.*

Governor of New Jersey, Mr. Phil Murphy visited Gandhi Smriti on September 15, 2019. The Governor was accompanied by a 40 member delegation including First Lady Mrs Tammy Murphy and senior dignitaries from Academia and Private sector

**Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visits Gandhi Smriti with German Chancellor Dr. Angella Merkel**

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi visited Gandhi Smriti with German Chancellor H.E. Dr. Angela Merkel on November 1, 2019. The Prime Minister received the German Chancellor in front of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi sculpted by renowned artist Padma Bhushan Shri Ram Sutar.



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi along with the German Chancellor Dr. Angella Merkel, offer tributes to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti.*



*Hon'ble Dr. Angella Merkel along with Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi listens to the Vaishnava Jana Tao hymn sung in German language at digital installations in the Gandhi Smriti Museum.*



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi is seen explaining Hon'ble Dr. Angella Merkel, the 'worldly remains' - items used by Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhiji's Room in Gandhi Smriti.*



Explaining the significance of the place, Prime Minister informed Dr. Merkel that the Smriti is located at the site where Mahatma Gandhi spent the last few months of his life and was assassinated on January 30, 1948.



*German Chancellor Hon'ble Dr. Angella Merkel signs the visitor's book during her visit to Gandhi Smriti along with Prime Minister of India, Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi.*



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi presents Hon'ble German Chancellor Dr. Angella Merkel with a Mahatma Gandhi bust and a model of the spinning wheel (Charkha) at the Prayer Ground in Gandhi Smriti, with the Martyr's Column in the background.*

The world leaders then visited the museum and saw sketches and paintings made by renowned artist Shri Upendra Maharathi and Indo-Hungarian painter Elizabeth Brunner, a student of Shri Nandalal Bose of Santiniketan. They walked through a digital gallery curated by Shri Birad Rajaram Yajnik, based on the twin themes of Ahimsa and Satyagraha.

The leaders thereafter visited various digital installations in the museum including audio testimonial to Mahatma Gandhi by Albert Einstein and the interactive kiosk displaying the rendition of the song 'Vaishnava Jana To', sung in 107 countries an initiative of the Government of India as part of the celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel then paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr's Column and offered floral

tributes. A Gandhi Bust and Charkha was also presented by the hon'ble Prime Minister of India to the Dr. Merkel on the occasion.

**Descendents of Leo Tolstoy visit Gandhi Darshan**



*(Above): Ms. Tolstaya Ekaterina being felicitated with a model of the spinning wheel by E.C. Member GSDS, Shri Laxmi Dass.*

*(Below): Descendents from the family of Leo Tolstoy with Shri Laxmi Dass (R), Shri Rajdeep Pathak (L) and Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (Third from L) in Gandhi Darshan during their visit.*

Ms. Tolstaya Ekaterina, Mr. Andrey Tolstoy, great-great grandson of Leo Tolstoy descendents of Leo Tolstoy from the Museum Estate – Leo Tolstoy Museum in Russia "Yasnaya Polyana" along with a nine member delegation visited Gandhi Darshan on November 20, 2019. The delegation was welcomed by Shri Laxmi Dass, EC Member of GSDS. A tour was also conducted in Gandhi Darshan in the pavilion "My Life is My Message."

**Swedish King, Queen pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi**

Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf Folke Hubertus and Queen Silvia Renate Sommerlath paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Smriti on December 2, 2019. The visiting delegation offered their tributes at the Martyrs Column. The royal couple was received by the hon'ble Minister of Culture and VC GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel. A tour of Gandhi Smriti museum was also given on the

occasion by Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli, Research Associate. Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan was also present on the occasion.



*H.E. Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf Folke Hubertus and H.E. Queen Silvia Renate Sommerlath paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi along with Hon'ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel (L), Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) and Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli (Extreme L).*



*H.E. Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf Folke Hubertus and H.E. Queen Silvia Renate Sommerlath with Hon'ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel in Gandhi Smriti during their visit.*



*Hon'ble Minister of Culture and V.C. GSDS Shri Prahlad Singh Patel gifts a model of the spinning wheel to Her Excellency Queen Silvia Renate, as H.E. Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf Folke Hubertus join the conversation.*

**Japanese Delegation from Shizenkan University visits Gandhi Smriti**

Shizenkan University comprises Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation in Tokyo, Japan. This University in collaboration with School of Inspired Leadership (SOIL), Gurugram, India visited Gandhi Smriti on December 10, 2019.



*Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli, Research Associate (C) welcomes the Japanese delegation from Shizenkan University to Gandhi Smriti by briefing them about the historical place.*



*Mr. Rajdeep Pathak, Programme Executive GSDS briefs the delegation from Japan about the journeys of Mahatma Gandhi by train at the Train Room in Eternal Gandhi Multi-Media Museum.*

As a part of their curriculum, the students of the university chose India for the second time to visit and acquire the best of the Gandhian and Indian philosophies on Leadership. With their 3-days tour packed with exploring the wonders of India, they visited the national memorial of Mahatma Gandhi to explore the journey of India filled with history and culture.

The main agenda of the whole visit was to get the ideas more deeply on the struggles of Mahatma Gandhi. Shri Rajdeep Pathak gave a tour to the delegation along with Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli. Ms. Mansi coordinated the programme. Mr. Ramanathan Hariharan, President Consulting and Executive Education SOIL, was present on the occasion along with Mr. Patrick Newell, Japan Program Director 'SingularityUJapan'.



*The delegation from Japan pose for a group photograph in front of the statute of Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti during their visit.*

- His Excellency Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of the Republic of Rwanda in India visited Gandhi Smriti on January 7, 2020.



*His Excellency, Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of the Republic of Rwanda offers floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, as Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS join him.*

- Hon'ble Mr. Tomas Petricek Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic visited Gandhi Smriti on January 14, 2020 and offered tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Martyr's Column.



*(In the picture): Hon'ble Mr. Tomas Petricek Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic paid tributes at the Martyr's Column. They also visited the digital exhibition in Gandhi Smriti. Officer (Below R): Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan receiving a memento from Hon'ble Mr. Tomas Petricek on the occasion.*



*Hon'ble Mr. Tomas Petricek along with the Czech delegation, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue in Gandhi Smriti.*

- Hon'ble Han Seung Soo, former Prime Minister of the Republic of South Korea visited Gandhi Smriti on January 16, 2020 and offered tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.



**BRICS delegation visit Gandhi Smriti**

On March 12, 2020, a delegation of eight Russians as representatives of BRICS Forum paid their tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dandi March. It was not the first time for Ms. Ludmila Sekacheva, the President of the Public Regional Organisation to visit Gandhi Smriti as she has been keenly



*Representatives of BRICS Forum paid their tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti on the 90th anniversary of Dandi March.*

working on the "Great Teachers of BRICS". Ms. Ludmila with Dr. Guzel Strelkova, Associate Professor of Institute of Asian and African countries, Moscow, presented GSDS the flags and leaflets which had a message of healthy and lifelong association between the countries of BRICS. Another special guest was Guru Prem Prayojan who was born in England but now mastering Vedas in Vrindavan.



*(Left): H.E. Mr. Juan Cortaz Rojas, the Bolivian Ambassador to India paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi in Gandhi Smriti.*



*(Right): Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu, Programme Officer GSDS (L), explaining the life history of Mahatma Gandhi to the Bolivian delegation.*



*The Guatemalan Ambassador in India, His Excellency Mr. Esmaylin Thomas Daniel Gomez points to the National Flag of Guatemala at the World Peace Gong in Gandhi Smriti.*



*The High Commissioner of Zambia to India Her Excellency, Mrs. Judith K. K. Kan'goma-Kapijimpanga is seen offering floral tributes at the Martyr's Column, as other officials of the Commission join.*



*H.E. Mr. Armen Martirosyan, the Ambassador to Armenia offers floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, as Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (R), Shri Rajdeep Pathak (L) along with other delegation join the ceremony.*



*Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H. H. Shri Namramuni along with monks and nuns of the Order accompanied by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan and other delegation offered tributes to Gandhiji.*



*Rashtrasant Rev. Gurudev H. H. Shri Namramuni is seen viewing the exhibition 'Mohan Se Mahatma' at the pergola, the walking gallery in Gandhi Smriti.*





55 international participants on pilgrimage from different parts of the world led by Dharmacharya Shantum Seth visited Gandhi Smriti on December 22, 2019 and offered their tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.



His Eminence Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche is seen praying at the Martyr's Column, as Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan join the Buddhist scholar.



Sarsanghchalak, Hon'ble Shri Mohan Bhagwat offers tributes at the Martyr's Column in Gandhi Smriti during his visit, as Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) along with other delegation join in reverence.



Newly recruited IAS Officers visited Gandhi Smriti on August 9, 2019.



Countess of Wessex, H.E. Ms. Sophie Helen, the Member of the British Royal Family, visited Gandhi Smriti on May 3, 2019. Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan hosted the delegation. Shri S. A. Jamal and Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli also joined the occasion.



(Above): Dr. Sailaja Gullapalli is seen explaining the exhibition to Hon'ble Ms. Satsuki Katayama, Minister of State for Regional Revitalization; Regulatory Reform, Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment from Japan during her visit to Gandhi Smriti on May 3, 2019.







**A MOMENT IN SILENCE:** Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Vice Chairperson GSDS, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel spends a moment in silence at Mahatma Gandhi's Room in Gandhi Smriti during his visit on June 29, 2019.



Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan (L) presents a Madhuvani work of art to Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Vice-Chairperson GSDS, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, as other dignitaries are all smiles.



Trainees of National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes & Narcotics, Jaipur visited Gandhi Darshan. Ms. Smita Bhan, Volunteer Guide is seen explaining about the 'Gun Carriage (jeep)' that carried the mortal remains of Mahatma Gandhi from erst while Birla House (today Gandhi Smriti) to Rajghat Samadhi for the final journey.



200 students of Kalindi College, University of Delhi, as part of the Gandhi Exchange Programme, visited Gandhi Smriti Museum.



Sangeet Martand Padma Vibhushan Pt. Jasraj is seen walking towards the Martyr's Column (Top R).



Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee (C) is with Pt. Jasraj accompanied by Shri Basant Singh, Shri Dipanker Gyan, Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu and other guests and staff members.



Mr. Rajdeep Pathak, Programme Executive GSDS is seen explaining Mahatma Gandhi Room in Gandhi Smriti to Admiral Hiroshi Yamamura Chief 34th and incumbent Chief of Staff of the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) during his visit to Gandhi Smriti.

April 2019

Total Footfall-11761

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- A delegation comprising of fifty cadets headed by The Chief of National Resilience Institute of the Republic of Indonesia had visited the museum on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- A seven-member South Korean Defence delegation headed by the President of Defence Agency for Technology and Quality had visited the museum on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

May 2019

Total Footfall-13,700

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- A ten-member delegation from Japan headed by The Minister of State for Regional Revitalization, Regulatory Reform and Gender Equality had visited the museum on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019.
- Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Wessex, UK, had visited the museum on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. She was accompanied by a fifteen-member delegation.
- A delegation comprising of twenty-two delegates from Foreign Services had visited the museum on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

June 2019

Total Footfall-11,749

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:** NoneJuly 2019

Total Footfall-13,211

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- A six member Defence delegation from Bangladesh had visited the museum on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019
- A five-member Defence delegation from Korea had visited the museum on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019

August 2019

Total Footfall-12,783

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- Five Members of Parliament from Japan had visited the museum on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019.
- A delegation from the Ministry of External Affairs had visited the museum on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019.
- A five-member delegation of Navy officials from Indonesia had visited the museum on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

September 2019

Total Footfall-17,289

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- A delegation comprising of two hundred students from Kalindi College had visited the museum on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation comprising of forty-seven delegates from Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training had visited the museum on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation headed by the UN Deputy Secretary, Ms Amina Mohammed, had visited the museum on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation of one hundred fifty trainees from FST had visited the museum on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

- A delegation headed by the Governor of New Jersey, Mr Phil Murphy, had visited the museum on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation of twenty-five members from Ministry of External Affairs had visited the museum on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation comprising of seven members from South Korea had visited the museum on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- Fifty members from SGI had visited the museum on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- A seven-member delegation from South Korea had visited the museum on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.
- A delegation of twenty-five members from Australia War College had visited the museum on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

October 2019

Total Footfall-17,595

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- Ambassador of Germany to India had visited the museum on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019.
- A delegation comprising of eight Members of Parliament from South Korea had visited the museum on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- An event was hosted by J.P. Morgan Group on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019, which was attended by many VIPs from various nations.

November 2019

Total Footfall- 16,461

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- Ms. Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany had visited the museum on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019. She was accompanied by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sri Narendra Modi.
- A delegation headed by The Ambassador of Bolivia had visited the museum on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- A delegation headed by The Ambassador of Guatemala had visited the museum on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- A seven-member delegation from South Korea had visited the museum on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

December 2019

Total Footfall-18,046

**GROUPS/DELEGATIONS:**

- A delegation headed by the King and Queen of Sweden had visited the museum on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019.
- High Commissioner of Zambia had visited the museum on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- A delegation from the Embassy of South Korea had visited the museum on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- A delegation comprising of sixty student delegates from Japan, organized by the Leadership Institute, had visited the museum on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

# Farewell to GSDS Employees

## Shri Moonga Lal

Shri Moongalal was given a befitting farewell by Director GSDS, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan on November 30, 2019. Shri S. A. Jamal, Administrative Officer GSDS was also present on the occasion. Shri Moongalal served the GSDS for 36 years since 1983, first as a daily wager and then as a permanent employee as a security guard. Shri Moongalal hence retirement, has volunteered to continue to serve GSDS. Old colleagues of Shri Moongalal remembered him as a caring person, always with a smile and punctual.



*Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS (top) and (below) Shri S. A. Jamal (L), Administrative Officer GSDS during the felicitation ceremony of Shri Moonga Lal on his retirement.*



*(Left): Smt. Geeta Shukla, Research Officer GSDS presenting a bouquet to Shri Moonga Lal; and Shri Sanjay (Right) garlands him.*

## Shri S. A. Jamal

Director GSDS Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan convened a virtual meeting on March 31, 2020 during which the staff of GSDS joined to bid farewell to the Administrative Officer of GSDS, Shri S. A. Jamal who retired from his services on March 31, 2020. Shri Jamal had joined the GSDS from Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. Calling Shri S. A. Jamal well informed and a dedicated worker, Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan in his address said that Shri S. A. Jamal will be missed from the campus of GSDS but not from his heart.



*(Above and Below): A file photo of Shri Dipanker Shri Gyan, Director GSDS with the Administrative Officer of GSDS Shri S A Jamal during GSDS programmes.*







*Mahatma Gandhi by Shri K.V. Vaidyanath*  
(Courtesy: <http://ngmaindia.gov.in/virtual-tour-of-bapu.asp>)



K.V. Vaidyanath  
1949 N.P.



मोहन से महात्मा



MOHAN SE MAHATMA

Publisher

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