

Gandhi Study Circle,
Zakir Husain Delhi College

ANNUAL REPORT



2022-23

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About Gandhi Study Circle

Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College has a consistent history of being the most vigorous society, efficiently providing insights about the political and social life of Mahatma Gandhi to the students for enriching their knowledge to analyze Gandhian values and philosophy along with the practical approach to his beliefs. In recent years, the society has organized a variety of activities, campaigns, and events to familiarize students with Gandhian values and ethics, such as quizzes, debates, art exhibitions, and public lectures of national and international reach.

To engage with Gandhian Thought, Philosophy, and Teachings, the society organizes the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series, which has been delivered by some of the most renowned and distinguished Gandhian scholars, including Prof. Akeel Bilgrami, Lord Bhiku Parekh, Prof. Dennis Dalton, Prof. Vinay Lal, Prof. Ajay Skaria, Prof. Karuna Mantena and Prof. Uday Singh Mehta, providing a platform for young Gandhian enthusiasts to listen to and interact with Gandhian experts.

In collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India), the society co-hosts a thirty weeks short-term, skill enchantment and value added certificate course on 'Nonviolent Communication'. According to feedback received to us these classes have been important in developing positive thinking; prosocial behavior; the Gandhian principle of Non-Violent Communication; altruism, gratitude, compassion, empathy, and forgiveness.

In 2018, the society launched a novel initiative of Charkha Spinning Classes. The initiative is exceptional at the University of Delhi, where students are taught how to spin the Gandhian Charkha. The main motive of this exercise is to instill the Gandhian virtue of dignity of labor and to build the qualities of patience and faith in oneself.

During the pandemic the society organized Mind Management Classes, for students to feel relieved of their stress and anxieties with the positive thoughts and practices discussed during the sessions, to face the extraordinary situation of the world.

The society organized various events such as art competition, crossword puzzle competition, student seminar, field trips to Gandhi Smriti, and Teen Murti Bhavan, along with a lecture by Prof. Bindu Puri and the 9th DGLS session by Prof. Vinay Lal commemorating Gandhi Jayanti Utsav and Martyrs Day, in this academic year.

With such unique and broad initiatives, the society is consistently making efforts and aims to provide students with insights into Mahatma Gandhi's political and social life in order to enrich their knowledge and understanding of Gandhian values and philosophy, as well as a practical approach to his beliefs.

Teacher Coordinators



Prof. Sanjeev Kumar
Convener



Prof. Uma Shankar



Dr. Aftab Alam



Dr. Shabana Azmi



Dr. Tripta Sharma



Ms. Zeba Rayee

Office Bearers



Amisha Das
President



Priyanshu Singh
Vice-President



Ayush Chaturvedi
General Secretary

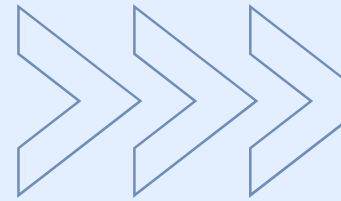


Samiksha LK Chaudhary
Social Media & Outreach Head



Suyash Pandey
Social Media & Outreach Head

Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series



8th Session by Prof. Uday Singh Mehta,
Eminent Prof. of Political Science, City University of New York



20th August, 2022: The 8th edition of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series on the topic 'Gandhi's Vision' delivered by eminent Prof. Uday Singh Mehta. The session was chaired by Prof. Vidhu Verma, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. The webinar was well attended by students and academicians who made the session quite interactive and engaging through their intriguing questions related to Swaraj, Self-Knowledge, Liberty and Patience.



Gandhi Jayanti Utsav 2022

Commemorating the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Field Trip to Gandhi Smriti (Birla House)



28th September 2022: The trip saw a good number of footfall from the students across courses who were quite intrigued to learn and understand Gandhi. Since, it was an guided trip we as students had an opportunity to unravel Gandhi's life during his last 144 days in Birla House.

Crossword Puzzle Competition



29th September 2022: Crossword Puzzle Competition on the topic, 'Early Life of Gandhi and in South Africa', was organised. The competition was held in both languages- Hindi and English, and saw participation from various colleges of the University of Delhi. Winners in the English language were: 1st prize- Manish Kumar, Zakir Husain Delhi College (Evening); 2nd Prize- Shruti Jha, Zakir Husain Delhi College; 3rd Prize- Aditi Singh Tharran, Zakir Husain Delhi College. Winners in Hindi language were: 1st Prize- Dipti, Lakshmibai College for Women; 2nd Prize- Unnati Chand, Lakshmibai College for Women; 3rd Prize- Sadiya Bano, Zakir Husain Delhi College.

Gandhi Jayanti Utsav 2022

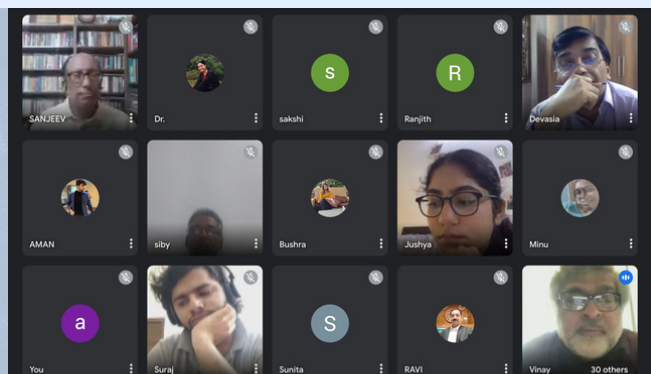
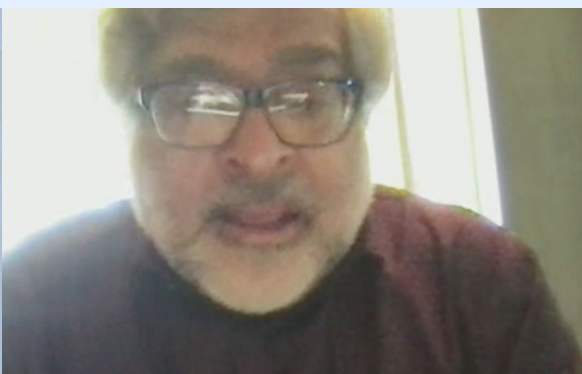
Commemorating the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Student Seminar



30th September 2022: First student seminar on the theme of 'Contemporizing Gandhi'. The program commenced owing to Prof. Sanjeev Kumanr's inducing words on the initiative we took and with participants' insightful thoughts, perspectives on Gandhi the Gandhian approach to themes ranging from impact of war, religious tolerance and growing intolerance, education, climate change and ecology to mental health and well-being.

9th Session of Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series



3rd October 2023: Titled as 'A Philosophy of Care: Gandhi and the Ethics and Poetics of Nursing', the speaker of the session was Prof. Vinay Lal, an eminent professor of History and Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles and was chaired by Dr Siby K. Joseph, an eminent Gandhian Academic and Scholar. This session led us to see Mahatma Gandhi in yet another light, how nursing was an important part and aim of his life. After the end of the lecture there was a strong question and answers round in which intriguing questions were asked to our honourable speaker by faculty and students present. He answered those questions with utmost professionalism that presented his great depth of knowledge about Gandhi.

Orientation Programs

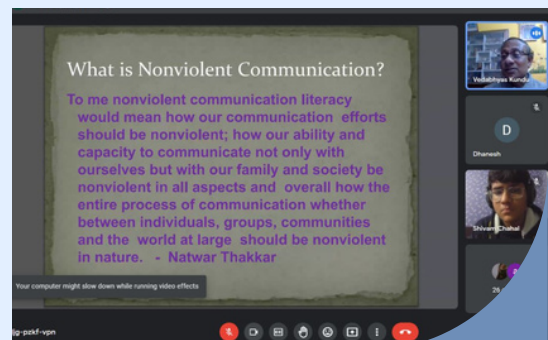
15th November 2022: Orientation Programme for the academic session of 2022-23 was organised, which saw an overwhelming number of freshers from different academic departments attended the programme. Following the session, our freshers gave the society a very warm and enthusiastic response and expressed their excitement to join the different teams of the Gandhi Study Circle.

**Membership
Orientation**



**Certificate Course
Orientation**

23rd January 2023: Orientation Session for the Value-Added Certificate Course on 'Non-Violent Communication' offered in collaboration with Gandhi Smirti Darsan Samiti, Ministry of Culture was organised virtually. In this thirty hours course, the classes engage in different aspects of Non-violent Communication, ranging from- toxic communication, appropriate and positive language to those on stereotypes are discussed; with participation from abroad as well.



Martyr's Day



27th January 2023: Lecture on 'Gandhi's True Politics and the Concern for Justice: The Unilateral Duty of Owning Kinship with the 'Other'' was delivered by Prof. Bindu Puri, Jawaharlal Nehru University; with main emphasis on Gandhian view of politics as the "right action", which he would describe as taking an ethical stand by supporting the most oppressed and vulnerable person in the society. Discussions on Gandhi's conception of Satyagraha which was adopted by Nelson Mandela to Aung San Suu Kyi, were also undertaken.

30th January 2023: Poster making competition on the theme- 'Gandhi's Gallery: Recreating Chapters from his Life'. The competition witnessed good number of participants, who drew portraits, scenery, mandala art, pencil sketch revolving around the theme, highlighting crucial parts of Gandhi's Life such as Dandi March and ejection from a train in South Africa's Pietermaritzburg. Our winners were- 1st Rahul Mallik, Electronics Department, 2nd Shafaque, History Department and 3rd Dhiti Giri, English Department.



31st January 2023: A field trip to Teen Murti Bhavan Museum was organised, which saw good number of footfall from the students across courses who were intrigued to learn and understand the Indian independence story, from partition of British India, Gandhi's contribution to addressing post partition violence, making of the constitution, life of the first prime minister of the country Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and much more. Accompanied with faculty members of Gandhi Study Circle, the students had an enriching experience.

'Antyodaya' Annual Fest 2022-23

Lecture by Sopan Joshi on the theme उपयोगी गांधी



11th April 2023: Gandhian philosophy through the lens of modernity, and his views about modernity and scientific innovation, climate change and much more were discussed in the lecture, bringing forward a different aspect of Gandhi which not many of us had not heard. The active participation of the audience throughout the session made the session even more lively, informative, engaging, and insightful.

Essay Writing and Art Competition



12th April 2023: Essay writing competition on the theme 'Ethos of Non Violence in Contemporary Times' and a art completion on the theme 'Learnings from Gandhi' was organised. Students from several colleges participated in the competitions, and portrayed their understanding of Gandhi in the form of writing and painting. The winners of Essay writing competition were: Chetan, ARSD College, Aradhaya Yadav, ZHDC, Kritika Mishra, ZHDC The winners of art competition were: Shafaque Tabreq, ZHDC, Pratendra Gautam, ZHDC, Palak, ARSD College.

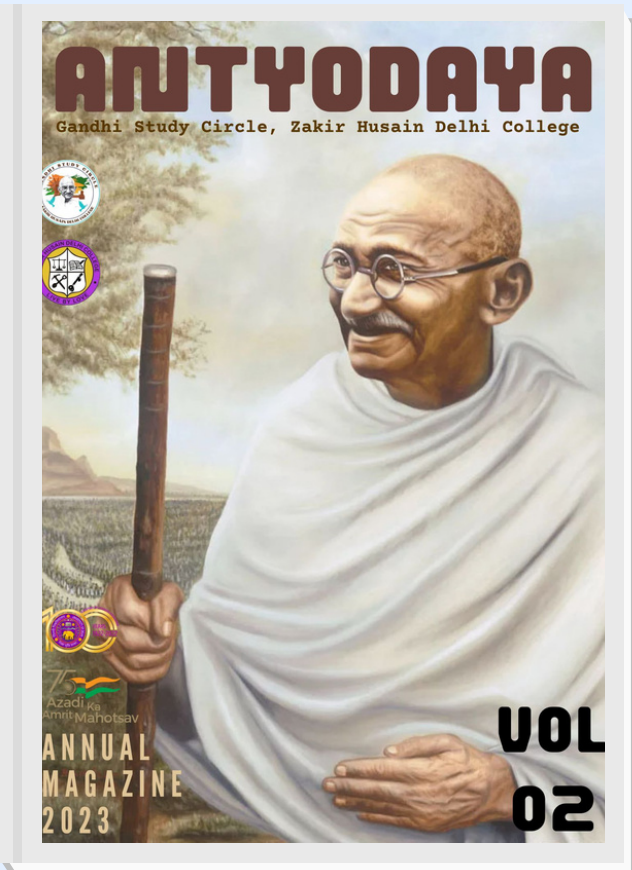
'Antyodaya' Annual Fest 2022-23

Second Edition of 'Antyodaya' Annual Magazine Launched

Antyodaya means "rise of the last person" or working towards upliftment of the most depressed, poorest sections of people which according to Gandhi, could be achieved only by Sarvodaya, the development of all by Antyodaya.

An initiative started in 2022, the Annual Magazine titled 'Antyodaya' is aimed at bringing scholars, researchers, academicians and young students to deliberate on the life, philosophy and legacy of Gandhi, this edition's theme is 'Gandhi and his Contemporaries'.

As a product of his time, Gandhi, like any person was influenced by and influenced his contemporaries and it is our vision that our magazine be able to educate future generations as well as present ones about Gandhi's ideas, raise more awareness and questions about his work and legacy, and show how his values are applicable and inspiring in the modern world rather than just being a part of history.



Launched on the 11th of April 2023, by our respected Convener, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, Amisha Das (President) in the presence of honourable speaker of the day, Mr. Sopan Joshi, and respected Principal, Prof. Narendra Singh, is now available for online viewing.

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Student's Achievement



Amisha Das, Jushya Khambiri, Dhanesh Bhatt participated in a Symposium organised by Gandhi Smirti & Darsan Samiti on 'Gandhi and Global Citizenship Education.' The symposium was moderated by Priyanshu Singh.



Dhanesh Bhatt secured 3rd position and won a cash prize in Paper Presentation Competition organised by Gandhi Study Circle, Miranda House.

Azra Shahab and Aryan Anurag participated in Quiz Competition; Ayush Chaturvedi and Jushya Khambiri participated in Oratorical Competition organised by National Gandhi Museum.



Vivek Suthar, Jushya Khambiri, Aman Raj, Aradhaya Yadav, Zareen Ariba and Prakriti Sinha participated in a Symposium organised by Shanti Sahyog Centre for Nonviolence and won Bronze Medals in a Quiz competition.



Faculty's Achievement

Gandhi Study Circle, Convener Prof. Sanjeev Kumar during the academic session 2022-23 contributed immensely by publishing and participating in important national and international events relating to Gandhian Research.

Few of his publications include:

1. *Understanding Individuality in Gandhi's Moral Philosophy* in Gandhi Marg Quarterly, Volume 44, Number 3., Gandhi Peace Foundation, 2022, New Delhi.
2. *Making Sense of Gandhi's Satyagraha* in APA Studies: Asian and Asian American Philosophers and Philosophies, (Special Issue on the Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi) Volume 22, Number 1, The American Philosophical Association, 2022.
3. *Contemporizing Gandhi: Some Reflections on Principles and Praxis* (co-authored) in Gandhi Marg Quarterly Volume 44, Number 1, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi, 2022.

Book Reviews:

1. *The Ambedkar-Gandhi Debate: On identity, Community & Justice*, by Bindu Puri, in Gandhi Marg Quarterly 44(4), (January - March, 2023).
2. *Gandhi and the World* by Nutan Kapoor Mahawar & Dhruvajyoti Bhattacharjee (eds) in India Quarterly Volume 78, Issue 3, 2022, Sage, New Delhi.

Lectures/Seminars/Conferences:

18th April 2023: Delivered an Invited Lecture on "Rethinking Non-violence in a Post-truth world" organized by Gandhi Study Circle, Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi.

6th December 2022: Joined as a key Panelist in a Round Table Discussion "Dilemma of Democracy: Evolution of Indian Parliamentary System" organized by Centre for Study of Democracy and Culture, New Delhi.



Faculty's Achievement

23rd August 2022: Delivered an Invited Lecture on "Gandhi's concept of Swaraj" organized by the Department of Political Science, Miranda House, University of Delhi.

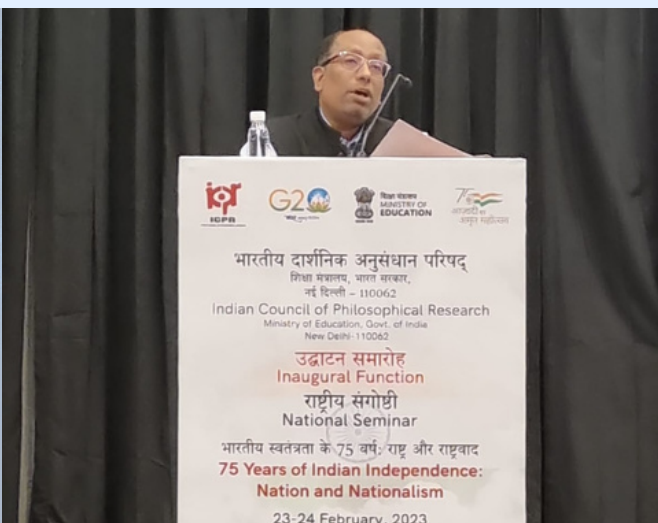
6th October 2022: Joined as an Invited Discussant at the talk on "Gandhi: The Practice of Non-Violence" organized by the Department of Philosophy, JNU in collaboration with Gandhi King Foundation.



23rd August 2022: Delivered an Invited Lecture on Gandhi and the Ethics of Non-Violence organized by Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi.

2nd October 2022: Joined as an Invited Speaker in a National Webinar on "The Relevance of Gandhi in the Twenty-First" organised by the Comparative Federalists Research Group (CFRG), Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the Gandhi Study Circle, Satyawati College.

22nd -23rd February 2023: Gandhi and his idea of accommodative Nation in the two-day National Seminar on 75 'Year of Indian Independence: Nation and Nationalism' organised by Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi at India International Centre, New Delhi.



Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank Principal, Zakir Husain Delhi College, Prof. Narendra Singh for his continued inspiration and support in all our initiatives undertaken in this academic session of 2022-23. We extend our gratitude towards Convener, Gandhi Study Circle, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, and teacher coordinators Prof. Uma Shanka, Dr. Aftab Alam, Dr. Shabana Azmi, Dr. Tripta Sharma, and Ms. Zeba Rayee for their guidance, support and counsel.

We thank our Executive Council members, Content, Media and Outreach team members for their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm in hosting and assisting in successful completion of events and initiatives. We also thank members of 'Antyodaya' Editorial Board 2023 for putting in their best efforts and publishing the second edition of the annual magazine.

We extend our gratitude to all speakers and participants of various activities for their valuable presence and cooperation. Lastly, we thank the college staff in assisting us in execution of our events and initiatives.

With Regards,

Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, Convener;

Amisha Das, Priyanshu Singh, Samiksha Chaudhary, and Suyash Pandey.

Executive Members:



L TO R: (Row 1)-Aryan Anurag, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, Prof. Uma Shankar, Prof. Narendra Singh(Principal), Dr. Aftab Alam, Dr. Shabana Azmi, Dr. Tripta Sharma, Bharat Gautam. (Row 2)- Aman Raj, Dhanesh Bhatt, Suyash Pandey, Samiksha Chaudhary, Amisha Das, Priyanshu Singh. (Row 3)- Radhamohan, Arpit Shukla, Tiskeen Laba, Bushra Parveen, Jushya Khambiri, Vaibhavi Medhi.

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