



Zakir Husain Delhi College
Gandhi Study Circle
ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

The Gandhi Study Circle at Zakir Husain Delhi College serves as a crucible for nurturing a profound understanding of Gandhian values and philosophies, fostering a pragmatic approach to his teachings. With the noble mission of unravelling the contemporary relevance of Gandhi's tenets, the Circle has been instrumental in propagating his timeless message, particularly among the youth and broader society. Throughout the academic year 2023-24, the Gandhi Study Circle orchestrated an array of public events and activities, each echoing the spirit of Gandhi's enduring wisdom and his call for societal transformation.

- The society conducted its **Orientation Programme** on August 18, 2023 where the relevance of Gandhi in the contemporary world was elaborated by the Convener, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar. The programme was followed by an election of the office bearers.
- One of the significant initiatives at bringing Gandhi close to youth has been the introduction of “**Chrakha Spinning Classes**” from the year 2020. With the help of Gandhian activist Mrs. Indubala, Chrakha spinning classes formally began from 20th September.
- On 29th September 2023, the Gandhi Study Circle conducted a **guided trip to Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat** where students got an opportunity to unravel Gandhi's life and philosophy.
- On the auspicious occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 153rd birth anniversary on October 2, Gandhi Study Circle organised an **International Webinar on “Gandhi's Legacy: Words & Marketing Brands** by Prog. Thomas Weber - Eminent Gandhian Scholar & Senior Fellow at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
- A **Panel Discussion** on the theme “*Gandhi's Satyagraha Today: Issues and Challenges*” was organised on October 3. This was followed by other important student engagements - Debate and Art competition to commemorate Gandhi's Birth Anniversary.
- on 13 November, as a collaborative effort with Y20 India, a **webinar on Peace Building and Reconciliation** was organised where the Lieutenant Commander Bijay Nair as the guest speaker highlighted on the pivotal steps required towards building a future devoid of conflict and war.

- In a symposium on *Mapping Sustainability, Energy and Environment: A perspective of Gandhian Economics* organised on January 30, 2023, noted Economist Dr. Pooja Sharma provided an insightful analysis of Gandhi's tenets, as they intersect with the pillars of economic and environmental sustainability.
- The **Induction Ceremony** for the third batch of students enrolled for the **Short-term, Value-added Certificate Course on 'Non-Birg Violent Communication'** - a collaborative endeavour with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture was proudly launched on 1st of February, 2024. The initiative stands as a testament to the college's commitment to fostering an understanding of Gandhian principles and their application in contemporary discourse and dialogue.
- On 20th March 2024, the Gandhi Study Circle successfully hosted a *National conference on "Exploring the Gandhian Approach of Conflict Resolution,"* in collaboration with the Indian Council of Philosophical Research and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. The conference with over 300 participants- emphasized introspection and the ethical dimension of conflict resolution, advocating Gandhi's teachings as a moral duty beyond politics, with a focus on their relevance for both India and the global community in the 21st century. In his keynote address, Prof. Dennis Dalton a distinguished Gandhian Scholar from Columbia University shed light on Mahatma Gandhi's interpretation of duty, particularly in the context of civil disobedience. Prof. Ramin Jahanbegloo in his Valedictory remarks underscored the importance of forgiveness, reconciliation, and nonviolence. Prof. Balaram Pani, the Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi was the Chief Guest for the event.
- The third Edition of *Annual Magazine* of Gandhi Study Circle '*Antyodaya*' was launched on April 24, 2024. The initiative that began in 2022, is aimed at bringing scholars, researchers, academicians and young students to deliberate on the life, philosophy and legacy of Gandhi.
- The *Annual Inter-College Festival* of Gandhi Study Circle was held on April 24-25, 2024. A number of activities including Lecture, Charkha Spinning exhibition, Quiz Competition were organised to commemorate Gandhi and his legacy. The fest concluded with the prize distribution ceremony and the resolve to carry forward the message of Gandhi.

Convener

Prof. Sanjeev Kumar