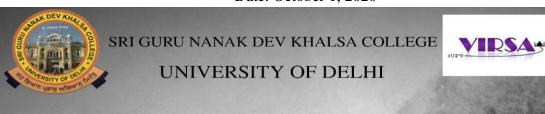
VIRSA - The History Society Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College University of Delhi

Panel Discussion Event on Relevance of Gandhi in the Modern World

Date: October 1, 2020



VIRSA: THE HISTORY SOCIETY

On the 151st Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Presents:

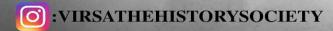
Panel Discussion on Relevance of Gandhi in the Modern World

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Date: 01.10.2020

Time: 1 PM



VIRSA - The History Society of the Department of History, Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College organized a Panel Discussion on **Relevance of Gandhi in the Modern World** on the occasion of 151st Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Amidst the gloom and fear of the pandemic and the domestic and international unrest that has clouded the prospectus of this great nation, it feels the most comfortable to remember Gandhi and the ideals he imparts not only to the people of India but to the human civilization. It was most suitable to discuss Gandhi in the form of a Panel Discussion where everyone has a voice to contribute, a platform where the current generation imparts its wisdom to the future generation which proudly echoes the vision of democracy and inclusivity with a tincture of its efficacy in 21st century. The panel discussion was held over the online video calling application, Google Meet – with all smiles and enthusiasm beaming from behind the screens – and witnessed participation from both faculty and students.

The event commenced by quoting Gandhi's words, "When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they can seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall, think of it - always", by the hosts of the event, Mr Vikas Raj and Mr Mohd. Rafay. They welcomed the faculty members and the students and gave a brief about the event's purpose. After laying out the schedule of the event, hosts invited Dr Baljeet Singh for an opening note. Sir exquisitely remembered Gandhi and his achievements, then he provided us with an outline of the topic for the discussion. He educated the audience about the Mahatma's journey from being a barrister in Mumbai to the father of the nation. Baljeet sir narrated a mesmerizing story of Gandhi's early years in Congress and how he developed and strengthened his notions for the non-violence, satyagraha etc. He also connects Gandhi's teachings with the present time and how they are still impacting and influencing our daily life.

An informative PPT titled "Special Postal and Philately Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th Birth Anniversary" was presented by Dr Preeti Singh. She talked about the various stamps celebrating Gandhi collected by her over the years and how they represent Gandhi's various stages of life. The presentation included special covers highlighting Gandhi's core values and practices.

Following this, Deepti ma'am shared her thoughts about the topic and paid her tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. She talked over the topic of Satyagraha, Truth and Non-Violence and explained how Gandhi was able to implement his ideas and ideals that made him a true 'Mahatma'. The floor was then opened for the students to share their views on the topic and discuss the various interpretations of Gandhi's message. Mr Siddhartha Singh spoke at first on Gandhi's strength and his resolve. He narrated Gandhi's story from his time in South Africa and how it gives a lesson of resolve and duty when even after facing numerous challenges there Gandhi remained on the path of his ideals, that shows the true fervour of his beliefs. Mr Vinayak Pandey and Mr Gautam Bali also spoke on the topic and put forward their positions.

Towards the end, Mr RK Sharma gave a closing speech and told us how selective thoughts of Gandhi Ji are being used by various factions for pursuing their political agenda. He underlined the present scenario of globalization and Gandhi's stand on it, he revealed how we should treat history and what differences we have in the current society when compared to Gandhi's time. He motivated the audience by encouraging them to follow the ideals of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and take this nation towards the path envisioned by Gandhi and treat it with the respect it deserves. Sir concluded the event by congratulating the organizing committee for conducting such an interesting and significant event.

