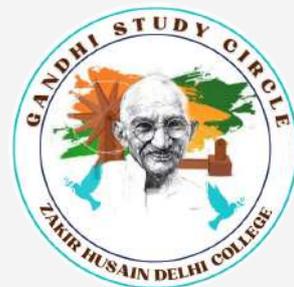
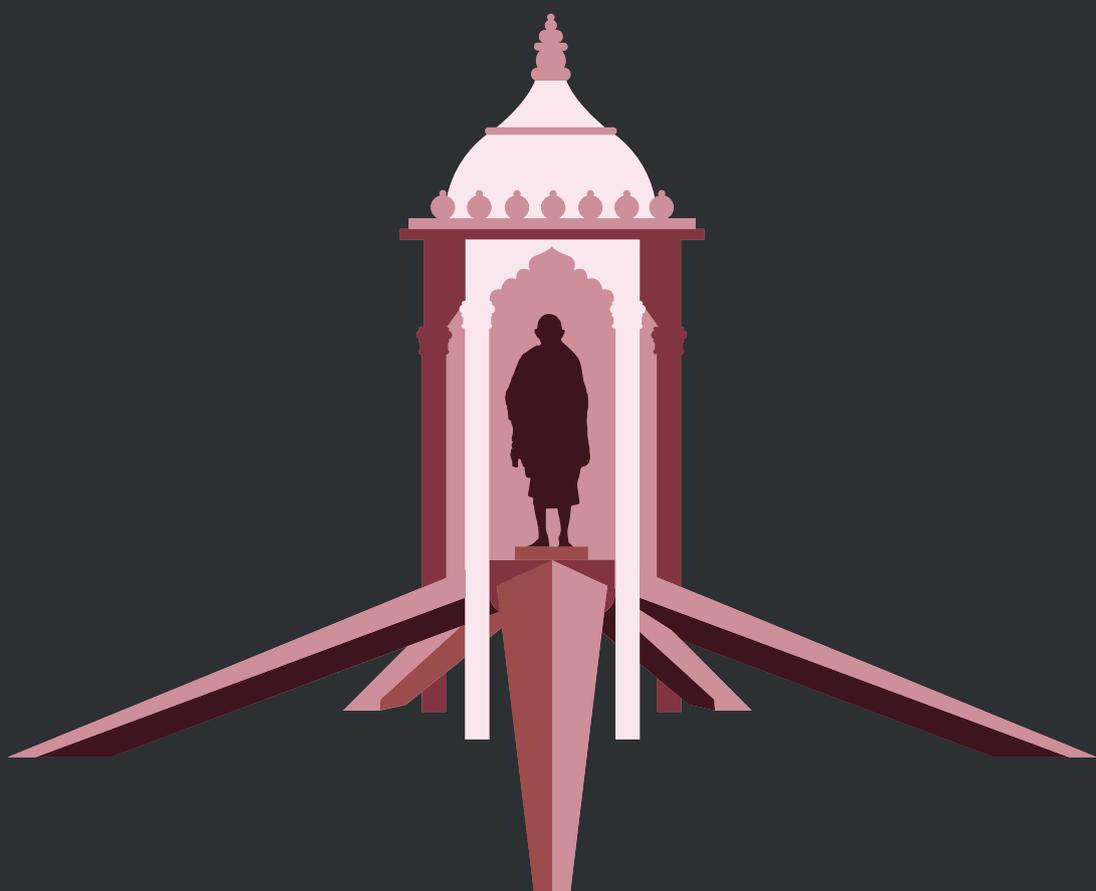


2021-22

GANDHI STUDY CIRCLE  
ZAKIR HUSAIN DELHI COLLEGE



# ANNUAL REPORT



# ABOUT THE SOCIETY

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.

Gandhi Study Circle has been eminently organizing seminars and webinars of International and National significance attracting Gandhian enthusiasts not only from our college but from students and renowned professors across the world. Even during the pandemic, our society came up with some new and innovative initiatives to engage with Gandhian Thought, Philosophy, and Teachings.

A few of our recent initiatives include the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series which so far has been delivered by some of the most renowned and distinguished Gandhian scholars like Prof. Akeel Bilgrami, Lord Bhiku Parekh, Prof. Dennis Dalton, Aishwarya Kumar, and so on. Along with the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series, our society has also been providing a platform for young Gandhian enthusiasts to listen and to interact with Gandhian Practitioners through the regular conduction of Interactive Sessions and Special Workshops.

Amid the pandemic, with the increasing issue of mental health, our society also came up with the Mind Management Classes, a profound, impactful, and a very successful initiative of the society so far. Gandhi Study Circle is also presently running a short-term online Certificate Course on Non-Violent Communication in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, Ministry of Culture.

Worthiest of all is our belief and action of not only studying Gandhi but also adopting and giving life back to all the practices which Gandhiji adopted himself and for achieving the same our society has set new standards by organizing Charkha Classes, Mind Management Classes, Special Workshops, International Seminars and Conferences, Interactive Sessions and Webinars, the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series and Certificate Course.

# OUR MENTORS



**Dr. Sanjeev Kumar**  
*(Convener)*



**Dr. Shabana Azmi**  
*(Teacher Coordinator)*



**Dr. Tripta Sharma**  
*(Teacher Coordinator)*



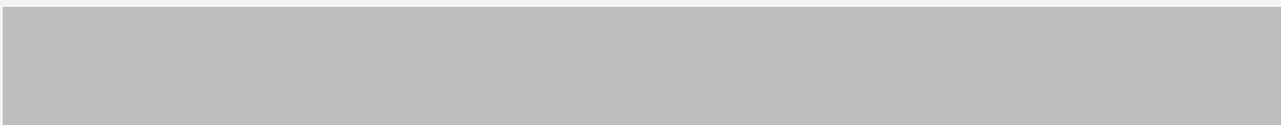
**Dr. Aftab Alam**  
*(Teacher Coordinator)*



**Dr. Uma Shankar**  
*(Teacher Coordinator)*



**Zeba Rayee**  
*(Teacher Coordinator)*



# OFFICE BEARERS 2021-22



**Zoya Ansari**  
*(President)*



**Ishaani Singh**  
*(Vice-President)*



**Priyanshu Singh**  
*(General Secretary)*



**Aditya Sharma**  
*(General Secretary)*



**Amisha Das**  
*(SM & Outreach Head)*



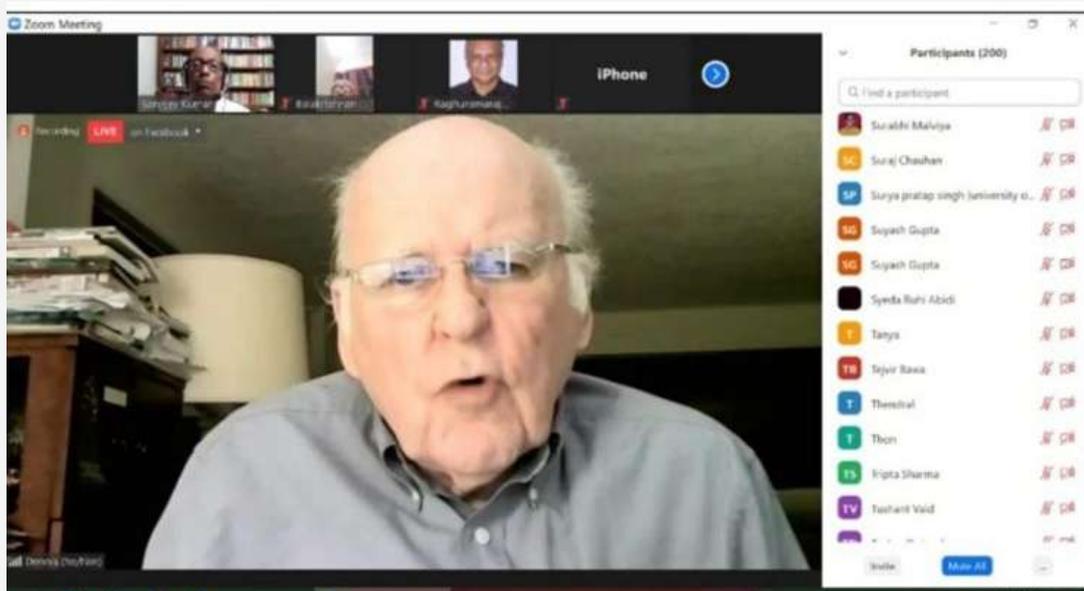
**Karan Kapoor**  
*(SM & Outreach Head)*

Core Members: Ankit Vashishth, Azra Shahab, Bilal Mehmood, Biprajit Roy Choudhary, Puttu Kumar, Shristi Vandana, Tanmay Kanaskar, Tushant Vaid, Kinshu Kumar, Disha Narnoli, Anshuman Hazarika, Suraj Chauhan, Pumang Kumar, Vaibhavi Medhi, Farheen and Ayush Chaturvedi

## **DGLS SESSION 4**

### **Indian Ideas of Freedom**

On 28th July 2021, Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi organized the 4th session of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series on the theme 'Indian Ideas of Freedom' by Dennis Dalton (Emeritus Professor of Political Science, Barnard College, Columbia University). The session was chaired by Prof. A. Raghuramaraju (Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati). The lecture was drawn from the rich Indian intellectual tradition and highlighted the conceptual correspondence among seven Indian creative minds on the core idea of 'Freedom'.



## **GANDHI JAYANTI CELEBRATION 2021-22**

### **DGLS SESSION 5**

#### **Non-willing Freedom: How Gandhi Matters Today**

The society organized the 5th Session of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series on the theme 'Non-Willing Freedom: How Gandhi Matters Today' on 30th September 2021. Prof. Ajay Skaria, (Department of History, Institute for Global Studies, University of Minnesota) delivered an insightful talk including some new viewpoints on Gandhi and his utmost relevance today. The session was chaired by Professor Bindu Puri, (Centre for Philosophy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University). The session was attended by an overwhelming number of enthusiastic students and some eminent scholars.



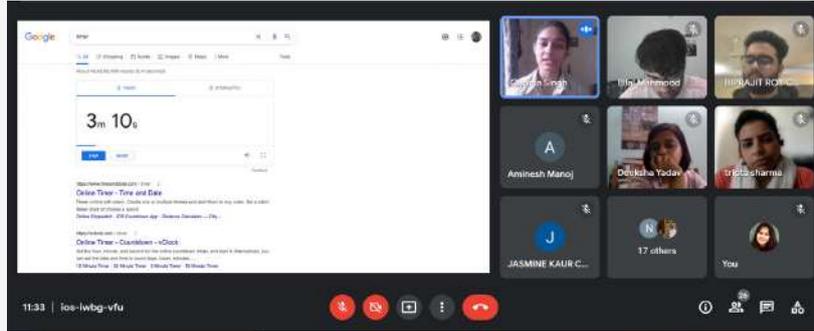
## Activities/Events

Apart from organizing the 5th Session of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series on the occasion of the Gandhi Jayanti Celebration, the society also organized various activities independently and in collaboration with the Gandhi Study Circle of other colleges of the University of Delhi.

The Mind Management Team of the society organized an Interactive Session titled 'Mind Your Mind'. The session revolved around handling stress and anxieties through simple relaxation techniques. The celebration was followed by an Interactive Session 1 on the theme 'Practicing Gandhi: The Challenges Today', delivered by Dr. Ramchandra Pradhan (Social Activist and Eminent Gandhian Scholar); A theme-based (Ahimsa: A Path to Liberation) Poetry Competition in collaboration with Gandhi Study Circle of Miranda House.



The celebration was followed by an Interactive Session 2 on the theme 'Gandhi: The Relevance of His Philosophy in a Modern Age', delivered by H.E. Dr. Roger Gopaul (High Commissioner for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago); an independent theme-based (Gandhi and His Work) Quiz Competition; A theme-based (Speaking With Gandhi) Speech Competition in collaboration with Gandhi Study Circle of Miranda House; and lastly a Documentary Review Competition in collaboration with Gandhi Study Circle of Mata Sundari College.



**Event Brochure**  
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## DGLS SESSION 6 Gandhi's Critique of Violence

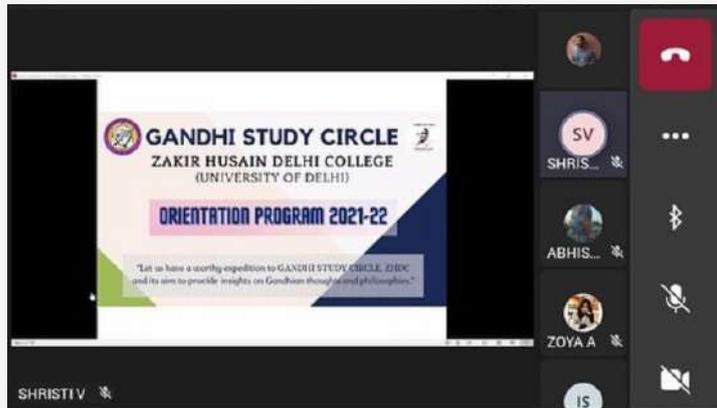
Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College (University of Delhi), organized the 6th Session of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series on the theme 'Gandhi's Critique of Violence' on 1st December 2021. Professor Karuna Mantena (Department of Political Science, Columbia University) delivered an insightful and thought-provoking talk including some new viewpoints on Gandhi and his critique of violence. The session was chaired by Professor Usha Thakkar (Eminent Gandhian Scholar & President, Mani Bhavan). The session was attended by an overwhelming number of Gandhian enthusiasts and some eminent scholars.



# ORIENTATION PROGRAMS 2021-22

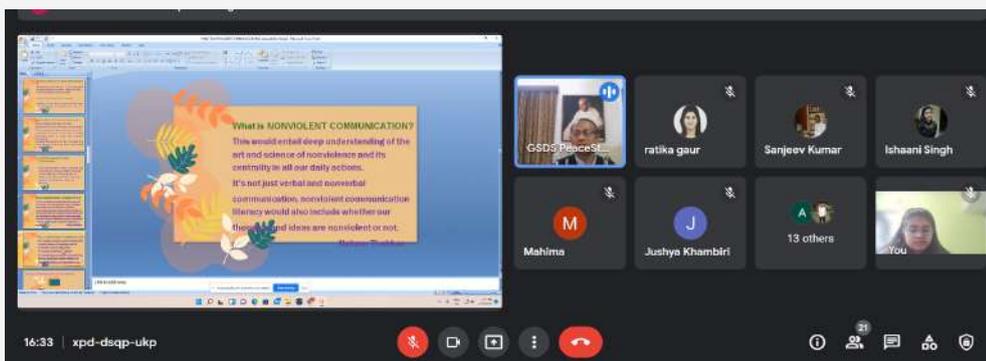
## Society Orientation

On 18th December 2021, Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College organized 'Orientation Program 2021-22'. The program was attended by an overwhelming number of freshers from various departments of the college. Following the session, the society received a very warm and positive response from our freshers who were very excited to be a part of Gandhi Study Circle, ZHDC.



## Certificate Course Orientation

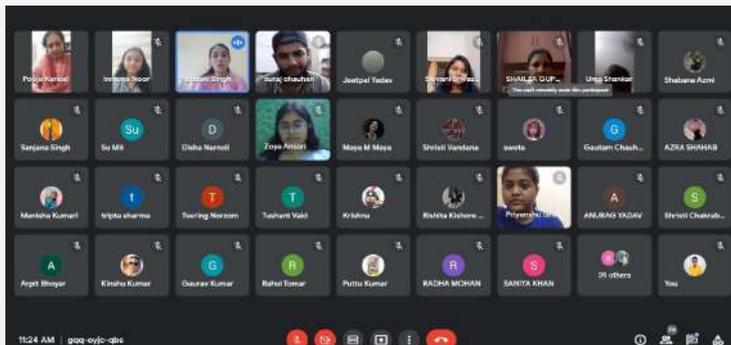
Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College initiated the First Batch of the Short-term Certificate Course on 'Non-Violent Communication' jointly offered by Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College, and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (Ministry of Culture). The course commenced with an Orientation Program on 18th February 2022. The Orientation Session was attended by the students enrolled in the course.



Dr. Vedabhyas Kundu (Program Officer, Gandhi Smriti, and Darshan Samiti) and our Convenor Dr. Sanjeev Kumar briefed us about the importance of Non-Violent Communication as a significant value to be inculcated in an individual's life. In this 30 Hours Value-added Certificate Course, the classes are engaged in different aspects of Non-Violent Communication.

# Mind Management Orientation

The orientation of Mind-Management Classes took place in a virtual mode on 8th January 2022 at 11 A.M. The event was presided by the honourable Chief Guest, sister Pooja Kansal, the venerable Principal, Ms.Sangeeta Pandit, much respected Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Associate Professor and Convener of Gandhi Study Circle and the revered faculty members- Ms. Shailza Gupta and Dr. Shabana Azmi.



Honourable Chief guest, sister Pooja Kansal started off by taking us through a brief flashback of the lives we've spent so far and apprised the gathering by sharing a general philosophy of different balances one is required to make through different phases of life and how we often neglect the most important management, which is of mind. She explained different techniques for maintaining a stress-free life such as meditation.

# Charkha Spinning & Book Reading Club Orientation

On 12th April 2022, the Gandhi Study Circle launched its third flagship project- 'Speaking With Gandhi'- an initiative that aims to create a collective of students engaged in identifying, engaging with, deliberating upon, and attempting to understand various literature around Gandhi, his ideas and ideals, his contemporaries, and the debates that emerge thereon. The Study Circle also identified the text for its first session- 'The Mahatma And The Poet' - a collection of letters between Tagore and Gandhi, corroborated by S Bhattacharya.



The event also observed the orientation program for the ongoing Charkha Spinning Classes. The program was aimed at first-year students. The orientation was graced by the presence of Shrimati Indu Bala, who demonstrated the workings of the charkha to the curious audience. The orientation was concluded with older members sharing their experiences with the fabled charkha.



## REPUBLIC DAY AND MARTYRS' DAY

### DGLS SESSION 7: On Moral Cruelty

On Martyr's Day this year, Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College (University of Delhi), organized the Seventh Session of the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series' on the theme 'Moral Cruelty: Gandhi, Dignity, and Resentment'. On 30th January 2022, Professor Aishwary Kumar (Eminent Political Theorist and Intellectual Historian, Stanford University, USA) delivered an engaging and compelling lecture highlighting the philosophy behind moral cruelty and how it is all weaved together with resentment and dignity.



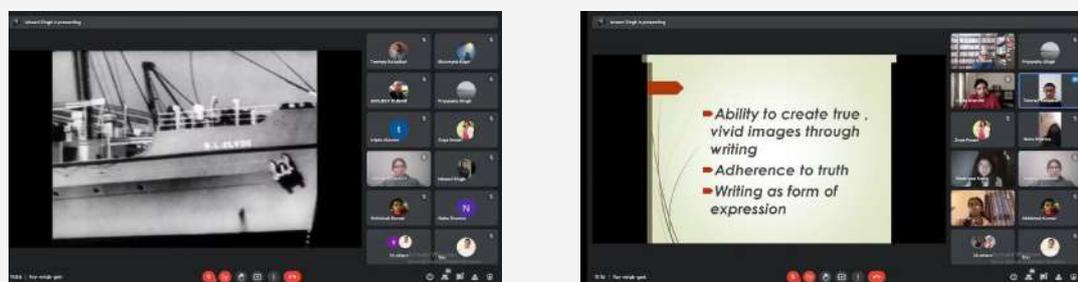
Adding to this, Gandhian ideology and examples of Ambedkar made the listeners rethink the ideas of political and moral movements through history and in present. The session was attended by an overwhelming number of enthusiastic students, scholars, and professors who actively participated and enhanced the experience.

# Activities/Events

Apart from the 7th Session of the DGLS, the society also organized other activities and events as a part of the Republic Day and Martyrs' Day Celebration from 26th to 30th January 2022. The activity/events included: Interactive Session 3 on the theme 'What Help You Can Get From Gandhi's Life and Thoughts?', delivered by Sopan Joshi (Eminent Public Intellectual, Activist, Researcher, and Journalist); the society organized its First Cultural Program titled (Yugapurusha). The program was based on the theme 'Gandhian Values and Freedom Struggle'. Large and active participation was witnessed in the form of dance, music, poetry, and art with entries from various colleges.



Following the Cultural Program, the society organized a student-led Presentation on Gandhian Values and Principles — ensuing a wonderful Documentary Screening, as a tribute to Gandhi for leaving one of the greatest legacies. A large number of witnesses were observed during the screening, from different colleges not only from the University of Delhi but also from other universities.

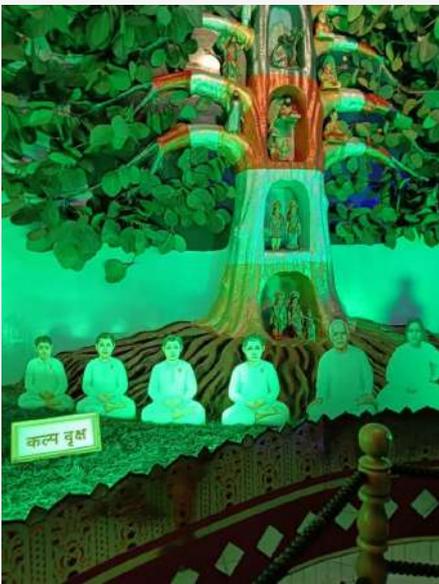


## Event Brochure

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## **RETREAT TRIP TO MANESAR**

On 26th March, students of Mind Management Classes paid a visit to the Retreat Centre in Manesar, Gurugram as a part of a workshop. They were accompanied by Ms. Shailza Gupta, Trainer, MMC, ZHDC, and Dr. Shabana Azmi, Teacher Coordinator, MMC, ZHDC. Students had a great experience by learning about the practical implications of how to manage one's stresses and anxieties. They also took part in various activities where they learned how nature can be the greatest teacher and one can learn the qualities of moving on, patience, calmness self-care, and self-growth from nature.



The students were also given a presentation by BK Sanjeev which was followed by Lunch. Overall, it was a very insightful experience for all.



## **SPECIAL WORKSHOP: REALIZING THE MODERN MAHATMA WITHIN US**



Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi under the aegis of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, organized its first offline event since the college reopened after the Covid shutdown, in the form of an Interactive Workshop on the theme 'Realising the Modern Mahatma Within Us' on 30th March 2022. His Excellency Dr. Roger Gopaul, High Commissioner for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago was the Chief speaker at the event.



Amidst the beautiful display of rangoli, various artworks, and the Charkha Spinning skills, the auditorium foyer had an enchanting look. Students from different colleges of Delhi University registered their presence. Dr. Gopaul illuminated the audience on the true meaning of 'Mahatma' as one's highest self, appealing for a positive moral attitude towards life. He conducted a survey to gauge the level of depression among the audience and presented the idea of 'self' from different perspectives.



Presenting a case study, His Excellency also highlighted the need and way to replace negative self-talk with truth and positivity. The ultimate realization of one's true self with a positive attitude and self-motivating spirit was the major takeaway from the workshop. The event turned out as an eye-opener for all present on mental health and one's own identity.



## **Detailed Report**

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# ANNUAL FEST 2022: GANDHI AUR HUM

## Guest Lecture: The Democratic Man

Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Hussain Delhi College, University of Delhi organized a Special Guest Lecture on the theme 'The Democratic Man' as a part of our Annual GSC Fest 2022 (21st to 22nd April). Our chief speaker, Dr. Anuradha Veeravalli, talked about her perspective of how she sees Gandhi as a philosopher. The session gave a different view of Mahatma Gandhi which not many of us has seen. The active participation of the audience throughout the session and especially during the question and answer round made the session even more lively, informative, engaging, and insightful.



## Activities/Events

The Annual Fest was followed by a 'Quiz Competition' on the theme: Lesser Known Gandhi's Life, in collaboration with Quintessence: The Quiz Society of Zakir Husain Delhi College. Students from various colleges of Delhi University participated actively and enthusiastically; the fest was followed by a 'Poster-making Competition Cum Exhibition' in collaboration with Suchita, the Fine Arts Society of Zakir Husain Delhi College as a part of its Annual Fest 2022 titled 'GANDHI AUR HUM'. The theme of the competition was: How I Understand Gandhi. The event saw heavy active and enthusiastic participation from students of different colleges of Delhi University.



Lastly, the society organized 'Sahityesh: Gandhi Literary Festival' in collaboration with Anurodaya: the Hindi Literary Society, Zakir Husain Delhi College. Under the festival, two competitions were organized: Kalamkaar: Literary Composition Competition and Kavyanchal: Poetry Recitation Competition. Both the competitions observed great competition and engagement from participants across the University.

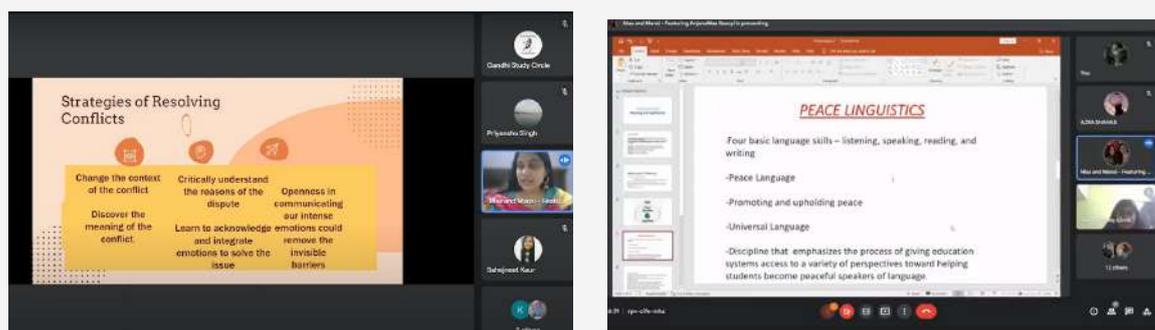
### Event Banner

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# ONGOING INITIATIVES

## Short-term Certificate Course on Non-Violent Communication

Gandhi Study Circle of Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi in collaboration with Gandhi Smriti and Darsan Samiti, Union Ministry of Culture is conducting this 30 weeks short term, skill enhancement, and value-making course. The classes for the course take place on every Friday and Saturday beginning with an orientation program on 27th December 2021. Our weekly classes are held on an online mode, which sees a good number of participation from the students. With their expertise in this field, our instructors in each of the sessions have been able to make us introspect and reform ourselves inside-out to be better human beings.



These classes have taught us the importance of positive thinking; pro-social behaviour; the Gandhian principle of Non-Violent Communication; altruism, gratitude, compassion, empathy, and forgiveness. Discussions on these topics have opened up pores for some very crucial questions by our participants. Last but not the least, we would like to extend our gratitude to our convener Dr. Sanjeev Kumar and the program officer of Gandhi Smriti, and Darsan Samiti, Dr. Vedvyas Kundu for making this endeavour possible.

## Mind Management Classes

Mind Management Classes is an initiative undertaken by Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College for building a strong and happy mindset in students which helps them to achieve success. Students are relieved of their stress and anxieties with the positive thoughts provided during the sessions. This helps them to inculcate positivity and strengthen their mind by connecting with their own inner energies. They get introduced to positive thinking and simple relaxation techniques to make their mind peaceful, powerful and productive.



These sessions help to inculcate positivity within students and help them achieve success, joy, and peace. The sessions are conducted by an experienced trainer on a weekly basis. This initiative is one of its kind at Delhi University started by teachers for the benefit of students. These sessions started in Sept 2020 in the midst of a pandemic and they have been running successfully without any break to date.

## Charkha Spinning Classes

Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College started a novel initiative of Charkha Spinning Classes in 2018. The initiative is one of its kind in the University of Delhi where students are trained to spin the Gandhian Charkha and make yarns of thread from raw cotton. The main motive of this exercise is to instill the Gandhian virtue of dignity of labour and to build the qualities of patience and faith in oneself.

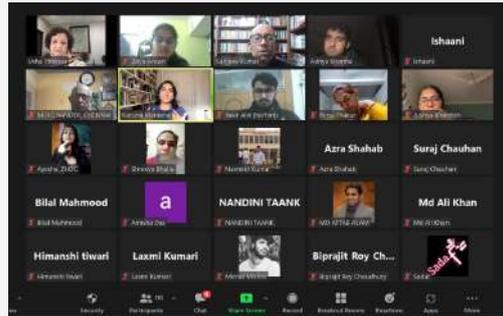


The exercise has also taught the students never to be defeated by failures and to always rise up after learning from mistakes. Students have benefitted a lot from these classes and they look forward to engaging here.

## Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series

One of the prominent activities conducted by the Gandhi Study Circle, Zakir Husain Delhi College is the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture Series. During this session continuing with our tradition of DGLS, we have had the opportunity to learn from academicians who have engaged us on various aspects on Gandhian Ideas and Values.

Continuing with our 4th edition of the DGLS by Prof. Dennis Dalton, which was followed by the 5th DGLS on 30th September 2021 by Prof. Ajay Skaria and chaired by Prof. Bindu Puri. Our subsequent session on Gandhi's Critique of Violence was delivered by Prof. Karuna Mantena and the lecture was chaired by Prof. Usha Thakkar was held on 1st December 2021. Just a few months on 30th January 2022 we had Prof. Aishwary Kumar who spoke On Moral Cruelty: Gandhi, Dignity, and Resentment in our 7th DGLS. These lectures have been attended by our students and faculties across the nation from various institutions.



Various renowned academicians like Prof. Bidyut Chakrabarty, Prof. Gita Dharampal, Dr. Y.P. Anand, and Prof. George Paxton have attended our sessions. We hope to continue this legacy of hosting such academically fruitful activities and discourse in the future as well.

## Our Convener's Work on Gandhi

Our Convener, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar has been honored with the prestigious Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching & Learning by Respect India and Hansraj College, University of Delhi on September 6, 2021.



- Delivered a Public Lecture on “Contemporizing Gandhi Today” organized by Gandhi Study Circle, Miranda House, University of Delhi, April 11 2022;
- Delivered an Invited Lecture on “What can we learn from Gandhi Today” in a Webinar organized by Patna College, Patna University, February 4, 2022;
- Delivered an Invited Lecture on "Relevance of Mahatma Gandhiji's Principles in the Contemporary World" in a one-day National Webinar organized by the Department of Political Science, Imphal College, Imphal, January 10 2022;
- Delivered an Invited Lecture on “Understanding Gandhi: Why Gandhi Matters Today” in a Webinar organized by Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, December 30, 2021;

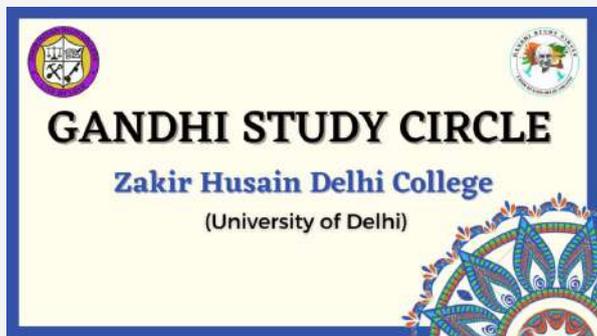


- Joined as an invited Speaker in a Round Table Conference on ‘Inclusive Gender Roles: An Inter-faith Perspective’, jointly organized by YWCA of India, New Delhi, and Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies, New Delhi, 22 December 2021;
- Delivered an Invited Lecture on ‘Why Gandhi Matters Today’ National Webinar organized by the Department of Political Science, Sri Bava Baba College, Mahakalpara, Kendrapara, Odisha, June 18, 2021;
- Delivered an Invited Lecture as the Guest of Honour on the “Impact of Mahatma Gandhi on India’s freedom struggle” at the 4th Regional E-Conference organized by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi as part of a celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on July 27, 2021.





## **OUR CORE TEAM 2021-22**



**Tap the icon to view our  
video presentation.**



**Scan the QR Code for our  
official LinkTree Account**



**Tap the icon to follow our  
official social media handles**