

REPORT

5TH I P COLLEGE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE

The 5th I P College Round Table Conference on Gandhi was held on Friday, 6 April 2018 in the Conference Room. The theme for the event was *GANDHI MATTERS*. It was an intra-college event. Papers were invited from students, via circulation of a Concept Note about the theme.

The CONCEPT NOTE read as – ‘The seemingly simple question, does it matter to, consistently or untowardly, engage with the matters associated with Gandhi’s life, thought, praxis and legacy, opens up a complex discourse. One is compelled to explore the relevance/ irrelevance of matters associated with Gandhi, while churning its transposition into the contemporary context to understand why Gandhi still matters. Does Gandhi, the *zeitgeist* of modern Indian awakening, have perennial relevance, with his continuing significance of non-violence as a principle and strategy to resist injustice, his insistence for a sustainable economic paradigm of development, his commitment to pluralism and diversity in an increasingly polarized nation and his gift to the world of satyagraha? Or are there other matters that matter to the hate groups and power-hungry politicians who site his glaring inconsistencies, a reading of him as a foe of modernity and West, as a Hindu patriarch, a Muslim appeaser and also his failings as a human being?

Whatever the position there is no withdrawing from an intense engagement with the matters associated with the life, thought, political practice and legacy of this Indian political canon. Gandhi’s life, in this context, itself can be the read as a text. His insights can potentially invert the axioms of many established paradigms. His legacy, with a range of constituents, from global to national to local, also offers a lucrative discourse to explore. In a nutshell, he was a man who believed in action with ideas stemming from his value system. He applied his values of 4 E's: Envision, Enable, Empower, and Energize to make his life great. But the 2 Es that matter to us with his matters are, whether we are willing to Escape or follow his Example to make a difference.

Students may select episodes and events, means and methods, murmurs and matters to analyze and articulate whether Gandhi matters to us or not, from symbols to statues, from currency to curios, from hype to hatred and from aspirations to activism.’

Of all the entries received, ten were selected for presentation on the final day. Each paper was mentored by a faculty member.

<u>Student's Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Paper's Title</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Apoorva Jagbharia	Political Science Semester IV	Reimagining the Jewish Question through the Principles of Gandhi	Ms. Shruti Dubey Political Science
Bhawna Prakash	English Semester IV	Evolution of Fasting as Form of Protest	Dr. Surabhika Maheshwari Psychology
Gurnoor Kaur & Garima Chaudhary	Political Science Semester IV	Gandhi's True Religion and its Contemporary Manifestation	Dr. Jyoti Trehan Sharma Political Science
Priyanka Thakran	Computer Science Semester II	Gandhi's Emancipation of Women: A Camouflage for Victory	Dr. Shashank Chaturvedi Political Science
Anjalee Kumari	Political Science Semester IV	How Gandhi's Thoughts on Rural Local Governance matter for Contemporary India	Ms. Swaha Das Political Science

Neha Sharma & Kumari Jyotsana Kant	Political Science Semester IV	The India Against Corruption Movement and the Remaking of Gandhi	Dr. Jyoti Trehan Sharma Political Science
Mamta Mittal & Bhavna Chechi	BA Programme Semester VI	Chhatra Rajniti Aur Gandhi	Dr. Subir Dey History
Tashmin Kaur Sidhu	English Semester IV	Reinventing Gandhi Within the Fold of African-American Movement	Dr. Praveen Dhandha Political Science
Kirti Berwal	Economics Semester VI	Gandhi Aur Trusteeship ki Prasangikta	Dr. Harsh Bala Sharma Hindi
Vedvriti	Multi Media & Mass Communication Semester VI	Relevance of Gandhi's 'Nai Talim' in Education System Today	Dr. Jyoti Trehan Sharma Political Science

The presentations were adjudicated by Prof. Anita Sharma, Former Director, Gandhi Bhawan, University of Delhi, and Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf, Principal, Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, Delhi. Prof. Anita Sharma, at the end of the presentations, assessed each paper and lauded the students for their academic efforts. Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf shared her inputs and suggestions regarding the techniques of paper presentation and how to improve and improvise them.

The WINNERS of the event were-

First Prize	Apoorva Jagbharja
Second Prize	Tashmin Kaur Sidhu
Third Prize	Kirti Berwal
Judges' Special Mention	Priyanka Thakran

During the discourse of the event, the Conference Convenor, Dr. Jyoti Trehan Sharma shared with the audience the importance of National Week that is celebrated each year from April 6-13 since its inception by Gandhi in the year 1930. She also shared facts regarding the reason for Gandhi's picture on the Indian currency.

The event ended with a vote of thanks by the Co-convenor Dr. Harsh Bala Sharma