

At Chennai, “Mahatma Shodhaa” a specially composed Hindustani classical music composition was presented by ARTSEEK Fulani at Semmozhi Poonga at Teynampe. Thirumathi Mano Bhaktavatsalam Secretary of the Women's Voluntary Service of Tamilnadu was the Chief Guest.

At Ahmedabad, students of the Mahatma Gandhi International School presented a short programme of song and dance as also the French song 'Mahatma nous a aide'. This was followed by a film and video presentation titled 'Unframed : Gandhi's Journey through the Lens' collated by theatre director Parnab Mukherjee.

In Goa, a prabhat pheri, in which over 500 students participated was held at Porvorim Panchayat library garden. The students carried impactful banners and sang Gandhi's favourite Bhajans. Smt. Mangala Wagle, Sri Chandrakant Sawardekar, Shri Madhav Kamat and Admiral (Retd) John D'Silva, former Vice Chief of Naval Staff and presently Chairman, Goa Chapter, spoke on this occasion.

The Jammu and Kashmir Chapter's 2011 Gandhi Jayanti celebration was a lecture titled 'Gandhi : National Liberator, Social Emancipator and Non violent Revolutionary' delivered by Ambassador (Retd) P. A. Nazareth, at Gandhi Bhavan of University of Kashmir at Srinagar. The Chief Guests at this event were the Governor of Kashmir Sri N.N.Vohra and Smt. Usha Vohra. Other VIPs present were Vice Chancellors of all Universities located at Srinagar and of the University of Jammu.

At Bhubaneshwar, the INS Chilka Navy Band and the UUC Choral Group presented at Rabindra Mandap a spirited concert of



popular melodies, Bhajans and patriotic songs in the distinguished presence of Vice Admiral S. H.Sarma & Lt. General Jayant Mohanty and Air Commodore S.N.Kar.



At Jaipur, it's Balbhavan was supported in it's three day Gandhi Jayanti celebration titled 'Bapu ke godh me teen din'

These nationwide concerts were supported by the Confederation of Indian Industry, State Bank of India and Godrej Industries with donations and by many other public and private institutions with ads. in the souvenir brochures.



On September 10, 2011, SIT (Andhra Pradesh Chapter) in collaboration with the Academic Staff College (ASC), Hyderabad invited Mr. Tushar Gandhi to deliver the inaugural Mahtma Gandhi Lecture on 'Gandhian Values in the Contemporary Indian scenario' at the ASC premises. There was lively discussion after the lecture, at which the ASC Principal, staff and students and many Gandhians, social activists and journalists were present.

Gandhiji's Martyrdom day was meaningfully observed with prayer meetings, seminars, painting exhibitions etc at New Delhi, Jammu, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Goa and Bhubaneshwar.

At New Delhi, the event was held at India International Centre and presented a painting exhibition by Canadian Indian Artist, Mr. Suraj Sadan along with a Seminar on "Mahatma Gandhi and the Interfaith Movement" at which the keynote address was delivered by Dr. Ved Pratap Vaidik. Among the many who were present on this occasion were Mr. Simon Cridland, Counsellor, Canadian High Commission, New Delhi.



At Hyderabad, about 150 students from Safdaria and four other Schools attended a program at La Makaan on Martyr's Day. After a two minute silence and floral offerings to a portrait of Gandhiji they watched artisans at work making Cheriya masks, Banjara needle work, weaving etc Thereafter they wrote an essay on what they had seen and been most impressed with. Each of them and their teachers were given a book on the Mahatma and also served with refreshments.

At Bhubaneswar, Martyr's Day was observed in collaboration with Rotary Metro. Items like mosquito nets, food packets, blankets, medicinal items were distributed in Gokhibaba leprosy colony in the city.



Martyrs Day at Jammu

During the 2011-12 financial year, Rs 1.15 lakhs was disbursed as financial assistance to the following institutions :

- i)Rs 30,000 to Dwarakanath Reddy Ramanarpanam Trust, Bangalore (in support of its tri-state Kabbadi Tournament in collaboration with SIT/SITKC)
- ii)Rs 15, 000 to Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi.
- iii)Rs 15,000 to Bombay Sarvodaya Mandal, Mumbai
- iv)Rs 15,000 to Nagaland Gandhi Ashram, Chuchu–Yimlang
- v)Rs 10,000 to Jammu & Kashmir Peace Foundation, Anantnag.
- vi)Rs 10,000 to Gram Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS), Jodhpur,
- vii)Rs 10,000 to Kumarappa Institute of Gram Swaraj, Jaipur
- viii)Rs 10,000 to Rashtriya Yuva Sangathan, Cuttack, Orissa

During 2011, Gandhi book sets were presented to :

Mangalyatan University, Aligarh
University of Kashmir, Srinagar
Doon Public School, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand.
Gandhi Shodh Sansthan Bhitiharwa Gandhi Ashram, Champaran.
Gandhi Ashram Trust, Noakhali, Bangladesh.



Book presentation at Doon School

The SIT publication 'Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership' continued to be in good demand at Gandhi museums & book shops and as presentation/prize items by individuals/schools in various parts of the country. More than 1500 of these books in English, Kannada, Oriya and Hindi were sold during the period under review. Its Tamil edition, published in collaboration with Shanti Ashram, Coimbatore has come out in February 2012. Its Portuguese edition, published in collaboration with Cidade Nova of Sao Paolo, Brazil and its Spanish edition published in collaboration with Editorial Porrua of Mexico City are expected to be formally released in these cities in April 2012.

Notable among the lectures delivered by SIT Managing Trustee during 2011 are :

'Thoreau-Gandhi-Martin Luther King: Cross Cultural Influences' at the Post Graduate Centre of St. Joseph's College, Bangalore on August 30, 2011

Gandhian Values for Sustainable Development : Keynote address at the International Conference on 'Gandhian Values : Sustainability and Corporate Governance' at Atria Hotel Bangalore, October 7th, 2011.
'Religious Fundamentalisms, National Stability & International Order' at the University of Allahabad on October 17, 2011.



At the University of Allahabad

'Globalization and its effects on the downtrodden section of Indian society' : Inaugural address at National Congress of Sociology Association of Uttarakhand at Haldwani on November 6th.

'The Challenge of Rising from Goodness to Greatness' at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore on December 18, 2011.

GANDHIJI TODAY



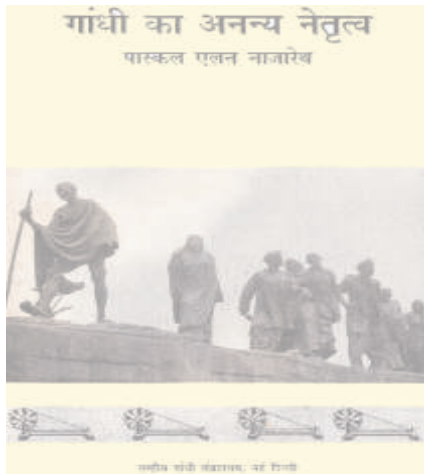
Promoting Truth, Non-Violence, Communal Harmony, Humanitarian Service & Peace in Contemporary Society

Newsletter of Sarvodaya International Trust for 2011

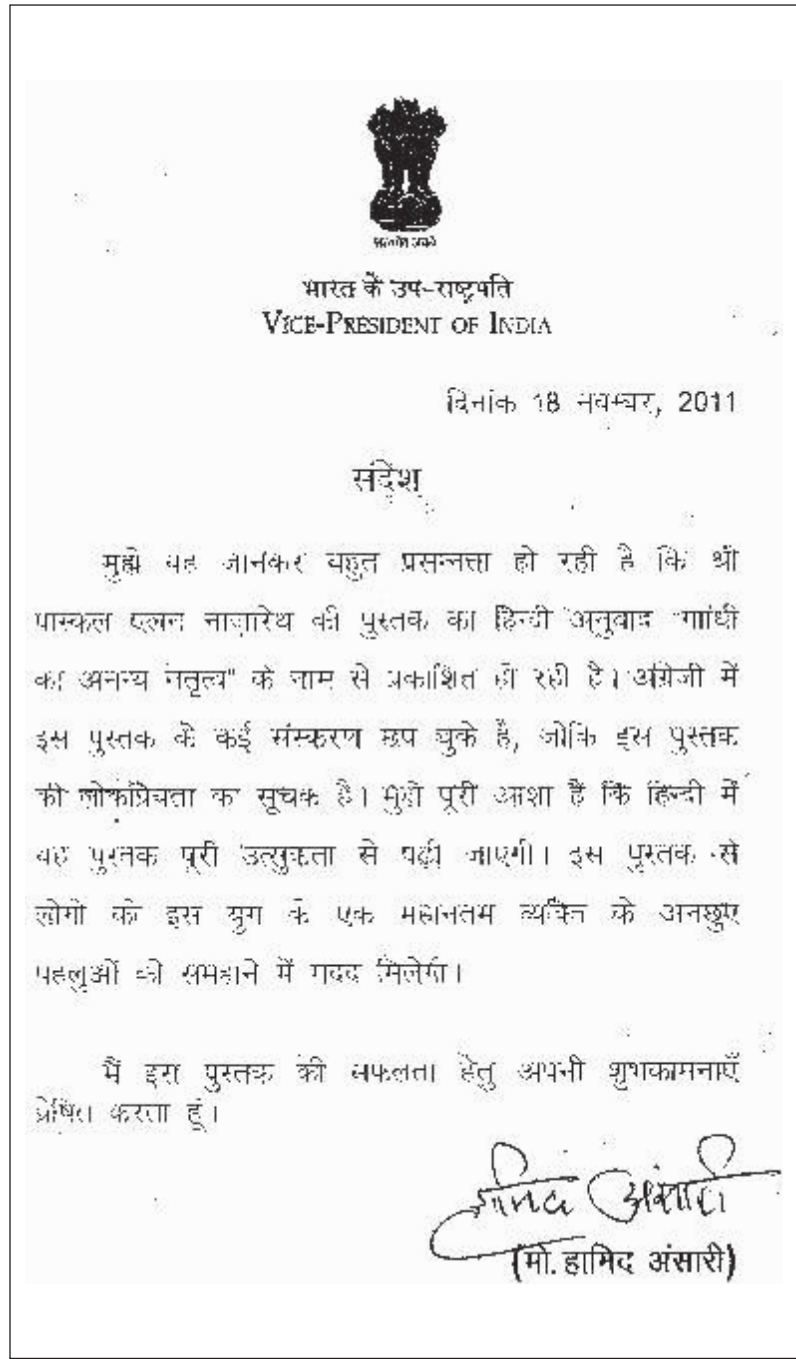
(covering activities upto end of February 2012)

The highlights of this period were the consents received from Nobel Laureate Mrs. Mairead Maguire and Jannalal Bajaj Laureate Dr.Lia Diskin to be Eminent Counsellor & Trustee respectively of Sarvodaya International Trust and the formal launch on November 26, 2011 of the Hindi edition of the SIT publication 'Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership', by Justice M.N.Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India, at National Gandhi Museum, New Delhi which has published this edition.

Justice M.N.Venkatachaliah stated the Hindi edition would undoubtedly be as widely acclaimed as the earlier English and Kannada editions. He spoke of the amazing changes non violent struggles coupled with modern technology had brought about in Tunisia and Egypt and were likely to trigger elsewhere before long. Prof. Bimal Prasad, Chairman, NGM averred that whereas Gandhi's Satyagraha had Truth and Non violence intrinsically united the former component has sadly been forgotten and he is now presented only as an "apostle of non violence". This has spawned much falsehood, corruption, communal massacres and even wars. Dr. Madhu Pant spoke of her great challenge in translating this book into Hindi in view of its broad spectrum contents which dealt not only with leaders and events in India but from all over the world. She stated that she had been transformed in the process.



Among those who sent felicitation messages on this important occasion were Vice President of India Sri Hamid Ansari and the Governors of J & K and Uttarakhand Sri N.N.Vohra and Smt Margaret Alva.



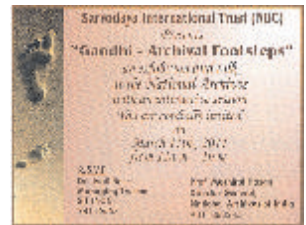
A sad set back during this period was the passing away on January 22, 2012. of Air Marshal (Retd).

Sarosh Dastur AVSM, the Karnataka Chapter's dedicated and energetic Chairman for over ten years on During his tenure as chairman, SITKC built in collaboration with like minded NGO's two Sarvodaya Community Centres in multi-community slums of Bangalore and another such centre at Nallakadirinahalli village on the outskirts of Chikbalapur.

Besides, the annual Gandhi Jayanti concerts which were being held at the Chowdiah Hall or Ambedkar Bhavan began to be held at the Raj Bhavan Glass House.

His burial was well attended and impressive with many Air Force and Hindustan Aeronautics (of which he had been Chairman) officials present at it. The Chief of Air Staff sent a wreath.

An enlightening 'Gandhi – Archival Footsteps' exhibition/interactive session was organised at the National Archives of India, New Delhi, on March 11, 2011, by the New Delhi Chapter in collaboration with the Director of the National Archives, Dr. Mushirul Hasan.



Gandhi Jayanti 2011 was as usual celebrated with concerts of music and dance in Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, New Delhi, Chennai, Kochi, Goa, Bhubaneshwar and Jammu.

At Bangalore, this concert, which presented Sridevi Unni's Mohini Attam dance troupe as its principal item, was titled as 'Gandhi Jayanti Ahimsa Mahotsav' and held at the Raj Bhavan Glass House. It was nationally televised by Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra on its Chandana channel. Governor of Karnataka Sri Hans Raj Bhavadwaj and Smt Prafullata Bhavadwaj were Chief Guests. Among the Honoured Guests were the Deputy High Commissioner of the United Kingdom and the Consuls General of Germany and Switzerland.



At New Delhi, Smt. Shubha Mudgal presented a deeply moving rendition of Gandhiji's favourite Bhajans and other hymns, accompanied by Aneesh Pradhan on tabla and Sudhir Nayak on harmonium.

Earlier, Dr. Jyothi Bose and Mrs Indira Verma presented readings from Sabyasachi Bhattacharya's 'The Mahatma and the Poet' compilation.

At Mumbai, Pandit Sanjeev Abhyankar presented 'Swar Sanjeevan', a programme of devotional and classical music at the Tata Theatre of the National Centre for Performing Arts.



At Hyderabad, Jaywant Naidu presented a Hindustani classical music performance on the Hawaiian Guitar, the Nasr School Students sang Gandhiji's favourite Tagore Poems and songs and the A.P.Gibbs choir sang his favourite bhajans & hymns. Mr. J.M.Lyngdoh, former Chief Election Commissioner of India was the Chief Guest.