

The highlights of the broad spectrum activities during this period were the launch of the SIT Rajasthan Chapter and the keynote address delivered by the SIT Managing Trustee at the International Day of Non Violence event at the UN in New York on October 2, 2012.

The Rajasthan Chapter, the eleventh Chapter of Sarvodaya International Trust, was launched at Jaipur on January 30, 2013. Its office bearers and Trustees are : Chairman : Mr. D.R. Mehta, Vice Chairmen : Mrs Charan Jeet Dhillon Brigadier (Retd) Vijay Singh, Managing Trustee : Prof. Naresh Dadich, Treasurer : Mr. Satish Ajmera and Trustees : Justice I.S.Israni, Mr. Sunny Sebastian, Dr. Mukul Rani Masih, Dr. Surjit Singh, Mr. Kersi J. Mehta, Mr. Rizwan Aijazi, Dr. Meeta Sharma and Dr. B. Arun Kumar.



Justice I.S. Israni signing the Trust Deed of the Rajasthan Chapter.

The title of the keynote address delivered by Managing Trustee Pascal Alan Nazareth was 'Gandhi : The Non Violent Revolutionary'. The event was held at the UN ECOSOC Chamber and was chaired by India's Minister of External Affairs Sri S.M. Krishna. Among those present on the occasion were Mr Vuk Jeremic, President of the UN General Assembly and the Permanent Representatives to the UN of 52 countries including those of the UK, France, Belgium, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Morocco & Iraq.



President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremic delivering his address

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremic urged the international community to 'keep trying to think and act like the Mahatma - and to apply the philosophy of Non Violence to the decisions we make'. He stated that he had chosen the overarching theme of 'bringing about settlement of international disputes by peaceful means'. for the General Assembly's work for the next twelve months.

In his address, Mr. Nazareth elucidated the transformation of Gandhi from youthful timidity into the intrepid Mahatma who successfully confronted first white racialism in South Africa and then the British Empire in India, with only 'Truth Force' which subsequently used by Martin Luther King, Lech Walesa and others had brought about spectacular political and social changes all over the world, validating Johan Galtung's assertion that Gandhi had "revolutionized revolution itself" Recalling Gandhi's message to the United Nations, on the eve of its establishment, he called upon all members of the UN, particularly the P5, to "shed their belief in the efficacy of war and its accompanying terrible deception and fraud". The news reports carried this sentence as the punch line of his address.



Pakistani PR Hussain Haroon, complimenting Mr. P.A. Nazareth on his address. Foreign Secretary Ranjan Mathai is on his left.

As in previous years, Gandhi Jayanti was joyfully celebrated with concerts of music and dance in New Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Goa, Jammu, Bhubaneshwar and Kanchipuram. Brief details of these concerts, organized by SIT Regional Chapters, are as under:

The New Delhi Chapter presented an innovative and impactful



Bharatanatyam dance presentation titled 'Gandhi: Warp and Weft' by the talented Geeta Chandran at the Chinmayananda Auditorium. With A charpoy kept as a backdrop and using khadi thread as a metaphor she recapitulated Gandhi life and message, his spinning the charkha, his imprisonment, his patient step by step liberation of India and emancipation of oppressed sections of its society and finally his assassination, with his favourite bhajan 'Vaishnava jan to' softly played as back ground music. The veteran dance critic Sunil Kothari lauded it as "wonderful presentation on Gandhi" and urged that it be presented at other venues also.

At Bangalore, the Gandhi Jayanti Ahimsa Mahotsav on October 2nd was held at the Raj Bhavan Glass House and nationally telecast by Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra on its Chandana channel. It featured the renowned Bharatnatayam dancer Srimathi Padmaja Suresh and her troupe in a specially choreographed



dance presentation titled 'Ahimsa Shakti'. The Governor of Karnataka Mr. Hansraj Bharadwaj and Mrs Bharadwaj were Chief Guests at this event which was attended by over a thousand persons among whom were the Bangalore based Consuls General of the UK, Germany and Russia. At Mumbai, the Maharashtra chapter presented 'Sagun Nirgun' a programme of classical and devotional music by Raghunandan Panshikar and Bhavanesh Komkali at the National Centre for the Performing Centre (NCPA). At Hyderabad, Khader Khan's Hindi play 'Ishwar Allah Tero Nam', directed by Ram Mohan Holagundi was presented by Nishumbita ballet and theatre group at the Prakasham Hall of Gandhi Bhavan. Justice G. Raghuram was chief guest.

The Tamilandu Chapter, in keeping with its efforts to promote Gandhiji's ideals also in the rural areas, organized its Gandhi Jayanti celebration in collaboration with RIDE (Rural Institute for Development Education) and held it at Sevilimedu, on the outskirts of Kanchipuram. Children of the RIDE Childrens Club presented a lively programme of songs and dances. The Chief Guest was Sri S. Jeyraj and the keynote address was delivered by Sri K.B. Kumaran.



At Ahmedabad, the Gujarat chapter presented 'Unframed : Gandhiji's Journey though Film and Video by Thetre Director Parnab Mukherjee, prior to which students of Mahatma Gandhi International School sang 'Mahatama Gandhi nous a aide'

The Orissa chapter presented a music concert titled 'Shanti' by the Hindustani Sangeet Sabha directed by Guru Raghunath Sahoo and Ms Ranjita Senapati. Padmashri Priyambada Mohanty Hejmadi was the Chief Guest on this occasion.



The Goa chapter had an inter school quiz competition, October 1 -5th, on the 'Life of the Mahatma'. Seven schools participated in it. Mrs Sangodkar distributed the prizes. Vice Admiral John C De Silva (Retd) & Mrs Jessica Mahatme, Chairman & Managing Trustee of SIT(Goa Chapter) & Shri Naguesh Sardessai the quiz master were present on the occasion.

Jammu & Kashmir Chapter’s Gandhi Jayanti concert was held in Mandal Flian village of Jammu. Fifty children from St John Covent School, Sandeepa High School, Government Middle School, Mandal Creche & Sunita Mobile Library participated in it.



The Bal Bhavans at Jaipur was financially assisted in organizing its a multi faceted three day Gandhi Jayanti celebration titled 'Bapu ke Godh me theen din”. (three days in Gandhiji's arms)

Among the many organizations which supported these Gandhi Jayanti concerts were Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Godrej Industries and Mazagong Dock Ltd. The Bangalore concert was also supported by Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Karnataka Government's Department of Kannada & Culture and Ganjam Jewellers.

Meaningful observances of Gandhiji's martyrdom day were also held by Regional Chapters at New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bhubaneshwar and Panjim. At New Delh, 'The Silent Crusaders – A New Awakening” an innovative, and movinggvisual presentation made by the Teachers Learning Centre of Springdales School, Dhaula Kuan on the brutal rape of a young woman in New Delhi on December 16th, 2012 was made.



The period under review has been very eventful for the SIT Publication 'Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership. Three Indian and two Foreign language editions of it were formally released in various parts of India and the world and agreements for two more foreign language editions signed.



The Tamil edition was launched by H.E. Dr.K. Rosiah, Governor of Tamilnadu at Raj Bhavan Chennai on April 14; the Spanish edition by the Ambassador of India to Mexico H.E. Mr. Dinesh Jain at the Chapultepec Book Store of Editorial Porrua iMexico city on April 27th; the Portuguese edition by the Ambassador of India to Brazil H.E. Mr. B.S.Prakash at the National Library of Brazil, Brasilia on April 29th, the Telugu edition by Mr. Kingshuk Nag, Editor in Chief of Times of India, Hyderabad, at the Gandhi Centre of Osmania University on November 3rd ; the updated 2012 Hindi edition by H.E. Mrs. Margaret Alva, Governor of Rajasthan at Raj Bhavan, Jaipur, on January 30, 2013.



The agreement for publication of the Chinese edition was signed at the Embassy of India, Beijing by Mr Yu Dianli, CEO, Commercial Press of Beijing in the presence of H.E. Mr. S. Jaishankar, Ambassador of India to China on July 30, 2012. The first print run of this edition is 3000 books. The Publishers sought, and have been granted, the right to sell these books worldwide.



Ambassador of India to China with CEO of Commercial Press, Beijing

The agreement for publication of the Korean edition was signed by Mr. Seung Yong – Lee, CEO of Hong-Ik Publishing Company at Seoul, on August 10, 2012. The first print run of this edition is 2000 books.

The agreement for publication of the Malayalam edition was signed by Mr. Krishan Das Valsan, Proprietor, Green Books Private Ltd., Trissur, Kerala on February 20, 2013. The first print run of this edition is 1000 books.

During 2012, financial assistance was given to the following institutions :

Rs 15,000 to Shanti Ashram, Coimbatore

Rs 15,000 to Bombay Sarvodaya Mandal, Mumbai

Rs 10,000 to Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha

Rs 10,000 to Gandhi Shodh Sansthan, Bhitiharwa

Gandhi Ashram, Gaunaha, Champaran Dt. Bihar

Rs 10,000 to Kasturba Mahila Utthan Mandal Kumaun, Lakshmi Ashram, Kasauni, Almora Dt.

Rs 10,000 to Gandhi Peace Foundation, Bangalore

Rs 10,000 to Kalahandi Vikash Parishad Sunbaheli Nuapada Dt. Orissa.

Rs 10,000 to Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narainpur, Bastar Dt.

Rs 10,000 to Notre Dame Girls High School, Musgutri, Chattisgrah.

Rs 10,000 to Sabr Majlis –e- khawateen, Hyderabad

Rs. 10,000 to Rahat Ghar, Srinagar, J & K State

Rs 10,000 Public Concern for Governance Trust, Mumbai.

During this period, Gandhi book sets were presented to :

Gandhi Shodh Sansthan, Bhitiharwa Gandhi Ashram, Gaunaha West Champaran , Bihar –845455

Gandhi National Memorial Museum, Agha Khan Palace, Pune

Globalized Soul film Productions, Sante Fe, NM, USA

Besides the keynote address at the UN on October 2, 2012, Managing Trustee P.A.Nazareth delivered the following lectures during the March 2012 to February 2013 period :

'Gandhi : The Non violent Revolutionary' : at Embassy of India Residence, Stockholm on April 18th.

'Gandhi : The Ideal Leadership Model ' : at the Ostra Reals Gymnasium, Stockholm on April 19th(morning)

'Gandhi as Social Emancipator' : at Swedish Civil Servants Association, Stockholm on April 19th.(evening)

'Gandhi : Warrior & Peace Maker' at Uppsala University in Sweden on April 20th .

'Gandhi and the Asian Resurgence' : to over 300 Initiative Asia members on April 21st.

'The Genesis, Evolution and Flowering of the Concept of Non Violence' : at El Colegio de Mexico on April 23rd.

'Gandhi : The Non Violent Revolutionary' : at the Embassy of India auditorium, Mexico City, and on April 25,

'Gandhi's Prophetic Vision, Outstanding Leadership and Global impact': at the National Library of Brazil, Brasilia on April 27th.

'Gandhi : The Non violent Revolutionary' : at the Indian Cultural Centre, Sao Paolo on April 28th

'A Gandhian Approach to International Security 'at National Defence College, New Delhi on May 3, 2012

Gandhi's Soul Force and Sri Chinmoy's Love Force' at the Sri Chinmoy Centres at Salzburg and Zurich on September 10 & 13, 2012

'The Challenge of Rising from Goodness to Greatness' at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, New York on October 3, 2012

'Gandhi : The Non Violent Revolutionary' at Varadhaman Mahaveer Open University, Kotah on October 30, 2012.