



*Promoting Truth, Non-Violence, Communal Harmony, Humanitarian Service & Peace in Contemporary Society*  
*Newsletter of Sarvodaya International Trust for 2010*  
*(covering activities upto end February 2011)*

The highlights of the broad spectrum activities during this period were two impactful lectures sponsored by SIT at Bangalore and New Delhi and its Maharashtra Chapter at Mumbai. The first was by Dr. Otis Moss, (a close associate of Martin Luther King) at National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore on January 7, 2010. He spoke on 'The Gandhi-King Impact on Human Rights' and affirmed that humanity now needs to complete the “unfinished cathedral of goodwill” these great architects of non violence had commenced. The other lecture was that delivered by SIT's Rome based Trustee Dr. Robert Catalano at Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. It was titled “Gandhi : A Man Inspired by God and a Light to Humanity” and covered many



Dr. Otis Moss



aspects of Gandhi's striving for perfection and peace. He averred that Gandhi's “great mission was to show the world that non-violence and loving service of humanity was the way to reach God”. The same lecture had been delivered at Nehru

Science Museum in Mumbai on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

The SIT (Andhra Pradesh Chapter) organized a seminar on 'Gandhi and Films' at La Makaan, Hyderabad on September 23, 2010. The portrayal of Gandhi in films by Attenborough, Shyam Benegal, Feroze Abbas Khan Rajkumar Hirani, Ashutosh Gowariker and Shekar Kammula was discussed, Among the participants were Dr. Raghuram Raju, Mrs Aparajita Sinha, & Mrs Geeta Shyamsundar.

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

At Bangalore, the Gandhi Jayanti Ahimsa Mahotsav on October 2<sup>nd</sup> was nationally telecast by Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra on its Chandana channel. It featured the renowned flutist Praveen Godkindi, a Nada Upasana by the Smt. Shanti Rao Veena ensemble, 'Ahimsa Shanti Path' Bharatnatayam dances by Srimathi Bhanumathi's Nrityakalamandiram dancers and Gandhiji's favourite hymns by Sophia Girls High School choir. Justice M.N.Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India was Chief Guest and heads of various religious denominations of Bangalore were guests of honour. Two



hours before this Mahotsav commenced a Bicycle Rally for Communal Harmony and Environmental protection was held in which approximately 100 cyclists participated.

At Hyderabad, the widely acclaimed 'Mahadevbhai' play by Jaimini Pathak and Ramu Ramanathan was presented on October 2<sup>nd</sup> along with Gandhiji's favourite bhajans & hymns by Smt. Sangamitra Malik & T. Sarath Chandra and the A.P.Gibbs choir. The Andhra Pradesh Governor H.E. Sri E.S.L. Narasimham and Mrs Narasimhan were chief guests. Earlier that day the Gandhi Clubs Project was launched.

These clubs, which are being set up in various schools, would organize inter-class and inter-school quiz, essay and elocution contests on Gandhiji's life and message.

At Mumbai, the Maharashtra chapter presented the 'Mahadevbhai' play at Anjuman-I-Islam Girls School, Bandra on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

At Chennai a specially choreographed “Mahatma Mahima” Bharatanatyam dance by Smt. Meenakshi Chittaranjan and her disciples was presented by the Tamilnadu chapter at Gandhi Mandapam in Guindy..

At Ahmedabad, the Gujarat chapter presented two short plays titled 'Parable of the Last Post office' and 'Imagine No Possessions' based on writings of Rabindranath Tagore and Khan Abdul Gafar Khan at Natarani Theatre. These plays were performed by the Best of Kolkata Theatre Group

The Goa chapter had a concert of Gandhiji's favourite bhajans and hymns as also an art and poetry contest at Infant Jesus High School, Colva. Admiral (Retd) John D'Silva, former Vice Chief of Naval Staff was Chief Guest and Rev. Diego Fernandes was Guest of Honour.

The Kerala chapter had a Mohini Attam dance presentation by Dharani Dance Academy students at Chevvara Cultural Centre, Kochi. Dr, Cyriac Thomas, former Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Gandhi University was Chief Guest and Prof. K. Sanu was Guest of Honour.



The Orissa chapter had a vocal music and Odissi dance programme titled ‘Ahimsa’ presented by the Utkal Choral Group and Smt. Puspita Mishra at

Rabindra Mandap. His Lordship Justice V. Gopala Gowda, Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court was Chief Guest on this occasion.

The Bal Bhavans at Jaipur and Aurangabad were financially assisted in organizing Gandhi Jayanti celebrations in their respective cities. The celebration at Jaipur was a multi faceted three day event 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), State Bank of India and Godrej Industries. The Bangalore concert was also supported by Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Karnataka Government's Department of Kannada & Culture.

Ms Anita Reddy, Managing Trustee of AVAS (Association for



Just a few weeks after winning the Padma Shri for her social work, Anita Reddy has bagged the Person of the Year award from the Namma Bengaluru Foundation.

Courtesy: Deccan Herald

Voluntary Action and Service ) and DRRT (Dwarakanath Reddy Ramanarpanam Trust) and **Vice Chairman of SIT (Karnataka Chapter)** who has been much involved in housing, vocational education, revival of traditional handicrafts and sports in urban slums and rural communities in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh was honoured with a Padmashri in the 2011 Republic Day honours for her outstanding social work and soon



thereafter also received the Person of the Year award from the Namma Bengaluru Foundation.



Meaningful observances of Gandhiji's martyrdom day were held by Regional Chapters at New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bhubaneshwar and Panjim. The initial round of the tri-state Kabaddi tournament organized by the Karnataka Chapter in collaboration with DRRT was launched on this date, with the final round being held at Golahalli Village near Chikballapur on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Among the honoured guests on this occasion was Mr.H.S. Pillappa, Ekalavya Awardee and member of India's Kabaddi team to the 2010 Asian Games.



During 2010, financial assistance/solar lamps were given to the following institutions :

- Rs 25,000 to DRRT, Bangalore ( towards construction of a 'Gandhi Kutir' at its Golahalli Campus)
- Rs 15,000 to Bombay Sarvodaya Mandal, Mumbai.
- Rs 15,000 to Mohalla Committee Movement Trust. Mumbai
- Rs 10, 000 to Public Concern for Governance Trust, Mumbai
- Rs 10,000 to Kalahandi Vikash Parishad, Sunbaheli, Orissa.
- Rs 10,000 to Missionaries of Charity, Bhubaneshwar
- Rs 10,000 to Lakshmi Ashram, Kasauni, Uttaranchal.
- Rs 10,000 to Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narainpur, M.P.
- Rs 10,000 Notre Dame Girls High School, Musgutri, Chattisgrah.
- Rs 10,000 to Pilar Health Centre, Port Blair, Andaman Islands
- Rs 10,000 to the Sabr Majlis -e- khawateen, Hyderabad
- Rs 10,000 to Swami. Vivekananda Rural Health Centre, Pavgada.
- Rs 10,000 to Sw.Vivekananda Tribal Centre,Kenchanahalli, Mysore
- Rs 7,500 and 4 Solar lamps to CREST, Bangalore
- Rs7,500 and 4 Solar lamps to Sumangali Seva Ashram, Cholanayakahalli, Karnataka
- 4 Solar lamps to Shanti Ahram, Coimbatore



An SIT donated Solar Lamp at Gollahalli Village

During this period, Gandhi book sets were presented to :  
Managalayatan University, Aligarh  
Delhi Public School, Aligarh  
CHIRAG, Central Himalayan Rural Action Group Simayal Village,Nainital Dt.  
AAROHI Bal Sansar, Village Satoli, P.O.Peora, Dt. Nainital.  
St. Joseph's College, Naini Tal.

Carmel School, Mangalore.

St.Aloysius High School,Mangalore.

Aloysian Institute of Management & Information Technology(AIMIT), Madoor, Karnataka

Sai Bal Bhavan,Aurangabad, Maharashtra

Christ University Institute of Management, Bangalore

Malaviya Peace Research Centre, Varanasi.

Mr.Yuval Fischer, Aizeek Ramba 602, Jerusalem, Israel

The updated 2010 edition of the SIT Publication *Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership* was released by Justice M.N. Venkatachalaiah, at a well attended event at Strand Book Shop, Bangalore on June 25th, 2010. Mr. Sanjeev Iyer, who acted as Gandhi in the widely acclaimed a play 'The Prophet and the Poet', presented selected readings from this book



Strand Book Stall had organized a book-reading and discussion on 'Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership'. The author, Pascal Alan Nazareth, former Chief Justice of India M N Venkatachalaiah, theatreperson Sanjeev Iyer, Vidiya Vinkar of Strand Books were also present

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following which there was animated discussion thereon. The formal contract for the publication of this book in Portuguese was signed by Mr. Klaus Bruschke, Publisher of Cidade Nova, in the presence of Mr. Jitendra Tripathi, Consul General of India, Sao Paolo on February 23, 2011. This Portuguese edition, the first print run of which will be 2,000 books, is proposed to be formally released at Sao Paolo on October 2nd 2011.

Notable lectures delivered by SIT Managing Trustee during 2010 were :

'A Gandhian Approach to International Security 'at National Defence College, New Delhi on April 20, 2010

'The Genesis, Evolution and Flowering of the Concept of Ahimsa' at Magalayatan Jain University, Aligarh on April 22, 2010

'Gandhi as the Ideal Leadership Model' at Academic Staff College, Kumaon University, Naini Tal on November 30, 2010

'Gandhi's Management insights and achievements' at Aloysian Insitute of Information Technology and Management, Madoor on December 17, 2010.

Gandhi : ‘The Non-Violent Revolutionary ’at the Malavia Centre for Peace Research , Varanasi on January 2011.



'Fathoming the Sources and Significance of Swami Vivekananda's Humanism and Universalism' at Benares Hindu University on January 12, 2011 (Swami Vivekananda's birthday/National Youth Day)

As NDC Guest lecturer SIT Managing Trustee was invited to/participated in the Golden Jubilee Seminar of National Defence College, New Delhi October 21/22, 2010 at which the keynote addresses were delivered by the President and Prime Minister of India, His Majesty the King of Bhutan and India's National Security Adviser.